



AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

# Press Golfing Society

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Pictures: PAOLO MINOLI

**PODIUM** Ashridge winners Neil White, Andy Glen, Russell Dewey and Steve Lewis with captain Dylan



**PRICELESS**  
Ace Kevin,  
cap'n Dylan  
and the ball

## WALTON HEATH RESULTS

Division One (0-14): 1st Andrew Porter, 37pts; Rob Hewer, 35 (on countback); 3rd Khalid Javed, 35.  
Division Two: 1st Nev Appleton, 41pts, wins the Reg Hinder Memorial Trophy; 2nd Jono Baker, 38; 3rd John Quinn, 37.  
Foursomes: 1st Nev Appleton & Neil Percival, 36pts; Jonny Bramley & Tim Owers, 35; Khalid & Gabriel Javed, 34.

## ASHRIDGE RESULTS

Division One (0-14): 1st Steve Lewis, 37pts, wins the Memorial Salver (on countback); 2nd Felix Duckworth, 37; 3rd Khalid Javed, 35. Division Two: 1st Russell Dewey, 36pts (on cb); 2nd Graham Marsden, 36; 3rd Hugh Whittow, 32.  
Greensomes: 1st Andy Glen & Neil White, 36pts, win The Sir Harry Brittain Trophy (on cb); 2nd Ben Monroe-Davis & Dylan Dronfield, 36; 3rd Tim Allan & Mark Lomas, 34.

**FEELS GOOD**  
Kissin' it



Next up...  
**CAPTAIN'S DAY at LUFFENHAM HEATH**  
Monday, 23rd August

**BALCONY** Summer sunset at the Hertfordshire gem



## Pricey's ace at Knob's Crook

SUN man Steve Lewis scorched to victory on another glorious day at Ashridge but the Mirror's Kevin Price still managed to steal the limelight.

Lewis expertly plotted his route through brutal rough to a superb 37pts, just pipping Felix Duckworth on countback to claim the PGS Memorial Salver.

But it was Price with the bubbly on the balcony after an ace at the 8th.

The Hertfordshire course, home to PGS secretary Tim Allan and Nick Jones, looked particularly resplendent with high, golden rough framing the fairways, a legacy of the Women's Senior Amateur staged earlier in the month. But woe-betide anyone who tried to find a ball in it.

"I didn't use driver once, which seemed to work. Just stayed out of all the trouble", said Lewis. Others were not so sensible.

"To be honest I felt a bit emotional, bizarrely. I've been so bad for the last two years, I've nearly given the game up so many times it's

### FOURTH MEETING: ASHRIDGE

been that rough, so to soldier on and actually play half decent and win one felt good. Was typical of Pricey to grab all the attention though!"

In fact Lewis witnessed Price's moment of glory, unlike the Mirror man's regular balcony buddy Nick Jones who was one of several to fall victim to the pingdemic.

"It was a pretty tired 6-iron I hit at the wonderfully named Knob's Crook after limping round 16 holes in the blazing heat", said Price as he poured the bubbly. "I thought it was going to simply hit the green and be close but the Duckworth-Lewis method measured it perfectly.

My playing partners, Felix and Steve, both shouted together: 'That's going in'."

In Division One, Duckworth's 37pts put him two clear of Khalid Javed in third: yet another fine performance cementing the former captain's spot at the Wryter Cup.

Russell Dewey took Division Two with an excellent 36pts, edging out Graham Marsden on countback with Hugh Whittow finishing third.

In the afternoon greensomes, Bearwood Lakes' Andy Glen partnered Neil White to victory and the Sir Harry Brittain trophy, winning on countback from the strong pairing of Ben Monroe-Davis and PGS captain Dylan Dronfield. Course expert Tim Allan and Mark Lomas took third.

White later revealed that the victorious pair had nearly ducked out of the afternoon.

"Both Andy and I were beaten up by the rough in the morning and recorded pitiful singles scores. Chastened, we were tempted to ditch the greensomes. However, refuelled by a hearty lunch, I vowed that we would go out and gain our revenge on the course and win. My rather rash prediction only came true because Mr Glen drove like Bryson on a good day. All I was required to do was be semi-handly with a wedge and putter."

THERE were celebrations all round as the PGS chalked up a rare victory over the Northcliffe Golf Society at The Lambourne Club and all in time to watch England make it a memorable double by beating Germany at the Euros.

In recent years the PGS have won the social side and lost the match but this year the usual overnight shenanigans were replaced with a 27-hole competition over one day.

