

Ramsey Golf & Bowls Club Newsletter

# Ramsey Hosts The Ryder Cup

o Tee-Off the 50th Anniversary Celebrations Ramsey Golf Club held a Gala Dinner in the Clubhouse, on 25th April 2015, attended by 102 members and guests. The guest speaker was Sandy Jones, Chief Exec of the PGA, who brought along the "real" Ryder Cup for all to see.

The evening began with a drinks reception in the upstairs bar and snooker room. A photography studio was set-up in the card-room and, for a small fee, members could have their photograph taken holding the Ryder Cup. Downstairs, the bar and dining-area were turned into one large dining-room, with drapes on the walls and covers on the chairs. The transformation was a credit to all who had worked so hard to make the evening a success. The room looked fantastic - as you can see from the picture below.

Master of Ceremonies, Chris Edwards, opened proceedings, passing over to Captain Ian Cornthwaite who welcomed the guests; Ladies Captain Mary Mills then said Grace. A lovely meal followed, during which several Toasts were made.

After the meal Mr John Harris introduced Sandy Jones who gave a very interesting and humorous speech, talking mostly about the history of the Ryder Cup and his involvement with it, which has been quite extensive over the past 30 years.



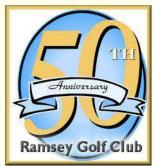
The picture shows (I - r) Chairman Ramsey Golf and Bowls Club, Richard Coles, Sandy Jones, holding the Ryder cup and Club Captain, Ian Cornthwaite



Continued on Back Page



# Festival Report 2015



The 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner in April was very successful with over 100 members & guests attending. Sandy Jones of the PGA of Great Britain & Ireland gave a very entertaining speech concerning the history of The Ryder Cup and the working of the PGA.

Members were given a once in a lifetime opportunity to hold in their hands the Ryder Cup at Ramsey Golf Club.

The Festival week was blessed with good weather and all the events taking place during the week were well attended and greatly appreciated by members and visitors. An enormous Thank You to all the Sponsors for their generosity.

The Grand Finale was an Open Air Concert and Hog Roast. it was a fantastic evening to end a splendid week.

Head green keeper Neil and all his staff produced the golf course to a wonderful standard for everyone to be proud of. Many other people worked very hard to make this year a tremendous success - Stuart and his staff, Martin and the bar staff, Rowena and her staff, Judith in the office and finally the Festival Committee who have worked extremely hard to achieve a successful year.

Thank you to Captains Ian and Mary who have worked tirelessly with all their extra duties to make this 50th year memorable.

John Harris







I have to say that it has been a huge honour to be the 51st Captain of this great club we have here in Ramsey, and to interact with all sections of the club – it is the people that make the difference, and we have some fine people in this club.

There have been some memorable occasions this past 12 months. One of the highlights in every Ramsey's Captains year are the two

#### **Golf Committee**

Captain.....Chris Craven Vice-Captain.....Mark Thurmott Immediate Past Captain.....Ian Cornthwaite Treasurer.....Trevor Sparling Handicaps Chair.....Jim Dixon Handicaps....Paul Hodgkin Competitions Chair.....Pete Welham Competitions..... Richard Hoy

matches against Royal Guernsey GC, and this year we gave them a rare old beating here in Ramsey in May, winning 14.5 points to 1.5, and although we went over there in September with high hopes, the odds were stacked against us, having only won outright away from home 4 times previously in the past 44 years. Well I have to report that the team (of which there were 8 tour virgins) performed admirably, and I am pleased to announce that our win ratio has now improved to 5 times in the past 45 years, as we WON by an impressive total of 9 points to 5, and the shield is now back on our wall where it should be..!

