

## **Warkworth Golf Club**

### **Captain's Report 2022**

Firstly, I'd like to thank our previous captain, Michael Moyle, for allowing me the honour of being his Vice Captain. It was a tough year for golf due to the restrictions placed upon us by the pandemic and Michael performed his role with the utmost professionalism and enthusiasm despite those continual government restrictions.

My captaincy began on the 1st April and I drove into office on the 16th April, a lovely sunny spring day. As expected, my nerves were jittery so I gave myself half an hour to practice for my tee-off with my trusty 4 hybrid. Only to change my mind at the last minute and take my driver, less chance of an air shot I thought. For once, my last minute change of mind worked and I landed the ball just off the green, a rare feat indeed! We played the Warkworth House that day which was won by John Glass with nett score of 65 points. Well done John.

Our club outing to Tynemouth GC on 3rd June was a huge success with 54 members attending. The day fell perfectly on the Bank Holiday for our late Queen's Platinum Jubilee, may she rest in peace. Everything from the course condition (and weather) to the catering and bar service were fantastic. The day was not without incident though and the whole day could have gone awry had I not decided to ring the coach company at 6.15am that morning. They had booked us in for the following day and there was no coach arranged for us on that morning. Using kind words of encouragement I managed to persuade them to awaken one of their drivers who rapidly drove a coach to pick us up. Not the luxury coach we had paid for but it did the job and we ended up being only 20 minutes late at TGC. The competition that day was won by Mark Mowatt. Well done Mark.

A busy club outing was swiftly followed by a busy Family Fun Day to mark the Platinum Jubilee. There was a lot of organisation involved and it proved to be a huge success with a bouncy castle, various stalls and kids activities. The knock on effect was that our clubhouse also had a very successful day serving lots of various types of food, drinks and kids' picnic boxes. Thank you to all those involved.

Captain's Day. A big thank you to you all. I was very humbled that 94 players turned out for this day. A special thank you to my Vice Captain Jeff Potts, Paul Jackson, Gillian and my partner Emma for all their help sorting cards, taking in money and selling raffle tickets. Also, a big thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle, including Sea & Soil, The Old Boathouse, Apex Health & Fitness, Mocha Mondo, Linzi Fletcher (golf coach) and many others. I'd like to thank Steve and his greenkeeping staff for setting up the course and my preferred pin positions. The day's success was rolled over into the evening with a great band 'The Kronokills' and a superb buffet laid on by our clubhouse staff led by Abbie, thank you. The day's competition was won by Stefan Townsley with 41 points.

Our main event, the Club Championship, was a real cliffhanger and wouldn't have been out of place on Sky Sports. With a tie between Ian Simpson and Wayne Gair we had a play off on the 18th hole. Watched by numerous members who had come out from the clubhouse, pints in hand. Still tying after their first play-off they had to replay the 18th again. Two great displays of golf, eventually won by Ian with a superb putt. Ian won both the Club Championship and the Nett Salver. Great performance, well done Ian.

Congratulations to all those who have made the Honours board this year, I'm looking forward to seeing you all on presentation night.

Captain v Chairperson competition. Well done to Michael on his 'narrow' victory and thank you to all those who turned out for the day, it was another great success.

A lot of our future could be reliant upon our juniors coming through the ranks so a big thank you to Roy Wilson for organising all our junior events and continual running of the juniors' section.

I'd also like to thank Paul Jackson for organising the men's matchplay team and to all our members who give up their personal time to represent the club, especially as we had more members representing our golf club than any other other team in the union. An amazing achievement. We had several individual winners and a big well done to Wayne Gair who won the league's player of the year.

As my captaincy comes to an end I'd just like to say it's been an honour to play alongside you as members of our great club. The club is moving forward positively in every aspect and I'm sure we will see continual improvements and progress in all areas due to the commitment and enthusiasm of our committee, clubhouse staff and greens team. I now know how much work goes on behind the scenes and every single person involved plays a pivotal role. On that note I'd also like to say a big thank you to Alice for cleaning and maintaining standards throughout our clubhouse.

Lastly, best wishes to Jeff Potts and his Vice Captain in their forthcoming year. I hope you have every success. I know that we will all give them our full support.

Gentlemen, it has truly been an honour and a privilege. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Gary Knox

Captain, Warkworth Golf Club.