



# THE LEICESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

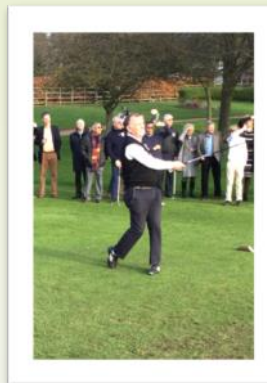
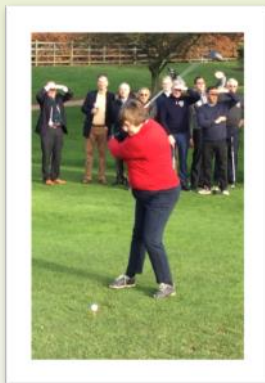
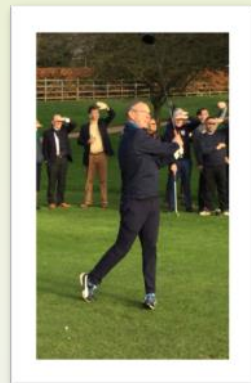
### 2019 CAPTAINS DRIVE-IN



A large crowd of members, relatives and friends gathered together on the first tee on a sunny afternoon on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 to witness the official start of the new Captains' year of office. As they were warming up, Club Captain Mike Bucktin was heard informing the Junior Captain Haris Khan that on no account was he to out-drive him! To which young Haris replied "I better take a lob wedge"! The Captain appreciated his style!

All eyes however were on the Captain, who had raised the stakes with a sweep on how far he would drive, with all the monies going to his chosen charity, Air Ambulance. Many members selected a range from 190 to 240 yards, though Glen Rudkin showed absolutely no faith, in staking "Out of Bounds"! Following good drives from Haris Khan (Junior), Marc Palmer (Under 35's), Paul Donaghy (Senior's) and Marion Keene (Ladies) it was the turn of the Captain.

With a swish of his driver, Mike launched his ball as all eyes struggled to follow its path in the bright sunshine. How far, is it in, has Haris outdriven the Captain, has Glen won the sweep? The loud applause receded as Pete Livie our Club professional walked down the fairway to measure the distance. A thumbs-up meant Glen had lost his bet and it was Haris who was found just on the wrong side of the white marker post! Mike was delighted his charity had received a large donation from the sweep, but he wondered how the professionals do it day in, day out while being closely watched by thousands!



Just prior to the drive-in, the 2018 Captains faced the daunting task of putting out on the 9<sup>th</sup> green in front of the large crowd. (Pictured Left to Right: Harry Hill (Outgoing U35 Captain), Roger Povoas (Outgoing Senior Captain), Kathy Hunt (Outgoing Lady Captain), Neil Scotchbrook (Outgoing Club Captain), Callum Ferguson (Outgoing Junior Captain)).

To cheering and applause, all hit solid putts to end their year of office. We thank and congratulate all of them for a very enjoyable year.





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# CAPTAINS CHARITY

At a sold-out lunch afterwards, Club Captain Mike Bucktin and Lady Captain Marion Keene launched the Captains Charity for 2019. They have nominated the local Air Ambulance. Rob Goldthorpe, an active volunteer at Air Ambulance, joined Mike and his family as their guest and gave all present an insight into the workings of the Air Ambulance.



The key points covered by Rob were:

**The Midlands Air Ambulance receives no Government or National Lottery funding. Each Midlands Air Ambulance mission costs £2500 and in excess of £9 million is needed each year to keep its air ambulances operational. This is donated entirely by the public and local businesses, with four in ten of those we help, funded by Gifts in Wills.**

**The charity is fortunate to count on tremendous public support and good will, but never takes this for granted. Winning and keeping hearts and minds is an essential and constant challenge. That is why it regards the real 'helicopter heroes' as not only the aircrew, but those often unsung ground**

**heroes, its fundraisers.**

**The helicopters provide a rapid response to trauma and medical emergencies over an area of 3850 square miles. They cover many of the UK's major road networks including the M1, M6, M69 and M42. With an average response of just 13 minutes, between them they attend on average six missions a day.**

**In everything we do we are compassionate, courageous and creative. We care about our patients, our supporters, our partners and our colleagues. We act with dignity and humility, show respect, and give consideration to others. We achieve because we care.**

Rob went on to say their helicopters, pilots, doctors and paramedics were all leased and Air Ambulance was called out 5 times last year to Golf Clubs! He thanked Mike and Marion for choosing Air Ambulance as their charity and stated Air Ambulance would be very appreciative of all the monies raised by members of TLGC.