This year has been the 50th Anniversary of Ramsey GC, and we have had some great events take place throughout the year, starting in April with the Anniversary Dinner, at which we were honoured to have the attendance of Dr Sandy Jones (Chief Exec of the PGA), who brought with him the 'Ryder Cup'. What a wonderful evening this was, great food, great company, and the opportunity for all to have their picture taken for posterity with the Ryder Cup. In June we held a festival week, which started on the Monday with a Pro-Am run by the PGA, Captains' Invitation day on the Tuesday, Sponsors' day and Past Captains' day on the Wednesday, Ladies' Day on the Thursday, Seniors' day on the Friday, and ending with a Men's & Ladies' Singles competition on the Saturday, followed by an Open air concert on the 18th Fairway with entertainment in the form of a Live band. A massive vote of thanks goes to John & Carol Harris, along with the Entertainments Committee for organising these activities during the week, each day was extremely well run and a pleasure to be a part of.

Keeping with entertainment, there have been several other great nights organised at the club this year, All these functions don't just happen, and we should be very proud of our Entertainments Committee, led by Mike Kjenstad and ably assisted by Paul Judge, Margaret Keenan, John & Carol Harris, Patsy Coles, Mary Fielding & Martin Barber, well done and thank you. I hope these events continue next year.

The Ramsey Scratch team have performed exceptionally well this year under the Captaincy of Paul Hodgkin, their first year in Division 1 for a long time. A big thank you to all those players who have represented Ramsey GC this year in Men's, Ladies', Mixed & Seniors' matches, and here's hoping our success can continue into next year. Thank you also to all the players who have taken part in the numerous club competitions this year & congratulations to all the winners. Well done & congratulations to this year's Club Champions – Paul Hodgkin (4th year in a row) & Sharren Kjenstad.

Thank you to Rowena and all her catering staff for the great food that has been delivered throughout the year, both for team matches and also other social events. Thank you to Martin and his merry band of bar staff for keeping us all topped up with drinks this year. Thank you to Judith in the office for her support, and also to Stuart Scott & Mitchell in the Pro Shop for keeping things ticking over and being there for advice when required

Thank you to all the members of the Golf Committee, for running the competitions, looking after handicaps, keeping tabs on the money, and for your attendance at the monthly meetings, and keeping me on the straight and narrow.

Finally, I would like to wish our incoming Club Captain Chris Craven, our new Ladies Captain Sharren Kjenstad & our new Seniors Captain Bill Charlton, ably assisted by their respective Vice Captains Mark Thurmott, Sheena Bentham & John Dunham, every success in their years; if they enjoy their year half as much as I have this year they will have a great time.

-3-

Thank you once again for choosing me to be your Captain for the past 12 months in this our 50th Anniversary year, and for allowing me to wear the Ramsey Captain's Jacket, I will never forget it. Thank You.

Immediate Past Captain Ian Cornthwaite

Ladies Golf Committee Captain.....Sharren Kjenstad Vice-Captain.....Sheena Bentham Immediate Past Captain.....Mary Mills Secretary.....Lucy Mills Handicaps.....Chris Wishart Treasurer.....Liz Charlton Competitions..... Carol Harris and Frances Clyne Committee Members: Lainy Halden, Alice Bevans. Gina Cameron and Pat Bliss Ladies President Pat Bliss

What a golden year! To have been Ladies Captain in this 50th anniversary year has been really special and it has been an experience like no other and something I would not have missed for the world. This has been largely due to you members, your support and general



enthusiasm for the game, and the club has been fantastic and as Ladies Captain I have to say especially the ladies!

Life as Captain seems to have been full-on (particularly since our 50th celebrations started in April) and very varied. How many Captains on one day, boast of holding THE Ryder Cup and the next of being part of a scrubbing team! The days spent in Springtime with so many other

members, cleaning, polishing and decorating were fun and made a huge difference. Thank you to Bill for organising everything and to all who gave their time and energy to help spruce up the Clubhouse. I have to mention the 50th celebrations, starting with the dinner in April. What a fantastic evening. The meal was great, the speaker excellent. I was very surprised at how candid he was when talking of the Ryder Cup players and how he managed to make a talk, essentially about golf, so entertaining for those present

who were not Golfers. The icing on the cake had to be the presence of the Ryder Cup and the pictures taken with it. Under sufferance I had my photo taken 3 times that night and was really impressed with the photographer, as I can look at all 3 photographs without wincing.

