



Old Lorettonian Golfing Society

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Scratch Team

Following the wonderful win 'three-in-a-row' win at the Halford Hewitt in April, the Scratch Team has started looking forward to the rest of the year. In recent years they have struggled to qualify for the finals of the Grafton Morrish as many of the team were unavailable for the qualifying round in Edinburgh in May. This year they entered the qualifying in the Midlands and despite a patchy performance at an unfamiliar course they have made it through to the finals at Brancaster and Hunstanton in October. They start on Friday 6th October with a very tough first round match against Radley with a possible, even tougher, second round encounter against Ampleforth. Before then, in September, they hope to compete in the Queen Elizabeth Coronation Trophy in Edinburgh. This tournament was cancelled last year following the death of Her Majesty, the Queen.

Ross Graham

Members will have been very saddened to learn that Ross Graham died suddenly in May while playing golf at Gullane. Ross was an active and loyal member of the OLGS and a stalwart member of our Mellin and Burles'

teams at The Mellin Trophy over recent years. Many of you will have read his obituary in The Times which described his distinguished business career, but for many of us it was his familiar presence at OLGS events and the warmth and humour he always brought with him that we will remember fondly.



Ross playing in the Burles' team that won the Plate Competition in 2022.

The Mellin 2023

For a variety of reasons, we had problems recruiting enough players to participate in all the competitions this year which was disappointing. As a result, we had to withdraw from the Over 75 Millard competition and three members of our Burles (over 65) team would have qualified for the Millard. Unsurprisingly they struggled and were unable to defend their Plate win of last year.

Our Mellin team met a strong Sherborne in the first round and lost narrowly then had a good win in the first round of The Plate over Hurstpierpoint. This was followed by a solid victory over Mill Hill in the semi-final which left a final against Cranleigh on the Friday afternoon. The Cranleigh team had cunningly recruited some replacements for the final and proved too strong for us.



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The Loretto Mellin Team

From the left; Torquil McInroy, Andrew Joseph, Robin Shuker, David Cheyne, Martin Shuker and Andrew Brown

In order to compete effectively in this tournament, we will need to recruit more members from Scotland to travel. We will send out dates this autumn so our Scottish members can ensure they arrange their holidays accordingly!

The Loretto School Foursomes

This annual event was again held at West Sussex in late July. Representatives from fifteen schools participated with our own Chris Henderson and his partner, Paul Kemp from Warwick winning with an impressive 40 points.



Chris Henderson and Paul Kemp receives the Loretto Foursomes Trophy from The President

An important contribution to this points tally was Chris' shot at the Par 3 5th – the nearest the pin hole for the day. It ended up nestling against the pin – in the hole for a hole-in-one! All players enjoyed a glass of champagne at lunch thanks to Chris.



Alexander Kilgour (left) congratulates Chris Henderson after his hole-in-one on the 5th at West Sussex.

We had two mixed pairs playing with Ian Much and Samantha Baillon from Haileybury taking second prize with 35 points. They are seen here below receiving their prizes.



Alexander Kilgour set up this event a few years ago and is now ready to retire from organising it. We are looking for volunteers to take over. Our thanks to Alexander for his vision and enthusiasm.



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Social Fixtures

Two fixtures have taken place so far: in Scotland, we were narrowly defeated 4 ½- 3 ½ by Merchiston at Muirfield while at The New Zealand Club we managed to triumph in the triangular match against Dulwich and Sedbergh. Cameron Blair and Hamish Adamson led the way with a fine victory in the morning.

August is a busy month with a match against Uppingham at Reigate Heath on 10th August and two matches in Scotland on the same day, 27th August: Edinburgh Academy at Luffness and a triangular against Sedbergh and Glenalmond at Prestwick. Also, after a gap of a few years, we have managed to secure a weekend date for a new triangular fixture with Fettes and Marlborough at Worplesdon on Sunday 20th August.

On 12th September there is a match against the 6th Form at Bruntsfield. This is an important match giving an opportunity for us to introduce the OLGS to six formers.

See website for contact details on the above.

Loretto Academy Update

It is exciting to see so much talent emerging from the Loretto Academy. There have again been many achievements this year. There were team victories at the HMC Strokeplay events at St Andrews and in the finals at the JCB Club. Loretto again qualified as regional winners for the HMC Foursomes Finals. Due to a clash of dates, they weren't able to field a top team in the finals though an inexperienced team still managed to take third place and win The Tankard.

Many of you will have followed the remarkable exploits of Oliver Mukherjee who became Scotland's youngest ever Amateur Champion and has represented Scotland in the Boys Home Internationals and the European Amateur Team Championship and then Great Britain in the Jacques Leglise Trophy. Ollie reached final qualifying for the Open at Deal and teed up in a threeball with Brandon Grace and Thomas Detry. Despite a great first round he just fell short.



Ollie M enjoys looking at the Halford Hewitt Honours Board at Deal while he was there for Open Qualifying

His twin brother Sam also had a string of successes while younger brother Cameron is already creating an impressive golfing CV winning the Stephen Gallagher National Championship and coming second in the Scottish Boys Amateur Championship. He was the third highest ranked golfer in the world in his age group.

The Academy also has a number of girls achieving great things: Jade P represented Scotland in the Girls' Home Internationals, Anastasia H won the 9Zero event at Craighelaw while Sophie B won the HMC Strokeplay at St Andrews.