

MIXED EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE FOR SCOTT



It was an intense week of golf for Dollar's Scott Borrowman (left) in the European Team Championship. Each of 16 European countries was represented by six players and the first two days of competition comprised 36 holes of stroke play to split the field into two flights of 8 teams who then went on to matches. In the stroke play, Scotland qualified comfortably in 5th place - France led the qualifiers. The draw gave Scotland their first match against Germany and, thanks to a fine comeback from Scott when he won on the last green, Scotland went through to meet the leading qualifier France in the semi-finals. A win put Scotland into the final against England, but they lost narrowly, unfortunately Scott lost his match at the 19th hole.

Scott will have a break before an intense three weeks of golf - the Scottish Amateur, the European Individual in Spain and almost certainly he will be in the still-to-be-announced Scottish team for the Home Internationals at Ganton.

WORLD AMATEUR GOLF RANKINGS

Two Clackmannanshire players are still in the World Amateur rankings, Scott Borrowman at 279 and Alva's Lawrence Allan at 1026. While some might not be impressed by these figures, it must be remembered that the rankings are world wide and go up to around 6000; Scotland has 1 player in the top 100, 5 in the top 200 and 13 in the top 500.

LOCAL FIXTURES COMING UP

It's a slightly quieter time this week with the Open Championship at Muirfield; there is a Senior Open at Braehead and entries for the 36 hole Clackmannan County Championship at Alloa will be closing. The Scottish Boys Stroke Play Championship will be held next week but again there are no local entries.

Hugh Hunter 14th July 2013



BRAEHEAD TRIUMPH IN ALEXANDER TROPHY

On their home course, the Braehead team of Ross Benvie, Allan Watson, Jim Muir and Rikky Alexander won by a comfortable six shots in the annual tournament for the Alexander Trophy. The best three scratch scores from four out of each of the eleven teams from Stirling and Clackmannan decide the trophy which will hold its centenary in 2014. Braehead captain Ross Benvie led by example with a well compiled 68, and he was ably backed up by the other team members.

Full Results (best 3 scores from 4 to count)

1. 212 Braehead (*R Benvie 68, J Muir 75, A Watson 71, R Alexander 73*)
2. 218 Falkirk (*S Haddow 72, R Campbell 68, R Garrett 78, C Cox 80*)
3. 220 Alva
4. 222 Glenbervie

5. 223 Alloa, Falkirk Tryst

6. 226 Grangemouth

7. 229 Stirling Junior and Youth Society
8. 239 Bonnybridge
9. 245 Tillicoultry
10. 249 Tulliallan.

Pictured (L-R) Front row: Ross Benvie (Team Captain), Allan Watson. Back Row: Jim Muir, Rikky Alexander

COUNTY LEAGUE UNDERWAY

It's been a headache for the organisers in recent years but the 2013 County League seems to be taking shape with all the Clubs participating in six-a-side matches. With two matches completed, Alloa is in the lead with two wins, followed by five Clubs with one win each (Braehead, Dollar, Tulliallan, Alva). Three further matches are scheduled for each Club to decide the winner.

The Boys League is proving more difficult and it seems like only a few Clubs will be able to participate on a handicap basis.

NO OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP SPOT FOR LOCALS

Scott Borrowman (Dollar) and Callum Macaulay (Tulliallan) competed in the 36 hole Open Championship Final Qualifying last week. It was a tough assignment, four venues with 72 golfers competing at each for only 3 places. Neither of the locals could find the brilliant form needed - Scott played at Musselburgh and returned scores of 73,73 - four over par and the qualifying was 6 under. At North Berwick, Callum was eight over with scores of 74 and 76 where the qualifying was 5 under par.

Scott has a busy time ahead, he has been selected to represent Scotland in both the European Team Championships in Denmark this week and the European Individual Championship in Spain at the beginning of August.

Meanwhile Callum has an invitation to play in the Scottish Open this week at Castle Stuart, so hopefully he will find some good golfing form.

COUNTY GOLFERS AT THE SCOTTISH AMATEUR

It's pleasing to see a good number of local golfers having a go at the Scottish Amateur to be played at Blairgowrie at the end of the month. Five locals representing four local golf Clubs are in the field of 256 in the premier match-play event in Scotland.

Three players play on Monday 29th July, James Aitken (Alloa) plays H. Ireland (St Andrews New) at 9.37; Scott Borrowman plays J. Whitelaw (Hollandbush) at 11.09; Lawrence Allan (Alva) plays A Carrick (Douglas Park) at 15.41. On Tuesday 30th, Darren Hulston (Dollar) plays C. Stewart (Murcar) at 9.13 and Allan Watson (Braehead) plays E. Ferguson (Bearsden).

Callum Macaulay of course was Scottish Amateur Champion in 2008 at Carnoustie.

BRAEHEAD LADIES MARCH ON

The Clackmannanshire flag is flying on the Ladies side as well. Braehead Ladies beat Falkirk Tryst in an away match by one hole to reach the last sixteen of the Scottish Ladies Inter Club Foursomes event. They now play Ladybank in another away match for a place in the quarter finals. Best of luck!!

GOLFING SNIPPETS

Top County Senior golfer Bob Stewart (Tulliallan who is also a member at Glenbervie played former Alloa member Allan Liddle in the final of the Glenbervie Senior Club Championship - Bob triumphed by 2/1. Bob plays in the Scottish Seniors Match play event at Alyth starting on the 15th July.

Tulliallan's Phil Dempsey had a runner-up spot in the West of Scotland Seniors event at Cardross with rounds of 73 & 74.

On the junior side, Brian McAdam (Alloa) took the top scratch prizes at both the Crow Wood and Muckhart Junior Opens.

COUNTY EVENTS COMING UP

Saturday 13th July - Invitation (Dollar); Purkis Trophy (Alloa).

Sunday 14th July - Macaulay Cup 4 Ball Open (Tulliallan); Weir Trophy (Alloa).

With the Scottish Open at Castle Stuart and the Open at Muirfield, there may still be locals who have an inclination to take up golf at a local Club and, with half the golf season completed, there may be tempting membership deals for the rest of the year. Anyone interested should enquire at a local golf Club or contact a local golf club member.

