

Captains statement – 30-9-20

This statement will be given in two parts, the fast version and the drawn-out version with some detail and some bits glossed over...

Version 1

- October 2019 – I drove in
 - It then proceeded to rain for 3 months
 - Covid rocked up
 - I putt out on Sunday
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Version 2

Captains drive in – even with biblical weather we still managed a game, followed by an epic lunch and a couple of shandy's complete with a lot of support from the club, which was much appreciated. The hut that day was manned by the girls and with some cracking food (mainly provided by Mrs B, Sue Stead and Chris), and with choice usage of Chinese burns they managed to kick my charity year off with a great total.

This continued into the Christmas period with the raffle issues being put to bed and being widely supported by the membership we continued to race ahead with the fundraising. A good time was had by all at the captain's lunch although I may have gone overboard on Tim's port...

And then it happened, my year was destined to become a bit of a shadow of its former self, firstly comps where cancelled, then lockdown reared its head, we all missed out on the inter club comps, guest day, captain's day to name but a few - but the club membership came out fighting as it always does. The members complied with the directions and followed these as and when they developed or were amended and, I thank you all for it! Golf, at the end of the day, is only a game and its not worth risking any of our health for, and this year we all looked out for each other.

The queen coined a phrase a few years ago in her Christmas message, "annus horribilis" I think she said, I'm afraid I'm not very good at Latin so ill use a different one, this year has been... shit. But even with that shittiness we have pulled together and made it as good as it could have been. I'm always amazed at what people will do for the good of each other and the club and that's never been more apparent than during my captaincy.

I say thank you from the bottom of my heart firstly, to the committee, Phil, Phil, Kevin, Pete, Pete, Mike and Buz for all of your help during this year, testing times call for class acts, and that's what you all are. The staff at the club, Paul and Matt for managing the day to day running of the clubhouse and trying to bring a level of normality during these difficult times, Leo for his organisational skills and keeping us as informed as he was allowed to and finally Jeff (superman) for single handedly keeping the course tended in our absence and also getting back to the standard it is now, you're all worth your weight in gold and we are lucky to have you. I perhaps haven't been as visible this year as I'd like to have been for one reason or another outside of COVID and with this in mind I thank the Vets, Ladies and Junior captains for their help in managing to hold a few inter section comps and for helping me along the way and also to Craig and Leo for their stellar work in arranging some fund-raising events both for my charity and the NHS.

And finally...

I take this opportunity to wish Phil, although he won't need it, every success in the forthcoming year. Mate, you and Paul will be a great team and I hope that things ease and you can enjoy your year as you'd planned to. You know I'll help in any way I can!

I'll sign off by letting you know what 'Shit years' charity total was, we managed to raise, in THAT year.... £4200.54 for Amy and friends, and I think we should all be bloody proud of ourselves!

And here, ladies and gentlemen is to Phil (*raises glass of shandy), Thank you