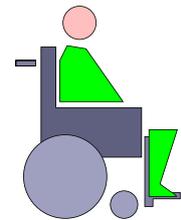




# Helsby Golf Club Powered Wheelchair Appeal



Issue 3

August 2014



Wheelchair No 226



Wheelchair No 265



Wheelchair No 275

## Letter from our Chairman

Dear Supporters

Since our last Newsletter, I'm delighted to report that we have been able to help NINE more Children with Special Needs and their families through your continued support. So, a BIG THANK YOU to you all.

In the last Club Newsletter, I promised to update you on my 'Day at the Palace', so here goes.

In the Spring, I was extremely proud to accept the MBE on behalf of Helsby Golf Club, our Appeal Committee and our Supporters. And what a Day! I arrived at Buckingham Palace with Jarmila & daughters Gemma & Sarah at 10am prompt. Guests were escorted to the Ballroom, whilst recipients were whisked away to the Picture Gallery for a briefing and to be surrounded by paintings by the great Masters. Amazing!

The Investiture lasted about 90 minutes and was run in full military style. We walked from one Equerry to the next, stationed 15 yards apart, until finally turning to face Her Majesty, with the Lord Chamberlain reading out name & background. Then, a bow or curtsy—or both if nervous! Four paces to the Dais, on which stood the Queen, who attached the Medal. A short conversation, with the Queen taking the lead, showed her knowledge of our 'Appeal'. Time up, she offered her hand and very best wishes for our continued success. Four paces back, bow again and off to next Equerry. A bit like school prize giving but definitely more up market.

After the final 'Gong' was presented, the Queen left through the Ballroom, escorted by the Lord Chamberlain, 2 Gurkha Officers, a number of Beefeaters & the Military Band.

It was then off to the Westminster InterContinental for afternoon tea and copious amounts of champagne and the odd Guinness!! And so to the end of "a truly memorable day"

Alan Lee MBE

Chairman



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### What have we achieved?

- 328 powered wheelchairs for deserving youngsters
- Fundraising for 31 years
- 9 wheelchairs presented so far in 2014
- £27,373 spent on wheelchairs so far in 2014

The Sponsor of this newsletter is FDL Packaging Group

Abbeyway South, Vista Road, Haydock, St Helens WA11 0RW Tel: 01942 722444



## 32nd Wheelchair Classic



The Classic was held on Thursday 12th June . 172 players entered the tournament in superb weather.

Powered wheelchairs were presented to 5 local children with special needs. Our Captains Colin Wilkinson and Janet Richards were joined for the presentation by special guests Lucy Meacock from ITV, local MP, Graham Evans and Chris Lindley, MD of Jigsaw Law who sponsored this year's Classic.

Our thanks go to Lucy, Graham & Chris for finding time in their busy schedules to attend.

The children who received chairs were Declan Price & Emily Tedds, who attend Chesnut Lodge Special School in Widnes, Alex Grice & Bethany Stocker from Hebden Green Special School in Winsford and Emily Riley who attends Stick n Step on the Wirral.

It was a clean sweep for the Wilkinson family in the golf tournament. Captain, Colin with his partner John Butler won the men's trophy with a score of 47 points and the ladies' trophy was collected by Kathleen and daughter Julia with a score of 42 points.

In the evening, the auction was a lively affair conducted by Steve Cunniffe, ably assisted by Alex Walters. The star prize was a trip to Dubai to stay and play golf at the Arabian Ranches Resort. This was donated by Nigel Fenwick, a long term supporter of the Appeal and a previous committee member. Our thanks go to Nigel who also supplied other golf memorabilia for the auction.

Thanks also go to members, Bill Smith and Connie Hodgson, who donated their own beautiful paintings for the auction.



Gents Trophy Winners  
Captain, Colin Wilkinson & John Butler

**YOU RAISED OVER £18,000**

Our thanks go to all of the following; without you we would not be able to raise the money to help so many youngsters with special needs

- Helsby Golf Club for the use of the course and the facilities

- Chris Lindley, Managing Director of Jigsaw Law , this year's event sponsors.

- Ed Palmer for providing the top prizes, as he has done for many years.

- All members of Helsby Golf Club

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

- All those who helped on the day, especially Dave Nagle, Keith Ainsworth, Brian Prince & Jude Baker as well as the committee members.

- And last but not least, all the following local and not so local businesses that provided prizes for the competitions, the raffles and the auction



Ladies Trophy Winners  
Kathleen & Julia Wilkinson

FDL Group, Haydock	Tesco Stores, Helsby	Boodles, Chester
Jigsaw Law, Ellesmere Port	Serenity for Beauty, Helsby	Porsche Centre Chester
Palmers Jewellers, Widnes	Forresters, Kingsley	Grove Fisheries
Thwaites Brewery	The Golf House Club Elie	Everton Football Club
Electrod UK Ltd, Runcorn	Craw's Nest Hotel, Anstruther	Footjoy
Forest Hills Hotel, Frodsham	Vauxhalls, Ellesmere Port	TaylorMade
Robert Gleave, Frodsham	Arabian Ranches GC, Dubai	Motocaddy
Frodsham Brewery, Frodsham	Charles John, Frodsham	HE Coward, Frodsham
Lusso Hair, Frodsham	b. Unique Hair, Frodsham	Top Marks, Frodsham
A Design Kitchens, Frodsham	Manchester United Legends	Chris Cousins Golf, HGC
Crown Carpet Warehouse, Widnes	Alan Hunt Catering, HGC	
Perfect Floors & Interiors, Frodsham	Shrewsbury Arms, Mickle Trafford	

# Spring Dance

This year's Spring Dance, held on Saturday 26th April, was a celebration of Merseyside music and humour.

