4th December 2018
Kleinmond
RSA vs RoW

We knew the weather was going to be fairly good as soon as we spotted a Frenchman swathed sans yellow vest but in drapeau francais Le Tricolore and brimful of le confidence. Equally brimful of either confidence or nervous tension were those adorned with Dannebrog Nordic crosses, a Saltire or three, a lone Bratach na hEireann and a plethora of Cross Gules (not to be confused with inflamed Goolies). This was the composition of the supposedly Rest of the World, which anyone with a smidgen of geographic knowledge would realize is totally European in flavour and content. This geographic phenomenon may well change in 2019 (“conservatively” speaking but not to “labour” a point) if a certain Theresa finds her way out of Europe and back into the Rest of the World.

In an effort to reclaim “The Cup” the RoW democratically (probably not) elected a new captain who spent many, many hours musing over his team selection to finally come up with a unique and novel combination of… strongest paired with weakest.

This then was what faced the “Seffricans” in their defense of a six year reign as cup holders. As it turned out, there were combinations on both sides that machinated into successful partnerships and others that clearly will be suborned to the annals of unremarkable history. Whilst the SA side were, at the outset, confident of a victory by a fairly substantial margin (at least according to their Captain) there was much fretting and whole lot of recalculating of the leader board as the tally swung to and fro in favour of both sides. The ex-RoW captain produced a non EU, Brexit type, walkie-talkie to converse with the newly elected “remainer” Scottish RoW captain as he led the final four ball down the 18th. The masses then gathered around the green to voice their respective support, and lo and behold! ……..the final SA pairing that was getting a right royal Saltire stuffing, holed the last putt of the day to win the hole and give RSA a half point victory.

An enjoyable, and most certainly, a remarkable and unforeseen, but probably not entirely unbelievable end to a wonderful day of golf!

The victorious and the vanquished congregated at the home of the Naked Chef (Moltenos in Onrus) later that evening for the handover of “The Cup”, as well as the annual awards ceremony where, whilst some were recognized for their various achievements, the main purpose of the evening is meant to celebrate a year of golfing camaraderie and renewed friendship with our Swallows, as well as twelve months of happily searching for each other’s balls in the rough, although sadly the new rules of golf will severely curtail that most joyous preoccupation of some. Eish!

On a more serious but wonderful note, the DOGS maintained their charitable efforts and were able to donate an amount of R9600 to Hermanus Hospice, bringing the DOGS total contributions to a variety of charitable concerns over the past seven years to in excess of R126,000.
Results of RSA vs RoW:

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Nearest the Pins: 1st Dave (aka Brian) Brittain, 7th Michel Maury, 12th Doug Ross

Jon

13th November 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and A J Cup (Hidden Pairs Aggregate Stableford).

The four consecutive days of golf on what turned out to be a most enjoyable tour may have been the reason for the generally low scores as conditions were actually conducive to good scoring. The return of some of the Swallows also meant that the match play could forge ahead and there were some interesting results. The Cabbage Patch Kid had his playing partners ducking and diving for cover as he flailed away in an unsuccessful attempt to unsettle the Leaping Leprechaun. In a more demure encounter The Dachshund Whisperer calmed the nery Michelle Oui while Grumpy had his work cut out defending the 21 shots he had to give the Red Breasted One. In yet another match play The Naked Chef prevailed against MacOlder whose caddy proved to be woefully off form on the day.
The hidden draw for aggregate partners in the A J Cup produced the most unlikely of pairings in a 7 Iron and a Judge Dredge while the much revered Hat was presented to the Cup sponsor as a token of appreciation.


**A J Cup (Hidden Pairs Aggregate S/Ford)** 62 Johan De Jager and Dave Robinson.

**Match Play**: Tony Hackett bt Tony Jones 6/4, Peter Theron bt Michel Maury 3/2, Jon Forsyth bt Robin Clacher 2/1, Gordon Wilson bt Alan Calder 2 up. (Andre Franken bt Dave Smith 3/2 at Stilbaai)

30th October 2018
Kleinmond
Log Single Stableford and 4BBB Stableford

Confusion "rained" in the minds of some early in the morning, to the extent they decided to phone Grumpy to tell him they did not get his email advising the game had been called off! Notwithstanding the gloomy forecast, all players made their way through to the course save for three - Cruiser had a wind damaged garage door and couldn't get his Kitt out, the Conquistador clearly did not fancy the idea of playing for a damp Hat and as usual Michelle Oui spotted a drop of rain that may ruin her newly coiffured hairdo. All in all, the early morning adverse conditions did not last long, and the pack settled in to a fine days golf (well some did!). Not coming to grips with the weather, the greens, the tees, the hazards, his swing, the rough and out of bounds, was the recently returned Crown Prince who played like his mind was elsewhere -Saudi Arabia perhaps?

In a match play encounter Inspector Remorse was all a quiver after being well and truly impaled by Bow n Arrow Man and, for his efforts, the Lanky "I cant play off that handicap" Lancastrian lost another pound.


**4BBB Stableford**: 43 Johan De Jager / Pat Dewil

23rd October 2018
Kleinmond

4 Ball Alliance Stableford - 2 Scores to Count

An alliance format always makes for easy and relaxed golfing, which was certainly true for most of the field as there were 17 scores in excess of 32 points as well as 3 forty pointers. But 40 pointers don't necessarily equate to a podium finish as All a Quiver and Ole 7 Iron discovered, as their team was beaten on count back by the mighty 41 points that Koosandra contributed to his team which comprised of the Talkative Scratcher, Square Pants and Judge Dredge.

