



THE DELGANY DISPATCH



Issue 23.15

<https://delganygolfclub.com/delgany-dispatch/>

August 25th, 2023



Captains' Message



The final straw ... Storm Betty (!!!) and it's landing in Delgany on the night before the final day of Captain Tom's prize, but we proved resilient. After the storm, came the calm. Then with the great work of our course staff, we were up and running for the first match at 7.00 a.m.

The weather remained substantially dry, but very windy for the three qualifying days and for the final day. The weather for the Five Day Members prize day was not so kind. There were some remarkable scores in spite of the challenging conditions. Thanks to our course committee and staff for ensuring that the course was in tip top condition for the competition. Our competition committee do amazing work all year round, but they really pull out all the stops to get the Captain's prize over the line. Thanks to our Bar & Catering staff for looking after us all so well after our golf. Congratulations to all the prize winners. Gary Connolly (right) followed in the footsteps of his father John in winning the prize. Well done to Richard Hill and Liam McGeever in winning the five day and intermediate prizes.

Thanks to the 300 members who played and the 120 who attended the Captain's dinner. It is the golf highlight of our men's club and it was great to see so many members participating in and enjoying the event.



THANK YOU !



Captains' Message



Well done to our Powerscourt Cup team in their semi final win against Old Conna last Sunday. Congrats to team managers Greg O'Neill and Seamus Byrne and all the panel. We look forward to the final in September.

Congratulations to William Walshe on being part of the winning Leinster Boys Under 16 in the recent interprovincial matches. William won two and a half points out of a possible three points, and he had the honour of sinking the winning putt on the 18th green to ensure the Leinster win.



William was delighted to have the support of Junior Captain Cathan and fellow Delgany junior Ross Mulligan for his matches against Munster and Connacht.

Best of luck to our Boys Under 18's team who play next Tuesday, 29th August at Castletroy GC in the All Ireland finals. This follows from their great win earlier in the summer in the South Leinster region played at Elm Park GC. With all the panel showing form we don't envy the team selection job of the team managers Michael Behan and Basil Mulligan. The panel for the match include Jack McArdle, Charlie Fox, Ollie Tuthill, Evan Lenehan, Jack Daly, Robert Cowman, Ross Mulligan, Felix Burke and Ryan Fogarty. The Captains are looking forward to supporting our boys in Castletroy.



Captains Tom & Betty



Men's Captain's Prize Photos



ALL OUR PHOTO'S ARE ON OUR 'FLICKR' PAGE

Please open you internet browser and search for flickr delgany golf club



Men's Captain's Prize Photos



ALL OUR PHOTO'S ARE ON OUR 'FLICKR' PAGE

Please open you internet browser and search for flickr delgany golf club



Ladies News



Just a reminder to all members that the 'Mark Wyse Open Four Person Team Rumble' is scheduled for 29th of August. This is traditionally one of the most popular events on our golf calendar with very generous sponsorship from Mark and we expect great support. Visitors will receive two extra shots. Dinner and prize giving will take place that evening at 7.30 pm, please book yourself in at the bar for what is always a great evening.

The Prize Giving for the following recent competitions will be held at 2 pm on 5th September. If you have won a prize for any of these events, please arrange your golf on September 5th at a time that will allow you to be there.

Glen Fuels Open Two Ball Rumble which took place on 15th August

August Medal played on 8th August and the 9 Hole Fourball

CONGRATULATION TO OUR  ee KEEPERS

WHAT A WONDERFUL FIRST HARVEST

Here are some photo's of the process and the HONEY !



Jean Taylor (beekeeper) extracting the Honey

Captain Betty, Beekeeper Billy Markham and Captain Tom



The Challenge Cup Team

with Captain Betty - Jackie Sharpe,
Blanaid Farrell, Maura Lernihan, Car-
oline Tobin, Nodlaig Noonan,
Manager Bernie Jones

Caddies: Mary De Chaumont, Breda
Murtagh, Mags McDarby,
Mary Brennan & Bernie Clarke





Ladies Photos



Delgany junior girls had their annual tea party on Monday last.

The event allows all the girls meet up and have some fun.

Margaret Williams organised a rules quiz which proved very popular.

Ceoladh, Abby and Orianna were the winners of the quiz and Capt Betty kindly sponsored the prizes.

Captain Betty presented our better junior girls with beautiful shoe bags. It was a roaring success and the girls are already looking forward to next year.





Teddys tale....



An Irish International, Australia and the Ferguson Memorial Salver

The office was contacted last week by Donall Gannon, ex Chairperson of Greystones Rugby Football Club with a request. He explained that on the day of the Ireland - England match last Saturday, the IRFU would award caps to 17 players who featured for Ireland but were not awarded caps at the time for games which were not then recognised as International Test Matches.

