



The cream rose to the top when 16 of us took on the challenge of playing Slaley Hall's two splendid courses (picture above). Joint winners **Simon Gates** and **Dave Hurst** totalled 66 points, one ahead of **Tony Buckley**, who had recent experience of playing an equally tough track in the States.

Phil Ball was the first day winner with 38 points, three ahead of **Andy Simpson**, who twice holed out

from bunkers and claimed the only two of the two days. **John Hall** took a liking to the greens on Slaley's original course, the Hunting, to take the second day honours with 35 points. **Dave Hurst** had 34 and as they were on the same side they took the team prize, despite a miserable contribution from the other two.

Everyone was unanimous in praising Ken Walters' organisation.

Tim Wellock



Chadder's Chat

I have a couple of comps to report on this week.

Firstly we have a new Matchplay Champion in Simon Elliott (pictured). Simon made his way to the final by beating Peter Holliday in the semi-final. His final opponent Tim Wellock must have thought he had done the hard work in the semi-final by beating the tenacious Ray Pipe who always performs well in this competition. However Simon emerged victorious by 3 and 2 to claim the Stuart Wilson prize. Congratulations Simon!

The Seniors played their version of the Ryder Cup (Barney Locals vs Rest of the World). The Locals skippered by yours truly suffered a bit of a thumping losing 6-2. Brian Stewart and I had the minor satisfaction of winning our match against the ROW Captain Ken Walters and his partner Colin Binch 4 and 3.

Congratulations to Ken and his team on retaining the trophy for another year. Ken is pictured receiving the new "Ryder" Teapot trophy from our President Sid Lowes and kindly donated by Kevin Sellwood.



Locals skippered by yours truly suffered a bit of a thumping losing 6-2. Brian Stewart and I had the minor satisfaction of winning our match against the ROW Captain Ken Walters and his partner Colin Binch 4 and 3.

Congratulations to Ken and his team on retaining the trophy for another year. Ken is pictured receiving the new "Ryder" Teapot trophy from our President Sid Lowes and kindly donated by Kevin Sellwood.

Congratulations to Ken and his team on retaining the trophy for another year. Ken is pictured receiving the new "Ryder" Teapot trophy from our President Sid Lowes and kindly donated by Kevin Sellwood.

Yours in Golf,

Chadders



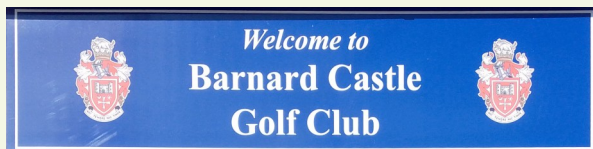
Pipe dream becomes reality

A dream trip to the recent Ryder Cup venue of Bethpage Black awaits **Ray Pipe** and **John Matthews** after they won the National Club Golfer magazine's matchplay event. Winners of the Northern Golfer version for the last two years, they entered the national event for the first time and won the final 3 & 2 at Alwoodley. They qualified for the quarter-finals at the highly-ranked north Leeds club as winners of one of eight regional divisions with 32 pairs in each.

"We played a father and son from Ganton in the quarter-final and they turned up five minutes after the 10.30 tee time. We were told we could claim the first hole but we didn't then lost it," said Ray. "It was 3pm by the time we won on the last hole so we had to go straight to the first tee to play the semi-final. It was just as well we beat a pair from Walmsley on the 15th because it would have been too dark to play the last three." They returned the next day to play a pair from Holme House, Scunthorpe, who were followed by their club captain and vice-captain.

"Six more of their members turned up on the ninth when we were one down," said Ray, who was playing off 16 and receiving nine shots, while John had two. "Their low handicapper didn't help a lot but the other was off 11 and regularly drove 50 yards past John. When the new supporters arrived it didn't help them because they dropped six or seven shots in the next few holes."

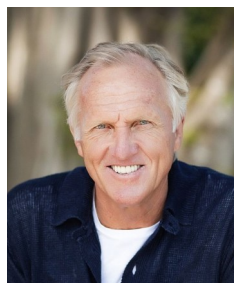
(continued overleaf)



My golfing icons #2: Greg Norman

By David Hammond

In the second in the “My Golfing Icons” series, we head down under to find “The Great White Shark” a nickname that suited this uncompromising, aggressive and yet very successful



Australian golfer. How could he have not influenced a young budding blonde golfer like me when I first stepped onto a tee back in the 80s. He was a larger-than-life character on the tour walking around in his Crocodile Dundee hat and all black golfing gear. With his large frame and dominating swing it's no surprise that he won 91 pro tournaments including two Open Championships in 86 and 93. He was ranked No.1 in the World for 331 weeks in the 80s and 90s. He was a master at intimidation.

Greg's influence on me as a golfer was more image than approach. I used to mimic him wearing black at every opportunity and even had a similar hat for those hot summer days we had on the South East coast. I remember rushing to get hold of a Tiger Shark 7 iron

that was almost being given away with one of the golfing magazines at the time, it may have been Golf Monthly, I can't remember. But that became my go to club. On the back it had grooves cut into it that looked like shark's gills. They don't make them like that anymore.

Greg is probably remembered more for squandering a six-stroke lead in the final round of the 1996 Masters which was finally won by Sir Nick Faldo, another brilliant golfer from that time. Also, he controversially became the CEO of LIV Golf Investments in 2021 and that drew significant criticism around the golfing world. That aside he has had a very successful business career post the tour. Did you know he has designed 120 golf courses, developed a golf lifestyle clothing brand and successful wine business.

Rightly inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2001, Greg has been a huge influence on a lot of the past and current Australian golfers. Adam Scott, Cam Smith, Min Woo Lee, Jason Day and Ian Baker-Finch to name a few. He's been a monumental character in the world of golf. Icon No.2 to me and he was married to Chris Evert as well for a while, I liked her a lot back then as well, but that's another story.

Golfing Icon #3 will be in the next TeeTalk.

Pipe dream becomes reality (continued)

“It was more a case of them losing it than us winning,” said John. “It was very windy both days and all our opponents were hitting it higher than us.

“We are both competitive and help each other. We don't give many holes away.”

The prize is a seven-night trip, starting in New York with two rounds at Bethpage Black before playing two more rounds in Louisiana prior to a visit to the Kentucky Derby. The late April trip will prevent them from taking their prize for winning last year's Northern Golfer event, scheduled for the same dates. The visit to Turnberry had already been put back once and cannot be rearranged. They reached the Northern Golfer quarter-finals this year before losing at the 22nd hole at Durham City.

Tim Wellock

Daylight Robbery

In the Brian Holmes Trophy, **Simon Gates** produced a superb round of gross 72, i.e. one under par. But, in a demonstration of the handicap of a low handicap, he only came third—his net 70 being pipped by **Brian Stewart's** 69 and **Steve Myers' 64**.



For Steve, whilst it was great to win a trophy, he felt it was an even bigger victory—albeit shortlived—over Parkinsons' Disease. If you are interested in how Steve is fighting that particular battle, you can read more at <https://myers.co/parkinsons>.



Get yourself Trackman-ed

I struggle with distance particularly on our longer Par 4's and 5's. So I had a gapping session with the longer clubs in my bag with Peter the Pro. This showed that I wasn't getting the best out of my driver, fairways and hybrids.

So Peter tweaked a couple of those clubs and we tried out a 7 wood for comparison. Whilst the jury is still out on a 7 wood, I have noticed a slight improvement in distance from the adjustments Peter made. More practice with them is indicated then it's back to Peter for some swing mechanics.

Please consider using Peter as it's so difficult to diagnose your own faults, he has the tech to help us all.