

WELLINGBOROUGH GOLF



Club M Magazine

JANUARY 2020

Howes that for a year? Review of 2019



www.wellingboroughgolfclub.com

Miracles come true as I get ready for my big year

I HOPE everyone had a merry Christmas and is looking forward to a great new year.

Over the festive period, I had the chance to meet Father Christmas at Harrowden Hall, or at least I think it was him (pictured on the left), he didn't have his usual outfit on!

Of course, I received a lovely present in the shape of the 2020 Club Captaincy at Wellingborough Golf Club, which is an honour and a privilege. But it does bring me back to when I first joined in 1999.



I was sat in the corner of the clubhouse at Harrowden Hall with my brother looking at all the Honours Boards, saying 'do you think we will get our names on any of these?'

As a joke to my brother, I looked at the Captain's Board, and said 'what about on here?' He replied: 'Don't be daft, it's a miracle they've even let us in at all!'

The Club has moved on a lot since then, of course. I'm just looking forward to having a good time this year - hopefully the wheels on the bus will keep going round, and it will run smoothly.

Past Captain George (Khaw) said to me that as long as the course plays well, I shouldn't have any problems as Captain, and I think that's about right. So some perfect weather during my 12 months would be ideal to help keep the course as good as it is.

I'm hoping my handicap will go in the right direction during my year. I'm playing off 15 at the moment, but if I play more golf, which I intend to do, I'll be disappointed if I don't get it down.

I'll be doing the Captain-Pro Challenge this year, so I'm expecting to win more than I lose. I'll guarantee that - I'll be amazed if we lose any, and if there are any bandits out there who do manage to beat us, their handicaps will get cut!

I have chosen two charities during my year. The first is We Mind & Kelly Matters, which is Club member John Hewitt's charity. The second is a charity run by my wife called EquATA, which stands for Equine Assisted Therapy Association.

They help autistic kids by using horses for therapy and dealing with mental issues. It was also the joint charity a couple of years ago at Wellingborough, so hopefully the members are aware of how their contributions have helped and will continue to do so.

2020 Club Captain, David Hawkins.



Theme Nights at Harrowden Hall

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Tap-Ins

ROGER Butler and Sue Butler made it a hat-trick of consecutive wins in Mixed Team events as they combined with Ray Walker, Barbara Walker, Huw Rees and Liz Rees to clinch the December competition with 95 points.

SUSAN Holland, Jane Sisman and Lema Townsend had a Waltz in the Ladies Bottle Trot competition as they grabbed the top prize with a tally of 56 points.

CHRIS Ludwig, Paul Hughes, Dino Cirelli and Ted Carroll enjoyed a one point victory from four teams in the Captain's Drive-In Competition after shooting 78 points.

SEVEN ladies showed their determination not to let the awful weather ruin their enjoyment as they competed in the December 12-hole competition. Mary MacLaren and Yvonne Jolly led the scoring in the Silver and Bronze Divisions respectively.

AT the Club's AGM, Chris Billson, Glenn Harris and Paul Sisman have been elected to the Board for a period of four years, alongside Finance Director Stephen Munns. Chris Dickens, Martin Dalton, Glyn Pepper have joined the Captain's Committee.

EVERYONE at Wellingborough Golf Club congratulates our Tour professional Ryan Evans on getting married to long-time girlfriend Toni just before Christmas.

MEMBERS are advised to carry a lighter bag and not use an electric trolley in order to prevent unnecessary wear and tear on the course in the winter period.

WITH pages to fill in the Wellingborough Club Magazine, there are plenty of opportunities to advertise during the year. Please contact the Club Office to get your message across to the members and visitors in 2020 and beyond.

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Captaincy is in safe hands with Dr. Wilkinson

NEW Ladies Captain Jenny Wilkinson said: "It didn't take long, but within a few days of taking over as Captain, I was dressing up for the Kids Christmas Party (pictured with my Vice Captain and the Men's Captain and Vice Captain). What a lovely day it was - well done to everyone involved.

