



# Press Golfing Society

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.pressgs.co.uk

Pictures: IAN McILGORM

**WRYTE PAIR:** Sutton Salver winners Nev Appleton & Jonny Bramley limber up for the French match with Captain Quinn



Sign up  
for our **74th**  
**ANNUAL DINNER**  
Friday 17 November  
at the  
Sloane Club

## Bubbles' Gallic fizz

### Windfall for Bramley as he pips the prizes at The Berkshire

IT huffed and it puffed, but there was no blowing Bubbles down as Jonny Bramley tamed gale-force winds to triumph once again at the Berkshire - breezing away with both the Sun Challenge Trophy and more wine than even a thirsty Frenchman could dream of.

And it was indeed the French who provided Bramley with the inspiration for a sensational double, as he and partner Nev Appleton also won the Sir George Sutton Salver in the afternoon greensomes ahead of the PGS's annual battle against our Gallic rivals at Gullane.

Bramley explained: "I'm delighted

to be hitting a bit of form ahead of the Wryter Cup. In fact Nev and I gave ourselves extra motivation by imagining our afternoon opponents Jono Baker and Colin Hancock as a pair of feisty Frenchmen."

It might not be everyone's choice of fantasy, but if it leads to victory at the Berkshire and the Wryter Cup then we really can't argue.

The former BBC Sport big-wig was the only player in the morning singles to play to their handicap, carding a hugely impressive 36 points in conditions more often seen out the back of a jet engine than at this great venue, where we've

become used to mellow mists and autumn sunshine.

The wind speed built over the morning and gusts topped 40mph, sending countless balls into the Red course's punishing heather and blowing scorecards away, quite literally in Steve Lewis' case after PGS captain John Quinn dropped it on the 6th hole.

Bramley, however, romped home ahead of Hugh Whittow and Baker, both on 35 points. Appleton (33) was the Division One winner ahead of Olly McCormack (31) and Paolo Minoli (30).

Conditions thankfully eased for the afternoon on the Blue course, leading to an unprecedented three-way tie at the top on 41 points. Bramley and Appleton edged out the unlucky Baker and Hancock, and Paul Kelso and Ian Woods, on count-back. Sources suggested Baker was overheard muttering "Sacre bleu!" at the result.

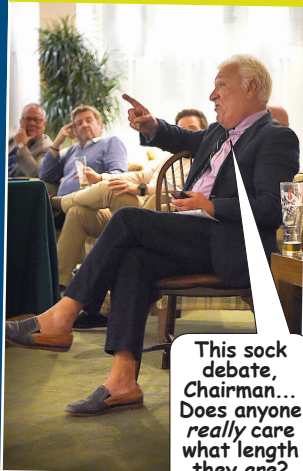
But if sparks flew during the afternoon's play, that was nothing compared to the sparks generated by the undercarriage of Bramley's low-riding sports car as it scraped the Swinley Road under the weight of all the prize plonk he somehow transported home. A lorry would have been more suitable than a Lotus.

- Chris Cutmore



**BRAMLEY SNAFFLE:**  
Bubbles' Berks prize grab

## 'ANDICAPS ...AT THE AGM



This sock  
debate,  
Chairman...  
Does anyone  
really care  
what length  
they are?

## THE BERKSHIRE RESULTS

**AM Division 1** 1st, Nev Appleton 33pts, 2nd Olly McCormack 31, 3rd Paolo Minoli 30; **Div 2** Jonny Bramley 36pts, wins the Sun Challenge Trophy, 2nd Hugh Whittow 35 (on countback), 3rd Jono Baker 35.

**PM Greensomes** Jonny Bramley & Nev Appleton 41 (on countback) win The Sir George Sutton Salver, 2nd Jono Baker & Colin Hancock 41 (on cb), 3rd Paul Kelso & Ian Woods 41.

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# FAST CARR FOR JONES

BORN-AGAIN Nick Jones continued his stellar season with a stunning victory over Nev Appleton in the final of the Emsley Carr.

Jones, who had already won twice this season, was in superb form over the Duke's and Duchess' courses at Woburn to clinch victory on the 35th hole.

Jones had been five up at one stage but then lost

several holes in a row to go into the back nine of the second round all square. But he held his nerve superbly in the final few holes to see off matchplay specialist Nev.

Sun man Jones, who until this year had never won a PGS singles trophy, reflected: "No one is more surprised than me.

"I really thought I'd blown it when Nev fought back -

he's a great competitor and never gave up, but somehow I managed to get over the line."

