

## NOTTS COUNTY LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at BEESTON FIELDS GOLF CLUB

Monday 25th November 2013, at 10.30 a.m.

92 Members present and

The President,	Gill Shawcross
Hon Secretary & Treasurer	Bridgett Patrick
Captain	Collette Newton
Vice Captain	Jane Fowler
Assistant Vice Captain	Kathryn Horberry
Assistant Hon Secretary	Joan Underwood
Midland North Rep.	Pippa Handley
Handicap Adviser	Maureen Clarke

The President welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. Apologies were received from 7 members/
2. Previous Minutes  
The Minutes from the previous AGM had been circulated and it was agreed they were a true record and were signed by the President.
3. Matters arising  
It was confirmed that all Mixed Interclub matches would be played at neutral venues.
4. Captains Report Colette Newton  
County Captains Report for 2013

Madam President, Madam Secretary, committee members, ladies I would like to present my report for 2013. I apologise now for it being rather lengthy but as I only get to do this the once you will have to humour me and try not to nod off during proceedings. I must just say that when I practised this on my unsuspecting, non golfing youngest son and asked him what he thought he said that he had lost the will to live around something called the championship and as that is in May and this report is in date order I am slightly worried!

### County Waltz

The first county event in the diary was the county waltz, this was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> April at Beeston Fields. This is a fun competition organised to start the year off and to raise funds for the county teams coaching. We held it for the first time in 2012 and it had proved a great success, so we thought we would do it again!

It was a very cold but bright day and everyone that played enjoyed the rather challenging format! It was my first 18 holes in 18 months so my two playing partners soon realised they were definitely playing in a fun competition and had no hope of winning any prizes!!

My thanks go to Jane my vice Capt. for organising this event again, to those that entered and brought bottles for the raffle. My biggest thanks go though to Beeston Fields for allowing us to host the event there again and to Gary and Susie for the catering.

The winners with a great score of 70 points were;

J. Doleman from Rushcliffe and J. Evans and F. Roberts from Tent Lock

Stanton on the Wolds have very kindly agreed to host this event next year and the date is April 10<sup>th</sup> so please put it in your diaries.

#### Notts v Sheffield Union match

This annual match was held away this year on the 10<sup>th</sup> April at Rotherham Golf Club. We were supposed to be playing at the Hallamshire but as they still had snow on the course Rotherham very kindly agreed to host it. Having played in the waltz the day before I was extremely pleased at this change of venue as Rotherham is very much flatter than the Hallamshire!

It was again a bright but very cold day. This fixture has been in the county dates for many years and although extremely competitive it is always played in a great spirit. I was particularly keen to win as Notts had lost the last 3 matches!

I am pleased to report that we won our first match of the year, although I must confess it did come down to the last pairing, but a win is a win. We had a delicious meal and returned home very happy especially me!

My thanks go to my team who were:

Emma Sheffield Newark, Lauren Spray Stanton, Carol Wild, Laura Morris, Hilary Horton, Di Payne and myself from Notts, Jane Fowler and Kathryn Horberry Coxmoor and Helen Maber Beeston Fields.

#### English Senior Women's Championship

On April 26<sup>th</sup> Janet Melville won the English Senior Women's Championship on her own course of Sherwood Forest. It was a fantastic achievement. There is always tremendous pressure to do well when you are playing on your home course in a big event so congratulations to Janet on a marvellous win.

#### County Championship

The county Championship and Spring Meeting was held at Wollaton Park this year from 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> May.

The weather was most definitely not what the doctor ordered for the 36 hole qualifying but even so there were some fantastic scores recorded by the players.

After the first days qualifying Alex Peters our home grown international from Notts Ladies was leading qualifier with Emma Newlove from Beeston Fields 2<sup>nd</sup>

The match play over the next two days was very exciting the best match I think being a semi final between Alex and Lauren Spray of Stanton which was the most fantastic contest with Alex winning on the 19<sup>th</sup> hole.

The final on Sunday afternoon between Alex and Emma Newlove who are the greatest of friends was close for the first nine holes but Alex really got in to her stride on the back nine and won 4/3. Well done to Alex on her 3<sup>rd</sup> County Championship win.

The prize winners were;

Alex Peters of Notts Ladies winner of the Championship, the 36 hole scratch, the Stacia Scrimshire Trophy and the 18 hole scratch morning and afternoon rounds.

Emma Newlove of Beeston Fields runner up in the championship, runner up in the 36 hole scratch and winner of the 36 hole handicap.

Jessica Bailey of Notts Ladies runner up in the 36 hole handicap

Maureen Clarke of Sherwood winner of the 18 hole handicap morning round.

Emily Mae Hall of Notts Ladies winner of the 18 hole handicap afternoon round

The winners of the Spencer Watson Shield were Notts Ladies

I would like to thank Wollaton Park for giving us their course for 3 days and to their fantastic green staff who worked so hard under very difficult circumstances to get the course in such good order for our championship.

A big thank you to Bridgett and Joan for all their hard work and time in organising the championship. Thanks too to Gill our President for all her help and to Joyce and Gill for doing the starting and to Maureen Clarke and Pippa Handley for refereeing.

#### County Championship

We had a very small entry for the County Championship this year which was a great shame. As a consequence of this and the fact that the entries have been going down steadily over the last few years, we are hoping to make the Spring Meeting part of this event an 18 hole competition. We are told that many ladies do not play in this event because it is 36 holes. Those playing in the championship and doing 36 holes will go out first followed by those playing 18. We hope this will mean that many more of you will feel able to play in this competition next year. The championship is being held at Beeston Fields in 2014.