"When I was offered the opportunity by Sally (McKeown) to be her Vice Captain, with a view to taking on the Ladies Captaincy the following year, initially my first thought was 'No'.

"This was because I hadn't been a member for that long. But I went home, had a chat with my husband, and with retirement coming up, I felt that it was the ideal time to take it on, after all.

"So I contacted Sally, and said 'if the offer still stands, I'd love to do it!' And now here I am as Wellingborough's Ladies Captain.

"Since making that initial decision, I've had a lot more time to think about what is involved. I try to be very organised and plan ahead, and I now know what I would like to do.

"For my charity, which is for gynaecological cancer, I'm going to have a lunch at the end of February, and also do a talk about the subject because, as a doctor, it's something I know about. And in June, I'm going to do a Golf Charity Day, for members and non-members and a combination of men and women.

"Although I know most of, if not all, the ladies because we play on the Tuesdays, I'm looking forward to meeting and speaking to the male members and hopefully having fun both on and off the golf course.

"It will be an exciting year, and hopefully everyone enjoys themselves. Don't forget, golf is only a hobby."



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New rules but same level of success in 2019

WELLINGBOROUGH Golf Club have enjoyed another superb year with it's members and professionals picking up individual and team prizes at club, county, regional, national and international competitions during 2019. Here are some of the highlights over the last 12 months.

**JAN
2019**

STEPHEN West and Elliott West (pictured right) became the first members at Wellingborough to win under the new golf rules as they clinched top spot in the Kelly Bowls after posting 40 points on New Year's Day.

Mark Davis won the January Midweek Stableford on countback from John Arnott with 38 points.

Donald Mobbs was successful in the Seniors Three Clubs and a Putter competition by one from David Birkett.



**FEB
2019**

JACK Robinson-Barr stormed to victory in the February Mid-week Stableford as the 18-handicapper dropped just four strokes on the back nine in a round of 39 points. Alan Lindsay and Martyn Annis were next on 36 apiece.

Joseph Joyce, Susan Joyce, Richard Briggs, Pat Briggs, Edward Roderick and Denise Roderick were the side to beat in the Mixed Team Competition with a total of 51 points.

Mary MacLaren (pictured right) lifted the Teresa Symington Trophy after winning the Portuguese Senior Ladies Open Championship by one shot over 36 holes. Competing on the Old and Pinhal courses at Dom Pedro, the Ireland international also won the Nations Cup team prize.

At the other end of the age scale, Jack Meakin broke the 100 mark in his first competition over 18 holes on British Junior Golf Tour as the nine-year-old finished third in The Bedford Junior Open.



**MARCH
2019**

Chris Smith held his nerve in the March Medal as a solid round of net 69 secured a one stroke victory from four players.

David Woolf and John Arnott kept the big numbers off their joint-scorecard over the back nine in the Seniors American Foursomes Stableford as their overall tally of 41 points clinched a countback victory from Roger Seamark and Robert Lewis.

Olivia Barby made the perfect start to the 2019 Wellingborough Junior Order of Merit as she earned top spot in both the nine-hole competitions held in March with magnificent winning scores of 20 and 25 points.

Reigning Hollingsworth Trophy champions Wellingborough had few problems in their first outing of the year as they beat Northampton 4-1 at home in Group D. But the side suffered a narrow away loss to Kingsthorpe the following week.

APRIL
2019

BIRDIES on both par five holes helped David Wright lift the Handley Cup as a tally of 40 points edged him one ahead of Steve Crawley.

Countback was needed in the Miller Cup after Neil Redding and Tony Wheatley both found their best form as they beat the course by six holes. Redding grabbed the verdict.

Wellingborough's Hollingsworth Trophy team dropped just one home point in defeating Rushden to stay in contention for a semi-final spot.

Tiger Adams enjoyed a big singles win for Northamptonshire Men's first team as they thrashed Bedfordshire 8½-3½ in a pre-season friendly at Northampton GC.

Junior members Isaac Redding and Jack Meakin represented Northamptonshire Boys Under-14s team in a friendly against Bedfordshire at Aspley Guise & Woburn Sands GC. With Meakin collecting an important singles point, the county recorded a battling 4½-2½ victory.

