

# The Delgany Dispatch



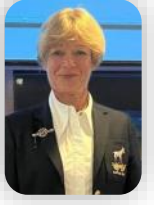
Issue 01.24

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

January 26th, 2024



## Captains' Message



*Welcome to our first Dispatch of 2024 and hopefully some cessation of the relentless poor weather. As you will see in Martin's Report, the course has taken some damage over the last few weeks with trees falling and the effects of the heavy frost and rainfall. It can be difficult to know when the weather will change, and credit goes to our greenkeepers for keeping on top of it throughout as well as some other housekeeping works such as lifting the tree canopies to improve growth by allowing low level light in and air to circulate (this week we had the unique Delgany GC sound of woodpeckers competing with the chainsaws!).*

*On the golf front, it is great to see the timesheets full and no doubt the various Team Managers are already 'talent spotting' for Inter Club players. To represent Delgany in team golf is a great recognition of your ability and an opportunity to compete at a higher level, and we look forward to a successful year ahead and maybe a new team photo or two in our 'Hall of Fame'.*

*Our Drama Group have been busy preparing for their upcoming show 'The Mating Season' (details later in this issue). It is always a great night out and with tickets selling fast, we ask all members to book early and help us have a sellout on all nights.*

*Sadly, we note the recent passing of Pat O'Sullivan and Elizabeth Farrell, following on from the sad loss of our ex-President Seamus Fitzpatrick. Our deepest sympathies go to all their families and friends.*

*Work is ongoing with the 'One Club' initiative, with information nights planned shortly and an EGM, most likely sometime in April.*

*Our best wishes to everyone for the season ahead.*

*Captains Ian and Alison*

## Course report January 2024

Sadly the constant storms have taken their toll on our Delgany trees: A mature Scotch Pine on the right hand side of the 13th approximately 80 feet high has fallen due to the wind and continual wet weather. As can be seen from the photo the tree was uprooted rather than broken.



Other major boughs from trees on the drive and at the side of the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee have broken off and lots of broken branches have fallen all around the course due to storm force winds.





# Course Report



Some good news as work on the 9th tee has now been completed with winter tee in play.



And our Winter maintenance programme is under way....



## Entrance avenue:

The continual rain and heavy outbursts have caused major flooding on the avenue and washing stones and grit onto the avenue which normally would be washed into the drains on either side of the tarmac. Outlet pipes and drains have had to be flushed and washed using high powered machinery rented from an outside contractor. The green keepers have been removing debris and silt from the side drains using the digger and physical labour and is extremely time consuming. We ask members to drive only on the tarmac and do not drive on the side drains for their own safety and to avoid damaging the soft ground.

*Martin Murphy,  
Greens Committee Chairperson.*



# Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



## Happy New Year

### We may not be Golfing, but we'll be dancing !!

Welcome Ladies to the first Dispatch of 2024 and Happy New Year to you all. Unfortunately the Gods haven't been kind to us when it comes to the weather and the course has been closed on numerous occasions due to this.

However, there is still a lot of activity going on in the Club despite this. Some of you got together recently for Jerusalem Dance Steps led by Betty Sherry and Ann Prior. It was great fun. It proved so popular we are having a Line Dancing session on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm. Everybody's welcome. Do come along, you'll really enjoy it





# Ladies News

(Reporters: Mary O'Neill & Yvonne Connolly)



Join us for some Line  
Dancing



Line Dancing

Tuesday 30th January and  
Tuesday 6th February at 2:30pm

ALL ARE WELCOME





# Men's Competition News



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Winter League 2024** – Remaining January 2024 dates: WL5 Saturday 27th January (26th ALT day), WL6 Sunday 28th January (NO ALT day).

## WINTER LEAGUE 2024

Winter League 2024 kicked off on Saturday 6th January, with an ALT (play Saturday's competition on Friday) option available on Friday 5th January. We've had great participation from members for the first four rounds. At this time of year the timesheet fills up very quickly, so get your name down early!!

If you can't get on the timesheet, there is a waiting list available.

Team K are leading after 4 rounds with a superb score of 685 points. Congratulations to Swords Swashbucklers on a great start. But there's a long way to go!!

Enjoy the rest of the 2024 Winter League.

