

COUNTY SENIORS AUTUMN MEETING

The spell of good weather brought out a good field for the County Seniors Autumn Meeting at Braehead with just under 50 local golfers competing. Played under Stableford conditions, locals took the lion's share of the prizes with only Mike Rust and Ian Peddie stopping a clean sweep. Prizes were awarded in age groups with the following results:

50-58 Age Group

- Scratch: Mike Rust (Tillicoultry) - 38 points
- Handicap: Murdy Gilmour (Braehead) - 40 points

59-68 Age Group

- Scratch: David Craig (Braehead) - 33 points
- Handicap: Michael Dufton (Braehead) - 41 points

Aged 69 and over

- Scratch: Ian Peddie (Tulliallan) - 31 points
- Handicap: Dave Taylor (Braehead) - 36 points

Braehead (M Dufton, M Gilmour, Crews, G Ferguson) won the team event.

COUNTY SEASON WOUND UP

The 2014 Clackmannan County Golf season officially finished with the final placings in the aggregate competitions being calculated.

Order of Merit

- 1. Ian Ross (Alloa) - 485 points
- 2. Ross Benvie (Braehead) - 443 points
- 3. Darren Hulston (Dollar) - 435 points

Harrower Trophy (Best aggregate scores from the Spring, Summer and Autumn Meetings)

- 1. Darren Hulston (Dollar) - 213
- 2. Ian Ross (Alloa) - 219
- 3. Davis Milloy (Alloa) - 221.

Hugh Hunter 6th October 2014

A TOUGH AUTUMN MEETING FOR SOME

Clackmannan County Golf Union finished its competitive season with the Autumn Meeting held at Schawpark last Saturday. Just over 60 local golfers competed and as a measure of the difficulty there were around twenty no returns. This was reflected in the CSS which was calculated as 72 for Home players and 74 for away players.

Home players Sean Miller and Roy Dow took the top handicap prizes while Darren Hulston took the top scratch prize with a two under par 69.

Leading Scores:

1. Sean Miller (Alloa) 81-14=67
2. Roy Dow (Alloa) 74-5=69
3. Jamie Aitken (Dollar) 70-0=70

Scratch:

Darren Hulston (Dollar) - 69

A GOOD WEEK FOR BOB

Tulliallan's Bob Stewart had a very satisfying three days last week when, as a member of the Scottish Seniors team, he was part of a fine performance to take the 2014 Home International title. The Scottish team took the title in great style, being unbeaten in their three matches. Against Ireland the team won by 7 matches to 2, Wales by 5.5 to 3.5 and England by 4 to 2 after the foursomes were halved due to fog. A fine finish to the 2014 season for Bob!

Hugh Hunter 22nd September 2014

SUPER SCOTT OFF TO SPAIN OLE!

Dollar's Scott Borrowman playing as an amateur in the first stage qualifying event made a superb start to his bid to gain a European Tour card for 2015. At the 7000 yard Roxburghe Golf course near Kelso, Scott qualified in second place with a 13 under par score for the 72 hole event. With the top 17 and ties from a field of over 70 golfers qualifying for the next stage, Scott set up a qualifying place with his first three rounds where he finished 12 under par and tying the lead. This took a bit of pressure off him in the final round where he could relax a bit. Playing conservatively, he continued the good scoring to return a 1 under par 71 spoiled only by an ugly double bogey at the 16th hole, however it didn't affect his second placing. Highlights of the round were two eagles (7th and 14th) where drives well over 300 yards set up iron shots to the green. The 571 yard 14th was especially satisfying for him a 350 yard drive, 5 iron and 12 yard putt demolished the signature hole on the Roxburghe course.

Scott now goes forward to one of the four second stage qualifying venues in Spain where just under 300 golfers will try to gain one of the 80 or so places for the six round final stage with only the top 20 scores or so gaining playing rights on the 2015 European Tour.

