

The Delgany Dispatch

November 18th 2022



Captains' Message



'And now, the end is near.....'

With Mr Sinatra's words ringing in our ears, we take this final opportunity as 2022 Captains to contribute the 'leader' article to the excellent Delgany Dispatch. When we started our journey as Captains last December we set ourselves an objective of encouraging openness and transparency with Members and we hope these front page messages and musings have measured up to our intentions. The Dispatch has done sterling work again this past year in keeping our Members abreast of Club activity across a wide range of topics – thank you so much, Sean and team, for keeping us informed, educated, amused and sometimes even perplexed (where was that photo taken from?).

We have so many people to thank and we will do so, with full but heavy hearts, at the Farewell Dinner for the President and Captains tomorrow evening (tickets still available!!!!). However, we cannot let this opportunity pass without thanking two friends in particular – both were particularly generous in their support for us throughout the year, as friends are when you need them. Firstly, we valued so much the 'behind the scenes' representative work and sage advice of our esteemed President Greg who never seeks the limelight but who was always ready to step into the breach when required and whose 'quirky' sense of humour was always a joy to anticipate. In a different way – not just because it was his job! – Mark Carwood was never wanting as advisor and confidante as we dealt with the complexities of leading our Club. As he departs today, we wish him every success in his new posting in Killiney GC and we hope he will always think of Delgany as one of his homes!

We haven't gone away (yet!) as we prepare to pass our batons and our very best wishes to incoming Captains Tom and Betty, but, from this platform at least, we say a fond goodbye and a sincere thank you to all our fellow Members for making our year so special in very many ways.

Captains Pat and Ann.



Contents

1. Captains' Message
- 2 - 4 Lady Captain Ann's Dinner & Show
5. Introducing Patrick Bradshaw
- 6 - 7. Past Lady Captain's Lunch
- 8 Men's AGM
9. Men's Competitions
10. Cupid wore skirts & Membership Offer
11. New Member Profile & Tom Donlan RIP
12. A quick reminder & Whats App
13. Parting Shot
14. And finally.....

Lady Captain's Dinner and Show 2022



November 4th saw our Lady members put on a great show for Captain Ann at her annual dinner. With a full house and a great sense of fun in the air, the ladies took to the stage and gave everything as their performance brought the house down with some great music and some very tall tales !! In closing the show, Captain Ann thanked everyone who attended, all the cast and all those who gave so much during the year. Ann paid tribute to her ever helpful committee and all the many volunteers who contribute so much to our wonderful Club, she then thanked the catering team for a fantastic dinner as well as all the staff for their excellent work on our behalf.



Lady Captain's Dinner and Show photos 2022



Lady Captains Dinner and Show photos 2022



Introducing Patrick Bradshaw

There's been a widespread welcome among Delgany members for the appointment of Patrick Bradshaw as interim club manager for a period of six months following the departure of Mark Carwood to Killiney Golf Club.

Patrick took up duty last Monday and had the benefit of a one-week overlap with Mark at one of the Club's busiest periods, ahead of Annual General Meetings, finalisation of accounts and an expected increase in new membership applications ahead of an increase in joining fees.

He brings huge experience to the role, having served as General Manager at Charlesland from 2000-2005 and at Blainroe from 2006 to 2020. In 2013 Patrick won the Club Manager of the Year award. Earlier in his career Patrick was General Manager with Golfing Ireland, a marketing co-operative funded by the Irish Tourist Board.

With the PGA, Patrick acquired a wide range of tournament experience from regional to European tour level, including refereeing at The Open and Ryder Cup.

An exercise enthusiast, who is a keen cyclist and walker, he also describes himself as "a former single figure golfer who can't chip."

As he took up duty, Patrick Bradshaw commented: "I am greatly honoured to assist the Club at this time in an interim position. Obviously, being an adult member for over 30 years and formerly working for the Club for 10 years has been a huge benefit.

"When I joined the PGA in 1990 I never could have imagined that I would return 32 years later, having played here as a child, then working in the shop, on the course and later the bar. It has all given me a great insight into the history and culture of the membership, which I will endeavour to protect."

