



THE DELGANY DISPATCH



Issue 23.16

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

September 15th, 2023



Captains' Message



Lord Send us a sign... !

And He did. He, in fact, sent us 23 signs and a sponsor for each sign. The final piece of the jigsaw arrived in the last few weeks when we erected the new club noticeboard kindly sponsored by Elephant Click and Store.

We are grateful to all the businesses that sponsored these signs. The signs look fantastic and are a great addition to the club . We attach a montage of all the signs. Our administration team will very soon display the signs on our club **website with a link to the sponsors' websites. It is important that we support** those that have supported us. We therefore ask members to take note of all these businesses and to use their products and services when you get the chance.



Jude O'Meara from
Elephant Click and Store Ltd
with Delgany GC Captains
Tom and Betty as they
proudly show off our new
Course Notice Board.



Captains' Message



It was just lovely to have Mediterranean conditions for playing golf in the last week or so, badly needed after the trials of a rain-soaked July and just in time for the hollow coring exercise this week. We hope you all enjoyed the best the course has to offer during the dry spell. It was great to see the club so lively and busy and to have the good weather for a number of big events - the Declan Clarke Charity Day on 25th **August, Mark Wyse's ladies Open Day on 29th August and Captain Betty's Prize to the Men on 9th September.** There was a great turnout for all of these events as well as the two Mix and Match evenings on the 1st and 8th which were also dedicated to raising funds for the Declan Clarke cancer charity. Huge congratulations to Terry Day for organising the Declan Clarke event and to Jim Blake for the Mix n Match events. Between them all, over €5,000 was raised for this very deserving cancer charity.

We are planning a few more events to keep you entertained over the coming weeks, though we will have to compete hard with all the rugby matches. First up is a ladies club Solheim Cup fun matchplay event on Tuesday 19th, quickly followed by the Ryder Cup weekend on 29th to 30th with shotgun start team events on the Friday and Sunday followed by an Italian themed lunch in the bar. You can watch the golf and cheer for Europe with a complimentary drink **courtesy of Robin Fox (Charlie's Dad) and Heineken. Where better to view the action than in our very own Ryder Cup Bar!**

Tom and Betty

Many thanks to Ellen O'Mahony for this photo.... a prime example of the 'Chain Gang's' superb work on the rose beds.



Our new course signs



Thanks to Captain Tom for the photo collage



Course update



Course Volunteers

The course volunteers have, as of today, completed 33 sessions since we came together way back in March. As explained at the time, the course volunteers are necessary to assist the course staff in presenting the course and the surrounds in better shape. The reality is that the course volunteers have been doing work that the current course staff cannot reach giving their current manning.

I think it is worth reminding everyone of the extensive work that has been completed during these sessions:

- ◆ Where we have tidied and weeded the car park, & the path to the 1st tee
- ◆ Spread bark mulch around the trees in the OB area on the 18th
- ◆ Repairing significant bare patches where we sanded, seeded & protected these areas to allow them to recover
- ◆ Then after the winter, we cleared the debris & leaves from the plantations on the 2nd, 4th, 6th 9th and 15th. This made a big difference to the look and playability of these plantations.
- ◆ We cleared & tidied the ditches on the 10th and 18th.
- ◆ Over the summer, during the excessively wet periods, the course machinery was too big to mow the avenue so we mowed this area with hand mowers on several occasions.
- ◆ We also tidied around the front gates and kept the two lions 'weed free'.
- ◆ It is the club's responsibility to keep the path free of growth that over hangs our wall on our road frontage. So, after the hedge cutter cut back this growth, the course volunteers followed up to sweep and tidy up this work.
- ◆ We have also weeded and tidied up around the driving bays and have further plans to improve this area over the coming months.
- ◆ We have 'crown rolled' many many trees which involves tidying up the lower branches to allow the mowers to mow around the trees, to improve light and air flow and to improve visibility. This has significantly improved the tidiness and presentation of many of our trees.
- ◆ Recently we have exposed the old stone walls at the RHS of the 8th green and behind the green tee on the 13th.



Course update



What has surprised us is that as with most things in nature, nothing stands still and so much of this work needs repeating as grass continues to grow and weeds keep coming back, especially in the warm and wet conditions we have had over the 'summer'.

