

Ladies' Golf Captain's Blog – 18th December 2025



One of the real perks of being Ladies' Golf Captain is the opportunity to play with our brilliant professionals in the Captain and Pro series. It is also a wonderful way to raise funds for my charity, The Baked Bean Charity, that supports adults with learning difficulties, and I would like to thank all the challengers for their generosity.

In my first match, I had the pleasure of partnering Will, taking on the rather formidable combination of Cathy Staveley and Nicki Fillingham. I am sure Will won't mind me sharing that he has never managed to beat our Vice Captain, despite being well under par in their past three encounters. So, it was no surprise that he came charging out of the blocks with birdies on the first two holes (the 10th and 11th as we started on the 10th hole). Unfortunately, this only served to ignite our challenger's competitive spirit, with Cathy barely putting a foot wrong and Nicki playing out of her boots while also putting and chipping like a demon. Despite a scorching birdie two by Nicki on the 17th hole, the match remained in deadlock until Cathy produced a textbook par three, with a shot, on the 7th hole (playing as our 16th) to go one up.



As dusk began to fall on the final hole, it looked as though history was about to repeat itself for Will and me — one down with one to play. But matches are not decided until the final putt is holed and in a fittingly dramatic finale, Will stood over a twenty-foot downhill putt on the 9th green with the chance to square the match. The beautifully stroked putt tracked steadily towards the hole, slowing as it reached the cup. We all held our breath as it paused for a millisecond on the edge ... before tumbling in. A half — and one that felt every bit like a win. Incredible determination from Will, and huge thanks to Nicki and Cathy for a thrilling and thoroughly enjoyable match.

Next up, a week later, I partnered Alistair against Centenary Bowl players Charlotta Lyckeus and Kate Emanuel, and the match proved to be every bit as competitive. Starting once again on the 10th tee, we were unable to fully appreciate some of Alistair's enormous drives as he repeatedly launched the ball out of sight into the blinding autumn sun. The contest remained finely balanced all the way around until I managed to hole a twenty-footer to win the 2nd hole, which was followed up with a par four at the 3rd to take us two up.

However, with plenty of shots to be given over the closing stretch, there was no room for complacency. We knew this was little more than a vital buffer and that the match remained firmly on a knife edge. Sure enough, Charlotta made excellent use of her shot on the 6th, calmly sinking a nerve-wracking four-footer to win the hole. Kate then raised the pressure further by rolling in two eight-foot putts on the next two holes, leaving the match all square on the final tee — and crucially, with both Charlotta and Kate still receiving shots. In almost complete darkness and under immense pressure, Alistair showed tremendous competitive spirit, producing two superb shots to the 9th green to keep the match alive. Once again, everything came down to the final green and a dramatic putt-off: Alistair facing a three-footer and Kate standing over another



testing eight-footer. To our disbelief, Kate coolly drained her third consecutive eight-foot putt, leaving Alistair with an absolute nerve-jangler to secure the half. I should never have doubted him — or his trusty lab-tech putter — as the ball disappeared straight into the back of the hole. Another half rescued. Huge thanks to Alistair for holding his nerve, and to Charlotta and Kate for yet another outstanding and thoroughly enjoyable match.



Christmas time!

Christmas is nearly upon us, and there have been lots of festivities! It all kicked off with the New Lady Golfer Christmas putting event. Huge thanks to Sol and Brad for creating the putting extravaganza, which everyone was thoroughly

enjoying, before some rain put a dampener on events.

Luckily, the festive fizz and mince pies cheered everyone up very quickly. It was great to have an

enthusiastic group of new lady golfers including Jo Sword, Gilly Razvi, Isabella Townsend, Catherine Copping, Margaret Murray and Lisa Quine. Another big thank you to our fantastic NLG organiser, Jackie Beedle plus Kathleen Bacon, Siobain Rolston, Emma Angood, who have been regular and loyal supporters.



