



Helsby Golf Club News

Issue no. 18

Autumn 2017

Captain

It only seems like yesterday that I was standing on the first tee hitting my drive on my Drive in. A lot has transpired since then and I have played much more golf than normal and more than I thought I would do. The course has recently changed from the firm fast running of the summer to the more soft and wet conditions normally associated with later in the year as winter weather seems to have arrived early this year. I recently reflected on the excellent condition that the course was in throughout October last year but that was without this year's exceptional rainfall in late September and early October; the course really is weather dependent.

However the weather did improve and on 18th October, the Manchester & District Golf Alliance held one of their winter competitions - a first for Helsby Golf Club. They had a shotgun start with 116 professionals and amateurs taking part and I had the pleasure of playing with our two professionals and Anthony Dempsey finished in third place. There were many compliments from the competitors both on the state of the course, particularly the greens and the general hospitality of the club.

The reports on the course (from visitor feedback), has in the main been very positive and this is reflected in the increase in revenue for the club from green fees and in the advance bookings from societies for next year. Our Head Green Keeper Danny and his staff supported by the Course Support Group are striving to make

improvements to the course including their never ending battle with drainage.

The Captain's Weekend and The Captain's Day for Ladies were two of the highlights of the year with the Ladies Prize going to the Lady Captain and John Cheesbrough claiming the Gents Prize.

I held a Captain's Charity Day this year and this was a new venture for our club. It took a considerable amount of organisation both before the event and on the day itself. I would like to publicly thank Christian Lindley who was without doubt the Organiser in Chief! He was ably supported by Angela Rawsthorne from Claire House, our Secretary Steve, and on the day by our Professional Chris. My charity was Claire House Children's Hospice, the main children's hospice in this area and they provide a special service to terminally ill children and their families. It costs £6,500 per day to run and I set this as the target for the event. I am delighted that over £13,000 was raised - enough to run the hospice for two days. A special thank you also goes to the main sponsor Jigsaw Law, other sponsors and to the members and friends of Helsby Golf Club who played in the event or made donations and supported this great cause.

The club has received the vat rebate and a generous donation from the estate of a former member Liz Sharp. The finances are therefore in good shape and various options are under consideration for the development of the course and clubhouse. New members are continuing to apply for



membership and with two local golf clubs up for sale, there is the possibility that some of their members may migrate in our direction.

The course development will continue with the winter programme concentrating on drainage including the 6th green, and a number of tees and bunkers also receiving remedial work.

Natalie and Kieren are now firmly established and I have found them very receptive to catering suggestions and they are always there to discuss private functions and gourmet events for members and non members alike. The club has provided the venue for many occasions during the year including wedding, birthday, anniversary and christening events. Again visiting societies have commented on the good quality of the catering they have received so

thanks to Kieren, Natalie and the team.

My thanks also go to Rob who has managed the bar and club house very well during the summer and to Steve in his role as Secretary; he has been unwavering in the support he has given me.

Finally thank you to all the members who continue to support me during my year, it is very much appreciated and I have been proud to represent the club when playing or visiting other golf courses or functions. Please all enjoy the remaining autumn and winter seasons both on and off the course.

Neil Johnson
Captain



Lady Captain

This year has gone by far too quickly and I can't believe that the main golfing season is now over. It has been great fun, with never a dull moment and pretty busy most of the time. I've often been asked if I'm enjoying my year as Lady Captain and my reply has always been, 'Yes of course'. It has been a real pleasure to play golf with so many members and work with others in the various Club committees. I have also met some lovely ladies through the Society of West Cheshire Lady Golf Captains and Shield teams. I have had the good fortune to play at a number of clubs in the North West and this has made me realise how lucky we are to have such a friendly and welcoming club with good facilities.

There are so many highlights starting with the fish and chip suppers on Friday evening to the many and varied ladies' competitions. I want to single out the Exchange Day at Oswestry Golf Club on July 25th. The course looked amazing as it was bathed in the sultry Mediterranean weather which we were lucky to experience that day. Everybody enjoyed themselves not only on the golf course but afterwards as they tucked into the excellent cold buffet. Congratulations to the winning team which comprised Debbie Briscoe, Linda Barton, Sue Saunders and Gillian Pay. Finally, thanks go to Linda Barton for entertaining the ladies who

travelled by coach.

