



Friday 13th!

# *The Musketeer*

(unofficial journal of the 'unofficial' Winter League)

*"AWL for one and one for AWL!"*



*'Musketeer' brand in stunning sponsorship deal!!!*



Henbury Ladies championship winning team showing off new kit for 2010 - Full story page 4

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**BUMPER FIVE  
PAGE  
SPECIAL!!**

Editor: H Hacker

email: [awlforone@googlemail.com](mailto:awlforone@googlemail.com)

# LETTERS PAGE

*Star Letter*

I was privileged to witness a keenly contested match between Adam 'physce 'em out' Brooks and Tom 'focus focus' Bellety on Saturday. It didn't start out as a grudge match, amiable, friendly even at the start, but slowly, bit by bit, as nerves frayed and the pressure cooker of the knockout competition began to take effect, so did the banter become more interesting and the gimmies get shorter. You know when a match is really getting fraught when the chit chat stops completely – not a natural state of affairs for Mr Brooks.

Lady luck made her play, around about the same time as Adam's 'big dog' driver made her appearance. Coincidence – I don't think so. Adam sent out a cracking drive on the 5th, set out deliberately (I think) over the line of trees, arcing back with the perfect fade into the left hand edge of the fairway, with a touch of top spin and a whole lotta love to get it within striking distance of reaching the green in two. Unfortunately, when we got to where the ball was supposed to be, it was nowhere to be seen. A fifteen minute search yielded no results, with only a engorged lump in Tom's trousers to show for the search. Was it his spare ball in his pocket, or was he just pleased to see us? As now unofficial referee of the match, I could see nothing very bad luck, leading to some interesting oaths starting to ring out from the direction of Adam as Tom putted out to win the hole.

Nip followed tuck as the game swung one way then to the other, in a surprisingly similar arc to Tom's backswing. Adam cranked up the psychology, suggesting that Tom should take care of the trees on the difficult drive of the 6th, only to then stick his drive directly in there himself (incidentally, some of the details of this article may be as wildly inaccurate as Adam's driving, but the general tone should get across the enormity of the occasion).

Another ball into the trees on the 11th, to Adam's frustration, culminating in Tom being on the green for 3, and Adam picking his ball up after 5 shots, giving up the hole. Tom then proceeded to take 4 putts, meaning Adam could have sunk a 10 footer for the hole. A fact that Tom reminded Adam of for another few holes.

So to the 13th, where Tom sinks a 30ft putt on the par 3 for a birdie, and it seems that the Brooks chin sagged (both of them), and the Bellety end was up (not a pleasant sight to a grown man).

But wait – the drama was yet to unfold. Tom wins the 14th by one shot, and only when we are standing on the 15th tee does Adam decide to mention that his handicap is not 27, as stated on the AWL site, but actually 28, meaning the hole was halved, not lost. A pram is wheeled onto the tee, specifically in order that Tom can throw his toys out of it. Sensing a major breakdown between the generations, Mr Tavare is called upon to make a judgement. 28, is his call, and the true competitive nature of the Bellety family comes to the four. One is not amused. However, the revised handicap means that the 15th is now halved, and Tom has lost his focus, Adam has gained his, goes on to score a net birdie on the 15th, and now Adam is only two down with three to play, but with the crowd and the psychology on his side, and big dog swinging true, it looks like a great turn around is on the cards.

So, as you catch your breath, you are undoubtedly wondering what the next few holes unfurl. Well, Adam's true golfing ability reared its ugly head, Tom's steady nerve in a crisis follows suit, and it is all over just one hole later, on the 16th. Cordial relations are restored, a national crisis is averted, and Mr Brooks spent the rest of the day (week?) looking forward to his next match – against Bellety senior in the plate competition! I tell you, when big dog fires and his banter affects the opposition more than it affects himself, this man will be a force to be reckoned with. As for Tom, I pity his next opponent, the experience and nerves of steel will take some beating.

