

Successful Golf Week

The Seascale Golf Week or Tournament is something that goes back decades to the 1930's. It had reduced to a well-patronised golf weekend over the last twenty years, but it was re-energised in 2017 to a four-day event. This year's Golf Week was even more successful than last year's great effort and it was particularly pleasing to hear some tremendous feedback on the condition of our course and particularly our greens. Our greens staff deserve a big thank you for their efforts as do our catering and bar staff who worked tirelessly from dawn to dusk four days in a row – not forgetting all the members who volunteered to help and did a great job. All have contributed to making the Golf Week a significant source of income for the Club.







Seascale's Club Champion Aaron Lewthwaite

Winners of this year's Kennedy Cup Mixed Open were Sara and Andy Lloyd who were presented with the trophy by Captain Stephen Sharpe

Club Champion 2023

A proud Aaron Lewthwaite celebrates his victory as Seascale Club Champion 2023. Runner-up last year, Aaron who has been knocking on the door on numerous occasions, finally achieved his goal and members were delighted to celebrate with him.

Aaron was leader in the Clubhouse on 72+76 (148) and it was all looking very tight as the last three came down the 18th. Craig Morrow and Scott Mahaffy both chose this moment to put their second shots over the road and out of bounds. Had Craig taken a par he would have tied with Aaron and they would have set off on the play-off. Instead, his seven saw the claret jug slip from his grasp in what might have been a fifth win in a row, ending as runner-up on 77+74 (151) ahead of Mark Sarsfield by virtue of a better 2nd round.

1st net and Winner of the Texas Wedge was Mike Gibson 76+67 (143) beating Simon Witham by virtue of the better 2nd round score. Best am gross went to Andrew Robson (74) with best pm gross going to Mark Sarsfield (75). Tom Wright (71) took the best am net prize and Dave Jenkinson (72) the best pm net.

Macca's Cup Success after False Start

Macca's Cup has been organised by Glyn Williams (Coco) as an annual commemoration for his close friend and Seascale character Ian (Macca) MacDonald who passed away far too early about 12 years ago. The proceeds from the day are given to the Club Captain as a contribution to his charity – and this year had another great response. Well done to all who took part and especially to Coco who pulled it all together following a weather cancellation at the end of July – and a big thank you to the ladies who rejigged their schedule to fit the event in.

There was a good turnout for the event, a fun 4-Person Team competition. On completion of the event Glyn announced the winners and thanked the Bar staff, Greenkeepers and John and Sue Roper for their efforts throughout the day and said that the event had generated over £1000 for the Captain's Charity. The winning team comprised Alan Roberts, Colin Roberts, Ian Rosewarne and Stephen Hodgon who returned a score of 129pts. In second place with 126pts were G Garrait, P Agget, T Morica, K Renton and third came S Fyfe, I Fleming, R Huby and M Walker with 124pts.



Duties done - Coco, Bomble and Okle three of Macca's oldest friends, along with Stevie and Shutty



Solar Performance



Our proposal for the Solar Panel Installation was based on about 150 solar panels on the green shed roofs, feeding the power produced to the clubhouse, potentially providing 25% of the electricity we need at the Club. First results from the installation showed that we could be saving more than 25%. After nearly a year of operation the saving is more like 35% as shown below. We have yet to assess the additional benefits of the recently installed solar batteries which will lead to more saving.

From	То	
01/09/2021	08/08/2022	
Total kWh used		77826
05/09/2022	01/08/2023	
Total kWh used		50179
Saving kWh		28061
Saving %		35.52%
Saving £ at 34.91p/kWh		£ 9,796.10

International Twins

Your correspondent had to look twice to realise he wasn't speaking to Marion at booking in for the Kennedy Cup, but her twin sister Jenny. Jenny and husband Owen Collier were here again to play in our popular mixed open. The South Shields lasses keep in touch as much as they can and until recently Marion and partner Keith have over-wintered in New Zealand with Jenny and Owen where they spent lots of time on the golf courses.





Marion and Jenny at Seascale

Jaxon all set for a round of golf

Marion is keen to see Seascale's Junior section grow, has been encouraging great grandson Jaxon (pictured) to try golf. The little golfer's dad is Kyle, who is the mechanic for the golf club. Marion has been involved in helping the Junior section in the past but isn't able to do this at the moment and hopes someone will step forward to help.

Seascale Ladies Celebrate 100 Years of Golf

The Ladies have played a major part in Club activities over the years. At the initial meeting to discuss the formation of the Club, 6 of the 18 present were ladies. Ladies Medals were held regularly after the Club was set up, but it wasn't until 1922 that the official Ladies section was set up.

