

Mail's Neil nails it

Darbyshire's heathland win on President's Day

MAILMAN Neil Darbyshire posted a sensational 37 points to claim the Reg Hinder Memorial Trophy at Walton Heath.

On a baking hot day at the Surrey heathland gem, Darbyshire (right) skilfully avoided the heather and negotiated the slick greens to claim his first singles victory since 2010.

Darbyshire, playing off 21, was a comfortable winner of Division Two. "I'm delighted but absolutely gobsmacked", he reflected. "It's the first time I've won an individual trophy in well over a decade, and to have done it at Walton Heath, my favourite of all the courses we play, was especially thrilling.

"I did my best to blow it by fiveputting the ninth and taking three out of the green-side bunker on 10 but I'm just very glad to have muddled through.

Phil Johnston took second in Division Two with 35 points and Colin Hancock was third with 33.

It was a good day for the Kensington stable as fellow Mail staffer Steve Lewis posted 35 points to claim Division One honours.

Lewis, playing off 10, said "I've been playing well all year without

getting that killer score. I always seem to do well at Walton Heath. I've got good memories there, it just seems to fit my eve for some reason. I also had a match at my club that afternoon and we won that too, so all in all, it was a great day."

His haul was three ahead of Oliver McCormack and five more than Bruce McKellar, who took the division's third spot on countback.

The large field of 56 was split over the morning and afternoon to compete for the singles on the Old Course. For some this meant a more conservative lunchtime refreshment intake.

In the foursomes Jim Murray and Hugo Tudor grabbed 34 points to claim victory. Colin Hancock picked up his second prize of the day with happy Hammer Tony Smith as they nudged out Tom Crone and Russell Field on countback for second.

Top prize for guests went to Nev Appleton's friend Nick Moody who racked up an impressive 37 points.

Our thanks go to President Peter Dazeley, on his inaugural day as host, who supplied the elegant, engraved glassware for those who made it to the podium. -Tony Smith

Remaining 2023 fixtures & matches

MONDAY, JULY 31 Hickory match v British Golf Collectors ROYAL BLACKHEATH Match captain Nic Brook

MONDAY, AUGUST 14 ROYAL WINCHESTER Captain's Day

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 v London Solicitors GS ROYAL ST GEORGE'S Match captain Tom Crone

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 THE BERKSHIRE

OCTOBER 1-3 **Gullane XXXII Wryter Cup** PGS captain John Quinn

OCTOBER 23-27 Chervò Golf San Vigilio, Italy, Nations Cup Match captain Jonny Bramley

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 WEST HILL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 THE BERKSHIRE Christmas Scramble

and charity auction

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



GRAPHICS guru Nev Appleton has ended Andrew Porter's bid for an unprecedented Emsley Carr hat-trick. Appleton claimed a spot in the semis with a two-up win at Porter's Brookmans Park and will now take on his car-share companion Jonny Bramley at Tandridge.

In the other half of the draw, Worplesdon winner Nick Jones eased past Woking victor Nick Cherrie and will now play the late reserve Daryl Selby for a spot in the final. Selby claimed his place with a much narrower win over Paul Kelso, who took him to the final hole of their

Both Emsley Carr finalists will qualify automatically for this year's Wryter Cup team.



Chric Cutmore **Nick Cherrie** Mark Lomas Nick Jones James Nursey Paul Kelso James Saville* Ollie McCormack* Ian Woods **Evan Samuel Steve Lewis** Jonny Bramley **Neale Adams** Andy Porter Khalid Javed Nev Appleton

Semi finals to be played by Aug 14 Nick Cherrie 2&1 Nick Jones 5&4 Nick Jones 3&2 Paul Kelso w/o Daryl Selby 1up Daryl Selby (reserve) lan Woods 2up Jonny Bramley 3&2 Jonny Bramley 2&1 Andy Porter 3&2 Nev Appleton 2up

