

LANCASHIRE v CUMBRIA - RICHARDSON TROPHY MATCH 31ST MAY 2019



At the start of the 1st game; pictured left to right - our Lancashire Champion Janet Melville and Cumbria Champion Rosie Waller, President of Cumbria Ann Newberry, Captain Trudy Hubbard, Bet Burns (Caddie for Janet), Vice Captain Diana Cockerill and President Linda Dorning.

A fresh south westerly breeze greeted the teams on the morning of the match and gave all the players a bit more to think about.

After 9 holes the majority of the games were evenly balanced with at most one or two holes advantage to either team.

The two first games and the last game developed into real battles, all going down to the 18th where Lancashire managed to win the first game, and halve the second and last games. Earlier on Lancashire had recorded 3 wins, giving us a final score of 5 - 2.

Spectators and caddies were treated to some excellent and exciting games. Many congratulations to the Lancashire team and their caddies who kept their players going.



Lancashire and Cumbria team players and caddies with officials



Team players from Lancashire & Cumbria

DURHAM MATCH 17th JUNE



On the first tee left to right Durham Captain Anne Wraith, Durham President Gill Birkby, Durham 2019 Veterans' Champion Ruth Lindley, Captain Caryl and Susan Caton.

Our trip to the North East teed off with our match against Durham at Blackwell Grange Golf Club near Darlington. Match day dawned fine but overcast.

Our champion Janet Melville was unable to make this trip, so Captain had to shake up the order of play. Her decision to put Susan Caton out first was totally justified. Susan played some great golf, and proved too strong for seasoned campaigner Ruth Lindley on the day.



Other comfortable wins came from the very experienced Carol Helme and Ann Lowe. Clare Seddon toughed it out to win 1up on the last.

On the left:

Carol Helme & her playing partner

Claire Miller at the end of their match



On the right:

Ann Lowe with her Durham player

Lyn Davison at the end of their match

On the first tee below Left to right; Vice Captain Diana Cockerill, Durham player, Marianne Moore, Durham President Gill, Clare Seddon, Durham Captain Anne, President Linda and Durham Vice Captain Jennifer Dixon.



Lynn Park making her debut, had a difficult match and was down early. However, she settled, dug deep, and only lost 1 down. Pictured on the right Lynn with her Durham opponent Sue Musgrove.

The two Chris's, Appleby and



Stokes had mixed fortunes, the former halving her game after a gritty come back, and the latter just edged out in a close battle that seesawed all day.

Match result. 4 and a half to 2 and a half.

On the left: Chris Stokes with her Durham opponent Julia Elliot



On the right: Chris Appleby with her Durham opponent Rosie Preston





Both teams outside the club house after the match



NORTHUMBERLAND MATCH 19th JUNE

On to Northumberland, and I for one hoped that the Angel of the North would continue to smile upon us as we sped past. Westerhope Golf Club was quite similar to the lay out at Blackwell Grange. Lush green



fairways, tree lined but quite generous, medium paced true greens. Practice day was very warm, but returning on match day it was quite different. Grey skies, steady rain, but fortunately no wind at all. By noon however, as promised earlier by the wise but and weather worn sages in the clubhouse, blue sky and warm sunshine returned.

Above left on the first tee: Left to right President Linda, Vice Captain Diana, Reserve and caddie Carmel Hall and Carol Helme.

Below left, waiting to tee off left to right; Bet Burns (caddie), Lynn Park, Northumberland player Lynne Liddle and her caddie Ciaran Hannon.



Only Carol Helme had a tight grip on her game through nine holes, and was already 4 up. Other matches were all square, or one or two up in our favour.

As often happens, the match only came alive on the back nine, and this one proved no exception. Good wins by Carol, Ann Lowe and very pleasingly Lynn Park, and we had three points in the bag. When Susan Caton turned her match on its head and won 1up after being 1 down on the 17th, we had a winning score.

Below left: Watching proceedings on the first tee: left to right Northumberland President Janice Paxton & Vice Captain Christine Oliver, Our Vice Captain Diana and Captain Caryl.