The Festival week in general was a great success. The weather was good throughout. We had a small number of ladies playing in the Pro/ AM competition who all had a good time and enjoyed the experience. The Sponsors' and Past Captains' Day went well,

However for me the highlight of the week was our ladies' Day. The weather was perfect for golf. The morning

American Greensome was really well supported and very enjoyable, not least because Lucy and I won it



(picture left). It is very special to win a competition with your daughter, we don't often get the chance to play together and generally when we do, do not do well, This was true of the first 9, at the 10th Lucy said well mum we need a really good back 9, surprisingly we did (Surprising because I am not known for doing as I am told!) and won on count back from Rosie and Hazel.

The afternoon team competition, we opened up to those Ladies who didn't have a competition handicap or were no longer members. Four past members joined us for the afternoon's play, one of whom, Martha King was in the winning team. The day finished with, what I considered to be a

'proper' afternoon tea. The ladies pulled out all the stops,

loaning best china, cake stands and tea sets. Thank you to Liz Charlton for her hard work ensuring we all had a cup and saucer and just as importantly everything went back to its rightful owners. The room looked fantastic and the atmosphere was great. We were joined for tea, by other past lady members no longer able to play, it was a lovely opportunity to reminisce and catch up.



(Continued on next page).



(Continued from previous page)

The week finished on the Saturday night with an open air concert and hog roast on the 18th Fairway. It was such a lovely summer evening, what better way to end the week's celebrations.

I hoped our other ladies' events would also have a feeling of celebration. This in part was helped by giving our visitors the anniversary ball markers, every visitor seemed pleased to receive one and said what a lovely idea it was. The effort and enthusiasm of the ladies who organised, helped and took part in our Ladies' Competitions also contributed to the sense of fun and celebration. The selection of cakes on invitation day at the half way house, made by some of the ladies, were amazing. The AM/AM also had a great atmosphere. The day was won by a team from Huddersfield, who wanted somewhere to play on their way back from a golfing break 'down South'. They have sent a lovely letter saying what a great time they had, how welcoming the club was and hoping they can come back next year. What better way to promote our course and club.

The Ladies from Guernsey joined us in September, having postponed their visit from last year so that they could join us as part of our 50th celebrations. We halved our match, which means the Guernsey Ladies retained the trophy (also means they have to get it engraved, so I suppose there was an upside!). As it was quite a small party of Guernsey ladies, the match with the men on Saturday we changed to a team event, 2 Ramsey men, 1 Ramsey lady and 1 Guernsey lady, this was a really friendly and fun format. They may have



been a small team but I do not think anyone can deny the abundance of fun and sense of celebration created by the visit by the Guernsey Ladies. ABBA (picture), the Opera Dudes and Diva's, who needs golf! My Captain's Day, it was so special, thank you again for your gifts, kind words and for taking part. I am sure it will be remembered for many years to come not as my Captain's day, but as the night of the knickers! There have been many great evenings this year thanks to the entertainments committee as a whole for putting them on, we have had some truly good times and each time the clubhouse has looked amazing. The support this year for our Ladies' Friendly matches has been fantastic. There have been occasions when we have had two matches close together (like in the same

week) and still been able to field full teams. It has also been great to see different people putting their names down and taking part. Never be afraid or nervous to put yourselves forward. These are Friendly Matches and no one should think I am not good enough. They are a great and cheap way to play other courses and meet and make new friends. (Who you can then invite to Invitation Day!)

We did not do so well in our County fixtures. We had some very close matches; unfortunately you do not get points for close, If I had my way we would change some of these rules! However for some these County matches were a new experience, those who have played in these games, know the first time can be both daunting and nerve racking, well done for giving it a go. We have gained lots of experience to take into next year.