Leading Scores at the Roxburghe

1. Neil Fenwick 273 (68,66,70,69) -15
2. Scott Borrowman (am) 275 (68,71,65,71) -13
3. Jamie Moul 276 (68,72,55,69) -12

20 Scots competed, with 6 gaining a place in the second round.



*The three top scorers at the European Tour 1st stage qualifying:
(L-R) Jamie Moul (3rd), Scott Borrowman (amateur - Dollar) (2nd), Neil Fenwick (1st)*



*Scott Borrowman launches a 350 yard drive down the signature hole at the Roxburghe golf course
.... the 571 yard par 5 along the river Tweed*

TOP TEN FINISH FOR ALLOA

In the Scottish Club Championship held at Lundin Links last weekend the Alloa team put in a reasonable performance finishing 10th from the field of 16 teams. Represented by Ian Ross, Ian Guthrie and David Milloy, the team returned an aggregate for the first round of 148 (best two scratch scores to count) but fell back in the second round. Previous successes in this event came from Tulliallan in 1988 and 2002, while Alloa triumphed in 1996 at Cochrane Castle.

Individual Scores:

Ian Ross 75,72; Ian Guthrie 73,84; David Milloy 78,81.

The competition was won by Glenbervie Golf Club with an aggregate of 282, and they will go forward to the European Club Championship final.

AUTUMN MEETING

The last major County Meeting will be held at Alloa this Saturday, when the aggregate trophies will be decided. Late entries are still available for this event by contacting the County Secretary Tommy Johnson.

Hugh Hunter 15th September 2014

SENIOR SERVICE FOR BOB IN POLAND

Tulliallan's Bob Stewart could not maintain the brilliant start in the European Seniors Team Championship held in Poland last week. In the 36 hole stroke play qualifying event to determine the flights of teams, Bob returned a first class aggregate of 149 (76, 73). This was the second best score for the Scottish team, putting Bob in 6th place out of 149 entrants and helping to ensure that Scotland started the Match Play section in the top flight.

The first quarter final match was against Germany and Bob partnered Barry Brooks in the foursomes match, recording a 1 hole win and helping Scotland to a 3-2 victory. However it

all went downhill from there - in the semi-final match Scotland lost to Sweden 1.5 to 3.5 and in the play off for 3rd place, the Scots went down heavily to England by 4 matches to 1. Ireland finished as the 2014 European Senior Team Champions.

In spite of this, Bob must be feeling a bit confident for the Senior Home Internationals to be played at North Berwick from the 16th till 18th September. Bob will be competing this week in the Scottish Seniors Finals day at Blairgowrie, in a field of 30. Bob is lying 5th in the Senior Order of Merit. Joining Bob will be Mike Rust (Tillicoultry) who has made it to the top 30 in the Order of Merit.

SCOTT BIDS FOR EUROPEAN TOUR

Although not as good as in recent years, Dollar's Scott Borrowman has finished well up the Scottish Order of Merit for 2014, achieving 12th place. Late good performances in the North of Scotland and South East District 72 hole events did help a bit. Alva's Lawrence Allan finished at 28th position from only 6 events.

Scott has entered the first stage of the 2015 European Tour qualifying, a grueling total of 14 rounds for those who make it to the final stages and then only a few are rewarded with playing rights on the European Tour. There are eight qualifying venues for the first stage - probably around 700 hopefuls will play - and it cost each of them £1400 to enter. There is a cut after three rounds, so the unlucky will have paid over £400 for each round! Scott has opted for the Roxburghe golf course and joins 23 Scots in a field of 77. Around 30 will proceed to stage 2 to be held in Spain. Mind you his club name has gone all pear shaped, and you might scratch your head wondering where "POLLOAR" golf Club was situated. Best of luck Scott from the local Golf Clubs and golfers!

MIDLAND TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The Midland Team Championship played between the four Midland Golf Associations was held at Dunfermline last weekend. Angus County could not raise a team so the contest was between the other three. With 7 out of 8 scores to count, Perth and Kinross came out on top with a score of 507. Fife finished runners up on 512, and Clackmannan were in third place with 534.

GLENBERVIE TRIUMPH FOR ALAN

Its always nice to see a new name featuring in a golfing success and many congrats must go to Alloa's Alan Goodwillie for scooping the first prize in the Scottish Golf Life Members day held recently at Glenbervie. From a field of 48 Alan scored 38 Stableford points, winning by two points from runners up Jim Black and Jim Paton.