"Our family history with the club stretches back to 1912 with at least one member of the family being employed here and I am delighted to be joining a great group of people as my new colleagues." "Thank you for the numerous messages of support (from as far afield as South Africa) and for the many kisses I got on Tuesday from the Ladies!"

Good luck with it Patrick!



Past Lady Captains' Lunch

Twenty four Past Lady Captains gathered with Captain Ann and Vice Captain Betty for a very convivial lunch in the clubhouse on 17th November. The attendance included captains from as far back as 1971 and it was great to see ladies who for health or other reasons are no longer regularly golfing but are more than happy to have a good old 'knees up'. The atmosphere was electric. A delicious lunch of baked salmon and seafood salad expertly prepared by Chef Tom was served with their usual good humour and professionalism by Jamie and Kasia.

The lunch was followed by a number of 'party pieces' with great talent demonstrated by many of the ladies particularly those captains of long standing - we had renditions from Lady Captains Doreen Brennan (1971), Barbara Low (1985), Olive Jones (1991), Daphne Walshe Tynan (1993), Eileen Dunne (1998), Ellen O'Mahony (2001), Stephanie Brennan (2002), Dorothy Gaynor (2005), Judy Brennan (2012), Susan Lennon (2014), Mags McDarby (2018) as well as current Captain Ann and her Vice Captain Betty.

Everyone had so much fun it was decided to make it an annual event. A big vote of thanks is due to Trish Kenny for coming up with the idea.



Past Lady Captain's Lunch Photos



Men's AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Men's Club of Delgany Golf Club will be held on Wednesday, 23rd November 2022 at 7.30 pm sharp in the Clubhouse.

The following nominations for election as Officers have been received. Category A (Ordinary, Honorary & Life) Male Members are entitled to vote:

Officers:	Proposed by:	Seconded by:
Captain: Tom Bergin	Pat Kitterick	Eugene Davy
Vice-Captain: Ian Barrett	Tom Bergin	Pat Kitterick
Hon Treasurer: John Mullane	Tom Bergin	Eugene Davy

The following nominations for election as Committee Members have been received. Category A (Ordinary, Honorary & Life), 5 Day & Senior Intermediate Male Members (Category C) are entitled to vote:

Committee:	Proposed by:	Seconded by:
Teams: Tadgh Dolly	Tom Bergin	Eugene Davy
Competitions Brian McGee	Tom Bergin	Eugene Davy
5 Day: Don McKenna	Tom Bergin	Eugene Davy

The following have agreed to continue on Committee:

Eugene Davy (Hon Secretary), Michael Behan, (Juniors), John M Gallagher (Competitions),
Mark Behan (Intermediates).

The following are stepping down after 3 years on Committee under Section 9.3.1 of the Club Constitution:

David O'Sullivan, Paul Hautz

The following are resigning from Committee or have resigned during the year:

Dermot OBrien (Teams), Odran Rochford (5 Day)

Motions:

"That Delgany Golf Club cannot afford not to have Buggy Paths"

Proposer: Frank McGee

Secunder: Martin Murphy

"That the Draft minutes of the previous Delgany Men's Club AGM, combined with the Honorary Treasurer Report, should be supplied to all male membership, a minimum of 14 days, in advance of all AGM dates."

Proposer: Mike A O'Brien

Secunder: Patrick Brock



Men's Competition News



The Winter League (WL) will open for registration on Friday, November 25th, 2022. The closing date is Sunday, December 11th, 2022

Qualifying Rounds will be Singles Competitions only (no Fourballs).

Commencing 7th January and will continue (weather permitting) over 11 weekends up to the end of February.

Semi Finals and Final are scheduled for Sunday 5th March & Sunday 26th March 2023, respectively - Fourball Matchplay format.