Lady Captain's Day was also a great success on August 12th. It kicked off on the Friday evening with a par 3 nine-hole competition after a glass of wine. On the Saturday, Andrew and I enjoyed entertaining the ladies with drinks and snacks at the Half Way House, although it was interesting to note that nobody claimed to be playing well. After the competition, we had afternoon tea including wonderful cakes made by the ladies and was followed by a successful evening do. Everybody admired Andrew for his dancing ability although I had never realised what a disco diva he is! I am very grateful to all those who helped to make this day such a success including Franc and June Cunniffe, Pete Jackson, Paul Trow and Barbara Leigh. Finally congratulations go to Sue Saunders who won the trophy.

On a personal note, I succeeded in getting a hole in one on the 11th hole in the Macmillan Nurses 4BBB at the end of August and enjoyed celebrating this occasion with my playing partners and the rest of the ladies at the bar afterwards. I was very lucky that day.

The final competition of the playing season was the End of Season Stableford on September 20th followed by a social evening with a meal and entertainment provided by Gay Rhodes. She gave a light-hearted talk entitled,



'That time of life' which was well-received by the ladies.

The annual Macmillan Coffee morning was held on Thursday September 28th and raised £406 for this very special charity. The produce stall comprising wonderful jams, chutneys, biscuits and cakes, most of them homemade was well supported by the ladies. Many men were keen to purchase cakes to go with their cups of coffee.

Thanks also to all those who have contributed to my charity 'Dogs for Good'. So far this year, we have raised £823.

I would like to congratulate all the ladies who have won competitions this year and to all those who have dropped

their handicaps. It isn't easy to accomplish the latter but I want to praise all those who go out and play in all weathers just because they love the game and who want to succeed. I always say that in golf, you're in for the long term, so do keep practising, playing and taking lessons.

Finally I would like to thank all those ladies and gentlemen who have helped and supported me during the year and in particular the Ladies' Committee. They have worked hard to make the Ladies' section run smoothly and successfully such that it has been a pleasure to work with them.

Gill Smith
Lady Captain



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President

The end of the summer golfing season is upon us, and there have been some great and spectacular achievements during the year. For me the greatest one is Simon Pay, who as you all may know became a scratch golfer – a fantastic achievement and very well done Simon!

We can now look forward to the autumn and winter season but maybe look forward is not quite the right term! As the President, I am responsible for holding two tournaments a year, the first is the Presidents day for the Gentlemen and was held in June. It was pleasure looking after all the players at the halfway house, with some great golf being played by so many. The winner was one of our youngest members Sam Long, in second place was Ralf Ramsey and in an honourable third place was Steve Cunniffe. It would not right if I did not mention my disappointment at not holding the presentation that evening.

The other responsibility is the Presidents day for our Ladies. It was a great day weather wise which made the day a success. As with the men, the halfway house was used to its full extent. Being a two tee start it became a very busy area, with the selection of drinks accommodating all and some preferring to stay and not continue!

The presentation after the competition was attended by nearly every single player, which is a credit to the Ladies which I greatly appreciated. The winner was Penny Ainsworth, followed in second place by Carolyn Clothier and Heather Faulkner taking the third spot.

I would like to thank all the people of whom there are many, for all their hard work helping and managing a successful season. Wishing you all the very best for the festive season and the coming year.

Jim Potter
President



Thanks to John Buchanan for the photographs

Barbara on the fundraising trail!

One of our longstanding members and former Lady Captain, Barbara Leigh was busy in the summer raising funds for Christie Hospital in Manchester by her involvement in a couple of events.

Firstly she organized a "summer lunch" at her home in Barrow for approximately 50 guests. Fortunately the weather was kind enough for an outdoor lunch and everyone enjoyed Barbara's generous hospitality and fantastic food and drink. A raffle was held and an amazing sum of £1,960 was

raised on the day.

Not content with that, a few weeks later, Barbara, her stepdaughter Kim and friend Sandie Richards then took part in "The Christies Walk of Hope" – a 10km walk in Tatton Park. She raised a further £400 from the walk.

That means she raised a fantastic £2,360 this summer for this extremely worthwhile charity that offers support to those touched by cancer.

Well done Barbara – an outstanding effort!



Many thanks to Howard Pay who managed to capture a photo of our clubhouse silhouetted against a stunning sunset recently!

From the Secretary's Office

Autumn's here again and, now that the summer's competitions are over, the Honours Boards and Trophies are being engraved. All of this work will be done in time for the Awards Evening on the 18th November and it promises

to be another great evening and a celebration of golfing achievements!

Viv has had a wonderful addition to her family as her daughter and partner, Rebekah and Mike, gave birth to their first child in July.