The County Ladies Championship was held this year at St. Ives, as Ladies Captain (and also as mum) I want to say how proud we were that Lucy Mills was the runner up in the County Plate, the competition for the second flight and that Hazel won the Presidents Cup at the County Veterans' meeting at the Old Nene. We are also well represented on the County Exec with Ina Hartley, in charge of the County Website and Hazel taking up the post of County Vets Team Captain.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, Neil and his staff, considering what a small team they are the course has been fantastic all year. Along with Stuart and his team, Martin and his team and Ro and Sarah they have all been so supportive and helpful throughout the year.

It has been a great privilege to be Ladies Captain this year, to have been alongside Ian as club Captain. I hope Chris and Sharren enjoy their year as much as Ian and I have this year and wish them every success.

Immediate Past Ladies Captain Mary



2015 Captain's Day: Resting before tackling the 9th



Captain's Day Evening: Vice-Captain Chris gets a helping hand from Captain Ian's granddaughter



2015 Ladies v Gents - Snazzy golfing outfits!



(from left) John Brooks with the Winners of the 2015 Past Captains' Competition: John Flack, Mick Arthur and Peter Wright



The Guernsey Ladies serenading Ramsey Golf Club members during the Italian Evening



The 2015 Italian Evening featuring: The Opera Dudes



2015 Ladies v Gents: Ladies Captain Mary presenting the winners trophy to Captain Ian



Winners of the 2015 Mixed Past Captains' Competition: Mike Kjenstad and Carol Harris

- 6 -



Seniors Golf Committee Captain.....Bill Charlton Vice-Captain.....John Dunham Secretary....Richard Mantle Treasurer.....Paul Fletcher Immediate Past Captain....Alan Duke

I am pleased to report that the Seniors' Section has had a very good

year. Although we are a relatively small group there has been great support for our club matches and our in-house competitions.

We have managed to recruit several new players to our ranks and it was very pleasing to see a number of the main club players, including Captain Ian Cornthwaite and his Vice Captain Chris Craven, joining us from time to time during the season.

Our Section runs on a format of friendliness and informality, meeting on Tuesday and Friday mornings. The programme for the year has been varied, entertaining and great fun.

I really have enjoyed my year as Captain and I offer my sincere thanks to my Senior players and all the staff at Ramsey Golf Club who have helped make my year so pleasurable.

Immediate Past Captain Alan Duke





The pictures were taken during the Seniors' Celebrations Day Competition. Captain Alan presented the Winner, John Harris, and Runner-up Paul Woods, with engraved crystal decanters, Third Prize went to Roger Tacq and Fourth to Jim Brotherson.

The longest-drive was won by John Harris, NTP by Roger Tacq and NTP in 2 by Mick Arthur.

Terry Cripps, pen-in-hand, is seen checking the cards.

Past Captain/President Ivor Thulborn paid a visit to the Club and stayed to watch the presentation. He is seen congratulating John Harris before getting into his buggy to check-up on the oak tree he planted by the 9th tee many, many years ago.













Can I start by thanking all members for their continued support this year. We are now entering the time when, as long as you don't mind popping on another warm top, you should be thinking about improving your game ready for next year's season that will soon come round.

#### Winter Tuition Package

I am offering a winter package for any takers (nonmembers included) starting from November 1st thought to March 31st 2016 of 4 Sessions for £75. This will enable us to cover all aspects of the game DRIVER, FAIRWAY, SHORT GAME, + 1 other to be used for each individual which we feel is the best use of the time, it could be a BUNKER Session PUTTING of even a few holes for course management. Custom Fitting

I am now a SRIXON Fitting Centre, which has allowed me to offer a great service to Men, Ladies and Left hand Golfers, the range of clubs available suites EVERY calibre of player from Beginner to + Handicap Golfers. I can fit everything from a new Driver; Fairway Woods; Hybrids; Irons and Wedges.

I have a Wedge fitting Cart as well, so I can even advice on the club make up in your bag so you only get the very best selection of clubs that you require obviously fitted to your own individual specification.