In the match play encounters Flipper managed to pip The Disastar 2/1 in what must have been an enthralling case of "I don't wanna win the hole", while Red Lorry Yellow Lorry was still feeling the effects of his Budapest stag party as he drove into a brick wall called Grumpy.
Match Play - Sam Seal bt Dave Rade 2/1, Jon Forsyth bt Lawrie Tonner 5/4

16th October 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Any hopes that the new handicap system would help reduce the number of 40 point and plus winning scores were well and truly dashed, as there were no less than 3 on the day, despite the greens not being back to normal. One of those scores belonged to the excitable Spurfowl who steam rolled the hapless Haggisbasher in a match play encounter. Flipper discovered that a sore shoulder does wonders for curing duck hooks, slices, duffs and lost balls and Grumpy’s excuse for his 42 points was a debilitating head cold and throat infection, which was eased somewhat by the soothing ale quaffed in celebrating not the days winning score, but rather the look on the garrulous one’s face on learning that his 78 gross was simply just not good enough!
Hatman proved yet again that the power of positive thinking will ensure that no one will be able to snaffle the Hat away from you as long as you stick to your game plan…..if they go low, you just go lower.


**4BBB Stableford:** 49 Jon Forsyth, John Horobin

9th October 2018
Theewaterskloof
Single Stableford and 6.6.6

Those who had not been to the "dam" since March were amazed at the recovery of both the course and the water level. Equally amazing was the recovery of the golfing skills on display, as sixty percent of the field managed a score of 30 plus points - not bad on greens that were still scarred by the recent hollowtyning.
After threatening on numerous occasions to take a break from golf for 3 weeks and then give it up for good, Koosandra came through with flying colours and posted 37 points, much to the relief of Grumpy who was not in the mood to lose yet another count out on 36, more especially to the Lanky Lancastrian. His mood was further lifted when he and the Judge Dredge beat the Lanky One and Batman on count back in the 6.6.6.
The Star of David swapped his Kippah for a Hat.

Stableford 6.6.6.: 72 points Jon Forsyth and Dave Robinson

25th September 2018
Kleinmond
3 Clubs and a Putter – Singles and 4BBB Stableford

Forward tees, 3 clubs, a putter and a blow job was what the pack had to contend with, and whilst club selection was an individual choice, the blow job in the form of a north westerly wind was not, and almost certainly contributed to the low scoring average. There was a welcome return to golf (sadly not form!) for the barrel chested Star of David, and also a safe return for Red Lorry Yellow Lorry from Bucharest where he indulged his youthful hobby of gatecrashing stag parties. Batman broke his run of 7 consecutive Hat wearing experiences by virtue of the fact there was no Hat on offer for the day!


4BBB: 39 Jon Forsyth / Robin Clacher

20th September 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Having been rained out on Tuesday, the pack reconvened on Thursday, and whilst there was a marked improvement in the weather, the same cannot be said for the overall scores. After bemoaning the loss of so many strokes by playing off the red tees, Koosandra roared like a Tiger and returned to fine form with a 38 pointer, beating next placed Granny by a clear six points. The Haggisbasher fell asleep on the 12th Tee and did not finish, leaving Batman with yet another crowning moment and a world record of 5 consecutive hats! O how he wishes the Swallows would hasten back to relieve him of ignominious acclaim!


4BBB: 42 Ian Newman / Guest Sean
There were happy and sad announcements after the game on Tuesday – a happy return to golf for Cruiser and a sad return to Pretoria for Mr Plant Hire who is relocating to look after the business interests of his two branches. Our best wishes go to both Gary and Linda and we look forward to at least an annual visit to our shores.

The format was a simple and easy to understand alliance (well, for most) which did not produce scores close to what would normally be expected, which may well be because players have not yet got used to their new handicaps and the different course layout, depending which tees you elect to play.

So it was a rather lowly 86 pointer that was enough to pip the Haggisbasher 4 ball into second spot and supply Mr Plant Hire with a Sixpence for his upcoming road trip.


“Winds of change” – a figure of speech used by Harold Macmillan in his famous speech to Hendrik Verwoerd’s government in Cape Town in 1960, regarding the changing political climate in Africa. The Dogs had their own “winds of change” at Kleinmond which was not political but in the form of a 50kph north westerly which battered the puppies and their scores, producing the lowest winning score in living memory, with recently returned Ole 7 Iron claiming his second Sixpence of the year on a lowly 29 points. With almost the entire field eventually playing just to avoid getting the hat, it was the ever dependable Batman who steadied himself and came through with flying colours to save the blushes of the rest.

The “winds of change” also brought with it new handicaps, new indices, new tees, new score cards, new course set up and different strokes for different slopes!


**Aggregate Stableford:** 54 Doug Ross / Koos Roelofse

It is a well known fact that most poor golf shots come from negative thoughts. Our very own Batman manages this with more aplomb than any other in the group, and can be heard muttering to himself over every shot - "don’t put it in the water", "I always hit it in the bush on this hole", "my third shot always goes in the hazard", which he promptly proceeds to do with verve and unerring accuracy! Today was no different, and his scorecard on his double shot short
holes, 7th and 16th, reads - 12 shots, no points and 4 very damp Srixon balls. Oh well, another game, another Hat and an opportunity to invest in a fresh stock of Srixons! On a positive note, Frankie slipped behind sparring partner Batman on the Hat wearing honours board by posting a well deserved 40 points, for which Granny has amazingly claimed the credit for, as he apparently gave Frankie a putting lesson!

