

AUTUMN 2009 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

PETER ST QUINTON

It is with great regret that I have to report that our immediate past President, Peter St Quinton, died on 11th October after a short illness. Peter was our President from 2005 till 2009 and was Chairman of the society from 1996-1999. Peter was a much respected figure in GSGB who will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

CHANGING PLACES

Our cherished secretary of ten years, Jackie Hesketh, has now retired but continues to be an active member of the society. She takes up her role as Centenary Ladies' Captain at Delamere Forest about now. Our president, Jim Hunter, presented Jackie with a leaving gift at the AGM at the Vale in July and we all wish Jackie a very successful Centenary year.

Brian Ward took up the Secretary's reins on 1st August, his first event being Broadstone and Ferndown. He's looking forward to meeting all members and we all wish him every success.

MEETINGS

The five meetings this year have all been well attended and the weather has been kinder than in recent years. The cup winners were as follows:

May – Aldburgh & Thorpeness (King of Morocco Cup and Society Salver) Gordon Watt of Dunfermline and Eileen Smith of Notts Ladies.

June – Bamburgh Castle (Barlow Senior Trophies) Raymond Parker of Sherbourne and Bobbie Neate of Goodwood.

July – The Vale (Handicap Cups) Andrew Stock of Woburn and Gurli Castenskiold of Moor Park. The Enjoy Golf Together Trophy Giles and Christine Hinchcliffe of Sand Moor.

August – Broadstone & Ferndown (Scratch Cups) Tony Parker and Denise Parker of Woodhall Spa.

October – Ross on Wye (Sir Aynsley Bridgland Trophies) Amerigo Soldani of Chelmsford and Linda Hill of Bath.

JUNIOR TOURNAMENTS

GSGB currently sponsors six junior events around the country: Princes (South), Kenilworth (Midlands), Wessex at Bath (South West), Sandiway (North West), Moortown (North East (ish)) and Gog Magog (East Anglia). We put £600 sponsorship into each event. The competitions are for boys and girls aged 13 and under at the date of the competition and of all abilities. The events are very popular with good entry levels at all six tournaments this year.

The Junior's fixture list for 2010 can be found on the GSGB website, www.golfsocietygb.com

TOURS

Rob & Ruth Downes took a party to Ireland this autumn for a very successful tour – Rob's report is enclosed.

Jim Hunter (GSGB President) is taking a party to Turkey in February. The tour is fully subscribed.

The 2010 Autumn Tour is to Italy, led by Chris Scott. Full details and an application form are enclosed.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of GSGB continues to fall slightly and I would ask you to encourage friends and/or fellow club members to consider joining the GSGB. Information about the Society and application forms can be downloaded from the web site, www.golfsocietygb.com Or are available from the Secretary, secretary@golfsocietygb.com

RUTH FERGUSON'S BOOK (a few words from our President, Jim Hunter)

I am sure Ruth Ferguson is known to many of you. Some of us have been fortunate to enjoy her company during many GSGB meetings and tours during which almost inevitably there was some incident in which she was involved. We were also privileged to hear occasional snippets from her golfing past. And she is still afforded a mention by Peter Alliss during his golf commentary. Taken together, it became clear that Ruth had a story to tell, and some of us suggested she should put pen to paper. Brenda Parker from Sherborne went further and volunteered to compile the book if Ruth provided the material.

Well, the book now exists. Ruth provided the material and Brenda has compiled a book of about 80 pages with photographs, many in colour, and arranged for its printing. Peter Alliss has written the Foreword.

Ruth does not seek any financial reward for herself from sales of the book and is delighted to donate any profits to supporting Junior Golf through the GSGB.

The Committee has agreed to fund the set-up cost which is £216. Thereafter the printing cost of each copy is £4.32. Clearly the more copies sold, the lower the cost per copy becomes, and it is hoped that the final price will be no more than £8.50 including postage.

To help decide how many copies should be printed in a first run, those who would like to buy a copy are asked to inform Brenda Parker either by phoning 01935 85026 or by e-mail

brenda@parker24.fsnet.co.uk Ruth has been a stalwart supporter of the GSGB since its earliest days, and I am sure GSGB members will find her book both very interesting and entertaining.

AGM

The first AGM held at The Vale, Glamorgan, (instead of Hawkstone Park) was attended by over 100 members. There were some teething problems but the committee are confident that these have been sorted out for 2010 when the AGM will again be held at The Vale and we look forward to members' support.

The committee think that in future it would be a good idea to have a "rota" of three years for the AGM, to move around the country, so we are currently researching venues for 2011 and 2012 with a possible return to The Vale in 2013.

NEXT YEAR

The application forms for next year's meetings are enclosed. As usual we will try to satisfy your first and second priorities. Priority will be given to members not playing on their own course and members who do play on their own course will be subject to a two shot penalty.

FINALLY

Thank you for your support during the year and the committee and I wish you "good golf" for 2010.

Alan Golbourn - Chairman