



MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER

# Press Golfing Society

www.pressgs.co.uk

## W#1 for starters

THE PGS returns to wonderful Worplesdon this month for the traditional medal opener to the season.

Former PGS captain Dylan Dronfield is the defending course champion there, having claimed the Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy on our last visit in 2016. Dronfield shot a net 71, the same score he'd posted two years earlier for his debut victory at the club.

The course was laid out by John Abercromby (also of Coombe Hill and The Addington) in 1908, with greens and bunkers by Willie Park Junior, twice Open champion and the designer of more than 150 courses, including Sunningdale Old and Huntercombe.

Worplesdon has always been known for its superb greens. Certainly during the eight years in which the course hosted the PGS March medal they were never in anything but excellent condition, whatever the winter and spring had thrown at them.

Over recent years the club has also invested in a significant bunker and heathland restoration project, led by Tim Lobb and Partners, working with Frank Lovell and the club's green staff.

This highly-ranked course is now perhaps in as good a condition as it's ever been - and to play in the medal on March 29th, just sign up via the PGS website. With Woking to follow in May and West Hill in October, PGS members will never have a better chance to choose their favourite W.

Welcome back..  
**Wednesday  
29th March  
WORPLESDON**  
worplesdongc.co.uk  
Medal round &  
Sir Emsley Carr  
qualifier



## A message from Captain Quinn



**YOU'RE THE REF:**  
PGS captain John  
with wife Sheena

KNOWING the discernment within the PGS, I thought a quote from Shakespeare, perhaps about having greatness thrust upon them, would give me a false intellectual cred..

I was checking it when I came across Calvin Coolidge's words: "Men in high office are constantly, and for the most part sincerely, assured of their greatness", and immediately thought, "God, this year is going to be great!"

I also came across the sage advice, "Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died", but I digress. Through a few odd and, mostly, fortuitous twists, I am your captain for this year. Excuse any errors during my reign: I come fully formed, lacking the twelve-month apprenticeship of vice-captaincy.

It's an obvious honour and one I intend to enjoy until my cup overflows as if the wine were served by a blind barmaid.

I have the dubious privilege of following the ridiculously generous Colin; I am the David Moyes after his Alex Ferguson. I've played under a few PGS captains: Bubbles, Woodsy, Khalid, Colin x 2 and Dylan. All excellent, all different shades.

Watching them I've learnt that you have to allow your personality to inhabit the role. I reckon the captain has four major jobs: help engender the fun, inclusive PGS tone we're used to; organise a top Captain's Day bash; ensure beating the French goes smoothly; and, the toughest of all, not looking a total prat wearing the captain's double chain of office! I'll settle for three out of four..

A little about me - married to Sheena, the best golfer in our house (she will read this), with two sons, one an average golfer, the other rubbish (they won't) and grandad to two little girls who I expect to defy their dad's genes and dominate, Williams sisters-like, golf courses around the globe.

Despite my 67 years (Tim announced my tenure as "youth policy") I still referee men's football matches every Sunday morning and, if Saints are playing away, every Saturday afternoon.

I look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to my lovely home course, Royal Winchester, on Monday, August 14th (there will be the opportunity to stay overnight) for a fun Captain's Day.

Let the party begin! - John





# President Peter takes charge



## Philippa signs off

WHEN I very happily and proudly took on the PGS Presidency in December 2020, I was living in Weybridge and looked forward to attending most meetings. But then Covid came along and we went to live in our holiday home in Ireland thinking it would be a matter of months.

Of course, it wasn't and by the time we came out the other side of Covid, my husband John and I seemed to have put down roots right down in the south-west tip of West Cork. It has become increasingly difficult to get back to the UK for meetings as well as managing a steady stream of visitors who always seem to want to come around PGS golf days.

In addition, we want to spend more time travelling for as long as our elderly bones will allow. So it is with huge reluctance that I am stepping down as President.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank secretary Tim Allan and former captain Colin Hancock for their support and the tremendous work they do and for steering the PGS ship safely through difficult times. Good luck to John Quinn who will be a great captain this year.

Peter Dazeley will be a superb and committed President and has already done so much for the PGS. I wish him all the best.

