



# THE DELGANY DISPATCH



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

December 1st 2023



## Captains' Message



We are delighted to be elected as your Captains for 2024 and we look forward to meeting you throughout next year. 2023 was a tremendous year for Delgany, despite the climate obstacles thrown in our way. Much of this was due to the commitment and support shown by Tom and Betty to every section of the Club; Teams, Social, Competitions, Course, House, their colleagues on the Management Committee and all other dedicated committees and membership categories including Five Days, Intermediates and Juniors. We are not sure that members fully appreciate what this commitment looks like; we can assure you from our bird's eye view it was constant and unflagging, delivered with a great sense of humour and fun.

Tom and Betty also took every opportunity to acknowledge our fantastic Delgany workforce, in the office, our Clubhouse and facilities, our bar and dining areas, the Course staff and Gavin, our Club Professional and his team. The Captain's Farewell night last Saturday was a joyous and deserved expression of our gratitude; they have set a very high bar for their successors! Rest assured, it's a challenge we are delighted to take on, representing you and the Club to the best of our ability.





# Captains' Message



Despite the weather, Delgany had some notable golfing highlights during 2023, with our Juniors winning our first 'official' Golf Ireland pennant since 1991, the experienced Powerscourt Cup team doing the business, and our Challenge Cup team being 'pipped at the post'. We wish our Teams and Managers the very best of luck for a successful Inter Club golfing season next year. Our Team Management committees are actively looking for new management and player talent, so we encourage all Members to get involved, be it volunteering or playing. With our Mens and Ladies AGMs completed, we now look forward to the Clubs Joint AGM on Monday December 4th at 7.30pm.

As we are now into December, it's time for the annual Delgany Santa visit and we'd like to invite bookings from members and friends to bring their young children along to meet Santa on either December 9th or 10th for a great afternoon of fun (email: [delganysanta@gmail.com](mailto:delganysanta@gmail.com)). A huge thank you to Marian Lambe and Agnes Young for their trojan work on the 2023 Christmas decorations in the Clubhouse - they look fantastic.

Finally, thank you all for the kind words and good wishes over the past weeks and as we look forward to a peaceful and Happy Christmas, enjoy your golf and everything else our great Club has to offer.

Ian and Alison



# Joint Club AGM



**Reminder:**

**Our Joint Club AGM will take place  
in the Clubhouse on  
Monday, 4th December at 7.30pm**



# Captains & President's Farewell Night



Saturday November 25th saw us say farewell to 2023 Captains' Tom and Betty and President Ruth with a full house and great atmosphere. Ian and Alison thanked their predecessors for the opportunity to take the Captaincy this coming year and highlighted their desire to carry on the high standards and work rate established by both 2023 Captains.

In their speeches, both Betty and Tom thanked all the members, staff, multiple committees and volunteers for their support throughout the year. Personal highlights were noted and following another fantastic meal presented by Chef Simon, the dancers in the audience took to the floor as 'Take it Easy' played away in the corner.



Google : ["Flickr Delgany Golf Club"](#) for all our photos



# Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



Here Captain Alison proudly shows off the brooch which she has just received from Capt. Betty (2023 Captain).

The Captain's Pin (below) was bought by the Ladies Club in 1964 from McCabe's Jewellers in Dublin and has been handed down from one Captain to the next since then. The first Captain to wear the brooch was Dorrie Crampton, listed on the Captains' board as Mrs G. Crampton (it was customary when addressing ladies formally to use their husband's names back then!)



Keeping it in the family. Here is Daithi Lyons pictured with his Grandad Peter Lyons (and Grandad's friends Hugh Hannon and Liam Kelly). Daithi's parents Ciona and David are also a members of Delgany. Hopefully Daithi might be bitten by the bug and take up a club in the future.



Another up and coming new member. Meet Tadhg Urell with his Mum Justine who is a new member this year.

Tadhg's grandparents Donal (recently deceased) and Mary Urell were former members.





# Men's Competition News

**Bottles Days** - moved to December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> (from 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)



## WINTER LEAGUE 2024

Registration opened on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and we are pleased to advise you that we have received c. 100 entries so far which is great.

If you haven't already done so, the entry book is in the main hallway.



