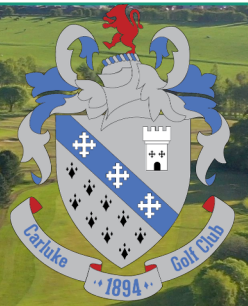


# CARLUKE GOLF CLUB

## NEWSLETTER



Issue 25 | August 2023 | [newsletter@carlukegolfclub.com](mailto:newsletter@carlukegolfclub.com)

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### CAPTAINS BLOG



Fellow Members,

July saw the return of the Turkey Night after a few years due to COVID and it was a huge success, with over 50 players taking part. It was great to see juniors and prospective juniors taking part, as well as better halves, parents, grandparents and especially some of our staff who got a chance to see what we enjoy (sometimes) so much about playing golf. Many thanks to

Steven Barr for organising and I am sure it will become a regular event once again on the calendar.

The new defibrillators are now installed - thanks to Past Captain Tom Frame for his work over the last few months in getting these in place. There are many golf courses without such important devices and we now have three, and importantly, one on-course.

The John Wilson competition was another successful day and once again we received many compliments from members and visitors on the condition of the course. Congratulations to all prize winners and to the Wilson family for organising an exceptional event and raising such a fantastic amount for charity.

There have been an increasing number of comments from members regarding lack of etiquette on the course. They range from not raking bunkers and repairing pitch marks to on-course attire. Please ensure that you abide by general golfing

etiquette at all times on the course and in the clubhouse, especially such simple things like raking bunkers after you have played your shot - golf is hard enough without playing out a footprint!

Somehow, here we are already in August and the Club Championships are underway. For the first time, the final two rounds will be played over Saturday/Sunday. Hopefully this will encourage more people to play both rounds and make the final day a better experience for all those that qualify. This will also enable us to open up the tee on Saturday afternoon (19th) to allow members that have not qualified to still enjoy a round. - Good luck to everyone over the next few weeks!

Regards,

Captain Fraser



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## COURSE UPDATE

Hello all

Why do we call July a "Summer month"? That weather was awful!

We almost had the heating back on at one point!! Two and a half times the normal average rainfall for the month and about half a dozen days when the sun was out. Still, we are better off than those poor souls who are losing their homes, livelihoods and even lives right across the Med. Sometimes we should be more appreciative of the Scottish climate.

I have just returned to work after two weeks off and am pleased to report that the guys seem to have done a fantastic job of looking after the course in trying conditions. Well done to the four of them and considering what we have been through so far this year, a big personal thanks from me for all the effort they have put in.

Many positive comments were passed on during Saturdays John Wilson Memorial Tournament. A big well done to Ray, Scott and Kenny and all their helpers on another hugely successful day for what has become the biggest tournament in the Club calendar. Great prizes and a fantastic amount raised for charity. Congratulations to all the prizewinners. If we could just get the weather right!!

Talking of the club calendar, we have another busy month coming up. Senior, Gents and Junior championships, the Walker Rose Bowl, the Pro's day and the open Gents Senior 4 ball. Fingers crossed the weather improves a bit for golfing...and greenkeeping!!!

On the subject of Championships, my last piece went out before the Ladies Championship had concluded, so a belated congratulations to Julie Wright for becoming the 2023 Ladies Champion, in testing conditions.

So good luck to all competitors in all competitions this month and lets hope the weather picks up and we get to enjoy some golf in shorts and t-shirts (with collars of course) before the end of the season.

We will carry on doing our best to present the course to the best of our abilities, whatever the weather throws at us.

As ever, the assistance of members is a great help, eg raking bunkers as you leave them, repairing pitchmarks on greens and replacing divots. And if your playing partner isn't doing any of the above - give them a gentle reminder!!!

Andy, Sam, Gordon, George and JJ.

## TEAM UPDATES

### Gents Seniors Team

The Gents Seniors continued their recent winning form and beat Dalziel Park 3-2 at Carluke with the return match at Dalziel on Friday 4th August ending in a 4.5 to 0.5 loss which saw the team missing out on the semi finals.

With the Team performing well throughout the season it provided a headache for Whitey Moffat, the Team Captain, in picking the pairings as there was a strong squad of around 16 with only 10 spots available in each match but he had confidence in every team member if called upon and thanked them for their efforts over the course of the season.

## PRO SHOP NEWS

This month has been a busy month at the club, it's always a good time of year with the club championships etc and with the course in great shape it should be an exciting finish.