I would just also like to add that even if you feel you do not want to play in this event you really should come along and watch the match play. We have some wonderful golfers in Nottinghamshire and they are fantastic to watch. You never know you might pick up a few tips!!

#### Coronation Foursomes

Our coronation foursomes competition was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June at Stanton on the Wolds. They very kindly stepped in to host this event as Bulwell had to cancel because of work on their course.

We had a full entry which was fantastic (and bodes well for the county waltz next year!) so many thanks to those that entered and supported the day.

It was a beautiful summers day, the sun shone and there was a lovely atmosphere, it felt so good to be playing golf in the sunshine after the terrible spring we had had.

Stanton was in the most amazing condition, the trees looked absolutely beautiful, my playing partner Hilary commented on them and she was very qualified to do so as she spent most of the time either in or under them, o'h the joys of foursomes!! The green were quite amazing, very fast and in fantastic condition.

Everyone said what a good day it had been and how much they had enjoyed it. Thanks again to Bridgett, Joan, Gill and Joyce, at least Bridgett and Gill did not have far to go home on this one!!

The winners of the day were;

J. White and J. Stones from Trent Lock with 35 points on the back 9 from W. Scoby and A. Macmillan from Norwood.

#### County week at Hawkstone Park July 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>.

On Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July I set off for Hawkstone park and county week with a very full car!! Kit, water, tuck, plasters, tissues and ear plugs, this week takes a great deal of organising but we were all very excited and really looking forward to doing well. We had a great team of wonderful young golfers, a good team spirit and although the weather forecast did not look too good I was secretly pleased, i didn't mind a shower or two as we had lovely new waterproof tops which looked really smart and the girls were thrilled about wearing.

We had named a team of 12 because once again this week clashed with school exams, English school golf finals and England golf commitments so there was not going to be one day when we had a full contingent to choose from.

The team for the week were;

Emma Newlove and Sophie Newlove from Beeston Fields

Alex Peters, Laura Morris, Annabel Bailey, Lianna Bailey and Emily Mae Hall from Notts Ladies

Emma Sheffield from Newark

Jodie Peacock from Sherwood

Emily Lyle from Worksop

Rhiannon Linacre from Coxmoor

Lauren Spray from Stanton

Their handicaps ranged from +3 to the highest of 5!

We played our practice round in the pouring rain but I had wisely not handed out the kit so the new waterproof jackets were still in their boxes and looking good!

The first day our match was against Derbyshire, we had 5 of the team playing in either the English schools, doing exams or working!

After the morning foursomes we were 2/1 up with wins from Alex and Emma Newlove and Lauren and Jodie. In the afternoon both Emma and Alex had great wins of 6/5 with the other win coming from Jodie. We finished 5/4 which was a great win as Derbyshire had been runners up at County week last year , the girls were thrilled but it had been a bit close for my liking and hadn't done much for my weak heart!

Sophie Newlove and Emma Sheffield joined us for dinner that night but sadly Alex had to leave to play for England in the Vaglianno trophy which was a fantastic honour but we wished it had been a week later!! We were very pleased to have had her even if it had only been for one day.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day we played Shropshire. Again we were 2 up in the foursomes with Emma Newlove and Lauren winning and Emma Sheffield with one of our rookies Sophie Newlove taking another point.

We had a great afternoon winning 4 ½ points so won the match 6 ½ to 2 ½ overall. We were very pleased to have two wins under our belts and went to bed ready to face our old adversaries Lincolnshire the next day.

Wednesday was by far the best day of the week for the weather but sadly not for our result. The Bailey sisters had arrived that morning and were on the driving range at 7.30 a.m. The two sisters were in fact to win 8 ½ points out of their 9 matches over the next 3 days. We knew that we were going to have to play our very best golf to beat a particularly strong Lincolnshire team. Sadly the Bailey sisters points were the only ones we managed. The score of 2 ½ to 6 ½ did not really reflect the closeness of some of the matches. The Lincolnshire team was very experienced with an ex professional and 4 full time playing members. Our team is extremely talented but also very young and I am sure in the next couple of years we will come out on top. The girls went to bed rather disappointed but ready to do battle with Staffordshire the next day.

Our match against Staffordshire on Thursday saw us once again 2 up in the morning foursomes but we won 5 of our 6 matches in the afternoon for a really good result of 7 : 2. It had rained all day so perhaps we play better in the rain when we are sporting the new jackets! I have to say everyone commented on how smart the Notts team looked. The team were cheered with their win and focused on doing well against Leicestershire the next day, there was always the faint hope that Shropshire might be able to thrash Lincolnshire on Friday and we would still be in with a chance of winning but we weren't holding our breath!!

We had worked out (or rather Kathryn had as she is very good at sums!) that we needed to score at least 4 points against Leicestershire to win the runners up trophy, so we could lose 5/4 but I told the girls that we wanted a win!!

Again we were 2/1 up in the morning and the girls played extremely well in the afternoon with 4 wins which gave us a 6/3 victory and the runners up shield.

I felt extremely proud as I collected the shield on behalf of the Notts team. The girls had been a pleasure to captain, we had a wonderful team spirit, every girl played at least twice and the "rookies" of the team had really proved themselves at this level. We have such a young and very talented team and I am sure in the not too distant future they will be bringing that trophy home to Nottinghamshire. It was lovely to award Emma Newlove her county colours, she played a really big part in the team this year so well done to her.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jane my vice Captain for all her help and support. Her buggy driving skills leave a lot to be desired but in every other aspect she was fantastic!! She kept us all in order and will do a brilliant job as captain next year. Thanks to Kathryn for all her wise counsel, how lucky we are to have someone as experienced as her helping us, thanks also to her for her extremely kind donation that I know she would not want me to mention but sorry I have!!., many thanks also to Bridgett and Gill for their great support and to all those that came to watch and caddy for the girls.