## PLAYING OFF MATS

You may not be aware of it but when mats are in play, you **must** play off them. You cannot tee your ball up in an area off the mat as the penalty for doing so is **2 shots!!**



## RULES THAT PLAYERS GET WRONG:

### Provisional Ball

Many golfers think that once they hit a provisional ball, then their first act should be to look for the first ball, but that's not necessarily the case.

If, for example, you top the provisional ball to a distance short of where the first ball went, you can continue to play the provisional ball until you get to that area.

Once you reach the point where the first ball went, though, you have to stop playing the provisional. If you play the provisional beyond that point, it will then become the ball in play.

**John Gallagher**

**Men's Competitions Committee**



# Club News



YOU ARE INVITED TO A

# SANTA PARTY

*at Delgany Golf Club*

DECEMBER 9TH AT 2PM



**Book your place at [DelganySanta@gmail.com](mailto:DelganySanta@gmail.com)  
Tickets cost €28 (adult) & €12.50 (child)**



# Club News



## TEN YEAR MEMBERSHIP OFFER

1. The offer is available to Ordinary Members only.
2. 10-year membership is available on receipt of an upfront payment of €13,500, made as a single payment.
3. The offer is for the annual subscription fee only, all levies and other charges will fall due each year over the 10-year period.
4. The offer is limited to five memberships only.
5. If oversubscribed, those Ordinary Members with the longest membership will be selected.
6. There is no adjustment to the charge for age or other factors, including eligibility for discounts that might be currently available to the applicant.
7. Should the Member pass away during the 10-year term, on request, a refund equivalent to the remaining number of full years will be made to the Estate.
8. Should the Member leave the Club or retire from golf a rebate will be given on a pro rata basis for the number of full years remaining.
9. The Green Fee voucher offer (for as long as it exists), under which Members receive green fee vouchers for paying their annual subscription on time, will apply to the 10-year Members, providing the other levies and charges are paid on time.
10. This is intended to be a once off offer only, and members should not expect it to be repeated annually.

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# Rest in peace



## Vincent Leonard: An appreciation

I have known Vincent or Vinny since he took up golf almost 40 years ago. An avid sportsman, Vinny played soccer with Brighton Celtic and GAA with Foxrock Geraldines (later to become Geraldine Morans). As his playing days ended, he decided to try his hand at golf and there started a life long addiction. His decision was no doubt influenced by his friends in his local pub 'The Magic Carpet' in Cornelscourt (including one Michael Sinnott of DGC). At the time, golf membership was not easily accessible, most pubs had golf societies and 'the carpet' was no exception. A highlight of the society was an annual trip to Dooks GC in Glenbeigh Co Kerry and it was there that Vinny recorded his first 'Hole in One' and no better man to celebrate his success. Needless to say his hole in one left him with a big hole in his pocket but it cemented his love of the game!

Vinny joined Kilternan GC and his game improved to the point where he was a regular 12 handicapper and had his name in the frame on many occasions. Sadly, Kilternan closed and for a number of years he moved around different clubs (Powerscourt, Lisheen Springs, Dublin Mountain and Glen of the Downs) before finally settling at Delgany. I have lost count of the number of golfing trips made with Vinny, but they include Spain, Portugal, France and most of Ireland including his beloved Dooks in Kerry. I recall one evening on a Portuguese golf trip, the group were out for dinner in Villamoura and we ordered wine for the table. Needless to say, on such occasions nobody was counting and after more than a few hours of sorting out the rights and wrongs of the day, Vinny raised his glass. We all expected a toast to someone else's misfortune as he just looked up at the glass and said the immortal words: 'Isn't red wine great, I always feel more intelligent when I drink it' !!!!

At Delgany, Vinny always felt at home and loved the atmosphere on and off the course. He won the Bellevue Cup (pictured right) and has successfully represented teams over the years (sadly missing out on the Powerscourt Cup final through illness, having played a winning role in previous games). Vincent was a great man to take on new challenges, having developed his talent for a song or two, he took up the guitar a few years ago and was fast becoming a one man show!. At the same time he took to acting in Delgany GC, thanks to Jim Blake and the drama group. He was a natural and his portrayal of Matty in 'Nobody's talking to me' was a highlight that gave him immense satisfaction and us much hilarity as he 'was' Matty with us at times.