## COMPETITION ENTRY

If you decide to play the Winter League competition on Friday please ensure that you sign into the correct competition. It's the **SATURDAY ALT** competition. **Not** the **FRIDAY ONLY** competition. The Winter League is a weekend competition played on Saturday &/or Sunday, depending on the competition schedule. The ALT competition on Friday is provided to facilitate eligible members who can't get on the Saturday timesheet or who prefer to play their Winter League competition on Friday. We have included a note on the Competition Entry Computer to remind you that you need to enter the correct competition. It is the player's responsibility to enter the correct competition.

The option to enter the Saturday ALT competition on Friday applies to many other Saturday competitions throughout the year - it isn't just for the Winter League.

## RULES THAT PLAYERS GET WRONG:

### Ball played from outside teeing area:

#### *Match Play Rule 6.1b(1)*

When starting a hole, if you play a ball from outside the teeing area (including from a wrong set of tee markers on the same hole or a different hole), in match play, there is no penalty and you play your ball as it lies, however your opponent may cancel the stroke in which case you must play again from **inside the teeing area**.

#### *Stroke Play Rule 6.1b (2):*

When starting a hole, if you play a ball from outside the teeing area (including from a wrong set of tee markers on the same hole or a different hole), in stroke play, the ball is not in play. You get the **general penalty** (two penalty strokes) and you must correct the mistake by playing a ball from inside the teeing area.

If you do not correct the mistake before starting the next hole you are disqualified.

**Men's Competitions Committee**



# Men's Competition News



## WINTER LEAGUE TABLE

Team Name	Captain	Score
Team K - Swords Swashbucklers	Ian Barrett	685
Team J - Topol's Tigers	Tom Bergin	626
Team F - Don's Devils	Don Berkery	594
Team A-Rellis Rangers	Eugene Rellis	592
Team C - Shane's Sharks	Shane O'Loughlin	563
Team I - Meehan's Mercenaries	Donal Meehan	556
Team E - Conn's Commandos	Conn Loy	554
Team D - Sean's Spitfires	Sean O'Rourke	543
Team B - Sweeney Todds	John Sweeney	526
Team H - Paul's Hautzshots	Paul Hautz	505
Team G - Brian's Banditos	Brian McGee	504



# The Mating Season

Delgany Drama Group

Delgany Drama Group



## The Mating Season

A Play  
by

*Sam Cree*

Directed by Bernard Doyle

Performance Dates

Wednesday 14th February 2024 - Saturday

17th February

and

Wednesday 21st February - Saturday 24th

February

Tickets

**€20**

Tickets only available from

**Diane Reid 087 6374117**







# Those were the days...



This year we are introducing a new section to look back at the Club's great players and characters that are part of Delgany GC folklore. The idea is to get our senior members to share their stories and add some background about some of the names that are part of the club history.

We begin with the story of 'ANDY THE EAGLE' thanks to **Derek Mulrooney** with some help from Ian Byrne:

I visited Andy Byrne before Christmas in his retirement home at St Josephs, Crinken Lane, Shankill. We had a pleasant chat about Delgany G.C and his adventures as a driver /guide for Bord Failte after his retirement from Guinness.

Andy was born in a house in Woodstock Estate, Newtownmountkennedy on what we now know as Druids Glen Golf Resort and moved as a boy with his Family to Killincarrig, where I first got to know him.

He was a great sports man and played hurling, Gaelic football, soccer and golf with his pal Dave Fox. Both had similar sports achievements except Andy did not try rugby.

In the days when it was not easy to play soccer and GAA at the same time, Andy scored the winning goal for Bray Wanderers in the Leinster Senior League Final, won two Gaelic Football Finals and one hurling final with Eire Og, Greystones. The other Delgany G.C Members of the GAA Teams were Paddy O'Kelly, Capt and his two brothers, Dave Fox, John Byrne, Declan Clarke, Derek Mulrooney, the local priest Fr McAuliffe and Brother Bolger. Unfortunately, there is no photograph of the hurling team as Archbishop John Charles McQuaid did not allow his priests or brothers to play these competitive games!!!!



Andy is pictured above with his Bray Wanderers teammates including Declan Clarke, John Byrne, Dave Fox, the O'Kelly Bros Paddy (Captain) and Henry, Dave O'Connor.

