

SEASCALE GOLF CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2016



Seascale Golf Club is proud to announce that Adam Lamb will be joining us as our General Manager and Secretary in January. Many members will have seen the transformation and standard of presentation that Adam has achieved over the years at Eskdale Golf Course, and know about his success in attracting visitors and societies in his time there.



Adam in the driving seat.

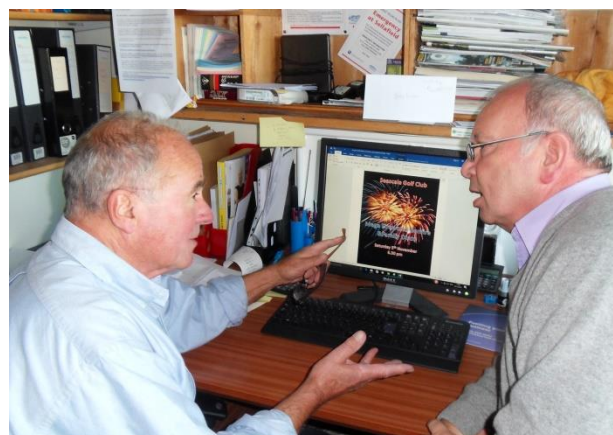
This is a return to the Seascale club where he started his golfing career, working on the course for seven years before spending time in the United States at the Double Eagle Golf Club in Columbus, Ohio. While there he was involved in the preparation for the prestigious USPGA Memorial Tournament at Muirfield Village. He took up the role of manager at the Eskdale Course when he came back and has built up a wealth of experience of golfing and ground conditions in our area.

A handy 9-handicap golfer, Adam learnt to play golf at Seascale where he lived with mum and dad on the farm next door. Adam recalls 'Selwyn Hartley had me out on the course

every day in my childhood. He was club champion and a county champion I think in the 50s, and was a prominent member of Seascale Golf Club'. So he really is returning to his roots, and says that he will be working hard to take the club forward into a new and exciting period in its history, intending to be as accessible as possible to members and explaining what's happening on the course and why.

Your Newsletter

First of all apologies for not getting a Spring issue out – I'm afraid I was up to my eyes in it with staff changes, setting up companies etc. I think that a newsletter or the likes is an essential piece of communication with our members. The good news is Tom Oliver (next year's nominated Vice-captain) is stepping up to the mark and is keen get the newsletter established and available for the future. Apart from our three times a year newsletter review Tom would like to run a weekly or fortnightly (informal) news sheet "The Long Slow Swing". It will be on a trial basis to begin with to see what members think, want and whether it hits the spot. It will go out on e:mail, but copies will be on the web and in the clubhouse on notice boards etc. Contributions/exchanges from members welcome!



Tom Oliver and Harry Paterson - editorial team.

CASC and Companies

We are entering our new financial year with our new companies set up. Seascale Golf Club Limited will be the registered CASC (Community Amateur Sports Club) and will deal in the main with all the golf-related business of the Club. The trading subsidiary SGC (Cumbria) Trading Ltd will in the main deal with Bar and Catering activities and through a formal agreement will return any profits made to the CASC. Staff contracts will be with Seascale Golf Club Ltd and the agreement will cover the use of the staff resource for the trading subsidiary activities.

The directors for each company will be the same three people. Harry Paterson was named as the initial director in order to register the companies and Rob Blythe and Christine Graham as Chairman and Chairman of House make up the full set. Although there are specific duties that the directors have to meet, this will not impinge on current Council and sub-committee structures. Members should not see any real change in the golfing and non-golfing activities, although the trading subsidiary does allow us to seek more non-member trade while remaining within HMRC guidance for CASCs.

Vat Rebate

After years of protracted legal action nationally and at the European Court of Justice, HMRC are now paying out on claims for repayment of VAT on green-fees. KPMG have spearheaded the legal action on behalf of a large number of golf clubs, including Seascale. Our accountants, Gibbons have also played a key role in representing our claim. We received word from HMRC to confirm that our claim has been agreed and that we should expect to see the refund in our bank within about a month. This is excellent news and further enhances the financial viability of our Club.

Business Plan

One of the recommendations on the way to creating the new companies was that Clubs should review their business and strategies and produce a Business Plan. Tom Oliver has been beavering away on this task which we hope to have in place by the end of the year, taking input also from Adam Lamb whose task it will be to see that we drive our activities in line with the plan. We will of course communicate the plan to our members at the appropriate time.

Entertainments

A strong social calendar is a sign of a healthy club and next year's Captains and the new Club Manager are already in planning mode. Tom Oliver has agreed to organise an entertainments group consisting initially of men's and ladies' captains, Kirsty, Tom O, Tom Mackenzie and Adam – and we'd like to hear from others who might like to be involved. Our initial programme will need some firming up, but for the immediate future we have coming up:

Bonfire Night – Saturday 5th November

The James Bond Christmas Bash – Friday 9th December

Kids Christmas Party – Monday 19th December

Starter Hut

Terry Conaghan is to be commended for all the efforts he has put in to getting in place a Starter Hut at the first tee. We did have one many moons ago, and Terry felt that this would be a very fitting tribute to Catherine Hobson our late Lady President who left a substantial bequest to the Club. If it hasn't been installed by the time you get this newsletter then it isn't far away. The Ladies Section are arranging an appropriate plaque to be placed prominently on the hut in memory of Cath.

