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FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Press Golfing Society

A message from our 2020 captain, Colin Hancock

Dear PGS,

Greetings, all - I hope your year is going well.

My thanks to Khalid, Paolo and Tim for an excellent 2019 and to Dylan for kindly agreeing to be my vice-captain.

I'll do everything I can to help make the PGS's 2020 as enjoyable and successful as possible: think of it as one of the many upsides of partial employment.

We're playing some lovely courses, from West Hill and Walton Heath to Ashridge and The Berkshire, and including Royal Ashdown Forest for Captain's Day on Monday 17th August (there's a nice feature here: <https://www.golfworldtop100.com/golf-course-reviews/england/royal-ashdown-forest-golf-club>).

Thanks to that shy Mr Weir's tentative suggestion, we'll be playing an 11-hole scramble in the afternoon. Please put it in the diary: it's a

wonderful, friendly club, so open-minded they've just allowed our own Mr Hewer to join.

The French choice of Granville (an historic Colt links near St Malo) for the Wryter Cup gives everyone a great incentive to qualify: good luck to all and do keep October 4th - 6th free.

I hope we can send our strongest possible team to ~~erush~~ the French win back the cup.

One final thing. I'd really like us to keep a focus on introducing new sponsors and members to ensure the PGS continues in robust health.

As a small incentive, and as I tend to prefer helping out while still alive, everyone who introduces either a member or sponsor will play their next meeting for half price. A free lunch in a cruel world.

Have a great year and I hope to see you at West Hill.

- Colin



Berkshire Scramble auction raises £3,300

MORE than 70 people turned out for our annual Christmas Scramble at The Berkshire and helped raise more than £3,300 at the following auction.

There was the usual array of glittering auction lots, from a Callaway driver to a week in La Manga, from any amount of alcohol to a fair bit of golfing tat and it all flew away under the no-nonsense auctioneering of Ian McIlgorm.

Big Mac was in sparkling form after helping his Scramble team retain the trophy they won in 2019, this time with an almost unbelievable net score of 57.5!

The team, featuring fellow-Irishmen Ian Woods and Rod Ferguson, along with honorary Irishman John Morgan, ripped The Red course apart finishing well clear of a field left floundering in their wake.

It's fair to say that the handicaps will be reviewed before the 2020 running of this wonderful event.

Once again, the auction highlight was the picture Kevin Price had brought to last year's auction. Back then, many people paid £5 each to ensure he took



it home again - and they did exactly the same this time around.

Kev will be going for a hat-trick at the end of this season!

All the auction proceeds have been sent to the Journalists' Charity.



GREEN GIANTS ...AGAIN! The Berkshire winners Ian McIlgorm, Ian Woods, John Morgan and Rod Ferguson receive their prizes from captain Hancock



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2020 FIXTURES

PRINCE'S & ROYAL CINQUE PORTS

Northcliffe GS v PGS
March 1 & 2

FULWELL

Monday, April 20

REIGATE HEATH

Captains, Cttee & Seniors
Thursday, April 30

ROYAL MID-SURREY

PGS v SEGS
Tuesday, May 12

EFFINGHAM

Thursday, May 21

WALTON HEATH

President's & Guest Day
Tuesday, June 16

RICHMOND

The Stage GS v PGS
Monday, July 13

ASHRIDGE

Tuesday, July 21

ROYAL BLACKHEATH

Hickory Match v BGCS
Monday, July 27

ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST

Captain's Day
Monday, August 17

THE BERKSHIRE

Tuesday, September 22

GRANVILLE

XXX Wryter Cup
October 4 - 6

THE BERKSHIRE

Scramble & Auction
Tuesday, November 10

Newsletter edited
by TIM ALLAN
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Thanks for everything, Paddy

AFTER 13 years of noble sponsorship, Paddy Power Betfair have decided to spend their money on something else this year.

We're very sorry to see them go because, under Paddy's brilliant leadership, they were huge supporters of the PGS and will be very much missed.

It presents a huge challenge for all of us.

The sponsorship money helped us subsidise the cost of some of our more expensive days, so that will be increasingly hard to do.

If anyone has any brilliant (or even not very brilliant) ideas as to how we might pull in some sponsorship money then do let me know.

In the good old days, every paper in

Fleet Street helped us out with a few hundred quid each year – sadly, it's now just The Sun and The Mirror who support us.