Nev Appleton w/o

*disqualified

PLACES AFTER 6 QUALIFIERS, CLUB HCPS

Andy Glen	2	2	8	12
Jonathan Bramley	1	6	7	14
Nevil Appleton	3	10	2	15
Mark Lomas	1	11	3	15
Khalid Javed	4	3	9	16
John Quinn (Q)	9	5	3	17
Evan Samuel	4	6	8	18
lan Woods	7	5	7	19
Oliver McCormack	7	8	5	20
Andrew Porter	2	1	18	21
Tim Allan (Q)	2	12	9	23
Steve Lewis	7	15	2	24
Colin Hancock	12	15	4	31
Nick Cherrie	20	13	1	34
Dylan Dronfield	11	9	19	39
Christian Fraser	12	4		16
James Saville	13	4		17

yter Cup XXX

WITH just two qualifying events to come,

the Beeb's Andy Glen has secured his spot in this year's Wryter Cup team.
His eighth-place finish at Walton Heath has taken him to the top of the qualitying table, heading a further quartet of experienced Wryter Cup performers in experienced Wryter Cup performers, in Jonny Bramley, Nev Appleton, Mark Lomas and Khalid Javed. Ian Woods and Ollie McCormack

boosted their hopes of making the team with strong performances at Walton Heath, while Steve Lewis and Colin Hancock have given themselves the chance of a trip to Gullane with their top-four finishes on the Surrey heathland.

PGS and Wryter Cup captain
John Quinn will be looking for one more
decent finish from matchplay expert
Andrew Porter which would secure his spot in the team.

Captain Quinn and secretary Tim Allan qualify automatically, but both also sit high up in the table.

THE Mail's Steve Lewis has hit the front in the race for the John Gordon Golden Putter.

Lewis's fine performance at Walton Heath has taken him just past Jonny Bramley, who's still in the running for a double of the two premier PGS competitions - the Golden Putter and the Sir Emsley Carr knockout. The Golden Putter goes to the

player with the three best finishes from the season's singles competitions.

Travelling dangerously in third is the double Emsley Carr champion Andrew Porter, who with a first and second place under his belt could move almost beyond reach with one more top-three finish from the four singles events still to come.

5	12	2	19
6	7	9	22
2	1	19	22
3	16	8	27
12	2	15	29
10	12	10	32
13	1	-	14
4	16		20
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	6 2 3 12 10 13 4	6 7 2 1 3 16 12 2 10 12 13 1 4 16	6 7 9 2 1 19 3 16 8 12 2 15 10 12 10



The Ashridge balcony beckons

THE PGS returns to glorious Ashridge this month. It's the home club of PGS secretary Tim Allan and Nick Jones and they're rightly proud of this wonderful slice of ancient Hertfordshire parkland.

The course opened in 1932 and has recently hosted regional Open Championship qualifying, the Women's Senior Amateur and the English Men's Open Seniors.

There's a beautifully natural feel to the layout, the holes weaving their way through the trees and valleys, and there are few finer place to relax after a round than the Ashridge balcony, especially when the deer gather in the late evening sun.

To secure your start on July 18th, just sign up via the link on the right of the PGS homepage.

Blarney army

according to PGS vice-captain Tony Smith. Back in 2020, Smith bought a fourball at Old Head, near Kinsale in our Berkshire charity auction.

Eventually, after more false starts than a West Ham top-four challenge, he made the trip last month, accompanied by a motley crew (surely 'elite band' - ed) of PGS mates

Blessed by blue skies and a gentle breeze, all agreed it was nothing short of an idyllic experience on a truly great course. Patience is clearly a virtue well learned by those of the claret and blue.



OLDER HEADS: Tony Smith, Tim Allan, Pip Clothier and Colin Hancock at Kinsale

FIFTH MEETING: TUESDAY, 18th JULY

COMPETITIONS

AM The PGS Memorial Salver. Holder: Jono Baker. Stableford singles, play in threes from 8.30am at the 10th and 13th. PM Graham Marsden & Jon Jones

defend the Sir Harry Brittain Coronation Trophy.

Greensomes Stableford from 2pm.

£135 per golfer (£140 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 using the link on the right-hand side of the home page. Any problems, email Tim at: 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.

ASHRIDGE

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