



MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER

# Press Golfing Society

[www.pressgs.co.uk](http://www.pressgs.co.uk)

Pictures: IAN McILGORM

Dear Fellow Hacks and Hackers,  
Here we are on the brink of another season, brimming with all the perennial promise and possibility. It is a particularly enticing prospect for me as your captain for 2016. To captain the PGS is a great honour and I am very much looking forward to it.

I think I was one of the first broadcast journalists to join the Society. Of course there are loads of us around now, like Colorado beetles, but I will also be the first to have the privilege of becoming captain.

It's 20 years since I joined, and it would be impossible to measure the pleasures and joys the PGS has given me over that time, with so many great golf days played over great courses with great companions. I'm sure the year ahead will create many more lasting memories for us all.

As ever, we have a mouth-watering fixture list, which this year includes my home club, Maidenhead, the venue for Captain's Day on August 31. I hope to welcome many of you to our attractive and tricky course.

Last year's titanic struggle with the APG ended in a tie, so I'm hoping we will go at least half a point better this year when we take on the French on their own turf. They lead overall by 12-11, and it's high time we regained the Cup and levelled the series.

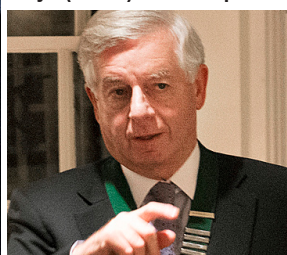
Here's to another memorable PGS golfing year.  
Jonathan



**CHAIN OF COMMAND**  
Tim Allan hands over the captaincy to his 2016 successor Jonathan Baker



**TIE OF FRIENDSHIP** former European Tour supremo Ken Schofield is honoured, while our president, Sir Nicholas Lloyd (below) makes a point



The Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy

**NEXT MEETING:**

## Worplesdon

Monday 21st March  
[worpledongc.co.uk](http://worpledongc.co.uk)  
Heath House Road,  
Woking, Surrey  
GU22 0RA  
Tel: 01483 472277

Book-in before 14th March.  
Contact PAOLO MINOLI  
Email: [pgssecretary@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:pgssecretary@blueyonder.co.uk)  
Tel: 02088006244

## 2016 Fixtures

Worplesdon  
Monday 21st March

Tandridge  
Monday 9th May

Walton Heath  
President's & Guest Day  
Wednesday 1st June

Coombe Hill  
Monday 4th July

Ashridge  
Tuesday 26th July

Maidenhead  
Captain's Day  
Wednesday 31st August

The Berkshire  
AGM  
Tuesday 20th September

The Berkshire  
Scramble  
Tuesday 15th November

## Baker's got us cooking!

PROFESSOR Jonathan Baker takes charge of his first 2016 meeting as PGS captain at Worplesdon later this month.

The former BBC man, and now head of journalism at Colchester University, is the first broadcast journalist to wear the chain of office in our 112 years.

Tim Allan's 2015 term was marked by near record turnouts, a magnificent Wryter Cup at Royal Portrush and golf legend Ken Schofield becoming an honorary member.

The undoubted highlight was the annual match against the French APG, which finished in a thrilling 16-16 draw.

Sadly, that meant the French retained the trophy, but the wonderful craic in Portrush and the magnificence of what will soon once again be an Open Championship course will be remembered by all lucky enough to be there.

Other highlights included 50 people turning up to play at Ashridge on captain's day, the monsoon which threatened to

wash away Hadley Wood and a wonderful Christmas scramble day at The Berkshire.

The final event of 2015 was ►



**TIM'S TIGERS** Skipper Allan's Wryter Cup battlers claimed a valiant tie at Royal Portrush in our 25th annual match against the French Press

Newsletter edited  
by TIM ALLAN  
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## 2016 Matches

Captains' reunion  
Walton Heath  
Tuesday 5th April

PGS v Northcliffe  
Hunstanton &  
Royal West Norfolk  
24–25 April

PGS v SEGS  
Royal Mid Surrey  
Tuesday 24th May

PGS v Stage GS  
Richmond  
Monday 27th June

Phil Sheldon  
Trophy  
Muswell Hill  
Monday 12th September

APG v PGS  
XXVI Wryter Cup  
Le Touquet  
25–27 September

PGS v LSGS  
Royal St George's  
Monday 26th September

Annual Dinner  
TBC

## The Berkshire 2015 -Scramble Results

THE Christmas scramble at The Berkshire was a bumper day out, with 19 teams teeing off for the shotgun start.