Hugh Hunter 8th September 2014

TULLIALLAN TRIUMPH FOR ROSS

In the premier event of the Clackmannan County Golf Union calendar held at Tulliallan Golf Club last week it was another win for a Braehead golfer. Although the field was small, the 36 hole event was keenly contested and it was Braehead's Ross Benvie who took the 2014 title by an emphatic 7 shots. In the first round, Ross tied for the lead with Gary Chalmers (Dollar) both on one over par 70s with Alloa pair Andrew Main and Ian Guthrie two shots behind. In the second round, Ross carded another 70 while his rivals fell away. Alloa's Ian Ross pulled himself into second place with a round of 71 and Match Play Champion James Muir repeated his 74 in the second round to take third place. The win for Ross means that while Alloa Golf Club have taken the County Team titles, Braehead golfers have taken the individual titles so far.

Final 36 holes aggregates:

- 1. Ross Benvie (Braehead) - 140 (70,70)
- 2. Ian Ross (Alloa) - 147 (76,71)
- 3. James Muir (Braehead) - 148 (74,74)

- Handicap prize: Andrew Main (Alloa) - 143.

Alloa Golf Club (aggregate 293) qualify for the 2014 Scottish Club Championship.



*(L-R) Andrew Main (Alloa), Ian Ross (Alloa),
Ross Benvie (Braehead 2014 Champion with trophy) and James Muir (Braehead)*

BOB IS BACK

While there was considerable local dismay at the omission of Dollar's Scott Borrowman from the 2014 Home Internationals Team, it is highly pleasing to see Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) returning to the Scottish Senior Teams for 2014. Bob has been selected for both the European Seniors Team Championship to be held at Sierra Golf Club in Poland from the 2nd until the 6th September. Bob has also been selected to play in the Seniors Home International team to play at North Berwick Golf Club from the 16th until 18th September. Matches will be played against England, Ireland and Wales, and hopefully there will be some local support at North Berwick.

Bob will be hoping for a good contribution to the team effort that will produce a better result than the Men's Home International team - that team only won one match out of three, beating England and losing to Ireland and Wales.

GRANT FLIES FLAG FOR ALLOA

Stirring memories of yesteryear when local golfers were prominent in the Eden tournament, Alloa's Grant Ross kept this alive by making the top 64 in the qualifying for the Match play rounds. In difficult conditions, Grant qualified easily in 26th position with an aggregate of 159 (84,75) beating the cut by four shots. However Grant couldn't keep the good work going as he lost in the first round of match play at the 19th hole to Jon Sharpe of Helsby Golf Club.

In fact it seems that **ROSS** is the golfing name of the week in Clackmannanshire!!

Hugh Hunter 18th August 2014

MATCH PLAY TROPHY HEADS TO BRAEHEAD

The Clackmannan County Match play Championship is always keenly contested, and the 2014 event was no exception with Braehead's Jim Muir coming through strongly against Dollar's Darren Hulston. After nine holes Jim held a slender one hole lead and with steady play took the title on the 17th green by 3 and 1. In the semi-finals, Darren was successful in the all Dollar clash with Gary Chalmers who is finding some form after a spell away from the game. In the other semi-final, Jim defeated Alva's Michael Robertson. Assuming precedent is followed, Jim should be making his first appearance in the Champion of Champions in 2015.



(L-R) Jim Muir and Darren Hulston

SCOTT WELL UP IN EUROPEAN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

The European Individual Golf Championship was played at the Dukes St Andrews last week when 144 of the best European Amateurs competed over the 7,000 plus yards layout. Only one player beat par over the four rounds, the holder Ashley Chesters with a two under par total for the 72 holes. Local Scott Borrowman (Dollar) started well with rounds of 68 and 71 putting him in the top four but with bad weather in round three he slipped back and couldn't pull back in the final round. His four round total of 293 (68,71,78,76) put him in 29th equal position and second equal best Scot. The Scottish contingent didn't really impress on their home ground - best position was 15th equal and only six out of the seventeen entrants made the cut after three rounds

Hugh Hunter 11th August 2014

JUST A LITTLE JOY AT THE SCOTTISH AMATEUR

Every year a small contingent of the elite Wee County golfers take on the Scottish Amateur Golf Championship. It's a match-play format with 256 entries and put very simply you only have to beat 8 people to win!! Five locals took part on the 2014 Championship held at Downfield, three fell in the first round - Jamie Aitken (Dollar), Rikki Alexander (Braehead) and very surprisingly Scott Borrowman (Dollar). Allan Watson (Braehead) made it through

to the second round before losing, which left Lawrence Allan (Alva) the best local performer reaching the third round

TOP EUROPEANS AT THE DUKES

Top European Amateurs will converge on the Dukes course St Andrews this week to contest the European Individual Championship played over four rounds of stroke play. Local Scott Borrowman (Dollar) is one of the 148 competitors, and as you would expect the standard is very high - as measured by handicap. There are 19 Scots competing and the entire field plays off plus handicaps. There are 28 golfers at plus four or better, the lowest handicaps in the field are Peter Stojanovski (+6), Renato Paratore (+5.8) and Thomas Detry (+5.7). Lowest Scottish handicap is Graeme Robertson (Glenberrie) (+5).