A beautiful boy, named Jacob Michael, this is Viv and Gary's second grandson. Albie is now 3 years old.

Christmas pens will be available from the office again this year. At £3 they are a nice stocking filler. The 2018 Fixture Books will be available just before Christmas.

Steve and Viv





News from the Seniors

Seniors matches this year started dry and cool at Bromborough and continued through to a wet and soggy finish also against Bromborough in September, which was memorable mainly for the bow waves from the electric trolleys and the much praised braised steak.

At Helsby, we don't have a formal Seniors Section as at many other clubs. They often have elected committees, Chairmen and at some clubs even a separate Captain - too confusing for us! Instead, we have informal groups and formal seniors matches that are open to all over 55's. The concensus is that if it's not broken, there's no need to fix it!

In addition to the interclub matches, we had a successful Seniors Exchange Day at Sale

won by Phil Jones with Brian Kennerley a distant second; the Cheshire Life Members contingent continues to grow stronger; and there were tours.

Of the T&T Anglesey trip, Tony Williams writes:

We say this every year when another golf season draws to a close, but for those of us who have had the opportunity to play some magnificent courses throughout the summer, the memories will remain sharp for a little longer and keep us looking forward to a hopefully mild winter with the chance to continue keeping the golf swing going, ready to perform again next year.

The Tuesday/Thursday 'boys' went to Anglesey for their annual trip. They played Holyhead, Bull Bay and Caernarfon golf courses. If only the third week in May could always be sunny and dry it would have been a blessing. Holyhead G C on Tuesday,

a jewel for the Island, was not the place to be, with the wind blowing horizontal and the very heavy drizzle doing nothing to make life any more miserable. The Bull Bay course, (the following day a littler drier), has been massively improved since we last played it and our last event on Wednesday was Caernarfon which always comes up trumps. An enjoyable trip made better with good company.

So from this season to the next one, have a good winter break and good golfing for 2018.

The '12 o'clockers' went to Llandundno, and no-one volunteered to divulge details so obviously, what happened on tour etc etc!

Whilst we have gained a few new faces this year, we are conscious that we also lost a few and in September Jeff Mulholland organised a Memorial Trophy and he writes;

On a wonderful Autumn day, Tuesday September 19th saw the second year of the Ray Parker Putter Competition when the Helsby Tuesday/Thursday afternoon seniors play team golf, remembered old friends no longer with us and to raise some funds for related charities for those organisations which our past friends have benefitted from.

This year's winning team was Peter Duffy, Howard Jones, Brian Prince and Colin Wilkinson. Second place went to Tony Insley, Jeff Mulholland, Sam Hartley and George Randles.

The photograph shows the winners and the rest of the lads celebrating after drinks and the customary pork pies and chips. This year's charitable donation is to MacMillan Nurses in the memory of Dave Nagle and Dave Hartley.

Membership and Marketing

We thought you may appreciate an update on what your Membership and Marketing committee have been working on recently, so here is a short summary:

- A course flyover has been done and the video has been uploaded to the club website and our social media – Facebook and Twitter

- Reciprocal arrangements with Woolton GC and Chester GC are nearing completion and will be published on the members section of our website
- Our new club website is live after migration of the records from the previous site
- Options explored for new course signage including sponsors
- Course scorecards have been reprinted and are now in use
- Our Pro continues to liaise with local schools re activity

to encourage youngsters to take up golf

- Our local advertising campaign continues to target new members and also publicise our winter package offering to visitors. We have had some new members as a result of the advertising
- We continue to get regular press coverage in Golfers Local, Helsby to Hand, Helsby News, Frodsham Life, Chronicle - this covers articles about the club and our charity work for the powered

Wheelchair Appeal

- Overview of activity regularly communicated to members
- Arrangement in place with Bumblebee Digital for proactive social media campaign
- Production of Club newsletters - Summer and Winter editions. We welcome any feedback or suggestions so if you have any please contact the committee via the secretary's office.



Helsby as a Function Venue

Over the last few months, there have been a number of very successful events held at the club including birthday/anniversary parties, christenings, funerals and even a couple of weddings.

We have had great feedback on the venue, food and service and the bar and catering team have done a fantastic job in dressing the room – see photos below.

If you or anyone you know are looking for a venue for an event, why not consider the clubhouse? – please check availability with the secretary.



Light up your Christmas with the Helsby Golf Club Christmas Pen

Great idea for a stocking filler and comes with a free gift box

£3

Available from the Secretary's Office, Pro Shop and the bar

News from the kitchen

party booking please come and speak to us – thanks!