MAY
2019

MARK Anderson carded eight pars on the front nine in the VE Cup as the 13-handicapper's net 68 secured a one shot win from five players.

Ruth Bowe combined successfully with Ladies Captain Sally McKeown in the Ladies Harrowden Hall Cup as the duo took the honours on countback from runners-up Carol Gibbs and Yvonne Jolly and third-placed Val Cooke and Diane Dickinson.

Isaac Redding (pictured right) and Jack Meakin both recorded wins for the County Boys as the team completed an emphatic 13-6 friendly victory over Cambridgeshire at Overstone Park GC.

Olivia Barby helped a County Girls Experience team whitewash Bedfordshire in a friendly at Brampton Heath GC, before she collected another point for the County Girls League team as they won 10-2 against Warwickshire at Northampton GC.

Ashleigh Critchley, who also secured a win in the Warwickshire match, was crowned County Ladies Champion for the first time after beating her friend, and fellow teenager, Leah Ribano (Northampton) on the 18th hole in the KO Final.

Steve Crawley found top form in the first NGL Men's Order of Merit event as he finished third in the Higgs Bowl with a net 68 at Delapre Park GC.

Wellingborough were successful in their opening Ladies Cecil Leitch Group C outing as points from Jacqueline Mudd, Pat Briggs, Bina Shah, Pat Dawson and Gill Rivers earned a 5-2 home victory against Peterborough Milton.

A six-hole win from Nick Clansey and Giovanni Gioia ensured Wellingborough made the ideal start to their Handicap League campaign as they snatched a narrow victory at Oundle.

JUNE
2019

FORTY three points was a magnificent winning score for David Boniface on Captain's Day, while Richard Munn covered the last 14 holes in gross one over par on his way to winning the Centenary Medal by one from Neil Redding (net 70).

Wellingborough's Handicap League side maintained their 100% start to the Group A season by grabbing wins at Priors Hall and at home to Kettering.

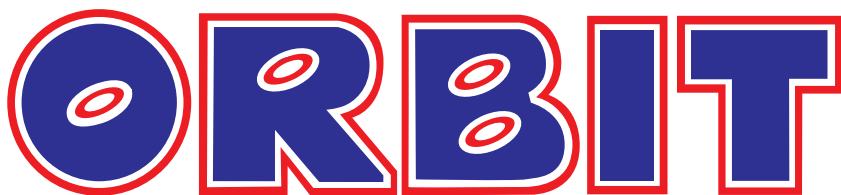
It was a different story for the Wellingborough's Scratch and Intermediate teams as they made a terrible start to their respective campaigns as they both lost by the scoreline 7-1 to Northants County and Northampton respectively.

The Scratch team responded at the end of the month with a battling single point home success against Northampton.

Wellingborough booked their place in the Ladies Cecil Leitch quarter-finals after following up an excellent 6-1 home victory against Elton Furze in Group C with a thrilling one point win away to Peterborough Milton.

Carol Gibbs, Mary MacLaren, Ashleigh Critchley and Ellie Darnell all represented the Northamptonshire Ladies team in Ladies County Week at Frilford Heath GC in Oxfordshire as the squad finished in a tie for third place.





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Wellingborough Golf Club Ladies



Pos	Ladies Scratch League	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts
1st	Wellingborough	3	0	0	8	1	7	3
2nd	Northants County	2	0	1	5	4	1	2
3rd	Overstone	1	0	2	5	4	1	1
4th	Northampton	0	0	3	0	9	-9	0

2019 Ladies Scratch League Results:

May 19th: Northampton 0 Wellingborough 3 at Kettering GC.

July 14th: Wellingborough 3 Northants County 0 at Northampton GC.

September 29th: Wellingborough 2 Overstone 1 at Northants County GC.