On yet another positive note, Ole 7 Iron returned from a shoulder operation layoff of 3 months and posted his best round of the year. Also positively amazing!


**4BBB**: Jon Forsyth / Robin Clacher

21st August 2018
Kleinmond
4 Ball Betterball Medal

If you mention an individual medal round to most amateur golfers their eyes roll to the back of their heads, palms and brows sweat profusely and their persona undergoes Ritalin induced characteristics. One would think that a better ball medal would ease all the angst, but apparently not. A respectable score for this format is normally in the very low 60 nett, but the best the pack could muster on the day was a paltry 65, which was won on the day by Grumpy and the pancreatic Flipper on a count out from The Naked Chef and Koosandra. Not coming to terms with either their sweaty palms or their swings, nor even their partnership personas, was Mr Plant Hire and the positive thinking Batman, whose nett 78 was a remarkable achievement in itself.


14th August 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

The generally held belief within the golf group is that one plays one’s best to try and win, but more importantly, at least play well enough to avoid wearing the hat. Normally it is down to one unfortunate soul to save the blushes of another player whose swing or sense of humour let them down, but this week we actually had three players vying for the dubious honour, as the Knobby-Knees and Batman and Robin were tied on 20 points apiece. It was Batman who on count out, managed yet another hat wearing experience to bring his annual tally to 4, to join Frankie Moonlight at the top of the most hats for the year ladder. Flipper lost out to Grumpy in the singles but still managed a win in the better ball despite partner Haggisbashers frugal contribution.


**4BBB**: 47 Sam Seal / Doug Ross
9th August 2018
Kleinmond
4BBB Potpourri

Having been rained out on Tuesday the pack re-assembled on Thursday sans one or two who, due to it being Women’s Day, had to remain at home to attend to domestic chores of whatever dubious nature. Those who did make it were greeted by a cool 8degC which had the Haggisbasher donning his little wooly Michael Jackson mittens and Granny looking rather bemusedly at his purple hued hands. The scoring format also had many bemused, but those bemused the most were the players behind our front runner four ball who in inexplicably could not keep up with a visiting 7 ball – eish! The format, based on a 6.6.6, demands a sense of humour as the holes you add, multiply or take best score on are predetermined, and predictably the holes you had to multiply caused the most carnage as there were no less than 12 nil points scored.


31st July 2018
Kleinmond
Individual Bogey Plus and 4BBB Bogey Plus

The golfing weather Gods took it easy on the pack by keeping the rain at bay, but nevertheless retained a wicked sense of humour by providing a blustering wind that was as unpredictable as a Haggisbashers tee shot – right to left one minute, left to right the next! The difficult wind conditions went completely unnoticed by milk maid Koosandra, whose golden locks flew straight and true, resulting in an exceptional round and five positive points. Not so positive however was Mr Planthire who failed to get to grips with both the wind and his new clubs and ended up with a score similar to that of a NASA countdown. The flighty Bow n Arrow Man teamed up with Goldie Locks in the betterball and amassed a mind blowing plus thirteen to claim a bottle of non-descript Chenin Blanc.

Singles Bogey Plus: +5 Koos Roelofse, +3 Doug Ross, +1 Jon Forsyth, Andre Franken, Trevor Vaughan, Even Gordon Wilson, Ian Newman, Robin Clacher, -1 Trevor Archer, -2 Sam Seal, -3 Arthur Farrell, -5 Ian Wilks, -7 Gary Wentzel.

Betterball Bogey Plus: +13 Koos Roelofse / Trevor Archer

24th July 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

A weekend glued to television sets watching The Open Championships had a beneficial effect on the pack as evidenced by the unusually high scoring average of 33.35, with only 2 Dogs and a stray not making it past 30 points. The hapless stray ended up as the tail gunner for the day, but elected to dismiss himself from the later formalities - quite possibly because he’d had enough of the Haggisbasher calling him Cameron all day! In the same four ball there
was further confusion as Frankie Moonlight could not make up his mind who the partners were and eventually settled on a combination of players and markers, choosing A and C vs B and D? Unusually not confused was dog nanny Square Pants who made the most of his lucid moments and came in with yet another exceptional round to take the honours in the singles as well as the two ball with the recently returned pancreatic Flipper.


**Aggregate Stableford:** 71 Ian Wilks / Sam Seal (c/i) Koos Roelofse / Andre Franken (c/o) Jon Forsyth / Ian Newman (c/o)

17th July 2018
Bredasdorp
Single Stableford and 4BBB

There seemed to be an air of excitement amongst the pack on Tuesday but why is not clear. Was it the prospect of playing on a course that had improved immeasurably since our last visit in March or was it the thought of the lone Frenchman in the group strutting “le coq a hoop” because of his countrymen’s African World Cup victory. As it transpires it doesn’t really matter. What does matter is that some took advantage of the great weather and course conditions and there was a fight to count out death between the Garrulous Spurfowl and Mr Plant Hire on 41 points, won by the latter who scored a massive 24 points on the 2nd nine and leaving the Garrulous One entirely speechless! The latter also combined with Grumpy in the betterball and, despite Grumpy’s unusually subdued contribution, amassed a not quite record breaking 50 points. At the lower end we once again return to the trials and tribulations of Le Cock who was the very antithesis of Sportif with a back to back floppy eared hat performance. Oh Mon Ami, what can the matter be? The new clubs or the Paul Pogba hairstyle?