Hugh Hunter 7th July 2013

ALLOA TAKE JUBILEE MIXED FOURSOMES TITLE

First played in 1963, the Clackmannan County Mixed Foursomes has always been an enjoyable event in its 50 year history. The first winners were Alloa and they repeated their success last weekend 50 years on at Schawpark. With five out of the County Clubs competing, the Alloa team won by an emphatic 13 shots. The original event was on a scratch basis but, in modern times, net scores are used which theoretically gives every couple an equal footing.

The win by Alloa completes a double since their team took the men's foursomes title earlier in the season.

Full Results (Best three out of four net scores to count)

- 1st Alloa - 212 (Ian Ross & Morag Hunter 65; Andrew Main & Alison Boyes 76.5; Jim Allan & Tracey-Anne Whitelaw 75; David Abernethy & Janie McMahon 72)
- 2nd Dollar - 225
- 3rd Tillicoultry - 227.5
- Joint 4th Alva, Braehead - 235



WINNERS ~ THE JUBILEE MIXED FOURSOMES

Andrew Whitelaw (Alloa Golf Club Team Captain) with the trophy, surrounded by the winning Mixed Fours golf team from Alloa.

LAWRENCE TOPS COUNTY CONTINGENT

In the East of Scotland Championship which is a Scottish Golf Union Order of Merit event, the locals

had a mixed time. Alloa's Jamie Aitken with rounds of 75 & 76 missed the cut set at 148, but Scott Borrowman (Dollar) and Lawrence Allan (Alva) made it through to the last 36 holes. Best placed at the end of the 72 hole event was Allan finishing 10th equal at seven over par (72,75,71,73) with Borrowman further back at 13 over par (72,75,75,76). The winner was Jamie Savage (Cawder) after a play-off - on 1 over par.

A BIT OF IRISH CHEER FOR CALLUM

The Irish Open was a mixture for Callum Macaulay - considerable flashes of brilliance neutralised by some over par scores. He opened with a one over par 73 and when he stood three over par in the second round, it looked like a missed cut, however his fighting spirit brought him back to level par - including a birdie at the last - and that was right on the cut line. He fell back in round three with a four over 76 but in the last round he finished with a flourish scoring 69, including 5 birdies in the last 6 holes, that run was spoiled at the par three 17 with a double bogey 5.

Both Scott and Callum are in action at the final local qualifying for the Open Championship to be held at Muirfield in July. Callum goes straight into the field at North Berwick, while Scott made it through for the final qualifying with a 70 at Bruntsfield Links and is playing at Musselburgh. Both will be up against strong opposition in the 36 hole events, and competition is certain to be strong for the few places on offer in the Open Championship starting list.

LOCAL EVENTS COMING UP

Entry forms should now be in the local Golf Clubs for the 2013 36 hole **Clackmannan County Strokeplay** event to be held at Alloa on the 28th July. The event is used as a qualifying competition of local Clubs to represent a Clackmannanshire club in the Scottish Club Championship to be held in September at Luffness Golf Club. Hopefully there will be a strong field of the top County players, the event is good value and can be an enjoyable day out on a good local golf course.

Next weekend is the **Alexander Trophy** at Braehead where Clubs from Stirlingshire and Clackmannan compete for the annual trophy. Five Clackmannan Clubs will compete alongside seven Stirlingshire Clubs, starting at 10.00am on the 7th July.

The **Tillicoultry Open Div 1** (0-12) and the **Hugh McDonald Invitation** at Braehead are both on Saturday the 6th July.

Hugh Hunter 30th June 2013

LOCALS JUST MISS OUT AT THE AMATEUR

Some call it the British Amateur, but really it is THE Amateur, the most prestigious event in the amateur golf calendar and two locals made the long trip to South East England to compete in the field of 288 elite golfers from all over the world. With only 84 qualifying for the match play stages, Dollar's Scott Borrowman just missed the qualifying cut of 147 with rounds of 78 and 71. Alva's Lawrence Allan looked good with a first round of 73 but fell away in the second round with an 80, missing out by 6 shots. The Scots contingent didn't make much impression this year - of the 30 who entered only seven made the cut and these all lost in the early stages.

.....BUT BETTER LUCK FOR BOB

Tulliallan's Bob Stewart showed some good golfing form in the Scottish Seniors Championship held at Elie last week. Opening with an ordinary 76, Bob added two 71's to lift him into 6th equal place in the three round event, ten shots behind the winner and 4th best Scot in the field. At present Bob is in eleventh place in the Senior Order of Merit - the points gained should lift him into the top ten and give him some confidence for the rest of the season.

SCOTT BOUNCES BACK

The Tennant Cup last weekend played over the courses of Glasgow Golf Club at Gailies and

Killermont resulted in a top finish for Scott Borrowman. With rounds of 77, 73, 68 and 70, he finished in 5th equal place. Since Scott is already in third place in the Order of Merit, it seems pretty certain that he will be named in the Scotland six man team to contest the European Team Championship in Denmark in early July.

Two rounds of 72 and 78 over Glasgow Gailes also ensured Alloa's James Aitken played in the final 36 holes over Killermont in Glasgow. Although his rounds of 73 and 75 didn't lift him up the field, he must have been pleased to be in the company of many of the Scottish elite golfers.

.....AND CONFIDENCE FOR CALLUM

With rounds of 69,68,74 and 69, Tulliallan's Callum Macaulay finished the BMW International Open in Munich with an eight under par total, his best performance for some time and a share of 35th place. Three birdies in the last four holes must have been especially pleasing. Just three weeks ago he looked very good with opening rounds of 68 and 66 in the Lyoness Open but fell away in the final two rounds. Just stringing together four very good rounds could do wonders for him - he certainly has the game to compete at the European level; its just some consistency that eludes him. After being a reserve for the lucrative Irish Open this week at Carton House, Maynooth, Callum now has a place in the field and a chance to build on last week's good work - locals will be wishing him the best of luck.

LOCAL GOLF COMING UP

The County Mixed Fours is due this weekend, and hopefully all six Clubs will be represented for what is usually an enjoyable competition. On the 29th June there is the William McLean Open at Braehead (handicaps 13-28) and the Lamert Trophy at Tulliallan (Scr-12). There is also a Gents Open Scramble at Dollar. Local golfers are urged to support these events - the entry fees are good value for money and travelling is minimal. Golfers should check for late entries to these events. On the National scene, the East of Scotland Amateur is being played over the weekend and next week is the under 16's Scottish Boys Championship at Portlethen - sadly no local boys are playing, hopefully they will be supporting the Boys Open at Braehead on the 3rd July.

