



DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

# Press Golfing Society

www.pressgs.co.uk

Pictures: IAN MCGORM



**PUTTER KING:**  
Khalid Javed



**NEWLYWEDS:**  
Keith & Jane



**SETTING THE SCENE:** President Philippa Kennedy addresses members and guests at our Annual Dinner



**MIRROR ACE:**  
Kevin Price



**CAPTAIN'S REPORT:**  
Dylan Dronfield



**SHARP:** Sword winners  
Dean Scoggins & Mike Waker



**BOWLED OVER:**  
Felix Duckworth



**FIRST LADY:**  
Philippa



**VASE VICTOR:**  
John Quinn



**MATCHPLAY MAESTRO:**  
Andrew Porter & wife Lucy

## As we wish you all a Merry Christmas, 2021 captain Dronfield reflects on the PGS year...

AS the year comes to a close, my mind tends to wander back in reflection about what has been in 2021. No doubt it's been a tough year.

Lockdown, the pingdemic, constant uncertainty, bouts of home schooling and a very busy news agenda have kept my hands full daily. It's been attritional actually.

The PGS has offered a very welcome distraction to all that and some of my fondest memories of the year come from time spent with the society. I'll certainly never forget the overwhelming excitement and relief as we came out of lockdown and played our first fixture at Swinley Forest. So many smiles on display that day. Who will forget Pricey's hole in one at

Ashridge and the celebrations on their wonderful terrace afterwards?

Captain's Day at Luffenham Heath was a personal highlight as was the tense Wryter Cup victory at Royal Liverpool. The whole event was brilliant and will stay with me until the day I die.

During the season we raised £1,200 for Cancer Research through our nearest the pin competitions which gives me particular satisfaction after losing my best friend to cancer in May.

I've hugely enjoyed my captaincy year. Truly it has been great fun and a great honour - one I consider myself very lucky to have had.

While the end of the year brings on inevitable

reflection, I would rather look forward to what's ahead. Soon the days will get longer and unless Omicron does its worst, we'll be teeing it up at West Hill before we know it.

I'm particularly excited for Colin who will finally get a full season as captain [now there's tempting fate - Ed]. I know how much he is looking forward to it and doubtless his year will be a huge success with more wonderful PGS memories made.

Whatever your thoughts on the last year and the year ahead, I wish you and your families very best wishes and good health for this Christmas.

- Dylan



2021: President Philippa Kennedy was nearest the pin at Swinley Forest, Pricey aces at Ashridge, Dylan drives at his Luffenham Heath, and victory at Hoylake



# Quinn it to win it!

## SEVENTH MEETING

JOHN QUINN put The Grove firmly in its place with a brilliant win in our October meeting.

On a day when many struggled to get anywhere near their handicap, John came in with 34 points to claim the Peggy White Vase.

John, who stayed overnight at a nearby hotel in order to arrive fresh and relaxed, said: "I felt really good out there. I just took it easy and played steadily. I gained a lot of confidence from the way I'd played in the Wryter Cup."

Only two other players recorded scores in the 30s - Pip Clothier, who was second behind John in Division Two, and Paul 'Shergar' Sherwood, who won Division One ahead of Ed Coan.

It was hard to understand quite why the scores were so low! The weather was fine and we played off the forward tees, but the course played long because it was so soft and lush. The greens, as always at The Grove, were perfect - but very hard to read!

Next year's October meeting will be held at Swinley Forest and we'll play two rounds - singles in the morning and a pairs competition in the afternoon, the exact format of which will be decided nearer the time.



PHOTO FINISH: 'The Mighty Quinn' & 'Shergar' found the front at The Grove

# Gross 59 takes the honours



GIN IT TO WIN IT: Pip, Julian (x2) & Ben receive their Xmas bounty from PGS President Philippa



GIFT OF THE GAVEL: Auctioneer Ian sells yet another lot

## Auction raises £6,500 for Journalists' Charity

OUR Christmas Auction set another new record with more than £6,500 going to the Journalists' Charity.

Ian McGorm did a stellar job as our auctioneer, rustling up bids from all corners of the room.

The highlights included a bid of £1,300 for the fourball at Old Head and a bid of £400 from a Berkshire member for the magnum of Krug.

There was the usual mixture of top quality and tat among the lots - always a winning combination! Thanks to all who contributed.

# Big Ben & Pip storm to Scramble glory

BEN MONRO-DAVIES and his team scorched to an astonishing gross 59 to seal victory in our Christmas scramble at The Berkshire earlier this month.

Ben, with Pip Clothier and two single figure teammates, Julian Topham and Julian Miall, shot three eagles on their way to victory over the Red Course.

