



Old Lorettonian Golfing Society

INTRODUCTION

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Sign up for the Autumn Medal at The Renaissance

SOUTHERN SOCIAL EVENTS

Our triangular match against Dulwich and Sedbergh at the New Zealand Club moved to the end of May this year – we are grateful to hold onto this weekend date. Again, we had a good mix of ages and handicaps though Loretto came third on the day.



The weather at Denham was glorious for The Anniesland

At The Anniesland Trophy held at Denham in June there was a disappointing turnout of Edinburgh schools – only ourselves and Stewarts Melville fielded teams so the day was dominated by Glasgow schools with Kelvinside taking the trophy for the second year running. There was some success for Loretto in the afternoon 9-hole Greensomes when your President and Nick McClaren somehow managed to play the Back 9 at Denham in 2 under Par (sic) to win the silver shield with a bit to spare! Denham as usual excelled itself with its lunch.



View of Reigate Heath and its lovely clubhouse from 1st Green

In the match against Uppingham at Reigate Heath we were disappointed to be able to recruit only six players so the match was reduced to three pairs. Clearly though what we lacked in quantity we made up for in quality as we won all three matches for a 3-0 victory. Still, the turnout for this wonderful fixture was disappointing so we need to revisit the date – lunch and a round of golf for £65! Surely we can get some more takers next year.



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THE LORETTO SCHOOLS FOURSOMES

West Sussex 29th July



Angus Lindsey-Renton plays to the 10th at West Sussex

Alexander Kilgour has developed this marvellous day at the beautiful West Sussex course over the past few years. We have now refashioned the old 'Winter Foursomes' Trophy from the Annual Weekend into the Loretto School Foursomes Trophy and again



Anthony Wolfe and Paul Marciandi of Haileybury
Winners of the 2022 Loretto School Foursomes

20 different schools competed for it on a lovely summer's day. This year it was Anthony Wolfe and Paul Marciandi from Haileybury who took the honours with an impressive 36 points in a relatively low scoring field. The course was in great condition but the bouncy

fairways put a premium on accuracy to avoid ending up in the heather. The round was followed by the usual excellent West Sussex lunch and our thanks go to Alexander for putting on this great day.

SENIOR SCRATCH EVENTS:

SENIOR WAYFARERS

After a break of two years, this annual scratch event for over-50s from the Wayfarer schools returned to a new venue, Panmure. All agreed that the venue was perfect for an event where the clubhouse is as important as the course. The weather was bright but with a cold north-easterly which made the back 9 particularly challenging. Loretto managed to qualify for the semi-finals on Sunday but were well beaten by the eventual winners, Glenalmond. We will be looking to recruit some 'young' blood for this event next year which returns to Western Gales.



Panmure hosted this year's Senior Wayfarers
Tournament



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THE MELLIN TROPHY



Ross Graham drives from the 5th tee at West Hill

The Mellin, held at West Hill, comprises three competitions; The Mellin itself for 55+, The Burles for 65+ and The Millard for 75+, all played off scratch. It has to be said that Loretto's performance in the first and third of these was nothing to write home about, falling in the early stages of each. However, our Burles team played some excellent golf over the three days. They narrowly lost their first-round match, with Alastair Lawson and Chris Henderson fighting back from 7 down after 10 to having a putt on 18 to halve the match. Sadly it lipped out. This put them into The Burles Plate where they enjoyed victories over Lancing, Downside and then Haileybury in the final. So, another first for Loretto – we had never won The Burles Plate! Congratulations to Alastair Lawson, Andrew Joseph, Ross Graham and Chris Henderson, pictured below.



SCOTLAND SOCIAL FIXTURES

Jim Hume reports on an excellent triangular match at Prestwick involving Loretto, Glenalmond and Merchiston. The format was a rather complicated 3 Ball sixsome but ended with Loretto triumphing over both opponents to take the honours. Two recent school leavers, Matthew O'Donaghue and Kyle O'Brian, new recruits to the society and playing in their first ever OLGS event, were undefeated all day. Looking at the detailed results, I note that after the full Prestwick lunch (7 choices of main course) Loretto won every game in the afternoon. Jim also reported that the weather was 'windy with rain showers' – hardly news for Prestwick!

