

Tee Talk

BCGC Seniors Xmas 2024

Photo: Ross Law

Captain Chadders' Chat

Greetings fellow Senior golfers and welcome to my inaugural bit of waffle for the newsletter. First and foremost I wish to thank outgoing **Captain Ken** for his sterling efforts on our behalf over the past year. Quite an act to follow!!

Our editor asked me what kind of Captain I was planning to be: Benevolent Dictator, Enlightened Enforcer, "The Special One"? Whilst all are tempting I think my style is to be a "First among equals". At work I always had an open-door policy so I'd like to continue in that vein and be as approachable as possible. So if there's something bugging you, you want something brought before the Management Committee or if you have some ideas about game formats for our Monday meets then please come and have a chat.

I would like to encourage any Barney members who have just turned 55 to come and join us. I appreciate that not everyone will be able to play on a Monday morning but there are options. These are: the friendly matches with other clubs; our knockout competitions and other get-togethers through the week. Plus there's the opportunity to participate in the Captain's Awayday and the Christmas Lunch (at a subsidised rate). I will guarantee a warm welcome and it only costs a tenner!

Golf for me is having fun playing this great game with your mates. I am an average player, at best, capable of the odd "good day". But the great thing about our game is that we can all have one of those days (see 'Chadders Counsel' for a tip on how).

I am really looking forward to a brilliant year ahead trying to outdo Ken's fine record in the Friendlies! All that remains is for me to wish you all the very best for the Festive Season.

Yours in Golf,

Chadders



Len Ken Neck and Neck!

Never mind the quality, feel the drama. It has not been a vintage year for the Len Kennedy Trophy, but it has at least built up to a thrilling climax.

This is our Grand National - a marathon, not a sprint - and it's heading for a photo-finish.

Going into the last of 12 rounds on December 2, **Ken Walters** and **Tim Wellock** are tied for the lead with **Peter Holliday** one behind.



Coming up ominously on the rails is the lightly-weighted **Ray Pipe**. With each person's best six scores to count, Ray has played in only five rounds. So whatever he scores will be added to his total and he is 26 behind the front-runners.

Victory would crown a tremendous year for Ray, who won the Stuart Wilson matchplay and retained the Northern Golfer magazine knockout trophy he and **John Matthews** won last year.

Continued overleaf...

42-handicapper's Hole-in-One!

By our intrepid reporter, Tim Wellock

David Wright has shown there's hope for us all. The club's highest male handicapper would be the last person you'd want to rely on at the last hole in a Texas Scramble.

His team had no option but to take his drive and with the flag at the back he needed his driver for the 160-yard shot.

"We told him we'd play it as a par four", said teammate Steve Myers. "But he hit his best drive of the day. As we approached the green we thought it must be over the back, but then we saw Jack, the steward, at the window signalling that it was in the hole."

David's handicap is 42.5, six higher than any other male. Amazingly, it's not his first ace as he explained: "I had one in 1996 at Eggborough Power Station near Selby, near where I worked at Drax. But this one was different class. None of us could believe it."



What is Ken's favourite carol?



Because he keeps dreaming of his many swings... and misses

Chadders' Counsel

There's an old saying in golf: drive for show, putt for dough. But how many of us practice this crucial part of our game? So get practising those putts; on the carpet at home will do while you're watching Strictly or the Footie or use our own green at the club. And if you're having problems see **Peter our pro**, then a lesson or a new putter might turn the odd good day into several!!

Book now for the BCGC 2025 gents seniors opens by googling "barnard castle seniors opens".



Dec'r caption comp. winner is Sid:

Ross says, "I would love to play but I've mislaid my clubs!" Sid, a bottle of Malbec is on its way!



Adding to Chadders' thanks to Ken, all of Senior Section thanks you. We'd like to reward you with a holiday in Barbados. What a shame we can't afford it.

Len Ken (cont'd): Ken and Tim both need to improve on their lowest counting score of 29, while Peter has to better a 31. This is indicative of the modest scoring in an event in which scores of 40-plus used to be essential when just the four best scores counted.

Ken was surprised to find himself four ahead going into the November round but failed to improve his total. Tim's 33 closed the gap, while Peter had 34 and Ray 35. The winner on the day was **Kevin Selwood** with 37.

Ahead of the final hurdle **Tony Mawer** and **Colin Stead** lead the chasing pack in joint fourth. But they are ten adrift and would need to score 40-plus to trouble the leaders.

Want to receive the seniors' emails, or join the Senior Section, or play in friendly matches at other fantastic courses? Send an email to **editor@teetalk.uk** and we'll send you some information.

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Prize Crossword

Across

- Colour of putters?
- Action in (1)
- Jack takes stock?
- Degree of club
- Irish golfer
- Your clubs are 4 to 8 of these
- Two start, one finish
- Corner
- Trees always (1)
- Two or more golfers
- Jack's 'club' to serve?
- The BCGC golf computer never goes this fast
- A birdie that isn't anything like a birdie
- Recent senior captain's knowledge
- A make in Jack's kitchen for example??
- Greek alien leaves leaving BCGC

Down

- Game we play
- Apply the rules
- Dispute the rules!
- Predicting too quietly to warn golfers
- Despite having two parts, not suitable as golf bags
- Maths for who putts first
- Birdie more than a birdie
- I hesitate to say it, but old newsletter editors may have used this
- Senior journalist
- Politely describe mending or missing a hole
- Surprise part of golf
- The state of Kinloch Golf Club

Open to all BCGC members 18 or over. Email a photo of your entry by 3 Jan to **editor@teetalk.uk**, winner gets a Speyside single malt.



Where's Ken? Get your magnifying glass out! Sorry, no prizes for this puzzle.