When their handicap of 4.3 was deducted from the gross, their winning score was a truly amazing 54.7.

That put them way ahead of runners-up Jono

Baker, Rick Evans, Nev Appleton and Andy Glen, who had a net 58.1. Chris Stevens, Jon Moorhead and Felix Duckworth, playing as a three, came third on 58.3, with President Philippa Kennedy, Malcolm Folley, Hugh Whittow and guest Robin Reid fourth on 58.8.

As always, the Scramble was much less about the glory and all about the camaraderie on a perfect late autumn day for golf. The sun shone and the course was in magnificent condition, with everybody raving about the quality of the greens.





# Press Golfing Society fixtures 2022

## SOCIETY DAYS

### TUESDAY, MARCH 8

#### WEST HILL

[westhillgc.co.uk](http://westhillgc.co.uk)

#### Medal round

Lord Riddell Trophy -holder Mark Lomas

The top 16 players qualify for the

Sir Emsley Carr knockout

-holder Andrew Porter

### FRIDAY, APRIL 22

#### EFFINGHAM

[effinghamgolfclub.com](http://effinghamgolfclub.com)

News of the World Trophy

(Singles Stableford)

Sir Leicester Harmsworth Memorial

Trophy (Greensomes Stableford)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 28

#### REIGATE HEATH

[reigateheathgc.com](http://reigateheathgc.com)

Captains' reunion,

committee and seniors

Dazeley Past Captains' Trophy

(Singles Stableford, past captains only)

and the Calamity Jane Putter

(Singles Stableford, all players)

### TUESDAY, MAY 17

#### WOKING

[wokinggolfclub.co.uk](http://wokinggolfclub.co.uk)

Mirror Trophy -holder Kevin Price

(Singles Stableford)

Wilkinson Sword

-holders Dean Scoggins & Mike Waker

(Greensomes Stableford)

### TUESDAY, JUNE 14

#### President's Day

#### & Guest Day

#### WALTON HEATH

[waltonheath.com](http://waltonheath.com)

Reg Hinder Memorial Trophy -holder

Nev Appleton (Singles Stableford)

President's prizes

(singles stableford; foursomes; guests)



**BERKSHIRE BEAUT:**  
Scramble day on the  
Red course 11th hole  
Picture: PATRICK EGAR

### TUESDAY, JULY 19

#### ASHRIDGE

[ashridgegolfclub.ltd.uk](http://ashridgegolfclub.ltd.uk)

PGS Memorial Salver

-holder Steve Lewis (Singles Stableford)

Sir Harry Brittain Trophy

-holders Andy Glen & Neil White

(Greensomes Stableford)

### MONDAY, AUGUST 15

#### Captain's Day

#### ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST

[royalashdown.co.uk](http://royalashdown.co.uk)

Captain's Day

Billennium Bowl

-holder Felix Duckworth

(Singles Stableford)

Harold Lewis Weight for Age Trophy

-holder Jeremy Thompson

and Captain's Day prizes

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

#### THE BERKSHIRE

[theberkshire.co.uk](http://theberkshire.co.uk)

The Sun Challenge Trophy

-holder Jonny Bramley

(Singles Stableford)

Sir George Sutton Salver

-holders Khalid Javed & Jon Jones

(Greensomes Stableford) PLUS AGM

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

#### SWINLEY FOREST

[swinleyfgc.co.uk](http://swinleyfgc.co.uk)

Peggy White Vase -holder John Quinn

(Singles Stableford)

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

#### THE BERKSHIRE

[theberkshire.co.uk](http://theberkshire.co.uk)

Christmas Scramble and auction

## MATCHES

### WEDS 16 & THURS 17 MARCH

#### v Northcliffe GS

#### Saunton

[sauntongolf.co.uk](http://sauntongolf.co.uk)

PGS captain Jamie Weir

### TUESDAY, MAY 24

#### v Stock Exchange GS

#### Royal Mid Surrey

[rmsgc.co.uk](http://rmsgc.co.uk)

PGS captain Patrick Eagar

### MONDAY, JULY 4

#### v The Stage GS

#### Richmond

[therichmondgolfclub.com](http://therichmondgolfclub.com)

PGS captain Nick Cherrie

### MONDAY, JULY 25

#### Hickory match v British Golf Collectors

#### Royal Blackheath

[royalblackheath.com](http://royalblackheath.com)

PGS captain Nic Brook

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

#### v London Solicitors GS

#### Royal St George's

[royalstgeorges.com](http://royalstgeorges.com)

PGS captain Tom Crone

### TBC

#### XXXI Wryter Cup

PGS captain Colin Hancock