Remember, if you do go into the pond on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole and/or the left greenside bunker on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, please pay your forfeit into the jar on the bar in the clubhouse. And if you would like to gift aid a donation, there are leaflets around the clubhouse.



A raffle to raise funds for the new charity was held at the lunch and a large hamper was won by Roy Evans. Mike also announced the winner of his drive-in sweep, Mark Dzuiba. A total of £647 was raised on the day to get the charity off to a great start.





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### Cross Country

Prior to the putt-out and drive-in, a full field played a very interesting cross country course designed by the Professional and Captain. A rare group, "4 Captains in a row" 2017-2020, saw current Club Captain Mike



Bucktin hit from the covered tee on the practice ground to the first green (practice ground still OOB). Glen Rudkin backed the wrong stake – he should have put it on the Cross-Country!! 2018 Club Captain, Neil Scotchbrook, playing with Mike in the Foursomes, then almost fell foul of the **new 40 second rule** as he had to lift the mat, take out and move the rubber tee, and hit his left-handed drive! He just made their fourth shot playable!

Going cross country, including playing from the 13<sup>th</sup> tee to the 14<sup>th</sup> green, from the 17<sup>th</sup> tee to the 15<sup>th</sup> green, saw several pairs finish on a remarkable 20 points! After countback, last 3, Mehboob Kantharia and Sajjad Khan were declared the winners, closely followed by Fraser Hill and Harry Hill in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mark Scarrett & Mark Birkenshaw (last 6) in 3<sup>rd</sup>! The Best Mixed Pair was James Dobson and Catherine Dobson on 19 points, thanks to an amazing chip in on the 10<sup>th</sup> green for birdie, by Catherine!



### QUIZ NIGHT

The very popular TLGC Quiz was held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January. A record 21 teams, 126 players enjoyed a range of topics from World, Golf, Music, Food & Drink, Sports, The Seventies, Musicals, History and a 25 Picture Board. With teams like Village Idiots, Tequila Mockingbird and Menace to Sobriety there was a great buzz around the clubhouse as members and their guests battled away at finding (or in some cases guessing) the right answers. Expertly organised by our General Manager Will Bevan and his able assistant, Alice Marston, the scores on the screen showed the lead changing hands throughout the evening! Choosing a team name of 'Norfolk and Chance' surprisingly paid dividends for the worthy



winner – James & Catherine Dobson, Paul & Rosemary Donaghy, Mark Scarrett and Gerard Campbell.

Close second was 'The Brewsual Suspects' and third, 'The Quizzly Bears'. There was also a booby prize and a 'second to last' prize, which went to 'O Trivia Newton John' and 'Show me the Money' respectively. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful 'meat and cheese' platter prepared by Simon McNeil with drinks served all night by Piotr Zuj and Dominika to round off a perfect evening

*Question: What sports playing area is 94' long x 50' wide? ( no consulting google! )*



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### Ladies Section

More than 40 ladies attended the Coffee Morning on January 14<sup>th</sup> during which they discussed the new rules and set about booking games and matches for 2019. There was a very lively atmosphere.

The first stage of the Winter League will end late February. It is still all to play for at the moment and the finalists will be posted on the noticeboard.

Professionals Pete Livie and Kym Larratt will be hosting a Golf Clothing Fashion Show on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 6.30pm. There will be two leading brands, Glenmuir and Swing out Sister modelled by our members. Lady Captain Marion Keene is asking all ladies for their support.

1st March - LADIES PRIVILEGE COMPETITION. 9.30am Shotgun start and lunch. The sign-up sheet is now up for this FUN competition. Invite the gentleman of your choice (other than your husband/partner) and join another couple to make a team. Let's hope the weather is kind to us this year.

Dates for your diaries, Ladies: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March CABI FASHION SHOW (ticket £5 from Marion Keene). Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May LADIES COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS. The last time this competition was held here, it was won by none other than our very own Assistant Professional, Kym Larratt!



### Seniors Section

It might have been the January Blues for some on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January but not for our Seniors as they competed in the 4<sup>th</sup> Winter Series. Congratulations to Mark Simpson and Eddie Hargrave for a very good 39 points in the Sunningdale Foursomes Stableford. Second place with 38 points went to Neville Spikings and Brian Marlow, closely followed in third by Bruce Allen and Michael Piper on 36 points.