A couple of rules questions arose this month that I think should be shared, one being the marking of your ball with a marker pen, basically if you don't mark your ball with a sharpie you have no way of identifying your ball you must mark your ball. We will cover other rules in time to come so if you're not sure of anything let us know.

For myself August is a busy month, I travelled South to Leeds to play in an event at Oulton Hall, it was a Senior event called the Q series, there are 4 events and if you finish high enough you get into the Senior PGA Championship at Trump Aberdeen, which is a stunning course overlooking the North Sea, if you get the chance it's well worth a visit.

Having not played as much golf this year for different reasons it was good to get into the competitive spirit again, you can stand and hit balls on the practice area all you want but playing is how to get sharp.

I was pretty pleased with some of my play around a pretty tight course which played long due the amount of rain they have had in that area. Rounds of 72 & 70 gave me a top ten and something to build on for the next event.

By the time the next newsletter comes out I hopefully will have played the last event of the Q series events at Slaley Hall, and also Pro Ams at Easter Moffat and Dumfries. Hopefully some good golf will come. Until next time keep em straight.

Craig.





## HISTORY OF THE CLUB - PART 5

In the year of 1978, Andrew Brooks, was appointed as the first professional to the club with a temporary Pro Shop erected. Andrew had a successful golf career and featured four times in the British Open and lead The Open at one point. He's not the only Pro the club have had that has lead The Open at one stage with Craig Ronald also holding this impressive feat at Turnberry in 1994 a year in which Craig also won the Scottish PGA.

The following year, the 18th green would be re-turfed only costing £130, how times have changed! Shortly after, the club was looking to expand with progressive extensions to the club with an estimated cost of up to £80,000 with a vote taking place at the AGM. However, this was denied by a majority of 105 to 62 votes.

The Club would go on to be 1st Division champions in 1981 and 1982 with our head greenkeeper, Andy Colquhoun, equalling the the course record in 1982 with a 64 with an incredible back 9 of 29 shots which included 2 full shot eagles at 10 and 14.

In 1983 the cost to maintain the clubhouse continued to increase, with a financial package of £80,000 being agreed to upgrade the clubhouse. However, the projected costs for the upgrading of the clubhouse would continue to rise with the improvements/extensions made over a number of year's in the 1980's.

The handicap classes were introduced for competition in 1984 with 1st class being 0-8, 2nd class 9-16 and 3rd class 17-28, these numbers were revised shortly afterwards and are still roughly in line with what they are today. The AGM in this year was poorly attended due to adverse weather conditions with the snow preventing any cars from reaching the clubhouse. However, 58 hardy souls still managed to attend.

On the course the diversion of Jock's Burn (adjacent to the 12th hole) was completed. The land adjacent to the 5th and 8th fairways was acquired for £1,500. The 11th green was proving problematic and it was recommended for it to be dug up and relaid. The replacement green was only open for medal play on a Saturday and problems still persisted with the new turf replaced again with the green remaining out of play for a good part of 1990.

In July 1990, long serving Secretary John Kyle sadly passed away. He had carried out the post for 11 years and was given Honorary Membership for his duties.



## JOHN WILSON MEMORIAL DAY

The John Wilson Memorial Trophy is a club event in memory of John Wilson. John (dad) was a member of the club for over 45 years. John was a popular member and one of the founders of the Humpty Sweep, playing along with old characters of the club including Derek "The Legend" Black, Gino, Seve Logan, Davy Baskerville and Alan McGookin to mention a few. He regularly competed in mixed competitions throughout Scotland with his wife Ray and had some success winning The Hayes trophy with Ray. He was also regularly part of the Sunday Mail team.

John loved his golf and his handicap barely fluctuated between 8 & 11 hitting his favourite small slice.....(that's cause he couldn't hit it straight).

John also taught my brother Scott and myself to play...supplying us with an old cut down hickory shaft club. Dad would take us down early in the morning to play the last 4 at Carluke before it got busy. Dad encouraged and coached us, however, his favourite phrase was "pick it up and walk" as Scott and myself chopped our way down the 15th a bit like a ladies medal on a Tuesday (only kidding ladies).

John took great pride in watching his boys grow up and turn out to be no bad golfers and that was when we could then tell him to pick it up and walk!! That would never happen and he never gave in or NR'd unlike certain ones in the current Humpty Sweep.

