

SPORT

Read the latest sports news at
harrowtimes.co.uk/sport

GOLF: Club toast historic trophy-laden campaign



Grim's Dyke club captain Gill Smith (second left) with Lorenzo Ercoli, Ric Harvey and Colin Myrtle

Grim's Dyke golfers celebrate great season

GRIM'S Dyke Golf Club in Pinner have been celebrating an historic trophy-laden season after winning no fewer than eight men's team titles, including two county trebles and a double.

The club's Sabre Tigers marked their return to the top division by landing the Middlesex League, the County Cup and the prestigious Bullivant Bowl under the captaincy of Lorenzo Ercoli.

In a thrilling League play-off decider, Grim's Dyke defeated Northwood 2-1. They followed up by beating Hendon (2.5-1.5) in a hotly-contested County Cup final before overcoming Stanmore (2-1) in the Bullivant

ByLee Power
lee.power@newsquest.co.uk
[@Recorder_Power](https://www.facebook.com/Recorder_Power)

decider.

The Foxes also completed their own treble for the first time in the club's history.

Ric Harvey's men retained their County League title with a sudden death play-off victory over West Middlesex after the teams finished level at 3-3. They then lifted the Abrey Cup (their first since 1969) with a narrow triumph over Wyke Green (5-4) in the final.

And the Foxes completed the hat-trick by running away with the Middlesex Champion-

ship, scoring a mammoth total of 250 stableford points - 38 points clear of host club Ealing. Grim's Dyke's Rob O'Neill won the individual title.

The Rabbits, led by Colin Myrtle, claimed the Stanley West Memorial Trophy - for the second time in three years - with a 6-3 victory over local rivals Pinner in the best of nine singles.

The high handicappers then added the Talbot Cup with a three-point win at Old Ford Manor GC.

Grim's Dyke club captain Gill Smith said: "What a summer - and what a series of fantastic results for the club.

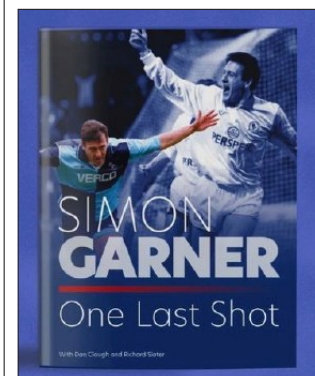
"The atmosphere in the clubhouse has been amazing. I can't remember one Sunday that I haven't been in the bar to celebrate either the Tigers, the Foxes or the Rabbits' successes.

"The inclusivity of our club has created a winning formula somehow. Of course, it's all down to the club having it's first female club captain!"

Grim's Dyke is a James Braid-designed parkland course located in Oxhey Lane, Pinner on the Middlesex/Hertfordshire border and was founded in 1910.

The club motto is "Everyone gets a game at Grim's Dyke" and this season it has indeed proved to be a winning formula.

Goal king Garner in new book



A new book chronicling the life and career of former Wealdstone star Simon Garner is now available to buy. And a host of former players and managers have got in on the act, giving their views on a club legend who remains a much-loved former player even three decades after leaving the club. In his book 'Simon Garner: One Last Shot' the striker reveals what it was like to be a 1980s football star as he charts his long career as a prolific striker, including his 14 years at Blackburn Rovers where he became the club's all-time leading goal scorer. The book expands on the 2003 autobiography 'There's Only One Simon Garner', written with former journalist Richard Slater, and has been co-written with another ex-journalist, Dan Clough. Garner, who lives in Buckinghamshire and works as a painter and decorator, said: "I thought there was more to say, and it was great to have so many of the lads I played with and some of my old managers get involved as well. "I loved being a footballer and I still love football now, but there's so much you forget about until you actually sit down and talk about it for something like this. So many great memories have come flooding back."

The book includes guest contributions from some of football's big names, including Kenny Dalglish and Martin O'Neill, while former Stones boss Gordon Bartlett has his say on Garner's two seasons at the club.

Garner scored 194 goals in a 14-year career at Ewood Park before helping West Brom and Wycombe to promotions. He helped Wealdstone to the Isthmian League Third Division title in 1997 and a second successive promotion in 1998, before stints at Windsor & Eton and Flackwell Heath.

He retired in 2000, but that isn't the end of the story, and the book, published by Northpoint and priced at £12.99 or £16.99 for a signed copy, is available to buy at www.simongarnerbook.co.uk.