

# WILSTHORPE AMATEUR GOLF SOCIETY

*Issue No.12 : 2017*



Dear WAGS Members,



## **Winter Cup - Morley Hayes : Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

For years the Winter Cup has been played in March, just before the start of the forthcoming new season. However, we have decided to try playing the Winter Cup directly after the season has just finished. This was based on the theory that the ground should be in better condition, having only been played on during the summer, rather than having been played on during the winter when the Winter Cup was played in March. Also, the Winter Cup is now always played in combination with the Presentation Evening, so having the Presentation Evening straight after the season has been completed, just made more sense.

Turnout was unfortunately a little low for the Winter Cup, but 17 members arrived nice and early at Morley Hayes ready to do battle for one last time in 2017. The weather looked as though it would hold out, not much rain on the horizon, if any. The wind was likely to blow at times, but the forecast for the day did include sunny spells. So, no reason not to play and enjoy ourselves! 12 members were to play the course at Morley Hayes whilst riding atop a buggy, with the remaining 5 members walking. This meant a two-ball went out first, followed by a three-ball, before the cavalry in buggies thundered over the hill bringing up the rear in 3 four-balls.

As you may see from the picture on the right, Morley Hayes had install a new-fangled contraption on the side of the buggies. They had put sliding doors on them. Here is Shane Dellow and Mick Fullwood using such a buggy. Someone had made a reference of them looking like a 'Popemobile', however given Shane and Mick were riding in it, the members renamed it the 'no-hopemobile' !!



Oh, how cutting can the members be ☺

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Here we see two of the WAGS members and believe it or not, they are both playing in the Winter Cup on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October!! It seems one gentlemen is quite correctly wrapped up and properly attired for golf in late October, whilst Paul Sawdon is far too overdressed! I mean who plays in trousers at the end of October? ☺

Yes, you are quite right, the idiot in shorts is my good self. And this is a season rarity, the fact that I have indeed been captured on film. As you all know, it does not happen very often, but I had the pleasure of going out with our outgoing Captain Daniel Keen and it seems he was determined to get me on film! Well, mission accomplished ☺.

All the WAGS members made their final adjustments, practising there putting, or uploading the course planner on their electronic device, or maybe texting in their drinks order for later! But whatever the members were tweaking, it was time to do battle for the last time in the 2017 WAGS season.

Good luck gentlemen.



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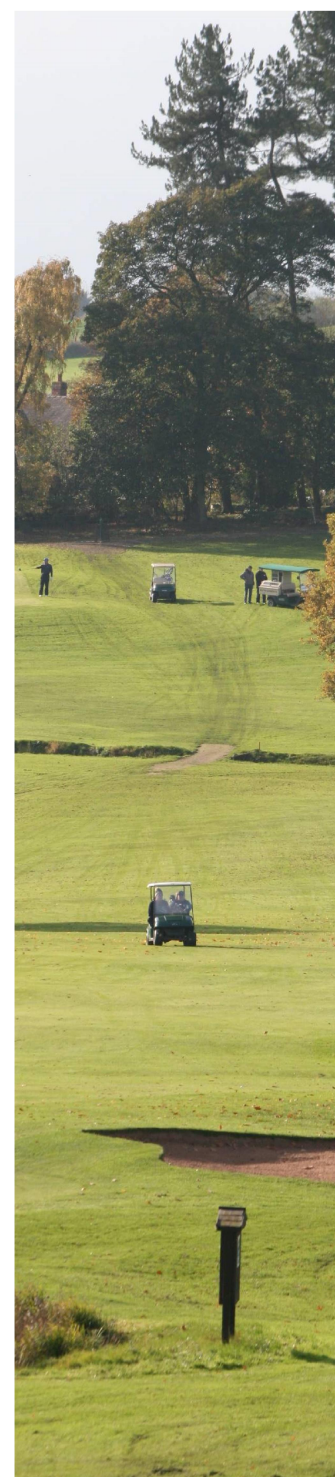
I mentioned the newly fitted sliding doors on the buggies at Morley Hayes earlier. Well it turns out Morley Hayes had spent £2,000 per buggy installing these sliding doors. That is on top of the £4,000 that each standard buggy costs, so these buggies are now quite an expensive addition to any golf club. So just picture the scene, a four-ball is playing the first hole. Each player hits his shot towards the green, so it is time to drive the buggy up to the side of the green. Between the pathway and the green is a wooden bridge, which is the shorter route to walk to the green. This wooden bridge has, believe it or not, wooden side rails, to steady one's self, as you walk across the bridge. Our buggy drivers approached the bridge, the lead driver looked at the bridge, knowing it is going to be tight, but when all said and done, it is a bridge towards the green, so drive across it then! Well things did not quite go as planned. The front of the buggy approached the bridge, it passed through the narrowing sides of the bridge, but then..... oh dear, it seems that the application of the new sliding doors on the buggy had made the buggy wider. Well blow me, fancy that!! So, what happened? Well they got stuck 😊.