Amongst the recipients was a Raphael Edward Coolican (known as **Teddy**) who played against France in 1946. Born in England to Irish parents, Teddy studied medicine at Trinity College and excelled in many sports, especially rugby. After graduating he settled in Australia where he had a distinguished medical career. Equally distinguished was his rugby genes, as his son John played for New South Wales and Australia, including winning caps against New Zealand and France, while his grandson Tom (a son of Myles) was capped 8 times by the USA!

The Delgany connection

Donall confirmed that while in Ireland Teddy lived in the Delgany area and whenever he took a break from his studies, he was likely to be found in **Delgany Golf Club**. At the time we had a close relationship with Dublin University (TCD), evidenced by some photographs in the clubhouse (see 'Dublin University V Delgany Mountaineers'). In fact, the Club's association with Trinity goes back to our founding members, including members of the Robertson family who lived locally on Struan Hill.

In the hall there is a photo of Captain Clement Robertson, who was killed in combat during the First World War and was awarded a Victoria Cross. A Civil Engineer, Clement graduated from Trinity College in 1909 and it is no coincidence that the black, red, and green colours associated with Delgany are almost identical to the colours found in the Trinity college ties and scarves of that era.

Donall was able to tell me that Teddy Coolican had won the Ferguson Memorial in 1947 and his name was engraved on a silver salver that he hoped was still in existence. It is, and he was delighted as Teddy's sons, John and Myles, along with family members, were travelling to Ireland last weekend, when at an official reception the IRFU would present John with his late father's international cap.



Teddys tale....



Therefore, last Friday evening, just as Storm Betty was settling in, the Coolican group arrived in the clubhouse and Patrick Bradshaw and I were able to show them photographs, provide some stories and Delgany history of that time and of course, the treasured Ferguson Memorial salver itself.



Refreshments were had and the family was delighted to be in a place close to Teddy's heart when he was a young man. The happy photograph shows John (left) and Myles holding the Ferguson Memorial salver and afterwards, a message from Donall assured me their Delgany visit was a special and poignant moment for the family.

As for the Ferguson Memorial, there is enough material here for another article! Born in Belfast, Robert Campbell Ferguson was an outstanding student, educated at the Mercantile College, Belfast, and Queens University Belfast. In January 1920 he joined the Department of Labour in Dublin and later transferred to the Irish Free State Department of Industry and Commerce where he proved to be a dynamic and brilliant administrator, rising to the top job of Department Secretary.

A close acquaintance of the larger-than-life RM Smyllie (Editor of the Irish Times and to all intents and purposes, Mr. Delgany), Ferguson retired on the 31st of July 1945 and unfortunately died on the 17th hole less than one week later. His close friends decided to have an annual competition in his memory and R.E. Coolican, Trinity College medical student and Irish international, was the 2nd winner of the Ferguson Memorial in 1947.

The 2023 competition is scheduled for Saturday the 16th of September and the winner will take his place in the wonderful history of our Club!

Ian Barrett



Men's Competition News

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Friday, September 1st - Declan Clarke Charity Day in aid of Greystones Cancer Support (€100 per 4-person Team).

Saturday, September 2nd – September Medal (NB - no ALT competition on Friday 1st).

There are still plenty of slots till available from 1pm to 2.30pm.

Sunday, September 3rd – Invitational Singles Stableford.

Saturday, September 9th – Lady Captain's Prize to the Men (with ALT competition on Friday 8th).

Sunday, September 10th – 2 Ball Rumble.

RETURNING YOUR CARD:

We have noticed a trend whereby some members are taking an unreasonable amount of time to submit their score/card once they have finished playing. As a courtesy to your fellow members, we would ask you to key in your score and hand in your card within 30 minutes of finishing your round.

While we have your attention, **we would ask you (again!) to PLEASE fill in your card completely...**Front Nine Score, Back Nine Score, Total Gross/Points etc...how hard can that be???

HANDICAPS FOR NEW PLAYERS:

If you are new to the game of golf and are looking for a handicap, it is essential that any card submitted for handicap purposes must be dated and have the tee colour (White/Green) recorded on it.

Also, please ensure that the name of the person marking your card is written clearly on the card. Your marker must have a recognised World Handicap Number which should also be noted.

All queries re handicaps should be e-mailed to menshcap@delganygolfclub.ie

MATCHPLAY COMPETITIONS (as of August 22nd):

The race to see who will be crowned Singles Matchplay Champion is at an advanced stage with David Lyons already in the Final and waiting to see the outcome of the semi-final between Liam May and Peter O'Toole...watch this space!!!