BOB STILL IN THE FRAME

Tulliallan's Bob Stewart continues to churn out good performances at Scottish Seniors level. Following his good run in the Match-play where he reached the quarter finals before losing to Les Pirie (Millport), he followed that up with a good score at Stranraer in the Scottish Seniors South Championship.

With a 36 hole aggregate of 147 (73,74) Bob finished in 5th position, 5 shots behind the winning score of 142.

Bob should now be feeling confident as he takes in the Seniors Amateur Championship this week at Ganton in Yorkshire

COMING UP SOON

- Saturday 9th August - Dollar Open
- Saturday 16th August - County Championship (36 holes) - Tulliallan.

Hugh Hunter 4th August 2014

GOOD SUPPORT FOR COUNTY SUMMER MEETING

Clackmannan County Golf Union held their Summer Meeting at Alloa last weekend, with 48 entries in Division 1 and 47 in Division 2. While the entry is nowhere near the huge entries of a couple of decades ago, it is still pretty good in these days of declining numbers in golf membership and the County Golf Union look for good support in the upcoming County Championship (Tulliallan - 36 holes - 16th August) and the Autumn Meeting (20th September). In the Division 1 event it was a clean sweep of prizes for home players with Ian Carmichael and Roy Dow tied on 67's closely followed by Alan Hyem and David Milloy on 68s. Best scratch score was Scott Borrowman (Dollar) on 69. It's good to see Scott supporting local events among his heavy elite golfing schedule. In division 2 it was Tulliallan players who took the top spots Ian McCall with a net 63 and William Wallace with a net 68.

TOP JUNIOR LADIES AT SCHAWPARK

Top Junior Ladies from Scotland and abroad converge on Alloa Golf Club from the 23rd July till the 25th to compete for the Scottish title. Sixty-six players are competing and teeing off from 9.00 until 12.50 on Wednesday. There are six plus handicaps in the field and they are playing in the last two games. Home favourites are Carnoustie Ladies players Jessica Meek (+1.8) and Ailsa Summers (+1.6). Best players from outwith Scotland are India Clyburn (England +1.3) and Chiara Mertens (Belgium +1.5). Best local player is Eilidh Watson (Muckhart 2.4) Spectators are welcome to the event and it's a great chance to see top ladies in action locally and see if they can manage a course record.

JAMIE FLIES THE FLAG FOR ALLOA

The Scottish Under 14s National Championships will be held at Bothwell Castle Golf Club on the 10th and 11th August. The entry is restricted to 120 (84 boys and 36 girls) and those who study the entry sheet may be horrified to see only 23 Scots competing (13 boys and 10

girls). Indeed the girl's entry contains only 7 home based Scots and 3 from outwith Scotland. With huge sums of money being spent on Clubgolf which has been running a good number of years now some people may question the effectiveness on the competitive side. Out of the 13 boys competing, the entries come from only nine of the sixteen golfing Areas in Scotland. Having said all that, it is very pleasing to see local Jamie McEwan (Alloa) in the starting field. Jamie is making steady progress, reducing his handicap, and hopefully this first experience in a National event will give him pointers for the way forward.

Hugh Hunter 21st July 2014

TOP TEN FINISH FOR WEE COUNTY GOLFERS

In the latest Scottish Golf Union 72 hole Order of Merit event, two locals proudly finished in the top ten at the Sutherland Chalice held at the Dumfries and Galloway Golf Club. Dollar's Scott Borrowman finished on 276 in 4th place (71,67,69,69) while Alva's Lawrence Allan finished closely behind in 5th place with 278 (68,70,74,66). Indeed his last round equalled the best of the field, both can be happy that they have put more points on their Order of Merit totals.

SUMMER MEETING

The Clackmannan County Summer Meeting is being played this Saturday (19th July) at Alloa Golf Club. Late entries are still available either by contacting the Secretary or on the day.