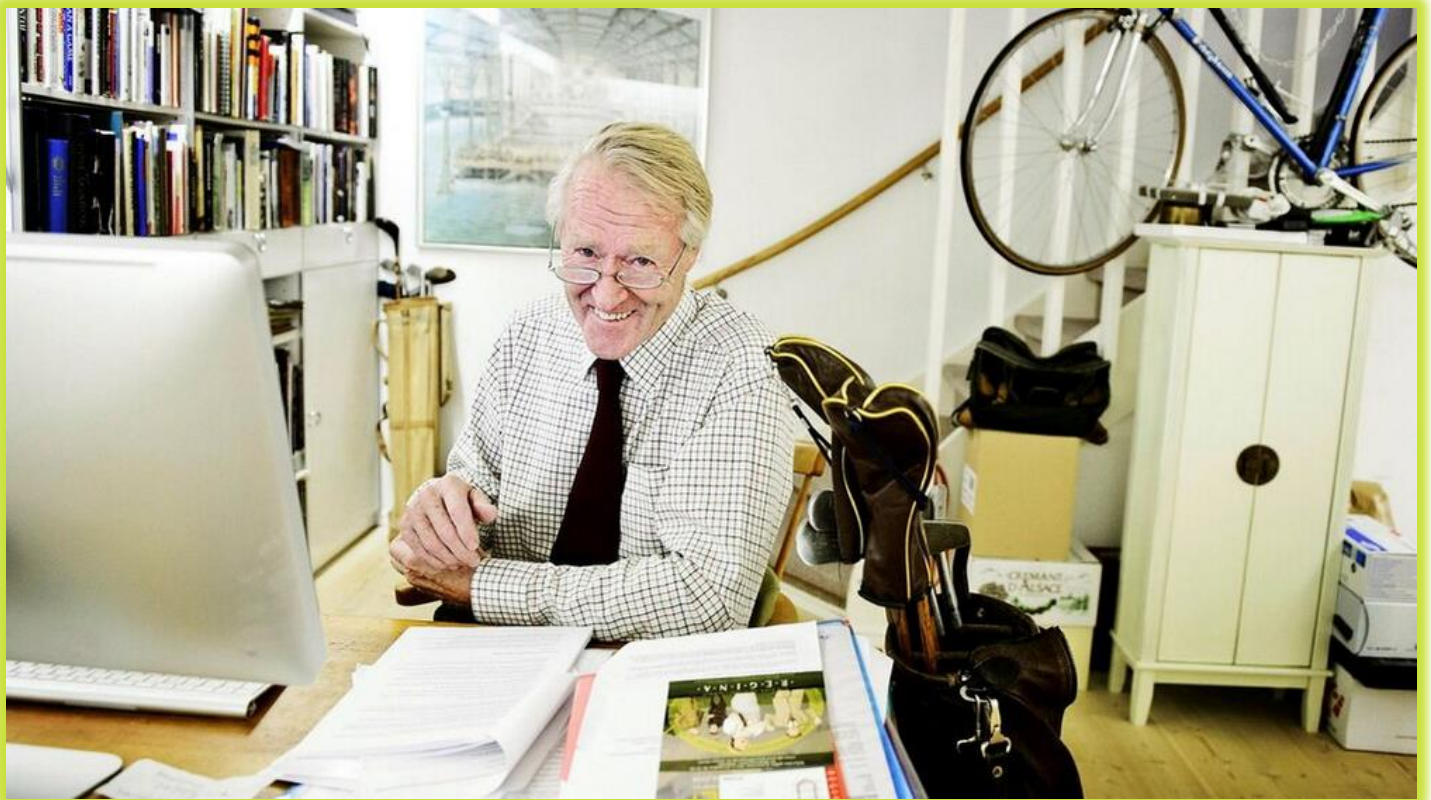


# Those were the days...



Andy's success's on Delgany Golf Teams are too many to mention including the Barton Cup and the Scratch Cup (also won by his son Ian). To give an example of the mans prowess, he stopped counting his 'hole in ones' after 15 of those rare treats.

Andy found a new and very successful career after retirement when he worked as a driver /guide for Bord Failte handling foreign TV Crews and journalists.



One such journalist was Goran Zachrisson from Sweden (pictured above) who was to Nordic Golf TV what Peter Alliss was to BBC Golf. As a top golf journalist writing for 'Svensk Golf', Goran travelled the great golf courses of Ireland with our Andy, playing golf and writing stories. Their adventures were many, of which Goran regularly mentioned in his TV commentaries whether he was at The Open, the Masters or European PGA Tournaments.

The big question often asked by Nordic Golfers was "who is this Andy the eagle, the Irish golfer whom Goran speaks about on TV ?" This was great publicity for Irish Golf Tourism and shows the lasting impact Andy made on his Swedish friend.