Hugh Hunter 23rd June 2013

WATSON TAKES MATCH PLAY TITLE

The sixteen contenders for the 2013 County Match Play title came down to four in the semi-finals last week, and it was Braehead's Allan Watson who came out on top in the final. In the semi-finals at Alloa, Watson played Dollar's Darren Hulston and, with a start of 5 birdies, he stood a comfortable four up - but Darren fought back reducing the lead to one after 13 holes. Watson replied quickly with a birdie at 14 and with Darren in trouble at the 16th, the match was over. In the other semi-final, Tillicoultry's Mike Rust played the County Boys Match play Champion Rikky Alexander and the match was a close fought affair. From one down at the turn, Mike pulled back to take the match again on the 16th green.

The final at Braehead brought seasoned campaigner Rust against the 2012 County Champion Watson and, after a slow start, the match livened up when both shared the 5th in birdie 3's. A half in birdie 4's at the 7th was followed by a huge birdie putt on the 8th from Rust to go 1 up. Watson fought back and all square with three to go, Watson diced with the out of bounds on 16, taking it with a fine birdie putt. Two halves on 17 and 18 gave Watson the title by 1 hole and he will be looking to defend his stroke play title soon to do the double in 2013.

Semi-finals

- Mike Rust (Tillicoultry) beat Rikky Alexander (Braehead) - 3/2
- Allan Watson (Braehead) beat Darren Hulston (Dollar) - 3/2

Final

- **Watson beat Rust - 1 hole.**

The Four Finalists (L-R)



Mike Rust & Allan Watson Allan Watson & Darren Hulston Rikky Alexander & Mike Rust

ST ANDREWS LINKS TROPHY

Dollar's Scott Borrowman made the cut in the prestigious St Andrews Links Trophy but with increasing scores of 72,73,75 and 77, his nine over par finish was well down the field at 35= placing. Local golfer Lawrence Allan (Alva) will join Scott in their bids to finish with a high placing in the highest level Amateur Event - the Amateur Championship to be staged in SE England over the Royal Cinque Ports and Princes Golf courses. There are the extra incentives for competitors in that the winner can get exemptions into many major events - particularly the Masters.

BOYS AREA TEAM AT PRESTWICK

The Clackmannan Boys team did not find the hot conditions easy at Prestwick St Cuthbert in the Boys Area Team Championship last weekend and finished in 15th position out of the sixteen teams - nevertheless; the four boys enjoyed the course and added to their golfing development.

- **Foursomes** - Grant Murray/Brian Macadam 82; Rikky Alexander/Ryan Calder 77.
- **Singles** - Murray 77; Calder 76; Alexander 78.

This gave a team total of 390 some way behind the winners - Glasgow.



The Clackmannan team Boys Area Team

Rikky Alexander, Brian McAdam, Ryan Calder, Grant Murray.

LOCAL FIXTURES COMING UP

- 15th June: Open Greensomes - Alva
- 16th June: Patton Trophy (Open Mixed) - Alloa
- 19th June: Carlsberg Senior Open - Tillicoultry.

County Secretary Tommy Johnson has sent a note round the six local Clubs reminding them of the County Mixed Fours to be held at Alloa on the 30th June. In recent years this event has been called off at a late hour due to lack of teams, hopefully there will be a full representation for the 2013 event.

Hugh Hunter 9th June 2013

TOP TEN FOR SCOTT AT SOUTHERNESS

In the Scottish Open Stroke Play Championship held at Southernness last weekend, Dollar's Scott Borrowman finished in seventh equal place - the second best Scot in the event. With a 10 over par aggregate for the first two rounds - and that included a brilliant eagle 3 finish at the 18th when he holed his approach shot from the fairway - it looked as if he might just miss the cut, but with soaring scores in the second round, he made it to the last 36 holes where he returned much better scores of 69 and 70 to give an 11 over par aggregate of 287 (73,75,69,70) and a share of seventh place. The points earned will keep him well up the 2013 Order of Merit and keep his name forward for team selection.

The other two County representatives just missed the cut. Alloa's Jamie Aitken recorded 83 and a good 72 while Alva's Lawrence Allan back from University studies in America finished with 78 and 75.

BOYS AREA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

This weekend sees the 2013 Boys Area Team Championship at Prestwick St Cuthbert where four boys from each of the sixteen Areas will compete for the 2013 title. Selected for Clackmannanshire are Rikky Alexander, Grant Murray, Brian McAdam and Ryan Calder. Two foursomes are played on Sunday morning and 4 singles in the afternoon (best 3 to count).

SCOTTISH SENIORS GOLF

The season is well underway with the Spring Meeting played at Montrose where two County seniors finished in the top ten. Tillicoultry's Mike Rust finished in 9th place with rounds of 78 and 80, one shot ahead of Tulliallan's Bob Stewart with rounds of 82 and 77. The East of Scotland Seniors take place this week at Forfar with Bob Stewart and Michael Niven in the field.

LADIES GOLF

Only two of the local Clubs put forward teams to compete in the Scottish Ladies Club Foursomes event. The draw arranges local ties in the early rounds and Braehead recorded a win against Tillicoultry by 3/1 in the second round. Braehead Ladies now play Falkirk Tryst in the third round of the competition.

PAUL LAWRIE FOUNDATION SCOTTISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Scottish Schools Golf Championships will be held next Monday at Murrayshall Golf courses at Perth. A good field of over 80 boys and 40 girls will compete for individual awards and Team Championships. Clackmannan is represented in the event by Rikky Alexander and Robert Watson in the boys section with Eilidh Watson in the girls section - all with high hopes for good scores. The top players from the event will represent Scotland in a Schools International against English Schools in September at West Kilbride.

Hugh Hunter 2nd June 2013

TOP PERFORMANCE BY COUNTY GOLF TEAM

In the six man Area Team Championship played at Crail recently, Clackmannanshire finished a highly credible 5th out of the sixteen teams in the qualifying round. Team Captain Darren Hulston was delighted with the performance, "The team was gutted to lose a semi-final spot by one shot to Glasgow, nevertheless it's a very good performance and shows that the Wee County elite golfers can compete against the top golfers in Scotland". Under different qualifying rules, Clackmannanshire did make the final of the event - some years ago. With bad weather, the event was cut to one qualifying round and Fife took the 2013 title.

