

Next up...

**TEMPLE**  
MONDAY  
23rd APRIL

templegolfclub.co.uk  
Henley Road, Hurley  
Berkshire  
SL6 5LH

## 2018 FIXTURES

**Temple**  
Monday 23rd April

**Royal Mid Surrey**  
Match v SEG5  
Tuesday 8th May

**Reigate Heath**  
Captains' reunion  
Thursday 10th May

**Walton Heath**  
President's Day,  
Tuesday 29th May

**Richmond**  
Match v The Stage  
Monday 4th June

**Hadley Wood**  
Monday 2nd July

**Ashridge**  
Tuesday 24th July

**Fulwell**  
Captain's Day  
Monday 20th August

**Muswell Hill**  
Phil Sheldon Trophy  
TBC

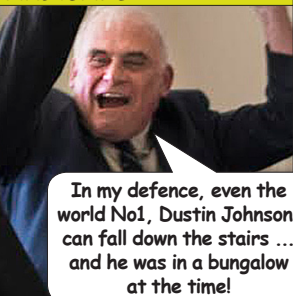
**Royal St George's**  
Match v LSG5  
Monday 10th September

**The Berkshire (AGM)**  
Tuesday 25th September

**XXVIII Wryter Cup**  
Match v APG  
Chantilly, 1-3 October

**The Berkshire**  
Scramble  
Tuesday 13th November

## 'ANDICAPS



In my defence, even the world No1, Dustin Johnson, can fall down the stairs ... and he was in a bungalow at the time!

Newsletter edited by  
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Picture: DAVID CRUMP



**CLIFFE-HANGER:**  
Match skipper Khalid Javed and Northcliffe captain Lee Terry (left)

## Fern-DOWN for the PGS (and Gwyneth...)

THE PGS emerged bloodied but unbowed from the annual battle with the Northcliffe at the end of March.

The match, played over two days at Ferndown Golf Club, finished 8½-7½ to the Northcliffe.

But the PGS, leading 5-3 overnight, played the final day two men short after Paul Trow's unfortunate tumble down a flight of stairs overnight. He spent the next morning in hospital, accompanied by his friend/carer Kevin Price.

Fortunately, there was no lasting damage to Gwyneth, but the team had to play two matches a man short and lost the second day 5½-2½.

Next year's match will be played at Open venue Hoylake.

Nic Brook will captain the team so do let him know if you'd like to be considered for the match, which will be on March 24-25, 2019.

## Taylor sews up victory

IT proved 'Elementary, my dear Taylor' as the PGS kicked off another season with our annual medal round at the club where Sherlock Holmes creator Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was a member.

Former Sunday Times journo Simon solved the puzzle of how to conquer the New Zealand as he picked up the Lord Riddell trophy with a net score of 67!

Taylor, shot a gross 89 to stake an early claim for this year's Wryter Cup team.

After picking up his prize from 2018 PGS captain Ian Woods, Taylor said: "My handicap had only just gone out to 22 so it was a big surprise to play so well."

Paul Trow gave his Wryter Cup hopes a huge boost by winning Divi-



**THE SIGN OF FORE:** New Zealand winners Paul Trow, Simon Taylor and Dylan Dronfield pose with PGS captain Ian Woods

sion One with a net 69 off 12, which was good enough for second overall.

Just days after the Beast of the East had brought chaos to the country, the par 68 New Zealand was a little soggy but still in

great condition and scoring was noticeably worse than last year. But Sky News' three-handicapper Dylan Dronfield had the Round of the Baskervilles (sorry!) with the best gross score of 78.

## Murray's on the march

SUNDAY Express newsdesk boss Jim Murray is the first man through to the second round of the Emsley Carr matchplay knockout.

Jim travelled to Muswell Hill to play Brian Lee, but the Scot couldn't make home advantage pay.

In the other first-round ties,

New Zealand winner Simon Taylor triumphed over Nick Jones at Ashridge, while the Muswell maulers Paul Trow and Kevin Price will do battle on their home course.

Former PGS secretary Paolo Minoli will take on Keith Malone in a repeat of last year's final, while last year's Wryter Cup

debutant Steve Lewis travels to Woburn to tee it up against Bryan Nickless.

Former captain Peter Dazeley was drawn against Tony Smith, Ric Papineau has a showdown with Colin Hancock, while Duncan Farmer meets Felix Duckworth.

Full draw at [pressgs.co.uk](http://pressgs.co.uk)



# Geoffrey White, farewell to a PGS legend

WHEN Geoffrey White died earlier this year, he had been a member of the PGS for almost exactly half its existence.

The society started in 1904 and Geoff joined in February, 1961 - his membership spanned an almost unimaginable 57 years. But for his efforts in the early 1970s, the society could well have gone under.