Kieren, Natalie and the team

It has been another busy summer this year with a lot of outside functions and visiting societies as well as all the club events. We are currently in the process of changing the bar menu for the winter so if you have any ideas please come and let us know. We are also doing the Christmas menus so if you would like a Christmas



Website update

The club's new website – at www.helsbygolfclub.org – has been in place for several weeks now and around 200 members have already registered and successfully logged in to the Members Hub.

One of the big advantages of the new website is its integration with the main club administration system which makes it easier for you to check your details and, where appropriate, make changes which are

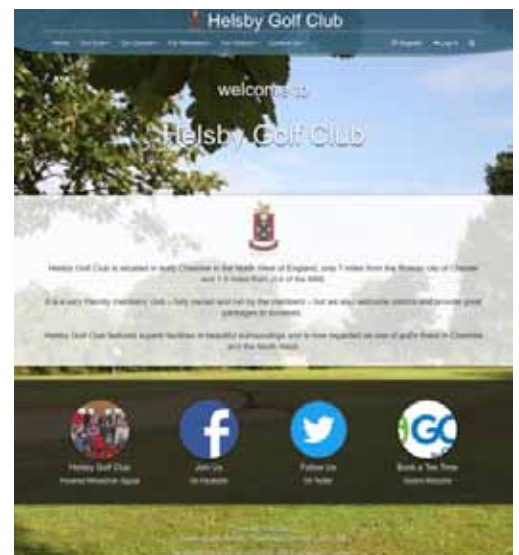
automatically notified to the Secretary's Office.

There is also full integration with HowDidiDo. This is the system members are already used to for entering competitions but there is much more to see via the Members Hub including the club diary, fixtures, results, handicaps - yours and fellow members - and even a detailed analysis of your golf.

We can see from our analysis tools that the Members Hub is proving very popular and further features are planned, including the ability to check what you've spent on your membership card, so keep

checking in to stay up to date.

If you haven't yet managed to log in, there are instructions on the website under the 'For Members' tab and do feel free to feed back any thoughts and suggestions to the Marketing Team.



House news

Happy Christmas from the House Committee! It's been a busy year and the time seems to have flown by and here we are approaching Christmas and the New Year. We hope that you have enjoyed some of the social functions and the hospitality in the clubhouse. It's a great place to get together with friends and enjoy some great food and drink. We hope you all had a great summer golfing season and are getting lots of opportunities to enjoy the course over the winter.

We've had some great support from members who have attended our functions this year, as always thanks to the President, Captain and Lady Captain for supporting the functions. We've tried a different approach to booking entertainers this year and although it has been a little more costly we think we have had some great acts entertaining at our functions. As always if you have any evenings that you would like us to arrange them please let us know and we'll do our best.

Thanks to Marjorie Trow for organising the Fish and Chip games again this year throughout the

season. It's been great to see members signing up for the competitions. They have been popular evenings and hopefully you'll all want to play in them again next year.

So what's going on in the clubhouse over the winter? The opening hours are displayed in the clubhouse together with times catering is available. We are progressing with our plans for refurbishment of the Lounge. Once again thanks go to Brian Prince for all the work he has put into the plans, working with contractors and project management. We've also been costing up other projects for the clubhouse, thanks to all the members who have given us their support with this and for all the suggestions to improve our clubhouse.

We have planned some functions for the winter and do hope you'll be able to join us.



There'll be a quiz night in November, details will be posted on the notice board. Details of the ticket sales for the Christmas party will be

also be posted and we'll email a reminder nearer the time.



As you all know we canvassed opinion about the New Year's Eve party and only 8 members said that they would be attending. Given the increased cost of staffing and entertainment at New Year we really need at least 60 to 70 to make it viable. Apologies to those members who have been disappointed by the decision to cancel but this can be reviewed again next year. As we wanted to do something to celebrate New Year we are working with Match and Handicap to arrange a competition followed by a meal on New Year's day. So do come and blow the cobwebs away and celebrate New Year's Day at the Club!



The ever popular Burn's night will take place in January and then we will almost be at the start of the new Golfing year

which we will celebrate at the Captain's Drive in Dinner in February.

Thanks to those members who gave us their views about the type of functions they want to attend. It does seem that members are keen to try more buffet type 2 course meals so we will factor that into the planning of next year's functions. We've had many private functions this year and would love to welcome others to the club. Kieren and Steve Collins can help you to arrange dates for any of your functions so please consider the club as a venue if you have parties for family and friends coming up. Thanks go to Kieren, Natalie and Rob for all their hard work this year. They make sure there's a warm welcome in the Clubhouse and they have worked together to look after us so. Thanks to everyone in the catering and bar teams.