BOYS MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

The finals of the County Boys Match Play Championships were held at Braehead last week. In the Senior event Rikky Alexander (Braehead) reversed the Stroke Play result when he beat Grant Murray (Braehead). In the Junior final, Alloa's Jamie McEwan did the double when he beat Calum McGorgray (Tillicoultry).



Boys Matchplay Finals

(L-R) Grant Murray (runner-up), Rikky Alexander (2013 Senior Boys Matchplay Champion), County Vice President Tom Carroll (Braehead), Jamie McEwan (2013 Junior Boys Matchplay Champion), Calum McGorgray (runner-up).

Hugh Hunter 26th May 2013

ANOTHER THRILLING COUNTY FOURS

With great tenacity over the inward nine in both their semi-final and final, Alloa took the 2013 title at Tulliallan in difficult conditions. In the semi-finals, Tulliallan won easily against Dollar, but Alloa had to go to the second extra hole in a sudden death to defeat the 2012 champions Braehead. The match was close and Alloa snatched a play off with a 10 ft putt - Braehead missing from shorter range. In the increasing darkness, a birdie three at the second hole secured the tie. In the final the match went

towards Alloa over the closing holes.

Semi-finals

1. Tulliallan beat Dollar - 10 up.
2. Alloa beat Braehead - 1 up (Braehead names first)

- 1. Ross Benvie/Allan Watson beat Ian Ross/Andrew Main - 7 holes
- 2. Rikky Alexander/Scott McChristie lost to Jamie Aitken/Craig White - 5 holes
- 3. Jim Muir/ David Finlayson lost to David Milloy/ Ian Guthrie - 2 holes

Match all square

Sudden death: Hole 1 halved in 4; Hole 2 Alloa win with 3 to 4.

Result

Alloa win 1 up

Final

Alloa beat Tulliallan - 1 Hole (Tulliallan names first)

- 1. Bob Stewart/Gordon Lyons halved with Ian Ross/Andrew Main.
- 2. James McAdam/Davie Fulton lost to David Milloy/ David Abernethy - 1 hole
- 3 Steven Horne/John Maxwell halved with Craig White/Jamie Aitken.



The Winning Team - Alloa

Captain Andrew Whitelaw (centre with trophy) surrounded by (Front row - L-R) Andrew Main & Ian Ross. (Back row - L-R) Jamie Aitken, David Milloy, David Abernethy & Craig White

MURRAY TRIUMPHS IN COUNTY BOYS

In difficult rainy conditions, Braehead's Grant Murray took the 2013 County Boys title with a narrow win over the 2012 Champion Rikky Alexander and Brian McAdam. All three scored a scratch 75, but Murray took the trophy on the best inward nine. In the Junior Boys section, Alloa's Jamie McEwan took the title by 6 shots from Cameron McCorgay.

Results

Senior Boys (Scratch)>

- 1st Grant Murray (Braehead) - 75 (bih)
 - 2nd Rikky Alexander (Braehead) - 75
- Senior Boys (Handicap)**
- 1st Jonathan Clark (Tillicoultry) - 70 (bih)
 - 2nd Brian McAdam (Alloa) - 70

Junior Boys (Scratch)

- 1st Jamie McEwan - 93
- 2nd Cameron McCorgray - 99

Junior Boys (Handicap)

- 1st Harris McGrath - 68
- 2nd Ross Logan - 80

The Boys Match Play events will be held soon with the draws in the Clubs.



Two Champions with their Trophies

Jamie McEwan, Junior Boys (left) & Grant Murray, Senior Boys (right) with other prize winners.

COUNTY SUMMER MEETING

The County Summer Meeting was held last Saturday with over 70 golfers competing at Braehead. Full results will be notified to Clubs - the best scores (to be confirmed) of the day were a scratch 67 by Steven Horne (Tulliallan) and net 66s by N. Cully and A. McInness.

[Click here for full results.](#)

The field for the County Match Play Championship is now complete and the draw will be available shortly in local Clubs. The first round is at Dollar Golf Club on Monday 27th May, teeing off at 5.30 pm.

SCOTT CONTINUES THE GOOD WORK

Dollar's Scott Borrowman continued his good work with a high placing in the Irish Amateur held at Royal Dublin. In very tough windy conditions, Scott was one of the 6 who made the cut out of the 18 Scottish entries and distinguished himself with the lowest and only sub par round in the second round of the event, scoring 71. He fell back with a run of bogies in the third round, but steadied in the final round, finishing with an aggregate of 300 (78,71,76,75) and a 17th equal position.

WEEKEND GOLF EVENTS

The highlight of the County calendar is the Area Team event at Crail this weekend when the Clackmannan team of six will be hoping to finish in the top four Areas out of the sixteen after 36 holes stroke play. A tall order indeed!!..... but best of luck.

Nearer home, the Tillicoultry Opens are on this weekend (Division 1 Saturday, Division 2 Sunday), while there is a 4 ball Open at Braehead (Saturday), a Belhaven Invitation (Tulliallan) and a Mixed

Open at Dollar - both Sunday. Late entries may be available by contacting the Golf Clubs.

Hugh Hunter 12th May 2013

COUNTY FOURS UNDERWAY

The 2013 Clackmannan County Foursomes started last week at Tulliallan in cold conditions. Each Club is represented by three couples who play 18 holes foursomes golf and the aggregate of the three matches decides the winner.

In the first match, Dollar took on Alva, the match was pretty even over the opening nine, but Dollar just took the edge on the inward half, and finished 3 holes up

Match results (Dollar names first)

- 1. S Borrowman/D Hulston 3 up on E Richardson/S McIvor
- 2. K Christie/R Watson Jr square with M Graham/A Aitken
- 3. V Allan/S McPherson 1 up on M Robertson/P Davidson
(Dollar win 3 up)

The second match in Round 1 set the 2012 holders of the trophy Braehead against Tillicoultry. On the outward nine Braehead held a good lead but, coming back, Tillicoultry made a fight back - in the second match, Tillicoultry fought back from two down at the turn to take the tie on the last green by one hole thanks to a good approach by John Gullen and an 8 ft putt from Scott Baird.