My biggest thanks go to my wonderful team who played their hearts out and really did their county proud.

### Summer Meeting

The summer meeting was held at Retford on the 8<sup>th</sup> July. It was a very good entry and thank you to all the ladies that entered and supported the event.

It was a beautiful day possibly a little too beautiful for the ladies that played in the afternoon as it became very hot.

We thank Retford who were fantastic hosts and also Bridgett, Joan and the new kid on the block Hilary for running this competition!

There were some excellent scores and the sinners on the day were:

Scratch winner ; Janet Melville ( Sherwood Forest ) 73 gross

Handicap winner; P. Grinter (The Nottinghamshire) 69 net

### County Captains Day

On Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July I held my County Captains day at Hollinwell.

It was an absolutely wonderful day for me I have to say. The sun shone and although we had one heavy shower everyone got round and said how much they had enjoyed the day, the competition was filled and there were 36 teams playing which was fantastic.

The course looked magnificent and I actually wished I was out there playing with everyone! I was so pleased that the Notts mens committee had allowed me to hold my special day there.

As always these days are only a success because of all the hard work and help of people and friends and these I was lucky enough to have in abundance.

Firstly my starters, Robert Everist, my husband Glenn and Jane Fowlers husband John. I have never seen Mr Everist looking so smart and after his two hour stint refused to leave his post as he was enjoying himself so much. He really got in to the swing of things and my dear husband was relegated to taking out cups of tea for him!! Robert also sponsored my first prize and John donated the champagne for the nearest the pin prizes, so many thanks to them.

A huge thank you goes to the wonderful Dot Hessian and Pat Vint of Notts ladies who spent the whole day in the halfway hut serving the delicious cakes that people had so very kindly made.

Thanks to Jane my vice captain whose organisation skills are legendry for running the desk ably supported by my friends Judy, Sasha Jenny and her grandson, Pippa and Joan, all at varying times of the day. To Gillian for doing the cards, Pam for the beautiful flowers in county colours and to Gill, Audrey, Elsie Shanks and Andy Tyler of Coxmoor for their kind donations. Also the Hollinwell caterers who looked after everyone so well. I enjoyed my meal sitting looking over the 18<sup>th</sup> green with dear friends and helpers, we enjoyed a glass of champagne and it is a day I shall remember and treasure always.

The winners on the day were;

1<sup>st</sup> prize

J.Batty , G. Sweeney, K. Crowther and E. Mitchell from Ramsdale and Comoor with 83 points on back 9 from

P. Tillcock, C. Wild, J. Hopkins and J. McMurdo from Notts Ladies and 3<sup>rd</sup>

H. Horton, F. Tunnicliffe,P. Loch and A. Harris from Notts Ladies with 82 points

Emma Howie and Michelle Duckmanton won the champagne.

My day raised just under £3000.00 and I thank everyone that entered teams , gave raffle prizes and bought raffle tickets. This money helps to pay for the cost of county week which unfortunately proved rather costly this year for all the counties.

County Captains day next year will be held at Coxmoor and I do hope you will all give Jane your support as you did me.

### Veterans Trophy

The veterans trophy was held at Chilwell on the 8<sup>th</sup> August

It was a lovely sunny day but unfortunately we had a very poor entry for this event. The numbers for this event have also been slowly going down over the last few years and as we have to pay for the use of the course it is reaching a point where it is not really viable to hold it. Therefore it has been decided to play for the veteran trophies at the summer meeting in July.

To those that did play at Chilwell thank you for supporting it this year and well done to the winners who were;

Gillian Shawcross scratch Trophy	J. Hooley (Stanton) 82 gross
Dorothy Payne Cup	S. Mansfield (The Notshire)75 net
Duchess of Portland Handicap Cup	A. Mather (Notts Ladies) 67 net

I would just like to add at this point that the course has been booked for next years vets competition and rather than cancel it we are going to try a new format and have a stableford competition. During the year at the council meetings I have asked why you think the numbers entering the county competitions have been falling. One suggestion was that ladies do not like playing in medals they prefer stableford, so we are going to try it and see if you do!!

### Autumn Meeting

Sherwood Forest hosted this years' Autumn meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> September. It was the biggest entry we have had for many years and it was for most of the ladies a most enjoyable day. Unfortunately some ladies were caught in a very noisy thunderstorm and play was stopped for 30 minutes. Sitting in the dry of the Sherwood ladies room we did not appreciate the rain until some of the "drowned rats" started appearing with their sodden score cards!!

Special thanks go to Joyce our starter who saw everyone off the first tee although she was only just recovering from a major operation, what a stalwart she is and we really do appreciate her dedication.

Sherwood was in super condition and apparently the greens were just amazing, too amazing for most of the ladies and the prizes mainly went to the home players who are obviously more used to Augusta type greens than the rest of us! Janet Melville was in sparkling form having just returned from helping the England Seniors team win a bronze medal in Latvia.

The winners on the day and also the aggregate prizes for the autumn and summer meetings were;

36 hole aggregate scratch	J. Melville (Sherwood)	= 148
36 hole aggregate net	C. Harrison (Sherwood)	= 144
18 hole scratch	J. Melville (Sherwood)	75 gross
18 hole handicap & LGU silver medal	G. Stump (Sherwood)	68 nett
18 hole handicap & LGU bronze medal	Y. Deacon (Ruddington)	77 ne

The Jubilee shield was won by Sherwood Forest with 291

Runners Up were Retford with 304

I have to say it is the first time that Hilary and I had actually “shadowed” Bridgett and Joan and we saw just how much work they do on these days. I should think it would be quite staggering if they were to total up the hours that they have spent doing the draws, sitting at the desk of wherever the competition is being held ,organising the trophies, the prizes and everything else that these competitions entail. They have both been unbelievable with their time and commitment to the county competitions. Thank you both so very much. You are going to be a very tough act to follow.