I will continue to be a proud and enthusiastic member of this great society and hope to join you all on several occasions in 2023. And I sincerely hope that any of you heading for Old Head, the west coast links or any of the wonderful courses in the south and west of Ireland, will come and visit. - **Philippa Kennedy OBE**



THE PGS has a new President! Peter Dazeley BEM has taken the chain of office from Philippa Kennedy OBE, the first woman President of the PGS.

Photographer Peter has been a PGS member for more than 50 years - the exact date he joined is, unfortunately, lost to history! He captained the society in 1984 and has always been one of our greatest supporters, donating two trophies which are played for on the Past Captains, Committee and Seniors Day.

He said: "It's a great honour to take on this role. I've always really enjoyed the PGS and while I don't play in as many meetings as I used to, I look forward to catching up with everyone soon. Philippa did a great job and I'm sure I'll enjoy it just as much as she did."

Peter began his career in the 1960s in a studio at the bottom of Fleet Street, after leaving school at 15 with no formal

qualifications because of dyslexia. He said: "Dyslexia should be seen as a superpower; it gives me the ability to look at problems and objectives from a different point of view."

He set up his own business in 1976 and has worked as a sports, advertising and fine art photographer. As a born and bred Londoner, he has fulfilled his passion to record the history of London, in four highly successful books: *Unseen London* (2014), *London Uncovered* (2016), *London Theatres* (2017) and *London Explored* (2021).

He was made a fellow of The Royal Photographic Society in 2013, in recognition of his originality and ability. He was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's 2017 New Year's Honours list, for his services to photography and charity.

Peter is married with two children and lives in Coombe Hill, Surrey and has been a member of Coombe Hill GC for more than 40 years.

## FIRST MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 29th MARCH

## WORPLESDON

### MEDAL ROUND

Lord Riddell Memorial Trophy (best nett score)  
Holder: Pat Mooney with a nett 68 (-1). Best gross score in 2022, Andrew Porter (76)  
It's a maximum field of 51, playing in three-balls from 0920 off the 1st and 15th tees. The first 16 qualify for the Sir Emsley Carr Memorial Trophy knockout with the draw made after the prizegiving. If you do NOT wish to play in the Emsley Carr, please tell Tim, either in advance or at the start of the day.



### COST

£100 per golfer, including coffee, bacon roll, 18 holes medal round and lunch.  
Dress code for lunch - jacket & tie please.

### ENTRIES

Via the PGS website  
[www.pressgs.co.uk](http://www.pressgs.co.uk)

### PRIZES

First three in Division 1, and first three in Div. 2. There's also a bottle of champagne for best gross score.

### TELEPHONE

You can leave a message at the club on 01483 472277.

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### By Car

From the M3: exit J3 and take first left, A322 to Lightwater and Guildford. Go four miles and when you pass West Hill GC on the left, just after the next S-bend is the sign for Heath House Road and Worplesdon GC. The club is halfway down on the right. From the A3: exit at Guildford and follow slip road, turn left at traffic lights and

then immediately right. Follow until you see signs for A322 to Bagshot. Drive for four miles and the small sign for Worplesdon GC is on the right.

#### By Train

Option 1: Waterloo to Woking 25mins and a 15mins taxi ride.  
Option 2: Waterloo to Worplesdon 33mins. Two mins drive from the club, but no taxi rank.

POSTCODE for satnavs

**GU22 0RA**





**CLARET & BLUE TRIUMPH SHOCK:** Match skipper Tony Smith's team retain the trophy

## Smithy delivers hammer blow to stun Northcliffe at The Belfry

THE PGS season has got off to a flyer with a crushing victory over the Northcliffe at The Belfry.

Captain and West Ham regular Tony Smith bravely kitted his boys out in claret and blue, but his team performed way beyond the relegation fodder regularly served up at the London Stadium.

From the off the PGS took control on a muddy Brabazon. As the first afternoon drew to a close, the PGS stood undefeated, taking an overnight lead of six and a half to one and a half.

Waking after the traditional fine dinner and liquid refreshment, the two teams headed out to the PGS National with the Northcliffe needing a miracle. It never came to pass, although the men and women from the Mail did manage to win a couple of matches to pull back to twelve and a half to three and a half.

The victory delivered a hat-trick for the PGS in this fixture.

A rather stunned Smith, trying to take in the rare sensation of watching a winning team, reflected: "Everyone played their part and there were some outstanding performances. It was a great honour to captain the PGS and deliver such a thumping win."