On the right: Chris Stokes had a lovely match with Elaine

Elliot, winning 2 and 1.



Below left: Ann Lowe with Northumberland player Candy Brown.



Clare Seddon once again shredded our nerves and won on the 18th.



Above right: Angie Heads from Northumberland with Clare.

Small c appleby as she is now universally known, had a tough ending to her game with Northumberland Captain Liz Hartley, and had to settle for half a point



Below left:
Northumberland
Captain Liz Hartley, Her
caddie Jen Langrish,
caddie Val Thompson
and Chris Appleby



Right: Susan Caton beat the Northumberland Champion Claire Brown in a very tense match on the 18th hole.



Match result 6 and a half to a half. Well done Lancashire!

LCSLGA v Yorkshire Veteran Ladies' Golf Association - 25th July - West Lancashire



Thunder and lightning was forecast for later in the day of our last match against the White Rose county. This was quite fitting, as we always expect fireworks in this annual encounter. Friends who have pitted their wits against each other on countless other occasions, together again on this fabulous links. A match both counties needed to win for any glimmer of hope in our quest to claim the

Richardson Trophy.

Some welcome cloud cover early on eased conditions for the first few groups, but predictably the hot sun eventually broke through. A steady south, south easterly breeze veered to easterly in the early afternoon, a totally different wind from the practice day. Combined with some fiendish pin placements, this was going to be a real test of skill and patience for all the players.



Above right, left to right; Yorkshire Captain Sandra Paul, Our President Linda, Bet Burns (caddy for Lynn Park) and Yorkshire President, Jo Somers,

On the left; Chris Appleby played no 1 in our team against Yorkshire Champion Karen Jobling



Above: Second out Ann Lowe against Julie Wheeldon

With three of our top players unavailable, Lancashire were up against it even before the first ball was struck. Captain Caryl was forced to shake up the order of play, and maybe cause some surprises to give us any kind of advantage.



Above right: the third match out was Yorkshire player Bet Swarowski against Susan Caton



On the left Helen Duckett (Yorkshire caddy), Chris Stokes and Yorkshire player Jackie Barraclough with Linda Noblett (caddy for Chris)

Jeanette Williams and Tracey Bentley were called up and played at 5 and 6 respectively.



On the left; Captain Sandra Paul, Jeanette Williams and her Yorkshire opponent Mary Pat Moore



On the right; Alexia Gilby (caddy) with her Yorkshire player Heather Staniforth, Tracey Bentley and her caddy Carmel Hall



On the left; Pat Wrightson and Lynn Park

The first blow was to Yorkshire. Lynn Park, new to our team in 2019 was up against the class and experience of Pat Wrightson. A heavy loss for Lynn, but hopefully loads of experience gained.

Four matches went to the 18th hole. Chris Appleby, bravely or maybe intuitively put out first against Yorkshire champion and Jamboree regular Karen Jobling, had a superb win 2 up.

Ann Lowe had to settle for a halved match against Julie Wheeldon, but was obviously disappointed after standing 1 up on the 18th tee. Jeanette Williams also secured a halved match after a great putt to a couple of inches, but also rued earlier missed chances.

Chris Stokes, again doggedly sticking to her task, was unlucky to lose 1 down after a match that was always too close to call.

Susan Caton, a non travelling Jamboree reserve (but choosing to go anyway to support and caddy), had to accept defeat at the par 3, 17th, against her good friend but rival Bet Swarowski.

A special word for Tracey Bentley, who was very nervous in her first appearance for the team in 2019. A gutsy battling performance against Heather Staniforth gave her no reward, and the 17th hole again favour Yorkshire, Heather winning 2 and 1.

When it was all added up Yorkshire won 5 points to 2. A vital win for them, but a close call in reality. A match played in great spirit, only slightly threatened by a short sharp storm around 2pm. The real pyrotechnics and heavy rain arrived around 5pm when we were all safely inside having a superb post match tea.



