



# ***NORMY NEWS***

***March 2024***

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## ***2024 /25 NGC Club Captain***

Your 2024/25 NGC Club Captain is Mr. Graham Hall. Graham is probably well known to many of you as one of our most active golfers. Graham will be ably supported by the Club's Vice Captain, Mr. Emlyn Pickup as well as his Vice-vice (Captain in 2026) Mr. Bob Craven.

Below is an introduction from Graham



Hi my name is Graham Hall (better known as 'Grez'), and it is a great honour to be the Club Captain for the 2024/25 season at Normanton Golf Club. I joined Normanton golf club in the 1990's and moved with the club to its current location at Hatfield Hall. I enjoy competitive golf and have played for the Net, Tigers, Seniors (EGGS) and the mixed teams. I am keen that in the coming season, members feel they can volunteer if they wish to represent the club in league and friendly matches no matter whether they have done so before. Our thriving and successful sections include a growing Academy and Junior's section coached by our Head Professional, Richard Law, along with Ladies, Scratch, Net, Tigers, Rabbits and the Seniors (EGGS) Team for the 55 years young and over. All sections are welcoming, and they are a great way to meet fellow members.

During my captaincy year I will be fund raising for two separate initiatives in a 50/50 split of funds. The first is the very charitable annual 'Christmas Toy Run' for children in local hospitals run by the Featherstone Spartans Scooter Club. Each year they raise money for Christmas Toys for local hospitals, which they then deliver on their 'Annual Scooter Toy Run' whilst dressed as Santa. I am nominating the other 50% of funds raised to be used for our golf improvement fund. As a member's club, who are primarily run by volunteers, it is important to me that members understand that developing the course and its facilities will not only benefit ourselves as members, but also future Captains to maximise their own charitable initiatives. I would like to wish our members, visitors, their families, the Club staff, the Club Board and volunteers (who donate their time for free) and all the Captains and Vice Captains a very good year. I hope that I, with help from others, can make this a better golf club to play and socialise at over the next year.

Best Regards, Graham Hall, Club Captain 2024/25

## ***Section Captains***

### **2024 Rabbit Captain, Andrew Parkinson**



This year's Rabbit captain is Mr. Andrew Parkinson. Andrew has been a NGC member for many years starting as a junior golfer in 1971. Andy has been a supportive and active golfer at NGC besides being a mad keen Wakefield Trinity fan since 1963. Andy is still to announce his vice captain and is seeking a volunteer from any interested NGC Rabbit Golfer. Andy has arranged his Rabbit Captain away break for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August at Hollins Hall, Bradford consisting of 2 games of golf and an overnight stay with breakfast and dinner for approximately either £110 (twin room) or £150 (single) Anyone interested in going please contact Andy via the Rabbits email address which is [rabbits@normantongolf.co.uk](mailto:rabbits@normantongolf.co.uk) .

## **2024 EGGs Captain, Steve Swales**



Steve Swales is this year's EGGs Captain. Steve's year actually started in December at the EGGs AGM/Christmas Dinner. Steve has been a member of NGC since 2019 and before that was a keen potholer, exploring many of the deep dangerous potholes in this country, particularly Yorkshire. Steve is being ably supported by his vice-captain Lee Adamson. Steve's already arranged his EGGs Captain's away day, which will be on Friday 12 July at Silkstone Golf Club. Anyone interested in going please contact Steve on 07935530979 or at [steve.swales@live.com](mailto:steve.swales@live.com).

## **2024 Junior Captain, Billy Sturgeon**



We would like to welcome this year's Junior Captain, Billy Sturgeon. Billy has developed immensely through the various stages of Junior Golf here at Normanton to reach the pinnacle of Captain of the Section. We all wish Billy a successful year in taking the Section on its forward journey, hopefully continuing with the success of the Section from last year.

## **2024 Scratch & Nett Team Organiser, Andy Bell**



The scratch team will be looking for new players this year as we have lost a number of regulars who played extensively in the last few seasons, and some of our stalwarts of many years are not getting any younger! I'd like to wish Alex Ellis all the best with his move to Australia, and the same to Jake Rose on his move to America, thank you for your support over the years on behalf of NGC.

The Scratch Team gained promotion to Division C of the scratch league last year, therefore giving us better courses to play this year. To play scratch you ideally need a handicap of 0 – 5, and are available on Monday evenings from Mid-May to Mid-August for a 5pm tee off. One of the misconceptions with playing scratch golf is that you have to be a scratch or plus player to compete, we gained promotion last year with most of our squad averaging a 3 to 4 handicap.

Its more about playing well on the night, enjoying representing your club and enjoying playing against some good golfers, at good courses. The club provides a team tee shirt, and also provides food and a drink after each match.