Alan Murphy is in the Final of the Bellevue Cup and will play Terry Day or Captain Tom Bergin...rumour has it that Colm Whooley might be open to a few bets on the outcome of that Semi!!!

The Fourball Matchplay sees an intriguing Final in store with Vice Captain Ian Barrett & Liam May taking on Shane O'Loughlin & Gavin Mason.

The Foursomes Matchplay sees the Barrett/May pairing up against Fran O'Hara/Pdraig Stokes.

It's fair to say that there will be a lot of people hoping the VC doesn't win both Finals as we will never hear the end of it ☹

BALL MOVED ON GREEN:

If you accidentally move any player's ball on green (even your own) on the putting green there is no penalty, providing you replace the ball. Once you have marked lifted and replaced your ball on the green, if it then moves by wind or gravity etc. you replace ball where it was.

John Gallagher, Men's Competitions Committee

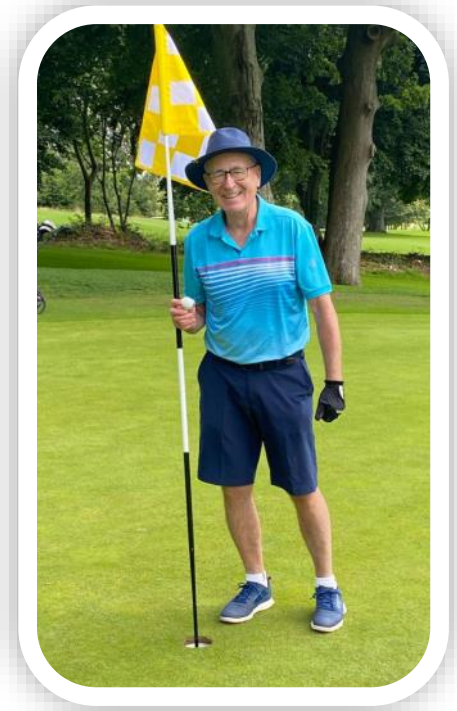


Men's Competition News



Congratulations to Brendan Tobin on his 'hole-in-one' at the 11th on Wednesday, August 15th. We are reliably informed that Brendan took out his trusty 3 wood and his shot flew straight and true all the way into the hole.

Needless to say, Brendan found he had a lot of friends when he arrived at the watering bar later ! Well done Brendan, we can but dream.



Please note...



Club Governance Information Meeting

Apologies to all, but our planned information meeting has been deferred as the Governance Committee continue to research best practice and gather relative information. A new date will be announced in due course.

Concession Green Fee Vouchers

A number of Members have not yet collected the Concession Green Fee Vouchers provided for early payment of the 2023 Subscription and Charges. We urge you to pick them up from the Accounts Office to use over the next months.

They are valid until end January 2024

Golf Ireland Cards

There are also a number of Golf Ireland cards in the Accounts office awaiting collection. If you have ordered a replacement card or have not received your card since joining please drop into Accounts to get it.