SCOTTISH LADIES JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

The Scottish Ladies Junior Championship comes to Alloa from the 23rd till 25th July its an opportunity to see the best young lady golfers take on a local course spectators are welcome

Hugh Hunter 14th July 2014

LOCAL CLUBS MISS OUT IN ALEXANDER TROPHY

In the Centenary Alexander Trophy (a team event for Golf Clubs in Clackmannanshire and Stirlingshire) played over the Falkirk Tryst Golf course last weekend Alloa was the best of the local clubs finishing in 5th place out of 12. With three scores counting out of four, it was Ian Ross (74), Ian Guthrie (77) and John McLaren (78) who topped the four Clackmannanshire entries with an aggregate of 229. Alva, a recent winner of the event, finished a shot behind on 230, Tillicoultry a bit further back on 245, and sadly with more than one NR the good work done by two of the Braehead team (scoring 72 and 74) was all in vain. Regretfully there were no teams forward from Dollar and Tulliallan. Winners of the 2014 event were Glenbervie Golf Club scoring 221. The first winners in 1914 was Falkirk Tryst over their home course, 110 years later they could only manage third place.

CENTRAL SCOTLAND SENIORS

Played over 36 holes at Glenbervie Golf course last week, local Mike Rust (Tillicoultry) was the best local player scoring 151 (76,75) and finishing 6 shots behind the winner. Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) finished 4 shots further back on 155 (75,80)

Hugh Hunter 6th July 2014

TILlicoultry TRIUMPHANT IN COUNTY MIXED FOURS

Using home advantage to a maximum, Tillicoultry Golf Club took the 2014 Clackmannan County Mixed Foursomes title in some style. Played on a handicap basis these days it was a contest between Alloa and Tillicoultry for the title. It all came down to the last scores and it was Tillicoultry that put the title beyond doubt with a fine score from Grant Carmichael and Barbara Ryan. Best scratch score of the day (78) came from Tillicoultry Captain Scott Baird and Linzi Wilson.

Regretfully only four Clubs participated with no teams put forward from Alva or Tulliallan.

- **Full Results** (best 3 scores from 4 to count on handicap)
- 1. Tillicoultry - 214.0 (Grant Looker/Joanna McIntosh 72, Scott Baird/Linzi Wilson 71.5, Grant Carmichael/Barbara Ryan 70.5)
- 2. Alloa - 221.5
- 3. Braehead - 229.5
- 4. Dollar - 237



*The Winning Team: (Back Row) Linzi Wilson, Grant Carmichael, Scott Baird (Captain)
(Front Row) Grant Looker, Barbara Ryan, Jonathan Clark (sharing trophy), Joanna McIntosh.*

TOP FIVE PLACE FOR LAWRENCE

In one of his best performances in a Scottish 72 hole Order of Merit event, Alva's Lawrence Allan finished a highly creditable 4th equal position at the weekend. With rounds of 67,73,72 and 70 at Lundin Links it was still 16 shots behind the runaway winner Chris Robb. However it does give Lawrence ranking points and a boost to his confidence with the Scottish Amateur Championship coming up at the end of July.

SCOTT AT THE BRABAZON

Meanwhile Dollar's Scott Borrowman was a couple of hundred miles away competing in the Brabazon Trophy which is the English Stroke Play Championship at Seaton Carew golf course. Scott made the cut with scores of 72 and 74 but could not improve his position when he finished with a couple of 76s. His aggregate of a six over par 298 was a good bit behind the winner's 14 under par.

LOCAL EVENTS COMING UP

- 5th July Hugh Macdonald 4 ball - Braehead
- 6th July Alexander Trophy - Falkirk Tryst

- 12th July Purkis Trophy - Alloa
- 13th July Patton Trophy - Alloa
- 13th July Macaulay Cup - Tulliallan
- 19th July County Summer Meeting - Alloa

Hugh Hunter 29th June 2014

MIXED PERFORMANCES FROM COUNTY GOLFERS

While the County Golf Teams have had a tough time in the National competitions, finishing near the bottom of the 2014 Area Team Championships, individual golfers have fared slightly better.

Scott Borrowman (Dollar) started well with a high place finish in the Craigmillar Park 72 hole competition, then fell back with a couple of missed cuts in the Scottish Stroke Play and St Andrews Links Trophy. Last weekend he returned to the form that won the Order of Merit title in 2013 with a score of 285 (77,72,67,69) to take 4th place in the Tennant Cup at Glasgow. His 36 hole aggregate of 136 (67,69) was the best of the final day scores and had he not opened with a 77 then he would probably have won the event.

