

# *The Moreton Grange Golf Society*

**Newsletter - January 2007**

Welcome to the January issue of the Newsletter.

## **Society Match Day**

No Society Match in December or early January so a bit short on reports.

## **Charity Event**

Due to the lack of Society fixtures at the end of December, some enterprising members decided to get a game of golf in on a local course whilst at the same time helping raise money for a worthy cause. Thus is the reason that Ralph, Peter, Tom and Alan came to be standing in Arrowe Park Car Park in the cold and wet far too early on post boxing day day. Never mind, its for a good cause we all said.



Anyway, after some rather quick bacon butties we set off;- first mistake. The weather was appalling, every tee was a winter tee, and every green was a winter green. This had the benefit of in effect knocking 18 shots off the entire course (low score here I come Alan was heard to mutter), but really only meant we had to play a longish pitch-&-putt course. Some of the Par 3's were so short that many a player actually over shot the hole when taking a putter off the tee. And on the Par 4's, big hitters Ralph and Tom had to resort to a half swing, low grip 9 iron shot to avoid over shooting the green. Luckily, medium hitters Peter and Alan were still able to take their drivers at every hole (Par 3's excepted) and never sail past the green. Never mind, its for a good cause we all said.

As the round progressed so did the weather, only it progressed worse. The ground under welly was very wet in places, and there was so much rain that we soon all had wet balls. Never mind, its for a good cause we all said.

The high light of the round was a glimpse of that very rare sight of Ralph going backwards for the first time. Having hit a slightly wayward drive Ralph was in the trees. Never mind, take a 5 iron and loft it up and over and onto the green – that was the plan. In the event the ball went forward (good start), however a tree had the audacity to get in the way (oh, oh), and the ball ricochets off this, over Ralph's head (anyone else and it would have taken their eye out) and back off down the fairway towards the tee. Ralph was not amused; funny that because the rest of us were in stitches.



Anyway, as we approached the end of the round the clubhouse was in sight. We squelched off the last green, the rain stopped, the sun peeped out from behind a huge black cloud, and we all thought, stuff the good cause, lets not do this next year.

## Partners for the Summer Season

The partners are starting to line up ready for the next season; those declared to date are;-

Ralph Vaughan & Peter Smythe

Pete Conner & Peter McNay

Tom Rogers & Nigel Hall

Remember, get your names to the Secretary as soon as possible.

## The Trophy Cabinet

It has arrived, though unless you have been caught short in the Grange and needed to go to the toilet you may not have noticed it. It's rumoured to have all started with Peter's wife was complaining lots about being "tired of tripping over that great big wooden box in the Dining Room", so much so that Peter set out on a mission to the Grange (no surprise there then). However this time he took the 'great big wooden box with him, and Ralph to help him prop the bar up. After much deliberation, and consideration of moving light fittings, lifting skirts, moving tables etc, Ralph had a close of Year Idea, and said something along the lines of "Peter, my lagers getting warm, lets just throw this wooden box on the first space of wall we find and get down to some serious drinking". Of course, as this was after several pints to help the initial deliberation process, Ralph needed to relive himself, and thus, on the way to the toilets, he found a piece of wall, and the trophy cabinet was up.

Notwithstanding all this, it is in a focal part of the pub, and various comments have been made. Well done Peter and Ralph; we knew you could do it..

## The Dictionary of Golf

In an attempt to widen the golf knowledge base of the average member of the Society beyond that picked up from certain very loud and vocal elder members of the Society there is a new addition to the Newsletter; namely the Dictionary of Golf.

It has been decided by 'Club with no Balls' to start off with some easy and potentially non confrontational definitions as follows;-

**Golf;**- the derivation of the word "golf" from its Celtic and Middle English roots is obscure. Some possibilities are: *gilff* (an incurable madness), *gylf* (a notorious liar), *gullf* (to beat a shrub with a stick), *golve* (under, beneath, lost, blocked, submerged), *galfa* (my god, oh no!), *goulyfl* (to cry, to weep) and *gaelfu* (I quit).

