

THE MACREDDIN T-TIMES

Macreddin's leading golfing newspaper

Wicklow Edition May 2007



CLUB NEWS

A New Arrival

In addition to baby Leech (Caoilfhionn), Macreddin Golf welcomes a new member to the team – Roger Yates. Roger, a professional golfer is available to answer any of your membership enquiries along with David and can be reached on 0402 36999.

Golf Nights

Macreddin Golf Club will be holding tuition nights in the coming months. To find out more please contact the Golf Office on 0402-36999.

Members Draw

All members will be entered into a draw to play in course designer, Paul McGinley's invitation only outing in July 2007. For details on the draw please contact the Membership Office on info@macreddingolfclub.com

Opening Hours

With the sunny weather now upon us the Golf Office is open every weekday until 7pm, on Saturday 11am – 4pm and Sunday 12pm – 4pm. If you would like to take a tour of the spectacular course please drop by or contact either of our Membership Development Managers David Leech on 087-9818650 or Roger Yates 087-6761056 for an appointment.

Quinta

After the huge success of our inaugural tour to Valderrama we will be taking the new members of Macreddin Golf Club on a three day tour from the 26th May 2007 to fellow PGA European Tour Course Quinta do Lago, Portugal with our compliments. A subsidised rate of €850 is available for any other members / guests. If you are interested in joining us please contact Eve in the membership office on 0402-36999 or evkelly@macreddingolfclub.com

More than just a web site

Visit www.macreddingolfclub.com where you can see interviews with Paul McGinley, a flyover of all 18 holes of the fabulous golf course as well as the full version of the stories in this newsletter.

Paul Checks Progress

March 22nd

Never one to let the grass grow under his feet Paul McGinley, accompanied by the Ryder Cup made his way down to Macreddin Golf Course, his first course design, to ensure his modifications had been completed prior to the June 30th Opening and view the progress of his new home adjacent to the 18th tee.

It was then time for him to relax and meet his mother and daughter who were staying in the Brooklodge Hotel and had enjoyed an afternoon of spa treatments and horse riding.

Once back in the Waterside Lounge Paul was approached by a

very excited bride-to-be getting married the following day in the Brooklodge. Her request to get a photo of her future husband, Paul and the Ryder Cup was met with open arms. As they posed for the photo Paul mentioned to the lucky husband that tomorrow was going to be a very big day, to which he replied "Not as big as this"!

A relaxed meal that evening with Pat Galavan the Macreddin Golf Club Chairman, Eoin Doyle, Marketing Director of the Brooklodge Hotel and Joe Bedford, one of Paul's pals was followed by an early night as there was an early start tomorrow.



Two of the twenty two houses in Macreddin Village with stunning views of Macreddin Golf Club



Paul lines up a putt on the 15th hole on the course.

March 23rd

The first sign of light came at 06.30 on Friday morning and Paul was out on the golf course surveying the progress before a 07.30 breakfast meeting with the full design team. After breakfast it was straight back out on the golf course with the clubs in the jeep to see how things had progressed. Paul hit balls from different tees ensuring the landing areas were as he planned. Even Paul's mother was brought in to ensure the distances from the ladies tees were fair and playable.

Paul met with members and members guests on the course explaining his philosophy on golf course design and how these ideas were implemented on the course.

After a busy but very successful

morning on the golf course it was time to grab a sandwich before returning to the course for more promotional pictures. Having spent over 10 hours on the course the Macreddin Golf Club team met with Paul to plan the strategy for the rest of the year and finalise areas such as the practice ground facilities, clubhouse design and the opening of the first nine holes on the 30th June.

Finally Paul headed back to Dublin on Friday evening looking forward to watching his son appear in Croke Park the next day as mascot in the crucial World Cup Qualifier against Wales.

For all at Macreddin Golf Club this visit again confirmed the great input that Paul is putting into his first golf course design.

From The Subgrade Up

by Roger Jones

As we go to print the sky is blue, the sun is shining, and the grass on the golf course is growing vigorously and is in pristine condition. As our June 30th date for opening this first phase of the golf course gets ever nearer confidence is growing that it will be presented in the desired condition, and with a maturity that will enable it to be enjoyed and appreciated by our members and visitors from day one.