There is little doubt that the handlebar-moustached former Daily Mail chief photographer was the longest-serving PGS member in our illustrious history.

He captained the society in 1971 and was secretary from 1972-80 before being elected a life vice-president.

When Geoff became captain, he took charge of a society that was virtually bankrupt and dying on its feet after a succession of disastrous secretaries and treasurers.

Our numbers were shrinking and meetings barely covered their costs, as the support of the News of the World, which had subsidised the PGS for years, had gone when the Carr family sold up to Rupert Murdoch.

The plight of the PGS was not the only thing on Geoff's mind. His own newspaper, the Daily Sketch was folding, with the loss of many jobs, to be merged in with the Mail.

Despite that, not only did he take on the captaincy but he also took on the secretary

and treasurer's jobs. Spurred on by him, the committee decided on launching a membership drive (with subs doubled to £2!) and slowly we managed to struggle out of the red.

And, although she was certainly nobody's idea of a Chancellor, his then wife Peggy came along to meetings to collect the money. She was made an honorary life member of the society and our women - when we have enough of them - still play for the Peggy White Vase.

It was because we were so strapped for cash, that when a member, through the generosity of a friend, presented us with a couple of drivers Geoff scrounged a few more gifts to use as the prizes at one of our meetings.

And that was how our charity day - now called the Christmas Scramble - started. For the following five or six years the goodies brought in by members were auctioned in favour of the NUJ widows' and orphans' fund until some members protested about NUJ politics and, in 1977, the proceeds were given to the Newspaper Press Fund (now the Journalists' Charity).

Throughout his years as Secretary he bustled round courses, resplendent in his red sweater and long red socks under plus-tuos. He also pleaded, almost to an embarrassing degree, for

favourable deals for the Press Golfing Society.

He did the same with hotels and courses in Portugal when he organised the first of the PGS overseas meetings.

With his Flying Officer Kite moustache bristling he looked the cartoon image of the Spitfire pilot he had been during the war.

He was an unorthodox but courageous golfer, single figures for a while and a fierce match player who played right-handed but putted (very well) left.

He once had a putt for 50 points in a Stableford event and won the Emsley Carr trophy in 1968, among many other singles victories in the PGS.

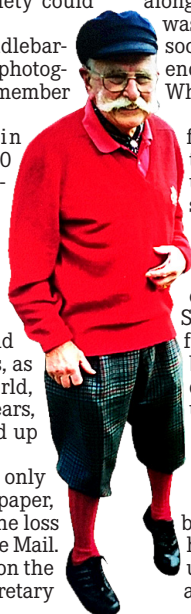
He lived at The Addington Golf Club for many years before moving down to the south coast with his second wife, June, where he saw out a long and happy retirement.

When he handed over the secretarial reins to Jeremy Chapman in 1980 the books were in pristine order, with a page for every member and handicaps noted meticulously. The Society was unrecognisable from the one he took over.

The PGS owes Geoff a huge thank-you. Without him, we could easily have been a thing of the past.

*By Monty Court and Jeremy Chapman*

**MEMBERS** will be sad to learn that Mike Conway's wife, Jennie, who accompanied him on several overseas PGS trips, passed away on March 16.



## SECOND MEETING: MONDAY, 23rd APRIL

### COMPETITIONS

AM: Stableford singles for the News of the World Trophy. Holder: Steve Lewis.  
PM: Greensomes Stableford for the Sir Leicester Harmsworth Memorial Trophy (right) won last year by Keith Ging & Tony Smith

### COST

£70 per golfer, includes coffee, bacon roll, golf and lunch. Pay online acc 40749648, sort code 204141.

### DRESS CODE

Jacket and tie for lunch.

### ENTRIES

Send to Tim Allan, on 01494776914. Or you can email Tim at: pgssecretary@gmail.com The start sheet is open from now until Thursday, April 19.

### PRIZES

AM: First three in Division 1, and first three in Div 2. PM: First three pairs.

### TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at the club on 01628 824795.

### HOW TO GET THERE

**By Car**  
From M4  
Leave at Junction 8/9 Follow the A404(M) (signposted Henley) for 3.5 miles. Take the exit for the A4130 (signposted Henley). At Burchetts Green roundabout turn right (signposted Henley). Temple Golf Club is about half a mile up the road on the right.

### From M40

Leave at Junction 4 Follow the A404 (signposted Maidenhead) for 5 miles.

## TEMPLE

At Bisham roundabout go straight over (signposted Maidenhead). Take the exit for the A4130 (signposted Henley). At Burchetts Green roundabout turn right (signposted Henley). Temple Golf Club is half a mile up the road on the right.

### By Train

Maidenhead is the nearest station. Taxi from there should take approximately 15 minutes.

### POSTCODE for satnavs

**SL6 5LH**