



Breezes from the Lea December 2016

December Social Calendar

Thurs. 1st : *Bingo Night* **Fri. 2nd & Sat. 3rd :** *Late Licences*
Sat. 10th : *Children's Christmas Party (afternoon)* **Thurs. 15th :** *Christmas Bingo Night*
Fri 16th : *Christmas Party Night (Details below)*
Sat. 17th : *Club Christmas Draw with Live Music*
Thurs. 31st : *New Year's Eve Party with Delux (Details below)*



Christmas Party Night tickets from the bar at £29.50 each includes Dinner with a 60's, 70's & 80's Tribute Night.

Late Licence.

New Year's Eve tickets from the bar at £29.50 each includes Dinner & Show with Music by Delux. Late Licence.

Introduction to Golf Scheme (ITGS) 2016 & 2017

The Club Council recently reviewed the pilot for the ITGS introduced in April this year to test the market for attracting new people into golf and to further offer an opportunity to people who had once played the game but had given up for various reasons. The scheme was a great success with 72 men and 7 ladies stepping forward, generating an initial £23k for the club and placing us to the forefront of the marketplace. It will not have escaped your attention that many other golf clubs are now competing in this space. A success, yes but we need to be innovative and keep ahead of the game in which we have a strong lead. It was agreed that we should offer a similar scheme again in 2017 and the major challenge now facing us was how to retain as many as possible of our new members into 2017 and beyond. Depending on how many members we could retain, the potential sum of money involved through to 2018 would be £100k+ and it was agreed that in the best interests of the club, we should introduce an interim step with a discounted offer of £575 in 2017. Council took the view that as a result, we should also freeze the 2017 subscriptions at their current rate. As we go to press, we have had 38 responses from members in the 2016 scheme with 36 indicating that they will be taking full up the full membership offer in 2017 and we expect to hear further good news in the coming weeks.

Carnalea Methodist Golf Club Tree

Carnalea Methodist Church recently held an Alpine Tearoom and Christmas Tree Festival of Light in the Church on the Rathmore Road with a family carol service as the finale. Thanks to Patsy Allen for providing this photograph which shows the tree made from golf clubs by the Ladies Section of Carnalea Golf Club. Well done ladies for a very innovative creation.



Prize Night 2016

Congratulations to all of this year's prize winners who were presented with their trophies at a Gentleman's Evening in the club on Saturday 12th November when an enjoyable time was had by all. It also provided the opportunity to present the Holt Shield winning team with mementos of their success.



Holt Shield Winners 2016 *Chris Thompson & Larry McWilliams*
Wilson Cup
 Carnalea Golf Club, Station Road, Bangor BT19 1EZ



Gary Robinson
Ava McQuade Cup
 Tel: 02891270368



Greg Ross
Joe Crozier Cup
www.carnaleagolfclub.com



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History: The Robbie Rowley Story

On 2nd September, a Christine Pulling from Seaford in East Sussex and Robert Rowley from Enniskillen visited Carnalea Golf Club as a preliminary to finding out more about their grandparents, Lucinda and Robert Rowley. Robert their grandfather was greenkeeper (employed by Bangor Borough Council) at Carnalea Municipal Golf Course from 1926 until retiring in 1959. He lived on the course in a little white cottage situated just behind the present 13th tee box.



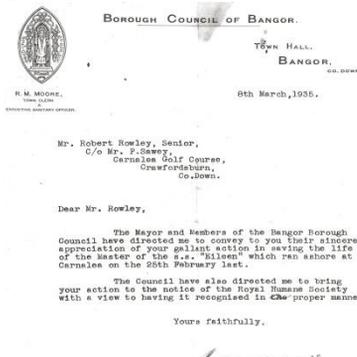
On this visit, they met two more mature gentlemen who seemed to know their grandfather. They also had lunch at the Club and Christine picked up the name of the Lady Captain from photographs in the foyer and wrote to her, enclosing a number of copies of newspaper articles referring to her grandfather.

The Lady Captain contacted Christine Pulling following which, the three remaining grandchildren of Robert Rowley the greenkeeper came to Carnalea on 16 November 2016 and met with Mrs Lila Graham (wife of the late Harry Graham) and Mr Fred Mahood, both of whom knew Robbie and some of his family. They were able to regale the grandchildren with stories and anecdotes about their grandparents and the goats, chickens and dogs that the greenkeeper loved. They were also able to visit the site of the old cottage (above right) and also the well from where they got their water (underneath the tree which is in the middle of the 12th fairway). Lucinda and Robert Rowley had 3 children, Lucy, Sarah & Willie. Christine Pulling and Rosemary Burton pictured above reside in East Sussex and are the daughters of Sarah. Robert (named after his grandfather) who lives in Enniskillen, also pictured above, is the son of Willie.

Robert (81) is Retiring



Robert Rowley, the grandson, brought some photographs of the family with him and also the pocket watch which had been presented to his grandfather by Carnalea Golf Club on his retirement. The inscription is still quite clear on the back of the watch but the photographs do not adequately reflect that. **They were also intrigued that a Golf Society within the present club is named after their grandfather.**



An interesting letter was uncovered during the visit (see left) from the Chief Executive of NDBC commending Robbie on his bravery in saving the life of the Master of the S.S. Eileen which ran ashore on the rocks at Carnalea on 25th February, 1935. This action was to be brought to the attention of the Royal Humane Society to have it recognised in the proper manner!

Lila Graham has fond memories of Carnalea's Lady Golfers presenting Robbie with an armchair (pictured right at 82 with his faithful hound) to honour their Greenkeeper. They expressed their grateful thanks for all his services and encouraging interest in their golf. In reply, Robbie thanked the ladies their for continual kindness and the friendly relationship that had always existed between him and them. A true gentleman.

CARNALEA LADY GOLFERS HONOUR GREENKEEPER MEMORIAL PRESENTED TO MR. ROBERT ROWLEY



A very enjoyable day was had by all and the Captain joined the group for a photograph on the balcony of the club. Thanks go to the Club for their support in helping make the visit of the Rowley family such a memorable one. The Lady Captain would like the two gentlemen who spoke to Christine and Robert on their original visit on 2nd September to make themselves known to her. They may have more to add to the story.

