

Ashburton Golf club

Well, it was a massive weekend down at the Brandon. We had our Opening day on Saturday with Mixed pairs playing for the AC Browne trophy and Men's pairs playing for the Smith Salver. We had a lot of ladies turn up thanks to the sterling work of Lynn Small and her committee and Lynn asks me to thank all the fellas who made up the pairs for her. When everyone finished and the cards were all done the old fashioned way. We had Maryann Blair and Barry Jury pick up the AC Browne cup with a great Ambrose score of net 64, just pipping Maxine carter and Paul May by 0.25. Then in the Men's pairs Jeff Hewitt and Owen Miller tore the course apart in scoring a superb gross 61 losing 0.25 in handicap to score 60.75 and pick up the Smith salver. Top work! They finished a shot and a half ahead of dad and lad Pete and Dave Morrison. Well done to everyone who played it was an awesome mixed golf day.

On Sunday, grey skies and rain welcomed the finalists of the Property Brokers shoot out. This is the first time in 15 years that we have had to start in the rain I was amazed to still see a big crowd wander out with umbrellas to watch the first tee off. Nineteen nervous Nellies all managed to get club on ball and left seemed to be the favourite place to go. Nobody looked in serious trouble until poor old John Ramsay caught it a bit thin out of the bunker then took 3 more to get it in for a 7 net 6, so he was the first to fall. Henry had a tad of tree trouble down number two and had to leave us there. One by one we lost them, by the 14th we had just six. Perry had scrambled brilliantly all day, but a bunker got the better of him and his luck fell out. We were left with Jason, Robbie, Bev, Gaby and Matt. Robbie birdied 15, Gaby got a nett birdie the others had nett pars. A three way putt was held on the courses longest green and we lost Bev. A bad drive and tree trouble saw Gaby fall at 16. Then with no shots on the cards it was always going be tough for Matt on 17 and we lost him there. That was an amazing days work for Matt who was a late call in on Saturday. Jason and Robbie played 18 with Jason getting a shot. Both of them found the fairway. Jason went first and found the right hand bunker and Robbie got the centre of the green. Jason's bunker shot left him beside Robbie and two putts each later it was a tie. The flag was put into the bottom left hole and a putt off was called from the top right. Robbie went first and hit a doozy to around 3 foot. Jason went next and a great line just missed the flag and finished 6 foot past. Now Robbie has been in two finals and won them both, so he joins Bruce as the only two time winner. Top effort everyone. Many thanks must firstly go to Hamish and Karen and the Property Brokers team for again supporting this event, and also big thanks to our helpers on the day, Brent, Bruce, Greig, Tom and Al and the many following spectators who make it a great day.

This Saturday we are playing Men's opening day best ball pairs for the Jim McKenzie trophy, normal start times.

Finally, congratulations to our Captain, James and his beautiful wife Laura on their new wee bub George who arrived on Sunday. Wonderful news.! See you around, Good golfing

Many thanks,
Paddy Bradford

