



Mile End News Update

Members' Committee Newsletter

August 2015



John Wilson Day 2015

Our major fund raising event of the year was another success with approximately £1,400 being raised on the day. The task of coordinating 'John Wilson' fundraising is the responsibility of the incumbent Vice-Captain, and this year that means that the burden is being shouldered by Keith Evans. As is usual, the event was very well supported by Mile End members. Conditions were quite good, but a blustery wind meant that scores were modest by recent standards. Mastering the conditions best of all was Gary Turner who is pictured left receiving the winners shield from Keith Evans and Club Captain Peter Mader. Gary's 40 point haul was matched by Stuart Ball but the dreaded 'countback' meant that it was Gary who triumphed on the day. All proceeds this year will go to Hope House.

Captain's Awayday

This year's Captain's Awayday was hosted by Northop Golf Club and we were made very welcome by their staff. Until quite recently, the future of that Club seemed to be in the balance but they now have a new club-house and the course is developing well.

A 9 hole competition in the morning was won by Gordon Jamieson, whilst the 18 hole 'main event' was won by Gavin Wright with 42 points. He is pictured right being presented with the trophy by Club Captain Peter Mader.



Dinner Dance 2015

After considering the dwindling attendances at recent Annual Dinners, the Members' Committee have decided to change arrangements for this year, hoping that this may mean greater support from members. The date for the Dinner-Dance has been moved forward to the 12th September and the venue will be the Dining Rooms (formerly The Walls). Handover of Captaincies will now be part of the Annual Presentation Evening which takes place in early January. Details of the event are now posted on the notice board in the foyer. We hope that we can count upon your support.

How long is a game of golf?

Many golf clubs, both in the UK and beyond are seeking to stimulate participation in our game. The 2 most common reasons given by people when asked why they do not play golf are, "I can't cope with the physical demands" and "It takes too long". In response to this many clubs, including Mile End, now offer 9 hole membership on both a 7 day and 5 day basis. If you would like details of these arrangements, contact the shop.

Rules Guidance

I have been asked whether chipping "rogue" range balls lying on the course back onto the range during a competition is deemed to be "practise on the course". At present our understanding is that this would not normally be penalised as it would be considered to be "caring for the course". I recommend, however, that members avoid any suggestion that they may be practising their next shot while doing this, and if in any doubt, return balls by hand. **Gordon Jamieson-**
Competitions Secretary

Does tha' nae Ken where ya goin'?

Sixteen Mile End members recently embarked upon what has become a biennial trip to Carnoustie. This year there was a first day stopover at Eyemouth Golf Club. Eyemouth is a busy fishing town on the North Berwick coastline just north of Berwick on Tweed. Past Captain Ken Hayman travelled with Club Vice-Captain Keith Evans. Keith, displaying a touching but wholly misplaced faith in Ken's sense of direction, concentrated upon his role as speed camera spotter. Glasgow, Stirling and Perth passed by, but as signs for Dundee became more prominent Ken slowly realised that all was not well. He had put the postcode for Carnoustie into the satnav rather than Eyemouth's. This would not have been a major problem but for the inconvenient positioning of the Firth of Forth. In the event almost 100 extra miles and one and a half hours were added to an already long journey.

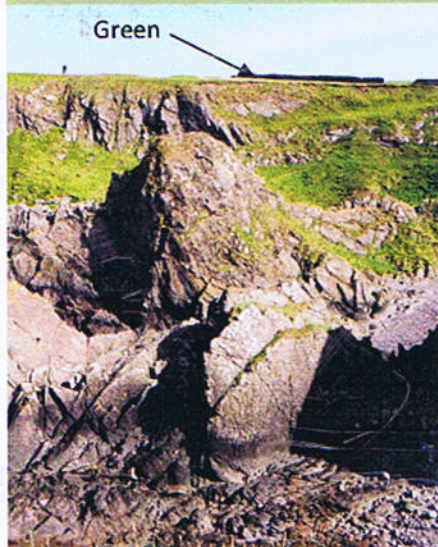
We know that the only place in Scotland where fruit and vegetables are regularly eaten is Edinburgh Zoo and shops must struggle to sell these commodities. It was nevertheless a shock, when buying a mars bar for 63p at Eyemouth Co-op, I was offered "two for a pound and a free lettuce".

Those who find the pond in front of our 3rd hole intimidating, might best avoid the 6th hole at Eyemouth (pictured below). From a cliff edge tee the flag is just visible on an elevated green perched on a cliff edge 170 yards across the North Sea. Mr Captain Peter Mader took a mid-iron and, had he been playing the hole back to front, his shot would have been perfect. In the event it lacked sufficient elevation and struck the cliff face some 20 feet below the top. His ball tumbled down the cliff before coming to rest tantalisingly in full view on a ledge some 10 feet above the waves. Although the chances of being reunited with his first ball were at best nil, he solemnly declared his second ball to be a "provisional". His playing partners were surprised when he took his driver from his bag. Surely this was an over-reaction. We had not realised that Peter had spotted a dry stone wall beyond, and some 40 yards to the right, of the green. His ball ricocheted from this wall to finish pin high on the green! Two putts later he was able to walk off with a point.

Previous experience had told us that the 3 Carnoustie courses are challenging and in addition to the competitions that trip organiser Past Captain Allan Kerr had arranged, Neil Exton came up with one for the 'Most balls lost over the 3 days'. Much of the excitement was drained from this competition when Yours Truly posted a 12 on day one making it something of a one horse race.

During the week prior to our arrival, Carnoustie had hosted the Amateur Championship. The rough was penal and large areas of fairway simply act as collection points for the cavernous bunkers. Albeit off the yellow tees, the gross 79 recorded by Dave Thomas on the Championship course was a round to be proud of.

Ron Pugh (got any spare balls?)



View from the 6th tee at Eyemouth

From the Pro's Shop

August Offers

- 20% off all Ping putters
- 40% off all Ping G25 stock
- 40% off all Carry Bags

A Taylormade Demo-day is scheduled for August 12th from 3-7pm.

Still some spaces left.

Book in the shop now.

From the Ladies Section

27 of our Lady members enjoyed a visit to Lakeside Golf Club for the Lady Captain's Away day. Scores were very competitive with 37 pts securing the trophy for Jinny Thurston followed by Jan Bennett with 36 pts and Carol Evans with 35 pts.

Shropshire Ladies County Golf Association held their Summer Meeting at Mile End recently. Our visitors were very complimentary about the condition of the course whilst Mile End Past lady Captain Janice Turner exploited home advantage to secure the best nett score.