Around 60 seniors have been competing in the Winter Series and for the Mike Lewis Trophy. Currently in first place with 6 points is Francis Lobo, closely followed by Tony Mendes 5.75 and Eddie Hargrave 4.75. The next Winter Series will be played on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February. The sign-up sheet for this and the Ted Stanger Knockout competition are on the Seniors notice-board.

The Seniors are gearing up for the coming season with a full fixture list of exciting matches with many clubs in the County and beyond. The regular roll-ups still take place every Monday and Thursday mornings.

### Juniors Section

The Junior Section recently held its first ever Drive, Chip and Putt competition, with all juniors having 3 scoring shots in each discipline. Despite the rain there was a good turnout, all looking to prove themselves.

With a few nerves on display, only 2 juniors managed to hit the scoring zone with all 3 of their drives (Finn Dobson and Toby Grimwood). Elexis Brown managed to post the longest drive at 166 yards.

The Grimwood family continue to show their quality, with Toby holing one of his 3 chips and his sister Megan sinking 1 of her 3 putts. Finn followed up his accurate driving with some fine putting, sinking his 6 and 18 foot putts and just missing the 12 foot putt.

Junior Organisers James Dobson and Neil MacDougall had their measuring skills tested, but quickly became the masters of the tape measure and laser, as all shots were precisely measured. The winners were: Girls, Megan Grimwood with 41 pts and Boys, Finn Dobson on 76 points. Congratulations to all who took part on a cold, wet day!





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### WINTER SERIES

The 4<sup>th</sup> TLGC Winter Series was held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January. Playing in sunny, mild conditions resulted in good scores for the time of the year. Leading the large field was Neville Green (Chesterfield GC) seen here receiving his voucher for £500 from Club Professional, Pete Livie. Results were:

- 1st Neville Green (Chesterfield GC) 41 Points.
- 2nd Martyn Neal (Scraptoft GC) 38 Points (c/back back 6).
- 3rd George Woolgar (Professional, Chesterfield GC) 38 Points (c/back back 9).
- 4th Paul Maddy (Professional, Gog Magog GC) 38 Points (c/back back 9).
- 5th Daniel Whitby-Smith (Professional, Whittington Heath GC) 38 Points.
- 6th Trevor Farmer (The Leicestershire GC) 37 Points (c/back back 9).



### WINTER LEAGUE

The winter league has been progressing well, the weather has been kind (so far) and competition has been close, with many matches going to the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. On 27<sup>th</sup> January, the top of the leaderboard reads Ian Bliss & Richard Orme on 85.7%, very closely followed by Richard Binnie & Tony Lord on 85% and Yousuf Chhadat & Mehmud Adam on 83.3%. All to play for in the coming weeks!

### OPEN DAY

The club hosted an Open day on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January to showcase how playable our course is during the winter. A very, very cold but bright sunny morning saw around 120 players from the county and beyond experience our hospitality and our fast greens. The club received very positive feed-back... *"Great winter course. For January when we played, the greens were superb, pity our golf was not"* and *"Great course and a warm welcome for all"*!

Thank you to all who stood out in the cold to act as 'starters' and to all members who came and supported the day.

### Coming Up...

⇒ **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March** - CHARITY BRIDGE TEA at 1.00pm. The sign-up sheet for this fundraiser is on the Mixed and Social Board. Please join us and help raise funds for the Air Ambulance. This is a lovely way to spend a winter's afternoon topped off with a delicious Leicestershire Afternoon Tea.

⇒ Vines, Wines & Corks (Sparkling Edition) - **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

⇒ Last Night of the Masters - **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

⇒ **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June** - Under 35's team

championships, qualifying 36 hole medal, played in 3's - full details on club's website.

⇒ TLGC Summer BBQ - **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2019** (no dress code)

⇒ **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July** - English Men's Open Mid-Amateur Strokeplay (Logan Trophy).

### ... & IN OTHER NEWS

- \* All members should have by now received the Course Report and seen the display in the clubhouse on Tree removal. The relevant committee has decided our Stroke Indices will remain the same until World handicapping takes effect in January 2020.
- \* Our green staff and outside contractors have been very busy this last month - more on their excellent work in next month's newsletter.
- \* Congratulations to member Zahir Moghal, who won the December Open stableford at the Yaslinks GC, Abu Dhabi and came first in Division B with 40 points.

[Answer: Basketball](#)