**4 BBB:** 50 Jon Forsyth / Gary Wentzel

10th July 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB
One would have been forgiven for thinking Heidi the bearded Swiss milk lady had paid us a visit on Tuesday, but it was in fact her Overberg cousin, our very own Koosandra, ramp model extraordinaire showing off her newly acquired refinery that allows one to play off the forward tees ……… well a picture paints a thousand words!

Mlle. Michelle Oui was hell bent on proving that not all Frenchmen play dull, lacklustre, boring, defensive, unimaginative and unattractive ball sports, and was well rewarded with a floppy eared hat for his sterling efforts.


**4BBB**: 46 Andre Franken / Gary Wentzel (c/i), Doug Ross / Koos Roelofse (c/o)

3rd July 2018
Kleinmond

Single Stableford and 4BBB

There are certain benefits that come with advanced age, and in golf there is one that allows the three score and ten brigade to advance to the advanced tees on certain holes where they do not have the wherewithal to advance a ball over dongas, creeks, hazards and areas of the course they previously spent a lot of their lost youth searching for their dearly beloved Srixon soft feels (as opposed to the hard feel which was relegated to déjà vu status years back!). And so it came to pass that another of our motley bunch, the Sartorially Elegant Prof., on the eve of an advanced age milestone, celebrated his last day of 69 by posting a nett 69 to “come” first on a winning score of 37 points. The previous weeks pink gown wearing Frankie Moonlight decided that ego alone can advance a ball over hazards and elected to remain on the youthful tees and ended up wearing the hat. We also saw the return of Dog Nanny Square Pants who broke his previous run of consecutive 25 pointers with a ten point increase. Word has it his success was due to his three week layoff practicing his swing with a poop scoop and boiled bones.

Advanced age can also affect your betterball score – the senior of the two decided the Scotsman’s 3 points on the last hole was not worth including in the points tally!


**4BBB**: 45 Doug Ross / Dave Smith

26th June 2018
Kleinmond

Betterball Medal

A week or so ago Batman very kindly offered a golf instruction CD as a prize for a nearest the pin. After noticing the name of the father and son producers of said CD, the very kind offer was respectfully declined and the disk was pounced upon by Granny, who today, after having watched said instructional CD, proudly demonstrated his new found distance off the tee. Both Grumpy and the recently returned Haggisbasher were utterly awestruck and fascinated by how far she managed to hit it out of bounds! By contrast, Batman, who had decided the instructional
guide was a load of bollocks, went out and shot a personal nett 61 and claimed a top spot nett 57 in the betterball with a jubilant Leaping Leprechaun.

**Betterball Medal:** 57 Arthur Farrell / Tony Hackett, 61 Jon Forsyth / Doug Ross, 63 Jon Forsyth / Ian Newman, 64 Koos Roelofse / Trevor Archer, 65 Gary Wentzel / Dave Smith, Michel Maury / Trevor Vaughan, 69 Michel Maury / Robin Clacher, 77 Gary Wentzel / Lawrie Tonner

19th June 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Much to everyone’s relief a Frenchman was spotted in the field, which meant there was no chance of rain for the rest of the day! Taking full advantage of the conditions before embarking on his fact finding mission to Botswana was the garrulous Spurfowl, who despite making a dogs breakfast of the 18th, nevertheless carded a creditable 41 points. The Naked Chef and wannabe Hat wearer again had the rug pulled from under his feet by the Red Breasted one and Frankie Moonlight celebrated the dawn of a new era with a frilly pink chiffon gown which allows him to proceed to the advanced tees.


**4BBB:** 46 Jon Forsyth, Arthur Farrell

12th June 2018
Theewaterskloof
Single Stableford and 4BBB

And so we were back at the dam which, after the recent rains, is actually starting to look like one. There is also a vast improvement in the fairways which, while they still have a way to go, at least had some grass to improve your lie on, but for some, hitting a fairway was curiously not an option. Preferring not to completely emerge from the bushveld was our very own Jock who opted to flail away in more familiar terrain, and for his efforts ended up with a Hat to shade himself from the 25 degrees (as well as his blushes). Grumpy was looking forward to giving an in-depth analysis and post mortem of his round but realized Granny was not playing so did not bother and brolly wielding Michelle Oui kept a beady eye on the cloudless skies.


**4BBB:** 45 Jon Forsyth / Gary Wentzel

“Brucie”
5th June 2018  
Worcester 
Single Stableford and Alliance (2 Scores) 

Eight players elected to get in a bit of practice and play Ceres on the Monday prior to tackling the Worcester course. With no Hat on offer, a course in great nick and perfect weather, Wordsmith Romeo clearly took full advantage and scored two career bests, but of a forgettable kind. A fourteen point haul for 18 holes is indeed a forgettable moment, as is four points for 9 holes. As a group the skills on display were by and large equally forgettable, none the least of which was the nearest the pin on offer which, after 16 attempts was not won! So on to Worcester – great greens, perfect weather and the expectation that the scoring average would be in the mid-thirties. No way Jose! The following stats from the group of 12 makes for interesting reading: 

Singles 
7 players scored 100 plus gross, with the Mary Poppins brolly wielding Mlle. Michelle topping out at an astonishing 116 strokes.  
Total gross scores for 12 players = 1210 = average 100.84  
Total points scored = 281 = average 23.41  
Total Birdies = 1  
Total 3 pointers = 27  