**Golfing;**- the art of using a flawed stance, a faulty grip, and an ugly swing to hit a small ball badly toward the wrong hole.

**Golf Course;**- a place where people who are cooped up in the office all week go to get a chance to lie and cheat outdoors.

**Scorecard;**- a pre-printed listing of the holes of the course on which a golfer records his opening offer prior to the commencement of serious negotiations.

**Winter Rules;**- local rules that permit balls to be lifted, cleaned and replaced in a more favourable "preferred lie" without penalty during periods when adverse weather conditions make proper maintenance of the fairways impractical. Most golfers generally adhere to winter rules from the first week of November until Halloween.

## The Monthly Golfing Joke's

### The F-Word

This man goes to confession and says, "Forgive me father for I have sinned." The priest asks if he would like to confess his sins and the man replies that he used the "F-word" over the weekend. The priest says, "Oh okay, just say three Hail Mary's and try to watch your language."

The man replies that he would like to confess as to why he said the "F-word". The priest sighs and tells him to continue. Well father I played golf on Sunday with my buddies instead of going to church. The priest says, "And you got upset over that and swore?" The man replied, "No, that wasn't why I swore. On the first tee I duck-hooked my drive well left into the trees." The priest said, "And that's when you swore." The man replied, a little testily because of the constant interruptions, "No, it wasn't. When I walked up the fairway, I noticed my ball got a lucky bounce and I had a clear shot to the green. However, before I could hit the ball, a squirrel ran by and grabbed my ball and scurried up a tree."

The priest asked, "Is that when you said the 'F-word'?" The man replied, "No, because an eagle then flew by and caught the squirrel in its sharp talons and flew away." The priest let out a breath and queried, "Is that when you swore?" The man replied, "No, because the eagle flew over the green and the dying squirrel let go of my golf ball and it landed within 5 inches of the hole."

The priest screamed, "Don't tell me you missed the fucking putt!!!"

## The Golf Academy - An Ongoing Teach-in -Playing in the Rain

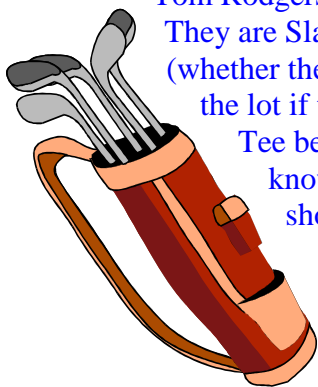
The main thing we can teach you about this is **Don't**. Despite your best intentions you will only end up with wet balls, muddy clubs, squelchy feet, a cold that would do Siberia proud, and a score that would put even Alan B to shame.

So, when approaching the course and it looks like, is, or has just finished, raining then introduce the old DE trick, loose your way and blame TomTom for directing you towards the nearest warm and comfortable local hostelry.

No charge for these gems from the Moreton Grange Golf Academy.

## Rule(s) of the Month - none this month, do what you like

### Items For Sale -



Tom Rodgers has advised he has a full set of irons and carry bag that he needs to dispose of, They are Slazenger pro's, and the bag is a Hot Blade stand type. Clubs are only 4 months old (whether they're hardly used no one but Tom knows). He is looking for only £ 65 o.n.o. for the lot if there are any takers. If so, please contact Tom (he's the one standing at the 1<sup>st</sup> Tee begging some clubs off any one whose got some spare ones). By the way, I don't know if Tom's Pairs Partner knows he's flogging off his clubs, but perhaps he should.

And the rumour that Tom got them off the back of a wagon is not true, though he has been down to the south coast recently with a big set of boltcutters just right for container locks. In any event, if they helped Tom get down from his 26 Handicap to his 16 handicap then they can't be all bad, ie they must work.

## Next Society Day Out

The next Society match is at Holywell, on the 28th January 2007, 1000 tee off, arrive 0900 for bacon butties etc, meal included, £30 all in, format will be a Pairs Competition, Pairs to be decided by Captain.