Match results (Braehead names first)

- 1. Ross Benvie/Allan Watson 6 up on Andy Anderson/Mark Walker
- 2. Rikky Alexander/Scott McChristie 1 down to John Gullen/Scott Baird
- 3. Jim Muir/David Finlayson square with Colin Johnstone/Blair Paterson
(Braehead win 5 up)

In the semi-finals, Dollar play Tulliallan and Braehead play Alloa.

COUNTY SENIORS OPEN THE SEASON

The opening meeting of the Scottish Seniors Golfing Society took place at Powfoot recently and featured three Tulliallan golfers in the two round event. Best placed was top County senior golfer Bob Stewart on 145 (75,77). Phil Dempsey, 153, was next best with Ian Peddie a bit further back David Miller from Kilmarnock Barassie won the event with 145 (73,72).

SUCCESSFUL START FOR LAWRENCE

Its just over three months since Alva's Lawrence Allan started his American University course at South East Louisiana. He has had a good start, featuring in many of the golf teams which are of a very high standard, and has achieved some very good results. His academic studies are also going well, and he will return soon to the Scottish season where his first event will be the prestigious Scottish Stroke Play event at Southernness from the 31st May to 2nd June. It's almost an all plus handicap field, the best listing is a +5.3!! Other locals competing are Alloa's Jamie Aitken and Dollar's Scott Borrowman.

SCOTT FEATURES IN THE LYTHAM TROPHY

Last weekend was the first amateur "Major" of the 2013 season and 23 Scots made the journey south to the Open Championship course at Royal Lytham & St Annes. In the 140 strong field only 6 Scots made the cut - Dollar's Scott Borrowman finished right on the cut mark at 151 and finished the 72 holes with two 76's to put him in 33 equal position (77,74,76,76) at 23 over par. The winner recorded a 7 over par aggregate in the difficult conditions.

This week, Scott is over at Royal Dublin golf course playing in the Irish Stroke play event.

These events are closely watched by the Walker Cup selectors for the GB&I match against America later in the year.

CALLUM MAKES CUT IN ITALY

After missing the cut in Madrid a couple of weeks ago, Tulliallan's Callum Macaulay bounced back in Italy making the cut (only three of the ten Scots playing made it). He finished a bit down the field (70,68,70,73) but must gain some confidence for the European Tour events coming up

Hugh Hunter 5th May 2013

NO JOY FOR COUNTY AT PROVAN SALVER

Needing a win against Fife last Sunday at Burntisland, there was disappointment when the County golf team went down by 6 matches to 2 in bitterly cold windy conditions. A narrow win looked possible after the outward half, but the Fife team fought strongly over the inward nine holes to score a convincing win. It was all in vain anyway as Angus beat Perth and Kinross at Monifieth to take the 2013 Provan Salver title. Best performances for Clackmannanshire came from the team Captain Darren Hulston with a 2/1 win highlighted by a drilled iron through the wind at the 400 yard 16th to 8 feet and go 2 up, plus Ross Benvie who fought back from a two hole deficit to take his match on the last green.

Match Result: Clackmannan 2 - Fife 6 (Clackmannan names first)

- 1. Scott Borrowman (Dollar) lost to Scott Stewart Cation - 1 hole
- 2. Darren Hulston (Dollar) beat Stuart Hill (Leven Thistle) - 2/1
- 3. James Aitken (Alloa) lost to Darren Gould (Ladybank) - 2/1
- 4. Ross Benvie (Braehead) beat Ally Hain (St Andrews) - 1 hole
- 5. Allan Watson (Braehead) lost to Brian Erskine (Ladybank) - 2/1
- 6. Steven Horne (Tulliallan) lost to Scott Brownlie (Burntisland) - 2/1
- 7. Steve McIvor (Alva) lost to Kevin Blyth (Lundin) - 2/1
- 8. John McLaren (Alloa) lost to Alex Moir (Thornton) - 2/1.

Final Team positions - 1st Angus; 2nd Fife; 3rd Clackmannan; 4th Perth & Kinross.

COUNTY TEAM GO EAST

Played next weekend is the annual Scottish Area Team Championship contested among the sixteen Areas in Scotland. Six of the best players from each Area will play 36 holes stroke play at Crail and the top four play off by match play for the title.

Selected for the County are Darren Hulston (Captain), Scott Borrowman (both Dollar), James Aitken (Alloa), Steven Horne (Tulliallan) Allan Watson, Ross Benvie (both Braehead).

Hopefully the six will be in top golfing form for the weekend. Best of luck to all !!

MIDLAND ALLIANCE SALUTES EDDIE SHERRY

Several of the Wee County Midland Alliance members made the trip to Scotsraig last week for a retrial dinner to celebrate 25 years of conscientious work by the Secretary Eddie Sherry.

Clackmannanshire is well served by volunteers like him who give their time to promote the game of golf.



Pictured is Eddie Sherry (centre) surrounded by Midland Alliance and Alloa Golf Club members (L-R) Ray Barton, Alan Glass, Alan Didcock and Hugh Hunter.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

This weekend sees the Carlsberg Open at Tillicoultry on Saturday 4th and next week sees the concluding stages of the County Fours. Local golfers are reminded that entries for the County Summer Meeting and Boys Championships are still available.

Hugh Hunter 28th April 2013

SPRING DELIGHT FOR COUNTY GOLF

Last Saturday was one of the best days yet for playing golf, and luckily it coincided with the County Spring Meeting. The good weather attracted a considerable number of additions to the field, such that totals of 95 played in Division 1 and 80 in Division 2 - a very good entry for the six Clubs in Clackmannanshire.

The leading scores were as follows:

Division 1 - Alloa (CSS Home 72, CSS Visitors 74)

- 1st P McVittie (Alloa) - 78-7=71 (acb)
 - 2nd A Main (Alloa) - 75-4=71 (acb)
 - 3rd G Lindsay (Alloa) - 80-8=72
- Best Scratch: Ian Ross (Alloa) - 73



County Spring Meeting 2013 - Div 1

(L to R) Braehead members Sandy Douglas, Stewart Cowan and Scott Beattie stray to Alloa for the Division 1 Spring Meeting.