The morning fourballs produced some excellent golf on the lush Buckinghamshire track and the sides

## It's win-win against the Northcliffe

were level at four points apiece at lunch. At this point in previous years the PGS have booked their spot at the bar and stayed there suffering the consequences the following day. Not so this year as they set off for the afternoon greensomes over 9 holes in the rain.

Jamie Weir and Jeremy (Derek) Thompson got the ball rolling winning 1 up. Jamie's 10-foot birdie putt on the last to win the match was up to 30 feet

by the time his teammates were joining them in the bar. Jeremy's game was also clearly in decent order winning the nearest the pin in both the morning and afternoon.

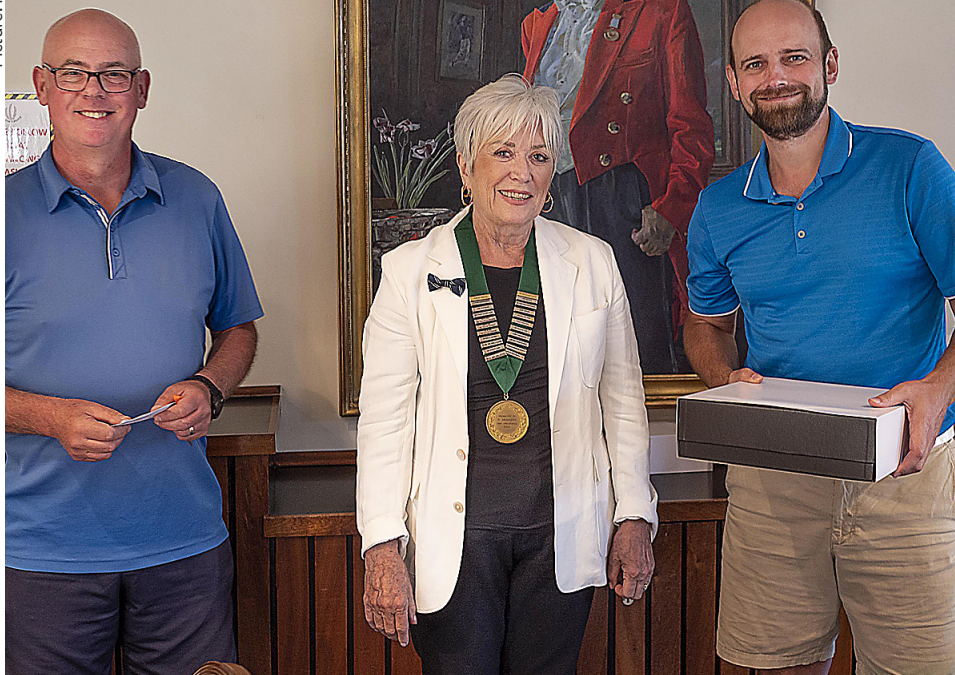
Many of the matches went all the way but not so that of Tim Allan and Jonny Bramley who were walking in with a 4&3 victory when Jamie's putt was still just 15 feet. Victory and the Harmsworth trophy was secured by the penultimate pairing of Colin Hancock

and Ross Slater on the last. The final score 9-7 to the PGS. As always there was great banter with our Northcliffe friends and the celebrations continued as Raheem Sterling and Harry Kane sent England into the quarter finals.

Victorious match captain Rob Hewer reflected: "It's great to break the losing run of the last 4 years and especially so in the 25th anniversary match. We got off to a great start and I am told Jamie holed a 40-foot putt to win the game. We'll enjoy the victory but look forward to the bar shenanigans returning in 2022."



**PRESIDENTIAL** Secretary Tim Allan, PGS president Philippa Kennedy OBE and Nev Appleton pose in front of a portrait of Michael Lunt at Walton Heath



# Picture this...

## Nev draws to the top at Walton Heath

### THIRD MEETING: PRESIDENT'S DAY

GRAPHICS guru Nev Appleton took a day off from creating titles to claim two for himself at wonderful Walton Heath.

On a sun-drenched day (yes you read that right) Appleton scored a stunning 41pts in the morning singles. Then, refreshed by lunch, he completed the double - taking the afternoon foursomes with his guest, Neil Percival.

In recent years, the PGS fixture at the US Open qualifying course has been played in rain while the Northcliffe Society have enjoyed fine weather on their annual visit. But this year the Northcliffe endured a downpour, the sun shone on the righteous and Appleton's rare sweep was a triumph of stamina as well as skill in the searing Surrey heat.

"I always look forward to playing Walton Heath but have never really performed that well" reflected Appleton. "The course and weather were perfect and with a 3-iron being my biggest club, my aim was just to keep it on the fairway and not overthink it, which seemed to work."