Paddy himself is still a very keen member of the PGS and we very much look forward to seeing him at our meetings this year.

Thanks again, Paddy – you're a star!

L'association de la Press Golfing Society et du golf

OUR French colleagues in the APG have extended an invitation to all PGS members to play in any of their days this year.

As you'll see from the list below, they have rather more competitions than us and play some pretty good courses, mainly around Paris.

So if you're in France on any of those dates and fancy a knock with the APG, let PGS secretary Tim Allan (pgssecretary@gmail.com) know and he'll make the introductions.

Their meetings are generally 18 holes only and cost around 50 euros.

2020 APG fixtures

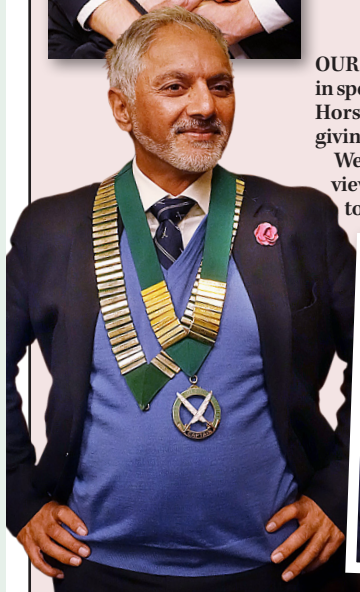
MARCH 31	Chantilly-Vineuil
APRIL 1	TBC
APRIL 8	Golf des Yvelnes
APRIL 22	Domaine de Crecy
APRIL 28	Bussy-Guermantes
MAY 7	L'Isle Adam
MAY 11	Stade Francais Courson
MAY 20	Feucherolles
MAY 28	Disney
JUNE 2	Chantilly-Vineuil
JUNE 3	Golf Int. de la Baule
JUNE 9	La Vaucouleurs
JUNE 18	Le Prieure
JULY 1	Rebetz
JULY 22	St Germain
JULY 28	Apremont
AUG 14	Fontainebleau
AUG 31	Les Aisses
SEPT 9	Rochefort-en-Yvelines
SEPT 22	Roissy
OCT 4-6	Wryter Cup: Granville
OCT 13	Chantilly-Vineuil
OCT 20	Saint-Cloud



Well played, Khalid

OUR 2019 captain Khalid Javed signed off in spectacular style by taking us to the Royal Horseguards Hotel for the annual prize-giving dinner.

We were in the splendid River Room, with views across the Thames – a fitting venue to end what was a great year for Khalid.



MANY congratulations to long-standing PGS member Tim Dickson, on his nomination as captain at Royal St George's.

The "Golf Quarterly" editor takes office from Easter; just three months before the Kent club hosts the 149th Open Championship.

By our reckoning the Portrush man will be the first PGS member

Dickson of top green

to "hold" the Claret Jug since our own Harold Hilton won The Open in 1897 – as it will be his honour to hand the trophy to this year's

winner at the official presentation.

Tim, who was also captain at Royal Wimbledon in their 150th year, is happy to facilitate any press enquiries about this year's Championship at Sandwich.

If you have any questions relating to the club's fifteenth staging of The Open, contact Tim at editor@golfquarterly.co.uk

FIRST MEETING: MONDAY, 16th MARCH

WEST HILL



WEIR THE CHAMPIONS!
Jamie, Khalid & The Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy

MEDAL ROUND

For the Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy (best nett score)
Holder: Jamie Weir, nett 72.
Dylan Dronfield scored best gross 76.

Play in threes from 8:56am. The top 16 qualify for the Sir Emsley Carr Memorial Trophy (right) knockout, with the draw being made after the prizegiving.

If you don't wish to play in the Emsley Carr, please notify Tim, to allow other members to compete.

COST

£78 per golfer, includes a great lunch and chance to catch up with PGS pals

after the long winter hibernation.
Pay online acc 40749648
sort code 204141.

ENTRIES

Send to secretary Tim Allan.
You can email Tim at:
pgssecretary@gmail.com

PRIZES

First three in both divisions.

TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at reception on 01483 474365.

HOW TO GET THERE

By Train Brookwood Station is a ten minute walk from the clubhouse.

POSTCODE for satnavs

GU24 0BH