Division 2 - Braehead (CSS Home 69, CSS Visitors 72)

- 1st T Breen (Braehead) - 86-20=66
 - 2nd J Kane (Braehead) - 85-18=67
 - 3rd I Allardyce - 90-22=68
- Best scratch; P MacMichael, T Pargeter - 83.



County Spring Meeting 2013 - Div 2

Competing at Braehead were (L-R) Iain Bain, Allan Malcolm and Andrew MacLennan.

[For full results and matchplay qualifiers click here](#)

The next County Meeting open to Division 1 & 2 golfers is the Summer Meeting to be held on the 11th May at Braehead. Entry sheets are available in the local Clubs.

LOCALS FALL IN THE BATTLE TROPHY

Of the three local golfers competing in this Order of Merit event, only Dollar's Scott Borrowman (77,75) made the half way cut at Crail set at 157. Alloa's Jamie Aitken just missed by one shot with Dollar's Darren Hulston a bit further back.

In the third round Scott made up some ground on the leaders with a well compiled round of 70 — helped by a good run of 3,2,3 over holes 8 to10 - that was "eagle, eagle, birdie". In fact it was a run of 7 under par for 8 holes when he continued with 3 pars and two birdies. Pity he finished with two bogies - the CSS was set at 76 - so it still meant a bit off the handicap. His three round total of 222 was now only two shots behind the leader.

In round four he continued the good work returning a 71 which put him into 4th spot in the event with an aggregate of 293, two shots behind the winner Graeme Robertson (Glenbervie). Scott's amateur world ranking is currently 553(14th in Scotland)

BOB STARTS HIS SENIOR SEASON

With considerable good golfing form from the winter Midland alliance, former Scottish Seniors Champion Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) will be looking forward to the two day South of Scotland Seniors Championship at Powfoot this week. Also competing in the 100 plus field are Ian Peddie and Phil Dempsey (both Tulliallan).

PROVAN SALVER

The final matches of the Provan Salver series take place this weekend and the Clackmannan team travels to Burntisland to play Fife. To take the 2013 title, Clackmannan have to beat Fife and rely on Perth and Kinross beating Angus.

Selected for this match so far are Darren Hulston (Dollar - Captain), Scott Borrowman (Dollar), Jamie Aitken (Alloa), Ross Benvie, Allan Watson (Braehead), Steven Horne (Tulliallan), Steve McIvor

(Alva).

LOCAL GOLF FIXTURES COMING UP

On Saturday 27th April the evergreen Waddell Shield at Tillicoultry takes place - it's a gents two ball foursome stroke play. On Sunday 28th April there is Mixed Open at Braehead, and the Buick Trophy at Alloa. Late entries may be available - contact the golf club.

On the 30th April, the 2013 County Club Foursomes event will start at Tulliallan with a round one tie between Alva and Dollar. On Thursday 2nd May, Braehead will play Tillicoultry. The winners go forward to play Tulliallan and Alloa respectively one week later. Hopefully match secretaries of the six Clubs will be assembling their strongest teams for the event which is usually guaranteed to provide excitement to the spectators.

Entries for the County Boys Championships close soon, so any boys interested should find the entry form in the Clubhouses.

CALLUM BACK IN THE GROOVE

Tulliallan's Callum Macaulay has had a difficult time this year on the European Tour but it started to go right in the Spanish Open last week when he made the cut and earned some 13,000 euros for a one over par aggregate (73,71,74,71) and a share of 27th place. Most important to him must have been a psychological boost to his golf as the summer approaches. The next two European events are the big money ones in Korea and China, so he is well down the waiting lists to enter, he has entered a Challenge tour event in Madrid this week so hopefully he will retain and maybe improve his golfing form.

Hugh Hunter 21st April 2013

CRAIGMILLAR SUITS THE COUNTY CAPTAIN

In the first Scottish Order of Merit golf event, only County Golf Captain Darren Hulston (Dollar) made it to the last days play. With two rounds of 72 and 67, he made the cut by one shot, but after the event was shortened to 54 holes due to rain, he finished with a 76. After a promising start, both Scott Borrowman (Dollar) 70,72, and Jamie Aitken (Alloa) 70,79 missed the cut at 140.

The next event is the Battle Trophy at Crail this weekend and both Scott and Darren will be competing in the 72 strong entry.

END OF SEASON FOR MIDLAND ALLIANCE

With the final event of the season played at the Dukes last week, the Midland Alliance season closes until August. Although there was no success at the Duke's for local players, it was top Senior golfer Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) who finished best in the Order of Merit. Bob scored 320 pints putting him in third position well behind the winner Gary Tough with 955. Next best was Alloa's Chris Westland in 18th position with 160 points.

The long serving Alliance Secretary Eddie Sherry is retiring and is to be honoured at Scotsraig on the 26th April with a dinner for Midland Alliance members.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR THE SPRING MEETINGS

As mentioned earlier, the County Spring Meetings will be held at Alloa and Braehead - there are over 70 entries in the Division 1 meeting at Alloa and over 60 in Division 2 at Braehead. With the weather warming up slightly and courses slowly improving, there is still time to get late entries for both divisions - even on the day.

Other local golf events coming up soon are the Belhaven Trophy (Alva) on Sunday 21st April. The County Boys Golf Championships have been moved to May and, again, there are plenty of spaces available on the entry forms.

SCOTTISH LADIES MATCH PLAY FOURSOMES

Only two local Clubs are participating in the 2013 Match Play Foursomes organised by the Scottish Ladies Golfing Association. Clubs are drawn initially against nearby local clubs and Braehead will play Tillicoultry in the second round.

AND FINALLY.....

Anyone who watched the Masters event must have been highly impressed by the efforts of the 14 year old Chinese boy Tianlang Guan. Over the four rounds he averaged 75, and giving Augusta an estimated scratch score of 77, that means he played to a plus 2 handicap averaged over the 4 rounds. Apart from his outstanding golf, his interviews were mature and thoughtful, and it was also interesting to see that education was his top priority - a great role model for Junior golfers.