2019 County League Champions



Pos	Ladies Intermediate League	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	Pts
1st	Wellingborough	4	0	1	11	4	7	4
2nd	Peterborough Milton	4	0	1	9	6	3	4
3rd	Elton Furze	3	0	2	9	6	3	3
4th	Overstone	3	0	2	9	6	3	3
5th	Northampton	1	0	4	4	11	-7	1
6th	Whittlebury	0	0	5	3	12	-9	0

2019 Ladies Intermediate League Results:

April 21st: Peterborough Milton 1 Wellingborough 2 at Kingsthorpe GC.
July 20th: Wellingborough 2 Overstone 1 at Whittlebury Park GC.
August 24th: Wellingborough 3 Northampton 0 at Elton Furze GC.
September 22nd: Whittlebury 0 Wellingborough 3 at Peterborough Milton GC.
October 20th: Wellingborough 1 Elton Furze 2 at Northampton GC.

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JULY
2019

CHRIS Howes was crowned Club Champion for the first time as scores of 73 and 71 earned a three shot victory from Tiger Adams.

Carl Leeson won the Charles Griffiths Bowl, while the Rabbits Cup went to William Wilkins.

Mary MacLaren was at her consistent best over 36 holes whilst claiming the Ladies Club Championship title by a wide margin.

Wellingborough made it five NGL Handicap League wins in five outings with a 20-0 home whitewash of Oundle.



The men's Scratch League side held defending champions Northants County to a 4-4 home draw, thanks to wins from Richard Brown, Chris Howes and Jon Harris on the 18th hole.

Jack Meakin was the only Wellingborough youngster to bag a point in the NGL Junior League match at Northants County B as the hosts took the honours 3-1 in Group D.

Club pro Ryan Evans missed out on a place in the 2019 Open Championship as he finished 11th in Final Qualifying at Hollinwell (Notts) GC.

AUGUST
2019

THEO Brown (pictured below) carded the leading gross score of 77 in the Junior Club Championships, with James Brazier posting the best net round of 70.

Wellingborough booked their place in the last four of the NGL Handicap League with a seventh victory in seven matches as they beat Peterborough Milton 6-4 at home.

Despite topping Group C, Wellingborough were no match for Oundle in the Ladies Cecil Leitch quarter-finals at Delapre Park GC as the reigning champions bagged a 7-0 whitewash. Oundle went on to retain their title.



Andrew Bush and Andy Wheatley lifted the Lee Dalton Trophy with a brilliant score of net 66.6.

Tiger Adams qualified for The Gosling Invitational in Bermuda by finishing third in a regional event at Chigwell GC, before claiming a share of the MGU County Cup two days later, following a remarkable eight-hole sudden death play-off with Richard Wale (Leicestershire) at Northants County GC.

Wellingborough's hopes of progressing through to the NGL Intermediate League semi-finals remained in the balance after they drew with Overstone, lost by one point to Collingtree, and then beat Kettering by three points.

Theo Brown helped Northamptonshire Boys Under-18's team qualify for the Anglian League final as the county won the triangular regional qualifier against Lincolnshire and Leicestershire by just half a point at Spalding GC.

SEPT
2019

LOZ Weekes (pictured left) was successful over 36 holes in the George Cup as scores of 68 and 71 secured a two shot win from Roger Seamark. Weekes was also part of the winning team in the President's Cup a week earlier.

Francis Murphy and Loui Murphy (39 points) clinched the Family Foursomes on countback from Wendy Butler and William Butler.

Carol Gibbs and Mary MacLaren defended their Midlands South Fourball Betterball crown on their home course as they triumphed with a gross 72 at Wellingborough.

MacLaren was also successful in the Goodyear Challenge Cup at Nuneaton GC with a gross 77.

Two excellent wins in two days confirmed Wellingborough's Scratch League top flight status for another season. The men recorded a thrilling one point win at Peterborough Milton, before ending Staverton Park's title hopes with a 6½-1½ home victory the following day.

Wellingborough booked their Intermediate League last four spot with a 5½-2½ victory against Kingsthorpe at Overstone Park GC. Unfortunately the side lost to eventual champions Overstone in the semi-finals.

Ashleigh Critchley, who was joint-ninth in the Scottish Girls Under-16s Championship at Elgin GC a few weeks earlier, finished 17th in the English County Women's Champions of Champions event at Woodhall Spa.