Four ball Alliance (2 scores to count) stats:  
The 1st hole produced a total of 4 points from the 3 teams.  
Total “blobs” = 71 = average 5.91  
Most blobs by a player = a three way tie between Granny, The Red Breasted One and Give me my brolly Mlle. Michelle who each had 9 blobs. Sadly we have not as yet worked out a countback formula. Only 3 players managed 30 points or more and 5 players did not get into the 20’s. 
It may also be the time to think of changing the wine we have on offer, as no one was interested in winning it at Ceres and the nearest the pin winner at Worcester was clearly not impressed and promptly kicked his over the club house balcony.  
Alliance:  72 (c/i) Andre, Koos, Gordon, Dave  
72 (c/o) Jon, Gary, Peter, Trevor  
66 Ian N, Ian W, Michel, Robin 

Nearest the Pin: Ian (sing a song of sixpence) Wilks  

29th May 2018  
Kleinmond  
Single Stableford and 4BBB 

The course on the day was rerouted to accommodate the work on the long awaited irrigation system, resulting in a total of six par threes. This clearly suited the double stroke brigade who positively grinned with delight over the abundance of double stroke par three's on offer. Sporting a grin bigger than most was the singles winner Batman who amassed an incredible 18 points on the par 3’s alone. Not content with just the one bottle of Sixpence, he went
on to take the betterball wine as well, with partner Square Pants, who was spotted clinging desperately to the superhero’s cape. The Naked Chef and the Dachund Whisperer were both spared hat wearing blushes by the sudden return of the Leaping Leprechaun whose total points only just pipped Batman’s par 3 total. The prescient Mlle. Michelle spotted a drop of what may have been rain hanging over Robben Island, opting instead to spend the day fixing the latch on her brolly.


**4 BBB:** 48 Arthur Farrell / Ian Wilks

22nd May 2018
Single Stableford and Alliance 1.2.3
Kleinmond

It was a veritable Alan Calder heatwave that greeted the pack on Tuesday – gloomy skies, a chilly breeze and rain- that eventually cleared up after the first nine. All the “Calder Wimps” with the exception of mademoiselle Michelle nevertheless made the effort and engaged in an alliance format with a twist – one score on the short holes, two on the par 5’s and 3 to count on the par 4’s. There was much theorizing as to what a winning score for the format could be with 110 being put forward as a target. One would have thought then that a fancied four ball comprising a Batman, a Spurfowl, Haggis Basher and freshly steamed and pressed Square Pants would walk away with the spoils. Naaah! They managed a lowly second last place only just beating a 3 ball and an out of sorts Ghost. Not out of sorts though were the golden delicious duo of Granny Smith (eish!) who vied for the singles honours with Romeo collapsing on the last hole to allow the modest one yet another win on count back. The sartorial one left his car engine running in the car park for 9 holes and remarkably Batman was seen donning a jacket, but not so remarkably, the hat as well.

**Single Stableford:** 40 Ian Newman, Dave Smith, 35 Trevor Vaughan, 32 Jon Forsyth, Andre Franken, Koos Roelofse, 31 Doug Ross, Trevor Archer, 30 Robin Clacher, Peter Theron, 27 Sam Seal, Gary Wentzel, Gordon Wilson, 26 Ian Wilson, 25 Arthur Farrell.

**Alliance:** 97 Jon Forsyth, Robin Clacher, Ian Newman, Dave Smith
88 Koos Roelofse, Gordon Wilson, Trevor Vaughan, Trevor Archer
83 Arthur Farrell, Andre Franken, Ian Wilks, Doug Ross
80 Sam Seal, Gary Wentzel, Peter Theron, Ghost

15th May 2018
Single Stableford and 4BBB.
Kleinmond.

After the previous weeks attempt to play off the ladies markers, the immodest Granny thought she was once again in the pound seats when she scored 39 points from the men’s markers, and the rest of us were fearing the worst at the post match libations at Tipples. Thankfully we were all spared the insufferable post mortem diatribe as a modern day
Robin Hood in the form of Bow n Arrow man came to our rescue by scoring an impressive 44 points. Red Lorry Yellow Lorry remembered to pitch up but forgot to bring his swing, and the Naked Pastry Chef played like a puff!


**4BBB:** 49 Trevor Archer and Gary Wentzel (who was along for the ride).

10th May 2018
Kleinmond
Betterball Medal (Ladies Tees).

With the recent announcement of a new handicap system replete with tee slopes, course slopes, decimalized indices, a handicap formula that brings tears to Batman’s eyes, as well as options to play off any tee, we decided to find out if transgender puppies could “swing” off the ladies markers. The short answer is – nope! Only four players played to or beat their handicaps and the rest were consigned to the knacker’s yard. Riding through the whirlwind of errant shots on a knacker less filly named Modesty was Granny, who will go down in DOGS history as the only exceptional round recorded off the ladies tees. Not content with that, she partnered up with the newly pressed and steamed Square Pants and won the betterball. The joyous couple went on to further cement their symbiotic relationship by breaking with Dog tradition by rather electing to exchange nail polish and hair-do tips over pink gins at the other local bar.