Bridge Club

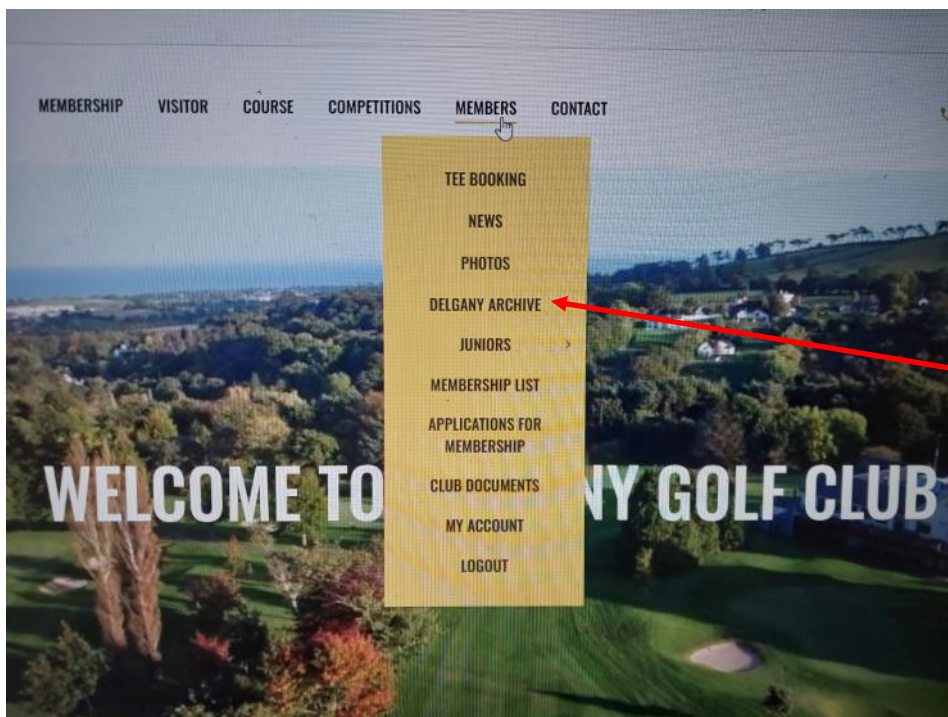


Our Delgany Bridge Club resumes for the Winter term on September 29th at 10 am sharp in the Seaview Room. All members and guests are very welcome, any queries contact **Bernie Jones 086-0812120** or **Seamus Hughes on 087-2428446**.

Our last season ended with a superb lunch that will be long remembered for Chef Simon's creation that had a nod to 'Cool hand Luke' with its ice hands. We look forward to a new season and challenging Simon's creativity once more!



Club website



Our thanks to Dermot Mc McCarthy, who has just finished uploading past issues of the Dispatch to our members section of the club website.

Online, click on the heading

'Delgany Archives'

Dermot has also added some club videos

(thanks to Eugene Murray) .



Declan Clarke Charity Day



The excellent **Declan Clarke Charity Day** will be held on Friday 1st September this year and the time sheet is now open with the fees being taken on the day.

The Declan Clarke Charity Day has been running now for twenty-seven years without a break. Terry Day started it in 1996 in honour of his great friend Declan (pictured right) who was undoubtedly one of Delgany's greatest golfers. The entry fee for the day is €25.00 for members and guests with all proceeds going to **Grey-stones Cancer support** a local very deserving charity.



Over the years Terry has raised over € 110,000 and last year was able to present the charity with € 6,000.00.

The competition is a four person scramble open to guests and all members, so please come along and bring your friends to support a very worthy cause.

For those who cannot make it on the day, please consider making a donation to Terry ahead of the event.





DGC Artisans success



The Delgany Artisans are the 2023 Irish Artisan Golf Association (IAGA) Interclub Winners after a magnificent comeback in the home leg of the 2-legged final, played against Killiney GC on Sunday 13th August last.

Consisting of 5 pairings and played in fourball format, Delgany was trailing 3.5 to 1.5 from the away fixture (one match was called a half as darkness prevented any further play on the 20th hole). Needing four

matches out of five for victory, this is precisely what they did, with Jim Brady and Eddie Byrne winning the decisive point on the 2nd tie hole.



The Delgany Artisans section have a proud tradition in interclub golf and they were determined that 2023 would be their year. Pictured above is the delighted winning group of management and team.

Irish Artisans have always had a reputation for producing good golfers and probably the most famous was Tom Craddock. Twice a Walker Cup player, he won five championships, becoming the first artisan golfer to play amateur golf for Ireland in 1955 (he worked as a greenkeeper at Malahide GC at the time) and went on to work alongside Pat Ruddy to create such renowned courses as Druids Glen and the Glashedy links at Ballyliffin. Part of the fabric of Irish golf for 50 years until his death in 1998 and a great supporter of Irish Artisan golfers.



Golf clubs appeal



In our last issue, our ex-President Derek Mulrooney put out a request for donations of golf club for use by a local migrant worker.

Derek reports that our members were extremely generous in their response and the worthy recipient of their clubs were delighted and very thankful. They wish to thank the members of Delgany GC who have made the lads dreams come true.

Well done to all who donated.



And finally...

Good to hear that Don McKenna is making steady progress follow his knee surgery. Don was skiing in Austria earlier this year and went over the top on his way down the piste (no, he wasn't) . He has had full knee reconstruction, so its no golf for him for the rest of the year.

Don sends his regards to all and is looking forward to getting back on the green slopes of Delgany asap.



Following Captain Tom's '**a look into the future**' speech at his dinner last Saturday night, we decided to take a look into the past and see what went on.

It turns out Tom and his Vice Captain Ian Barrett were very much 'dedicated followers of fashion' back in the day .

Here are the pair pictured outside the old Delgany Clubhouse as they pose resplendent in their new [A.J. Flynn's of Portlaoise menswear](#) outfit's and new Opel Commodore wheels before heading off to Leeson Street !



Ps: Captain Tom assures me that was TK red lemonade !!

The Delgany Dispatch is produced by the Clubs

Communications Sub-Committee:

Tony Corcoran (Chairperson), Ian McMahon, Dermot McCarthy,
Mary O'Neill, Jason Bradshaw, Yvonne Connolly & Eugene Murray.

with technical support from Briege Burton.

Email: delganydispatch@delganygolfclub.ie