Each Team Member can play in as many of the 11 rounds as he chooses and the aggregate of the best four of his cards will be his contribution to his Team's total. Consequently all Team Members should play as often as possible on the designated dates and on no fewer than 4 occasions. On entry you must commit to this minimum of 4 competitions. If your Team Captain observes that you are not an active participant in the first four rounds, then he reserves the right to replace you with a substitute player (from a pool of such players).

Your Team Score will be the aggregate of the top 8 of the Team Members. Top four Teams qualifying for the Semi Finals. Prizes for the winners, the beaten finalists and the player with the best aggregate of his four qualifying scores.

We would encourage & welcome your participation **assuming you are available to play for the whole competition**. Ideally, we would like to have 12 teams of twelve - a total of 144 over the entire range of handicaps.

WL is open to Ordinary Members, Senior Intermediates, Intermediates, Students and Junior Associates (Handicap 16 and lower).

The entry fee of €10 will be paid from your competition purse prior to playing your first round. On completion of that and any subsequent round you play simply write Winter League on your card, identify your Team by Letter and return the card as usual in the Men's Competitions. **Failure to note the Team Letter on your card will result in the score being discarded from that round of the Winter League.**

You can enter the Competition by adding your name, handicap and contact phone number(s) to the Entry Book in the Hall or alternatively email competitions@delganygolfclub.com

Men's Competitions Committee

Cupid wore skirts ...

Following the hugely popular production of the "Two Loves of Gabriel Foley", Delgany Players are returning in the new year with another hilarious production - "Cupid Wore Skirts".

It will take place over eight days from Wednesday 15th of February to Saturday 18th and from February Wednesday 22nd of February to Saturday 25th.

For early booking of Tickets contact Jim Blake or Cheryl Ball

Cupid wore skirts (by Sam Cree) the cast.....

Mick O'Brien as Andrew Coulter

Liam Kelly as Grandad Coulter

Ciaran Lyons as Brian Coulter.

Fiona Whooley as Harriet Courtney

Mairead Coghlan as Ingrid Hanson

Margaret Williams as Gladys Gilmore

Alison Graham as Isobel Stanfield

Jim Blake as Ronnie.



Ordinary Membership Offer

In the October 7th edition of the Delgany Dispatch we announced our initiative where a new member will be able to join at the current level of joining levy of €3,500. **We can now confirm that at the October meeting of the Management Committee it was agreed to increase the joining levy to €5,000 from 1st January 2023.** It was agreed that the increase will not apply to those who have completed the joining process before the end of this year.

The current arrangement where new members receive a discount of 10% when paying the full joining levy up front will continue to apply. We have already had an encouraging number of new members avail of this offer.

As spaces are limited and it takes about three to four weeks to process a new application we're encouraging applicants to move swiftly. Our General Manager will be happy to deal with any queries in this matter.

Regards

Captains Pat and Ann

New member profile... welcome Dylan Watts

1) Your golfing background

I played a lot in school when I was younger and have always loved the sport.

2) Why did you join Delgany?

I joined Delgany because it is nice and local, a great course and the people up there are very friendly too.

3: Golfing ambitions?

My golfing ambitions are to be a scratch golfer.

4: Sporting heroes

I never really had one sporting hero as I use to watch and play all different sports but if I was to say one probably Roy Keane.

5: Other sports Interests

I love golf, football and watch a lot of NBA too.

6: Golfing successes so far

I don't really have many to be honest as I've found it hard to find time to commit to playing in competitions. Hopefully in the future I can win a few. I did have 2 holes in one on the same hole; the first in The Burrows.

7: Interesting facts

I have been playing professional football with Shamrock Rovers since 2018 and we have recently successfully completed 3-in-a-row League of Ireland titles. In addition we have just finished our run in this year's Europa Conference League.

Over the years I have come-up against some very famous footballers including Zlatan Ibrahimović whom I played against in our match versus Inter Milan in September 2022.

(In conversation with Ian McMahon)



Ton Donlan RIP



Sincere sympathy to the family and friends of our late member, Tom Donlan, who died at the weekend.

