

OAGS News – October 2022

European Tour

This was a tour to another country but not quite a European Tour as Wales is no longer a part of Europe. Was we bovvered? Nah, we ain't bovvered!

Monday

So it was that on a wet autumnal Monday morning in October, 14 OA golfers made their way to South Wales for a few days of golf and some good company. By the time we reached the Prince of Wales Bridge, the sun was shining. Hooray!

Not far from Swansea is a lovely Golf Club called Pyle and Kenfig, affectionately known as P & K. Its lofty sand dunes hug the South Wales coast and there are glorious panoramic views of the Bristol Channel, the Gower Peninsula and the magnificent Welsh Mountains.

The sweaters were soon discarded and after 18 holes, we returned to the bar for rehydration before setting off for Morgans Hotel in Swansea where we dined in our own private room and, as good Aldenham boys, ate all we were given and left clean plates - see below.



Tuesday

The sun shone brightly again on Tuesday as we prepared to compete for the Prevost Salver at the magnificent Royal Porthcawl Golf Club. Recognised as the best golf course in Wales, the sea can be seen from every part of the course.



Playing in pairs with the best "stableford" score counting, Guy Green and Neil Melvill played steadily to record an excellent score of 38 points. However, the winning pair turned out to be Jack Cruickshank and the Hon Sec who finished with 42 points. Here is the President presenting the Salver to Jack and Eggers.



Wednesday

We woke the following morning to a black sky from which rain was descending steadily. Steve Lewis, Peter Easby and Richard Morris made their way home to attend to some family matters so a group of 11 set off in a westerly direction for Ashburnham, rated the 6th best course in Wales.

The fairways had suffered terribly from the dry summer. perhaps the several inches of rain which fell that day will help to repair them!

Some madmen - Ian Wilson-Soppitt, Michael Beavis, John Yule, Ian Eggleden, David Hayes and Jack Cruickshank – managed to complete 15 or 16 holes before retreating to the bar. The others (including Clive Simeons, Marcus Blake and Mark Weatherhead who are all over 80 and very fit) either played 3 or 6 holes or had more sense and watched the rain from the inside of the clubhouse.

Thursday

A brighter morning awaited the four golfers who had decided to play Pennard, a beautiful course of high quality in an amazing setting. John Yule, Neil Melvill, Jack Cruickshank and Mark Weatherhead either had oodles of stamina or just had no idea how exhausted they were.



The rest of us considered that a mid-morning start for the journey home would be a smart move.

This was a highly successful Tour and thanks are due to John Yule for his legendary, unfussy but immaculate organisational skills and to Ben Thrussell who provided the benefits of his knowledge and planning capabilities through his Fields Fairway Golf Travel Company.

There were no "incidents" to report but on the basis of "what happens on tour, stays on tour" I have nothing else to write!

OAGS Recent Results

Summer Meeting

12 July at Ashridge

Attendance: 21 (20 in 2021)

Weather: Dry and hot

Ian Greig Trophy	PH Yule	(67)
Scratch Prize	SC Lewis	(78)
Stableford Prize	ND Melvill	(41 pts)
Laurence Latter Trophy	IP Dowdeswell & SC Lewis	(21 pts)*

* 9 holes only

Match v Old Cholmeleians

16 July at Ashridge

Result: Won 5½ – 2½

Morning

Team:	SC Lewis & IP Dowdeswell	Lost 5&4
	I Wilson-Soppitt & IR Eggleden	Won 5&4
	ND Melvill & JE Cruickshank	Won 2&1
	RJ Morris & JDL Yule	Won 2&1

Afternoon

Team:	DC Gooch & RJ Steel	Lost 3&2
	ND Melvill & IP Dowdeswell	Halved
	RJ Morris & IR Eggleden	Won 1 up
	JDL Yule & JE Cruickshank	Won 4&3

Mini-Tour

10-11 August to Burnham & Berrow: The Tourers were:

MJ Beavis	IR Eggleden	G Green	RD Hall
SC Lewis	ND Melvill	JDL Yule	PH Yule

Triangular Match v Old Leysians and Old Millhillians

23 August at Porters Park

Result*:	Mill Hill	167
	Aldenham	165 points
	The Leys	161

* Playing format Stableford (best 5 scores of 6)

Team:	IR Eggleden	MA Jeens
	PH Yule	PRH Trim
	ND Melvill	MD Ewer

Captain's Invitation Meeting

30 August at Huntercombe

Attendance: 31 (21 members and 10 guests)

Weather: Dry and sunny

Results:

AM	(18 holes)	1 st	P Healey	(43 points)
			(Guest of Jack Cruickshank)	
		2 nd	Howard Till	(43 points)
			(Guest of Richard Steel)	
		3 rd	ND Melvill	(42 points)
PM	(11 holes)		JE Cruickshank & Peter Francis	(26 points)

Autumn Meeting

23 September at Burnham Beeches

Attendance: 14 (15 in 2020) + Mrs BJ Schollick at lunch

OAGS Challenge Cup	JE Cruickshank	(66)
Scratch Prize	MJ Beavis	(78)
Scott Barrett Challenge Cup	IR Eggleden	(38 pts)
MT Allen Challenge Cup	PH Yule & RD Hall	(19 pts)*

* 9 holes only

European Tour

11 October at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club

Winners of the Prevost Salver: JE Cruickshank and IR Eggleden (42 pts)

George Hewetson Tankard

Aggregate scratch prize won by PH Yule (164)

Denham (86) and Ashridge (78)

Warren Gamble Captains Cup

Aggregate medal prize won by IR Eggleden (138)

Ashridge (70) and Burnham Beeches (68)

John Woodrow Cup

The President had decided not to award the John Woodrow Cup as there was no outstanding achievement to be recognised.

This will be the last OAGS News in 2022. It has been a good year in that we completed all our fixtures, more than can be said about 2020 and 2021.

I will be back in the New Year with more news about OA golf in 2023.

I wish everyone a safe, healthy and enjoyable winter, as well as a good Christmas.

Auguro a tutti un inverno sicuro, sano e piacevole, oltre che un felice Natale e un buon capo d'anno.

Ian Eggleden
Hon Secretary

October 2022