#### Fitting Includes

Head Design (Which includes irons that help to fly the ball higher, cavity blades for the improving golfer and blades for the purer strikers of the ball),

Shaft Length; Shaft Type; Shaft weight; Club head type; Club head Lie; Club head loft; Grip type and Grip size.

If you would like a fitting or a chat to see what we have on offer please contact us so we can talk it through, why not get the set that totally fits your game and helps you achieve your goals?

#### Club Cleaning Service

We will be offering a club cleaning service for those who would like to keep their clubs nice and shiny, just drop them off and we will do the rest.

#### Anything Else Needed?

For any other golfing needs please contact us we are here to make your life easier weathers its quality products at the best possible prices, tuition or a simple piece of advice please do not hesitate to ask..!!!!!

-8-

Thank you









Scotty xx

### Ramsey Club Entertainments

It has been a very busy year for the entertainments committee with packed schedule of events and the active involvement in the 50th celebrations. The festival week was a great success and all credit must go to John and Carol Harris for their efforts in taking on board the 50th celebrations organisation. The recently held Italian Night was an excellent evening with the Opera Dudes duo (picture) providing us with some magical operatic singing combined with humour. The visiting Guernsey Ladies were also invited to the Italian Night which they greatly appreciated, they are still talking about it in Guernsey.

My personal thanks goes to my entertainments committee and a hand full of members for giving their time to help with the event. A special mention for Margaret Keenan and Paul Judge for their dedicated hard work and delicate touches in making the Italian Evening a memorable success.

Our entertainment events have been very well supported this year and have presented us with some interesting challenges. We are always limited by the capacity of the kitchen and the available space in the dining room and bar area, hence numbers have to be restricted. It would be nice to have larger facilities but we have what we have. Finally, I would like to thank the members of Ramsey Club for supporting our events this year and look forward to your continued support in the future

Mike Kjenstad Entertainments Chairman On Behalf of Ramsey Club





**Diary Dates** 19th December 2015 Christmas Draw 31st December 2015 New Year's Eve 2016 Planned: 8th January Quiz Night 23rd January Burns Night 5th February Quiz Night 13th February Valentines Dine and Dance 4th March Quiz night 19th March St Patrick's Night 23rd April St George's Night 21st May Jazz Evening + Food 18th June Hawaiian Night 5th August Bowlers V Golfers Evening 24th September Rock and Roll Evening 7th October Quiz Night 4th November Quiz Night 19th November Race Night 2nd December Quiz Night 17th December Christmas Draw 31st DecemberNew Years Eve

## Message from IPC Ian Cornthwaite

As you will all now be aware, my chosen Charity for the year was the Fire-Fighters Charity, and due to the generosity of the members we have managed to raise in the region of £2,500 – THANK YOU so much – again as with last year a large part of this came from the raffling of midweek 4 ball vouchers fromr other golf clubs in the area that had so kindly been donated for the cause, and unlike last year when Roger gave a secondary prize of Captain's Socks, the second prize this year was a sleeve of Captains Balls.

\_9\_

Ramsey Golf Club - 50th Anniversary Dinner - 25th April 2015



Captains (Ir): Dave Young, Robert Cade, Andy Turner, John Edwards, Mike Kjenstad, John Harris, Ian Cornthwaite, Mike Robinson, Tony Morgan, Mick Arthur, Mark Pettitt and Tony Buddle



Ladies Captains(Ir): Pam Simpson, Anne Fieldhouse, Carol Harris, Maureen Chapman, Angela Whittome, Ina Hartley, Diana Clitheroe, Mary Fielding Mary Mills, Jenny Murby, Pat Bliss, Dorothy Hinch, Margaret Keenan, Sylvia King, Frances Clyne, Judy Freeman and Joyce Buddle



Editor: Ina Hartley Proof Reader: Roger Tacq

Club Website: http://www.ramseyclub.co.uk





-10-