John took not well after completing the 4th round of the Club Championship in August 2015 and sadly passed away on September 19th .

The family then approached the club and asked for permission to hold an event in his memory and the first playing of the Trophy was in July 2016 raising £1,600 for local charities and had over 50 teams competing.

This year was the 7th playing of the event (Covid 2020) and the event has gone from strength to strength with 20 on course prizes, 8 team prizes and 4 balls to auction with the total prizes equating to approximately £10,000. Over the years we have had some amazing prizes including Vice Captain, Ross Fleming's team winning and going to the London Club for a weekend thanks to Carl "Soggy" Saunders. Myself and Scott also went to this fabulous course.

Over the years the support of members has been incredible in donations and sponsorship from The Petrol Pump Sweep to Melvin Bros, these are but a few who have supported the event from day one. Every donation no matter how small is greatly appreciated and makes the day what it is. There are a few members out there who donate every year and want no recognition we know who you are so thank you.

## JOHN WILSON MEMORIAL DAY

This year was another tremendous success and despite the odd shower the event went down well.....not quite as well as the free bar on the 1st tee.

The winners this year, pictured below, are Willie Scott, P Bolton, A Lachan and super sub M Peat. We hope you enjoy Gleneagles and other prizes.

As a family we can't thank the club enough for their support honouring John...so thank you all including all helpers on the day from committee to greens, catering ,bar, ladies selling raffle tickets and of course Craig Ronald for all his help.

Finally and more importantly this year we raised £4,470 for Maggie's Centre taking the total raised by you the members to almost £19,000 in 7 years for local charities.

For those of you who haven't played in it try and book a time it really is not a bad day out.

That's it for another year and hopefully see you all next year.

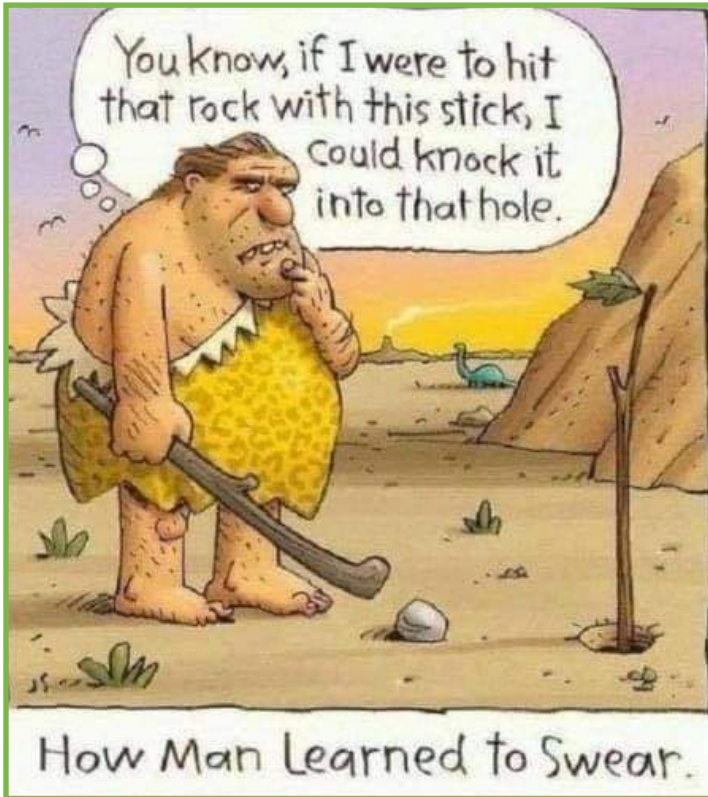
Kenny Wilson, on behalf of family.





## OTHER

Sunday 6th August saw a big turnout for the first round of the Junior Championship with some great golf being played. Perhaps the highlight was 7 year old Matthew Ferguson who was so near to and yet so far from a hole in one on the Wee Course.



How golf originated (and swearing) pictured above.....

Pictured right is a photo from the Wee Course/Practice Area which we don't want to see. An incredible amount of work goes into the upkeep and maintenance of the course throughout the year. Whilst we understand that the constant rainfall over the past 6 weeks or so has made the ground softer resulting in more divots/pitchmarks, please ensure divots are replaced and pitchmarks are repaired.

If using the 6 hole area either use the mat or hit your balls from off the 6 hole area and hit them from the same spot, replacing all divots. That might help the chances of a hole in one...

