

## **HONOURS NOT SO EVEN.**

**Monday 3 June saw the WGC team travel up to Chipping Sodbury for the annual match against the GCMA South West team.**

**We were blessed with lovely weather, a warm welcome and a hearty lunch, before trooping out to the putting green and driving range to fine tune our athletic bodies and swings. One can but dream!**

**Chipping Sodbury (and we are back there for the Gloucester match in July) is a parkland course, heavily tree lined in places, but with every hole very separate from the others. In lovely condition, having obviously benefited from more rain than most of the Wiltshire clubs, it was a good test for us all.**

**GCMA South West fielded a strong team, but the early exchanges looked promising for the Wiltshire lads.**

**In the lead match, the General Manager of Chipping Sodbury, a scratch handicapper, had four birdies in his first seven holes – and yet Match Captain Jim and Ray Smith, stood all square on the 10<sup>th</sup> tee. Alas, on the back nine an excellent short game was displayed by GCMA Captain Ian and the match was surrendered three and two.**

**Keeping an eye on the match behind, it seemed to be an up and down affair with the honour on the tee regularly changing. And, so it proved with Jim Gould and Robin Szymura gaining a vital half.**

**Even better was to follow as the overall match was tied thanks to David Ruffett and Martin Cooper winning two and one.**

**So, as we sat in the bar, thinking of glory, the faces of our fellow WGC players as they entered after finishing their matches, soon betrayed all hopes of a positive finish, as all three matches slipped to narrow defeats. Hemant Patel did at least win the nearest the pin prize.**

**A great day, with golf played in the very best of friendships – and, as they say – 'it's the taking part that counts'.**

**A lovely fulsome meal of steak pie with all the trimmings, followed by apple crumble and custard was just what we needed as we set out for home – disappointed - but we live to fight another day.**

**My thanks to all who played and to Match Secretary, Tony Leach, who organised the team, but was unable to play.**

**Jim Murdoch  
Match Captain**

## GCMA South West v Wiltshire Golf Captains

**Date: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019      Venue: Chipping Sodbury G C**

Match	Team: GCMA South West	H/cap	Team: Wiltshire G C	H/cap	WGC Result
<b>1</b>	<b>Robin Goodey</b> General Manager Chipping Sodbury G C	<b>Scr</b>	<b>Jim Murdoch</b> WGC Vice Captain High Post G C	<b>7</b>	<b>L</b> <b>3/2</b>
	<b>Ian Griffiths</b> GCMA South West Captain	<b>10</b>	<b>Ray Smith</b> The Wiltshire	<b>15</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Paul Heyburn</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Robin Szymura</b> Wrag Barn G C	<b>11</b>	<b>Half</b>
	<b>Michael Wake</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Jim Gould</b> WGC President Salisbury & S Wilts G C	<b>18</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>William Wallace</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>David Ruffett</b> Erlestoke G C	<b>14</b>	<b>W</b> <b>2/1</b>
	<b>Bob Clark</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Martin Cooper</b> Cumberwell Park G C	<b>13</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Karen Rix</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Ron East</b> High Post G C	<b>17</b>	<b>L</b> <b>1 down</b>
	<b>Vic Tofts</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>Hemant Patel</b> Wrag Barn G C	<b>17</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Jon Mills</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>Phil Steele</b> Salisbury & S Wilts G C	<b>13</b>	<b>L</b> <b>3/1</b>
	<b>Bob Knight</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>David Walker</b> Upavon G C	<b>19</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Reece Miller</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Wally Bryson</b> Wrag Barn G C	<b>19</b>	<b>L</b> <b>3/2</b>
	<b>David Weston</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Gordon Buckett</b> Marlborough G C	<b>14</b>	

**GCMA South West    4.5      v      1.5      Wiltshire G C**