I have also had the pleasure of playing with the Men's Captain, Bob, on two occasions recently. Firstly, in the Seniors Christmas event after being invited by the acting Seniors Chair, Clive Nicholson and his wife Tricia. Although we didn't threaten in the prizes, the golf and delicious lunch were thoroughly enjoyable. A big thank you to Clive, on behalf of the ladies participating, for organising everything so seamlessly and congratulations to Siobain Rolston for being top lady, finishing third with Don McKenzie on 22 points!

Mixed Charity Competition – Saturday 13th December

Bob and I then teed up in the annual Christmas charity competition, with its customary auction to follow. We were very lucky to be joined by Kate Emanuel and Shaun Feldon on a perfectly crisp, sunny December morning with a bright blue sky! It would have been ungenerous to win an event we were hosting, but there was absolutely no danger of that, despite a Herculean effort by Shaun on the back nine, carding 4 birdies including twos on all the par threes, which he admitted was a first for him! The winners were Ben Wilson, Samuel Lyons, Stephie Williams and Nicholas St John.



Bob and I were able to launch our charities: [Home-Start \(Wandsworth\)](#) and [The Baked Bean Charity](#) respectively. Home-Start has a volunteer programme that turns around the fortunes of the most vulnerable families in Wandsworth, while The Baked Bean Charity lightens up the lives of adults with significant learning difficulties through, theatre, drama and the arts. We were thrilled to raise an unbelievable £6,290 between the charities in the auction! A huge thank you to all those incredibly supportive bidders.



Ladies' Christmas Competition and lunch – Tuesday 16th December

Finally, we had the Ladies' Christmas golf and lunch, which was an extremely happy occasion! Thankfully the conditions for golf were perfect and the winners carded some impressive scores for mid-December. Many Congratulations to the winners: Sandy MacCaw, Lynn Rowland, Joanna Bright and Christine Dodgson



1st – Sandy MacCaw, Joanna Bright, Lynn Rowland and Stephanie Wood

2nd – Emma Angood, Siobain Rolston, Therese Swanson and Ali Jacobs

3rd – Kathleen Bacon, Andreina Townsend, Lydia Roper and Jackie Beedle

4th – Caroline Nettel, Liz Dodds, Fiona Pollard and Carolyn Laville



Izzy Ivezic and Charlotte Bell came from The Baked Bean Charity to talk about their incredible work supporting adults with learning disabilities through their programme centred around drama and the arts.

We were also delighted to welcome Deepak Dhawan to share a few words as his son attends The Baked Bean Charity and has enjoyed some amazing experiences. Most recently interviewing Stephen Fry for an ITV programme called The Assembly. Deepak expressed his sincere gratitude to Izzy and Charlotte, saying that their work 'allowed his son to dream'.



Bob got his gavel out again to raise another £525 for The Baked Bean Charity offering a round for two at Trevose taken by Gilly Webb-Wilson and Andreina Townsend was the top bidder for the nine-hole Captain and Pro against Trish Johnson.

One of the things The Baked Bean Charity love doing is Zumba! So as 2026 beckons and we need to work off the Christmas excesses, I am delighted to say The Baked Bean Charity will be leading two charitable Zumba fundraisers on Friday 27th February and Friday 27th March at 3.15pm.

Get ready to dance, laugh, and let loose with Zumba Beans, a high-energy, feel-good fitness group that celebrates movement for everyone! Led by our incredible instructor Lottie and some students from The Baked Bean Charity Charity, all of whom have learning disabilities, this class is jam packed with joy. From salsa steps to shimmy shakes, each session is about expression, connection, and confidence. Whether you're a total beginner or a dancing pro, everyone's welcome to join the fun and move at their own pace. Expect big smiles, brilliant tunes, and an atmosphere that lifts you higher than any jump squat ever could. Come for the fitness, stay for the fun, and leave with a heart full of Zumba! Spaces will be limited but please do sign up with the Heath Club and show them some support if you can.