There are 11 volunteers in our group and we have had 6 to 2 volunteers per session. We have had a lot of fun, cake and craic during these sessions and most of us are only getting re-acquainted with this type of manual labour. Most of us have slept soundly after these sessions!!!



We would welcome additional volunteers, so please let us know if you are willing to lend a hand. We anticipate continuing our work as long as the weather permits and as this is our first year, we will keep this under review.

Next season, we hope to accommodate the 'working' members so that they can contribute at times that will suit them.

Finally, this initiative has addressed many presentation issues and has contributed to some improvements in the presentation of

the course and its surrounds.

This work has supplemented the continued work of Bernie Jones with her attendance of the flowers on the avenue beside the goat, behind the 16th green and the wild flower area at the 4th. In addition, we have the continued good work of the chain gang on the roses and flower beds around the clubhouse and Ronnie O'Toole with his work on several beds around the course. All in all, as I mentioned at the Course Information evening, the number of volunteers it takes to run our club is amazing.



PLEASE NOTE: [Course updates](#) are now available on our web page under the heading "Course" in the "Members Area"

Course update





Course update



Pedestrian Aerator

The golf course machinery industry is operating in a most unusual manner currently. The delivery dates continue to be a real problem as we experienced with the recent purchase of our fairway mower and then the rough mower. When we ordered the aerator, we were given a delivery date of August and here we are in September and we don't have a firm or committed delivery date. This is very frustrating.

However, we are still very excited about having this piece of kit and with these 3 new machines, we have taken a significant step forward in the long journey to upgrading our course equipment. We will keep you posted on the arrival of this aerator when we know more.

Autumn & Winter Projects

We are reviewing an extensive list of potential projects that we need to prioritise given our staffing and finances. This will be progressed in the coming weeks and we will revert in due course when this is agreed.

However, our key project is the rectification of the artificial tee on the 9th. This is being finalised as the options of how we integrate the artificial mat with the grass tee is a challenge in this area that has light and air restrictions.

The hollow coring has been completed this week. Patrick Bradshaw updated you on this necessary process, by email, last week and I submitted a detailed explanation in the Dispatch before the hollow coring back in April. Hopefully the recovery will be mostly complete with the next 14 days.

The monsoon and storm before the final round of the Captain's Prize in August lead to the huge limb of the tree falling on the RHS of the 11th. While this is not in play, we are organising for this to be removed by a contractor.

Ken Greene

Chair, Course Committee





Ladies News



Book Club – Special Celebration

The Ladies Book Club had a celebration lunch on Thursday 31st August to mark a very special birthday for our book club founder and chair Annette Dunne. Annette has been a stalwart leader of the book club and has brought it from strength to strength.



The reading selections are varied, usually very interesting and always lead to lively discussion. While it's the rare book that gets a thumbs up from everyone there was a very strong thumbs up from us all for Annette on the day, she definitely earns a 10 out of 10 for her contribution to our enjoyment of literature. Enjoy your special year Annette.



National Breast Cancer Play in Pink Day and Fashion Show

Our annual Play in Pink Day is taking place on Tuesday 3rd October and will be followed by a fashion show hosted by Pretty Woman Boutique of Greystones with commentary kindly provided by Aileen Kirker. While the golf will be for members only friends and visitors are very welcome to the fashion show and dinner which is always a great night. Book your place at the bar.





Ladies News



Mark Wyse Open 29th August

The Ladies club had a tremendous day on 29th August when Mark Wyse sponsored and hosted his annual Open ladies team event. A huge thank you to Mark and his team for giving the ladies club the most fantastic time. Everything was catered for – our golf clubs were cleaned on arrival by a handsome crew of young men led by the delightful Joshua Wyse, divot bags were filled with a smile and a chat by Frank Young and George Doolin and flow of play was maintained through the day with the help of John Kinsella as starter.