Chris Budd

*(This is a wholly unexpurgated reprint of the original - more 'War on Want' than 'War and Peace' but very impressive - Ed)*

## (even more)LETTERS PAGE

### Newsflash for the website.

"The PGA are investigating three incidents that occurred during the same round at HGC on the 7/11/09 as follows:-

1. The lending of a legendary blessed three wood between generations dictating that one of the two players involved elected not to play using the excuse of a bad back for fear of not achieving his normal 50 points average.
2. The need to refer a handicapping irregularity mid-way through a social match causing the match umpire much distress-so much so that he only scored 44 points total.
3. The back flipping of a player across the line of other players putts on the 16th green on winning the match play in a scene reminiscent of Jedwards on stage on realising he now doesn't have to have a fall out with the alleged player he shares the legendary blessed three wood as he has avoided a clash in future rounds of the knockout competition.

The PGA will decide which Bell to bash and their decision will be final and may have bearing on their AWL handicaps."

Will ring Pussy Morph and see if he fancies a game Friday afternoon as I am at Cheltenham Races this Saturday.

Regards

Adam (Brooks)

(In loosing to baby Bells scored a 30 to keep my average the same.)

*Baby Bell is the Big Cheese! - Ed*

### Nick Chivers has emailed:

Sir

(Re: Issue 2)

As any fule know it wasn't the fish that kept saying 'No, that's not a f\*\*\*\*\* gimme' twas Belletty!

A fellow hacker (and also an accountant!)

*Go easy on the 'Bean Counters', Nick - Ed*

### From your emails about the Xmas dinner:

From Raj - "Shame to miss it, but I will be on my way to SA that evening"

*If Raj can join the Salvation Army for Xmas then 'Hacker' can do something charitable for the festive season. Look out for the Xmas Special issue - Ed*



### **APOLOGY**

In the previous issue there was a mention of SOPP ROGERS THEW, the IT and Finance division of Musketeer magazine. It should not be read to mean: '*Sopp rogers Thew*'.....an activity not condoned or within the usual remit of the AWL.

The Editor offers unreserved apologies to all parties - particularly Adam, who is currently recovering after being taken 'Up the Arsenal' the other Saturday.

It seems that any anxiety about the AWL falling foul of the HGC establishment may well have abated. You will recall that there was concern that the success of the AWL would reduce interest in other - let's be fair here - low-key, unexciting club events, but this has not yet proved to be the case, certainly not for the men. I have heard that there was a disappointing turn-out for the Lady Captain's Drive-in (*see below*), and perhaps this might be an area where the AWL and this mighty organ can offer advice.



### **CONSTERNATION AT HENBURY AS CROWDS STAY AWAY FROM LADY CAPTAIN'S DRIVE-IN**

*(I do have the right photo, don't I? - Ed)*

### **TOP CITY BEAN-COUNTER\* CLINCHES SPONSORSHIP DEAL**

AWL stalwart Nigel Pickersgill has secured exclusive sponsorship rights for Henbury Ladies to use the famous 'Musketeer' logo for next year. "It was tough", said an exhausted Nigel.

Apparently, the negotiations were "long and hard", made more difficult by the ladies wanting "quite a lot up front". After securing the deal, Nigel expressed his confidence that the Ladies would have another successful season: "At this level, it's all about keeping those grooves clean, really", he said.

Breaking News:- Nigel is stepping down as 'Top City Bean-counter' to take on the job of personal trainer and physio to the Henbury Ladies Captain.\*\*

*\*posh sort of accountant*

*\*\* 'Hacker' nearly applied for that job!*

## AWL UNOFFICIAL MERCHANDISE

As orders were low for the hoodie and the man-kini, Musketeer has opted for the more familiar club polo - shirt. These will be shortly available in the colours below. Thanks to those who ordered the 'WAGS' outfit. As you can imagine they sold out very quickly and are now on back order. (*I assume nobody wanted the photos back*)



WACKO JACKO  
BLACK(WHITE)



EVEN WACKIER JACKO  
WHITE(BLACK)



WINTER LEAGUE  
SKY GREY



UK IN THE RED\*\*



'SENDING THE AIR' - MUNK BLUE!



AND THE EVER POPULAR -  
TAVARÉ\* VERT !

(*\*found it!, \*\*let's blame the bean-counters! - Ed*)