

# WISHAW GOLF CLUB WORLD

It has been a while since the publication of the last newsletter and during this period there have been many changes both on and off the golf course.

We have seen the introduction of the new WHS handicapping system, which I believe most people are now getting used to.

But the largest impact has to be the COVID pandemic which, although we appear to have come through the worst of it, it is still having an effect on our lives.

Thankfully, the owners and directors of the Golf Club had the courage and belief not only to maintain the course through this period, but have also chosen to invest in more course improvements, as well as redeveloping the club house and installing a state-of-the-art golf simulator.

When we returned to golf after the lockdown, I think we were all pleasantly surprised as to just how good the course was looking, but it hasn't stopped there. Since then, we have seen the introduction of new teeing areas, which hopefully will be in play around May/June time, weather conditions permitting, and the clearing out of some of the scrub areas: the area to the right of the 1st green, along side the new second tee and the left-hand side of the pond on the 6th. Clearing these have all really enhanced the appearance of the course and will help with future maintenance by increasing air flow in these areas.

So, a big thank you and well done to Simon and his team, Stuart, Dean and young Rob.

We are aiming to publish a Newsletter every 3 or 4 months and hope that you enjoy reading it.

So that everyone has the opportunity to access the Newsletter, it will be published on the Club's website with a link to this emailed out to all members. There will also be printed copies in the Clubhouse for you to read while you enjoy your post-golf drink. Please do not remove copies from the Clubhouse.

As well as regular Captains reports there will be puzzles to test your golfing knowledge, a list of the Major competition winners and articles from Bob Bright.

Bob always manages to come up with interesting articles, either on the club the course or the flora and fauna to be found around the course.

If anyone would like to include their business card or articles of interest, please please email Elaine Pugh on [secretary@wishawgc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wishawgc.co.uk).

## NEW SEVENTH TEE



As you can see, this picture was taken some months ago and if you look back now from the 7th fairway, the view is very different.

One question at the AGM was "when will the competitions be qualifying for handicaps again?" This should happen when the first new tees constructed come into play which, weather permitting will be in early April. Once these tees are back in play, the course will measure enough to allow competitions to be qualifying.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to playing on the new tees and finding out what they will do to our handicaps!

### 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 we were finally able to hold an AGM, which I am happy to report was very well attended.

A total of 44 members attended the meeting where it was confirmed that Paul M Williams will take over as our Club Captain from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 and Darren Whitehouse was elected as his Vice Captain.

Sue Franklin has agreed to be the Lady Captain, serving for an unprecedented 3<sup>rd</sup> time to work alongside Paul and Lisa Perks was confirmed as Lady Vice Captain.

The Seniors' Team had met previously and elected Rob Pratt as their Vice Captain to work alongside their Captain, Kevin Daley.

Congratulations to all the Captains. I'm sure they will all do an excellent job in representing Wishaw Golf Club.

The other Committee members elected were: Elaine Pugh and Dave Franklin who will both continue for a further 2 years as Members' Committee Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Richard Langley will serve another year as Handicap and Competitions Secretary.

Unfortunately, Larry Barnes has stepped down as Members' Committee Chairman, a position he has held for over 20 years. Larry has done a terrific job over this period and his input to the running of Wishaw Golf Club will be sorely missed. Therefore, Paul Baker was nominated and elected as Members' Committee Chairman for a period of 1 year.

The full minutes from this meeting will be posted on the notice board in the clubhouse and will also be made available on the Club website.



# The Ryder Cup

The Ryder Cup was named after golf enthusiast, Samuel Ryder. In the 1920s he had made a fortune selling seeds for gardening in penny packets. Ryder, who was from St Albans, conceived the idea of an official match between the professional golfing associations of Britain and the United States. The idea came to him after attending an unofficial match between the two countries at Sunningdale in 1926. Ryder presented a trophy for a match to be played every second year and that trophy is still played for today. Ryder had his own private nine-hole course at St Albans and his own personal professional, Abe Mitchell. Mitchell was one of Britain's top tournament professionals at that time and it was he who modelled for the golfer shown in the address position on the top of the Ryder Cup.