The mixed interclub final was played between Newark and Beeston Fields at Sherwood Forest on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Again it was a beautiful day and the matches were very close. After 18 holes Newark were 5 up overall but Beeston really fought back and only lost 2 down after 36. The ladies representing their clubs in the final were Emma Sheffield and Eva Glasby for Newark and Sophie Newlove and Helen Maber for Beeston.

#### Ladies Interclub Final 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

The ladies final was played at Wollaton the day after the mixed final. This match was between Retford and Norwood Park. This too was a tight match and Norwood really put up a good fight but the experienced team of Retford finished 2 up in each game and were the winners. Well done to both teams for reaching the final and I am sure the Retford ladies are really thrilled to have won the trophy.

Many thanks to Maureen Clarke and Pippa Handley for refereeing and to Gill our president for presenting the prizes.

During October Alex Peters was named as the winner of the Lorrin order of merit. This is an award for the best amateur lady golfer in the country. It is an amazing achievement and we are extremely proud of her. Our congratulations go to her for all her hard work and commitment. Well done Alex.

I can only apologise again for the length of my report but reading it to you brings back to me what a wonderful year I have had. When I stood here a year ago I have to admit becoming County Captain was not very high on my wish list. I was not in the best of health, my beloved dad had died 2 days before and if there had been a get out clause in the contract I think I would have used it!! But what a mistake that would have been. I have experienced wonderful friendship and kindness from so many people during my year especially my amazing county committee. I have had the pleasure of being captain to a fantastically talented young county 1st team, I also feel very lucky to be the last County Captain to have served with Bridgett. I have been enormously proud and honoured to be your county captain, what I imagined was perhaps going to be another bad year in my life actually turned out to be one of the best and one I shall remember and treasure always.

Thank you all.

You will be very relieved to hear that that concludes my county captains report for 2013.

5. Honorary Treasurer's Report Bridgett Patrick

Statement of accounts were available for the meeting. They had been examined by B Robson and signed as being in accordance with the records.

In summary

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
General Fund	2309	2136
Captain's Fund	4365	1422
Junior Fund	4466	4341
Club Reserve	13120	16857
Cash in Hand	(22)	74
Total	24238	24830

6. Junior Golf Report Margaret Brook

**Junior Report to the AGM November 25<sup>th</sup> 2013**

Madam County President, County Captain, Officers, Ladies, it is my pleasure to present the Junior Report for 2013.

The girls have had an excellent year, doing well across the county, in regional and national competitions. I am so proud of them, they represent our County well and are the future of the game.

Emily- Mae Hall who has played in both County and Girls 1<sup>st</sup> teams and Leanne Martin who has played mostly second team and occasional Girls' 1<sup>st</sup> team matches will both be 18 by the end of the year and so will no longer be juniors in 2014. We will miss them but they will continue to be available for County Team matches.

I will only give you a few highlights this morning of the girls' many successes but do have a look at the Junior Girls' display where you can see more of what has been going on.

Handicaps continue to fall and several girls have gained CONGU handicaps for the first time. 16 year old Lianna Bailey's handicap is +1.4 Emily-Mae Hall 0.4, Annabel Bailey 0.5, 13 year old Jessica Bailey reduced from 11 to 5.7, Sophie Newlove from 4.8 to 2.9 and Esme Hamilton from 15 to 6.2.

Monthly group coaching continues at Rufford with pros John Vaughan and James Thompson and at Riverside with Phil Edwards. Laura Wright left The Nottinghamshire in August and so the group moved to Phil who most girls knew from before. We have a new group of 8 girls at Oakmere with Jamie Jarvis – all beginners aged 8 – 11 years, it's a fun group!

The Girls Championship was held at Coxmoor on May 19<sup>th</sup> and Rhiannon Linacre, Coxmoor, became our new Girls' Champion. She also won the Open Scratch Salver and U16 Scratch Trophy. Emily-Mae Hall, Notts Ladies & Coxmoor, won the Intermediate Trophy for over 16s . The Bronze Division Scratch Cup was won by Rebecca Williams, Coxmoor, and the U18 Handicap Cup by Jessica Bailey, Notts Ladies. Thank you to Coxmoor for hosting the Championship in their Centenary year. The Men's Captain welcomed the girls at the first tee and presented them all with a centenary bag tag and Lady Captain Joyce Hayward attended the Prize Giving.

**Matches** : We arranged League Team Training for the lowest sixteen handicap girls in March, postponed to April due to the snow, and we are planning to hold this again in 2014.

Midland North Region Scratch League : Notts won three and halved two of their 1<sup>st</sup> team scratch matches to tie with Derbyshire on 8 points.

Rhiannon Linacre, Jessica Bailey and Emma Anderson have been awarded Junior County Colours this year.

Playing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Handicap team at The Nottinghamshire v Shropshire, Kristina Lazarevic had a hole in one at the 14<sup>th</sup>.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Team League has been abandoned as many of the other counties are unable to bring a full team of four girls. Counties now bring as many girls as they can. This means our girls are losing vital match play experience so our three friendly matches for girls of 12 – 21 handicap are very useful.

This year's friendly match v Mapperley Ladies was won by the ladies. I am grateful to Christine Preston and the Mapperley Ladies for this fixture.

We had two new 2<sup>nd</sup> Team fixtures this year, v Yorkshire and v Warwicks with Notts winning both matches.

