



Press Golfing Society

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

www.pressgs.co.uk

Next up...
TEMPLE
MONDAY
29th APRIL
www.templegolfclub.co.uk
Henley Road, Hurley
Berkshire
SL6 5LH

Remaining 2019 fixtures

REIGATE HEATH

Captains' reunion
Thursday, May 9

ROYAL MID SURREY

Match v Stock Exchange GS
Tuesday, May 14

WALTON HEATH

President's Day,
Tuesday, May 28

EFFINGHAM

Thursday, June 27

ROYAL BLACKHEATH

Hickory match v British Golf
Collectors Society
Wednesday, July 3

RICHMOND

Match v The Stage GS
Monday, July 8

ASHRIDGE

Tuesday, July 23

THE SHIRE

Captain's Day
Monday, August 19

ROYAL ST GEORGE'S

Match v London Solicitors GS
Monday, September 9

THE BERKSHIRE (AGM)

Tuesday, September 17

CARNOUSTIE

XXIX Wryter Cup
Match v APG
Sep 30 – Oct 2

72nd ANNUAL DINNER

Friday, November 9

THE BERKSHIRE

Scramble & Auction
Tuesday, November 12

THE SIR EMSLEY CARR DRAW

James Nursey v Colin Hancock
Keith Ging v Rick Evans
Jon Jones v Duncan Farmer
Khalid Javed v Roderick Easdale
Tony Smith v Ross Slater
Rob Hewer v Peter Solomons
Ben Monro Davies v Paolo Minoli
Jamie Weir v Jonny Bramley

All matches to be played by April 30

Newsletter edited
by TIM ALLAN
pgssecretary@gmail.com



PIN IN! Jamie drains the winning putt on the 18th at West Hill, and below, with captain Khalid

Pictures: PATRICK EAGAR

SHY and retiring Jamie Weir stormed to victory in our West Hill medal to get the 2019 season off to a cracking start.

Playing off 14, the Sky Sports presenter blitzed the Surrey gem to finish with a net 72 and claim the Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy.

It was a fitting reward for some sparkling golf, played in tough conditions after lots of rain in the run-up to the day. And it puts Jamie in great shape to make our Wryter Cup team, which this year will take on the French at Carnoustie.

The West Hill greens proved tricky for some – slow on the uphill putts but lightning quick on the downhill ones – but not for our winner.

The notoriously humble and reserved Jamie said: "They always say the highest compliment you can pay a golf course is that it produces great champions."

He topped the Division Two standings, finishing one ahead of Roderick Easdale and two clear of Rick Evans, who took third on count-back.

Jamie has so far resisted the temptation to produce a four-hour Sky Sports Golf documentary on his triumph.... but only just.

In Division One, Dylan Dronfield claimed the best

Quiet man Jamie walks away with the Lord Riddell

gross round of the day with an impressive 76, but it wasn't quite enough to take first place.

That went to Jon Jones who, playing off 11, also finished with a net 73 to take the top spot on count-back. Jonny Bramley took third place a shot further back.

The medal round is also the qualifier for our Sir Emsley Carr matchplay knockout, with the top 16 qualifying for the summer-long event.

Please remember that all

first-round ties need to be played by April 30. If you're struggling to achieve that, please let secy Tim Allan know.

There are some cracking ties to look forward to, with an all Northern Ireland clash between Jamie Weir and Jonny Bramley, James Nursey making his annual attempt on the title against Colin Hancock and a potential all Mannings Heath clash in the next round between Tony Smith and Rob Hewer.

In case you're wondering why Dylan doesn't feature, the combined pressures of work, family and living in Rutland mean he has opted to sit it out.

..and a note to Jamie's dad

Dear Jamie Weir's dad,

Anything Rory McIlroy can do, your boy can do better.

Because as any PGS member knows, the society's Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy is a far more historic prize than the US PGA Tour Players Championship.

Our event dates back to 1936 – against 1974 for the upstart newcomer.

OK, so this year's TPC winner Rory walked away with £1.7million.

But less than 24 hours after his St Patrick's Day triumph our 2019 champ – like him, a Northern Irishman – took home far more than just the case of wine for first prize.

After going round Surrey's extremely tough and classy West Hill course in a net 3-over 72, Jamie remarked plaintively in the changing room: "My dad loves Rory McIlroy so much I think he'd swap me for him as his son."

Mr Weir Snr can't think that now, surely.

As Jamie declared while clutching the proof that he too is a golf champion: "It's been a great two days for Northern Ireland."

– Keith Ging





Merseybeat Northcliffe find it a breeze at Hoylake

THE PGS suffered a third defeat in a row at the hands of a rampant Northcliffe GS last month.

We thought we'd put together a crack squad for the match at Royal Liverpool, led by local lad and club member Nic Brook.

But at close of play on a windy Day One we had only mustered three halves in the eight games, leaving it too much of an uphill struggle for the second day.

Skipper Brook reflected on the thrashing, saying "How come we managed to get more points last year at Ferndown, where half our team were in A&E? Wirral doomed! Wirral sacked!"

Match result aside however, it was a splendid trip and the host club treated us royally. A huge thanks to Hoylake!



NORTHCLIFFE BY NORTH WEST
Brookie congratulates NGS captain Nick Stevens on a hat-trick of wins
Pictures: IAN McILGORM



THE Hoylake links practice paid dividends for PGS team members Ian McIlgorm, Jamie Weir & Ian Woods (left) a week later, when they played in a media day at July's Open venue, Royal Portrush. Teaming up with Haydn MacKenzie (son and nephew of PGS members Kelvin and Craig), their two-best-from-four score of 81 points was good enough to triumph against teams from UTV, BBC-NI and the AGW. Club secretary Wilma Erskine was in top form and delighted that 'her boys' had won. Well done, lads!

On yer bike, Tom

PGS member Tom Pilcher is riding 502kms (312 miles) from Falmouth to London in July, to raise money for Cyclists Fighting Cancer. And all in ONE day!

No wonder Tom is rarely seen on the golf course these days!

The "Ride the Trafalgar Way" route is inspired by the epic 1805 journey of Captain John Richards Lapenotière, who brought the news of victory in the Battle of Trafalgar and the death of Nelson to the Admiralty in London.

It took Lapenotière 37 hours, which Tom and two pals are hoping to better (24 hours is

the maximum amount of time allowed) providing their trusty bikes and legs don't fail on them...

Tom's friend George's 12-year-old godson Rory recently underwent months of chemo and radiotherapy after being diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma (a rare form of bone cancer).

The trio are hoping to raise money for a charity close to their hearts - you can follow their story here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/TomGeorgeChris500>

Any spare cash would be gratefully received. Thank you! We'll report back in July with pictures and the trio's time.

SECOND MEETING: MONDAY, 29th APRIL

TEMPLE

COMPETITIONS

AM: Stableford singles for the News of the World Trophy. Holder: Simon Taylor
PM: Greensomes Stableford for the Sir Leicester Harnsworth Memorial Trophy (right) won last year by Ben Monro-Davies & Dylan Dronfield

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 Tuesday, April 23.

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.

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