Teams update

As current holders of the Derry Cup, the Roehampton Club team (comprising of Issy, Jo, Alice, Jane and Nicki) kicked off their 2025/26 campaign with the round robin stage in early October. With three clubs in their section; (Leatherhead, Addington Palace and Hoebridge) each with a home and away match, and a total of 18 matches up for grabs, Roehampton Club secured an amazing 16 wins placing them firmly at the top of their league. There were some notable moments during these matches. Firstly, when Jane, sporting her tennis gear, not only stepped in at the last moment for Nicki, who was feeling very unwell, but had to use Nicki's clubs as well ... and won 7/5! Nicki was clearly feeling better when she trounced her Addington Palace opponent 10/8 and Issy barely played a match past the 13th.

The quarter-final knockout stage will begin towards the end of January, and it looks likely that the first challenge be West Hill. Wishing all the players every success moving forward.

The Pearson team have also now completed all their matches in the round robin phase of the competition, winning five out of six matches. The round robin phase ends on the 20th March 2026, so there will be a little wait for official confirmation, but Roehampton Club are in unassailable position at the top the group, with all the other teams having lost at least two matches.

There were some incredibly brave performances, particularly the team that trounced Tandridge away in the pouring rain and the players that avenged their first loss to Clandon Regis away 4/1 with an outstanding 5/0 victory in the home leg. Out of a strong squad of 21 players, 16 have played in this round robin phase. We wish them all the very best in the knockout phase.

Emma Angood, Angela Atkins, Kathleen Bacon (C), Catherine Cooper, Lucinda Cormack, Liz Dodds, Charlotta Lyckeus, Claire Martin, Helen Maquire, Patricia Morgan, Caroline Nettel, Fiona Pollard, Tessa Ringrose, Siobain Rolston, Lydia Roper, Melanie Schreyer Hanneke Smits, Kasandra Spalding (VC), Therese Swanson, Andreina Townsend, Pippa Walker.

We have enjoyed some fun competitions and stablefords since the last Recorder. Congratulations to the following winners:

11th November – Stableford

1st Catherine Cooper 37 points (countback)
2nd Lucinda Cormack 37 points
3rd Jane Peel 35 points

18th November – Bowmaker

1st Sally Gesua, Shirley Keane and Charlotta Lyckeus 36 points
2nd Caroline Leslie, Jo Thesiger and Margaret Swain 33 points
3rd Lindy Evans, Melanie Schreyer and Claudia Chan 32 points (countback)

25th November – Stableford

1st Henrietta O'Shea 35 points
2nd Therese Swanson 33 points
3rd Cathy Staveley 31 points (countback)

2nd November – Texas Scramble

1st Siobain Rolston, Nicki Fillingham and Caroline Williams net 62
2nd Astrid Drayson, Kate Carson and Kathleen Bacon net 63
3rd Rosalind Vincent, Jules Sanderson and Cathy Staveley net 66



It was great to see so many new golfers out there scrambling and I was delighted that Rosalind Vincent (partnering our vice captain and Jules Sandersson) finished third in her first competition.

Top class golf

Big congratulations to Issy Simpson for being awarded her first Team County Colours at the Surrey Women's Golf AGM on 29th November and how incredibly well deserved!

Surrey finished in top spot at the National County finals and, not only, was Issy unbeaten but she sunk the winning putt!

125 Festivities

As Big Ben chimes at 12 on New Year's Eve I will be thinking of our exciting year ahead celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Club.

Here are some dates for the diary:

Friday 10th April: Ladies' Centenary Gold Cup

Saturday 11th April: Ladies' Centenary Gold Cup

Tuesday 26th May: Ladies' Captain's Day

Wednesday 27th May: Men's Senior Competition

Saturday 30th May: Mixed Invitation Day

Sunday 31st May: Family Fourball

Wednesday 3rd June: Friends' Invitation Day

Saturday 6th June: Men's Captains' Day

Sunday 7th June: Festival of Golf Finale – mixed competition



Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful new year!

Jo Thesiger, Ladies' Golf Captain