In the 20s the section prospered winning the Cecil Leitch Trophy in 1927 without losing a match, and also winning in '28 and '29 and on 22 other occasions up to 1993. Between the wars the ladies were very much in evidence, participating and assisting with the lucrative August Tournaments. A few years after the war ladies were finally permitted to use the bar in the smoke room – after 7pm. Equality was hard won with one lady putting herself forward for Council but being rejected as being contrary to the rules – but thankfully that rule was eventually amended. However, a proposal that the Lady Captain and a committee member be elected to Council was defeated by 6 votes to 4.

The following year after a 'storm in a teacup' over the serving of meals in the lounge the Ladies were given permission to provide their own tea in the Ladies lounge between 2pm and 4pm. Seascale Golf Club 1893-1993 Anniversary Booklet.

	1938	1945	1976	2023
Men	172	93	407	395
Ladies	110	47	110	35

Thankfully we live in fairer times and Seascale demonstrated that effectively with its first Lady Club Captain in 2020 and 2021. Hopefully going forward more ladies will take up our beautiful game, making the Club more vibrant and active. The seeds are there from what we saw at the most recent Ladies Open Team event. And if Lady Captain's Day is anything to go by we can look out for the Press Gangs out to attract more into the Piratical Crew.

The ladies celebrated their anniversary with a Centenary competition which was won by Shirley Temple on Saturday 24th June.



Brenda MCCaffrey(Secretary), Jill Kelly(Winner Div 2), Shirley Temple(Winner Div1) and Sue Ridout(Captain). (In what was the old Smoke Room).



Lady Captain's Day in full swing



Back in the 1920's on the 18th hole

'True Links' Epic

On Friday 28th July Tessa Catchpole and her friend Meg Walker played Seascale ahead of the Kennedy Cup and completed an epic 13-year quest to play all the English "True Links" courses. Seascale was the last course of 55 courses that they played. Some of the courses were extremely difficult to get rounds booked and played plus the pure geographical logistics and not forgetting cost. The ladies, both members of Woodbridge Golf Club (an 1893 Club) were delighted when told that they could have a free round through 1893 Club membership.

It's unlikely that this feat has been done any pair of lady golfers, so sets a fairly high bar in terms of record. Harry Paterson captured the moment as the ladies completed their epic and we can look out for coverage in Golf World, Top 100 and their own club newsletter at Woodbridge Golf Club. Our members and Captain were very interested in the challenge and honoured to be a lasting memory of such a brilliant effort. It's a pity we didn't have a bit more blues skies, but we were very happy to capture the girls on completion of their round.



Tessa and friend Megan on completion of their round

They were delighted with the course which they thought was in great condition and spoke highly of the hospitality at Seascale Golf Club.

Midsummer 72-hole Golf Marathon

The golf Marathon Day on 30th June was a huge success, heaven if the weather wasn't so great. We managed to stay dry in the windy conditions until the 14th fairway where a torrential downpour came down making golf very tricky. However after the first 18 a hot shower, dry change of clothes, was almost as welcome as a hot meal and few beers.

The thought of going back out for another 18 holes was spurred on with the cause we we're supporting, cheered on by a few of the Friday Slinks members who didn't brave it out, we carried on hopes high. As it turned out the rain stopped and the second 18 holes was relatively dry which was a blessing.

So proud of everyone who joined us. Dave Raynor, Peter Raynor, Shaun Bostock, James Bostock, Michael Williams, David Ward and the Top Golfer on the Day Peter Barnes. I'd like to thank everyone who helped through the day (wife's doing the driving, bar staff, and green keepers for having the course in great condition)

We couldn't do it without the sponsors, donations to make it all worthwhile. We have collectively raised £1337 for Prostate Cancer UK. Thank you to all the members who contributed to the total, helping us to exceed our initial target of £250!

Graham Begbie



Midsummer 72-hole Golf Marathon 2023 for Prostate Cancer UK

Rules of Handicapping 2024.

The R&A have announced changes to The Rules of Handicapping 2024. When we get the details of the changes we will update our members. The Master Version of the 2024 Rules of Handicapping was circulated to all national federations in late April and a series of webinars were conducted during May and June to present the details behind the main changes. Federations now have until 1 April 2024 to implement the changes and educate golf clubs and golfers. Watch this space....

Double County Champion 2023.

The Ladies County Championship was played over 3 days 28th, 29th, and 30th of May. Day one they play 36 holes for the stroke play championship, and to sort out the top 16 to play in the match play over the next two days one under par in the morning, and two over in the afternoon making her plus one for the thirty-six holes and winning the stroke play championship and making her number one seed in the last sixteen.

On Day two the first round of the last 16 she shook hands with her opponent on the 13th winning six and five, in the quarter final in the afternoon she shook hands on the 12th winning eight and six.