Tom was one of three stalwart Delgany members who made their careers in the ESB (there may have been more, but these 3 stand out for me), Tom, Mick Cronin (Past President) and Tom Connolly.

I can assure you 3 better men you couldn't meet.

As members will already know, he was devoted to Pam, in life, on the golf course, when going to Sunday lunch together.

Tom Donlan was very proud of his Laois roots, especially in Mountrath. He was low key, but a true gentleman.

May he rest in peace. (Ian Barrett, Vice Captain 2023)

A quick reminder...



Our Captains and President's Farewell Dinner is on tomorrow night with entertainment from our very own musical maestros. It is always a fun night and tomorrow will be no exceptionwhy not join us ?

Ask at the Bar or phone 01-2874536 Ext 3.

Whats App

As with life, things constantly change and develop along the way and our Communications Committee are currently looking at all our member information systems with a view to best practice and the most effective solutions to suit our needs.

To this end, we are delighted to welcome Dermot McCarthy and Daragh Bass to the Communications Committee and we look forward to working with them as we try to merge new tech with old school basics in order to ensure everyone gets the latest messages/information from the club.

One such service under consideration is a 'Whats App' message board that will allow us send instant messages to members phones (obviously provided they have downloaded the App and we think a majority already have). This system would have several advantages, it allows for over a 1000 contacts and is designed especially for short texts (sorry VC Tom). It's a completely **free** service to use with multi media transfer up to 100mb and there are no advertisements. With end to end encryption, it is a safe and secure service. **Once a group is set up, we can structure it to 'only send' messages so members will not be inundated with a constant barrage of chats!**



The process for this is not complete and we are happy to listen to members concerns, but just remember that we are not ignoring the old school methods. Notices will still be posted in the club house and copies of the latest Dispatch are left at the Bar for members to read (but please do not take them home as printing is expensive and you are only denying other members an opportunity).

Communications Committee

Parting shot

When Donal Duffy invited me to become Chair of the Club's Communications subcommittee he was adamant that it would involve only the lightest duties. Like a fool I believed him! Actually there was more than a grain of truth in Donal's reassurances as we launched the Delgany Dispatch. The job of editing the fortnightly newsletter was made possible by the support and contributions of very many people, most especially the eagle-eyed Briege Burton in Admin and Tony Corcoran, a production genius. Briege has regularly spared our blushes by spotting those spelling and punctuation errors that tried to creep unnoticed onto our pages. Not on her watch!

In addition to taking and finding the right pictures, Tony has brought a mischievous sense of fun to the task; his captions speak for themselves - and often for the members as well!

After two years I'm now stepping back to work on some broadcasting projects, knowing that Tony and his crew will bring new insights and initiatives to the task.

Give it welly, guys, and have fun!

Sean O'Rourke

Sean has underplayed his role no end there, as he brought a wealth of journalistic insight, a sharp mind and most of all a commitment to getting the job done. Sean established the Dispatch as a key source of information for our members and he made sure everyone was on their game, there was no slacking when it came to getting the reports in and out!.

Like all good hosts, he leaves us wanting more Thanks Sean from all on the Comm's team.



And finally....



We received this photo during the week.

It appears that one of our members was hoping for three points he drove off at the 10th hole, but sadly all he found was a three point turn!

In this photo it looks like our outgoing Captain Ann has just about had enough however Vice Captain Betty can relax as Ann was only doing her party piece for the Past Lady Captains' lunch!



And finally Our Competitions Committee have repeatedly told us that **the official competition results are the one's they post on our website** as opposed to what 'Howdidldo' sends out. However, this did not stop the information highway going into overdrive when 'Howdidldo' showed that a certain golfer had burned up the back nine including a **'hole in one'** at the 12th recently. This resulted in our man becoming an instant Club legend and causing Colm Whooley's heart rate to go through the roof no doubt. Needless to say, it was human error and players are reminded to enter their score and not their points!!!!

The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

Communications Sub-Committee:

Sean O'Rourke (Chair), Ian McMahon

Eugene Murray & Tony Corcoran

With technical support from Briege Burton