



KNEBWORTH GIVEN A TASTE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE

Thankfully nobody seemed to have remembered that the last time we played Knebworth we were on the receiving end of a 7-1 hammering.

That was at their place last September and what a different story it was when they came to us on April 25. Not quite 7-1, but 6-2 still represented a superb result and one which means we have lost only one of our five fixtures so far this season. It was achieved despite Covid having its impact yet again. Alastair Fraser had to pull out on the eve of the match, first reserve Stephen Quy was down with it as well and so, for the second successive time, [David Benaim](#) stepped into the breach.

He learnt he was needed on coming off the course on Sunday afternoon, but, superbly fit athlete that he is, teeing off again the following morning was no problem. [David and Byron Davies](#) were six up after 11 holes and finished winners by a handsome 5&4 margin.

Behind them [Richard Pacey and Richard Bridges](#) had a very different battle on their hands when they fell three down after seven. But from playing like a couple of Dicks – don't show this to my wife, she would strongly object to me using such an expression – they suddenly turned on the style and won on the final green thanks to Richard B's fine par four. And that off a playing handicap of 27!

Mention was made in the last match report of [Keith Embleton](#) recording victories in his first four games of the year. Well you can now make that five out of five,

Keith and Kevin Bishop triumphing by 2&1. Not that it was totally smooth sailing – after marching into an early four-up lead Keith was asked on the 13th how things were going and his reply (after a shot that went like a bullet into the tree just ahead of him and rebounded some 30 yards over his head) was a succinct: “The wheels are starting to come off.”

Rab Butler and Jack Joseph were involved in a tight struggle and found themselves all square with two to go. But Jack then parred the 15th and Rab the 16th to notch up another point for us, while **Paul Woodhouse's** birdie on the eighth was the highlight of the two-up victory he and **Tony Blackhurst** achieved.

Chris Marshall and Mark Garrod, meanwhile, came from behind to win 3&2. The sixth was the most interesting hole there. Chris and opponent Mark Armond, who had just parred the difficult third, had shots, but after both had played their approaches it came to light that they had hit each other's ball. That put them out of the hole and Mark G took it to open a two-up gap.

It mattered not therefore that captain **Richard Stell and Paresh Kotecha** lost the opening game, not that **Donald Galbraith and Tony Russell** lost the last one.

Next up is the home clash with Dyrham Park on May 9. And with Knebworth seemingly in full agreement that our greens had been their undoing, let us hope that the same applies.