### **National Championships:**

English Girls': Lianna Bailey 4<sup>th</sup>, Emily-Mae Hall 9<sup>th</sup>. U15s Annabel Bailey 3<sup>rd</sup>. U13s Jessica Bailey 13<sup>th</sup>.

British Girls': after the first two stroke play rounds Lianna qualified but lost on the 19<sup>th</sup> in the Match Play Round 1, Annabel qualified losing in Round 2 of the Match Play.

British Ladies' Open Amateur Stroke Play at Prestwick: Lianna qualified for the final two rounds and finished 18<sup>th</sup> and Sophie Newlove made the cut in the Women's Open Amateur Stroke Play Championship - these are both a very good results for 16 year olds in Ladies' Championships.

St Andrews Junior Ladies' Open for U23s: Lianna and Annabel both qualified for the match play stage, Lianna losing in the semi-final to the eventual winner and Annabel losing in the second round.

English Schools Championship at Hollinwell: Lianna finished 5<sup>th</sup> and Emily-Mae 4<sup>th</sup> and both were selected to play for England Schools v Scotland in September. Emily-Mae won one match and Lianna two matches to help England beat Scotland.

### **Regional Championships**

Four Counties Championship at Greatham Valley: Emily Lyle won the Championship with a gross 75, with Sophie Newlove and Esme Hamilton 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> on count back. Esme also won the U16 Scratch Trophy. Notts won both the Scratch Team and Handicap Team Trophies. 10 year old Eleanor Bailey playing her first Championship won 2<sup>nd</sup> nett with 102-33-6 reducing her handicap to 28.

Midland North Region Championship and Challenge at Kibworth: Emily Lyle 3<sup>rd</sup>. Several girls won handicap prizes. Notts were runners up in the Scratch Team Trophy but won the Handicap Team Trophy.

The Midland Union took over organising the Girls' Champion of Champions alongside the Boys' Championship and we had a U14 Girls' category for the first time. This Championship is for all twelve Midland club champions at U18, U16 & U14 level. Rhiannon Linacre represented Notts in the U16s. Jessica Bailey won the U14 Girls' Championship with rounds of 82 followed by a one under par 71 in round 2. This brought her handicap down to 5.7.

### **County News**

You will have heard from Colette that many girls played for the County in County Week.

The Coxmoor all girls team won the Lamplugh Trophy and went on to play in the Champion Club Tournament at Woodhall Spa.

Sophie Newlove had an amazing round at Notts GC Hollinwell where she scored a birdie, an eagle and an albatross all in the same round and was featured in the England Golf Womens' News.

Many girls have had successes at open days, in club competitions and playing for their clubs – too numerous to mention. Importantly, they are enjoying their golf.

The Mixed AmAm was held at Rufford on April 28<sup>th</sup> and raised £774 for Junior Funds. Thank you to Rufford for giving us courtesy of the course and to everyone who entered teams or gave raffle prizes.

A Spring Get Together Texas Scramble was held at Oakmere in the Easter holidays and was followed by a Rules Quiz which Maureen Clarke kindly supplied.

Par 3 and 9 hole competitions for girls without a handicap have been held at Edwalton, Trent Lock and twice at Norwood Park. My thanks to the ladies from these clubs who helped by walking round with a group of girls. We have an enthusiastic group of girls who are new to golf.

The Junior Jubilee was held at Rufford on October 6<sup>th</sup> and was won by Emily Jane Golder and Grandma Susan Whittaker.

Girls and families came to their Presentation Evening at Rufford on November 22<sup>nd</sup> when the girls celebrated their achievements for the year. They brought trophies they had won and all girls received a certificate recording their personal achievements. Sophie Newlove was announced as Junior Captain for 2014 with Rhiannon Linacre the Junior Vice Captain. Both girls are County Girls' 1st Team players and both also played for the County in County Week in June.

#### **England Golf/ CGP/ funding and new developments :**

I continue to attend some CGP coaching or management meetings.

Birdie and Select Squads have been replaced by Regional U16 squads with girls receiving 20 days coaching plus physical development training. The regions are purely for training purposes and Notts are in the East Midlands with Lincs, Leics, Cambs and Northants. None of our girls wanted to apply for a place due partly to poor communications between the Pros running the squads and the girls' home club pro – the girls felt they received conflicting and therefore confusing advice. I have passed this on to England Golf.

We received £80 in April from EWGA Women's and Girls' Grant.

The EWGA Group Coaching Grant for 2013 has been paid at £2.50 per affiliated club but 2013 is the last year this grant will be awarded as from 2014 the Trust will focus on individuals.

Application for funding has changed and funding will come via County Golf Partnership. However, as the funding the CGP receives from Sport England is only for 14 - 25 year olds there is a gap, girls start attending our group coaching at 8 years of age. England Golf have said there will be some money for the Under 14s.

Jane and I have recently attended very useful meetings with CGP and the Notts Union in order to submit a funding application to England Golf's "Special Projects Fund" from Nottinghamshire as a whole. This fund is again for the 14+ age group. We will be working closely with CGP and the Notts Union in 2014 under the one umbrella of "Nottinghamshire Golf". This should make it easier for families and youngsters to see what is happening around the county and importantly, avoid duplication.

Under "Nottinghamshire Golf" in 2014 there will be seven Nippers Tour events for boys and girls aged 12 years and under plus the end of season Ryder Cup. There will not be separate competitions for girls without handicaps but someone from NCLGA will be at all Nippers Tour events and our girls will be encouraged to play in the Nippers Tour. We can have all girl groups as required.

A new "Rookies Tour" will be arranged for those over 13 years old without handicaps.

There will be a Nottinghamshire Junior Order of Merit for both girls & boys with handicaps. There will be gross and handicap orders of merit, with a point structure awarded at Order of Merit events. Youngsters will be able to access the Order of Merit on line.