**In the first 50 years of the Ryder Cup, British PGA teams only won on three occasions: at Moortown, Leeds in 1929, Southport and Ainsdale in 1933 and at Lindrick Yorkshire in 1957. However, there was never a win in the United States.**

**In 1979, a European team replaced the British PGA team and suffered three consecutive defeats before beating the Americans at the Belfry in 1985 and again 2 years later in America. The win in America in 1987 was the first time the Americans had been beaten on home turf. In 1989 at the Belfry, the halved match meant that the home team retained the trophy.**

## CAPTION CORNER



**SEND YOUR  
CAPTIONS TO  
BOB BRIGHT AT  
[bobsbright@aol.com](mailto:bobsbright@aol.com)**

# Puzzle Page

## How well do you know your course

### Question 1.

*Which green is this?*



### Question 2.

*How many bunkers are there on the course?*

### Question 3.

*You carry a score card with you each time you play which has the names of each hole. So what is hole 3 called?*

## Now for a few anagrams

*Name the famous golfers*

**Question 4.** MIDLAND TOOTH

**Question 5.** SIR NOSE JUT

**Question 6.** SLIP IN HEMLOCK

## Now for some trivia

**Question 7.** *The word 'GOLF' is an acronym that stands for Gentlemen Only. Ladies Forbidden. True or False?*

**Question 8.** *Who is the oldest player to win the Masters tournament?*

**Question 9.** *The Ryder Cup is named after English businessman Samuel Ryder who made most of his money selling what?*

**Question 10.** *Who was the 1st golfer to make a hole in one on television?*



# A BLAST FROM THE PAST

May we introduce you to Wishaw Golf & Country Club Ltd.

The site is situated in a natural country setting 1½ miles from the Belfry and two miles from Junction nine on the M42.

It is undulating parkland with a mature woodland within the boundary. Approximately 3000 new trees and shrubs are to be planted Autumn/Spring 1992/1993, to further enhance the natural beauty of the area. Many species of wildlife abound on site especially within the woodland (Fox covert).

Water hazards will create a challenge and be environmentally beneficial to the habitat of the area. Greens will be approximately five hundred square yards and expertly laid with specialist turf grown for the finest putting greens of Europe. They will be immaculately maintained by a skilled green-keeping staff.

Using the natural setting the Golf Course layout has been designed as a challenging test of golf for the experienced player and still give encouragement to the beginner.

Club House facilities will include changing rooms, bar/lounge and a well stocked professional shop. From the patio area extensive panoramic views of the surrounding countryside can be seen.

The course will commence with a par five.

Two new lakes will come into play on several holes, the lakes are designed so as to further enhance the natural beauty of the site and be visually outstanding.

Construction will commence Autumn '92. The course will be available for play Spring 1994 and whilst the course is maturing, subscriptions for 1994/95 will be reduced by 33%.

A limited membership is available. Because of the extended waiting lists in the area (8-10 years), the membership list is likely to be closed well before the official opening date.



Our consultant professional, Paul Dexter, a qualified teaching professional with many years experience, will be in attendance to assist you in club selection and all aspects of the game. Paul is a welcome addition to the management team of Wishaw Golf & Country Club.

For further information contact  
Wishaw Golf & Country Club on  
021 313 2110

We look forward to seeing you at Wishaw and will be only too pleased to show you this beautiful site at any time by prior arrangement.

Happy Golfing,

*Paul H. Joslin*

Paul H. Joslin.

MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL FEES	
Entrance Fee	£ 500.00
7 Day Subscription	£ 300.00
5 Day Subscription	£ 200.00
Ladies Entrance Fee	£ 300.00
7 Day Subscription	£ 200.00
5 Day Subscription	£ 150.00
Junior Entrance Fee	£ 100.00
7 Day Subscription	£ 100.00
Life Membership - No further subscriptions to pay	£5000.00

Corporate & Family Memberships Available.

  

APPLICATION FORM	
SURNAME.....	TITLE.....
FORENAMES.....	
ADDRESS.....	
POSTCODE.....	
TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED.....	
TEL. NO.....	OCCUPATION.....

My thanks to John Hewitt for allowing me to copy all the historical documents he has from the club's past which I will share with you in future issues.

Over the next series of quarterly issues, I will add more articles and course pictures to show you how the course and club has developed over the years.

Paul Jocelyn was the founder of the golf club and course and it was he who named it Wishaw Golf and Country Club. It was planned to open in the Spring of 1994 but it actually opened in May 1993.

Look at those fees £300 for a seven-day membership!

# NATURALLY ON THE COURSE

Grey Squirrels have been in the news recently in the national press. In particular one in Wales. The rodent condemned as a psycho by one victim attacked children, pensioners and pets in Buckley, North Wales. Many residents in the neighbourhood stayed indoors and the squirrel chased after those residents who ventured out. In all 21 people were left hurt with some of the injuries quite horrific needing hospital treatment. In the end a 65 year-old woman humanely trapped the squirrel (you can trap them but its against the law to release them as they are vermin). The lady called in the RSPCA who were obliged to euthanise the squirrel under the law.