It seems Shane Dellow had indeed misjudged the space available, against the slightly wider buggy with the sliding doors on. With a little help from putting his foot down hard, Shane got the buggy to reverse and then proceeded to drive around to the 1<sup>st</sup> hole green on the



hardcore pathway. If only, I have been in range with the camera, but sadly this entertaining episode in yet another tickling WAGS tale was to be missed for preserving on film for ever.

Not quite sure if Dave Johnstone was indicating that he was playing well, or that everything is ok with Shane and Mick's buggy after their tight-fitting bridge escapade. No need for a tow truck then 😊.



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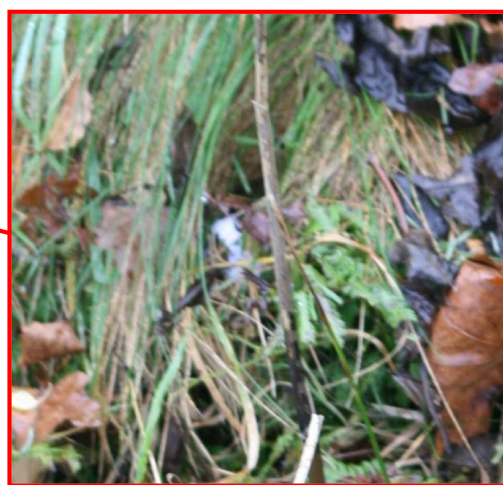
So, with the first hole and bridge now out of the way for all the WAGS members playing in the 2017 Winter Cup, it would be plain sailing all the way to the 19<sup>th</sup> hole.



The photographs spliced together above are looking back from the 13<sup>th</sup> green at Morley Hayes Manor course and you have to admit, even at this time of year, the course looks in great condition.



Having played my second shot a little too firmly, meaning the bloody ball had gone a little longer than I had hoped back on the 5<sup>th</sup> hole, I deemed it sensible to take a drop from the hazard rather than attempting to try and play my half visible ball from the up slope of the bank it had come to rest on!



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Graham Hofmann, Daniel O'Hanlon and Russ McLaughlin teeing off on the 8<sup>th</sup> hole. Although the course looked in good condition, it is fair to say, that if you found yourself off the fairways, although you may not have been bogged down or plugged, the semi-rough was a little hard going given the ground was quite wet. But most times your ball was to be found, it just meant giving it a damn good throdging to get back on to the fairway. Well how could I write the last newsletter of the season without a damn good throdging? 😊  
I have even added the word it to my Microsoft Word dictionary!!

So, how did we do on the gross pars and birdies?  
Well we managed to card 38 gross pars, a lower than normal score, but given there were only 17 WAGS members playing in the Winter Cup and also given that in places off the fairway, it was heavy going, not too bad a score. Those of note with multiple gross pars were Russ McLaughlin, Daniel Keen, Glen Hundleby, Shane Dellow and Pete Hallam, all of whom carded a creditable 3 gross pars. Improving on this by one, was Graham Hofmann who carded a respectable 4 gross pars. Our WAGS 2017 Champion Daniel O'Hanlon carded an impressive 6 gross pars, but this was beaten by one by Andrew Shilton, who carded an excellent 7 gross pars at Morley Hayes. Gentlemen well played to you all.

Along with the 38 gross pars, 3 gross birdies were carded by: -

Daniel O'Hanlon	Hole No.1	Par 4	364 yards	Stroke Index 7
Mick O'Hanlon	Hole No.6	Par 3	159 yards	Stroke Index 15
Pete Hallam	Hole No.16	Par 3	151 yards	Stroke Index 18

Gentlemen very well played.

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It seems our Captain Daniel Keen is going to have his animal magnetism skills put to the test with these birds! He approaches in a steady and curious manner, not wanting to ruffle any feathers what so ever, before selecting his club.



