



Tee Talk

BCGC Seniors 2026 #6

Photos in this edition mostly by Kevin Atkin, Mike Lee, and others.

In this issue: **Win a bottle of whisky. How to not fall over. A lesson pays off.**

Simon's Spiel

I believe this will be my penultimate Tee Talk before handing over to Mike. English is obviously a second language in Yorkshire so apologies for my lack of superlatives. Ey Up and Be reyt are used daily in Halifax, Geoffrey Boycott one liners are taught at school "I reckon my mum could have caught that in her pinny" instead of Swallow's and Amazon's.

The last month has seen a multitude of ups and downs in our friendlies, a great win at Hexham away followed by a couple of defeats at the hands of Richmond and Catterick both away. Reflecting on my year I would like to thank everyone for their commitment to the friendlies it certainly makes the role much easier.



I never imagined how many pies you eat as a Senior Captain but I think I am well on my way to at least forty. Personally I think the Barney Pies are still my favourite (thanks to Jack and his Dad).

I feel like I have played a huge amount of golf this year, had the pleasure of getting to know many of our seniors, seen a small flourish of new faces join and immediately join in. This is a sign of a great club.

I would like to thank the seniors committee who quietly sit behind the scenes and help keep the ship and finances in order.

The course is now becoming green and playing very differently from our hot summer, as a committee member we see the positive comments on those that have played the course. Never easy putting yourself in front of negative and positive comments but over the last couple of months the positive comments have far outweighed the negative. Great job to all involved especially Alan and the green keeping team.

In summary great year, thank you. I have met many new people (opponents and members) who all have a story to tell. I have only been here three years but with the new cosmetic aspects (path and signs, well done Mr E) it feels like the Club is getting a second wind and pushing forward. Best of luck to Mike in his year. **Simon**

CHADDER'S COUNSEL

We've all been there. You've put your ball in the deep doo-doo and you say to yourself, "I can get this out"! What follows is you do so but only after 1, 2 or 3 further hacks losing your cool along the way. In another scenario you bend yourself double trying to get out from under a low tree or bush with similar results. Or you think you're Gary Player (look him up youngsters) and try to blast your ball from a bunker when it's in a terrible position under the lip or half buried. The unintended consequence of these efforts is ruining what was looking like a pretty good round.

In any of these situations can I suggest you consider whether it would be better to *continued overleaf*

Caption Competition

What on earth is Tony Mawer doing behind Ken Walters back? See overleaf for details of entry and prize.



Send your caption comp entry to editor@teetalk.uk by Friday 2nd October. Comp open to members of the senior section only. Prize is a bottle of Tamnavulin single malt, port cask - or opt for a cash prize.



A lesson pays off

Tony Buckley emerged from a slump to win Our Past Captains' Cup with 43 points.



He finished two ahead of holder Sid Lowes and our 2009 captain Colin Oates, who now plays at Headlam.

Asked the secret of his success, Tony said: "I had a lesson. I had been playing so badly I daren't put my name down for the matches." Whatever the remedy, it worked so well he notched three birdies.

On a day of increasing showers, it must have been an advantage to go out first in a buggy as the top three were all in that group. Dick Stevens, out last, saw his victory hopes washed away by rain and fatigue.



Simon Elliott on the 4th hole

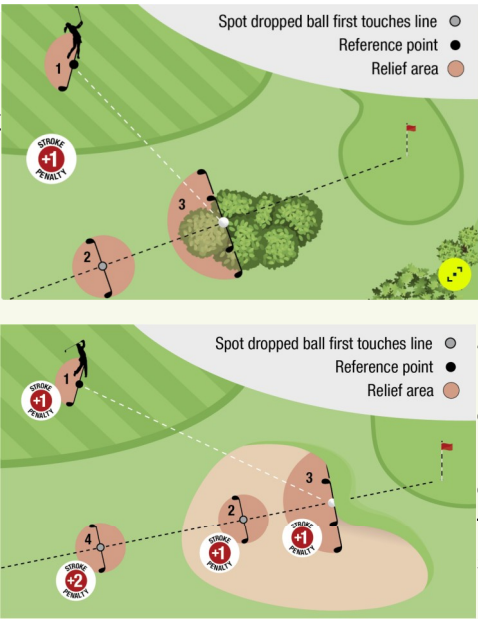
The buggy men were joined by Mick Gossage, still playing and looking after the buggies at Catterick, while other attendees we rarely see were Jim Bush, Bob Ward and Graydon Parkin. *Tim Wellock*

CHADDERS COUNSEL continued

declare the ball unplayable (Rule 19) and take penalty relief? It might just be the least painful alternative, Remember that you are the sole arbiter as to whether a ball is unplayable. If you take this route what are your options (See diagrams)?

- 1) Take a stroke and distance penalty from where you last played
- 2) Take back on the line relief (the line being drawn from the flag through your ball). For this option you can go back as far as you like.
- 3) Take lateral relief. This is a semi circle two club lengths in radius from your ball, not nearer the hole.

All of the above cost you a 1 stroke penalty which might be better than a potential 2 or 3 hacks.



How to not fall over

As we get older, maintaining balance can become an increasing concern. This is especially the case for someone like your editor, as around 60% of people with Parkinson's experience falls each year.

So, to help stay on my feet on the 9th and elsewhere, I got an M1 DHC with rear stabiliser. With Down Hill Control, the trolley goes no faster than the chosen speed. Although it is not an official mobility aid, I can lean on it to help keep my balance on downhill slopes.

Elsewhere, with the rear stabiliser, I can let the trolley run ahead of me and it is far less likely to tip backwards as it goes uphill or over bumps. This leaves my hands free to use Nordic Walking poles – recommended by my NHS Parkinson's neurologist to maintain posture and coordination.



The M1 DHC's excellent parking brake won't roll down, even on steep hills. And I can set it running for a limited distance towards the next tee to help reduce green-to-tee time.

Any quibbles are very minor. Old Motocaddy umbrella holders don't fit properly, so I had to get a new one. Also, the screen isn't the easiest to read in bright sunlight. Otherwise, it's brilliant.

Highly recommended

PS: Peter the Pro done good!

I initially ordered the S1 DHC with stabiliser, an order that Motocaddy accepted. But when it arrived, the S1 didn't support the stabiliser. I mistakenly said I'd do without, but after a few rounds found I couldn't.

Motocaddy wouldn't exchange the S1 for an M1, so Peter waved his magic wand by finding a trade buyer and supplying me with a new M1, with the only extra cost being the sale postage. Well done that man.

If you declare an unplayable in a bunker you have the three options above but for 2 and 3 you must drop INSIDE the bunker. There is also a new option for bunker relief of dropping back on a line OUTSIDE the bunker. However if you take this one it's a 2 stroke penalty.

I think it is well worth considering the above the next time your ball finds the rubbish but it will always be situation dependent. As an example, the 2 club length lateral might mean you're dropping in the same rubbish and therefore it might not be a viable strategy.

Always think through your alternatives in as calm a manner as possible (sometimes the hack might be your only choice!!)

Chadders

