

## President's Day

President's Day was a great success with a large field of competitors enjoying the hospitality of John Hayes. Congratulations to Wes Campbell who won the President's Prize with 43 points. Wes was last seen doing wheelies down the 3<sup>rd</sup> with his new Electric Trolley. Close on Wes' heels were Jim Frazer and Andrew Carroll, both on 42pts. Andrew also managed an eagle 2 at the 4<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately it was in the competition two weeks later.

## Club Matchplay Trophies

One person with lots of silverware to collect this year is Billy Dodds who racked up an impressive double by winning both the Eureka and Coronation Cup Matchplay events. The winners of the Greensomes Matchplay Competition were Sam Cranston and Shane Andrews for the second year running. Don't forget that the AGM and presentation of prizes will be on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## Mervyn Marshall Classic 2009

A sure sign of the golfing season drawing to a close is the playing of the Mervyn Marshall Classic. To those unfamiliar with this annual event, the 'MMC' is organised by our very own Honorary Secretary and comprises of 3 days and a couple of late nights of golf and craic.

This year Kildare was the setting for the event which attracted an international field with players coming not only from Mahee but as far away as Clandeboye, Banbridge and California.

Edenderry Golf Club's tight tree lined fairways was the venue for Friday's opening round with Saturday seeing the tour move to New Forrest Golf Club. It's undulating greens proved a stiff test, whilst the par 3 8<sup>th</sup>, which is set inside a walled garden had many budding course designers thinking of reshaping their back gardens.

Finally Sunday's 3<sup>rd</sup> round was at Moyvalley Golf Club whose hotel was the MMC's Headquarters for the weekend.

Competition remained close throughout the 3 days with only a couple of points separating the top 5. So who won? Well, despite the presence of 4 Marshalls a bandit stole the prize from the clutches of the Editor.

Although starting slowly with only 24pts on Friday, due mostly to his ball's uncanny ability to find a bunker no less than 14 times in 18 holes, Bobby Jellie gathered his game to score 34pts and 37pts over the last 2 rounds and post a 2 out of 3 round total of 71pts.

So its congratulations to the 2009 MMC Champion Bobby Jellie and thanks to Mervyn for once again making it a weekend to remember.

## The Inner Game

You've got a good score going; you're standing over a 12 foot putt on the 18<sup>th</sup>; what are you thinking? It's probably something along the lines of;

*"Don't 3 putt like last week, get it dead, don't leave it short, don't knock it 3 feet past and leave one back, there's a bit of a break, better move my feet round, head down, club straight back, don't steer it."*

A good putter's thought pattern would be;

*"My target is the little spike mark at the side of the hole"*

Too much clutter, especially negative clutter, going through your head will only lead to an indecisive stroke and inevitably to the result you least want. Your subconscious will take care of the weight if you concentrate on the target.

## The Mahee Pro

The Mahee Pro continues his explanation of golfing terms looking specifically at MATCHPLAY:

**All Square** - A term used in match play to indicate that both teams or individuals have cheated on an equal number of holes.

**Dormie** - Formal term for a team in match play that leads by as many holes as remain to be played. "Hustlers" will often deliberately shoot poorly during the early part of a round to get gullible opponents into this apparently favourable position, then propose a greatly increased, all-or-nothing bet on the remaining holes, with a sudden-death playoff if necessary. How can you spot these tricksters? Generally speaking, don't play golf for money with players who use two-piece clubs that unscrew in the centre of the shaft, who put baby powder on their hands before grasping the driver or use billiard chalk on their clubfaces, or who have a habit of saying things like "Dunlop 65 in the centre pocket" before making a putt.

**Partner** - Match play team member who holes out from a bunker to score a birdie on a hole you were about to win with a tap-in for a par, then putts out for a double bogey on a hole where you lie six and your ball is 40 feet from the cup.

## The 19<sup>th</sup> – An Editor's View

A vintage year? With Tom Watson nearly winning the Open and Catriona Matthews taking that extra step further with victory in the Ladies British Open, I can see Mahee's senior members reconsidering their views on competitive golf.

Many sports have to be given up at a competitive level at a very early age but golf isn't one of them. In fact in recent years there seems to be an abundance of senior open competitions and veteran inter club matches to choose from.

Furthermore, I can see a few objections being raised if you and a few friends wanted to have a kick about at Wembley or a game of tennis at Wimbledon but the likes of Turnburry, Royal Lythem or St Andrews eagerly await the avid golfer who can walk in the footsteps of his or her heroes.

Is there any other sport that allows all ages and all levels of ability to play at such famous venues?

## Mahee 9 Hole Sudoku

August's Winner – Roy Adair.

Winner receives - **£5.00** golf voucher.

Entries to - The Editor C/O Macaw's Golfing Emporium.

Closing date for entries is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

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