Now, who do you think will blink first? Be careful, it is said that the Queens owes all the swans, however this is not entirely true. In fact, the Queen only has ownership rights of unmarked swans on a stretch of the River Thames. But still not best to mess with them given they can have a wing span of up to 10 feet, or in 'new money' over 3 metres. The swan was once regarded as a luxury food during the reign of Elizabeth I. Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry VIII and with his second wife Anne Boleyn and reigned from 1558 to 1603, following the death of Mary I. Mary was also the daughter of Henry VIII, with his first wife Catherine of Aragon. During her 5-year reign, Mary had over 280 religious dissenters burned at the stake, leading the Protestants to denounce her as "Bloody Mary". On a lighter note, it seems Daniel took his shot cleanly and avoided any incident with the swan.. phew.



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Here we see Andrew Shilton exiting the buggy through the sliding door in quite a gentlemanly fashion. One foot out first, then just walk out, seems quite simple really.



But it might be fair to say however, our Chairman Mick O'Hanlon hasn't quite got the hang yet!



I am not sure if these amendments of sliding doors will catch on with all golf clubs, but personally I think they would certainly put a few smiles on the faces of those watching 😊

Maybe it is time to get to the results from the 2017 Winter Cup.....

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## The results: -

WINNER ~	Glen Hundleby	- 34 pts
2 <sup>nd</sup> ~	Daniel O'Hanlon	- 34 pts
3 <sup>rd</sup> ~	Shane Dellow	- 30 pts
Nearest the Pin ~	Pete Hallam	- Hole No.6
	n/a	- Hole No.12
	Daniel Keen	- Hole No.16
Longest Drive ~	Jason Dellow	- Hole No.13
Nearest the Pin in 3 ~	Shane Dellow	- Hole No.18
(as seen marking his 3 <sup>rd</sup> shot - right)		

Gentlemen very well played to you all.



## Alphabetical Individual scores: -

Andrew Shilton	28 pts	Jason Dellow	17 pts	Pete Hallam	26 pts
Daniel Keen	24 pts	Mick Fullwood	19 pts	Russ McLaughlin	25 pts
Dave Johnstone	15 pts	Mick O'Hanlon	24 pts	Steve Roulstone	20 pts
Ges Meehan	?? pts	Paul Bacon	22 pts	Stuart Prescott	25 pts
Graham Hofmann	30 pts	Paul Sawdon	?? pts		

?? : these cards were not handed in.

Congratulations to all the winners of the prizes on the day.



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So, with the 2017 Winter Cup over, we just had the final proceedings of the 2017 season to complete, the 2017 Presentation Evening. The WAGS members had all preened and pruned themselves, before arriving back at Morley Hayes for a beer and making their way to their seats in anticipation of awards ceremony.

I am not sure if all of you know, but the previous trophies had run out of space, so the committee had decided to replace them. The brand-new replacement trophies would, for the first time, have engraved on them every name of each



member that had won that trophy previously. This was not a cheap undertaking, but one we felt very worthwhile doing. For those that did not win a trophy, hopefully you can see the far better quality of trophy we have purchased in the photograph at the top of the page. For those that did win a trophy you can feel the superior quality. Not only is the weight so much greater, but it is a better-quality metal in total. The purchase of these new trophies has been achieved by having well attended seasons over the last few years and the discount from this season away weekend, that was not passed on to each member as would normally have been the case.

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Gentlemen it comes back to the fact that if we have good turnouts for matches and presentations, we can spend that money back with the membership in having greater quality prizes and trophies, along with being able to subsidise matches where we can. Remember, we are not in the business of profit making. It has to all come back to you. So, if attendance numbers go low, then we have less money to give back. Anyway, who would not want to attend as many matches and events as they can, I like to think we all get on so well. It really does feel like an extended family at times.

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Firstly, gentlemen I would like to say thank you for a most enjoyable season and secondly, congratulations to all the winners of the seasons cups and trophies. Also, a special congratulations to the 2017 Wilsthorpe Amateur Golf Society champion Daniel O'Hanlon.

Within the next few weeks the committee will be meeting to discuss next seasons venues and dates. I should have all the relevant information for you all before the end of the year.

If you do have any suggestions for a possible venue for next season, then please let me know, but I do need to know in the next week or two at the latest.

For those of you going on the 'curry night' tomorrow (Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November), I will see you there and as always everyone is welcome. Meet at the Navigation public house, Shardlow, 7:00pm. For the rest of you, hopefully I will see you all soon.

One last point, for those who I have either their winners' cup & medal, or their medal from the Presentation Evening, please do not forget to collect these from myself as soon as please.

**I will NOT be storing these indefinitely!!**

Regards

*Steve*

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