So once again we hope you have had an enjoyable summer season. Please give us your feedback about functions and facilities so that we can continue to make improvements over the coming year.

Have a great Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year!

We are on Twitter and Facebook

Updated Course info, interests, updates and what's going on. If you are registered give us a follow, if not, why not?



Twitter -
@HelsbyGC



Facebook -
Helsby Golf Club -
Official

Helsby's Lady Captain scores an ace!

Our Lady Captain, Gill Smith recently scored a hole in one on the par 3 11th hole.

Her fantastic achievement came during a Macmillan charity competition and the occasion was celebrated in the clubhouse afterwards with the customary drinks for all!

The photo shows Gill (middle) with fellow players Heather Faulkner and Sharyn Butler.



Joan Edwards Garden Restoration update



For the last 12 months, Ladies' Committee members Carolyn Clothier and Liz Fudge have been restoring the Joan Edwards Garden with occasional assistance from other club members.

The garden was installed in 2008 funded by a generous bequest from former member Joan Edwards, but it had become overgrown. Its neglected condition alongside the path leading to the 1st tee did not give a good first impression of our course.

The Management Committee accepted a proposal from 2016 Lady Captain, Penny Ainsworth, for the Ladies Committee to 'adopt' the garden for a year to get it back into shape. Carolyn commented "It all started last year with a working party of about 10 women, and we made an impact but within a few weeks the weeds were fighting back."

"Carolyn and I decided to offer to take it on as a project, following Rachel Steven's example with her work on the roundabout by the first tee" said Liz. "This

year we've been meeting to work on the garden for an hour every couple of weeks and sometimes other members have come along to help.

New planting has been introduced, including some winter-flowering hellebores for ground cover, and other shrubs have been moved to fill open spaces.

In addition the Management Committee agreed to the purchase of two new standard roses to replace existing stock.

Mulching, using material produced by the stump grinders from the willows formerly behind the 18th green, has made a big difference to the quality of the soil, and earthworms have been sighted for the first time since the restoration project started!

LIZ FUDGE

Macmillan coffee morning fundraiser

The ladies at Helsby recently organised another successful event in support of the national annual Macmillan "Worlds biggest coffee morning" campaign.

Coffee and cake was on offer and there was a well stocked produce stall with delicious jams, chutney, cakes and biscuits kindly donated by members. There was also a raffle and the great sum of £406 was raised.

Lady Captain Gill Smith would like to pass on thanks to everyone for their kind support and generosity raising funds for this very worthwhile cause!



Many thanks to our sponsors below - we appreciate your on-going support



Match and Handicap

A review of the year's competitive golf shows some notable achievements.

Club Championship, Order of Merit, Scratch Cup - Winner Simon Pay

Unquestionably the outstanding performer of the year and also becoming Helsby's first scratch golfer for many years with his 68 gross in the second round of the scratch cup taking him to 0.4 handicap.

Challenge Cup – Winner Jamie Hodgkinson
As one of our low men Jamie returned to the form of two years ago and off 2 handicap was a worthy winner of the Challenge Cup. As reported in the M and H blog his 2 and 1 win over Andy Sayers saw some of the best golf played by two finalists in many years. When the match finished on 17th, between them her had been 14 gross birdies.

Challenge Plate - Winners Andy Sayers and Mal Aird
Following his brilliant effort

in the Challenge Cup, Andy Sayers had the consolation the following week to take the Challenge Plate with his partner Mal Aird and it was another win at the 17th over a battling Dave Peters and Adam Griffiths.

Reg Bell Salver – Winners Steve Collins and Lynn Howse
Success for our Honorary Secretary Steve Collins and his partner Lynn Howse taking the Reg Bell Salver against Viv Nagle and Brian Kennerley.

We saw the course record matched with 67's by Steve

Roberts and last year's Club Champion Mark Poland and a quite exceptional 44 pts achieved in the Jubilee Trophy by Denver Briscoe which equated to a gross 66 but could not be ratified as a course record as it was in a Stableford competition.

We now look forward to a good winter season, the Winter League is underway and we are looking at a good schedule of competitions.

Brian Stott
Chairman
Match and Handicap



Simon down to scratch!

In July, the traditional Gent's Scratch Cup competition was played at Helsby. After some good scoring during the day, Marc Stoneley and Mark Poland finished second and third respectively, with Simon Pay securing first place with scores of 69 and 68 and a total of 137.

