



Breezes from the Lea December 2015

Breaking News ... Christmas comes early?



VAT Update on Visitor Fee Income Tribunal Case

Many of our members will be aware that some years ago, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that VAT on visitors' green fees at British private members' golf clubs had been incorrectly applied for several years. Essentially, these fees should be exempt from VAT and this decision meant that Carnalea Golf Club could lodge a claim to recover thousands of pounds-worth of VAT paid on green fees over several years.

Following a number of challenges from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC), they have now decided to pay, subject to conditions, 50% of the value of valid claims ahead of any final court decision. It is expected that this payment will be made sometime before the end of March 2016.



The Ladies Friendly League Team win the Shield 2015

Margaret Clarke, Team Captain, and the victorious Ladies Friendly League Team who won the Shield. The competition is played over the summer season with 8 local clubs competing, Bangor, Carnalea, Clandeboye, Donaghadee, Helen's Bay, Holywood, Mahee and Scrabo.



Lotto



If the lotto jackpot is not won by Saturday 19th December when it will have reached £10,000, over the following weeks, players who have 3 winning numbers will share a prize of £500 unless the jackpot is won during that period with 4 numbers. The jackpot winner will be awarded what is in the pot at that point in time. Once the jackpot sits at £7,000, normal service will resume!

Social Calendar

Thur. 3rd: **Bingo** Sat. 5th: **Private Party** Fri. 11th: **Ladies Ringer Dinner**
Sat. 12th: **Kids' Christmas Party** Thurs. 17th: **Christmas Bingo Night**
Fri. 18th: **Abba Sensation** Sat. 19th: **Private Party**
Thurs. 31st: **Perfect Strangers (New Year's Eve Party)**



N.B. The Abba Show is now a 150 sell out and the main bar will close at 3.00 pm to facilitate the Abba Show. The upstairs bar will open at this time.

A similar arrangement will operate on New Year's Eve.

2016 Club Diary

The club has produced a new pocket sized Diary for 2016. The diaries will be available this month, at a nominal charge of £1 to members, available from the club office or bar.





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Prize Giving: *Some of the winners/runners up in 2015 enjoying the night ...*



Greens Committee

A recent meeting of the Greens Committee prioritised work on the course:



Additional jobs through to Christmas:

Course aeration will also take place along with tree maintenance.

The 16th green will be reconstructed in January 2016 at a cost of £3,500

Saturday competitions will be over 12 holes until early February 2016 playing holes 1 to 9 and 16 to 18.

Sunday competitions will remain over 15 holes (holes 1 to 15).

	Work	Cost
1.	Drain 18 th green (lower tier)	£100
2	Drain 3 rd approach (will be turfed over)	£250
3	Reshape 17 th tees & cut down trees	£250
4	Extend 11 th tees left hand side	£250
5	Enlarge 18 th back tee	£125
6	Hedge cutting	£200

Members' Notes:



John Bintley asks Jimmy Robinson what he thinks of his game ... Jimmy's quick reply 'Oh it's great but I prefer golf'!

Sam Watson found the course at Portstewart that hard he lost two balls in the ball washer.

Roy Beattie hit a huge slice off the first tee. The ball soars over the fence where it hits an oncoming car which crashes into a tree. A little shaken, Roy rushes into the Pro Shop and shouts help ... help! I just had a terrible slice off the first, hit a car and it crashed. What should I do?

Thomas replies "Try a slightly stronger grip"!

Golf balls are like eggs. They're white, they are sold by the dozen and a week later you need to buy more.

Overheard in the bar last Sunday ... I'm not saying Bernie Duffy's game has gone bad but if he were to grow tomatoes, they'd come up sliced!