The semi-final on the third day, was a tough battle with Abby winning on the 17th two and one. On to the afternoon and the final was some game of golf, Abby's opponent was Katie Sibley from Carlisle golf club also a very good friend of Abby's from her days in the England regional squad, and the present County team. Abby won one up on the 18th both girls having 5 birdies in the final. Abby was 4 under at the end and Katie was 3 under, the only difference was Katie dropped two shots to Abby's one. Well done, Abby!



Abby - Ladies County Champion



Naomi - National University Rugby Player of the Year

Top of University Rugby 2023

And another great achievement for Naomi Brennan making her name in another sport. Naomi has been named as National University Rugby player of the year. Another Lioness in the making.

Bert Shuttleworth - True Gent

Earlier this year, very sadly, Seascale Golf Club lost one of its longest serving members: Bert Shuttleworth. Bert first joined the club in the early seventies, following long service at Whitehaven Cricket Club, where he was a more than useful bowler. Bert worked at Workington Steelworks throughout his career, where he was a well-respected design engineer, with 45 years' service.

Bert was a true stalwart of the club, with a special allegiance to Egremont Golf Society, where he acted as handicap secretary for as long as anyone can remember. He also served on the club council for a time. Perhaps Bert's proudest moments in golf were supporting his son Glenn, who became one of Seascale's best golfers. Glenn wasn't keen on his dad's support during big competitions, but remembers with fondness Bert's failures at camouflage, with his head often seen sticking out of gorse bushes. Bert was well known amongst his peers, for his unerring ability to hit trees, the 90 per cent air theory didn't apply to Bert. If a course had one tree, Bert would hit it. Probably twice.

Bert suffered failing health, in recent years. Despite this, he continued to attend the club, where he doggedly carried out his society handicap secretary duties. Bert remained a true gentleman to the end and will be sadly missed by all in Egremont Golf Society and the wider club.



Bert with Roger Milburn, Winter Trophy 2014

Scratch Team Winners



Rushforth & Tony Hart.

Seascale A won the Northern Division 2 League with a last game victory away to Penrith to be promoted back into the premier division at the first time of asking. Seascale B finished 4th and stayed in the league.

Squad: Tom Sharpe, Simon Young, Craig Morrow, Aaron Lewthwaite, John Rushforth, Andrew Wallace, Joe Doyle, Jack Stubbing's, Jim Stothers, Mark Sarsfield, Bradley Quayle, Andrew Robson, Jonny Lymer, Nick Sharpe, Dave Kelly, Tony

The Seascale B team also made the semi finals of the Interclub Matchplay before loosing to Penrith A.

Team: Tom Sharpe, John Rushforth, Andrew Robson, Jonny Lymer, Andrew Wallace and Tom Wright.

Big thanks to all who have played and especially to Rob McBride and Jacobs who have kindly sponsored the Scratch team for the coming seasons.

If anyone is interested in playing next season, please contact Tom Sharpe.

Greens Update

The greenstaff started the autumn aeration and overseeding programme earlier this week, utilising our new dynacorer units taking 9mm cores to a depth of 2.5cm, this was followed by overseeding with fescue which was brushed into the holes. Work had to be paused to accommodate the seniors open on Tuesday the 5th and the Weds club competition before some further aeration work scheduled to be completed later in the week.

It really was a beautiful morning on the links and I took the opportunity to go down and see the work in motion and take a few pictures to share with you all - apologies to anyone who may have been affected by the work being carried out.

We really have enjoyed wonderful greens over the past few months which is testament to Guy and the greenstaff. It's a pity we have to disrupt this but we must carry out this essential work and this is the optimum time to do it. We must also get this work completed in advance of spraying Acelepryn to combat the leatherjacket grubs which could play havoc with our greens in the Spring. We are doing everything we can to minimise this and try to provide good playing surfaces earlier in the season.

Scott - Chairman of Greens



Guy utilising the Dynacorer units taking 9mm cores out



Sam hard at work blowing all the cores off the greens



Kyle brushing the seed in after hand sewing with the spreader



Christmas Bookings

It might seem like a long way off, but Christmas is just around the corner.

Our ever-popular Christmas meals will be back this year, with lots of choice for everyone.

We are now taking bookings, so get in touch to let us know your requirements. On offer are three-course meals at £22.95 per person, two-courses for £19.95 and one-course for £15.95.

Whether you are planning your work's Christmas party or catching up with friends and family, join us to get in the festive spirit! With gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian options available, there's something for everyone. Please let us know if any of your party has dietary requirements when making your booking.

Available from Friday 1st December to Wednesday 22nd December.

Wednesday to Sunday 11am - 4pm

Friday evening meals will be available from 5.30pm to 8pm, on 1st, 8th & 15th December.

Bookings can be made by calling the Clubhouse on 019467 28202.