Though this may seem nothing special, what makes it significant is that Simon's handicap

dropped to scratch for the first time.

We believe he is the only home-grown Helsby player to get to scratch whilst still a member. We have had some very good golfing members over the years and a handful went on to reach this milestone whilst at other clubs.

Simon is pictured being presented with his two Scratch Cup score cards and handicap certificate by the Captain, Neil Johnson.

Ode to Seniors!

Not all of our Seniors are old
Some are really quite nifty
Quite a few it appears, so I am told
Are only just a few years past 50

You don't have to have a state pension
or be known as an OAP
For some, it is well worth a mention
Got their pension when just fifty three

If you've got some clubs, balls and tees
and can play golf during the week
Just turn up at a roll-up, there's no fees
Only golf, laughs and balls in the creek.

In the year there's much more on the menus
Away days, exchange days and more
Inter club comps and tours to great golf venues
We're very rarely bored and that's for sure.

Yes most of us are showing signs of wear
Dicky Tickers, Chronic Backs, Dodgy Knees,
A good few are losing their senses and hair
But we enjoy golf whenever we please (well almost)





Greens

Winter Programme

By the time that you read this, the greens staff will have embarked on the planned work. If you've not previously seen the list of tasks, there is a copy on the noticeboards in the locker rooms. Due to the wet weather in September/October, the programme has been changed and will commence with the drainage work on the 14th & 15th fairways, followed by the bunker rebuilds & drainage improvements on the 6th green.

Our new face



Since Scott joined the green keeping team in April, he has been on a steep learning curve, having previously worked in a totally

different environment. Scott is a Liverpool supporter and outside of work enjoys playing football. You may have seen him on the course, as he has been learning, how to operate some of the course machinery, about the nature of the course and those who use it. He is carrying out more & more work unsupervised and has now commenced the formal part of his apprenticeship, studying 'Sports turf & green keeping' at Reaseheath College. We hope that members will support Scott's ongoing development.

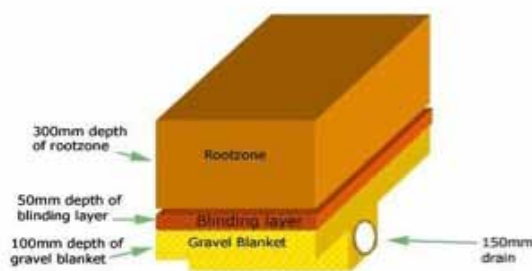
Course Development

A plan has been proposed, to rebuild the greens that suffer from drainage problems, to so-called 'USGA spec'. A simplistic construction view of that underneath the turf on a USGA spec green can be seen opposite.

The current proposal is for the following, see table below.

The above will be included in a 'Course Development Plan' that is being drafted, the aim being to improve the playing experience and the visual appearance of the course. It will be made available to the membership for comment

Figure 1. Typical perched water table construction



before the end of the year.

Another aspect that we need to bear in mind is the course re-measurement, which is due in 2020. We're told that contrary to that previously, when 2 yards of space was required behind

the tee marker, in future the requirement will be 4 yards. On some tees we can accommodate this & on some we can't – hence the benefit of the new tee on the 11th hole for the white course, helping to offset the lost yardage.

Location	Comment	Timing
Rebuild practice putting green	In a poor condition for a large part of the year	Year 1 e.g. Winter 2018/19
Rebuild 6th green	In its current location & raised slightly above surrounding area	Year 3 e.g. Winter 2020/21
Rebuild 8th green	In its current location & raised slightly above surrounding area	Year 5 e.g. Winter 2022/23
Rebuild 5th green	Consider moving 20 yards to the left, as recommended by course architect	Year 7 e.g. Winter 2024/25
Rebuild 1st green	Consider moving 30 yards further back, as recommended by course architect	Year 9 e.g. Winter 2026/27

2018/19

At the moment it is anticipated that members will be asked to approve the purchase of a new trailer at February's AGM. We are currently looking at alternatives – the aim being to acquire one with wide 'flotation' tyres (to minimise course damage when shifting heavy loads) & be able to readily accept spoil from the trenching machine.

& finally

We recently hosted for the first time, the Manchester & District Golf Alliance. Please see below some comments from the participants (you may also notice who crept into 3rd place!)



Powered Wheelchair Appeal

During 2017 on behalf of Helsby Golf Club, the Powered Wheelchair Appeal has presented wheelchairs to 11 local children with special needs with another 5 chairs to be presented at the Black & White Evening on 2nd December and at the Chinese Evening in January, bringing the total over the last 34 years to 370.