Nev, who was giving Nick a shot, was gracious in defeat:

"It was brilliant. Nick played exceptionally well and it was so close. I came away happy in a weird way!"

- Tim Allan



## Back in Europe for The Italian Job

A PGS team, led by captain Jonny Bramley, took on journalists from across Europe last week for the Nations Cup.

The four day event was being held at Chervò Golf, San Vigilio, on Lake Garda, the venue for the Italian Open in 2000. Eleven teams competed for the trophy, with our GB team finishing mid-table.

Bubbles' team, wearing (so we're told) 'aqua and pewter' shirts were the first PGS side to compete in the tournament, which is held in alternate years with the European Masters for Journalists.

Well done all! Full report in the next newsletter.



## BOOK NOW FOR PGS DINNER TIME

PGS Captain John Quinn will have the Wryter Cup proudly on display at this year's season-finale dinner.

It's on Friday, November 17th at the Sloane Club, just a short walk from Sloane Square tube station.

Captain Quinn will be providing a welcoming glass of fizz before the three course meal and the cost of £80 per head includes half a bottle of wine.

All this season's trophies will be presented on what's sure to be a sparkling night.

[www.sloaneclub.co.uk](http://www.sloaneclub.co.uk)

## A message from our Secretary...

AFTER one or two recent hiccups, can I remind you all that you must notify me as and when your handicap changes?

That's in our rules, all of which can be found at [pressgs.co.uk](http://pressgs.co.uk) under the 'About Us' tab.

I know handicaps change much more frequently than they used to but please get in the habit of emailing me as and when yours does. I usually check everyone's handicap on the England Golf app before each meeting but it would be easier to do it as I go along.

While I'm on about rules, could you pay particular attention to those regarding the Emsley Carr matchplay knockout. After a few unfortunate incidents this year, we are going to enforce those rules to the letter next year.

That means anyone who concedes a match will be automatically disqualified from playing in both that year's Wryter Cup and the following year's Emsley Carr.

The relevant part of the rule reads: Dates set for Emsley Carr knockout rounds are immovable. Any Member who fails to fulfil his or her commitment to play a tie by the date fixed by the Secretary will concede the match, and be ineligible for consideration for the Wryter Cup team that season (even if they have qualified by other means) and will also be ineligible to compete in the following year's Emsley Carr knockout competition.

You have been warned!



## Halloween at West Hill

NEXT up for the PGS is the final regular tournament of the season, the October meeting at lovely West Hill.

Last year the Surrey club hosted our opening March medal, won by Pat Mooney, and 2023 sees it complete our set of the famous three Ws, following days at Worplesdon and Woking.

West Hill is universally regarded as one of the best inland courses in the country. Golf Monthly's latest review describes it as "quite simply the epitome of sublime, old-fashioned, heathland golf".

The club was founded by Mrs Marguerite Lubbock, who'd started at Pau in south-

ern France (Arnaud Massy's home club before he moved to North Berwick and won the 1907 Open at Hoylake). The course opened in 1909 and is mainly the work of Cuthbert Butchart, with input from Open champions Jack White and Willie Park Junior.

Recently the club have been renovating bunkers and taking out some trees to bring in more light and increase the movement of air.

Our day this Tuesday will be a one-round affair for the Peggy White Vase, claimed last year at Swinley by PGS Secretary Tim Allan, with breakfast and lunch included for a remarkable £100.

## EIGHTH MEETING: TUESDAY, 31st OCTOBER

## WEST HILL

### COMPETITION

MORNING: From 9am. Singles Stableford in threeballs. Tim Allan defends The Peggy White Vase.

### COST

£100 per golfer for golf, lunch and prizes. Pay online to

PRESS

GOLFING SOCIETY acc 40749648, sort code 204141.

### DRESS CODE

Standard golfing attire is expected on the course with smart casual in the clubhouse.

### PRIZES

First three in Divisions 1&2.

### TELEPHONE

Messages can be left at

reception on 01483 474365.

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### By Car

West Hill is located on the A322 in Brookwood at the mid-point between the A3 and the M3 junction 3. The Club is only 6.2 miles from Guildford, 18.6 miles from Heathrow Airport and 36.1 miles from the centre of London.

#### By Train

Brookwood station is a ten minute walk from the clubhouse.

POSTCODE for satnavs

**GU24 0BH**



### SEC-SESS:

Peggy White winner Tim Allan with last year's captain Colin Hancock



THE splendour of the mighty Gullane No1 course was the fitting scene for a glorious PGS triumph in the Wryter Cup earlier this month.