Lawrence Allan (Alva) also had a good weekend at Glasgow finishing 8th equal and giving Wee County golfers two top ten placings. Prior to that, Lawrence made the cut at the prestigious St Andrews Links event finishing in 38th position with a score of 291 (72,71,73,75)

Top Senior golfer **Bob Stewart** (Tulliallan) has had the only National win so far for County golfers when he took the West of Scotland Seniors title by three shots at Cardross with an aggregate of 142 (71,71). A fifth place in the East of Scotland event has moved him up into the top ten in the Seniors Order of Merit.

PAUL LAWRIE FOUNDATION SCOTTISH SCHOOLS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

While there were no good performances from local boy golfers, Dollar's Eilidh Watson had a fourth place at Murrayshall last week with scores of 149 (75,74), taking the handicap prize and helping the Forth Valley Girls team to a win in the Girls Team event by 5 shots over Aberdeen City.

JUNIOR GOLF DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE AT ALLOA

With a decline in numbers in some Junior Sections in Scotland it is pleasing to see the developments at local level in Clackmannanshire. Most recent of these is at Alloa Golf Club where a five week programme supported by Clubgolf has had great success. Masterminded by golf enthusiast Alan Didcock, helped by a group of volunteer coaches, the initiative drew to a close last week with a presentation of awards. Alan has been pleasantly surprised, "The original group of youngsters who signed up have stayed the course and seem committed to taking their golf forward this summer. Thanks must go to the support of the parents, but particularly the coaches who survived a substantial training programme and gave their time willingly to enthuse the boys and girls. Hopefully these youngsters will take their game to higher levels and achieve some success for Alloa Golf Club in the future".



Pictured above are the enthusiastic young golfers at Alloa



THE OLDEST SWINGER (AND WINNER) IN TOWN

She took her first Ladies Club Championship title at Alloa Golf Club in 1958, and Margaret Frame broke her own record last Sunday when she took her sixteenth title.

In an almost flawless performance over the twelve holes needed, a one over par score took the title by 7 and 6. Straight driving and fine approach shots were the

order of the day, and sympathy must go to her opponent Alison Boyes who fought bravely, but could not better the onslaught of par figures churned out by Margaret. Spectators who followed the match were given a master class in shot preparation as well as execution. Pictured is Margaret accepting the Ladies Club Championship trophy from Club Captain Bob Kemp.

Well done Margaret.....again!!

Hugh Hunter 22nd June 2014

ALLOA TAKE COUNTY FOURS TITLE

The Alloa Golf Club team made a great start to the season by taking the 2014 County Foursomes title in some style. Over their home course, they recorded three emphatic wins, first over Alva, then Dollar, finally triumphing against Tulliallan in the final. Tulliallan reached the final with wins over Tillicoultry and Braehead.

The competition was played in the usual format - each Golf Club is represented by three couples playing match play foursomes over 18 holes with the aggregate of holes up and down deciding the winning team.

The first match was the closest in the final, with Ian Guthrie and Craig White holding Tulliallan couple Steven Horne and John Maxwell to a square game, it was close all the way with never more than one hole in it. The second and third Alloa couples had comfortable wins, leads of 3 up and 2 up respectively at the turn were increased on the homeward stretch.

Alloa Team Captain Andrew Whitelaw was delighted with the result, "A great start from the boys, giving us high hopes of retaining the other County team trophies in 2014."

Full Results

- Preliminary Round: Alloa beat Alva; Tulliallan beat Tillicoultry
- Semi Finals: Alloa beat Dollar 2 up; Tulliallan beat Braehead 9 up.
- Final: Alloa beat Tulliallan 9 up.

Match Scores - Final (Alloa names first)

- 1.Ian Guthrie & Craig White halved with Steven Horne & John Maxwell.
- 2.David Milloy & Andre Scotland beat Bob Stewart & Ian Boyd 4 up
- 3.Ian Ross & Andrew Main beat Stuart Raeburn & Gordon Lyons 5 up.



Alloa County Fours Team 2014

(L-R) Andre Scotland, Andrew Main, David Milloy, Andrew Whitelaw (Team Captain with trophy), John McEwan, Ian Guthrie, Ian Ross and Craig White.