Tricia and her team at the front desk did a very efficient job helping with team sign in for the very large number of visitors and had a smile for everyone while handing out Mark's generous goody bags. Adding to the enjoyment was the fantastic weather and Mark topped it all by providing an ice cream van at the 10th tee box. The range of prizes was excellent and extremely generous and it was great to see so many visitors in the winning teams – each of the five winning teams included three guests. We had over 80 visitors on the day which reflects the quality of experience which Mark lays on year after year. Congratulations to Karen Crowley and her visitor team on taking first prize with a score of 84 points on countback and to runners up Brigid Bergin and her visitor team also on 84 points.

It was great to see a large turnout for dinner and the bar team looked super in their bright new shirts provided by Mark. Also, Gavin held an extensive sale with very generous discounts which added to the fun on the day.

Thank you Mark and to everyone who helped make it a truly exceptional day for the Ladies Club.



Winners: Karen Crowley and team



Runners up: Brigid Bergin and team



Third place: Helen Kane and team



Fourth place: Mary Brennan and team



Fifth place: Ann Boyle and team



Ladies News



Mark Wyse Open photo's from 29th August





Ladies News



Dinner & Fashion Show Tuesday October 3rd

Clothes from



Greystones

**PRICE €25 INCLUDES RAFFLE TICKET - NON
MEMBERS WELCOME TOO**

DINNER AT 7PM FASHION SHOW AFTERWARDS

Book your place at the bar
If you're on your own let the bar know and we'll
find a table for you

Timesheets now open....



MARCO SIMONE
ROME, ITALY

A Weekend of Ryder Cup Celebrations

Friday, 29th September – 9.30 am Shotgun
&

Sunday 1st October 2023 – 9.00 am Shotgun

Invitation 4 Person Team Events



Timesheets to open
on

Friday 8th September 2023

Members €25

Guests €35

*Italian Lunch included for all participants
+ complimentary pint of Moretti (non-alcoholic
Moretti or glass of Italian wine as an alternative)*

Live coverage during and after lunch





Just William...



William Walshe was part of the successful Leinster Boys Under 16's team that won the interprovincial championships at Ballykisteen GC in August. William had finished second in the order of merit and was therefore an automatic pick for the Leinster team. William won 2½ points out of a possible 3 points and was key to his team's success. At the end of his busy summer Captain Tom had a chat with William. While the chat left Tom exhausted, it is worth sharing with members the amount of work and dedication that William puts into his craft.

William got off to a good start to the year in April in the first Golf Ireland championship where he finished T11th in the Munster U16 boys' amateur open in Newcastle West, after a 3 over par round. Next up was the Ulster U16s boys' amateur open in Greenacres on 26th June, (an 18 hole event) that left William a bit disappointed with a 7 over par round finishing T30th. With little time to dwell on that result it was off to Tipperary golf club for the Munster boys' amateur open. This was an U18 event so a tougher field to compete against. Format was two rounds and then top 45 and ties make the cut for the final round. William played well and had two 5 over par rounds for a 10 over par total, but that missed the cut by two shots. Not a bad effort for his first U18 Golf Ireland event.

Next on the list was a big one – the Scottish U16 boys' amateur open in Portlethen golf club, close to Aberdeen. A very long drive from Dublin to Belfast, over to Cairnryan and up to Aberdeen left enough time for a couple of practice rounds before the event got going on 11th July. Format was two rounds and the top 60 and ties make the cut for the final round. William was in the very last group on day one and he definitely got the worst half of the draw, heavy rain all day meant a very difficult afternoon and play was very close to being suspended with waterlogged greens. William battled through the awful conditions to shoot a 79, then dusted himself down for round two and shot a magnificent 1 over par round. William made the cut and shot a final round 5 over par on the final day for a good week in Scotland, against a very strong field from across Europe - a good experience and plenty of lessons learnt.

No rest for the wicked after the long drive back to Dublin where the Connaught U16s boy's amateur open took place in Ballinasloe golf club on 17th July. Format was just one round and William played very well shooting another one over par round which gave him a T7th place finish, an excellent result. Two days later it was up to the Hilton Templepatrick for the Ulster boys' amateur open, another U18 event so two rounds and then top 45 and ties make the cut for the final round. William shot scores of 6 over and 2 over par to just miss the cut by one stroke.



Just William...



