



## Welwyn Badgers v Old Fold Toffs



### BATTERED BY BADGERS BUT BRAVELY BATTLE BACK

Captain **Richard Stell**, braced himself for an uncomfortable after dinner speech as pairs entered the locker room telling tales of being battered by Welwyn Badgers pairs playing outstanding golf.

Richard, partnered by an excellent **Jim McBride**, had got off to a good start in the opening match. It was extremely tight, with 14 halved holes. After 9 holes they were level, however Jim's 20 foot put on the 12th paved the way for a 2-1 win.

Sitting in the lounge we were three - one down with a combined score of 19-2 against. However, good news began to filter through.

**Tony Manzi and Len Pryor** were 1 up then 1 down after 5 holes, but after the turn they won the 3rd, 4th, 6th and 7th to win 4-2. The score was helped by Tony's bunker shot on the 7th which should have gone flying over the green. Fortuitously it hit high up on the flag post dropping near the pin to secure the hole and overall win.

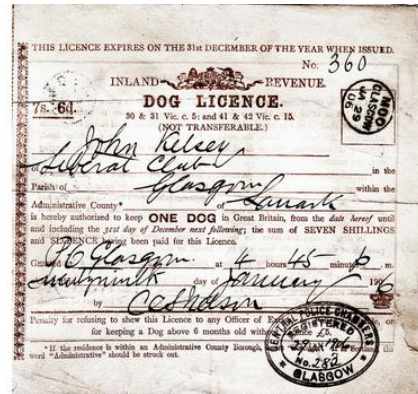
**Ian Grottick and Vif Dorlikar** had a topsy turvy game, going 2 up then 2 down, 2 up and all square on the 16th before winning the last two holes, a 2 up win.

**Keith Embleton and Steve Hardy**, who had an excellent round, were up against a pair who were net 2 over after 9. This opposition form could not continue after the turn and the Toffs pair ended up 2-1 winners.

**Paul Woodhouse** playing with **Clive Parnell** managed 2 birdies in his round but lost out to a pair whose prowess around the green included chipping in for a 3. A special mention, however, goes to Clive who for the second week running won the nearest the pin competition. Sadly he missed the 4 foot put and halved the hole.

**Richard Pacey** and **Michael Tryphonides** were 3 down after 4. A spirited fight back still left them 1-0 losers.

**David Morrison** playing with **Tony Stephens** were on the wrong side of a dog license.



Some might say that the shot of the day came from **Paresh Kotecha**. His drive on the 8th swerved off to the right.

After all four players searched well beyond the 3 minutes allowed to find the errant ball until it was discovered wedged in the V of not two but five Birch tree trunks. If there ever was a definition of unplayable lie, that was it.

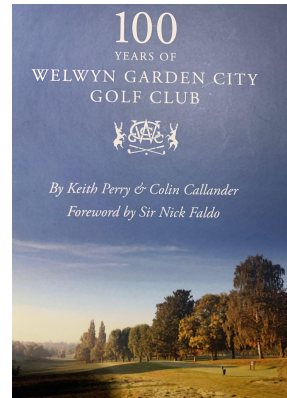
Playing with **Alan Sallis**, this amusing incident was slight relief from the battering they took.



Prior to the meal Richard gave the backstory to the trophy 'Don's Putter' donated by Rob Loader and played for between the two clubs for 14 years. It is with sadness that Rob could not attend this year due to the recent death of his wife Jan.

Both teams joined Richard in giving a round of applause in memory of her passing.

At the end of the meal Richard was presented with a copy of a book commemorating 100 years of Welwyn Garden City Golf Club.



Welwyn Badgers had inserted a forward dedicated to the Toffs and the friendly rivalry that exists between the two clubs. I concur with their sentiments that we hope these matches continue for many years to come.

A word for the lady and gent who manned the halfway hut. They have been serving delicious sausage baps and sumptuous cakes for over 18 years at barely break even prices. Sadly they are retiring in August.

**The overall result was a 4-4 tie.**

As the Toffs are the current holders of the aforementioned Dons Putter, we need to just tie the home match to retain the trophy.