

Tee Talk

BCGC Seniors 2025 #4

See Peter Hartley by 21st March to get substantially discounted Glenmuir clothing embroidered with the club/seniors' marques.

Where's Chadders?

Chadders' Chat

G'Day Senior Bruces! Yes I've just returned home from a bonzer trip to Australia. There was plenty of "blowing the froth off a cold one" in temperatures in the mid 30's C. So it was a bit of a shock on returning to less than 10 degrees.

Still, Spring has sprung and the first matches of the season are just around the corner – let the fun commence! In the next issue I hope to be reporting some results.

There has been a fantastic response to posting the team lists early and I now have the rare privilege of having to select teams for the first three matches. I will be adding the next batch of availability sheets and those team selections on the board shortly. Please keep an eye out and add your names soonest. My goal is to have a selection headache for all the matches this season – please go ahead and make life hard for me!!

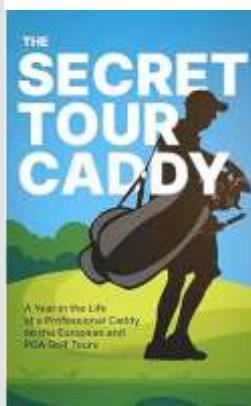
Please take note of **Tim Wellock's** article on the **Turf Wars**—**Adam** our Greens Convenor says this is particularly important as the greens staff are shorthanded. Can seniors lead by example?

Congratulations to Senior member **Simon Elliott** who has just joined the Management Committee as Commercial Director. You now have a name to whom you can give all your fund-raising ideas to. Go on, flood his Barney Inbox!!

With Seniors **Dave Sparrow**, **Geoff Wall**, and **Dave Hurst** also on the MC, and **Paul Dobson** (Comps Secretary) indicating he will join the Seniors on achieving the age requirement, the Seniors will be very well represented on the Committee. I confess it's a bit weird that I effectively report to Dave Sparrow on the Committee and he reports to me in the Seniors! Only in a golf club!!

Yours in Golf,

Chadders



The Secret Tour Caddy

Book review by David Hammond

Ever wondered what a professional tour caddy actually does? How much they get paid? What they do for fun? What they think of pro players? How they calculate yardages?

Well, this is the book for you. It's a personal diary of a top DP World Tour Caddy in 2023 as he travels the globe supporting "him"—in a controversial year that saw the split between PGA and LIV players. I enjoyed reading about the... *Continued overleaf.*



Turf wars

By Tim Wellock

Being grumpy old gits, we seniors often complain about winter

greens. Are we justified?

The question arose when I returned to the course after a ten-day absence on a glorious early March morning. The sun shone, the ground was dry and it really seemed that Spring had sprung.

Yet the flag at the first was still at the top of the bank and at the second it remained 20 yards short of the green.

My exasperation took on a different hue, however, when we arrived at the proper green at the fourth. I was playing with a

yipper who regularly four putts and, while he was

trying to locate the hole, I exercised my back by repairing five pitch marks. This green was no exception. Who'd want to be a greenkeeper if people are too lazy or ignorant to do a simple repair job?

No wonder they want to keep us off the greens.

Erratum. Apologies that in the last Tee Talk I got **Peter Holliday's** playing partners mixed up for the February comp.

This obviously negates the result. However, despite cajoling, Peter won't give the whisky back and has insisted on drinking it. Tut tut.

Poor Grumpy

Quiet, shy, and lovable.

If you find him please return to the editor for a 50p reward.



Letters to the editor

Diplomatic Strokes

Back in the 1990s on a Saturday I used to play early doors with Len Davies and Brian Lawson and a few others teeing off at around 6.30am or earlier. This particular morning we were ready to tee off when a guy popped his head over the hedge and asked if he could join us.

After a few holes we got talking and were asked what we did for a living, Len explained his role at Fujitsu, Brian and I explained ours at Glaxo. Len then asked him what he did for a living. He explained he was the British ambassador for the European Union and was up here hosting a briefing session with some UK officials at Rokeby Hall. **Phil Hartley**

Complaint

I feel I must make a very serious complaint about the latest edition of TeeTalk. I was most offended by **Doug Bousfield's** piece.

