

HALFORD HEWITT SPECIAL EDITION

• THINGS YOU SAID !

“Baker, best shot I’ve ever seen in Hewitt history”

“Rudgie; well played...what a dancer you are !”

“Mitchell, flawless golf from start to finish ;amazing putt on the 18th; and what ridiculous dancing”!

“Capper, wore his medal to the Theatre that night and nobody noticed “

Capper said, “James and I are like opening batsmen; we go in and take the shine off the ball”

Baker was heard to say..

“The guy in the pink trousers would like to buy everyone in the Pub a drink!”

Rudgie said, “We wanted to win for Gunner and Capps and Tony and Alan, basically all you old gits! “ Then he speaks of the moment Capper picked him up on the 18th and hugged him !!

James wrote, “Gunner, great leadership from start to

finish;sorry for leading the young ones astray, or was it Rudgie ?”

And of Chris Carney, never seen so much grit and determination as you showed on the back 9, ..and you snore!”

We all cannot wait for the Reunion/Dinner. What about Le Touquet (if my leisure prevention Officer allows!)

Simon, work on the dancing for next year please !

Dale, sorry you were late for the family holiday.

ALAN MANN WRITES;-

The Halford Hewitt, is described as “the greatest of all truly amateur tournaments” Founded in 1924 it is competed for by 10 former pupils from the 64 schools which make up the membership of the Public Schools Golfing Society. All matches are played as 18 holes foursomes matchplay at Royal Cinque Ports GC, Deal and St Georges GC, Sandwich. Clifton-the OCGS- has competed for seventy nine years, were runners up in 1993, but have never won the Trophy before. Our team this year were -

David Rowe,(Capt), John Capper, Tony Taylor, Chris Dale, Chris Carney, James England, Rob Mitchell, Andy Rudge, Chris Baker, Simon Johnson and Robert Dyson.

We started at Royal St Georges, Sandwich and in the 1st round beat City of London 5/0 with Robert Dyson playing, and in the 2nd round, with Chris Dale back,we beat Loretto 3.5/1.5. We then moved to Royal Cinque Ports, Deal, and in the 3rd round beat Merchant Taylors’ 3/2; in the ¼ final Rugby 3/2; in the semi-final Marlborough 3/2 and then winning a thrilling final against Charterhouse 3/2. In the final, Clifton having already lost the first two Matches and with the third pair, Chris Carney and Chris Baker, 5 down with 7 to play, we thought we were dead and buried– a magnificent fight back took the match to a stunning win on the 19th hole. The final two pairs also won, David Rowe and Chris Dale by 2/1 and Andy Rudge and Rob Mitchell on the 18th.

Next year the Halford Hewitt will be from the 7-10th April. OCGS members – put it in your diaries now. We will be there as defending champions!

I thought you might like to see the letter I wrote to the team on behalf of the Society after the match (over)



LETTER FROM ALAN TO THE TEAM

“Dear All,

On the 5th October, 2005, I came off the golf course, felt a bit woosy, toppled over unconscious and had the first of my ensuing three cardiac arrests of the next few days. Transferred from Golf Club to Wexham Hospital, I was written off after third heart attack – I guess the kids had checked if they were still in the will, my golf clubs had nearly been sold – but unconscious still, I was transported to the Brompton in London, the mecca for heart surgery. After a week or so three stents were inserted and fortunately for me I regained consciousness (marginal even today I hear you say) some four weeks after I had collapsed - just a little worse for wear! Yesterday it was like Lazarus re-visited.

Late on a chilly, windy Sunday, the 11th April, 2010 and after finding they still hadn't any Bovril in the hut for my restorative Bovril & Sherry - cold and a little downhearted, I ventured out into the arctic wind to watch the dying embers of our Final. As you know we had lost first two matches and when I joined the third pair Chris Baker and Chris Carney on the 12th – we were 5 down with 7 to play – it was just after 5 pm and I thought we were possibly going same way as my mates at Canford had on Saturday afternoon with a quick exit. And I definitely thought I may be home in time for dinner, see our dinner guests, get some brownie points and watch a lot of the Masters!

Only to watch the Chris boys win 12th, halve 13th, win 14th, win 15th with birdie halve 16th, win 17th and 18th so taking it to 19th at just after 7 pm by which time Andy and Rob had just won on 18th green with an unbelievable approach shot from downhill lie and David and Chris were walking back to join us all on the 1st having won 2/1 – this was not too good for my dicky old ticker!

With literally a hundred watching (mainly Charterhouse I'm ashamed to say) I did feel really sorry for the Charterhouse lads who were in tears as they dunked their wedge approach into ditch on 19th from easy position whilst our young tyke played out of the pampas grass jungle a miracle shot to 20 ft from pin – a shot every bit as good as Mickelson's through the trees to win the Masters some hours later. Geoff Clay the next President of the PS Golfing Society was chatting away to me during last seven holes and thought it was the best final he had ever seen!



THE HAPPY TEAM with ALAN

MARLBOROUGH
MAY 20th.

DETAILS
ENCLOSED FOR
THOSE PLAYING

A NEW EVENT !

COMING TO THE
BERKSHIRE
JUNE 11th. ?
PLEASE LET ME
KNOW IF NOT
REPLIED YET

Bob

01275 392529

I was home exhausted by 10.30pm to see last few holes of Masters. I woke in the middle of the night and realised I wanted to write to you each individually to thank you for including me so warmly into what I can only describe as one of the great moments in my life. Rowe is a brilliant Capt leading from the front, you are all part of a splendid team and Rob Dyson is super-sub. Enjoy the success, savour the five days together, re-live that final two hours, there will be re-unions and celebrations in due course!

And then the very funny twist in the tail!! The Public Schools secretariat had already arranged at 17.00 hrs for sign writer to inscribe Charterhouse as winners on the Deal board (quite reasonably in my view as I had also written it off) - and then had to cover it with tape at prize-giving! And by 18.00 hrs they had posted on web site that Charterhouse were the 2010 winners! They were a little embarrassed but it just adds to the folklore of the most brilliant team event there is! Of course everyone removed the tape after the prize-giving and some now have photographic evidence. (and it shows in the photo on page 1)

Best wishes Alan"

HERE IS THE OLD PHOTO FROM 1993 WHEN CLIFTON WERE RUNNERS UP. SOME STILL PLAYING FOR US THIS YEAR !



ALAN AND DAVID are in touch with "School" (The Old Cliftonian Society) to arrange a suitable CELEBRATION DINNER, in Bristol for the Team and Hewitt Players, past and present.

The OC Website is being upgraded and will have our full Match Report and photographs shortly. Details were also sent to local Press and The Telegraph.

*PETER MURDOCH,
TOM WAYCOTT and
JACK MANN all at
Clifton, travel to Leeds end
April for the finals of the
SCHOOLS
CHAMPIONSHIPS*

*having won the Area
Finals.*

BEST WISHES