The Leinster U16s boy's amateur close was next up on 31st July, in Ashbourne golf club. This was one round and played in torrential rain. William shot an excellent score of 4 over par, one shot behind the winner. The Irish U16s boy's amateur open was next in Lisburn golf club. The Irish Boys' is the most important competition of the year so the pressure was on. Round one was delayed by 4 hours due to more rain but William played well in the first two rounds shooting 76 (4 over par) in each round and easily making the cut, lying in the top 15 with one round to go. The final round was played in sunshine thankfully and William played beautifully – level par (16 pars, one bogey and one birdie) catapulted him up the leaderboard to finish tied 4th place and a magnificent result.

The final Golf Ireland competition was the Leinster U16 boys' amateur open in Newlands on 10th August and 5 over par round left him T21st. A second-place finish in the Carlow boys scratch cup followed up by a 7th place finish in the Wicklow boys' in Greystones brought the season to an end last week.

We can be very proud of William and the way and manner in which he plays the game. By the same token, William is very proud to be representing Delgany GC and he is very appreciative of the support he gets from our club with special mentions to Gavin and the team in the pro shop, Mark Wyse for his continuous support, and Michael Behan and the junior committee who support all of the juniors in the club.

In an era when golf equipment is key, William received from Liam May a 'lucky' pair of golf shoes that belonged to his late dad (Johnny), which William wore for the entire summer. I don't think Johnny would ever have anticipated a pair of shoes would do such huge mileage in a single summer!

Tom Bergin





Father & Son Photos



Our thanks to Frank Finan for once again sponsoring our annual Father and Son competition, the event gets more popular every year and this years staging on August 27th was no exception.

Our congratulations to Winners Stephen and Daniel Keogh and all those who took part.





Greystones Cancer Support



The Declan Clarke Charity Day and the Mix and Match raise
€ 5,180.00 for Greystones Cancer Support.

It is now 27 years since Terry Day started running the Declan Clarke Charity Day in memory of his great friend and lifelong golfing companion. This year he ran a scramble on September the 1st which was very well supported and raised funds through entry fees and extremely generous donations from the members. **The funds that are raised are a great tribute to Terry's tireless work and everyone's willingness to support him.**

A Mix and Match was run after the scramble with Gavin Kavanagh very kindly sponsoring and the proceeds were added to the funds raised earlier in the day.

Mark Wyse sponsored the following Friday's Sept 8th 6 ball Mix and Match followed by a tops and tails fund raiser which again our members dug deep and swelled the coffers for Terry's charity. JJ Cassells managed to keep his hands in the right place long enough to win Marks donation of Bolle sunglasses. Blanaid Farrell won a four ball for Woodbrook as runner up. Our thanks to Captain Betty who handed out the prizes on the night (see photo's on the next page).

It is a wonderful tribute to all the members of Delgany, to the Club for making the course and facilities available and to Mark Wyse and Gavin Kavanagh for their continued unselfish sponsorship which allows every penny collected be donated to this very worthy local charity.

Jim Blake

Terry & Jim present a cheque for €5,180 to Greystone Cancer Support representatives.





Greystones Cancer Support





Men's Competition News

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Ferguson Memorial – Saturday, September 16th (with ALT comp on Friday 15th). This was re-scheduled from August 26th.

Ryder Cup Team events on September 29th & October 1st – booking is open for these already.

October Medal – Saturday, October 7th (with ALT comp on Friday 6th).

PJ Stokes Memorial – Saturday, October 14th (with ALT on Friday 13th).

MATCHPLAY COMPETITIONS (as of September 13th):

Singles Matchplay Final will be between **David Lyons** and **Liam May**.

Bellevue Cup Final is between **Alan Murphy** and **Terry Day**.

Fourball Matchplay Winners are **Vice Captain Ian Barrett & Liam May**.

Foursomes Matchplay Winners also won by the titanic **Barrett/May** duo!!

Mixed Foursomes Winners are **Dick Cotter** and **Mags McDarby**, who have a tremendous record in this competition, winning it for the 3rd time.

CHECKING IF A BALL IS YOURS:

When checking a ball, **don't touch it without first marking its position with a tee.**

If you touch the ball before marking it but then place it back in its original position, then that incurs a 1-shot penalty.

In the event of failing to mark the ball initially and also not returning the ball to its original position, that will incur a 2-shot penalty.

