

Wiltshire Captains struggle at Bigbury

Thursday 18th July dawned warm and dry as sixteen Wiltshire Golf Captains set out on their long journey to Bigbury Golf Club in South Devon to battle against their opposite numbers from Devon. The first problem was to find the course, but well worth the trouble. Satnavs lead one and all down ever narrower lanes, eventually arriving on the headland above Burgh Island.



The Bigbury Captain, Rob Luckens, warmly welcomed both teams to his club and hoped that we would enjoy the course. After the match pairings were announced and players introduced a light lunch was taken before the match proper began.

The course was very picturesque with spectacular views over the estuary and surrounding countryside. The effect of the recent hot dry weather had made the course hard and fast, the ball seeming to run for ever making the golf very tricky, although it turned some of our drives into almost professional length.

Unfortunately, our Captain Pat Blake had to withdraw from the team at short notice, but Vice Captain Jim Murdoch stepped manfully up to the plate and lead from the front being one of Wiltshire's successes, joining up with Martin Hudson to win their match 5 and 3.



Unfortunately, not enough of the rest of us could match their mastery of the conditions and the opposition, and Wiltshire were beaten by 5 matches to 3.

As always with these matches, the lasting memories are of the privilege of playing in such a beautiful environment, the friendly rivalry of the golf and the pleasurable socialising after.

Dinner was a noisy affair, testament to the friendly spirit in which the match had been played and the excellence of the catering.

A very enjoyable day in Devon was brought to a close with Jim Murdoch presenting the Devon Captain, Brian Price with the Trophy.

I would like to thank all the reserves who turned out, some at very short notice, especially Andy Hatter, called up on the Tuesday, and Neil Black who answered the call the day before.





