



Competitors assemble at the start of Lady Captain's Day

## Simon in Top Three Wilts Professionals Afternoon Fightback Secures Third Place

**A great morning round followed by a fighting comeback from a poor start bagged third place for our own Simon Amor in the Hills Wiltshire Professional Championships at Marlborough on Tuesday, 1st July.**

With Dave Lewis caddying, Simon completed a par morning round by coolly slotting a twelve footer on the eighteenth for a closing birdie. Having stopped just short of thick rough on the left, Simon pitched magnificently to the fast-running green to set up the birdie chance. "We discussed going for it with the second shot" said Simon "but with a strong cross wind from right to left it just wasn't the percentage play. Even so, my eight iron lay-up was carried too close to the high rough for comfort!"

Many of his fellow professionals were finding conditions too tricky and scores reflected the difficulty. Only two players broke par in the morning: David Hutton and Andy Beal the eventual winner and runner up.

Simon's afternoon round began badly with four straight bogeys and as the wind strengthened it became a damage limitation exercise for everyone. However, team Amor/Lewis did recover to finish an excellent three over.

Winner David Hutton dropped two shots in the afternoon but his 141 total was outstanding. This was his third consecutive win and he gets to keep the golf course. No, he doesn't really. I was just making sure you're paying attention.

The event is staged with professionals and amateurs playing together in the morning, then after the cut is made at midday, the qualifying pros play together in the afternoon. Richard Pickles was lucky enough to attract a small following gallery and as he prepared to attack the last green in the morning he was given the benefit of their advice on club selection. This ranged from three wood to seven iron. Fortunately, it didn't matter as he topped it into the rough. Earlier a pro in his group had enquired on the second green "Where's your ball marker, captain?" to which the reply was "Under your right foot, pro!"

A great day, thanks again to Hills for their sponsorship and well done indeed Simon, we are all very proud of you.

Sights You  
Don't Often  
See: No7

Catering Goes  
to Unlikely  
Franchise



## Jack Stars at Westward Ho!

**Jack Hiscock has played a major role in Wiltshire's win in the Six Counties Matchplay Championship at the historic north Devon club.**

Jack won six of his ten games to equal the best individual performance losing only on countback to team-mate Matt Swales (Cumberwell) for the prestigious Clifford Burdon trophy.

His fine form has earned him a place in the South Western Counties team to play the Midlands at Woodhall Spa in October.

# THISTLE

## League Team Hit Top Spot

### Epic Battle with Broome ends in Bonus Point Win

Our league team, the defending champions, met stiff opposition when visitors Broome Manor fielded their best side in an attempt to avenge last year's whitewash.

Club	Division One						Holes Up/Down
	Matches Played	Games Won	Games Halved	Games Lost	Bonus Points	Total Points	
Marlborough	6	16	0	8	8	24	25
West Wilts	6	12	1	11	9.5	22	10
Cumberwell	5	9	4	7	6	17	11
Broome Manor	4	9	0	7	4	13	21
Ogbourne	5	6	3	11	4	11.5	-3
Wrag Barn	5	5	2	13	2	8	-52

With star English international Miles Mackman in the side there was every reason to predict a win for the Swindon team but in the

closest possible finish Marlborough took the bonus point by a single hole after the matches were tied 2-2.

Paul Green and Dom Seaman won 5 up, Jack Hiscock and Mike Bolt won 2 up and Dave Bauer and Ian Miller lost 3 down.

In the final match Mackman and partner Ian Blood faced Justin Whitehouse and Dave Lewis in what turned out to be a feast of top golf with no less than eleven birdies and an eagle over the 18 holes! Mackman's eagle finish gave the visitors a three hole win but Justin and DJ had done just enough to secure the precious bonus point.

After the match Dave Lewis said of the English international "What an exhibition! It was a privilege to watch him play. He beat us pretty much on his own and was seven under par for the round." With seven birdies and that closing eagle completing a 3,3,3,3,3 finish to his round, no-one would argue with that!

The table makes great reading (if you zoom in) but three of our four remaining fixtures are away from home so the team face a tough challenge if they are to be champions for a third year. Good luck, boys!

## How are we doing?!

Well, we have recruited more than seventy new members so far this year and our first floor is performing well with sales in the bar up 17% and catering sales up 12%.

All this despite a significant reduction in society and green fee income and with membership of golf clubs falling. There are more than 12,000 vacancies across England.

Membership numbers are reviewed monthly as this is the most vital source of our income. However, it may soon be necessary to restrict new applicants to five-day membership so as not to overload the course at peak times.

So, financially then, good news, but a delicate balancing act for Rod Trimbo and the membership sub-committee! DJ

## Isobel's Big Day

**Isobel Henry, our lady captain, had her big day on Sunday, June 23rd and what a great day it was!**

All the tees were full, the weather and the course were great and the organisation was meticulous - well done Isobel and Roger and all those who lent a hand on the day.

Everyone enjoyed the relaxed and friendly atmosphere helped along by the two ball Texas scramble format.

The ladies prize went to Sue Chambers and Heather Sayers on count back from Natalie Condon and Emma Breen.

Neil Patch and Richard Drake (who came within a foot of an albatross on the 18th) took the men's by a point from Simon and Jamie Amor and the Bens: Mapson and Amor.

To top it all, at the fifth (a nearest the pin hole) there was no need for the tape measure - Sheila Hubie canned the tee shot for a hole in one! So there was free wine in the bar afterwards (thanks, Sheila) as well as a super buffet and prizes.

Our picture shows Sheila being presented with her Hole in One certificate by Isobel.



## Fuller's Club Championships

**Mark the 19th and 20th July in your diary now! It's the Club Championships weekend, the premier event in our calendar when the overall winner is crowned Club Champion.**

But you don't have to be a low handicapper to be a winner. In fact, with very few entries in divisions two and three, you almost certainly will be! Trust us.

With generous sponsorship from Fullers there will be a prize fund of over £1200 spread over three divisions for men and ladies.

The ladies club champion wins a crystal vase on a silver stand and each of the three divisional trophies for men is a tribute to former members who made great contributions to the club. Long time treasurer Bob Brown is remembered through his "Little Brown Book", Jim Munday a former captain, president and chairman and shoe retailer in Marlborough, through the "Jim Munday Last" and Don Kenchington former captain and long-serving president through the Kenchington Keg as he was Arkell's head brewer.

Entry is £10 and includes the fabulous prizes and a barbeque on Sunday as the competition reaches its climax. There is always a great atmosphere as the club champion is decided on the final green with competitors' friends and families there to watch the contest.

**If you are not able to play but would like to help at some time over the weekend let David Lewis know.**