

Helsby Golf Club Powered Wheelchair Appeal



Issue 8



Wheelchair No 25

December 2018



Wheelchair No 81



Wheelchair No 211

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Letter from our Chairman

Dear Supporters

We are now in our 36th year and, as at the 1st December 2018, we have donated 381 powered wheelchairs to local children with special needs, helping to improve their lives by giving them some independence.

In 2018, we have had a successful year, raising over \pounds 36,000 so far and presenting 11 chairs.

STOP PRESS

In 2019, we are hoping to raise sufficient funds to be able to present our 400th powered wheelchair at a very special Glitz & Glamour evening to be held at Chester Racecourse on 23rd November 2019.

We need to raise

£55,000

between now & then.

To do this we are asking you, our supporters, to suggest some different ways that we can raise these funds.

We have already had a Fashion Show for the Ladies which was an enjoyable evening and raised £1,500 towards this total and the Black & White Evening raised a further ± 500 .

Some of our supporters have offered to raise funds by completing various challenges; the National 3 Peaks Challenge and the Yorkshire 3 Peaks Challenge to name but 2.

We will be monitoring our progress throughout the year on our website which can be found under Powered Wheelchair Appeal on www.helsbygolfclub.org

Any fund raising suggestions will be gratefully received.

Thank you for your amazing support!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Steve Cunniffe

Chairman

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What have we achieved?

- 381 powered wheelchairs for deserving youngsters
- Fundraising for 35 years
- 11 wheelchairs presented in 2018
- £39,643 spent on wheelchairs in 2018

36th Wheelchair Classic

Helsby Golf Club **Powered Wheelchair Appeal**





Gents' Trophy Winners Steve Cunniffe & Rordan Douse

This year's Classic was held on Thursday 7th June.

The great weather was enjoyed by 150 competitors in the tournament and by the 5 children who received their wheelchairs in the evening, racing up and down the path by the putting green.

The wheelchairs were presented by special quest, Rickie Tomlinson, ably assisted by President Peter Duffy, Captain Graham Poland and Lady Captain Barbara Prince.

The youngsters who received chairs were Charlie Holmes from Stone, Bethany Stocker from Northwich, Connor Webb from Widnes, Declan Maynock from Holmes Chapel and last, but not least, cheeky Freya Boothman from Frodsham.

The winners of the men's trophy were Steve Cunniffe and Rordon Douse with a score of 46 points.

The ladies' trophy was won by mother and daughter, Kathleen and Julia Wilkinson with 44 points.

The day was rounded off with an auction and raffle which helped to swell the proceeds.





- Helsby Golf Club for the use of the course and the facilities
- Jigsaw Law, this year's event sponsor
- All members of Helsby Golf Club

- All our supporters who played in the competition, brought bottles for the tombola and prizes for the auction & raffle

- All those who helped on the day, especially Pauline Branigan, Keith Trenell, Norman Clough, Keith Ainsworth and Brian Prince, as well as all the committee members

- Special thanks go to Dame Laura Davies who donated a day caddying for her at the British Open Pro/AM which was auctioned

- And lastly, a number of local and not so local businesses for the prizes for the competitions, the raffles and the auction. Their names can be found on the back page.

A date for your diaries - Thursday 13th June 2019.

Join us at the 37th Wheelchair Classic to play golf, have fun and watch the presentation of 5 more powered wheelchairs to local children with special needs.



Ladies' Trophy Winners Kathleen & Julia Wilkinson

Woodart Workshop

In February, PWA Chairman Steve Cunniffe, Kathryn Hoather & Penny Ainsworth visited the Woodart Workshop in Frodsham where they received a cheque donated by the members who visit the workshop to practice their hobby of wood turning and wood sculpture. During the year, we have received a number of beautifully made wooden items and sculptures from them which we have auctioned to raise funds for the Appeal. Our thanks go to all the members at Woodart, but especially to Hugh Hoather and Simon Wilson, for their superb contributions.