Without hesitation Vinny would always offer to help out and earlier this year he volunteered for the course clean up group. He used to tell us that the work was good for the soul and he loved the camaraderie that came with it..... that was Vinny, always willing to help out and always up for a game of golf. No stranger to winning, both Frank Burke and myself always knew we had to bring our 'A' game every week if we were to squeeze a cent off Vinny as he was a great competitor.

A devoted family man, Vincent leaves behind his wife Anna, sons Ruairí and Seán as well as a huge number of friends across the many different interests he had. Vincent's family would like to thank the Captain and all the members of Delgany Golf Club who attended his funeral mass, it was very much appreciated and a great comfort to them.

Enjoy the fairways of heaven Vincent, our many happy memories of you will never fade.

Tony Corcoran





# Rest in peace



**Tom Conlon**, who passed away recently, was a stalwart Member for many years. A great competitor and great fun, Tom was known on the fairways of Delgany and beyond, where he usually ended up on the winning side. He won the Captain's Prize in 1991 and 2001 and was on the winning Barton Cup Team, also in 1991. *Tom and I won a few other prizes as well!*

I got to know Tom in the early 80s shortly after he joined Delgany. Needless to say, I enjoyed every round with him over the last 40 years or so. He was a great friend and will be sadly missed by me and many others in the Club. Sincere condolences to Cait, daughters Emer, Aedín and son Ruairí on their sad loss. *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.*

*Willie Kennedy, President DGC 2024*



# Course Photos



**We are always happy to include any good course photos sent to us by our members and what a photo we have from Anna O'Loughlin. Absolutely stunning!**





# The magic of Golf



## A Hole-in-One (net) on the 10<sup>th</sup>

I am sure that some, but not too many, have eagled the 10<sup>th</sup> hole in Delgany. But how many have walked off that green with 6 points on the card?

So it's the Saturday 12-hole competition on 11<sup>th</sup> November last which was ultimately won by Mark Doyle with a very impressive 31 points. I myself had the pleasure of playing with two regular companions, John Garvey and Declan O'Farrell.

Standing on the 10<sup>th</sup> with less than impressive front-nines we all drove it well off the tee-box. I was up the left, John to the right and Declan, with a scorcher, straight up the middle. Declan's second was hooked a tad!! left and ended up just beyond the trees near the 100 metre marker. Nestled down in deep rough and with the yellow pin tucked tight to the left of the green, many would have opted for the wedge out to the right hand side of the green. But for Declan, it was a case of nothing ventured, nothing gained. He only had a poor lie, a tricky pin-position and a large bunker sitting between him and the hole. Undaunted, he produced a shot that as soon as it left the club you sensed it would be good. John was already green-side as the ball floated majestically onto the down slope. Declan and I couldn't see the finish but John roared out that it was indeed at the bottom of the cup.

Lots of high-fives as we headed to the 11<sup>th</sup> (which Declan duly parred). Momentarily, we paused to work out the points but when John said it was a Net 1 we realised it was a 6 pointer. In true, modest style Declan didn't shout about it back in the clubhouse but I thought it was one of those rare moments that needed to be broadcast.

Reported by Ian McMahon

*If you have witnessed something special on the course that you feel merits publication e-mail us at [delganydispatch@delganygolfclub.ie](mailto:delganydispatch@delganygolfclub.ie)*



# And finally...

## Ted's taking to the high seas

Our popular 5 day member Ted Williams has chosen to fundraise for Spinal Injuries Ireland . All funds raised here will go directly to this great cause and Ted tells us:

*I am sailing on a Tall ship for eight days with like minded people, with different physical disabilities and wheelchair users. This is a full working trip assisting all on board to gain self confidence, push individual boundaries and be valued for what one can achieve.*

*I hope you can help me by donating whatever you can. Simply click the Donate button. All donations are processed securely.*

*Many Thanks for your support and please share my page...*

<https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/TedWilliamstallshipsSII>



Inspired by Ellen O'Mahony's 1945 newspaper report on Harry Bradshaw, our 2024 President Willie Kennedy has sent us this photo from 1960 featuring Joe Synnott, George Sutton and Peter Donnelly.

**The Delgany Dispatch** is produced by the Clubs

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