John Quinn's team triumphed 18-14 over a very powerful French APG side, winning all three sessions to reclaim the precious trophy.

Leading by three points at the end of the first day four-somes and fourballs, Quinn's strong line-up brought home victory with an 8½-7½ triumph in the singles.

Gullane was a truly spectacular venue for our annual match, with the No.1 course starting and finishing in the town but climbing over the dunes to offer magnificent views of the Firth of Forth.

The course was in superb condition and the club allowed us to use their Members' Clubhouse, which only added to both teams' enjoyment of a very special place. The celebration dinner, featuring Nic Brook's sensational address to the haggis, will live long in the memory!

After drinking from the champagne-filled Wryter Cup, captain Quinn said: "I've never enjoyed myself so much with my clothes on – the whole team were simply magnificent, no one really believed we weren't going to win, except maybe me.

"The French fielded a really strong team but so did we. Every game was played in a tremendous spirit and, pre and



WINNERS:  
Captain  
Quinn and  
his team

# Glorious Gullane

## Quinn's battlers regain the Wryter Cup

post matches, the teams mixed so well. Many new friendships were made and many more re-ignited and enriched."

Jonny Bramley was the

standout performer for the PGS, winning all three of his matches, but this was very much a team effort, with gritty halves fought for in the gathering gloom on

Monday night. The weather was kind (ie barely any rain to speak of and only 30mph winds) but the course still bared its teeth, offering a fantastic challenge for low and high handicappers alike.

Tim Allan took the Vic Woodman trophy, which is awarded to the PGS member who best typifies the spirit of the Wryter Cup.

After 32 years of the match the score now stands at 16-16, testament to the true spirit of the competition. Full results of this and earlier Wryter Cups available at [www.pressgs.co.uk](http://www.pressgs.co.uk) – **Tim Allan**

### DAY 1 Morning foursomes

PGS 5 v 3 APG

2&1	Lewis & Glen	Scimeca & Baraise	
2up	Porter & Dronfield	Largillier & Louet (C)	
4&2	McCormack & Lomas	Doucet & Houles	
3&2	Bramley & Woods	Dessaint & Vey	
	Samuel & Appleton	Chaudesaygues & Lanaud	3&2
3&1	Allen & Brook	Lassaut & Michel	
	Allan & Quinn (C)	Cara & Colovic	7&6
	Javed & Minoli	Brehier & Combette	3&2

### DAY 1 Afternoon fourballs

PGS 4.5 v 3.5 APG

	Lewis & Glen	Scimeca & Louet	3&2
	Porter & McCormack	Baraise & Dessaint	4&3
1up	Dronfield & Woods	Brehier & Lanaud	
6&4	Bramley & Appleton	Doucet & Lassaut	
4&3	Samuel & Lomas	Houles & Cara	
2&1	Quinn & Javed	Michel & Vey	
½	Allan & Brook	Colovic & Chaudesaygues	½
	Minoli & Allen	Combette & Largillier	2&1

### DAY 2 Singles

PGS 8.5 v 7.5 APG

4&3	Jonny Bramley	Guillaume Baraise	
2up	Nev Appleton	Francois Lanaud	
	Mark Lomas	Edouard Combette	2&1
	Dylan Dronfield	Francois Scimeca	2&1
½	Andy Porter	Guillaume Michel	½
1up	Ollie McCormack	Nicolas Doucet	
	John Quinn	Christophe Lassaut	2&1
	Ian Woods	Jean-Francois Dessaint	1up
3&2	Tim Allan	Tristan Vey	
2&1	Andy Glen	Laurent Louet	
	Evan Samuel	Didier Largillier	2&1
2&1	Mike Allen	Arnold Cara	
5&4	Steve Lewis	Pierre Chaudesaygues	
	Paolo Minoli	Denis Colovic	5&3
6&4	Nic Brook	Jean-Jack Brehier	
	Khalid Javed	Damien Houles	2&1

Overall result

PGS 18 APG 14





WRYTER CUP XXXII ...at Gullane

PGS 18:14 APG

# Press Golfing Society

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

With our  
thanks to  
**sky  
NEWS**



**PGS TEAM:** John Quinn (captain), Tim Allan, Mike Allen, Nev Appleton, Jonny Bramley, Nic Brook, Dylan Dronfield, Andy Glen, Khalid Javed, Steve Lewis, Mark Lomas, Ollie McCormack, Paolo Minoli, Andy Porter, Evan Samuel, Ian Woods.