Appleton's sparkling round claimed the Reg Hinder trophy as well as Division Two. Jonathan Baker's excellent 38pts took second and John Quinn was just a further shot behind in third.

Emsley Carr finalist Andrew Porter is having a great season, and his 37pts in the morning round brought victory in Division One. Rob Hewer, a past winner at Walton Heath on one of the wettest PGS days in living memory, showed he can also play a bit in the sunshine, taking second place with 35pts and edging out Khalid Javed on countback.

The Beeb's Olympics chief, Jonny Bramley, partnered by Tim Owers, pushed Appleton and Percival all the way in the afternoon foursomes, finishing just a point behind in second. The father and son pairing of Khalid and Gabriel Javed took third with 34pts.

As the sun began to dip on a glorious day's golf, Nev Appleton was already looking ahead to Hoylake. "In all honesty, I did challenge myself at the start of the season to try and make Wryter Cup selection, so that was my focus."



**GOLFING' ART** Patrick Eagar's guest at Walton Heath was his son Will, who is a graduate of the Royal College of Art. In his

youth Will played off 2 handicap and is now engaged on a fun project (see: Instagram Will Eagar Golf ),

illustrating various golf holes. This image of the short 11th on the Old was drawn following their President's Day round.

## Stock take at RM-S

IN unseasonal weather (it didn't rain but an early shower) the PGS narrowly lost to the Stock Exchange at Royal Mid-Surrey by two holes.

As the seventh and last pair made their way to the 18th the PGS team was just one hole down.

Every hole counts in this match format and our loss extended to two as Taylor and Hancock couldn't quite pull their match back.

Golf was simple enough for any player managing to stay out of the rough, but as was all too evident the penalty for straying was considerable: many balls

disappeared, never to be seen again.

Hugh Whittow and Chris Stevens starred for the PGS, finishing four up, and the Khalid Javed/Evan Samuel pairing also managed a win.

A last minute substitution found RM-S photographer member Pat Cunningham (WHI 0.9) playing with the smooth-swinging Paolo Minoli.

They did well to draw their match, Pat having to give a shot at virtually every hole. A fine, long lunch softened the defeat but the day belonged to Steve Crockford and his SEGS men.

■ No stymies for the PGS in our third annual hickory match. Match skipper Nic Brook's team maschied it round to beat host club Royal Blackheath and a team from the British Golf Collectors' Society in the triangular match. Hick, Hick Hooray!



**PLUS TWO UP** Bob Kirk and Paul East from the BGCS with Nic Brook & Khalid Javed



■ The Mail's Chris Cutmore (inset) is putting his honeymoon on hold as he battles for the prestigious Emsley Carr knockout trophy. Cutmore takes on Roderick Easdale in the second semi-final next week, just three days after his wedding this Saturday.

The first semi-final in the PGS's knockout promised to be a tight affair, after both Felix Duckworth and Andrew Porter had edged their quarters on the 19th hole, and sure enough it went to the final green. In the end it was Porter who triumphed over Mailman Duckworth to claim both a place in the Emsley final and a spot in Captain Dronfield's team to play the French at Hoylake.

Our congratulations and best wishes to Cutmore for his first match.



Jon Jones  
v Andrew Porter  
Duncan Farmer  
v Colin Hancock  
Nick Cherrie  
v Hugh Whitlow  
Jim Murray  
v Felix Duckworth  
Chris Cutmore  
v Mark Lomas  
Nic Brook  
v Lee Smith  
Kevin Price  
v Peter Dazeley  
Adam Hunt  
v Roderick Easdale

Andrew Porter 5&4

Duncan Farmer 5&4

Nick Cherrie 1up

Felix Duckworth 2up

Chris Cutmore 2&1

Nic Brook 4&3

Peter Dazeley 4&3

Roderick Easdale 3&2

Andrew Porter 19th

Felix Duckworth 19th

Chris Cutmore 1up

Roderick Easdale 6&5

## SIR EMSLEY CARR KNOCKOUT

Andrew Porter 1up



## Curtains call against Stage

THE PGS is renowned for having a few luvvies in its ranks. But none could compete with the real deal in the annual PGS match against The Stage.

Captain Nick Cherrie and his merry band have lapped up the applause for more than five years at the stunning Richmond Club in Petersham - but not this year. It was very much *Exit Stage Left!*

Patrick Eagar and Evan Samuel gave a fine performance in the opening scene against Chris Villiers and Gavin Poolman, but to no avail.

Next up were Ian Woods and Jamie Weir. A powerhouse combination, they were three up

with five to play against Jamie Bamber and Will Chitty but had to settle for a half.