Our Nett team also gained promotion to division A last year, and with some of those lads moving into the scratch team when available we are also looking for golfers between 5 and 10 handicap for this section. I will send an email out in early April via the club with my details on, asking for anyone to get in touch who wishes to join either team. Regards Andy Bell

## **2024 Lady Representative, Gina Kershaw**



The representative for the Ladies Section in 2024 is Gina Kershaw. Gina along with her social committee put in a tremendous effort to ensure that the Ladies Section runs smoothly including organising the many social events (including mixed events) the Section put on.

The Ladies Summer Open this year is on 13th June, there is also the Ladies Autumn Open. Gina would appreciate any members promoting these to any external clubs they may visit.

The Section are also entering the Northern Regional League for mixed couples this year and would welcome any gentlemen interested in joining this. These are played Sunday tee times from 1:00pm. Contact Gina or Kay Allsop for more details.

The Wassail Cup had to be postponed at Christmas and was played in February with Janet West winning the 9 hole competition with 20 points. There are also 2 ladies on the newly formed Disciplinary Panel. Good luck in the forthcoming season Gina and her team!

### **2024 Tigers Organisers, Roy Smith and Gary Varley**



This year the Tiger's Section have 2 organisers to reflect the 2 teams they operate in different leagues. Roy Smith will organise the Heavy Woollen Tigers League whilst Gary Varley will run the Mid Handicap League for the 6.5 - 13 handicaps. Anyone interested in playing for the Tigers this year please indicate your interest either by leaving your contact details on their notice board or contact either of the above organisers directly or via the pro shop.

### ***Junior Section / Organiser Position***

Members may have read through these Newsletters over the last few years about the recent success of our Junior and Academy Section, having won 3 leagues and 4 promotions in total over the last three seasons, as well as reaching the Junior Cup final last year. The Academy set-up continues to grow and has Golf Sixes and NRL 'nines' to play in as they develop their skills.

All this is from having virtually no juniors several years ago. This has been a real "NGC team" effort to get where we are now running 2 successful LDGU Junior League teams, and has been achieved through the enormous commitment of Kay Allsop, backed up by keen enthusiastic parents/grandparents and supported all along the way by the Professional team of Gary, Callum and Rich Law, who have played a key role in the delivery of coaching the academy children. The Board of Directors have backed the development all the way. It just goes to prove what can be achieved when we all pull together as a team.

This initial success now requires strategic development as it moves in to the next phase. Part of that development has seen a change in Junior Organiser, with Kay passing the baton over to Paul Mottram. The Juniors are now being run by a team of parents and older players, particularly the current and ex-Captains, with Paul being the point of contact for the club. One of the first new initiatives is to implement a coaching system for the junior players, in addition to that used with the academy children.

This will be led by Rich Law in partnership with the individual coaches that any of the players may have, with a view to keeping future development 'in-house' and making Normanton a force in the junior game. Furthermore, future Captain's will have more responsibilities within the section. These ideas, and a number of others, are all work in progress.

Therefore, if anyone within the club feels they have any skills, experience or ideas that could aid or benefit the continued development of the Juniors at Normanton, please do get in touch with Paul, Rich Carter or Rich Law.

### ***Captain's Handover and Drive in***

Friday saw the Captains Handover evening where 2023/4 Captain David Riley presented the new Captain's blazer to the incoming Captain for 2024/5 Graham Hall. Members enjoyed the evening which included a meal followed by music from Holly Tandy See pictures below of the event.

Captain's Drive in this year is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April with 2 shotgun starts one morning and the second in the afternoon. The new Club Captain for 2024/25 Graham Hall will "drive off" from the blue competition tee at approximately 12.30 Please show your support to our new Captain by attending his Drive in.







## **Other NGC Club News**

### **“Thank You Kay”**

The Club would like to say a big “thank you” to Kay Alsop who after several years of leading the Club’s Junior Section as its organiser has decided now is the time for her to stand down and pass the baton on to someone else. There is little doubt that without Kay’s drive and enthusiasm the Juniors Section would not have grown/developed as it has. Kay has built it up from virtually nothing to being one of the most vibrant Junior Sections in the Leeds Golf Union operating 2 teams. Once again, many thanks Kay!

### **“Welcome on Board Gary”**

You may have seen recently that Gary Varley, a long standing supportive member has agreed to join the Board of Directors as its Membership Director. This position has been vacant since Richard Poynton stood down after 10 years at the end of 2021, since when it has been “covered” by the Golf Director Richard Carter. Welcome Gary!



Gary is also currently heading the Club's recently created Disciplinary Panel which very much brings us into line with the recommendations of England Golf appertaining to disciplinary procedures. (And is also one of the 2 Tigers Organisers – busy lad our Gary!)

### **Well done Jake!**

Congratulations are in order I am led to believe to one of our members Jake Rose who is employed on the Greens Staff at Moortown Golf Club. Jake has recently received an award for his successful studies at Askham Bryan College (York). Congratulations Jake!