In April at the Spring Dance, we were joined by 2 young lads, Zac Maltby aged 11 from Widnes and Lloyd Humphries aged 17 from Stoke on Trent. Zac was very keen on story writing and was a reading buddy to other children at school. Lloyd was very severely disabled and his family were very grateful for a powered chair which was going to make life much easier all round as he had only had a manual chair previously.

At the Wheelchair Classic in June, we welcomed 3 charming young ladies to the presentation. Bethany Kelly aged 16 from Uttoxeter was in the middle of her GCSE's and ranked shopping as her favourite pastime but she also loved watching WWE wrestling, especially the Diva

Circuit for women. Sophia Flood aged 5 from Northwich loved going to school where swimming in the hydrotherapy pool was her favourite occupation. Lily Wakeling aged 15 from Heswall had an amazing story to tell. She had been abandoned as a baby in China (probably because she was disabled) but eventually had been adopted after a very long and difficult process by English parents who were working there and brought to live in England.

In July, members of the Wheelchair Committee and Captain, Neil Johnson joined Peter Alliss at the Open at Royal Birkdale to present chairs to a number of local children. Helsby donated a chair to Leo Bailey aged 7 from Werrington. Leo's chair is going to make a fantastic difference to his life which he demonstrated by immediately whizzing off across the presentation area with his mum in hot pursuit; independence!!

MEGA Day was another successful event with everyone enjoying the golf during



the day and the evening entertainment provided by the Merseyside entertainers. Imogen Byrne aged 14 from Stone & Yasmin Watkins aged 11 from Trentham were the recipients of their chairs. They had similar interests outside school both enjoying horse riding and swimming.

Our most recent event was the Glitz and Glamour Evening at Chester Racecourse in September where we presented chairs to 3 deserving young ladies. Ariella Burn aged 14 from Bebbington, Natasha Boothman aged 16

from Frodsham and Amy Warburton aged 18 from Macclesfield all enjoyed the glamorous setting and were thrilled to receive their chairs from our Captains, Neil Johnson and Gill Smith.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support during 2017. As you can see, your generosity helps these children and their families have better lives by giving them that very important gift of independence.

Steve Cunniffe
Chairman

Pro Shop

Captain-Pro Hotpot Supper

Friday 17th November 2017
7 for 7:30 Dress: Smart Casual
2 course meal (Hot pot/ Apple Crumble) Followed by presentation and review of this year's matches

This year's Hotpot Supper is open to all members, not just those who played in the Captain Pro matches. For those who played a match against the Captain/Pro the entry fee/meal is £12.00 per person. For those who are just coming along to the Hotpot Supper the meal is £6.50 per person.

For all those who played in the matches, please could you indicate your availability on the poster on the gent's notice board, or let me know via e-mail.

Hope to see as many of you as possible on the night.

Awards Evening

Saturday 18th November 2017
7:00pm Champagne Reception / Dress Code = Black Tie
Meal / Ultimate Box 13 / Awards / Disco
£22.00pp

If you would like to attend please add your name to the table layout on the socials notice board.

Starter

Leek and Potato Soup
Served with Crusty Bread - Or - Sauté Black Pudding, Potatoes and Bacon served on a bed of dressed Salad leaves

Main

Chicken Breast wrapped in Bacon served with Roast Potatoes and Gravy - Or - Whole Plaice with a Caper and Lemon Butter served with new potatoes and Green Vegetables

Dessert

Chocolate Brownie served with Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce - Or - Selection of Cheeses served with Crackers, Chutney & Celery

Tea/Coffee served with Mints



We're Getting Social At Helsby Golf Club!

Over the last few weeks you may have noticed that we've started to share some new content on our Facebook and Twitter accounts. This is thanks to the services of Bumblebee Digital and Jamie Stewart and Sam Klein.

Jamie runs Bumblebee and is working with us to help us bring our social media up to date, and Sam is his very talented videographer.

In order to support our club membership and to ensure we keep our club finances in a healthy position, and to keep fees as competitive as we can, the committee decided that it was time to improve our online marketing, to reach new people who may

want to join our club our use our facilities. Given that so many people use social media nowadays it's important that we keep up with modern communication methods.

We asked Jamie for a few tips to get us going:

How can you help the club? Social media means just that, being social, so if you use Facebook then please support the club firstly:

by "liking" the club page www.facebook.com/HelsbyGolfClub or just search Helsby Golf Club on Facebook

and then please interact with our posts by liking, commenting or sharing the posts

Your interaction makes such a difference to the way that Facebook works, particularly sharing posts to help us reach potential new members.



