



JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER

# Press Golfing Society

www.pressgs.co.uk



## Still in great Nic Brooky turns up the heat at Walton Heath

Pictures: NEVIL APPLETON

EVERGREEN Nic Brook rolled back the years to claim a stunning victory on the Old Course at sun-kissed Walton Heath.

The Daily Mirror art supremo, well used to tough layouts, was the only player in the field to play to his handicap on President's and Guest Day and walked away with the Reg Hinder trophy.

Brooky, our history-loving Blackheath golfer, said: "I've been coming here with the PGS for 35 years and I absolutely love the place. It was in superb condition, and so nice to bring my guest James along to enjoy the fun we all have.

"I just tried to heed Philippa's advice in the last newsletter to steer clear of the heather. And, of course, I was thrilled to get a win after a good few attempts at a place with such a rich golfing heritage."

Brooky's 36 points was more than

good enough to claim the honours in Division One, with Mark Lomas second on 33, just pipping Dean Scoggins on 32.

In Division Two, Ian Woods took first prize with 31 points, ahead of Tim Allan on 30 and Mike Waker on 29.

In the foursomes, played on the equally tough New Course, BBC boys Khalid Javed and Christian Fraser won the day with 32 points.

Nev Appleton and his world-class squash player guest Daryl Selby were second on 31, beating Tim Allan and Rob Hewer on countback.

The guest competition was won by regular attendee Max La Frenais, who was invited by Neil Darbyshire and scored 34 points, just beating Jim Murray's guest, Hugo Tudor, on countback.

Alex Johnston, guest of dad Philip, was third on 32; professional

### WALTON HEATH RESULTS

**Division One** 1st Nic Brook, 36pts, wins The Reg Hinder Memorial Trophy, 2nd Mark Lomas, 33, 3rd Dean Scoggins, 32. **Div Two** 1st Ian Woods 31pts, 2nd Tim Allan, 30, 3rd Mike Waker, 29. **GUESTS** 1st Max La Frenais, 34pts, on countback, 2nd Hugo Tudor, 3rd Alex Johnston, 32. **FOURSOMES** 1st Khalid Javed & Christian Fraser, 32 pts, 2nd Nev Appleton & Daryl Selby, 31, on countback, 3rd Tim Allan & Rob Hewer.

Warren Fairbairn, guest of Jonny Bramley, was fourth on 31; Dominic Gesua, cousin of Dylan Dronfield, was fifth on 30; and Piers Collins, guest of Mark Lomas, sixth on 28.

Walton Heath is undergoing significant changes, with a new irrigation system for all the fairways in the process of being installed. Some tees have been moved and fairways reshaped, but all for the better - both courses are

among the very best in the world.

Special mention to our President, Philippa Kennedy, who kindly donated all the prizes to make it a day to remember. Thanks for everything, Philippa!

## Smashing time for Hugo

HUGO TUDOR finished second in our guest event but didn't have long to enjoy his prize - a lovely glass Pimms jug.

Before the prize-giving had even finished, he tried to open the presentation box for a look but managed to let the jug crash to the floor.

Surely the shortest time between winning a prize and it ending up in the bin?

**TOP GLASS:**  
President Philippa presents crystal prizes to winners Nic Brook and, above, Ian Woods, Khalid Javed & Christian Fraser, and guest Max La Frenais

Next up...  
**ASHRIDGE**  
Tuesday,  
19th July  
...The scene of  
Pricey's Ace!



# GRAHAM WARWICK

PGS member and Sun sport sub-editor Graham Warwick sadly passed away on May 27, aged 55, after battling a major illness since Christmas.

Graham, who was a long-time member of Welwyn Garden City Golf Club, had a successful career with newspapers in Hertfordshire and Essex before joining The Sun in the mid-2000s. He worked in both the Dublin and London offices.

Sun Editor-in-Chief Victoria Newton said: "Graham's great love of both newspapers and sport, especially Arsenal, made him a hugely valued and successful member of The Sun team. His friends and colleagues here will miss him enormously."

And former PGS captain Nick Jones said: "I've known Graham over 25 years and he was always great fun to be around. Whether it was dissecting (moaning) about Arsenal's latest performance or promising to get his golf game together, you always knew when he was in the room. And you could always rely on him on those night's when a last-minute equaliser had changed the entire tone of a match report five minutes before deadline."



**STANDING OVATION:** Chris Villiers, Stage left, receives the trophy from Nick Cherrie



We're still a few players short for the hickory match at Royal Blackheath on July 25. If you fancy taking part, let match skipper Nic know... nic.brook@hotmail.com

## Upstaged again ...but we'll be back!

NAY, nay and thrice nay! Forget Up Pompeii, it was more Carry On The Stage at The Richmond GC, Petersham.

The PGS has a solid record in this popular fixture, but The Stage - under the stewardship of captain Chris Villiers - delivered an Oscar-winning performance last year to wrestle back the trophy.

So the battle for top billing was on.