I am NOT a Yorkshireman. I am a proud LANCASTRIAN. Don't forget we won the *War of the Roses* and are therefore superior. We also have the better football and cricket teams. **Ross Law**.



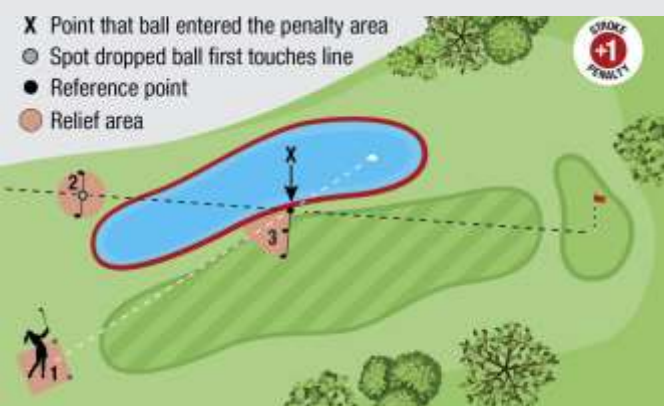
PS. If you are not a Yorkshireman or Lancastrian, don't reply, as "It's got nowt to d wi' thee".

Third Thursday Tipple

On 20th March, it's your **last chance** this winter to win a bottle of whisky (or £20) in the comp that is sponsored by the senior section. The forecast is for **good weather** and entry is only £2 on V1.



- X Point that ball entered the penalty area
- Spot dropped ball first touches line
- Reference point
- Relief area



Parkinson's Disease and Golf

By Steve Myers



Amongst the seniors' many afflictions, there is a new kid on the block—Parkinson's Disease (PD). Having recently been diagnosed, I'm still learning about it—but exercise is the only proven way to slow it down. So I'm now playing golf on doctor's orders.

So far, it's mostly my swing that's taken a hit, and I'm working with **Peter Hartley** to adapt. But as my speed, balance, and coordination decline, I may need a little patience from my playing partners—and eventually a lift installed to the bar, though that may benefit some other members now. Despite the seniors being a bunch of incoherent old duffers, the doctor says I have to socialise with them!

Golf is now a prescribed treatment for various health conditions. So, making the club more accessible and building links with the local doctors' surgery could boost membership. After all, where else can you get therapy and a pint in the same session?

The Secret Tour Caddy—Book review (continued)

life of the secret caddy on the tour and have a newfound respect for the work that they do. It's a unique insight into the effort required to support a top player trying to win and retain their tour card. Results mean bonuses. They are a close-knit group of people who enjoy the small amount of time they have to themselves to the fullest.

You never find out who "him" is or indeed who the caddy is either, but you'll learn about how important the expensive yardage book is. It's a 4 out of 5 from me. The Secret Tour Caddy is published by Pitch Publishing costing around £12.

Rules: Ball Lost in Penalty Area



We have all been in the Percy Beck from time to time but what happens if Percy has taken your ball for a little ride or you otherwise can't find it? To avoid the walk of shame to play another ball from where you last played a shot (Stroke and Distance penalty for a lost ball) you have to know OR be virtually certain that your original ball went into the Penalty area. Did you or a playing partner see it go in? Was it rolling towards the beck and is it not visible on this side of the beck? If you are certain that it went in then you have the following relief options (under penalty of one stroke). Refer diagram, left:

- 1 Replay your shot from where you hit last (Stroke & Distance)
- 2 Take back-on-the-line relief. Drop the ball in a one club radius circle, outside the penalty area keeping the point where you estimate your ball entered the Penalty Area and the flag in a line
- 3 Take lateral relief (Red Penalty Areas only). Drop the ball in a two club length area (not nearer the hole) using where your ball is estimated to have entered the Area as the reference point.