NCLGA Junior Committee will continue to organise girls only group coaching which is important, partly because some girls prefer an all girls group but also because England Golf is primarily a Pathway for Talented golfers. We have lots of enthusiastic girls aged 15/16 with handicaps of 12-15, they may not be considered talented but we do not want to lose them, they are the future of ladies' golf. We need to help and support all the girls, whatever their golfing ability and especially support those who belong to clubs where there are few girl members.

Jane and I worked together on the NCLGA funding application and awards recently announced include £250 for developing an Intermediates Group for 19 – 25 year olds and an award from the Special Projects Fund to help us fund a workshop with Kitrina Douglas on developing the mental skills necessary in golf plus information on nutrition.

The County Strategy meeting organised by England Golf on 13<sup>th</sup> November was attended by myself and other county officers. England Golf are now finalising their Strategic Plan for 2014 - 2017 having had similar meetings with all counties. There are nine actions plans - to increase the number of players from all backgrounds and abilities who play regularly and increase the numbers of players in club membership to name just two.

A big thank you to clubs and individuals who have kindly sent donations for the Junior Fund during the year, your generosity allows the Junior Committee to continue arranging a wide variety of events for the girls. Spondon Trophies Inter Club Competition gave Jane Fowler a donation of £1100 for the Juniors at their end of year dinner which we greatly appreciate.

In 2014, the Girls' Championship will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup> – thank you to Retford GC for hosting this. The Mixed AmAm will be held at Wollaton Park on Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup> - thank you to Wollaton.

Finally my thanks to Bridgett who I have frequently turned to for advice over the last two years. Thank you ladies.

## 7. Midland North Report Pippa Handley

This is the 15th time I ask for your attention and patience, but I promise the last.

Since July I have attended a meeting of the Midland North Region and last week an England Golf meeting at Kings Norton.

This has been a good year for all our regional competitions. Entries have remained steady and the Queen of Clubs we trialled in Lincolnshire last July proved to be a success doubling the entrants from the previous year's Ladies Championship. We hope that this support will continue and the competition will become a favourite with club champions.

In 2014 Notts host the Australian Spoons at Wollaton Park; I have printed a flyer for this event along with an entry form for every club, please put this event in your fixtures and support this competition we do need your help to make the event a success.

The 2014 Regional competitions are,

Foursomes. 29 April Spalding Lincs  
Medal Finals 3<sup>rd</sup> May Shrewsbury, Shropshire  
Australian Spoons 27<sup>th</sup> June Wollaton Park Notts  
National final 19<sup>th</sup> September Belton Park Lincs  
County Match Week Week of 8<sup>th</sup> June The Leicestershire Lincs/Rutland  
Queen of Clubs 24 July Horsley Lodge Derbys  
Girls Championship 1 Sept. Trentham Staffs  
County 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Finals 29<sup>th</sup> August Stoke Rochford Lincs  
England Golf Senior Men's and Women's Tournament 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> July Newark Notts.

From 2015 onwards England Golf will continue to oversee those competitions which lead to a national final. The current funding for these events will continue and England Golf branding will be provided to each regional organiser. These events are: Australian Spoons regional finals, County Match Weeks and the England Golf regional medal finals.

Regions will take full control of all other competitions. Currently these events are ladies', girls' and foursome championships. Change of format can be considered to one which would prove popular with players. These events have to be self funding and the counties, who support their region financially each year, will retain any profits.

Under the Strategic Plan, England Golf will be looking at introducing more events for the handicap golfer and how they can connect better between club, region and England Golf.

The proposal that affiliation fees be collected only from a member's home club was carried at the meeting at Kings Norton last Wednesday. Consequently the County Unions and Associations will also be expected to collect fees only once from members with second and third clubs in the same county.

Since David Joy took over as Chief Executive 18 months ago, England golf has been working on a Strategic Plan for 2014 – 2017. Looking at ways of attracting and retaining golf club members; and also to define the way forward for the next three years with major improvements in club, county, national and international co-operation.

The aims are

- to increase the number of players, from all backgrounds and all abilities, who play golf regularly, and to inspire people of all ages to make golf a part of their life.
- Increase the number of players in club membership and communicate effectively with club golfers and unattached golfers.
- Supporting golf clubs to attract new members and meet the needs of their existing members and visitors. Stabilising the number of golf club members, reversing the decline (of 4% per year) by 2017 and attracting and retaining 750.000 members by 2020
- Providing excellent competitions for golfers of all abilities; with focus on the right green fees and membership offers, to include female, family and junior friendly clubs with 9 hole events for time poor members.
- Identifying and developing talented golfers at every level, leading to international success for England Golf. With County unions, associations and county golf partnerships creating shared focus on participation and recruitment
- Improving the pathways between amateur and professional golf.
- Raising the profile and improving the image of golf and improving communications between key organisations.
- Supporting and developing the workforce required to deliver this plan at club, county and national level.

- Developing partnerships, strengthening governance and building the infrastructure to develop golf in England

The merger is only two years old, and it is obvious that there is still a long way to go before both unions and associations work fully together as one unit. But the work is in progress and the association's strength will lie in our ability to massively increase our membership.

One plea to you all, when asked to reply to any question or asked for your views on some subject, please will you oblige, it does matter if we are to reach a democratic decision; in four years and after not so many questions asked only the same eleven clubs bothered to reply. My thanks to them, and please will the other clubs be more helpful in the future.

My grateful thanks to Bridgett, Hilary, Colette and Jane who have been so supportive over the last few years, without their support I would indeed have floundered.