OCT
2019

ADAM Sherlock (pictured right) capped a consistent year in club competitions at Wellingborough by winning the Wellingborough 2019 Order of Merit.

Leading by 36 points going into the last event, he doubled his lead after grabbing 13th spot in the Courage Cup.

Husband and wife combination Roger and Gill Snelson won the Mixed Club Championship with a score of net 71.2.

Former Club pro Simon Lilly sealed victory in the NPGA 36-hole Strokeplay Championship at Wellingborough GC as he added a magnificent bogey-free eight-under-par 64 to his opening 70 to finish six shots clear of the chasing pack.

Mary MacLaren was a model of consistency in the NGL Ladies Senior Championship as she posted 13 gross pars and five bogeys on her way to victory at Collingtree Park GC.

A place in the final of the NGL Handicap League proved just beyond Wellingborough's men as they lost 12-6 in their last four contest with Farthingstone at Hellidon Lakes GC. Farthingstone went on to win the title.

Mark Davis, Mike Gilbrook, Shaun Field and John McGowan clinched the top prize in the NGL Am-Am after posting the leading mark of 90 points at Overstone Park GC. Club-mates Jon Harris, Glyn Pepper, Charlie Higgins and Glenn Harris were second on 89.



NOV
2019

OLIVIA Barby (pictured right) lifted the last piece of county silverware in 2019 as she won the NGL Autumn Cup by two strokes at Northampton GC. In a net medal competition for girls, the 24-handicapper compiled a net 71.

Club pro Ryan Evans (pictured below), who played on the Challenge Tour this year, couldn't secure a 2020 European Tour card after he missed the cut in the second stage of Q School in Spain.

Ida Jane Huggins braved the cold conditions to win the Ladies 18-hole Stableford. The 12-hole prizes went to Miriam Johnson and Sue Butler (21 points).



DEC
2019

GRAHAM Bayes parred the opening four holes on his way to victory in the first Seniors Lonsdale as he edged out Andrew Charter with 40 points.

A birdie on the last hole in the last round of the last tournament of the year capped another successful season for Club pro Meghan MacLaren as she finished fifth in the 2019 Ladies European Tour Order of Merit.

Tiger Adams, who turned professional at the end of the summer, missed the cut on his overseas pro debut in the Gosling Invitational in Bermuda.



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Now, for tomorrow



Meghan provides an inspiration for women's golf

MEGHAN MacLaren continued to fly the Wellingborough Golf Club flag with distinction both on and off the golf course in 2019 as she enjoyed her best year on the Ladies European Tour.

The club professional bagged her first ever hole-in-one, retained her New South Wales Open title and competed in two major tournaments on her way to a career-best fifth position in the LET Order of Merit.

MacLaren said: "Most tour professionals are into double digits for hole-in-one's, so it was surreal to get my first ace after all these years in a Tour event in early 2019 - it was the perfect start to the season.

"In comparison to the previous year, my trip to Australia was very different because I'd struggled through the early section of 2018, and gradually found some form, but this time I felt really good about my game - even when I missed the cut in the Vic Open.

"When I arrived in New South Wales to defend my title, I was confident of victory, which may seem arrogant, but I had so much trust in my own game at that point.

"When you get into contention all the little niggles go away and it turns into a different mind-set of trying to win the tournament, and I managed to do that (pictured below with trophy). But that's why we play.

"It was the first year of playing fully on the Ladies European Tour so finishing fifth in the 2019 Order of Merit was an achievement. I'm proud of that but, equally so, I know I could have finished even higher and forced my way into the European team for the Solheim Cup.

"To even be in the reckoning for a Solheim Cup spot was an achievement, particularly as I was solely playing in Europe, and not up against the best on the LPGA Tour. That's why missing out in Q School was so disappointing in October.

"The atmosphere in the second stage was horrible because you couldn't afford a bad day. But, of course, you have those days when it's not quite happening and if you make one mistake or your ball plugs in a bunker that could be it, you're done. So to get through that was exhausting.

