

## **Autumn Medal 2021**

After a gap of two years, it was good to be back at The Renaissance Club for the Autumn Medal and AGM. A good turnout of thirty members gathered on a day where rain threatened but never appeared – conditions were actually very pleasant with almost no wind and even a short appearance of some sunshine.



It was a calm day for the OLGS Medal at The Renaissance but this tree gives a clue to the prevailing wind direction!

The field reflected the make-up of the Society with players in their 20s and players in their 80s as well as 'Plus' handicaps and handicaps north of 20. This is the great wonder of golf enabling such a wide range of participants to gather together. Geographically we had a good spread of members from the East and West of Scotland and a couple of 'southerners' – we need to consider how we can encourage more to make the trip across the border. The Renaissance, now confirmed as the venue for the Scottish Open next year (a tournament which will now be a joint European and USPGA Tour event) is, however, a tough test and we will in future divide the field into those who wish to play off the white

tees and other members who wish to play off the yellow.



The Headmaster putts out on the 11th Green

We had three of our winning Halford Hewitt team playing; John Dunn-Butler, Cameron Blair and Sami Bouzabia and it was Sami who took the Scratch Medal with an impressive round of 71.



Sami Bouzabia won The OLGS Medal

The Handicap Trophy was a close fight with Hugo Balfour-Melville defending his title on a countback from Andrew Ker who took the Runners-Up position and the OLGS Spoon. The Gedge Cup for the best Over-50s handicap score was won by Charles Cowan.





The President presents the OLGS Spoon to Andrew Ker

A brief AGM followed and the three Halford Hewitt team members received the applause of the Society members on behalf of the whole team. It was discussed how the two geographic hubs of the Society (Scotland and south-east England) could be better combined - perhaps a North-South Challenge could be considered. The Committee agreed to look into this.



Past President, Craig Cameron, drives off the scenic 10<sup>th</sup> hole at The Renaissance. 383 Yards around the bay and an intimidating drive – Craig got his Par 4!

The AGM saw the election of Rosie Niven to the Committee with the brief to drive more participation by lady members.

## **Other Events**

There have been two recent matches in the south. The annual match at Liphook against the Old Marlburians was a great success though the scoreline was a disappointing 4-1 to Marlborough with only the President and David Sadler delivering a point for Loretto.



Worplesdon enjoyed great weather for the Fettes match on 24<sup>th</sup> October

The match against Fettes at Worplesdon saw a number of disappointing call-offs by Fettesians which meant that they were unable to field a full team. This has been a theme with Fettes all year. The day was very enjoyable though their lack of numbers disrupted the match – by claiming their forfeited matches we can award ourselves a narrow victory thanks to a decisive victory by the Sinclair brothers, Chris and Matt, who fought back from 4 down to win!

Finally, good luck to the Scratch team win the postponed Stenhouse Quaich at Elie this coming weekend.