

Captain's Day 2016 Report

Captain's Day began for Sue and myself around 5am, preparing the food we would be offering to the players at the "half-way house".

After arriving at the Club a hectic hour was spent greeting the players, selling "Mulligans" and making sure the teams knew which holes hosted the nearest-the-pin and longest-drive competitions.

Samosas, chocolate cupcakes and gluten-free macaroons were offered to the players coming off the 9th and 18th greens, and the prizes for the various competitions were laid out in the sports bar.

Forty-eight members played in the Half-and-Half fun competition, the results of which are on the website at:

<http://mhcommittee.elusien.co.uk/competitions/draws-results.php>

After everyone had gone home we then filled 100 bags with the home-made favours: chocolates and peppermint marshmallows, for the guests coming to the evening BBQ dinner and dance. There was a bit of consternation when we found that one of us (no naming, no shaming) had left half the bags at home, but that was quickly sorted out by a trip to the local kiosk.

The first of the 98 guests started to arrive just before 6:30 for the evening BBQ dinner and dance and were greeted with a grapefruit mojita cocktail.

After a short speech by yours truly, Heather Brown, the wife of the President of my chosen charity drew the tickets for the raffle, the results of which are on the website at:

<http://mhcommittee.elusien.co.uk/information/misc.php> (click on the PDF symbol next to "Raffle_Winners").

We had a minor panic on discovering that the first act had forgotten that he was playing and had gone to the Troodos for the day instead, but Murice Mawhinney, the DJ, stepped in and played background music while we ate. The food was exceptionally good and plentiful, thanks to the chef and the catering staff.

Elena Ellison, the talented 14-year old granddaughter of Bev and Steve Mitchell then gave a beautiful rendition of Christina Perri's song "A Thousand Years" after which Sheila Mawhinney, who used to sing professionally, performed a variety of songs. Later on Elena treated us to the haunting yet powerful song "On My Own" from Les Miserables and our own Othonos showed off his dancing prowess with a traditional Cypriot folk dance, which to my untrained eye appeared to be the Dhrepanin, or sickle dance (δρεπάνι χορού).

People were up dancing till midnight on the dance floor laid down on the 10th tee, to the music that Maurice played, though how his equipment didn't short out in the high condensation conditions we were experiencing is a mystery.

This was a fantastic day and thanks to the generosity of you, the members, we managed to raise €1,961.87 for the Cyprus Kidney Association (Paphos) charity. You should all be very proud of this achievement, especially considering that you had already raised €1,990 for the charity from April's Captain's Charity Day and subsequent events. I'd like to thank you all for your generous support, both to me and to my chosen charity.

Organising the Captain's Day events was tiring and somewhat stressful but seeing how people "mucked in" and helped out, how everyone enjoyed themselves (Brian Eke suggested we should have such a do every couple of weeks), how much we raised for charity and how we were congratulated for the umpteenth time it made it all worthwhile.

Thank you all so much

Neil Storer

(Minthis Hills Captain)