**STRIPING IT:** PGS captain John Quinn borrows John Morgan's jacket, while (below) seccy Tim Allan finds yet another fairway



**CUP-TASTIC:** Match skipper Tony Smith (right) is presented with the Harmsworth Trophy from NGS captain Joe Marvell



**TONGUE & GROOVED:** Lee Smith (left) and nearest the pin winner Mark Lomas





# Press Golfing Society fixtures 2023

## SOCIETY DAYS

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 WORPLESDON

worplesdongc.co.uk

Medal round

Lord Riddell Trophy - holder Pat Mooney

The top 16 players qualify for the

Sir Emsley Carr knockout

- holder Andrew Porter

### THURSDAY, APRIL 20 PORTERS PARK

portersparkgolfclub.co.uk

News of the World Trophy (Singles

Stableford) - holder Christian Fraser

Sir Leicester Harmsworth Memorial

Trophy (Greensomes Stableford)

- holders Jono Baker & Rick Evans

### FRIDAY, MAY 5 ROYAL BLACKHEATH

royalblackheath.com

Captains' reunion, committee  
and seniors

Dazeley Past Captains' Trophy - holder

Colin Hancock (Singles Stableford, past

captains only) and the Calamity Jane

Putter - holder Hugh Whittow (Singles

Stableford, all players)

### TUESDAY, MAY 16 WOKING

wokinggolfclub.co.uk

Mirror Trophy - holder Nick Cherrie

(Singles Stableford), Wilkinson Sword

- holders Felix Duckworth & Roderick

Easdale (Greensomes Stableford)

### TUESDAY, JUNE 13 President's Day

& Guest Day

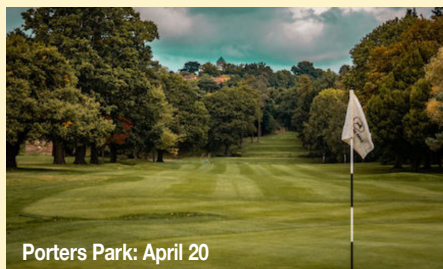
WALTON HEATH

waltonheath.com

Reg Hinder Memorial Trophy - holder

Nic Brook (Singles Stableford)

President's prizes (Singles stableford);



Porters Park: April 20



Royal Blackheath: May 5



Woking: May 16



Ashridge: July 18



The Berkshire: September 19



West Hill: October 31

foursomes; guests). Foursomes winners  
in 2022: Khalid Javed & Christian Fraser

### TUESDAY, JULY 18 ASHRIDGE

ashridgegolfclub.ltd.uk

PGS Memorial Salver

- holder Jono Baker (Singles Stableford)

Sir Harry Brittain Trophy - holders

Graham Marsden & Jon Jones

(Greensomes Stableford)

### MONDAY, AUGUST 14

Captain's Day

ROYAL WINCHESTER

royalwinchestergolfclub.com

Captain's Day

Billennium Bowl - holder Felix

Duckworth (Singles Stableford), Harold

Lewis Weight for Age Trophy - holder

Peter Dazeley and Captain's Day prizes

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 THE BERKSHIRE

theberkshire.co.uk

The Sun Challenge Trophy

- holder Andy Glen

(Singles Stableford)

Sir George Sutton Salver

- holders Andy Glen & Jim Murray

(Greensomes Stableford)

PLUS AGM

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 WEST HILL

westhillgc.co.uk

Peggy White Vase - holder Tim Allan

(Singles Stableford)

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 THE BERKSHIRE

theberkshire.co.uk

Christmas Scramble and auction

## MATCHES

### TUESDAY, MAY 23

v Stock Exchange GS

Royal Mid Surrey

rmsgc.co.uk

Match captain Patrick Eagar

### MONDAY, JULY 3

v The Stage GS

Richmond

therichmondgolfclub.com

PGS match captain

Nick Cherrie

### MONDAY, JULY 31

Hickory match

v British Golf Collectors

Royal Blackheath

royalblackheath.com

Match captain Nic Brook

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

v London Solicitors GS

Royal St George's

royalstgeorges.com

Match captain Tom Crone

### OCTOBER 1-3

Gullane

XXXII Wryter Cup

gullanegolfclub.co.uk

PGS captain John Quinn

### OCTOBER 23-27

Chervò Golf San Vigilio, Italy

Nations Cup

chervogolfsanvigilio.it

Match captain

Jonny Bramley



Gullane: October 1-3