George Makey's Bible

At the Classic, we were joined by Ray Feldwick on behalf of the Peter Alliss Masters Golf Society who presented 'George Makey's Bible' to Captain, Graham Poland and PWA Chairman, Steve Cunniffe.

George Makey founded 'Golf Masters Anonymous' in June 1975 which was a society of celebrities, including Peter Alliss, Seve Ballersteros & Lee Trevino, who raised funds to provide powered wheelchairs for handicapped children. This became the Peter Alliss Masters Crusade in 1988. Without George's inspiration, dedication and determination, this would not have happened and many hundreds of children's lives would not have been improved with the help of otherwise prohibitively expensive powered wheelchairs.



George kept records of his early correspondence and reports from 1974 to 1996, which in 2003 he collated into a binder, now known as George Makey's Bible.

An electronic copy of this is available on the Peter Alliss Masters website. The original document, which George wanted to be presented to 'the valiant and generous Members of Helsby Golf Club in recognition of their extraordinary contribution over many years' will be kept safely at Helsby Golf Club. Below is the first page of this document from 2003.



Spring Dance

The supporters at the Spring Dance on 17th March saw the presentation of our 371st wheelchair to Carys Johnson aged 11 from Chester.

Carys has impaired sight and was the librarian for the library for other children with impaired vision. She was also a play buddy for the younger children in the school, looking after them during breaktime. She goes horse riding each week, where she looks after one of the horses, and also enjoys swimming. She likes pop music and loves going to the theatre. Carys would like to work with animals when she leaves school.

As you can see, Carys will have a go at anything and her new wheels are going to help her achieve even more.

Carys was accompanied by her mum and Claire who helps her at school.

The evening was very enjoyable with a hot supper and the entertainment being provided by Soulvation, a local soul, Motown and disco band.



<u>MEGA Day</u>





Our 17th Mega Day took place on Wednesday 8th August.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of wheelchairs to a very lively Isabella Gray, aged 10 from Liverpool & Tom Gate, aged 14 from Rostherne.

Tom has some very complex needs and was presented with an amazing chair which will enable him to lead an independent life in the country environment where he lives. The chair cost in excess of £21,000 and we were pleased to welcome Dominic & Jo from Tom's village who had helped to raise £10,000 towards the cost and Jane from the Steve Morgan Foundation who contributed £4,000.Tom's parents, Jan & Tony, wish to thank everyone for their help in giving Tom his independence.

We welcomed the Captain of Delamere and the Lady Captain from Sandiway who enjoyed playing in the competition and the evening's entertainment.

This year's winners of the trophy were Helsby Captain, Graham Poland, Alan Griffiths, Glen Makin and Brian Kramer from MEGA.

The MEGA player who won the Tony Brutus Trophy was David (Yozzer) Hughes.

We would like to thank David Syddall of Optimum Costs Consultants for donating the prizes.

A great evening's entertainment provided by the MEGA Stars, compere Eddie Roberts, vocalist Colin Gibson, comedian and impersonator Les Gibson and vocalist and instrumentalist Brian Kramer, was enjoyed by members and supporters.

We would like to thank all our supporters who helped raise over $\pounds 2,300$ for the Appeal.

Peter Alliss Masters

In September, a group of Helsby Golf Club members attended the Peter Alliss Masters Tournament as a reward for all their hard work in raising funds for the Powered Wheelchair Appeal.

The tournament took place on 20th September at the Old Thorns Manor Hotel Golf & Country Estate in Liphook, Hampshire. Following the tournament, Peter Alliss presented powered wheelchairs to 10 youngsters with special needs, including one from Helsby GC to Nina Collins from Congleton. After the presentation, Nina's dad commented

"The powered chair and its flexibility make a world of difference to Nina. Because of her visual impairment the NHS will not fund a powered chair. The only way that Nina can have a degree of independence is to have use of a powered chair. This is an absolute necessity at college where she can navigate the routes to the various classes and get involved in learning how to take visual prompts when out in the community. The other really useful feature for Nina of this chair is the 'recline' position. Since Nina's spinal surgery, sitting for long periods can be uncomfortable so it a great relief to be able to recline even for short periods. As far as the family goes it is just the pleasure of knowing that Nina has the best and most appropriate seating available." – **Tim, Nina's Dad**

In the evening at the Tournament Gala Dinner, Peter Alliss presented the Green Jacket & Quaich to this year's winner, Keith Ainsworth, from Helsby who works hard behind the scenes for HGC Powered Wheelchair Appeal. Many congratulations Keith!