Hugh Hunter 14th April 2013

STYLISH SCOTT TAKES TITLE AT LEVEN

Scott Borrowman likes Leven Links - in many years of competing in the major events held there, the former Youths Champion has taken a third place and a runner up spot but a win has always eluded him. That was corrected last weekend in the cold conditions when he emphatically won the 2013 Scottish Champion of Champions title by three shots. Scott led from start to finish, and with one round to go he led by four shots. He struggled to the turn in the last round in two over par starting with a double bogie, but corrected the situation with a run of three birdies in four holes from the 10th and could even afford the luxury of three putts on the last hole to win by three shots from Matthew Clark. It's the first win by a Clackmannan player since Michael Niven won in 1974 and should consolidate Scott's place among the elite Scottish Amateur golfers.

Braehead's Allan Watson, the current County Champion, finished a bit further down with rounds of 70,78,76,77 = 301.

Champion of Champions 2013 - leading scores (Par 284)

- 1. Scott Borrowman (Dollar) 70,67,72,71 = 280
- 2. Matthew Clark (Kilmacolm) 71,69,73,70 = 283.



Champion of Champions 2013

Clackmannan County President Hugh Hunter (left) congratulates Scott Borrowman on a fine win at Leven.

COUNTY GOLF TEAM CRASHES AT ALLOA

As many golfers will tell you, golf is a funny old game - just when you think you are on top of it, it all goes wrong. Well the County Golf team discovered this last weekend when they went down by 6 matches to 2 on home ground against Angus County in the second match of the Provan Salver series. Crumbs of comfort came from Team Captain Darren Hulston who won by 4/3 and home player David Milloy who won by 2/1. The final match of the Provan Salver will take place in three weeks time against Fife at Burntisland.

Match Results (Clackmannan names first).

- Jamie Aitken lost to Campbell Donaldson 3/1
- Darren Hulston beat Stewart Smith 4/3
- Steven Horne lost to Raymond Perry 4/3
- Ross Benvie lost to Morris Lindsay 3/2
- Steve McIvor lost to Andy Fyfe 2/1
- John Maxwell lost to George Findlay 9/7
- David Milloy beat Scott Grant 2/1
- John McLaren lost to Steven Cargill 2/1

ALEXANDER MAKES LAST 32

Braehead's Rikky Alexander had a good run in the Scottish Boys Championship at Monifieth, winning 3 matches before losing to the eventual semi-finalist. Rikky played some good golf in his matches especially his third round tie where he recovered from one down after 14 to take the match on the 17th green after some fine approach play to the greens.

- Round 1 - Beat Adam Gillespie (Balmore) 2/1
- Round 2 - Beat Callum Connacher (Wishaw) 4/3
- Round 3 - Beat Christopher MacLean (Clydebank and District) 2/1
- Round 4 - Lost to Ben Craggs (Glenbervie) 6/5

The other three Braehead boys (Grant Murray, Scott Beattie, and Ryan Calder) made great efforts on the seaside links but all lost in the first round.



Scottish Boys

Braehead player Rikky Alexander at Monifieth.

LOCAL TRIO AT CRAIGMILLAR PARK

In the first counting event of the 2013 season held at Craigmillar Park in Edinburgh, Dollar's Scott Borrowman will be making a start to the defence of his 2012 Order of Merit title. Also competing will be Jamie Aitken (Alloa) and Darren Hulston (Dollar).

COUNTY SPRING MEETING COMING UP

The County Spring Meeting (A Division Alloa; B Division Braehead) takes place on Saturday 20th April. The draw is already made, but late entries will be accepted and new members with handicaps at local Clubs are especially invited to take part. The first group of qualifiers from the leading scratch scores will be obtained for the County Match Play Championship later in the season.

Hugh Hunter 7th April 2013

GOLFING KINGS ON THE ISLAND

In the first of the three matches to decide the 2013 Provan Salver Trophy, the Wee County took on the Big County on their home ground and, over the King James VI course in Perth, the Clackmannanshire team scored an emphatic victory by six matches to two. Newly appointed Team Captain Darren Hulston (Dollar) was delighted with his first match in charge "In the cold conditions there were several strong sub par performances which give us great hopes for future matches, particularly the Scottish Area Team Championship to be held at Crail in May." Best performances came from John McLaren, Scott Borrowman and Steven Horne who outplayed their opponents.

Match Results (Clackmannan names first)

- 1. Scott Borrowman (Dollar) beat Scott Michie (Kinross) 7/6
- 2. John McLaren (Alloa) beat Greig Carruthers (Pitlochry) 8/7
- 3. Allan Watson (Braehead) lost to David Simpson (Crieff) 1 hole
- 4. Steve McIvor (Alva) beat Jason Thomson (Kinross) 1 hole
- 5. John Maxwell (Tulliallan) lost to Willie Hutton (Blair Atholl) 4/3
- 6. Steven Horne (Tulliallan) beat Thomas White (Kinross) 7/5
- 7. Jamie Aitken (Alloa) beat Scott Thomson (Strathmore) 5/3
- 8. Darren Hulston (Dollar/Capt) beat Mark Cameron (Alyth) 4/3

Match result: Clackmannan 6 - Perth & Kinross 2

The next match in the Provan Salver is at Alloa this weekend against Angus County and the following team has been selected: Darren Hulston (Capt), Jamie Aitken, Ross Benvie, Steven Horne, John Maxwell, John McLaren, Steve McIvor.



County Team

The victorious Clackmannan County Golf Team at King James VI Golf Club (wearing their new team sweaters). Front row (L-R): Steven Horne, Darren Hulston (Captain), Scott Borrowman, Jamie Aitken. Back row (L-R): John McLaren, Steve McIvor, Allan Watson John Maxwell.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS 2013

The opening 72 hole event of the 2013 Scottish Golfing season takes place at Leven Links this weekend with Clackmannan County Champion Allan Watson (Braehead - off at 8.24) and Scottish Internationalist Scott Borrowman (Dollar - off at 10.16) competing in a field of 48 top Scottish golfers.

TOP TEN AGAIN FOR LAWRENCE

Following on from his recent good performance, Lawrence Allan from Alva scored well again at Little Rock in America with rounds of 78, 74, 78 putting him in a tie for 10th position in the field of 66 and helping his South Eastern College lift the team title by 5 shots. His rounds may appear a bit high - but the competition was played over Chenal Golf course measuring some 7312 yards.