Alan Cliffe and others who have braved all sorts of weather as they acted as starters for our opens will be absolutely delighted with

this welcome addition. It will also be a visible demonstration of our desire to be the premier club in Cumbria.



New Tees Signs and Sponsorship

We have decided to enter into an agreement with Coastal Media who are offering a four-year deal on Tee Sponsorship. This involves that company producing free double-sided tee signs with our hole layout and all information plus the production of 1000 course planners (see the graphic of what the signs look like). They will fund this by finding and signing up sponsors for the holes – and of course the income from sponsors is what goes to them. Hopefully by mid-April we should have the signs in place.

If any of our members wish to take advantage and book their advertising space – or if they have any friends or colleagues who might wish to take advantage – we will happily pass their details on to Coastal Media.



Juniors

Seascale's Juniors are like the cream coming to the top. Abby Roper (Ladies Club Champion) has cut her handicap this year from 12 to 6 and is becoming established in County circles, and now the under 16 Regional squad. And then we have the Brennan team headed by Junior Captain Patrick who is now a steady 6-handicapper with County recognition and who is clearly destined for greater things. Not to be outdone young Joseph has got himself down to 11, but star of the show is Naomi who started the year at 22 and is now down to 12. Another starlet in the making is young Scott Sharpe. Is there hope for us old codgers yet?



Brennan's were to the fore in the recent annual presentations.

Professional Coaching

Bev New, the Lady professional who is based at Silloth has visited Seascale with a view to establishing some junior coaching. She was very impressed with what she saw and has lots of ideas for what might be done. Of course it isn't just juniors who are keen to have coaching lessons and we will be looking to take opportunities to build on what we can offer juniors, newcomers, ladies, men ... and maybe even us seniors.

Your New Landlady

She has looked after you well for the last several years, but now it's official - Kirsty is

your new Landlady. Following on from a course to get her Personal Licence – a course which she passed with flying colours – Kirsty is now the Designated Premises Supervisor holding the Premises Licence on behalf of the Golf Club. Andy Conoley and then Christine Graham had held the licence on an interim basis – but Kirsty is now the lady in charge. Well done Kirsty.

Rum Do

Watch out thieves about! It is unfortunately true that some people have no compunction when it comes to other people's property. There has been an unfortunate number of low level thefts of golfing equipment, clothing and shoes from our Club. It dents your faith in the integrity of golfers that they might even take to snaffling head covers. We have a fairly large number of visitors, so we do lay ourselves open – but on occasions it is clearly our own colleagues who indulge in this despicable practice.

But I wonder if there is a bit of organised golf pilfering going on as well. Sometimes you don't see things even when they are staring you in the face – like when we were walking down the stairs something didn't seem right. Why was there a shady mark on the wall? – why was there nothing hanging on the nails? Obvious when you stop and look – someone had only gone and snaffled two of our old pictures. So look out next time you watch 'Flog It' or visit the antiques shops.

There is of course an answer to all of this by beefing up our CCTV and that is something that we are in fact doing.



Gone West....?



Gone East?

Quiz Night Returns

Brush up on that general knowledge Quiz Night returned on Tuesday September 13th and continues every second Tuesday through to April. The quizzes are open to members and non-members usually in teams of four – but don't worry if you don't have a team as there is a good mix on these popular nights.

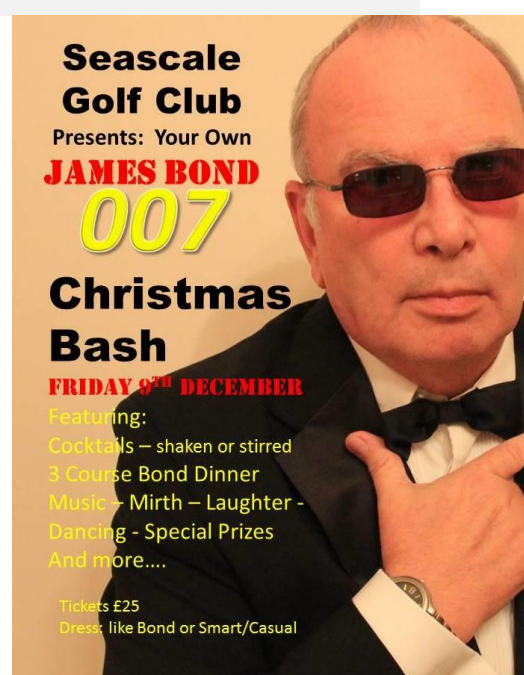
Seascale Golf Club
“Quiz Nights”
Tuesday 13th September
Then every Fortnight until April
Quiz starts 8.00pm prompt
All Welcome
Tel: 019467 28202
www.seascalegolfclub.co.uk
Email: seascalegolfclub@gmail.com Find us on Facebook at: Club House

Welcome New Members

A warm welcome to all our new and returning members starting since the last Newsletter. Please do seek them out and make them feel at home. It can be a little daunting finding your feet when you join a club but a friendly face and a welcoming smile works wonders.