The grey squirrel is not indigenous to this country and they are deadly to our very own red squirrel. The grey squirrel carries a small pox virus which does not affect them but when in the company of reds it transmits immediately to them and within days the red is horrendously infected and diseased see the picture below.

Grey squirrels are also carnivorous and will eat the young from nesting boxes. Some of you may have noticed the nesting boxes in Fox Covert.



# CAPTAIN'S COMMENTS

Well, I am now at the end of my captaincy and it's been quite a long, eventful stint to say the least!

I certainly didn't expect the Pandemic to start as soon as I took on the role of Captain.

The first year was almost a non-event with the club closed for such a long period of time, the country on red alert, everyone wondering what lay ahead and of course there was a lot of uncertainty about the future of Wishaw Golf Club and the way forward. But even through the worst of this pandemic, the management kept our course in good condition and even continued with some of the planned improvements. When we were able to resume golf again things were different but I think we were all surprised how good our course was looking.

Moving forward, look at us now, the management have shown optimism and continued with improving our club with investment in many areas, the main ones being the new greens, new tees and acquisition of new machinery. Going forward, our clubhouse is due to be redeveloped.

I would say that the future looks bright for our club.

On a personal note, I would like to say that, after a very poor first year, I have enjoyed the second term and been able to get more involved with the golfing organisation and events on the golfing calendar, I have been well supported by the membership and management alike. The sad thing is that we have been unable to have any social events at the club due to the pandemic and I have really missed this.

My intention was to take part in numerous events and play with different groups and get to know as many members as possible and I think I have largely achieved this. I met many new faces as I greeted on the Tee in our Captains Day and fun competitions some of which I would not normally see.

My Captains away events have both been well supported, Hill Valley being the first directly after the first wave of the pandemic. I can tell you it was touch and go whether to go ahead but it did and was a success and also raised a lot of money for our charity.

My second Captains away event was also a great success at Hawkstone Park, a great venue and again was well supported and raised a lot of cash for Macmillan's nurses.

Our Captains charity events at Wishaw have also been well supported and the members have been so generous with their involvement and donations. As you may be aware most of these events need a fair bit of organization and I am very grateful for the support I have been given right down to the guys who put up the Bunting and take the Photographs and the ladies at the halfway hut, all these people play a part in making these events successful.

I personally enjoy the club Knockout competitions through the spring and summer and recently added the winter knockouts. Match play is a great format and a great way of meeting and playing with other members, I would encourage more people to enter these competitions.

Good luck to Darren Whitehouse who is running the West Midlands team this year, I hope he gets the support he deserves.

We have now re-established our Greens Committee team and we have had many of our ideas considered by management and some implemented quite quickly. Members' ideas for improvements will always be considered.

I am a senior and part of the Wishaw Seniors team and was please that the local inter-club matches were able to be played in 2021 so am also looking forward to a full season with new Seniors' Team Captain, Kevin Daly in charge with organizer Richard Massey at the helm.

I am also looking forward to the coming season here when my Vice Captain Paul Williams will be taking over. He has been a great Vice Captain for me and I wish him every success for the coming year.



## VIEW FROM THE LADIES' LOCKER ROOM

It's been a tough time for everybody these last two years but now things are looking much more positive.

When I took on the role of Lady Captain, I had plenty of free time and was able play in the week and weekends but since acquiring my new job I haven't been able to play as much golf as I would have liked and not having a vice captain has been difficult. Thankfully Elaine Pugh has been at my side and covered most stuff that I couldn't. Thank you for that Elaine.

The ladies' membership stands at 29 which is a few more than previous years.

Sue Franklin and Barbara Kelsey have been looking after the ladies' competition golf. Thankyou Ladies. Over the past 2 years we have had good results in the external competitions. Sue & Jayne got to one of the NAPGC finals and were narrowly beaten for the trophy. The ladies' section has also competed in the Whitewebbs competitions with good results 2 points being the losing margin to get through in one of the rounds. Gina Wosket & Margaret Howitt represented the club in the Coronation foursomes at Droitwich, they achieved 8th place in a very competitive field.

Many thanks to Carmel Barwell who organizes all our friendly inter club matches, even managing to organise a couple of mixed team matches which have been very successful.

The ladies Tuesday & Thursday games have continued where Covid (and the weather) has allowed. Thanks to Elaine for organizing these.

The Ladies also had a nice away day at Druids Heath which Gina Wosket helped arrange and we all had a good time there.

I have enjoyed helping Neil with organizing the Captains' Day and Charity fun competitions. A special thankyou from me to the refreshment Ladies on the course who raised a lot of money with those fantastic cakes.