### **Leeds Golf Union Prize winners**

The picture below shows our victorious Normanton Team collecting the Coronation Cup at the recent LGU Awards evening, which they won last season. Well done lads!!



### **2024 Membership subscriptions**

By the time you are reading this you should have hopefully renewed your 2024/25 membership subscription. However, for those last minute payers please remember it would help us greatly if you pay your bill online via [www.Howdoipay.com](http://www.Howdoipay.com) (All details were in the letter that came with the bill)

For those people who paid by Direct Debit last year (10 monthly payments) and wish to this year – there is nothing you need to do, we will renew for you (unless you tell us otherwise). If you didn't pay by Direct Debit last year but wish to this year the details in the letter will explain how you can apply.

The very latest deadline to pay your subs through any of the above methods will be 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Anyone who has not paid by then will have deemed to have resigned and their place will be allocated to one of the prospective members who have been patiently waiting on a list to join the club.

If you would like a locker next year, then please contact the office to see if there are any spare. If there are, these will be allocated from your position on the locker waiting list or if there is no list on a first come first served basis. The price for a locker is £43 for a large locker or £20 for a small locker (ladies changing room only).

## Charity Fundraising Success

David Ryley concluded his fundraising activities for his Captain's year with a social get together to listen to ex BBC (now freelance) Sports/Rugby Presenter Tanya Arnold. Tanya told many interesting tales from her Media career so far to a captivated audience. David's total raised so far is shown below where he presented the cheque to the West Yorkshire branch of MND on Captain's Handover night.



The picture below shows some of the good work at Christmas carried out by Graham's Charity Choice for 2024/25



### ***Diary Dates/Social Events***

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, **Captain's Drive-in** (at approx 12.30) am & pm shotgun starts  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April, **Rabbits 13 hole comp & AGM + Food £5**. Come along and join the Section.  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June, **Club Captain's Away Day** at Sandburn Hall York, 27 holes & food £60  
Friday 12 July, **EGGS Captain's Away Day**, at Silkstone Golf Club £60  
Sun/Mon 18/19<sup>th</sup> August, **Rabbit's Captain Away w/end** at Hollins Hall, Bed, breakfast & evening meal & 2 games £110

**QUIZ NIGHT is on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 pm for 8.30pm start**

All the usual features but this one will have an Easter theme

**QUIZ NIGHT!!**  
**GOOD FRIDAY,**  
**March 29th**

**General Knowledge Quiz**  
Including picture Quiz and Music Quiz,  
Teams of up to 6 players max. - £1.00 per entry per person

**Super 20 Safe Cracker Draw**  
only £1 per Ticket - Five Draws per night.

SAFE CRACKER JACKPOT **£200**  
Only 18 numers left

**Card Bingo** Just £1 per game - Minimum 2 games

**Supper** Good Friday Supper - Chip Butty available to order up at the bar upto 8.30 for just £3,

A decorative image at the bottom of the poster showing several colorful Easter eggs (red, pink, blue, yellow) nestled in green grass.

## Advice on Finance at Hatfeild Hall

Are you seeking advice on how to navigate the complex world of finance?

Future Group (UK) Ltd are here to help you. We are committed to empowering individuals and businesses to take control of their financial health and achieve their financial goals. In our quest to ensure that everyone has access to quality financial advice, we are thrilled to introduce our Free Drop-In Clinic.

This is a unique platform where you can speak to one of our experienced and professional advisers **at absolutely no cost**. At Future Group (UK) Ltd, we offer a wide range of financial services that cater to different needs. Our services include:

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- Insurance
- Mortgages
- Income Protection
- Last Will & Testaments
- Lasting Power of Attorneys
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Corporate/ Business Solutions
- Probate

Our team of advisers have extensive knowledge and experience in these areas and are dedicated to providing you with the best advice that will help you make informed financial decisions.

Take the first step towards achieving financial freedom. Join us at the next Drop-In Clinic or call us on 01924 239486 for a free, no-obligation consultation.

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*Free Drop-In Clinic*

Your financial health & freedom are our priority. That's why we are offering a free drop-in service where you can speak to one of our advisers.

**OUR SERVICE:**

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- ✓ Insurance
- ✓ Mortgages
- ✓ Corporate/ Business Solutions
- ✓ Income Protection
- ✓ Auto-Enrolment
- ✓ Last Will & Testaments
- ✓ Lasting Power of Attorneys
- ✓ Inheritance Tax Planning
- ✓ Probate
- ✓ + more

**The Next Drop-In Clinic will be:**  
**Date:** 9th April 2024  
**Time:** 12.00 pm - 3.00pm  
**Location:** Annabel Suite

Future Group (UK) Ltd - 01924 239486 • Future Estate Planning Services Ltd - 0800 625 0512

**Any news items for future letters, contact Richard at [office@normantongolf.co.uk](mailto:office@normantongolf.co.uk)**