MIDLAND ALLIANCE GOLF

It was a very good day for Tulliallan's Bob Stewart at Monifieth in the latest Midland Alliance event. Bob finished runner up in the scratch section with a one over par 72, runner up in the handicap section with a net 71, and to cap it all took the team prize with a net 63 partnered by R. Farquhar (Carnoustie) and S. Mitchell (Dukes). Bob has been very consistent throughout the winter season and lies third in the Midland Alliance Order of Merit. Hopefully his form will continue into the Scottish Senior Golfing season.

Hugh Hunter 31st March 2013



LAWRENCE FINDS USA FORM

Former Scottish Boys Internationalist and Clackmannan County Boys Champion, Lawrence Allan (left) has quickly set about adjusting to new conditions (especially on the putting greens) and produced good golf in the new environment. While we are wrapped up against the weather for our golf, Lawrence has produced a top ten finish on the US College circuit whilst representing South Eastern Louisiana University. Over a 7,104 yard course, and in a field of 66, playing three rounds, Lawrence finished with a two under par score of 214 (74,68,72) to help his University win the team event by 13 shots. His team mate Eamon Bradley won the individual event with a five under par score of 211.

My thanks go to Colin Farquharson and the website "Kirkwood Golf News" which provides excellent updates on US College Golf. Well done to

Lawrence and hopefully looking forward to many more good reports.

BRAEHEAD BOYS TEE OFF AT MONIFIETH

Hopefully the weather will be a bit warmer for the Scottish Boys Golf Championship next week at Monifieth, when the four local boys (Grant Murray, Scott Beattie, Rikky Alexander and Ryan Calder) make their bids for the title. While in previous years there has been a waiting list (around 5.5 handicap), all the entrants with handicaps 6.4 have a place in the draw for the 2013 event - in fact the field is one entrant short which must be a first. Best of luck boys!!

COUNTY TEAM IN ACTION

Fingers crossed for reasonable weather conditions when the County Golf team take on Perth and Kinross in the first match of the Provan Salver tournament held at Pitlochry this Sunday. Two further matches will follow against Fife and Angus Counties.

COUNTY GOLF UNION UPDATE

With the poor weather conditions in mind, and the late development of golf courses, the County Boys Championship has been moved to the 12th May, but still at Tillicoultry. The Boys Match Play events that follow will be rescheduled.

The Spring Meetings are still scheduled for the 20th April at Alloa and Braehead.

Entry forms are available in Golf Clubs.

The position of Boys Convenor in Clackmannan County Golf Union is vacant at present and anyone who is interested should contact the County Secretary Tommy Johnson.



County Office Bearers for 2013

(L-R) Kenneth Ellacott (Dollar) - SGU representative; Tommy Carroll (Braehead) - Vice President; Hugh Hunter (Alloa) - President; Tommy Johnson (Tulliallan) - Secretary/Treasurer.

Hugh Hunter 24th March 2013

COUNTY GOLF FOR NEW GOLFERS

Some new golfers in the local Clackmannanshire clubs may be unaware of Clackmannan County Golf Union and its activities. It was founded in 1903 with the object of promoting golf among the six local Clubs, and it provides competition and match experience at all levels. All local Club golfers with a handicap are eligible to play in County competitions - entry fees are reasonable and travel is fairly inexpensive since all the courses are within easy reach. New golfers will be made most welcome on the County scene.

Entry sheets for the Spring Meeting will be available soon - they will be played in two divisions on the 20th April. A Division at Alloa, B Division at Braehead.

The County Boys Championships will be played on Sunday 21st April at Tillicoultry.

The 2013 Clackmannan County Golf fixture card is now available at local Clubs; in addition to the County events, the card lists the various Open events run by the six Clubs.

BRAEHEAD QUARTET AT SCOTTISH BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP

It is encouraging to see four local boys - and all from Braehead - entered for the 2013 Scottish Boys Championship at Monifieth at the beginning of April. Mind you, they all have early rises. Grant Murray is the second match off on the 1st April at 6.53, Scott Beattie is at 7.41 and on Tuesday 2nd April, Rikky Alexander plays at 7.25, Ryan Calder at 7.57. Local golfers will be wishing them the best of luck and hope they have some good results.

Hugh Hunter 17th March 2013

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL COUNTY GOLF DINNER

It was another good evening at Tillicoultry Golf Club when Clackmannan County Golf Union held

their 2013 Annual Dinner. A gathering of around 60 enjoyed an excellent meal and were entertained by Alan Tait the Director of Golf at Dalmahoy Golf and Country Club. Unnoticed by many, the company contained a number of former National Champions - notably John Gullen (Tillicoultry) Scottish Boys Stroke Play Champion, European Tour player Callum Macaulay (Tulliallan) Scottish Amateur Champion, Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) Scottish Seniors Champion, and the first winner of the Scottish Champion of Champions Sandy Horne (Tulliallan). Scott Borrowman the current winner of the 2012 Scottish Golf Union Order of Merit and former Youth Champion would also have been present had he not been representing Scotland in South Africa.

At the close of proceedings, Hugh Hunter the 2013 County Golf Union President, presented the 2012 County Golf Union Trophies.

The success of the evening was undoubtedly due to the hard work by county officials aided by Tillicoultry Golf Club.



2012 Prizewinners pictured with County President Hugh Hunter (on the right), guest speaker Alan Tait (second from the right) and European Tour Player Callum Macaulay (third from the right). In the centre is the Raymond Trophy won by Scotland at the Home Internationals. Scott Borrowman (Dollar) was a member of the team and his father, David Borrowman (extreme left), accepted a special award for him to recognise this and to recognise his win in the Scottish Golf Union Order of Merit 2012.

MIDLAND ALLIANCE ROUND UP

With the weather causing headaches for the organisers, the 2012/13 Midland alliance season is close to completion, and it is pleasing to report that Clackmannan golfers continue to make their mark. Best performance comes from senior golfer Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) who is well up in the scratch awards, lying third in the Amateur rankings after good scores at Montrose and Burntisland, no doubt giving a bit of confidence for the new golf season. Alloa's Chris Westland lies just outside the top ten in the same Order of Merit, thanks to a good team performance at Scotsraig.

THE NEW GOLF SEASON APPROACHES

The six local golf Clubs will be making preparations for their official openings at the end of the month, and will welcome new members with open arms - so anyone new to the game who shows interest in Club golf should contact their nearest Golf Club. The Clackmannan County Golf season starts with team matches in a few weeks with the Spring meeting following in April - more details to follow.

Hugh Hunter 10th March 2013