



SWANSTON LADIES' NEWSLETTER – **SEPTEMBER 2018**

Produced bi-monthly by: Fiona Shepherd, Lady Captain – swanston.ladies@gmail.com

Blink – and Summer has gone! It was great to have a run of good weather and be able to sport our summer togs for several weeks. Swanston did not suffer as badly as some courses with the drought and already the brown patches are recovering. The greenkeepers have done a great job this summer, keeping the course in top condition.

Many of you have been playing in away Open competitions in recent months, with varying degrees of success. It seems many Clubs are struggling to attract entries to their Opens, though the favoured few remain popular. Our Midlothian Ladies' members have also been playing ties at other Clubs.

We could all relax after the hard work put in for the **Morison Millar**, both for those playing in the team and on the organisational side. Many compliments were received after the event and two lovely “thank you” cards from Murrayfield and Kingsknowe are pinned on the noticeboard in the corridor. Again, well done and many thanks to all those who helped out.

In July, Elizabeth and Andrea played their tie in the next round of the **Coronation Foursomes** at Ratho Park; and were pleased with their placing even though they did not get through to the Finals in St Andrews.

The **Friendly** against Carrickvale was cancelled as they were unable to gather a team. Another date was set but then it was difficult for Swanston Ladies to raise enough players. The **University girls** suggested a match at Swanston on a date between 19th September and 4th October. However, after consideration, it has been decided it is too difficult to organise a match so late in the year (no more long light evenings) and instead we hope to set a date next Spring.

The Friendship Cup was played on Friday 3rd August, teeing off early evening, playing Foursomes over 12 holes. It was good to see that each Swanston player had invited a partner from another Club (many well known faces); although at the last minute Nancy had to play solo (she put in a very good score!). The winning pair were Elizabeth and her partner Susan Randall (Carrickvale), who each received an ice-cream scoop and golfball! It was a close finish! Janice and Maureen Mackay (Kingsknowe) were runners-up. After the game, 19 of us sat down to a meal provided in the Brasserie. A real spirit of friendship that evening.

Friendship Cup winners – Elizabeth Anderson and Susan Randall



CHAMPIONSHIP:

After postponement of Championship ties on Sunday 12th (men) and Monday 13th August (ladies) due to poor weather, the Ladies finally played their Bronze quarter final ties plus the Silver semi-final tie on Thursday 16th. A wet and windy evening! The Silver Final was played on Saturday 18th between Susan Greenfield and Muriel Gilligan, in wet and blustery conditions; along with the two Bronze semi-finals. And – finally – the Bronze Final between Fiona Shepherd and Zoe Norton was played on Sunday 19th, (the re-scheduled Championship Day). Horrible weather again – wet and foggy. Commiserations to the losers – but there is always next year! Many thanks to the followers who came along to support the competitors despite the weather.

Congratulations to the Winners!

Swanston Ladies Silver Championship Winner 2018: [Muriel Gilligan](#)

Swanston Ladies Bronze Championship Winner 2018: [Zoe Norton](#)

The Jim MacLeod Memorial Trophy took place on 28th August, brought forward from its previous September slot. As with the Janice Sutherland Trophy which was played in April this year (instead of March), the aim was to find better weather. Which we did – but that may just have been luck! Six Swanston Ladies entered, plus Louise Angus and Trudy Burnett played as guests. The Senior Gents' team won (again!), the raffle was drawn and £158 was raised for Marie Curie. Always an enjoyable competition, organised mainly by Stewart Kerr and the Seniors, with a little help from the Ladies! Annette, Andrea and Margaret each won a NTP.

Muriel beat Norma to become this year's **Hareburn Trophy winner**. Congratulations to Muriel on her success. Well done to Norma on reaching the semi-final.

The finalists for **The 9-hole Challenge** are Muriel and Norma (again!); and a date for the Final, plus lunch, will be arranged on a date to suit them in September.

Winners of competitions during July and August: Well done to all!

7 July – Stableford	Annette Wilson
12 July – 9 hole Stableford	Norma Coleman
15 July – Caerketton Trophy	Muriel Gilligan
21 July – Medal CCQ2	Elizabeth Anderson
26 July – Thursday Medal	Susan Greenfield
28 July – Bogey Competition	Zoe Norton
9 August – 9 hole Stableford	Joan Edgar
25 August – Medal	Zoe Norton
26 August – Stableford	Nobody played (wet day)

Coming up – not actual golf fixtures:

Tuesday 11th September at 7.30pm – **Swanston Golf Club AGM**. Let the Club know if you intend to be there.

Sunday 23rd September – official opening of new Academy. **Par 3 Open** (9 holes) on Templar course and **Mixed Open** on main course. Which one to enter?! Or both if you have the energy! Get your entries in as soon as possible.

Tuesday 25th September: Ladies Section Meeting – a chance to raise questions, discuss matters that have been brought to the Committee's attention, etc. There will be a small charge that evening to cover the cost of tea/coffee, etc. Please come along if you can. A separate invitation will be issued later in September.

Ladies Section AGM and Dinner – Friday 2nd November: New Committee members are urgently required to manage the Ladies Section for 2019, so please consider seriously. Andrea and I will both be standing down in November. It is not an onerous task but you do have to be prepared to attend a few meetings during the year and help with organising competitions, events, etc. I found I learned a lot about golf along the way – and there is a whole lot more which I will never get round to understanding! It is time to take your turn! Otherwise Swanston Ladies Section as we know it will cease to be, which would be a great pity.

The last of our qualifying competitions will be played during September. At the end of the month we will know the winners of the Eclectic and Order of Merit; also who has the highest tally of Birdies and Two's during the 2018 season. Have you heard about my recent Birdie, on the 11th during the Championship semi-Final? And, no, sadly, it was not my amazing score – but the fact that unfortunately my ball hit and actually killed a seagull!

Although there are no ladies' qualifying competitions from October – March, we will try to have Saturday roll-ups and can organise informal competitions at fairly short notice depending on the weather. The Wednesday morning roll-up will continue; Winter Greensomes on the Templar could be organised again if enough of you are interested.

Fixtures September and October:

Saturday 1 st September	3 Club Competition	Any 3 clubs – Strokeplay Does not qualify for handicap but will be included for OOM and Eclectic
Saturday 8 th September	Stableford	
Thursday 13 th September	Stableford	
Saturday 15 th September	September Cup	Strokeplay
Sunday 23 rd September	Mixed Open (main) Par 3 Open (18 holes)	Official opening of Academy, etc
Saturday 29 th September	Medal	
Saturday 13 th October	Club Tri-am	

This is the last Newsletter I shall be writing! Though there may be a short update at the end of October. Hopefully the next Committee will continue to communicate with the wider Ladies Section on a regular basis, as I believe it is the best way of spreading the word to our members. As long as you do read it! And action events! Respond! Take part and support your Committee.

Fiona

And Finally captions, please, for the photo below taken by Elizabeth on evening of Friendship Cup.

