



Druce Trophy

A brief history

In 1946 Mary Druce was elevated, at the SLCGA AGM, from Assistant Secretary to Secretary, for the next seven and a half years Mary who was known to her friends as 'Merry' worked tirelessly on behalf of SLCGA. Mary Druce increased the profile of the Association, increased membership and was a prime mover behind the establishment of the Junior Championship.

Mrs Druce was a member of Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club and dubbed the girls that came through the ranks as her 'crèche'. In 1953 'Merry's crèche' formed the basis of the Surrey team, which won the County Finals at Prince's, Sandwich, under the captaincy of Evelyn Halstead, the girls went off to celebrate at a funfair in Margate.

The committee of SLCGA were shocked, when Molly Gourlay announced at a meeting on 18th February 1954, that Mrs Druce had died unexpectedly in her sleep on 1st February. Her husband, a non-golfer, was keen to give a lasting legacy to SLCGA, because county golf had given her so much enjoyment.

SLCGA adopted a suggestion from West Hill Golf Club, that members of SLCGA should be invited to contribute donations towards a trophy that would ensure her name would be perpetuated in Surrey golf. Thus, the Druce Trophy came about and it was felt that 'Merry' would have wished as many clubs and golfers of various handicaps as possible to be involved. The present format was devised, a foursomes medal handicap eclectic, involving four members of each club, two of whom must be category 4 golfers.