JUNIOR GOLF INITIATIVE

In many Golf Clubs numbers in Junior Golf have been dropping and the National "Clubgolf" initiative has been set up to address this. In Clackmannanshire, the County Executive have been aware of the fall in numbers resulting in the cancellation of competitions, difficulties in team selections with the result that the County Boys Championship has been postponed from its early season date until later in the golf season. It is therefore encouraging to see Clubs setting up Junior Initiatives, the most recent one is at Alloa Golf Club. Masterminded by Alan Didcock with considerable help from a group of volunteers, Alloa has set up a five week block of Junior Clubgolf coaching. Anyone aged 9 to 12 is invited along to try out golf. Equipment is supplied, there is a small cost but the coaching is free to children and grandchildren of members of Alloa Golf Club. Alan is enthusiastic about the programme, "With school summer holidays approaching, golf is a good pursuit over the local courses - currently junior subscription levels are at a reasonable level. We hope to see good support for the initiative which will be held at the practice ground of Alloa Golf Club on Thursdays and Fridays from the 15th May until the 13th June."

Places are limited for these sessions, so those budding golfers who are interested should sign up early. Alan can be contacted on 01259 760598.

LOCAL GOLFERS IN ACTION

The six man County Golf Team led by Darren Hulston are off to Ranfurly Castle this weekend to compete in the Scottish Area Team Championship. The 16 Area teams will play 36 holes stroke play and the best eight teams go forward to the match play final stages. Best of luck to the team this year - they came very close to qualifying last year!

Hugh Hunter 11th May 2014

CLASSY COUNTY AT TULLIALLAN

The County Golf team turned in a classy performance at Tulliallan to win the 2014 Provan Salver, the early season Inter County golf competition played between Angus,

Clackmannan, Fife and Perth & Kinross. Although a win was not absolutely essential, the County elite golfers beat a strong Perth and Kinross side by 5 matches to 3 and maintained an unbeaten record. Team Captain Darren Hulston was highly delighted with the result, "It was good to see a number of good performances by team members, especially so early in the golf season. Hopefully the experience gained will take their games forward in the 2014 golf season."

Top performances came from Champion of Champions Scott Borrowman winning by one hole; Ross Benvie was two down with four to play against former Scottish Champion Glenn Campbell but snatched a one hole win; Jamie Aitken produced sub-par figures in his match after a football injury which stopped his golf for several weeks. Allan Watson and Steven Horne recorded the biggest wins of the day.

Match Results (Clackmannan names first)

- 1. Scott Borrowman (Dollar) beat Danny Young (Craigie Hill) - 1 hole
- 2. Steven Horne (Tulliallan) beat Connor Neil (Blairgowrie) - 5/4
- 3. Ross Benvie (Braehead) beat Glenn Campbell (Blairgowrie) - 1 hole
- 4. Jamie Aitken (Dollar) beat Rory Tinker (Strathmore) - 3/2
- 5. Steve McIvor (Alva) lost to Scott Michie (Kinross) - 5/4
- 6. Allan Watson (Braehead) beat Jason Thomson (Kinross) - 4/2
- 7. Gary Chalmers (Dollar) lost to Philip Scott (Auchterarder) - 2 holes
- 8. John Maxwell (Tulliallan) lost to Mark Cameron (Alyth) - 2/1

CLACKMANNAN 5 - PERTH & KINROSS 3

SCOTTISH AREA TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 2014

The 2014 Scottish Golf Union Area team Championship will be played at Ranfurly Castle Golf Club from 16th to 18th May. The golf course is similar in length to the Schawpark course at just over 6,200 yards with a par of 70. To qualify this year there will be 8 qualifying Areas from the 16 after the 36 hole stroke play, which will give Clackmannanshire a better chance of reaching the match-play stages. Team Captain Darren Hulston is confident, "Last year Clackmannan narrowly missed out on qualifying and with broadly the same team as 2013 we are very hopeful. The good team spirit plus the Provan Salver win should give us considerable confidence playing against the other top Area Scottish golfers".

Teams will play 36 holes on Friday with the top 8 teams qualifying for match play on Saturday, leading to a final on Sunday.

