

## GOLF

# Williamson crowned for eighth time

Tracey Williamson won her eighth – and best – Norfolk ladies' championship yesterday with a superb display of golf on her home course of Royal Cromer.

"This is the best one. It is just so special to win this at home," said Williamson, who was two-under par when she defeated Amy Skoulding of King's Lynn by 5/4.

"I was really determined this week – and really pleased with the way I played," added Williamson who used the same, increasingly battered, ball throughout all six rounds.

She dominated the championship, leading the qualifiers for the matchplay stages and then winning her matches by convincing margins.

She won her first round on the 13th, the second round on the 12th and then finished her semi-final and the final on the 14th, the lighthouse hole.

Williamson took an immediate grip on the final with two birdies in the first three holes while Skoulding started a little shakily as she grappled with what she later described as "final nerves".

However, the King's Lynn player settled well into par golf and Williamson had to birdie the sixth and 11th – both par fives – to move to

By **LYNDESEY HEWISON**

four up. Skoulding grabbed a hole back on the 12th, where Williamson uncharacteristically missed a short putt.

But the Royal Cromer player came straight back with a fine two-putt on the short 13th to re-establish herself at 4up.

The match came to an end on the 14th after Skoulding's drive found gorse on the left and, despite her brave attempts, she was unable to get the ball to the fairway. Her opponent, meanwhile, had hit her drive into Position A and Skoulding conceded.

This was Skoulding's second successive defeat in the final but she said afterwards: "I am pleased with the way I played – Tracey just played better and all credit to her. I'm saying it will be third time lucky!"

In the semi-finals Williamson beat Edwina Lowrey-Gold 5/4 while Skoulding defeated Rebecca Heeles (Royal Norwich) 4/3.

Williamson won the first of her eight titles in 1989 and followed up with more victories in 1991, 92, 93, 97, 98, 2003 and now 2008. She is now equal second in the all-time rankings with Mary Davies, also of Royal



Picture: COLIN FINCH

**GOOD TO HAVE IT BACK:** Home favourite Tracey Williamson reclaims possession of the Norfolk ladies' championship trophy at Royal Cromer.

Cromer. Peggy Carrick of Hunstanton won the title 11 times.

The Norfolk ladies' team for county match week was announced after the final and it includes 15-year-old Rebecca Heeles of Royal Norwich who performed so impressively in the championship.

**The team is:** Jo Ashmore (Barnham Broom), Nickie Clarke (Royal Norwich), Rebecca Heeles (Royal Norwich), Sammy Martin (Royal Norwich), Charlotte Presland (Barnham Broom), Amy Skoulding (King's Lynn), Tracey Williamson (Royal Cromer), Karen Young (Eaton). Not available for selection: Emma Davies (Eaton) and Edwina Lowrey-Gold (Eaton).

## Storms disrupt the EuroPro action

By **ANTHONY LEAVER**

The elements continue to play a huge part in the PGA EuroPro Tour event at Wensum Valley.

Conditions were perfect for golf early yesterday, with Kent's Jamie Harris shooting four under to lead the tournament at three under after two rounds. But around 3pm the heavens opened and a severe storm suspended play until 6pm.

Unfortunately for Weston Park's Danny Chapman, he won't be back to play the final round after shooting ten over for the day, 14 over for the tournament, taking nine on the par three seventh. Chase Davis and Ian Ellis still have to complete their rounds and have work to do if they are to

make the final round. Ellis (Weston Park) is ten over for the tournament after 30 holes and Davis (Wensum Valley) is 11 over after 30 holes.

Andrew Marshall went round in par to stay in the thick of things at one over for the tournament, while Neil Lythgoe (Royal Norwich) shot eight over for the day to bow out on 14 over.

Harris admitted he had the best of the conditions, although he had to recover from a poor start. "I bogeyed the first, missing a tiny putt, so I just thought birdie the next and I'll be back on track, and I hit a good drive and did just

that," said Harris. "The first round I was just trying not to drop shots and I did that until I got to 15 and 16, but the par 15 is an evil par three if it's windy and if you button it you can end up in the water at the back. But the pins all round seem more accessible today and there was less three putting than there was yesterday."

Michael Hempstock (Doncaster) played in Harris' three-ball and carded two under for the day to go into the final round level par.

Overnight leader Stephen Lewton, once an England international, had a tough time of it starting the day at one under but posted three over today to be one over for the tournament.



**TOUGH BATTLE:** Ian Ellis. Picture: STEVE ADAMS

## RESULTS

**Dereham Ladies**  
**April Medal:** Division One: 1 Mrs J A Bray, 2 Mrs C Harrison, 3 Mrs P Kaye. Division Two: 1 Mrs K Duffield, 2 Mrs H Clements, 3 Mrs M Myhill.  
**Winter Eclectic:** 1 Mrs J Bizley, 2 Mrs K Duffield, 3 Mrs H Clements.  
**American Tournament:** 1 Mrs C Harrison.  
Spring Foursomes: 1 Mrs J Bray and Mrs H Clements.

**Norfolk LPGA Gillieson Cup, first round**  
**Barnham Broom beat King's Lynn (at Barnham Broom)** 2-1: J Ashmore and J Carpenter (recd 1 shot) lost to J Skoulding and A Skoulding 2/1; A Cowie and B Brooks-Cooper beat S Bettinson and J Curtis (6) 2/1; C Presland and T Dean beat P Woodward and P Rumbles (8) 4/2.  
**Hunstanton beat Dereham (at Hunstanton)** 2-1: S Meadows and J Cave lost to P Kaye and H Burrage (11) 3/2; J Johnson and G Preston beat J Bray and J Bizley (10) 5/4; C Sanders and C Morgan beat C Harrison and E Bench (1) 3/2.