Kevin Price and Nick Jones faced TV heavyweights Philip Hinchcliffe and Alex Thomas but couldn't conjure enough bon viveur to take the honours.

That left Captain Cherrie, who managed to restore some PGS pride in the final group with late replacement and Opera singer Nicky Russell. Thankfully, they didn't have to sing for their supper and saw off Stage Secretary John Peters and Simon Nicholas 3&2.

So a well-deserved victory to the Stage by 2.5-1.5 points. As for the PGS... we'll be back!

UPSTAGED PGS match captain Nick Cherrie (right) congratulates The Stage's Chris Villiers

## FIXTURES

**LUFFENHAM HEATH**  
Captain's Day  
Monday, August 23

**ROYAL ST GEORGE'S**  
v London Solicitors GS  
Monday, September 13

**THE BERKSHIRE**  
Tuesday, September 21

**ROYAL LIVERPOOL**  
XXX Wryter Cup,  
v Association de la Presse  
et du Golf  
October 3 - 5

**THE GROVE**  
Tuesday, October 26

**THE BERKSHIRE**  
Scramble & Auction  
Tuesday, November 9

Newsletter edited by  
Colin Hancock  
colinahancock@googlemail.com  
Secretary Tim Allan  
pgssecretary@gmail.com



STRIPING IT! PGS captain Dylan middles another one on the 18th at his beloved Luffenham Heath

■ As captain Dylan Dronfield prepares to host our day at the wonderful Luffenham Heath, the race to qualify for this year's Wryter Cup is wide open. Captain's Day is traditionally the final qualifying event and it's Dronfield himself who heads the table, although of course he was already certain of his place at Hoylake. He'll also be thrilled with the quality of those already nailed on to join him: a strong core of single-figure players, including Khalid Javed, Ben Monroe-Davis and Lee Smith, plus Swinley star Mark Lomas and plenty of experienced Wryter Cup performers in the mix as well. But beyond that a host of strong players, including Rob Hower, Bubbles Bramley, Jon Jones and the in-form Neil White are well-placed to grab a spot with a decent finish at Rutland's Alison/Colt classic.

## WRYTER CUP

Royal Liverpool: Oct 3 - 5  
Places after 5 qualifiers. Club hcps

Dylan Dronfield (Q)	7	4	7	18
Duncan Farmer	4	8	6	18
Khalid Javed	9	5	4	18
Dean Scoggins	3	7	10	20
Mark Lomas	1	8	13	22
Russell Dewy	11	9	3	23
Jonathan Baker	13	13	2	28
John Quinn	9	3	17	29
Nevil Appleton	18	11	1	30
Lee Smith	14	10	8	32
Ben Monroe-Davis	8	17	9	34
Steve Lewis	16	18	1	35
Kevin Price	23	1	11	35
Felix Duckworth	20	15	2	37
James Murray	12	9	17	38
Rob Hower	14	21	6	41
Jon Jones	10	20	11	41
Colin Hancock	2	15	26	43
Neil White	1	18	25	44
Jonathan Bramley	27	5	13	45
Evan Samuel	10	21	14	45
Hugh Whitlow	16	24	12	52
Nic Brook	22	12	24	58
Andy Glen	25	26	14	65

## FIFTH MEETING: MONDAY, 23rd AUGUST

## LUFFENHAM HEATH

### SPONSORED BY



### ENTRIES

Send to Tim Allan, on 01525 221559.  
Or you can email Tim at:  
pgssecretary@gmail.com

### COST

£70 per golfer, generously subsidised by our sponsors Golfbreaks. Pay online  
acc 40749648, sort code  
204141.

### DRESS CODE

Smart casual. Recognised golf wear on the course and practice areas. Denim of any colour,

tracksuits, t-shirts, sun tops, cargo or combat trousers, rugby and football shirts, trainers or flip flops are not permitted on the course or in the clubhouse.  
Shorts - with white socks only, ankle length or higher.

### PRIZES

First three in Division 1, first three in Division 2.

### TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at Pro-shop on 01780 720298.

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### By Car

The club is on Stamford Road, South Luffenham, Rutland, PE9 3UU

#### By Train

Stamford is the nearest station.

#### Suggested accommodation

The Crown Inn, The George Hotel and The William Cecil, all close to Stamford town centre and a 10-minute drive from the golf club.

### POSTCODE for satnavs

**PE9 3UU**

### COMPETITION

From 10.30am. Singles stableford for the captain's prize and Billenium Bowl (not defended this year by captain Dylan Dronfield). Two nearest-the-pin competitions.