The evening started with the presentation of our 320th wheelchair to Natalie Knowles from Formby who attended with her mum, Amanda. 15 year old Natalie was awaiting an Assistance Dog, which together with her new wheelchair will help with her next stage of independence.

The evening was a great success with the entertainment being provided by the Chimes, Paul Staunton & Bill Cookson, who are regulars at our MEGA Day.



# An Evening with Alliss

Our special guests at the Club on the evening of 15th July were Peter and Jackie Alliss, John Shrewsbury and Steve Parry. They were joined on the top table by our own 'star', Norman Littler, who is celebrating being Club Captain 50 years ago, and his wife Audrey.

The evening began with the presentation of a wheelchair to a very brave young lady, Francesca Vismara. She was waiting to go into hospital for a major operation on her back in August. Jackie Alliss was captivated by Francesca and very interested in the problems of getting help from the NHS for her condition. She asked to be kept informed of her progress.

After dinner, we were entertained by Steve Parry, the Olympic medalist. His amusing talk covered his swimming & commentating careers and his aim to teach underprivileged children to swim via his new venture Total Swimming.

Peter then regaled us with humorous stories of the golfing world, past and present, and answered numerous topical questions from the audience.

We have received the following message from Francesca and are pleased to announce that she is recovering well in hospital after her operation.



*"I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for my FAB new set of wheels. I have been out and about loads in it and been able to stay over at a friend's house, as her mum was able to fold my wheelchair and fit it in her car, something we couldn't do before. I love the fact that it is white and mum has promised to add a little bling for me. I enjoyed meeting you all and thank you once again for your generosity. With love, Francesca."*

# MEGA Day



Our 13th Mega Day took place on Wednesday 6th August. After a showery start, 27 teams of supporters and MEGA players enjoyed a fine afternoon of golf.

The highlight of the day was the presentation of a wheelchair to 16 year old Helena Archer in the presence of the President, the Captain and the Ladies' Captain. Helena, who comes from Bromborough, attended with Mum Anne. She particularly enjoys belonging to a local youth club, PHAB where youngsters of all abilities share and enjoy activities together. She also continues to attend Stick n Step where she receives help with her mobility.

In the competition, there was another family clean sweep with the first two places being taken by the O'Neil's and their partners. Father Frank, partnered by Colin Adshead, Ian Boyd and Jimmy King (MEGA) received the new MEGA trophy kindly donated by Janet Richards, the Ladies' Captain. Son Keith, partnered

by D Leigh, T Millburn and Tommy Ollerhead (MEGA) was in the runners up spot.

We would like to thank Janet for the beautiful trophy and David Syddall of Optimum Costs Consultants who donated the prizes.

In the evening, the clubhouse was packed with members and supporters who enjoyed the great entertainment provided by the MEGA Stars.

Vocalist Eddie Daley compered the show, which included the amazing voice of vocalist Julie A Scott, the hilarious view of the world of comedian Johnny Casson and a rousing finale from vocalist Billy Myers.

Thank you to all our supporters who helped raise over £2,000 for the Appeal.



MEGA Trophy Winners

Helsby Golf Club  
Powered Wheelchair Appeal

Chairman

Alan Lee MBE - 01244 300308

Appeal Secretary

Penny Ainsworth—01928 723817

Email - [poweredwheelchairappeal@gmail.com](mailto:poweredwheelchairappeal@gmail.com)

## Forthcoming Events

Black & White Evening – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014—We are pleased to announce that we will be entertained by Les Gibson, comedian and impressionist.

Chinese Banquet — January 2015 (date to be confirmed)

Annual General Meeting — Thursday 5th March 2015

Spring Dance — Saturday 14th March 2015

33rd Wheelchair Classic — Thursday 11th June 2015

14th MEGA Day — Wednesday 5th August 2015

We are on the Helsby Golf Club Website—visit the Powered Wheelchair pages on [www.helsbygolfclub.org](http://www.helsbygolfclub.org)

Address

Powered Wheelchair Appeal  
Helsby Golf Club  
Towers Lane  
Helsby  
Cheshire  
WA6 OJB

## Easter Egg Presentation



In the run up to Easter, customers at Tesco Stores in Helsby collected Easter Eggs to be presented to local charities. 26 were donated to the PWA.

Bert, Penny and Kathryn with Katie from Tesco presented the Eggs to a group of very excited youngsters at Chesnut Lodge Special School. A number of children at the school have received chairs from the Appeal over the last 31 years

## Open at Royal Liverpool

Our 327th wheelchair was presented to Declan Mannock from Holmes Chapel at the Open in the presence of Peter Alliss. Declan sent us the following:- *“Thank you for raising the money for my new wheelchair. It will help me to be more independent when I am out , especially when on holiday. Declan.”*



## Charity Cycle Ride



Keith O'Neil

The O'Neil family have supported the Appeal for many years. Frank, Anne and their 2 children Keith & Karen have raised money in a number of different ways, Karen climbing to Machu Pichu and Keith running the Great North Run on 2 occasions.

This year, Keith is going to cycle 270 miles from Helsby Golf Club to Old Thorns Golf & Country Club in Liphook, Hampshire to take part in the Peter Alliss Masters, with Frank following in the back up car.

The grand send off is at 9am from the club car park on Friday 26th September and they hope to arrive at Old Thorns on Monday 29th at about 5pm.

Keith has only recently taken up cycling, specifically for this challenge to raise funds for the Appeal. As you can see in the picture, he is training hard when he is able, both day and night!

If you would like to sponsor Keith in this amazing challenge, please put your name on the form on the Club notice board or contact a member of the PWA committee.



In Training

The next Edition of the Newsletter will be in the Spring 2015. If you have any news items or suggestions for what you would like to see, please let me know. Penny Ainsworth, Appeal Secretary.