On days like this it's all too easy to forget the winter past with its prolonged rain and wind, when the grass lay dormant and we longed for the better weather. What is not forgotten is the effort and dedication of our Golf Course Superintendent Aindriu Jackson and his team throughout the winter and early spring. The growing-in and

maintenance of a golf course is a year round job whatever the weather, and the work done by the team, under the technical supervision of Frank Dargan, has laid the foundations for the quality of turf that has emerged and is evident today.

The lead-in to the opening date is, and will continue to be, busier still with a daily task list of mowing, topdressing, weed control, aeration and tidying. Our team will most definitely play their part but the positive input of Mother Nature is also vital; her supply of sunshine and rainfall are integral ingredients necessary for the proper growth of our greens, teeing areas, fairways and all other areas of the course.

The Spring has brought us an abundance of wild flowers and shrubs, from yellow primroses to foxgloves and many more. The gorse



Paul, Aindriu, Frank and Roger

is now in full bloom and with many new seedlings beginning to grow this will further populate some of the out of play areas around the course. The existing trees are putting on their new growth for the year and the deer, pheasants and other animals and birds pay us a daily visit to make their own check on progress.

Famous author Mark Twain once said that 'golf is a good walk spoilt'. Had he ever had the opportunity to visit Macreddin he may well have never made this comment.

Whilst Aindriu and his team concentrate on the 9 holes that will

open for play, our Shaper/Supervisor Terry Jeffrey, with a team of machinery and personnel, is back on site to complete the other 9 holes. By the end of last year the earthworks and shaping of seven of these holes was done. We had also formed five of the new greens and teeing areas. The remaining heavy construction work is well underway and will be followed by the re-spreading of the topsoil, cultivation and seeding throughout the summer.

As our golf course design has come to life on this side of the land it is very evident that these holes are just as spectacular and interesting as the others, and there are undoubtedly several contenders for 'the best hole on the golf course'. What is absolutely certain is that the care and attention to detail that went into the design and construction of the holes finished last year is being maintained as we move towards the conclusion of the construction phase of the course.

A Members Club

Keen to continue the Club spirit that was initiated in Valderrama, Macreddin Golf Club outings have been taking place from early December 2006.

8th December 2006
Woodenbridge Golf Club,
Wicklow

Despite the heavens opening on the days prior to the first Macreddin 'Organic Goose Shoot', 25 members enjoyed a cold yet sunny Stableford competition in Woodenbridge Golf Club.

23rd February 2007

Coollattin Golf Club, Wicklow

In typical Irish winter fashion, the storm clouds gathered early on the

23rd and showed no sign of passing. With some last minute cancellations only 6 brave members (Gearóid, Dermot, Ray, Victor, Terry and Susan) defied the elements and set off on what can only be described as an enduring game of Golf!!

30th March 2007

Woodenbridge Golf Club,
Wicklow

With the weather on our side this time, 20 members enjoyed a relaxing, yet competitive, game of



Vicky, Susan, Terry, Damien, Victor and Bernard enjoy Actons Pub

golf (despite the hollow coring!!). The good weather followed us back to Macreddin where Dave and Roger gave updated tours of the ever progressing course. Members were then treated to all the organic delights that Actons and the Orchard Café had to offer.

And the winners are...
Organic Goose Shoot

Overall: John Murphy
Longest Drive: Liam Murphy
Nearest the Pin: Bernard Kernan
Ladies Prize: Susan Kernan

23rd February

Overall: Ray Kane

30th March

Members Prize: Bernard Kernan
Guests Prize: Vincent Clancy

With only a few outings left before the course opens (Arklow Golf Club on the 27th April and members tour to Quinta do Lago) the incentive to get on the winners list will ensure everyone has their game fine tuned prior to June 30th 2007!

MACREDDIN
GOLF CLUB IS
NOW ACCEPTING
APPLICATIONS
FOR SHARE
CERTIFICATES &
MEMBERSHIP



If you would like to take a tour of Macreddin Golf Club please contact either of our Membership Development Managers David Leech on 087-9818650 or Roger Yates on 087-6761056. Or alternatively drop by the Golf office for more information.

OPENING HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 09.30 – 7pm
Saturday: 11.00 – 4pm
Sunday: 12pm – 4pm