

GOLF IN BRIEF



Dereham youngsters savour a double success in cups

Dereham youngsters (above) celebrate success in the Wiseman Trophy and Scratch Cup. The Scratch Cup was won by Nick Smith (second right) with a gross 79, with junior captain Chris Humberston (right) close on his heels with 82. The Wiseman Trophy for the best net score went to William Cross (second left) (98-27-71) on countback from Jamie Beeby (left) (97-26-71). They are pictured with Sarb Gosal from sponsors, local solicitors Hood, Vores & Allwood. In a nine-hole competition for players without official handicaps the best gross was returned by Joshua Goodwins on countback from Joshua Thexton, who was playing his first competition, having only joined the club the previous day. The best net prize was won by Alex Bates with Victoria Green a close second.

Rebecca takes fifth place at Woburn

Norfolk girls' champion Rebecca Heeles was fifth in the Prince of Wales Challenge Trophy at the Dukes Course, Woburn. The 14-year-old from Royal Norwich had gross scores of 80, 79 against a CSS of 75. She was playing off nine, was one of the highest handicappers in her section, and has now been cut to 7.5. The event was won by Harriet Owers-Bradley of Nottinghamshire who shot 77, 71.

Chase for honours down to last four

The finals of Myhill Trophy and the Cullington Cup will be played at Eaton on Sunday, September 23. The Myhill final is between The Norfolk and Royal Norwich. The Norfolk defeated the holders, King's Lynn, 2-up while Royal Norwich had a 12-up home win over Dereham. In the Cullington final, Barnham Broom will play Mundesley. Barnham Broom defeated Royal Cromer in the semi-final while Mundesley beat Dereham.

Sarah's hole in one the perfect present

Royal Cromer ladies' captain Sarah Steventon has just marked her birthday in style – by scoring her first hole in one on her club's 17th. She was playing in ladies' invitation day and came in to find her husband had provided a surprise birthday cake, complete with candles. Members and guests helped her celebrate with a chorus of Happy Birthday.

Late entries for Weston Park mixed

Weston Park is accepting late entries for its mixed open on Sunday, September 2. The entry fee for the greensome Stableford competition is £50 per pair and entries can be made by telephoning the pro shop on 01603 872998.

GOLF

Ellis is king of the east after sealing merit crown

By LYNDSEY HEWISON

Weston Park's Ian Ellis has been crowned king of professional golf in the Eastern Counties for the second time in his career.

Ellis has just won the PGA East Region order of merit and booked his place in next year's BMW championship at Wentworth.

"I am chuffed to bits," said Ellis, who previously won the title in 2000 and has also been runner-up three times since then.

He made certain of his victory at the Motor Clean Golf Classic at Stock Brook in Essex, where only former European Tour player Mark Davis had a chance to overtake him.

Ellis, who was disappointed with his opening 75, put the order of merit out of reach when he came back with a second-round 69 to finish tied 10th on level par. However, he was careful to take nothing for granted until he had both hands on the trophy.

"Four years ago on the same course I was a long way ahead in the order of merit and people were congratulating me – when Peter Cherry won the tournament and beat me in the table as well. So I wasn't going to get ahead of myself."

His success is thoroughly deserved: he has won two of the order of merit events this season and has shot 25 sub-par rounds in regional tournaments and pro-ams. In the order of merit he is 18-under for the five events, having returned eight sub-par rounds out of 10.

Back home in Norfolk he has played all six county PGA events, finished in the top three in all and holds a very healthy lead in that order of merit.

"It's been very consistent," said Ellis. "Even when I'm not playing

very well I'm still able to get it round in a low score."

It's been a welcome return to form for Ellis, who last season uncharacteristically slumped to 45th in the regional table. He credits his move to Weston Park for his renewed enthusiasm for the game and says: "I have fallen in love with the game again and started to enjoy practice again."

Now he plans to use this success to push his career forward.

"It's almost like the start of a new season for me now," said Ellis. "The first part is done and dusted and I've got a lot more to go for."

He has entered the European Tour qualifying school, he's in the final of the Glenbrae PGA fourball championship at Fulford, and he's in the PGA's regional play-off at Holinwell, which offers many possibilities.

The top three players from each of the PGA's seven regions will meet to play-off for starts in next year's Scottish Open at Loch Lomond, the European Open at the K Club, the Wales Open at Celtic Manor and invitations to compete on the Challenge Tour.

Ellis will be giving it his all.