Nearest Pin 16th: Mai. Clacher

“Brucifer”

1st May 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB Stableford

In near perfect conditions the “big guns” struggled to get a swing going and at one stage were engaged in a battle to avoid wearing the floppy eared hat. As it turned out, they need not have stressed as ironically their bacon was saved by the Disastar of David. In an impressive display of uncontrolled modesty, Granny let it be known to all and sundry that he had won not only the singles event but the betterball as well, and not content with a not so brief after the game post mortem of his swashbuckling performance, continued his shot for shot diatribe unabated and ad nauseum at the local bar and grill. It was only the arrival of some bar snacks that quelled the Granny’s appetite for verbiage.
4BBB Stableford: 44 Ian Newman / Gordon Wilson

“Brucie”

24\textsuperscript{th} April 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

An eerie sound was heard coming from the 18\textsuperscript{th} tee at Kleinmond, and those in the vicinity struggled to make out who or what caused it. Some described it as a hybrid sound—part Rimsky-Korsakov’s bumblebee, part didgeridoo and a good measure of Huey chopper blade. It was soon established that it was indeed a hybrid—a club that had parted company, not on good terms, with the player’s gloved hand and came to rest 100 metres from the tee in the midst of the thick local vegetation. The rules of golf allow 5 minutes to search for lost balls but make no mention of a time limit for a lost club! Two of the four ball pretended not to see or hear anything and played the hole out, leaving the intrepid amateur herpetologist Naked Chef to help his mate look for the wayward club, but after a concerted 20 minute search, all was to no avail. Suffice to say, said players’ attempt to bribe “Brucie” to not mention his name in this column has thus far been successful. Frankie Moonlight lost a count out, Grumpy won a count out, Mr Plant Hire collapsed like a drought stricken mealie, and the garrulous Spurfowl offered a free counselling session to the impetuous club tosser.

4BBB: 47 Johan De Jager / Gordon Wilson

“Brucie”

17\textsuperscript{th} April 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and Betterball 6.6.6

The misty, Scottish Links type conditions had no effect on the wanderlust stricken Spurfowl, who fresh from his sojourn to Hartenbos with his Kiwi cousins, claimed his first singles victory of the year with a not overly impressive 37 points. In the betterball, the format of six holes one score, 6 both scores and 6 multiply, once again led to much head scratching, discussions and indecision resulting in most pairings leaving themselves with only multipliers on the last few holes. Spread sheet aficionado Granny finally managed to get the variables right, and together with Mr Plant Hire
trounced the field by a 7 point margin. Romeo had a dizzy spell and tried unsuccessfully to sheath his driver head-first, Gentleman Jim was curiously delighted with his new hat, and lo and behold, Cheesy Wonder was spotted at prize giving.


**Betterball 6.6.6:** 79 Ian Newman / Gary Wentzel

“Brucie”

10th April 2018

Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

The lazy, hazy days of summer are fast disappearing and the approach of winter brings with it cooler days, less wind and, with a course in great “nick”, ideal golfing conditions. Both formats produced high winning scores with Moonlight Moments once again benefitting from being drawn with an in form partner in the betterball, and adding a further Sixpence to his “quaﬀers”. In the singles, Bow n Arrow Man and Disastar thought they were in with a chance, but were pipped by a mere 8 points by a rampant Grumpy, who set up his winning score with a one under par first nine. Flipper was a veritable fish out of water, claiming both the hat in the individual and last place in the betterball with partner Square Pants. Cheesy Wonder once again beat a hasty retreat to who knows where, what or why?


**4BBB:** 50 Jon Forsyth / Trevor Vaughan

“Brucie”

3rd April 2018

Theewaterskloof
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Since our last visit in January not much changed in either the water levels or the golfing skills. The greens were in decent shape but the drought has had a noticeable effect on the fairways. Ironically it was the Cabbage Patch Kid and Mr Plant Hire who managed the conditions best with Mr Plant Hire taking full advantage of the extra roll on the fairways, and ended up pipping the wayward Kid by one shot, who wasn’t too perturbed as he helped partner Frankie
Moonlight Moments restock his wine collection with a fine display in the betterball stakes. Bottom of the heap was Cheesy Wonder who, after his round, disappeared as quickly as the receding waters to avoid wearing the hat. Some readers of this column have enquired as to which nickname belongs to which member….to make it easier for you to figure it out, have a look at the results:


**4BBB:** 49 The Cabbage Patch Kid / Frankie Moonlight Moments

“Brucie”

27th March 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

It was back to traditional individual Stableford for the pack, and the Spurfowl was partnered with Grumpy, which usually translates into an interesting tussle between the two. However on this occasion, it was Grumpy who happily gave the normally garrulous one a master class in course management, thus cementing his place at the top of the log standings. Once again Square Pants merits a mention as his, and Valentino Romeo’s blushes were spared donning the hat by a visitor who rather ignominiously achieved the double, as he found himself paired with The Catalan Distress in the betterball. Together they amassed less points than 14 players managed on their own!

It was also a day of farewells as the overseas contingent, desperate to catch the last vestiges of the fine UK winter, started the long journey home, with amongst others, MacOlder packing away his seventy six trombones and Inspector Remorse eager to inspect the merits of the Brexit case. In the meantime Granny is already preparing for a dinner date in Constantia next week.


**4BBB:** Gordon Wilson, Gary Wentzel.

“Brucie”

20th March 2018
Kleinmond
Alliance Stableford - 2 Scores to Count

Dogs can lick them and golfers are advised not to, but apparently there are some cricketers who prefer them all scuffed up! The DOGS tour to Worcester, Ceres and Robertson was a pleasant one free of acrimony, chirping and
any form of score card tampering. Despite the format being a bogey plus the 54 hole tour was won by the Haggisbasher on a minus one. Back at Kleinmond the pack settled into their stride with a friendly Alliance which was won by the rather unlikely but appropriately cosmopolitan combination of an Englishman, South African, Frenchman and Scotsman on a massive 98 points. Needless to say the card attracted the scrutiny of the match referee who found no evidence of wrongdoing. The tail end Charlies for the day were Square Pants, Judge Dredge, Mr Slam Lock and Ole 7 Iron who struggled with reverse swing in all their shots. In a match play encounter poor Red Lorry Yellow Lorry found himself rear-ended by a suddenly in-form, but not as pretty, Michelle Oui!