SCRATCH TEAM

After their Hewitt heroics the scratch team have had a quiet time with their next event being the Queen Elizabeth Coronation Trophy at Royal Burgess from 16th September.

THE LORETTO ACADEMY

It was good to see The Loretto Academy continuing to perform well in national tournaments. Loretto continued to be ISGA's top rated Scottish School and qualify for the Home Internationals. This year they went to Little Aston to defend their HMC Foursomes title which they won at Huntercombe in 2021. Little Aston in Solihull, laid out by both Harry Vardon and Harry Colt, is famous for its enormous bunkers. Loretto had victories over Bromsgrove, Wellington and Millfield to reach the final against Reed's. With both school's having won one match, it was down to the top match where Reed's were 1up on the 17th tee. The 17th is a 380 yard 'short' Par 4, downhill and, on the day, downwind. The Reed's player



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drove the green and Loretto's attempt to match this just caught the water handing Reed's the win. It had been a very close final. Congratulations to the Loretto team pictured below.



Rick Valentine, who has been Director of Golf at The Loretto Golf Academy almost since its inception retired this year and we wish him all the best for the future. We look forward to developing a close relationship with his successor – plans to arrange matches with the Academy have been disrupted by Covid over the past couple of years and we will be looking to get some fixtures in the diary in 2023.

LORETTONIAN WINS THE SCOTTISH MEN'S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Hot off the press comes the news that Oliver Mukherjee won the Scottish Men's Amateur Championship at Glasgow Gaiels Links on 30th July. The tournament took place over the week at Western and Glasgow Gaiels. After 10 holes of the final, Oliver was 3 down but a great back 9 including birdies at 13 and 14 saw him triumph on the final green 1up.

Previous winners of the tournament include Colin Montgomerie, Stephen Gallagher and

Robert McIntyre but Oliver becomes the youngest ever winner at the age of just 16!

There is no rest for Oliver as this week he tees it up with his twin brother Sam representing Scotland in the Home Internationals at Downfield.

Not to be outdone, it's worth mentioning that younger brother Cameron won the Scottish Boy's Under 14s last summer!



Oliver Mukherjee sets record as youngest champion Scottish Amateur Championship

There has also been other success for Loretto alumni. Grace Crawford from North Berwick won the Helen Holm Scottish Women's Open in April and followed this up with winning the R&A Girl's Under-16 Championship the following week. Grace has now moved to the Albany Golf Academy in the Bahamas – I think the weather is slightly better than in Musselburgh!

OLGS AUTUMN MEDAL

We are again fortunate to be able to hold this at The Renaissance Club in East Lothian on **Saturday 5th November**. Last year we had participants aged from early 20s to early 80s and handicaps from + to mid-20s. We will make one change this year which will be to



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have competitions played off different tees depending on age and handicap so any of you worried by the length of The Renaissance should not be put off! The day will comprise a bacon roll and a round of golf and dinner afterwards for a very competitive price of £75.

Please sign up with Robert.

robert@bam-boo.com.sg

There will be a short report on OLGS given at the Autumn Meeting but the AGM will instead be held by Zoom in the Spring. This will allow more members to participate and also mean that up-to-date accounts can be presented

OTHER OLGS EVENTS

Matches against Sedbergh and Edinburgh Academy in August at Muirfield and Luffness are fully subscribed.

The annual match against the Old Marlburians will take place at Liphook **on Thursday 6th October.**



OLGS MEMBER'S ROYAL ODYSSEY

OLGS member Neal Stewart, a member and past Captain of Hags Castle, having already played every golf course in Scotland, (actually he has missed two – can you guess which?)

set out to play every 'Royal' course in the UK and Ireland. Covid inevitably delayed things but he completed the task this May when in a busy week he visited Royal Blackheath, Royal Wimbledon, Royal Mid-Surrey, Royal Ascot and finally Royal Ashdown Forest. Next objective; all Ryder, Walker, Solheim and Curtis Cup venues!



Neal completing his tour of the Royals at Royal Ashdown Forest in May

OLGS SOCIAL WHATTSAPP GROUP

If you have not already joined this, why not consider doing so. You will receive updates on the progress of the Scratch teams in their various events plus other news. If you would like to join the existing 80+ participants, again contact Robert.