"When I turned pro I never thought I would be classed as the top player in the region – but now I would like to go on to something bigger," he said.

First though, he's got a date in next Thursday's Norfolk Open on home ground at Weston Park. It's a title which has, oddly, eluded him despite being in two play-offs – and one which he would like to add to his portfolio.

Eaton's Mark Allen shared second in the pro-am which followed the tournament, with a five-under par 67.



PARK LIFE: Ian Ellis, back in action on his home course at Weston Park, after clinching the PGA East Region order of merit title.

Tracey flies Norfolk flag

Royal Cromer's Tracey Williamson led the Norfolk challenge in the East Anglia ladies' championship at Thorpeness.

Williamson, a former winner of this title and a multiple Norfolk champion, was third with scores of 83, 75. The par and CSS was 74.

The competition, played in relentless rain, was won by Janet Phipps of Cambridgeshire

on 77, 75, followed by Amanda Norman (nee Hockley) 73, 83. Fourth was Suffolk's Sharon Luckman 81, 77, who won this event when it was last held at Thorpeness four years ago. Amy Skoulding of King's Lynn was runner-up in the handicap section on net 151, one shot behind the winner, Jane McGuffog of Cambridgeshire. Norfolk were runners-up to Suffolk in the team event.

RESULTS/STARTING TIMES

Motor Clean Golf Classic, Stock Brook, Essex.
Leading scores: 138: M Stokes (Rayleigh Golf Range) 70 68. £1,400.
 140: M Davis (Thorndon Park) 73 67, P Hetherington (Great Hadham) 70 70.
 £803. 141: A George (Ely City) 75 66, M Baker (Colchester) 73 68. £474. 142: P Mayoh (King's Lynn) 73 69, A Pestell (Chelmsford) 70 72. £383. 143: L Eggleston (Orsett) 73 70, S Harrison (Thorpeness) 70 73. £325.
Other scores included: 144: I Ellis (Weston Park) 75 69, 145: M Allen (Eaton) 75 70. 146: N Mitchell (Bury Golf Range) 76 71, A Collison (Bungay) 75 72, 149: N Lythgoe (Royal Norwich) 74 75, 153: R Pudney (Royal Cromer) 73 80, 157: M Kierstenson (Searle's Golf Resort) 74 83. 158: S Cubitt (Land of Golf, Diss).

Diss
Bardwell Cup Stableford, Division One: 1 Roger Hinds 42 points, 2 Michael Clews 40, 3 Kevin Halli 38. **Division Two:** 1 Malcolm Barnes 42 (overall winner), 2 Tony Lorne 41, 3 Simon Palmer 38.
Division Three: 1 Robert Hayden 42, 2 Brian George 42, 3 Stephen Grimwade 39.
Breakfast Golf Stableford: 1 Roy Batrum 40, 2 Tony Brown 39, 3 Christopher Bartrum 32.
Officeline Classic Stableford: 1 Stephen Bartram 40, 2 D Elliott 39, 3 Gary Worboyes 39, 4 J Runacres 39, 5 Howard Thornton 39, 6 Phil Scott 39.

Royal Norwich
Overbury Cup, Division One: D Bretherton 77-14-63, B McQuade 73-3-70, K Woodcock 77-7-70, G Robinson 79-9-70,

G Harmer 85-14-71, T J Smith 76-5-71, James R Garbutt 78-6-72, D T Gill 82-10-72, P D Cook 80-8-72, R Palmer 84-12-72, M Stafford 81-8-73, M A Neave 83-10-73, G Knott 93-10-73.
Watson Cup, Division One: E Weber 85-15-70, B Belshaw 82-12-70, Sean Brady 76-5-71, S D Elvin 81-10-71, J Bourke 83-12-71, R Kidd 76-5-71, D Henderson 71-0-71, R J Innes 84-12-72, Calum Slower 76-4-72, W Gannaway 83-10-73, S Deacon 84-11-73, P Robson 81-8-73, M McAuley 92-19-73, J Smith 82-9-73.

Eaton
Daily Mail Foursomes: Jan Gibbs/Rachel Astbury-Denis 103-35-68, Jill Innes/Eppie Zandvoort 83-11-72, Julia Amey/Barbara Warren 94-21-73.
August Medal, Mary Copper Spoons, Silver Division: Edwina Lowrey-Gold 73-2-71, Val Patel 91-19-72, Shelagh Hoggan 92-20-72.