The improvements that are happening on the course at the moment are very encouraging and I am looking forward to some great golfing next season.

### Puzzle answers

Answer 1. *The green pictured is the seventh looking from the 15th fairway.*

Answer 2. *There are 48 bunkers in total.*

Answer 3. *The name of the 3rd hole is 'Clay Pits'*

Answer 4. *Tod Hamilton.*

Answer 5. *Justin Rose.*

Answer 6. *Phil Mickelson.*

Answer 7. *The answer is False and I wouldn't dare suggest otherwise to the ladies.*

Answer 8. *'Jack Nicklaus' he was 46 years and 82 days old.*

Answer 9. *'Garden seeds' (he originated the idea of selling plant seeds in small packets called 'Penny Packets.)*

Answer 10. *Tony Jacklin.*



## Senior Captain's Report

I was due to serve as senior captain of Wishaw golf club in 2020, but what a year - all 26 matches cancelled and a struggle to arrange the six rounds of the senior player of the year! Fortunately for me my captaincy was extended to include 2021.

Again, the year started with 6 matches being cancelled due to Covid. With the easing of restrictions, matches against other teams were able to take place either with or without meals, although Whitefields offered us a no brainer choice, £15 for the meal or £15 green fee charge (what a difficult decision!).

With the commencement of matches I began to feel the true pressures of Captaincy. The phone ringing the day before the match with a player now unavailable, on one occasion at 7.30 am the day of the match, leaving me the problem of finding a substitute. The feeling of frustration when going to the first tee with not a full complement, the relief on the course seeing the missing player on an adjoining fairway.

I became aware during my captaincy of the energy of the senior committee, and the assistance given freely to me was tremendous. The dedication of Richard Massey in producing the paperwork required for each meeting made my task so easy, as did his regular reassuring telephone calls.

The hardest action for myself, being a person who dislikes public speaking, was to stand at the front of a group and give a speech, tell a joke.

Do I regret my acceptance of being captain? NO WAY, I consider it an honour to have been asked to lead such a bunch of friendly seniors and all I can say is thank you one and all.

As a post script, it looks impressive on my CV!

Collin Green (senior captain 2020 and 2021)

## Looking to the Future



During the February half-term the Golf Club put on some taster sessions to encourage Junior Golf. Jason Allen organised his team and the sessions were quite well-attended.

The ages ranged from about 8 to 14 and the youngsters were able to get some tuition in chipping, putting and had part of their session in the 'shed' where they could use Alan's simulator. This part of the session was very popular with all of them!

Feedback from all the youngsters who attended and their accompanying adults was very encouraging so hopefully, the follow-up sessions on a Sunday afternoon will follow suit. These sessions will take place from 13th March for 10 weeks and will include not only the techniques to play the game but also course etiquette and basic rules.

If anyone would like their children/grandchildren to take part in these sessions, please let Richard know.

# Major Competition Winners 2021

Trophy	Winner	Runner-Up
Club Champion	Sam Knowles	David Sarson
Ladies' Club Champion	Vicki Haden	Anita Cheung
Nett Club Champion	David Sarson	Neil Bridges
Ladies' Nett Champion	Elaine Pugh	Jayne Proud
Littlewood Trophy	Colin Sarson	Ian Doyle
Alderwick Trophy	Colin Sarson John Harrison	Craig Harrison Anthony Broome
Mixed Foursomes	Craig Harrison Karen Bridges	Anthony Broome Elaine Pugh
Bridges Bowl	Daniel Price	Allen Watts
Midweek Knockout Cup	David Franklin	Paul M Williams
Graham Hadley Cup	Jamie Whitmore	Martin Littlewood
Mixed Pairs Knockout	Jayne Proud Craig Harrison	Anita Cheung Billy Simpson
Wishaw Cup	John Cattermole	Frankie Meszaros
Peddimore Pairs	Neil Bould Frankie Meszaros	Neil Radford John Greene
Medallist of the Year	Paul Baker	Simon Knowles
Stableford Trophy	Paul G Williams	Rod Tough
Members' Memorial Cup	Paul Masters	Andrew Gouldney
Seniors' Cup	Richard Aucutt	Andy Fellows
Seniors' Knockout	Rod Mahy	Robert Hateley
Directors' Rosebowl	Steve Hollis	Peter Littlewood
Wishaw Pairs Shield	Steve Price Ted Payne	Andy Woskett Andy Dawson
Ladies' Foursomes	Sue Franklin Jayne Proud	Vicki Haden Karen Bridges
Ladies' Knockout Shield	Vicki Haden	Anita Cheung
Ladies' Medallist	Elaine Pugh	Anita Cheung