Clackmannan Team

- 1. Darren Hulston - Captain (Dollar)
- 2. Scott Borrowman (Dollar)
- 3. Ross Benvie (Braehead)
- 4. Allan Watson (Braehead)
- 5. Steven Horne (Tulliallan)
- 6. Jamie Aitken (Dollar)

Hugh Hunter 27th April 2014

SUN SHINES ON COUNTY GOLFERS

The County Competition season opened last weekend with the Spring Meetings played at Braehead and Dollar. Played in fine weather, the events attracted a number of late entries with well over one hundred local golfers participating. Home players triumphed at both venues—top scores at the Division 1 event at Braehead were Gary Rafferty 69-5=64, and Gary Little 74-10=64. Top scratch scores were Gary Rafferty and Ross Benvie with scratch 70s. The CSS was 69 (home players) and 70 (visitors).

In the Division 2 events at Dollar, top scores were James Currie 83-18=65 and Gordon Fenwick 77-12=65. Gordon returned the best scratch score of 77. The CSS was 69.

For full results of the Spring Meetings [click here](#)

GREAT START BY SCOTT

Dollar's Scott Borrowman had a great start to his 2014 season, following on his retention of the Champion of Champions title at Leven, he finished near the top of the field in the weather shortened Craigmillar Park Open which is the first Open event of the 2014 Order of Merit. Despite this, he failed to be selected for the 21 man squad for the Great Britain and Ireland match against Europe in August. Five Scots were selected, no-one could quibble about the first four as they are the top Scots in the World Amateur Golf rankings. However the fifth selection probably raised a few eyebrows, bypassing the next nine top Scottish players (including the current Scottish Amateur Champion) and dropping almost 300 world ranking places. Nine players will be selected during the season to play in this the St Andrews Trophy to be held in Sweden.

LAWRENCE MAKING PROGRESS

Alva's Lawrence Allan continues to develop his golf with South Eastern University, Louisiana, and with a number of good rounds his world amateur golf ranking has improved by 116 places to 767. His progress can be followed on the "lion sport" web site of SE University Louisiana

COUNTY TEAM POISED FOR WIN

The final match of the Provan Salver takes place this weekend at Tulliallan when Clackmannanshire take on Perth and Kinross. With previous wins against Fife (5.5-2.5) and Angus (7-1), the team will be in confident mood and hopefully will get the job done.

Hugh Hunter 21th April 2014

AN ENJOYABLE COUNTY GOLF DINNER

Braehead staged the 2014 Clackmannan County Golf Dinner last Friday when about 50 local golfers enjoyed a fine meal, followed by speeches and a presentation of the 2013 County Trophies. Ably chaired again by Alva's Tom Paterson, the company enjoyed the guest speaker Stewart Smith from Hamilton, followed by the presentation of prizes by County President Tommy Carroll.

The top prize-winners for 2013 were:

County Champion - **Ian Ross** (Alloa)

County Match Play, Order of Merit - **Allan Watson** (Braehead)

Harrower Trophy - **Ross Benvie** (Braehead)

County Foursomes, Mixed Foursomes and County League - **Alloa Golf Club**.



*County President Tommy Carroll presented the trophies to (left) County Champion 2013 **Ian Ross** (Alloa) and (right) County Match Play Champion 2013 **Allan Watson** (Braehead)*

THE NEW GOLF SEASON APPROACHES

Its only a few weeks till the local Clubs lift the curtain on the 2014 golf season, and for those locals with an interest in golf who might want to join the local golf scene, the news is good..... there are spaces in all the local Clubs. The weather has caused headaches for the greenkeepers but, with dryer weather in prospect, golf becomes much more attractive.

All Clubs and the County will be operating a full fixture card - the early County events to note are the Spring Meeting on Saturday 19th April at Braehead (A Div) and Dollar (B Div). The Boys Championship is on Sunday 13th April at Braehead - look out for the entry forms. The County Golf team will also be in action at the Provan Salver during April.

MIDLAND ALLIANCE The Midland Alliance has only a few events left and continues to be well supported by Clackmannan golfers. Best placed in the Order of Merit are Chris Westland (Alloa) 4th and Bob Stewart (Tulliallan) 5th equal.

SCOTT IN WINNING TEAM

Dollar's Scott Borrowman continues to show good form among the Scottish elite amateur golfers. Over the tough Sotogrande golf course in Spain last week, the Scottish team of four took the European Nations Cup, after a tie with Scott recording a four round total of 302 (80,73,70,79). In 2008, Tulliallan's Callum Macaulay was also in the winning Scottish team in the same event.

Hugh Hunter 9th March 2014