Fashion Show

As a start towards raising our £55,000 target, we held a new event on 12th November.

Colours Fundraising Fashion Shows help charities to raise funds by holding a Fashion Show at a local venue with shopping for the clothes afterwards. The profit from ticket sales and the raffle go to the charity.

We held our show at the Best Western Forest Hills Hotel in Frodsham which was attended by over 100 ladies. Our thanks go the hotel for providing the function suite free of charge and for all their help in organizing the event.

An enjoyable evening was had by all. A glass of Prosecco to start with & plenty of shopping at the end, what more could a girl want?

We would also like to thank Judith Millington of John Fox Plant for donating the main prize for the raffle, a Gin Hamper, which was won by one of our longtime supporters, the actress Emma Cunniffe, who took time out of her busy schedule to join us.

The event raised just over £1,500.

Black & White Evening

On Saturday 1st December, we held our annual Black & White evening at which the Captain, President and Lady Captain presented powered wheelchairs to 2 special youngsters; Caitlin Allan aged 15 from Southport and Jake Hesp aged 18 from Nantwich.

Caitlin attends Stick n Step in Wallasey where she heard about the PWA from some of her friends who had received wheelchairs from us in the past which had significantly improved their independence. Jake's chair has a lifting mechanism, which he proudly showed us, which will bring him up to the same eye level as adults which will help his social interaction, especially with his mates. Caitlin & Jake are both looking forward to the independence that their new chairs will give them.

The enjoyable evening's entertainment was provided by Harry's Disco.

The evening raised over £500 for the Appeal.











Helsby Golf Club Powered Wheelchair Appeal

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We are on the Helsby Golf Club Website—visit the Powered Wheelchair Appeal pages on www.helsbygolfclub.org

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Forthcoming Events

Chinese Banquet — 20th January 2019 Spring Dance — Saturday 2nd March 2019 AGM—Thursday 7th March 2019 37th Wheelchair Classic — Thursday 13th June 2019 18th MEGA Day — Wednesday 7th August 2019 Glitz & Glamour Charity Dinner - Saturday 23rd November 2019





Thank you

We would like to thank all our supporters for your donations and continued support throughout the year, including the following:-

Forresters, Kingsley who regularly provide hampers and prizes for our raffles

Richard Johnson of Frodsham Computers for all his help and advice on our computer and technology challenges

Kieran McCabe of Best Western Forest Hills Hotel, Frodsham

Christian Lindley of Jigsaw Law, Ellesmere Port

Judith Millington of John Fox Plant , Hawarden

FDL Group, Haydock

Electrod UK Ltd, Runcorn

Merseyside Electrical Traders Association

Reload Design, Runcorn	Land of Beds, Helsby	Tesco Stores, Helsby
Woodart Workshops	Boodles, Chester	NatWest Commercial, Chester
Old Thorns Hotel, Liphook	The Golf House Club Elie	Investec, Liverpool
FJ Plumbing, Northwich	Robert Gleave & Sons, Frodsham	Sainsbury's, Frodsham
Serenity for Beauty, Helsby	Ellesmere Port & District Lions	HE Coward, Frodsham
Old Hall Hotel, Frodsham	Boots the Chemist, Frodsham	DRB Jewellers, Frodsham
Charles John, Frodsham Lusso Hair, Frodsham Perfect Floors & Interiors, Frodsham		
Room 44, Frodsham	Grove Fisheries, Backford	THG, Northwich
Room 44, Frodsham Loulle Fashions, Acton Bridge	Grove Fisheries, Backford Manchester City FC	THG, Northwich Liverpool FC
Loulle Fashions, Acton Bridge	Manchester City FC	Liverpool FC