Tim Allan led his team to victory on countback with a gross 64 (see results below) but the biggest winner was the Journalists' Charity, which is £2,900 better off after our post-match auction.

Thanks to Monty Court for once again wielding the gavel, to sponsors Paddy Power and to our generous donors, in particular La Manga Club, who put up two prizes.

64 – winners on countback  
Sam Morgan, Tim Allan,  
Paul Buttle, Duncan Jeffcock

64 Andrew Inglis, Jon Moorhead,  
Felix Duckworth, Chris Stevens

65 Brian Jackson, Paul Sweeney,  
Paddy Power, Rory Scott

65 David Lucas, Phil Johnston,  
Neil Darbyshire, Alex Lucas

## FIRST MEETING: MONDAY, 21st MARCH WORPLESDON

### MEDAL ROUND

Lord Riddell Memorial  
Trophy (best nett score)  
Holder: James Nursey nett 70

Best gross score 2015:  
Andy Glen 77 (on countback)

It's a maximum field of 51, playing in three-balls from 9am off the 1st and 15th tees.

The first 16 qualify for the Sir Emsley Carr Memorial Trophy knockout (right), with the draw made after the prizegiving.

If you do NOT wish to play in the Emsley Carr, please tell Paolo or mention it at the start of the day so other members get a chance to pit their matchplay wits.  
Lunch dress code: Jacket & tie please.

### ENTRIES

To Paolo Minoli at: 90 Fairholt Road, London N16 5HN, on 020 8800 6244 or email: pgssecretary@blueyonder.co.uk If your email entry hasn't been acknowledged, call Paolo. The start sheet is open from now until midday on Monday 14th March.

### COST

£75 per golfer, including coffee, bacon rolls, 18 holes medal round and fabulous lunch.



### PRIZES

First three in Division 1, and first three in Div 2. There's also a bottle of champagne for best gross score.

### TELEPHONE

You can leave a message at the club on 01483 472277. However, there are no caddies, and caddie cars are limited.  
Pro shop: 01483 473287

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### BY CAR:

From the M3:  
Exit J3 and take first left, A322 to Lightwater and Guildford. Go four miles and when you pass West Hill GC on the left, just after the next S-bend is the sign for Heath House Road and

Worplesdon GC. The club is halfway down on the right.

From the A3:  
Exit at Guildford and follow slip road, turn left at traffic lights and then immediately right. Follow until you see signs for A322 to Bagshot. Drive for four miles and the small sign for Worplesdon GC is on the right.

#### BY TRAIN:

Option 1: Waterloo to Woking 25mins and a 15mins taxi ride.

Option 2: Waterloo to Worplesdon 33mins. Two mins drive from the club, but no taxi rank.

WORKING TAXI MUST BE BOOKED.

**POSTCODE: GU22 0RA**

► the annual dinner, held at Duke's Hotel, St James's Place. Guest of honour was former European Tour boss Ken Schofield, who recalled some great stories of the fabulous players he has known, including Seve Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Sandy Lyle and Ian Woosnam. At the end of his speech, Tim presented him with our tie and made him an honorary member of the society.

Tim said: "It was a truly memorable year for me and, I hope, for many others in the PGS."

"It was such a huge honour to follow so many great journalists who were captains before me – I am sure Jonathan will be a brilliant captain in 2016 and I wish him every success."

## Sign up now for Worplesdon

WORPLESDON is again the venue for the first meeting of the PGS year – our one and only medal round – on Monday, March 21.

The Surrey course is a tough test of golf in any conditions. The cost this year is £75, which includes one round, bacon roll and coffee on arrival and a splendid lunch in their very traditional dining room.



WHEN I'M SIXTY-FOUR.. Scramble champions Tim Allan, Duncan Jeffcock, Sam Morgan and Paul Buttle with new 2016 Captain Jonathan Baker (centre)

As detailed above, the top 16 will qualify for the Emsley Carr, our matchplay knockout. If you DON'T want to play in it, let Paolo know before you tee off.

To book your place at Worplesdon, just email Paolo – pgssecretary@blueyonder.co.uk

Worplesdon also sees the start

of this year's Fantasy Manager. To enter, just nominate your top four in the 2016 order of merit (aka the John Gordon Golden Putter table), add a tie-breaker predicting the year's best Stableford score and hand over a crisp fiver.

Enter at Worplesdon or email Paolo your selection. Good luck!