If you use Twitter then please follow the club account www.twitter.com/HelsbyGC or @HelsbyGC then retweet or favourite the club posts.

If you have any questions or ideas please email jamie@bumblebeedigital.co.uk over the coming months we plan to ramp up our activity and would love your support!

A step back in time at Helsby!

We thought you might like to see some archive photographs of golf over the years at Helsby with some photos and memories.

The group photo is one of the lady members taken during the 1950's and names where known have been annotated – do you know any of the missing ones – if so let us know!



Continued over...



Next we have a couple of photos of club members Audrey Littler and Eileen Brown – the first one shows the ladies playing in the Lady Captain's Day competition in 1959 and the Lady Captain of that year was Margaret McNaughton. Audrey and Eileen recreated the pose 30 years later in 1989 and this time it was on a cold winter day!



From the same year (1959), there is a copy of the fixture list and this makes interesting reading – significantly less competitions than we enjoy these days!

And finally check out our very own Norman Littler with a photo taken in 1956 outside the old clubhouse. Trolleys and boot bags look very different now!

- FIXTURES 1959. -

Mar. 7. Monthly Medal	July 11. Monthly Medal (Ladies & Gents)
14. Ladies Monthly Medal	12. (Sun.) Match, Falswood at Helsby
21. Ladies Spring Meeting	18. Ladies Flag
28. Final Winter Bogey	25. Jitana Bowl
30. (Mon.) Mixed Foursome	Aug. 1. Monthly Medal (Ladies & Gents)
Apr. 4. Monthly Medal	3. Mon. Mixed Foursome
11. Ladies Monthly Medal	8. Ladies Day
18. Gents' Football	15. Gents' Greensome
25. Ladies Bogey	22. Captain's Prize Ladies
May 2. Monthly Medal	23. Sun. Match Falswood at Fwood
9. Ladies Monthly Medal	29.
10. (Sun.) Match, F'wood at Helsby	Sept. 5. Monthly Medal & Novices Bowl
16. Gents' Foursome	6. Sun. Gents' Invitation
18. (Mon.) Mixed Foursome	12. Ladies Monthly Medal
23. Ladies Invitation	19. Ward Trophy
30. An Ex-President's Putter	26. Match, Pres. v Capt's. Teams
June 6. Monthly Medal (Ladies & Gents)	Oct. 3. Monthly Medal
13. & 14. Captain's Prize, Gents'	10. Ladies Monthly Medal
20. President's Prize, Ladies	17. Winter Bogey
21. (Sun.) Match, F'wood, at F'wood	24. Ladies Greensome
27. Lady Captain's Prize	
July 4. President's Prize, Gents	Nov. In. Soc. Monthly Medal
8. Special Wednesday Ladies	Dec. 2nd. Soc. Ladies Monthly Medal
	Jan. 3rd. Soc. Winter Bogey
	Feb.

PRESIDENT: F. H. C. JONES	
CHAIRMAN: F. H. C. JONES	
HON. SECRETARY: F. J. HARRISON	
HON. TREASURER: A. LITTLE	
AM. SEC. 271040 - 7. 1959/1960	
Honorary Committee:	
A. J. Jones, W. S. Jones, T. W. Carr	
J. A. Brown, J. E. Green, G. H. Hargreaves	
J. H. Harrison, J. G. Appleby, R. J. Smith	
G. H. Smith, C. J. Greenwell, J. J. Jones	
Sub-committee:	
W. A. Jones, J. H. Harrison, J. E. Green	
Honor:	
F. W. Carr, J. Green, J. A. Brown	
J. E. Green, G. H. Hargreaves, J. H. Harrison	
J. H. Harrison, J. G. Appleby, C. J. Greenwell	
Honorary:	
T. W. Carr, J. Green, J. E. Green	
G. H. Hargreaves, J. H. Harrison	
Honor:	
J. A. Brown, J. E. Green, J. H. Harrison	
J. T. Williams	
Honor:	
T. W. Carr, J. Green, J. E. Green	
J. Hargreaves, G. H. Hargreaves, T. J. Harrison	
LADIES SECRETARY:	
CHAIRMAN: Mrs. M. McNAUGHTON	
HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. E. J. Harrison	



Many thanks to Bert Dyson, Norman and Audrey Littler for the photos and information and hope you enjoyed the glimpse of life at Helsby in the 1950's!