Bronze A: Flora Bobbin 95-25-70, Carol Riseborough 94-23-71, Valerie Wyatt 97-26-71. **Bronze B:** Rachel Astbury-Denis 104-36-68, Jan Gibbs 103-34-69, Brenda Chapman 100-30-70.
Mary Copper Spoons: 1 Edwina Lowrey-Gold, 2 Flora Bobbin, 3 Rachel Astbury-Denis.

Thetford
Ladies Section, August Medal, Division One: 1 Pat Hudson 83-11-72, 2 Margo Horsburgh 92-19-73ocb, 3 Jennifer Allott 90-17-73.
Division Two: 1 Helen Ayres 96-23-63ocb, 2 Diane McBride 100-27-73, 3 Liz Hodgson 111-36-75.

Daily Mail Foursomes: 1 Sue Burman and Helen Ayres 97-20-77ocb, 2 Alison Jones and Carole Crimmen 97-20-77, 2 Julia Leeson and Shirley Pead 105-24-81. Burman and Ayres go to the next round.

Royal Cromer
Friendlies: Royal Cromer Veterans 2½, Norfolk U16s 3½ – Richard Baldwin and Jonathan Rodwell beat James Lawrence and Matthew Bacon 5 and 3; Mike Allen and Ken Besley lost 1 down to Bradley Clarke and Matthew Alder; Jim Adams and Richard Mould lost 4 and 2 to Ryan Ratcliffe and Aaron Bullock; Eddie Rouse and Bruce Hopkins halved with Chris Humberstone and Ben Rawesthorne; John Kemp and Chris Kemp lost 3 and 1 to Christos Fellas and Harry Walker; Alan Brewer and Tony Bird beat Nathan Hudson and Alex Fellas 4 and 2.
 Royal Cromer Veterans 3, Richmond Park 3 (at Richmond Park) – Richard Baldwin and Alan Hill lost 3 and 2 to Ken Cundy and Brian Salmonds; John Beckett and Alan Drew beat J Sutton and T Fowler 1 up, Fred Margrove and Richard Mould beat R Lubbock and J Travell 5 and 4, Tony Cook and Bruce Hopkins lost 5 and 4 to E Hill and B Stone, Ken Warden and Gren Abel beat P Ford and R Loveday 2 up, Ken Besley and Rodney Barber lost 2 down to M Hosier and D Palmer.
 Royal Cromer 2½, Rookery Park 3½ (at Rookery Park) – Richard Baldwin and Les Perridge beat John Pawsey and Ivan Carver one up, Frank Coleman and Bruce Hopkins lost 5 and 4 to I Dawson and B Cook, Terry Green and Keith Maley lost 3 and 2 to P Clappison and D Moss, Brian Moore and Mike Buxton beat S Corbett and A

Leggett 1 up, Rodney Barber lost to K Thacker and D Mitchell, Richard Mould and Derek Williams halved with L Turner and R Long.

Bawburgh
Ladies Club Championships, Division One: 1 Mrs Jane Rumball 89-89-178, 2 Mrs Janet Worthington 93-88-181, 3 Mrs Shirley Jones 95-97-192.
Captain's Charity Shield, Division One: 1 Margaret Bell 37 points, 2 Mrs Jean Gower 34, 3 Di Savidge 31.
Division Two: 1 Mrs Mary Nay 39, 2 Mrs Pat Warnes 38, 3 Mrs Betty Wardley 37.

Mariott Sprowston Manor
Ladies August LGU Medal, Division One: 1 J Abbott 92-22-70, 2 M Wincup 84-14-70 ocb, 3 S Simpson 92-21-71.
Division Two: 1 B Neale 101-28-73, 2 M Gittins 107-29-78, 3 J Brown 107-29-78 ocb. **Division Three:** 1 M Wood 112-36-76, 2 B Walker 115-36-79, 3 J Richardson 115-35-80.
Ruben Trophy: 1 Anna Devlin and Dave Hewson 41 points, 2 Mary Thouless and Shaun Doughty 33.

Start times

Norfolk Open, Weston Park, August 30.
Starting from first tee am and 10th tee pm: 7.40 and 12.40: S Locke (Royal Norwich), D Chapman (Weston Park); 7.48 and 12.48: T Covell (Ryston Park), T Varney (The Norfolk), S Peckford (Thetford); 7.56 and 12.56: S Tough (Costessey Park), S Cubitt (Land of Golf), D Russell (Ryston Park); 8.04 and 13.04:

Picture: SIMON FINLAY