Above: both teams, caddies and officials after the match



On the left; Yorkshire Captain Sandra with Vice Captain elect for 2020, Fiona Anderson and President Elect for 2020, Jane Rogers who came to support the team.

Yorkshire were keenly awaiting the result of the Cheshire v Cumbria match, as a loss or even a half point for Cheshire would have handed the trophy to Yorkshire. It was not to be, however, as Cheshire beat Cumbria to retain the trophy and beat Yorkshire by half a point. Congratulations to Cheshire and well fought Yorkshire.

We are now looking forward now to the Jamboree which gets underway on 5th August at the Northamptonshire Golf Club. Rivals all summer, the Northern Counties now all get together to support the North of England team, proudly including our very own Carol Helme.



Left: Captain Caryl and President Linda

All the very best for next season Diana, Jane, Caryl and the squad.
What an awesome team!! It's been a great pleasure for me to be your President for the last 2 years and let's bring the Trophy home in 2020!

Linda Dorning

Richardson Trophy match v Cheshire 5th July 2019



What a difference five weeks makes at West Lancashire G C. Since playing Cumbria, the course has changed dramatically. The rough is up, the fairways greener, each hole defined stunningly. The weather couldn't have been much better. A slight to moderate breeze, and by noon a beautiful sunny day was already developing.

At the start of the match on the first tee from left to right Cheshire Captain Helen Heggarty, Our champion Janet Melville, Cheshire Champion Gill Mellor, President Linda, Cheshire President Karen Schneider and Captain Caryl.

So the stage was set for our game against Cheshire. Two of their top stars missing, but nevertheless we expected a very strong team. We were right!!

Cheshire Champion Gill Mellor was just too good for Janet Melville, who probably would agree that she hasn't had as much match play as she would have liked recently, due to England duties. Janet and Gill pictured on the right.



Susan Caton was only one down after fifteen, but never really got going. Mixed fortunes over the last three holes resulted in a 2 and 1 win for Cheshire.

Pictured on the left;



Tom and Barbara Jamieson (Cheshire) with Susan and her caddy Kate Ainsworth. At the end of their match, Pictured on the left; from left to right; Maggie Ayers, Clare, President Linda, Maureen Richmond and her caddy.

Match three was the highlight of the day and I wish I could have seen all of it. Clare Seddon and Maureen Richmond played some stunning golf, having nine birdies between them. A loss of 4 and 2 for Clare in no way reflected the standard of her play. No one deserved to lose this match. So now the match stood at three points to nil for Cheshire.



Ann Lowe continued her very good form this season, and delighted our supporters with a 5 and 4 win over Barbara Laird, and when Chris Stokes really dug in and played steady golf to edge out her opponent 2 and 1 it was game on.

Pictured on the left; from left to right, Barbara Laird, Jeanette Williams who caddied for Ann Lowe and Barbara's caddy.

Pictured below; from left to right, Caddy for Cheshire, Chris Stokes, Jane Burke (Cheshire) and Linda Noblett, Caddy for Chris



We needed two more points for overall victory or one and a half points to halve the match. We really needed the tail to wag, and boy did they try.



We were so close when Chris Appleby, tenaciously hanging in as usual, got the half after being one down after 17.

Pictured on the left; left to right Caddy Lynn Park, Chris, Gill Ward and her caddy

The last match between Carol Helme and Sara Spencer was a real battle of wills, and neither player managed to pull away. Erratic shots, great recoveries, it had it all. All square after 17.



A very nervy last hole that had both sets of supporters in turmoil, ended with a half in bogey 5. A remarkable score considering the build up to it, which included a frantic search, deep rough, a penalty area, a bunker, a near chip in, and a missed three footer. What drama.

Pictured on the left; from left to right; Sara Spencer and Carmel Hall, caddy for Carol, and Carol.

So a win for Cheshire four matches to three. Well

played and good luck.

Lancashire is certainly not out of it yet, as we are only half a point behind Cheshire, and I know the team will go all out to beat Yorkshire on the 25th July, again at West Lancashire.

As they say, it's all to play for.

