

Chairman Report

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

2021 has been the year we reclaimed golf, it has been great to see everyone back enjoying themselves and we would like to welcome all the new members that have joined the club.

In the lockdown that was imposed the committee spent many hours discussing how best to show members their appreciation for the support they had shown during the current lockdown and earlier ones when golf could not be played, we made the decision to move the membership year from January to April and this has been well received by members.

Lots of work by the volunteers, under the supervision of John we undertook work in and around the clubhouse and on the course with the practice nets being constructed, the fan to the kitchen replaced and new decking to replace the old, this and lots more was completed. We will need assistance on future works, so if you do have some time drop the secretary a note, it really is appreciated the effort that the volunteers make.

We then looked to see how we could improve and broaden the use of the clubhouse and we agreed a franchise, partnering with a local company, more on this later but we decided as part of the process to sell off all the old stock at a much-reduced cost. So, lots of the committee manned the bar and it is amazing to watch how quickly you can sell beer and larger for £1.00, a few weekends and it was gone. We then said hello to The Galley who are working with us to supply the members a great service and a warm welcome every time they use the clubhouse. It is worth coming to the clubhouse for the fun on quiz nights ran by Ken and his specialist rounds, so if you are free on a Friday evening call along and see how many questions you get correct.

Spring moved into Summer, and we all got used to using our membership cards on the EPOS system in the clubhouse, no more cash but lots of topping up required for the regular golfers that enjoyed the club facility. We had new faces behind the bar, but you could not see the faces for the Covid mask regulations, however we all had a great time getting to know the Galley staff and they getting to know us.

Steve and Geoff were joined by Neville, and they have kept the course in great condition, we are consistently congratulated on the condition of the course, I have chatted to many groups of visitors, and they have all been complementary of the course, especially the greens. The divot bags arrived with the stands, and these have been successful, so if you're playing pick one up and fill a few divots on your way around.

We transferred the club licence into a public licence and a whole host of other things happened behind the scenes that members may not have been aware of, but all the work undertaken benefited the members and the club. The updating of the constitution has been completed and will be presented to members at the AGM, this reflects the changes that have been made to licencing, subscription dates and lots more.

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Denise and Michael have had enjoyable years and finally as Chairman I have bested the Captain in the Captain v Chairman Ryder Cup, thanks to all my team this year. I also have been part of the Deeble team that won this prestigious NNGC competition and would urge members in 2022 to step forward and be part of any team they are eligible for, it's a great way of meeting people and honing your match play skills.

Looking forward, the winter course is now in play, and we are adding markers and mats, hopefully more mats will be added next year to continue the work that has started. Paul is to run a series of winter competitions for the gents and the ladies continue their Tuesday competitions.

It has been a good year for the club, hopefully when you play you see the difference and think "where else would I rather be", so in 2022 if you have time give a bit of it to the club and help it get even better, its time well spent and appreciated by many.

Michael Lucas Chairperson Warkworth Golf Club