**Bawburgh beat Wensum Valley (at Bawburgh)** 2-1: M Gamble and B Mace lost to P Gower and F Sanderson Bates (6) 3/2; J Rumball and L Foulgar beat J Weir and M Elliott (12) 3/2; J Gower and D Savidge beat C Nozal and J Harvey (10) 1 hole.  
**Costessey Park lost to Sheringham (at Costessey Park)** 2-1: S Glenn and A Hardy (3) lost to L Tucker and A Whittington 3/2; S Boast and S Page (3) lost to S Goodley and C Jeffreys 2 holes; M Hughes and D Myton (15) beat S Wynne and B Royce 5/4.  
**Great Yarmouth and Caister lost to Marriott Sprowston (at Great Yarmouth)** 2-1: L Hole and J Rose beat M Wincup and S Hancock (1) 1 hole; S Allen and G Winn (7) lost to A Denholm and C Valori 1 hole; C Delf and H Plane (12) lost to R Shubbrook and K Black 3/2.  
**Middleton Hall beat Dunston Hall (at Middleton)** 3-0: Y Reeve and C Beba beat L Love and P Frost (2) 6/5; N Lake and H Brown beat E Rooke and J Munday (4) 7/6; I Shell and C Field beat S Hill and J Watson (1) 5/4.  
**Richmond Park beat Swaffham (at Richmond Park)** 3-

0: M Clack and L Matthews (4) beat J Allender and A Ewer 2/1; M Young and M Lockwood (3) beat S Ward and J Somerville 4/3; M Wakeford and A Bell (5) beat J Procter and S Turner 7/6.  
**The Links lost to Eaton (at The Links)** 2-1: W Risebrow and A Rush (23) lost to K Young and E Davies 2/1; C Collett and P Bonnett (18) beat E Lowrey-Gold and C Gillham 6/4; P Knowles and S Jubb (18) lost to E Zandvoort and J Innes 1 hole.  
Thetford beat Ryston Park (at Thetford) 2-1: J Cane and L Wigg lost to A Fletcher and V Mellish (3) 5/4; A Braybrooke and J Warton beat J Coles and V Armstrong (4) 4/3; P Hudson and A McHarg beat T McManus and T Russell 4/3.  
**The Norfolk beat Royal West Norfolk (at The Norfolk)** 3-0: A Gillings and J Sheppard (5) beat S Carrington-Smith 5/3; S Watts and A Savory-Moll (1) beat F Anderson and J Preece 4/2; C Tufts and S Spooner (3) beat S Harrison and C Smith 5/4.  
**Bawburgh Ladies**  
**April Medal:** Division One: Mrs Jean Gower 80-9-71,

Mrs Brenda Mace 95-22-73, Mrs Jane Rumball 89-13-76, Mrs Mary Gamble 92-16-76, Jo Barnard 96-20-76, Mrs Gill Hardy 95-18-77. Division Two: Mrs Betty Wardley 103-28-75, Mrs Ann Suall 112-34-78, Kelly Whalebelly 109-30-79, Mrs Phon Green 106-26-80.  
**Great Yarmouth and Caister Ladies**  
**April Medal:** Silver Division: J Rutherford 87-17-70, S Allen 90-17-73, H Plane 101-20-81. Bronze A: S Yenson 102-27-75, C Varley 108-28-80. Bronze B: MH King 141-36-105  
**Coronation Foursomes Competition:** Winners Lucy Hole and Brenda Sadd rec 17, 33 points; runners-up J Rose and Glenda Winn rec 17, 32.  
**April Stableford and M Peake Trophy:** Silver Division: G Winn rec 18, 36; H Plane rec 20, 36; J Rose 15, 33. Bronze A: S Yenson rec 27, 37; M Anderson rec 28, 29; J Docwa rec 27, 26. Bronze B: S Bensly rec 32, 31; M Stone rec 35, 31; P Wharton rec 36, 29.  
Winner of M Peake Trophy: S Yenson.  
**Carrick Cup:** L Hole and J Rose Great Yarmouth and

Caister beat Costessey Park at the 21st hole.  
**Mail on Sunday third round:** Gt. Yarmouth and Caister J Rose, S Allen, G Winn, J Chatten and L Hole beat Gorleston 3-2.  
**Open Mixed Greensomes:** 1st S Clark and J Chatten rec 8, 42 points; 2nd D Chatten and H Plane rec 13, 35; 3rd P Ogden and J Hodds rec 9, 34; 4th Mr and Mrs Banham rec 11, 33; 5th Mr S Curtis and Ms D Jay rec 10, 33. Nearest Pin 7th Hole: Billy Humphreys. 14th Hole: Ms J Hodds.  
**Royal Cromer**  
**Royal Cromer Veterans 6 Rookery Park 0 (at Royal Cromer):** Stan Blackman and Tom Brock 6, John Pawsey and Ron Rushmere 5, Alan Sandell and Jim Adams 7, Peter Clappison and Robbie Long 6, Richard Clark and Chris Saul 6, Albert Robertson and Terry Patterson 5, Alan Hester and Mike Buxton 5, Brian Cook and Doug Mitchell 3, Ken Warden and Tony Cook 5, Derek Moss and Ken Robinson 4, Fred May and Alan Shannon won 1 up against Mike Bryan and Ted Thompson.



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