It has been pleasure and an honour to have been entrusted with being the Nottinghamshire Representative during the last four years. I have enjoyed every moment. I have no hesitation in handing over to Sandra Beckett, who I know will take on all the tasks and represent the county brilliantly.

#### 8. Election of Officers

President Joan Underwood

Proposed Gill Shawcross

Joan has served the county so well for many years and I am delighted to propose her as President of the Nottinghamshire Ladies Golf Association.

Seconded Audrey Blelcock

Joan accepted the nomination and thanked the meeting for the honour and privilege.

Captain Jane Fowler

Proposed Colette Newton

Seconded Ann Shields

Senior Vice Captain Kathryn Horberry

Proposed Jane Fowler

Seconded Pippa Handley

Assistant Vice Captain Pam Lock

Proposed Kathryn Horberry

Seconded Hilary Horton

General Secretary Lynn Buttery

Proposed Bridgett Patrick

Seconded Gill Stump

Match Secretary Hilary Horton

Proposed Joan Underwood

Seconded Jane Fowler

Assistant Match Secretary Colette Newton

Proposed Hilary Horton

Seconded Maureen Clarke

Treasurer Helen Maber

Proposed Bridgett Patrick

Seconded Ali Boulby

Advisers to the Council

Handicap Adviser Maureen Clarke

Midland Representative Sandra Beckett

Web Organiser Gillian Stump

Junior Organiser – Position Open.

The President asked members to consider volunteering for this role.

All proposals and nominations were accepted by the meeting.

#### Captain's acceptance speech and Proposal of Senior Vice Captain

Madam President, County officials both old and new, ladies, friends and Madam Immediate Past Captain – I've waited over two and half years to say that!

It's now my point on the agenda to say a few words. As you might imagine we have a dress rehearsal for this meeting so that we appear to know what we're doing. I was duly informed where my bit was and given instructions – be brief! Sorry Bridgett but I've never really been that good at doing what I'm told as my Coxmoor friends here today will tell you but I will try.

I think today's meeting will be emotional so I'll try to keep it light.

Colette broke off from being on her knees sanding floorboards in France to ring me – why she should be thinking of me being on her knees we'll never know – to ask me to think about being her Vice Captain. We met at Coxmoor a couple of weeks later and, as only Colette can do, she outlined how great it would be. The commitment to a 4 year term had become 3 with much better team working and support. I went home to consider the prospect and speak to John. I thought he would tell me all the reasons why I ought to do the job – you know things like – you've played County golf, you've still a half decent handicap but no what he actually said was – if you want to do it I'll support you and perhaps it would be a good time before you're too old!

So armed with this encouragement I fell for Colette's "con" oops sorry verbal persuasion and agreed. Colette has had the good grace to subsequently acknowledge and admit to bullying and harassing me into acceptance BUT I'm really please she did.

Due to Colette's health problems last year – just how good does she look this year – well done you! I had the privilege of working with Hilary – what an initiation and introduction that was to County golf but we had a great time. BUT this year Colette came back – not totally fit – but with tremendous commitment and determination.

Colette has been an inspiration. I've used these words before but I can think of no better way to describe her – she has been an exceptional County Captain. For such a tiny petite person she has made a huge impact – which will be difficult to follow.

She lead the team at Hawkstone Park to a magnificent 2<sup>nd</sup> place – almost, almost getting through to the finals which was great. To me though and much more importantly, other team officials commended our girls on their good manners, personal presentation and fair play.

Two of our girls admitted to getting quite depressed when they got home – not because we didn't quite manage to win but because "the best week of their life had come to an end".

Colette you lead that team by your own excellent standards and by example.

That ladies is the Colette Newton way,.

Before closing – I promise Bridgette I won't be much longer – can I thank all the officials for their camaraderie, friendship, time and patience – I know I can be an irritation at times but you have all persevered with me and I am very grateful.

I am looking forward to working with Sophie Newlove who was appointed Junior Girls Captain last Friday night and with Rhiannon Linacre appointed as Junior Vice Captain.

As I don't get another chance to say anything – can I just mention that for the coming year we will be operating under a new structure and with new people in new posts. I thank all for volunteering to help. Also that our predecessors who I can I think describe affectionately as “very wise old birds” could give you an answer to your questions almost without having to think – the newby's may take a little longer. So can I, on everyone's behalf, just ask you please to be a little patient with us – we'll get there in the end.

I am really proud and privileged to be appointed as County Captain for 2014 and I promise that I'll try to do my best to live up to your expectations.

I take very great pleasure in proposing Kathryn Horberry as Senior Vice Captain - promotion at last!

I don't think Kathryn needs much of an introduction but it would be remiss of me not to mention a few things.

Kathryn's County record remains unsurpassed. She has been County Champion more times than I think I've won monthly medal!

On a personal level she has been a true and loyal friend for almost 30 years. She has many endearing qualities.

This year we've attended most things together - she has been a marvellous support - we've done all 2nd team matches and attended County Week and I think we've enjoyed almost every minute.

Kathryn can only be described as a stalwart supporter of all things Notts. Ladies Golf. I look forward to working with her in 2014

#### Senior Vice Captain's speech and proposal of Assistant Vice Captain.

Thanks to Jane and Pippa for proposing and seconding and for their kind words. I would particularly like to thank Bridgett for all her hard work and support to me personally and to the county association over so many years.

I am looking forward to working with Jane and the team over the next two years and would like to propose Pam Loch as Assistant Vice Captain. This was seconded by Hilary Horton.

Pam accepted the Assistant Vice Captaincy and thanked Kathryn for the opportunity.