Alan Peart	Full 1st Year
Alex Bainbridge	Full 1st Year
Alfie Gregg	Full
Andrew Maher	Full 1st Year
Andrew Woodfine	Non-playing
Anne Todd	Full 1st Year
Barry Goodwin Jnr	Full 1st Year
Charlie Cartmell	Junior U18 HC
Chris Highton	Full 1st Year
David Blackburn	Full 1st Year
Ed Korwin-Granford	Non-playing
Ewan Campbell	Junior U18
Frances Ledgard	Non-playing
Gary Peden	Country
Gretel Russell	Country
Ian Fleming	Full
Ian Metcalfe	Full 1st Year
Ian Tyson	Full
Jack Hunter	Over 18
James Benson	Country
James Duggan	Full 1st Year
James Gardner	Full 1st Year
Jason Symons	Full 1st Year
Jeanette Davie-Kimber	Non-playing
Jill Korwin-Granford	Non-playing
John Banks	Full
John Brocklebank	Full 1st Year
John Cook	Non-playing
John Fletcher	Full 1st Year
John Yates	Full 1st Year
Joshua Kelly	Over 18
Joshua Taylor	Junior U18
Keith Jackson	Full
Lewis Bailey	Full 1st Year
Marilyn Smith	Full 1st Year
Mark Lee	Over 18
Mark Moore	Full 1st Year
Matthew Pilcher	Junior U18

Mick Ferguson	Full 1st Year
Mike Carpenter	Full 1st Year
Mike Keenan	Country
Nick Sharpe	Full
Poppy Langan	Junior U18
Rodney Kimber	Non-playing
Scott Richards	Full 1st Year
Simon Borrowdale	Full 1st Year
Stuart Grassie	Non-playing
Stuart Hoskin	Full 1st Year
Tom Mackenzie	Full
Tom Watson	Full 1st Year
Wayne Ousby	Full 1st Year
William Richards	Country



Seascale Golf Club
Presents: Your Own
JAMES BOND
007
Christmas Bash
FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER
Featuring:
Cocktails – shaken or stirred
3 Course Bond Dinner
Music – Mirth – Laughter –
Dancing - Special Prizes
And more....
Tickets £25
Dress: like Bond or Smart/Casual



Seascale Golf Club
Mega Fireworks Bonfire & Family Disco
Saturday 5th November
6.30 pm

Winter Programme

Greens

Aeration on the Greens will be undertaken using the Weidenmenn terra spiker with the 12mm solid tine, allowing for some heave to be applied. This will cause some disturbance to the playing surface. However, this is vital to maintain the health of the Greens. This process will be undertaken in the month of October.

Bunker maintenance

Bunker maintenance will be on-going as always and a number of bunkers are in need of renovation. There are at least 9 bunkers that would benefit from renovation but it is unlikely we will have time and resources to complete all 9. The main effort will focus on the improvement of the 18th fairway bunker, 7th fairway bunker, 10th bunker L/H rear, 13th L/H bunker, 12th R/H possibly, 5th middle R/H and 4th L/H. Also the front R/H bunker on the 8th hole that is persistently water logged, will be replaced by a grassy mound.

Course improvements

The 3rd teeing ground has been sub-standard for a number of years, and this winter the greens staff will be embarking on a major renovation of the whole 3rd teeing area. The main focus being to improve the size of the teeing space towards the rear and the quality of the ground conditions, with particular attention going into improving the aesthetics of the area as a whole, linking with the sleeper theme at 9th and 17th.

Pathways

There are a number of sub-standard pathways on the course. This winter there are plans to improve many worn and unsightly path areas, and constructing a new and improved access path, diverting wheeled traffic onto the route from the underpass to the rear of the 17th teeing ground.

Semi Rough

This year the semi- and rough and in particular the main rough has been punishing. The

committee are following recommendations from the course manager, and trialling mowers that are specifically designed to cut and thin these areas, with an early demonstration of the technique. This will promote the finer grasses and therefore improve the playability and the lie of a ball in these areas. Over a period, this should reduce lost balls and speed up play.

Toilet

There are still plans to introduce a toilet out on the course. There are regulations and rules that need to be observed in regard to this. The committee are working hard on plans to resolve this and hope to complete a toilet facility this winter.

TROLLEY REMINDER

We intend to refurbish and make the Trolley Store more secure in the coming months. Over the summer we have been encouraging members who use the Trolley Store to be sure to register their trolleys. Approximately half of the trolleys have been registered and tagged, and last month we set aside the remaining unregistered manual and electric trolleys stating that we would hold on to them until the end of October before we take final disposal action.

If you think that your trolley might be among those about to be disposed of then please contact the Secretary.