PGS curtain raisers Tom Crone and Pip Clothier hit the right notes to see off music guru Martyn Berg and opera singer Nicky Russell 5&4.

But the scores were soon level when the well-oiled machine of Steve Killick and Chester Stern were pipped 2&1 by Skipper Villiers and skiing legend Konrad Bartelski.

PGS order was restored when Sky's golf Jamie Weir and former Daily Express editor Hugh Whittow romped home 6&4 against David Coleman and Itala Dordei.

With the PGS 2-1 up, the stage was set for a finale ... and it didn't disappoint.

PGS Captain of the day Nick Cherrie and former

Wimbledon and RFU chief Ian Ritchie went down the last all square with Stage Secretary John Peters and Hollywood producer Gavin Poolman.

Peters' tee shot finished up against a tree root, and it was hit and hope from 150 yards.

But what happened next would have had Frankie Howerd shouting: "I hope I get an Oscar for this."

His second shot saw his ball:

\* First bounce on the road splitting this glorious 18th.

\* Shoot up 20ft and over the head of a wide-eyed, speedily departing courier on a motorbike.

\* Then land on the green just 15 feet from the flag.

Laugh? We could have cried.

Captain Cherrie then had a seven footer to tie the match, but alas fluffed his lines and victory went to The Stage.

A hard-fought 2-2 draw meant The Stage retained the trophy. But in the words of one Hollywood legend: "We'll be back!"

-Nick Cherrie

## SOCIETY DAYS

**MONDAY, AUGUST 15**

**Captain's Day**  
**ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST**

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

**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

**Peggy White Vase**

- holder John Quinn

(Singles Stableford)

and Foursomes Stableford

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

**THE BERKSHIRE**

theberkshire.co.uk

**Christmas Scramble and auction**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2**

**74th ANNUAL PGS DINNER**

Horseguards Hotel

## MATCHES

**MONDAY, JULY 25**

**Triangular Hickory match**

**v British Golf Collectors v RBGC**

**Royal Blackheath**

royalblackheath.com

PGS match captain Nic Brook

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

**v London Solicitors GS**

**Royal St George's**

royalstgeorges.com

PGS match captain Tom Crone

**OCTOBER 2-4**

**Golf du Medoc, Bordeaux**

**XXXI Wryter Cup**

golfdumedocresort.com/en/

PGS captain Colin Hancock

## SIR EMSLEY CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY

Andrew Porter v Nic Brook	Andrew Porter 7&6 v Jeremy Thompson w/o	Andrew Porter 2up
Pat Mooney v Jeremy Thompson		
Colin Hancock v Rob Hewer	Colin Hancock 4&3 v Ross Slater 3&1	Colin Hancock 4&2
Mike Waker v Ross Slater		
Lee Smith v Nev Appleton	Lee Smith w/o v Ian McIlgorm 2&1	Ian McIlgorm 2&1
Ian McIlgorm v Bruce McKellar		Ian McIlgorm
Paul Kelso v Nick Cherrie	Nick Cherrie 2&1 v Peter Solomons 4&3	Peter Solomons 2&1
Hugh Whittow v Peter Solomons		

MAIL ON SUNDAY ace photographer Ian McIlgorm is the first to make the final of the Sir Emsley Carr knockout trophy.

Big Mac won a truncated semi when ex-Beeb man Peter Solomons unfortunately had to withdraw through illness after nine holes.



Mac had previously edged past Lee Smith in the quarters on the 17th on Walton Heath's Old Course.

The star snapper will face either the defending Emsley champion, Andrew Porter, or PGS captain Colin Hancock. Hancock won a tight, seesawing quarter-final against Ross Slater at Wharton Park.

Both finalists will qualify for this year's Wryter Cup in Bordeaux.

## JOHN GORDON PUTTER

Places after 4 qualifiers.	PGS HCPS		
Dylan Dronfield	14	2	4
Mark Lomas	3	16	2
Nevil Appleton	12	4	10
Nick Cherrie	17	1	8
Hugh Whittow	5	10	15
Jonathan Bramley	7	4	23
Mike Waker	6	22	10
Andy Glen	22	6	14
Christian Fraser	1	22	20
Tim Allan	19	19	7
Ian Woods	27	14	5
Nic Brook	4	1	-
Dean Scoggins	2	3	-
Keith Ging	3	12	-
Philippa Kennedy	3	13	-
Andrew Porter	2	18	-
Lee Smith	14	11	-
Nick Toksvig	20	6	-

FULL RESULTS: [www.pressgs.co.uk](http://www.pressgs.co.uk)

2021 PGS captain Dylan Dronfield heads the field at the halfway stage in this year's John Gordon Golden Putter, with Mark Lomas travelling strongly just a point behind.

Dronfield won the Golden Putter in 2020, but with three events still to play there are plenty who could yet make a strong run from further back, including the in-form Nic Brook, Dean Scoggins and Nick Cherrie.

The John Gordon Putter is awarded to the player with the best three results from the eight singles rounds from March to October.