#### 9. County Handicap Advisers Report Maureen Clarke

##### Supplementary Scores

From 1 March 2014, Category 1 golfers may only complete as many Supplementary Scores, as necessary, to obtain or retain an Active Handicap - a maximum of 3. All other Categories may continue to complete a maximum of 10 Supplementary Scores per annum.

##### Responsibilities of the Players

Although Away scores are generally reported back to the player's Home Club via the Computer Database of Handicaps, it is still the PLAYER'S responsibility to ensure that all relevant scores are recorded on their Handicap Record, as soon as possible after the events they have played in.

##### Annual Review

The mandatory annual review should take place any time between 31 October and 1 March each year. If the Handicap Committee agrees that a player should have an increase or decrease in handicap, the player does not have the option of rejecting it, or the process would not work. Players should be reminded, however, that they can use the Appeals Procedure if they think the change is unjust.

Handicap Secretaries will be invited to the February Council Meeting so further changes to CONGU for 2014 can be discussed. The Council Meeting will take place at Ramsdale Park Golf Club on Monday 17 February at 10.30 a.m.

Inactive Handicaps can be made Active again by players completing 3 Supplementary Scores (which have to be over 18 holes), or 3 18-hole or 3 9-hole Qualifying Competitions.

I thank our Handicap Secretaries and their Committees for all their hard work throughout the year.

#### 10. Nottinghamshire County Golf Partnership Report for NCLGA AGM 2013 Maureen Clarke

We wish to thank our County Golf Partnership Development Officers Matt Bloor, Lauren Spray and their Assistant Alex for the excellent job they have been doing for Nottinghamshire throughout the year.

Fourteen Nottinghamshire Golf Clubs have now achieved GolfMark and Norwood Park has been re-accredited as a High Achiever.

1,009 participants aged 14 and over, including many adults, have tasted golf, 597 have taken part in 4 week sessions, and 89 have moved into taster or full club membership.

348 under 14s have been coached at shows and events and 72 are on the Coach Academy Programme where players receive 12 hours coaching, competitions and a training day.

Bulwell Forest, [Coxmoor](#), Hollinwell, [NCLGA](#), Norwood Park, [Radcliffe-on-Trent](#), Rufford Park, Serlby Park, and Worksop have provisionally been awarded up to £250 each for developing opportunities for target groups.

Nottingham Trent University have been linked with Ruddington Grange GC and 32 students have joined the Golf Club and a further 8 beginners are receiving weekly coaching.

The University of Nottingham has been linked with Beeston Fields GC, 12 students have joined and a further 32 are on beginner and intermediate weekly coaching sessions.

Applications have been sent to England Golf for an England Golf Special Projects Grant for £4,035 and an England Small Grant to supplement this.

Coxmoor, Newark, Norwood Park, Retford, Rushcliffe, Serlby Park, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, and Worksop, have attained Notts County Council Legacy Funding, for various projects, totalling over £80,000.

If you wish to know more about the opportunities available via the County Golf Partnership, please email Lauren Spray at [lauren@nottsgolfpartnership.co.uk](mailto:lauren@nottsgolfpartnership.co.uk)

#### 11. Inter-Club and League Reports

The Ladies Inter club final was played between Retford and Norwood Park. In a close match Retford finished 2 up in both matches to win the trophy. Retford (Silver) and Ruddington (Bronze) won the 2013 NCLGA leagues.

County Meeting Dates 2014  
7th April Stanton – County Waltz

14th April Ladies Inter Club 1st Round  
23rd April Mixed Inter Club 1st Round  
11th May Retford – Junior Championship  
16th – 18th May Beeston Fields County Championship And Spring Meeting  
2nd June Newark – Coronation Foursomes  
9th – 13th June The Leicestershire – County Match Week  
23rd June Ladies Inter Club 2nd Round  
7th July Worksop – County Summer Meeting  
28th July Coxmoor – County Captain's Day Am Am  
4th August Springwater – County Stableford  
4th August Ladies Inter Club 3rd Round  
4th September Rushcliffe – County Autumn Meeting  
18th August Ladies Inter Club 4th Round  
29th September Beeston Fields Or Wollaton Park - Ladies Inter Club Final

12. Secretaries Notes

A meeting for Secretaries and Handicap secretaries will be held at Ramsdale Golf club on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 10.30am and the meeting for Match Secretaries will be at Mapperley Golf Club on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014 (time to be arranged nearer the date)

13. Any Other Business

Belinda Briggs asked that a definitive guide be given to clubs before the 2014 season in answer to the question of what action should be taken when clubs arrive at a match 1 or more players short or if a player is taken ill during a game and is unable to continue. Gillian Stump spoke on the Midland Veterans Association for lady golfers over the age of 50 years. The Captain will be Andrea Stockdale (Sherwood), Treasurer Caron Harrison (Sherwood) and Secretary Gillian Stump (Sherwood).

Gill Shawcross announced that Joan Underwood had been awarded honorary membership in recognition of her many years of dedicated work for the county and presented a gift from the association with thanks from everyone.

Joan Underwood announced that Gill Shawcross has been awarded honorary membership in recognition of her years of service and thanked Gill for her sterling work for the association and presented Gill with a gift from the association with thanks from everyone.

The County Past Captains association thanked Gill and Bridgett for their valuable work on behalf of the association and offered very best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Bridgett Patrick was presented with gifts from all the clubs in the county with sincere thanks for all of her hard work and very best wishes on her retirement from the County Secretary and Treasurer role. It was noted that Bridgett's role will now be fulfilled by 3 people – a measure of how hard she has worked and the commitment she has shown.

Jane Fowler (County Captain) presented Colette Newton with flowers and gift on behalf of all members of the county with thanks for her enthusiastic and inspiring leadership.

Thanks were given from the floor by Jane Brewer and the meeting closed.