DIARY CHANGE TO COMMITTEE DAY:

Please note that the Committee Day has had to be moved to Friday, October 20th due to the unavailability of Committee members on the 15th. A Shotgun Start will be in operation on the 20th starting at 1pm.

We are adding an 18-hole Singles Stableford competition on Sunday October 15th which will run from early morning to 12 midday.

John Gallagher

Men's Competitions Committee

Issued on behalf of Mens Competitions and Ladies Competitions Committees



Men's Competition News

Captain Betty's Prize to Men

Captain Betty's Prize Day on Saturday 8th had the best of weather conditions making for most enjoyable golf, albeit with lush grass conditions. Participation was high notwithstanding the competing attractions of the Irish Open and the first Ireland Rugby World Cup match.

As you can see in our photo, Captain Betty made sure the lads were well looked after with a fine selection of home made cakes. Scores were very tight with seven players scoring 67 and six on 68. Congratulations Eoin O'Riordan, who was a clear winner on 65 nett, to runner up Richard Cullen on 67 nett and to Gross winner Conor Tiernan on 72. Captain Betty will present her prizes to the winners on Wednesday 20th at 7 pm.



Our Junior Under 18 team ready for action at the All Ireland Finals





Juniors News



Management opportunity - Junior Section

Our 145 strong junior section has had a fantastic year, ably led by Michael Behan and his team on the boys side and Mairead Coghlan and her team on the girls side. We won the Under 18s Leinster South Interclub section, winning our first GI pennant in over 30 years. We made it to the Under 18 All Ireland Final, had our first junior girl playing on the Wicklow Cup Team and have our junior member, William Walshe, representing Leinster in the Under 16s Section.



Sadly, both Michael & Mairead are now stepping back, but continuing in support roles. We are looking for committed, enthusiastic and organised people to lead the Junior Section into the 2024 golfing season and to build on these successes.

We know that there is someone out there who we haven't thought to approach directly, could this be you? If you are interested in the opportunity to work with an ambitious and fun group of young people, surrounded and supported by an enthusiastic group of volunteers, please contact Tom Bergin. He's waiting to hear from you!

If you don't want to take full responsibility but would be willing to join the team please let Tom know..... who knows, you could be working with a future Rory, Leona or Shane !!!





New member profile



Introducing Sean O'Driscoll....

What is your golfing background?

I grew up in Skerries and was a junior member there for a few years before heading off to university, but sadly didn't get the chance to play much after that. I'm just coming back to golf in the last year and trying my very best these days to make up for lost time!

Why did you join Delgany GC?

I recently moved to Greystones and immediately began looking for a club I could call my home club. With the great history of the club, the strong intermediate member base and the quality of the course itself (and the fact it's only 5 mins drive from my house!) it was a pretty easy decision in the end.

What are your golfing ambitions?

Short-term, I just want to try and get out more regularly and play with some interesting new people. Long term I'd love to get down to a single-digit handicap and hopefully get the chance to post some respectable rounds on some great courses around the world.

Who are your sporting heroes?

My golfing hero is Pádraig Harrington. Outside of golf, Michael Jordan.

What other sports are you interested in?

I'm a big rugby fan and up until last year was playing Junior rugby with Lansdowne (golf is a lot easier on the body!). I'll also be heading over to France for some of the World Cup games in September.

What are your golfing successes so far?

It's still early days for me so nothing of real significance yet. I did recently birdie the 8th at Delgany which, as a high handicap golfer, is always nice!

Any interesting facts you would like to share with us?

I spent a summer caddying in Newport County Club in Rhode Island. It hosted the first ever US Open and Amateur Open (which Tiger Woods won back to back in 1994 & 1995).





Not content with sponsoring a fantastic array of prizes for the Ladies Scramble, our very own 'Mr Under Armour' Mark Wyse went the extra mile as **Anne Prior** writes: 'A huge 'thank you' to Mark for such an amazing day on Tuesday 29th. We really enjoyed being spoiled by the Weather Gods he sent, getting our clubs washed, and most of all.... we enjoyed the ice cream at the tenth tee.

Thanks Mark... the standard has been set !!



We are not sure how these two 'dubious' ladies managed to get some ice cream !!

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