“Brucie”

13th March 2018
Kleinmond
Betterball Medal

With the annual Winelands tour looming, and the consequent prospect of 54 holes of individual bogey plus, Brucie decided to go easy with the guys and introduced them to a simple betterball medal. The pairing of the dreadlocks and ex dreadlocks came through unscathed with a creditable nett 60 despite My Little Pony’s confusion with the format. Unfortunately The Leaping Leprechauns ebullience with Ireland’s performances in the Six Nations did not spill over to either his golf or Englishman and partner Inspector Remorse, as the two of them drop kicked and grubbered anything from a wedge to a three wood. The bass strains of trombones was an audible feature of the day as MacOlder oompahed his way up and down the fairways as he celebrated all 76 of them, while Square Pants saved all his good shots for the tour.


“Brucie”

6th March 2018
Gansbaai
Single Stableford and 4BBB
The pack once again ventured further afield and found themselves at Gansbaai, which some had played years before and others had never seen. The consensus after the game was very much a "well….the greens were nice". The nature of the course demands accuracy, nerve, luck and balls, the latter of which some lost more of than they scored points. It was not surprising then that the short hitters managed the course best and claimed the top three spots, with guest and local resident Charlie taking the spoils. Big hitting Ole 7 Iron (only by his own estimation) kept good company with The Cabbage Patch Kid, The Naked Chef and Judge Dredge as they were often spotted looking forlornly into the fynbos in the hope of spotting another of their errant balls, but all to no avail as they had already been snaffled by an intrepid bunch of ball collectors who grabbed anything from a soft feel Srixon to a soft pack Camel Mild. Between them they managed a ball count of 38 off 421 blows! My Little Pony found the going tough on his home course which led one wag to comment “no wonder he travels all the way to Kleinmond every Tuesday”, while Frankie didn’t exactly have a super moon. In the betterball stakes The Lanky Lancastrian teamed up with the Red Breasted One to claim yet another victory for the "short" off the tee brigade.


**4BBB:** 44 Bob Barton / Robin Clacher

“Brucie”

27th February 2018
Kleinmond
Alliance Bogey Plus – 2 Scores to Count

“Hush! Hush! Hush! Here comes the Bogey Man!”. The mystical figure was dreamed up to instill fear into children, but it was the scoring format of Bogey Plus that caused all the angst and anxiety amongst the puppies that had never played it before. Some of the score cards looked like a nervous child’s math’s exam paper as numbers were erased, scratched out or superimposed with tic-tac-toe like (noughts and crosses to some) impressions interspersed with a plethora of minuses. The four ball comprising Mr Plant Hire, Ole 7 Iron, Le Cock Sportif and The Naked Chef compiled a winning score of plus 21, which was remarkable considering the fact that the Naked One was more fixated with a brightly coloured deceased snake, which he later alarmingly discovered was very much alive. His overall contribution to the team? A solitary minus for golf and a double minus in herpetology. The class delinquents of the day were the consistently Grumpy Granny, the wingless Batman, The Prodigal Son and the effervescent Trust me - I’m a Dealer, who were clearly overawed and “non-plussed” by the occasion. However on the plus side no team ended with a minus.

In a match play encounter, the doughty and canny MacOlder watched on rather bemusedly as his opponent My Little Pony imploded in spectacular #Protea on Fire fashion to beat himself by a meagre margin of 5/4.

**Alliance Bogey Plus – 2 scores:** +21 Gary Wentzel, Johan De Jager, Michel Maury, Gordon Wilson, +20 Rob Welton, Andre Franken, Tony Walker, Ghost, +18 John Tunstall, Robin Clacher, John Cheesbrough, Dave Rade, +17 Tony Jones, Peter Theron, Dave Robinson, Ian Wilks, +17 Sam Seal, Ian Wilson, Trevor Vaughan, Koos Roelofse, +15 Pat Dewil, Dave Smith, Dave Brittain, Arne Andersen, +14 Jon Forsyth, Bob Barton, Richard

“Brucie”

20th February 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

While the country was in celebratory mood with the departure of the Nkandla “Self Help Home Improvement” Nkosi, the pack was in a lesser frame of mind as the exceptional scoring of the previous two weeks took its toll on many a handicap that got slashed to a more appropriate level. There were thus only a handful of players who played to handicap, with Bow and Arrow Man, all a quiver with his first win of the year, outpacing the slow but steady knobby kneed Square Pants. The feast of Lupercalia must have been a memorable one as Valentine Smith cemented his place in the top 20 of the log. My Little Pony was to be heard “muttering” from all corners of the course and beyond, while Inspector Remorse quietly went about investigating as many hazards as he could. Judge Dredge adroitly played himself out of a podium finish and into the inglorious hat with a spectacularly sangfroid display of “how not to”.


