Newsletter Edition 7

LHGC Lottery

The May draw was won by our lovely Mary in the lounge catering staff (£100), with other prize winners being Past-President Les Preece (£50) and John Harper (£25). The next draw will be on Sunday 25th June. Everyone welcome to participate so come and have a go! Numbers are now available from the bar at £5 per entry. Good Luck to all.

Gardening Help Required

Are there any members who would be interested in helping to maintain the gardens around the putting green and the first tee car park? Volunteers already help Les Preece with the balcony hanging baskets, for which he grows all the bedding plants at home to great effect. The gardens and hanging baskets certainly enhance the look of the club house and are admired by members and visitors alike. So, if you have a family member, a friend or know a professional gardener seeking more work, please contact Les Preece on 07703 596996. The paid hours are 5/6 per week for a nine-month season.

Inter Club Competitions and Matches: Juniors

The Club entered a team into the County Quad League, competing against 11 other clubs, with the top team in each 4 leagues qualifying through to the next round at Astbury Park. The four Lilleshall players were Junior Captain Amelia Saunders (25.1), Katelyn Wilkie (1.8), Freddie Timmis (4.5) and Jo Swan (22.6). This round was played at the Shropshire and, with three scores to count for each team, Lilleshall scored a credible 95 points finishing second in their league. Jo Swan received an ovation from other players around him following a superb shot off the front face of a bunker landing 2ft from the hole, which he nailed to make par. Well done to all four players.

Ladies Golf

The better weather recently has been very welcome, and we have had some wonderful results over the last few weeks. The Ladies celebrated a hard-earned victory in their annual match against Enville, winning $2\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$. This year we have two teams in the County Handicap League (for handicaps 28 and below), as well as a team in the County Mini League (for handicaps above 28). Matches are well under way, and we will have to wait and see if we get through to the final stages. The Bluebells matches have included a 5-0 victory against a strong Leominster team, the Lillies a 4-1 success against Hawkstone Park and the mini-league team also securing a victory in their home match against Ludlow.

LHGC Mixed Team

Following a superb 8-4 away victory against Enville on their Highgate course, the team also enjoyed an 8–4 home win against Bridgnorth on 4th June played in beautiful weather, lovely atmosphere, wonderful food and brilliant company. Bridgnorth gave us very positive feedback regarding our wonderful welcome and friendly mixed section at Lilleshall, and with many compliments regarding our Course. The fixture involved 12 matches and 48 players, so a strong golfing day.

Captain's Matches

The latest of these was the tri-match here on 3rd June against Ludlow & Shifnal, which we won with 10 points to Shifnal 7 and Ludlow 1, so congratulations to those taking part! We were one player short and Peter Rossiter, a relatively new and younger member, had just played 18-holes but kindly sacrificed the FA Cup Final and thoroughly enjoyed himself playing in a winning team with Roger Seager. The important message here is that these matches are not just for the select few and are not 'by invitation only'. Of course, we take great delight in winning, but these matches are for all members to participate in and enjoy.

Seniors Matches

Last week we enjoyed a $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ home victory against Llanymynech, with the return away fixture to follow next week. So far this season, the results are won 4, drawn 3 and lost 3.

Men's Handicap League

Congratulations to Tim Davies and his team for 6-0 victories in both home and away fixtures against the Shropshire.

Men's Scratch League

The first of our six matches is scheduled for later this month and I know Paul Shirt is anxious to increase his playing squad and give playing opportunities to others. If you are interested, and with a handicap below 15, please email him on paul.shirt@live.co.uk.

Our Opens

In May we hosted three successful Open Competitions, with LHGC members in winning positions in each case. The first, the Ladies Open on 16th May, had 60 entrants and was won by the team of Mary Harper, Victoria Northern and Joanne Wlazlo. The Seniors Spring Open on 25th May had 108 entrants and was won by John Simpson and Arthur White. Stephen and Julie Clay, and their Perton GC partners winning the Mixed Open on 28th May out in front of 80 contenders.

Mark and Lisa's Pre-Majors Fun Competitions

On a more light-hearted note, Mark and Lisa have been running a 9-hole fun competition on the afternoon of the first day of the four 'Majors'. The pre-Augusta was won by Mike Pickstone and the pre-PGA by Dave Northern. The next will be the pre-US Open on the afternoon of 15th June, a 'La La' competition. Details and entry in the Pro-Shop.

Lady Captain's New Season Briefing

The ladies section held a briefing session to prepare us all for the start of the golfing season. Around 30 ladies attended and were treated to wine and nibbles by Lady Captain Debbie. It was a wonderful opportunity for newer ladies and those who have been members for many years to meet each other and socialise, as well as learning a few new things. We covered an overview of Competitions, a reminder about handicaps (WHS), and an update on the new Rules of Golf. Thanks go to Lynne Stone and Vicky Northern for all their hard work in putting the presentation together.

The evening finished with a quiz. Just one question - How many bunkers are there on the course? One team managed to add up all of them and produce the correct answer. Too much time spent visiting them perhaps!

Fashion Show

We welcomed Jan Seal and her myriad of golf clothing to the club on 19th May. Five of our lady members volunteered to model the clothes and did a fantastic job. At the end of the show Lady Captain Debbie presented them with flowers (kindly arranged by Chris Downing), to thank them. With a contribution from the ticket price and a donation from Seal Clothing the event raised £143 for Lady Captain's Charity Asthma + Lung UK.







"Nine and Wine"

This popular event is underway again for the 2023 season where Lady Captain Debbie, invites all ladies to join her to play 9 holes of golf, in a Texas Scramble format, followed by a glass of wine in the club house. All ladies are welcome (no need to have a handicap) and it is a terrific way to meet other golfing ladies. Thanks to Ronnie Simpson for organising the events.

Holes in One 2023

Congratulations to the following members! Who achieved a hole in one from the start of the 2023 season!!

- Colin Parr on the 16th LHGC on 27/05/23
- Jonathan Sisson on the 16th LHGC on 20/05/23

LHGC Drive Repairs

The club drive, near to the Lilyhurst Road entrance, has been flooding for many months, particularly over the winter when the persistent rain, snow and ice flooded not only the drive but also the Lodge garden at the end of the drive. The culvert and underground drainage pipe adjacent to the entrance of the Lodge, were examined by Advanced Groundworks. Using a drainage pump and CCTV camera it was established that a clay drainage pipe beneath the drive was cracked in several places and blocked with silt and stone.









The club appointed Stave-Con, a Civil Engineering and Groundworks Company, a family business formerly run by Len Davies, (a member of LHGC and 'The Moaners' group), now run by Matt, his son. As you will have seen, the drive was excavated, the damaged pipe replaced, the culvert cleared of debris and an open trench formed through the woods towards the 2nd green.



This enables the rainwater to flow into an existing open trench and away from the course beneath Lilyhurst Road. The excavation was then tarmacked twice, and the excess tarmac was used by Stave-Con to repair some of the potholes adjacent to the clubhouse and the north car park.

Peter Sorby, the LHGC Director of Facilities has arranged for the culvert and replacement pipe to be kept clear by high-pressure water jetting throughout the year to maintain a dry drive and the Lodge garden.

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