"Then to play eight more rounds in the final stage shortly afterwards was emotionally draining. Although I was in it all the way through, I was fighting all the time - it was a long time for anyone to keep their focus. But I will learn from it.

"I trust in my game now more than I ever have before. I have seen glimpses of everything I need at certain times of the year. I feel I can contend in any tournament around the world. I just need to find more consistency now.

"I haven't completely decided where I'm going to play next year because I have the option to compete on the 2020 Symetra Tour.

"I can try and obtain an LPGA card that way. And that is the long term goal, to compete against the best players in the world."

Continued on next page...



IN addition to her performances on the golf course in 2019, Meghan MacLaren (pictured) has appeared on national television and radio, and used her increased social media profile to write a golf blog where she campaigns for equal rights for women professional golfers.

She said: "I did some podcasts with the BBC and they then asked me if I would be interested in working for them at The Open at Royal Portrush.

"Sky TV also asked me, but I worked for BBC Radio 5 Live and really enjoyed it because the team at the BBC are so good - they create that environment when you feel comfortable.

"I had to fly off for the Evian Championship the following week, so it's a shame I wasn't there for the weekend because things were developing.

"But being there when Shane Lowry started to go clear on the Friday afternoon, and Rory (McIlroy) fighting back - you could hear all these roars from around the course - it felt like a Sunday afternoon.

"I'm enjoying the journalism side of it. I like writing with an opinion, from my own angle, rather than covering all the stories that every other journalist is talking about.

"At the moment, I have the freedom to write whenever I want. But I enjoy keeping up with what is happening in the golf world because I am a golf fan.

"With regard to the pay disparity from the men to women in the pro game, I had to say something.

"I try to put as much factual information into my blogs to explain that this is the reality.

"It's not rosy and although things are getting better, the women competing on the LET are a long way from where we need to be.

"When we were in Abu Dhabi, there were vastly different prize funds for ladies and men's events on consecutive weeks - it's hard to accept.

"It's so hard to cope with the reality we are in. I tweeted something, and it just took off in the social media world. And it carried on from there.

"I don't enjoy having the same arguments thrown back in my face, and there are times when I think 'should I say something?' But if I don't draw attention to it, nothing is going to change.

"I now feel a little bit of responsibility, which I've probably brought on myself. But I never set out to be the person who wants to bring about change.

"Although winning is still the most important feeling in golf, finishing runner-up in the Mixed Jordan Open was more of a defining moment of my year - in a good and bad way.

"The build-up there was a lot of talk about the subject of women playing against the men, and comparisons and constant critics.

"I remember thinking it doesn't have to be about that, it can just be about the golf that everyone is capable of producing.

"The fact that the tournament unravelled that way made it even more special to be a part of."



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January 2020 fixtures

Date	Start/End	Event (1st tee, unless stated)
Wed 1st	08:00 - 13:00	Kelly Bowls
Sun 5th	10:50 - 12:50	Mixed Competition
Tue 7th	10:00 - 12:45	Ladies 14-hole Competition
Wed 8th	08:30 - 11:30	Seniors January Competition
Sun 12th	From 08:00	Men's Competition
Tue 14th	09:30 - 12:00	Ladies Competition
Sun 19th	10:50 - 12:50	Mixed Competition
Tue 21st	10:00 - 13:00	Ladies 14-hole Competition
Wed 22nd	08:30 - 11:00	Seniors American Foursomes
Sun 26th	From 08:00	Men's Competition
Tue 28th	09:30 - 12:00	Ladies Competition

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To find out more about this exciting, new service and how it can benefit you, please pop into Croyland Car Megastore and speak to a helpful member of staff or call

01933 413 415

Inspect and Protect

AA

But don't just take our word for it as every car at **Croyland Car Megastore** now includes as **standard AA Inspect and Protect cover**, which gives you:

- An independent, unbiased vehicle inspection and report
- 12-months free breakdown
- A free vehicle history check
- Three month's free warranty

Peace of mind from one of the UK's best known motoring organisations.

Croyland Car Megastore, Northampton Road,
Rushden, Northants, NN10 6GA



Inspect and Protect

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