**4BBB**: 48 Sam Seal / Johan de Jager.

“Brucie”

13th February 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

The windy conditions brought with it the promise of newcomers to the leader board and the possibility of rain. Well it certainly produced both with a magnificent lightning storm and cloud burst late afternoon, as well as a first win for the year for the resident Haggisbasher, who cannily made use of the wind to straighten out his impressive duck-hook. The two matchplay ties could not have been more dissimilar – Batman was collared by the Dachshund Whisperer in a closely contested affair in which they both beat their handicaps. By contrast, in the other matchplay The Red Breasted One was beaten on the last hole by The Naked Chef who failed to dish up the goods in both the singles and betterball. Poor Valentine Wordsmith had his concentration marred by thoughts of the following days’ ‘Feast of Lupercalia’ while the Cruiser backed off with a bad one and The Disastar of David confused the assembled throng by playing roulette with the wine bottles.

4BBB: 50 Jon Forsyth / Pat Dewil

“Brucie”

6th February 2018
Bredasdorp
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Back to Bredasdorp and to greens that were slick and true, which troubled some with twitchy wrists, but not Mr Plant Hire whose steady eye and sling shot putting style got the desired result with just about every putt he looked at. Not so however for his Nursery Lane cousin, ole Square Pants and Junior Square Pants who, despite experimenting with each other’s putters, led the betterball stakes from the bottom up, with the latter fending off Cruiser and Judge Dredge who both seem to have acquired a peculiar affinity towards the floppy hat. In a match play encounter, Le Cock Sportif got his revenge on the Leaping Leprechaun who tried his utmost to put the Frenchman off with vicarious chirps about the France / Ireland Six Nations score. The Naked Chef arrived sans his tresses which was disturbing, but more disturbing was the garrulous Spurfowl who employed the services of a ten year old to coach him through his round.


Betterball: 46 Gary Wentzel / Johan De Jager

“Brucie”

30th January 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and Aggregate Stableford

The pack was greeted by some welcome and much needed early morning rain which sadly soon disappeared with almost indecent haste. More is the pity as it may well have halted the ridiculous scoring frenzy that followed, with ten exceptional rounds recorded and more than 50% of the field beating or playing to their handicaps. Leading the charge was The Crown Prince who capped his best ever performance with an impressive 46 pointer, much to the chagrin of My Little Pony who thought he would canter to a win with his 44. Bow and Arrow Man was subjected to some curious Steinhoff like accounting on his card which saw his 43 points fall like a fluttering share to 40. The Red Breasted One broke ranks and a century for the first time, while Humpty Dumpty Granny continued her consistent run. Vying for the inglorious hat were Le Cock Sportif and the whisky swilling Johnnie, but they were easily out paced by Frankie Moonlight Moments, who for some reason, seems hell bent on getting to his ‘hat- trick’.
Aggregate Stableford: 86 John Horobin, Trevor Archer.

“Brucie”

23rd January 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

Once again great golfing conditions aided and abetted some magnificent scoring on an ever improving track. Well done Stefan and crew!
A cricket commentator from Yorkshire often described some international cricketers as “Humpty Dumpty” bowlers. We are also constantly bombarded by an advertisement on TV that advocates “consistency is everything”. And so it was that Humpty Dumpty Granny, who was spared his blushes by a count out on 21 points for the wooden spoon last week, had an astonishing return to form and more than doubled his previous score to claim the hot dog spot on a massive 43 points. However time will tell if consistency will ever prevail. The counted out Leaping Leprechaun was undaunted as he happily shared the spoils in the Betterball stakes on a record equaling 52 with Grumpy. Alas consistency was not exactly a hallmark of the performance of either Bob the Lanky, or the effervescent Frankie whose moonlight moments were well and truly clouded by a miserly 26 off 110.

4BBB: 52 Jon Forsyth, Tony Hackett.

“Brucie”

16th January 2018
Kleinmond
Single Stableford and 4BBB

The motley bunch returned to their home turf which is in remarkably good shape and reflected in some fairly decent scores being posted. Bob The Lanky thought he was rather swanky with his 39 pointer, but he was out muscled by Batman who thought he was Superman with a winning 42. Ole 7 Iron had his fairy tale hopes of a match play title fall as flat as his Steinhoff shares when he was outplayed by a toothache addled My Little Pony, who may have been under the influence of mind altering drugs given the fact that nary a drop of his favourite hooligan juice passed his lips before, during or after the game.
The departure of Tinkerbell to Never-Never Land has opened up the dreaded hat to more competition, and so it was that it was down to a count out between Granny and the Cabbage Patch Kid, the latter relieving Granny of her blushes.


4BBB: 47 Ian Wilks, Arthur Farrell

“Brucie”

9th January 2018
Theewaterskloof
Single Stableford and 4BBB

The first official game of the year and the pack eagerly assembled at the dam bristling with anticipation and full of thoughts of improved swings, better course management, speeding up play, keeping emotions in check and all manner of things that inevitably lead to paralysis of analysis. As it turned out, the collective skills set on offer was as depleted as the poor Geenwaterskloof Dam – indeed a sorry sight to behold!

The two stalwarts, Bob the Lanky and Grumpy, proved that a combination of an empty head and confidence is all that is needed to negotiate one’s way around a park as dry as Grumpy’s sense of humour.

Ole 7 Iron was left wondering whether he should even bother to take his clubs along on his trip to Sun City, The Disastar of David was rattled by a dysfunctional golf car, and Red Lawrie Yellow Lawrie was seemingly still immersed in the “right gude-willy waught” of Auld Lang Syne.


4BBB: 45 Dave Brittain, Arthur Farrell

“Brucie”