# Those were the days...



Why “Andy the Eagle”? It was a beautiful late spring bright morning in Rosslare Links Golf Club when Andy arrived with a bus load of Northern European golf journalists en route to the Irish Open in Mt. Juliet G.C. One journalist’s flight was delayed so we were short one player to make up six four balls playing singles and fourball at the request of the visitors. Andy was asked to play but true to form he had to be coaxed due to the super Irish breakfast awaiting him in the Club House. The loop off the white tees for the day was ten holes and Andy shot four pars, five birdies and an eagle (7 under par for ten holes).

The journalists were amazed, and the editor of the Norwegian golf magazine went home and commissioned the top cartoonist of the National News Paper Aftenposten, to produce the cartoon entitled “Andy the Eagle” as you will see in this photo.

**Today, the original of the cartoon is proudly treasured by his son Ian Byrne (DGC member)**

*Derek Mulrooney*

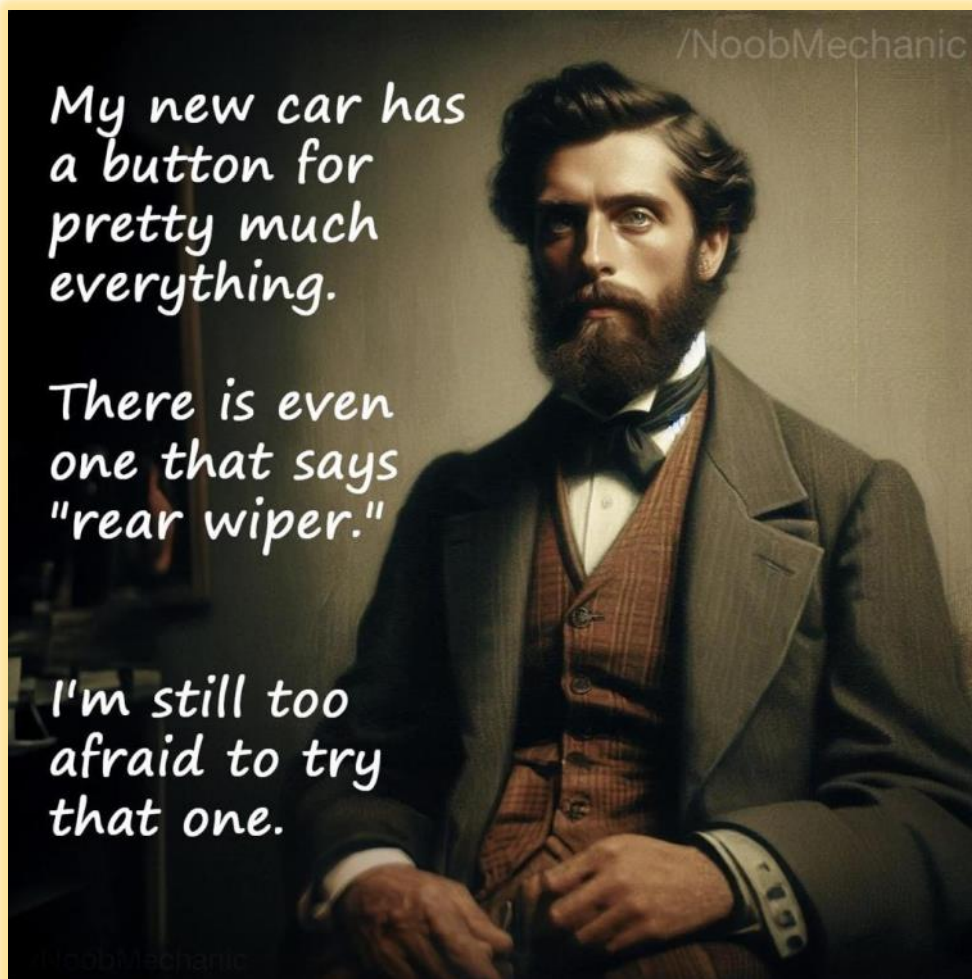
*January 2024*



*Here we have **DGC President Willie Kennedy** visiting **Andy** in St Josephs recently. The two boys were great competitors on the golf course and great friends off it, both played on successful club teams over the years and represented the club with pride everywhere they went.*



*If you like this article and have some stories to share, please let us know as we would be more than happy to chat with you. Contact Tony Corcoran, Editor.*



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/delganygolfclub/albums/72177720313296708>

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

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