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## WRYTER CUP

Places after 5 qualifiers. Club hcps FULL RESULTS: [www.pressgs.co.uk](http://www.pressgs.co.uk)

Jonathan Bramley	1	5	3	9	Christian Fraser	1	21	19	41
Nevil Appleton	2	4	5	11	Ian McIlgorm	18	13	16	47
Dylan Dronfield	5	2	4	11	Ian Woods	23	18	7	48
Mark Lomas	3	14	2	19	Colin Hancock (Q)	29	6	14	49
Andrew Porter	6	1	12	19	James Murray	8	19	24	51
Dean Scoggins	16	1	3	20	Jonathan Baker	12	15	26	53
Nick Cherrie	17	1	6	24	Chris Stevens	19	8	28	55
Tim Allan (Q)	3	17	5	25	Nic Brook	4	1	-	5
Hugh Whittow	9	8	11	28	Keith Ging	3	11	-	14
Andy Glen	11	7	15	33	Philip Clothier	13	9	-	22
Khalid Javed	4	20	9	33	Lee Smith	14	14	-	28
Nick Jones	10	19	7	36	Nick Toksvig	20	8	-	28
Mike Waker	14	10	12	36	Simon Taylor	15	16	-	31
Philippa Kennedy	22	4	11	37	Paul Kelso	11	22	-	33

## Four for two to go

GARY NEVILLE'S favourite journalist, Mark Lomas, and the Sun's Dean Scoggins have both all but sealed their spots in this autumn's Wryter cup team with strong performances at Walton Heath.

But with just two qualifying events left (Ashridge and Captain's Day at Royal Ashdown Forest) there are still at least four automatic qualifying spots wide open, in addition to the two captain's wildcards.

This year's match will be held on the Châteaux course at Golf du Médoc, near Bordeaux, October 2-4.

# Your chance to be a part of PGS and Ashridge history...

ASHRIDGE has only been on the PGS rota for a few years, but has hosted some of our most memorable and enjoyable days of our fixture list.

There was the occasion that the mighty Rick Evans and dear departed Bobby Hayes proved unbeatable one year, blitzing their way to a sensational 50 Stableford points in the greensomes.

And who could forget the day that our adorable Nick Jones, deputising for secy Tim Allan, somehow managed to lose ALL the scorecards between the clubhouse and the Ashridge car park. It threw that year's Wryter Cup & Golden Putter league tables into confusion, but also gave us all a chuckle.

Then last year Mirror Sport star Kevin Price topped the lot by acing the par three 8th; wonderfully named Knob's

Crook. A champagne moment that was celebrated long in to the evening on the beautiful Hertfordshire club balcony.

Fabulous moments that somehow could only ever happen at Ashridge.

The fixture occurs at a key part of the season. It's the penultimate

Next meeting  
**ASHRIDGE**  
Tuesday, 19th July  
Just two qualifiers  
left for the XXXI  
Wryter Cup

Wryter Cup qualifier before Captain's Day at Royal Ashdown Forest, while the contenders for our 'golfer of the year', the John Gordon Golden Putter, are starting to jostle for top spot.

The course is great, the grub is good and the beer is superb. Cancel your summer holiday plans and get along to one of the most joyous fixtures of our golfing calendar. There's bound to be something epic going to happen.

Don't miss it!



SUNSETTING THE WORLD TO RIGHTS: PGS members find a way to chill after another lovely day at Ashridge

## FIFTH MEETING: TUESDAY, 19th JULY

## ASHRIDGE

### COMPETITIONS

AM The PGS Memorial Salver. Holder: Steve Lewis. Stableford singles, play in threes from 8.30am at the 10th and 13th.

PM Andy Glen & Neil White defend the Sir Harry Brittain Coronation Trophy. Greensomes from 2pm.

### COST

£115 per golfer (£120 incl ball sweep), includes coffee & bacon rolls on arrival, golf and lunch. Pay online Press Golfing Society account 40749648 sort code 204141.

### ENTRIES

Please enter via our website, [pressgs.co.uk](http://pressgs.co.uk) using the link on the right-hand side of the home page. Any problems, email Tim at: [pgssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pgssecretary@gmail.com)

### DRESS CODE

"Smart casual." Jacket and tie are not required for lunch but no golf shoes or shorts are allowed in the dining room. If you wear shorts you can wear full-length socks of any colour, but short socks, either above or below the ankle, must be white. Jacket & tie for the presentation.

### 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 01442 842244.

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### By Car

Leave M25 at Junction 20, take the A41 towards Aylesbury. Leave the A41 at Chesham exit (A416) and follow signs to Berkhamsted. At traffic lights on the junction with Berkhamsted High Street turn left.

After a mile reach Northchurch.

Turn right by school and church on to B4506 (called New Road) signposted Ashridge.

After 3 miles the club is on the right. Follow the private road to the clubhouse and car park.

### By Train

The nearest station is Berkhamsted, five miles and 12 minutes away.

POSTCODE for satnavs

**HP4 1LY**