



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

A CENTENARY HISTORY

CUMANN GHAILF BHAILE AN MHANAIGH
STAIR CUIMHNEACHÁIN - CÉAD BLIAN

1908-2008

ALICIA ST. LEGER





THE SPONSOR



The McCarthy family are honoured to be associated with this wonderful production. It celebrates the 100th anniversary of the founding of a club which is internationally known for its friendliness and the welcome given to members and guests.

We have been members of the club for many years. Kathleen and I first joined in the early 1970s and our children Michelle and Tom followed. I look forward very soon to my grandchildren becoming members. We have experienced at first hand the hospitality and companionship at the club and have had the good fortune to make many lifelong friends. For this and many other reasons we are proud to be associated with such a prestigious club as Monkstown.

Our own business was founded in 1961 and in a sense I feel we have grown together in the same timeframe. The dedication of the many people who guided the club through the last one hundred years is a key to its future, in that each year brings a new committee and officers to carry on the proud and wonderful traditions of the club.

Like our present economy the club has worked its way through good times and bad times. There have been continuous improvements, from the original nine hole course to an eighteen hole course, moving from the castle to the old clubhouse building and now to the wonderful new clubhouse which is there to carry us through into the second century of the club's existence.

The future is secure and I look forward to McCarthy Developments sponsoring the bicentennial in 2108.

Thomas McCarthy

Thomas McCarthy and family
McCarthy Developments (Cork) Limited.

The centenary book is a wonderful collection of memories and historical facts. This will ensure that all of those who have guided the club in its first century will be remembered by those who will follow us.

I wish to thank Sean Geary and Brendan Mulcahy who brought this opportunity to us and for their efforts in bringing it to fruition.

I hope that all readers will derive the same enjoyment as we have from this treasured book.

I wish the club well for its future and a happy 100th birthday!





MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

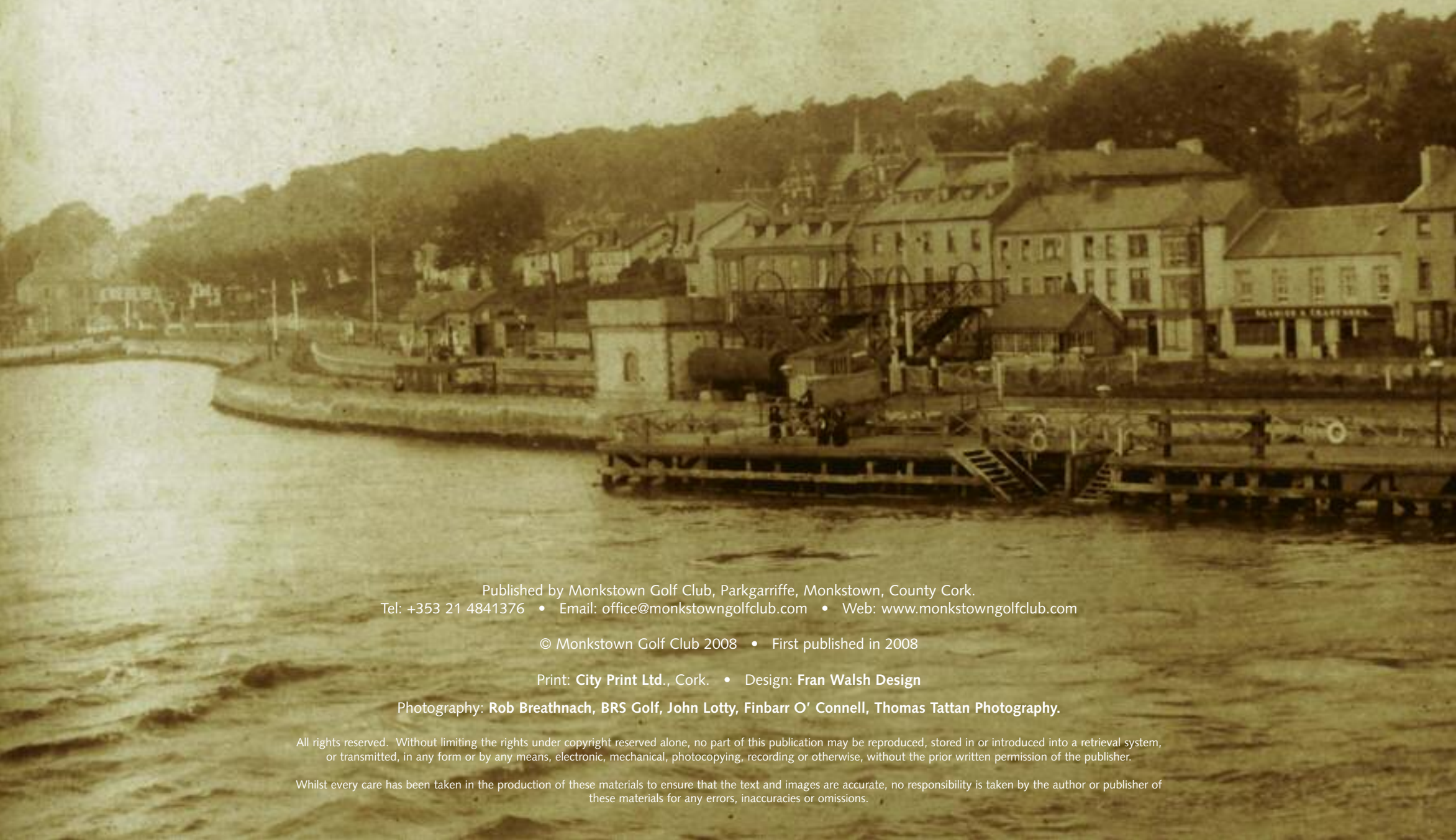
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Photograph of Monkstown taken in 1911 by Charles Hamilton Foott.
The railway ran along the shore and was used by many members to
travel to and from the golf club.



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George M.W. Atkinson, Brigantine on the River Lee with Monkstown in the background. Painted in 1849, this view shows Monkstown Castle on the brow of the hill behind the growing village of Monkstown. (Port of Cork Collection)

THE CAPTAIN OF THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB OF ST. ANDREWS

Shortly after my election as Captain of the Royal and Ancient, I was privileged to be invited to write a foreword for this magnificent centenary book of Monkstown Golf Club. On researching your club I could not but be taken by your unique location overlooking Cork Harbour and particularly by the outstanding commitment and dedication to the game of golf by your members over the past 100 years. Within five years of your founding I noted that you had already produced an international golfer and in the interim you have produced top international golfers and administrators, both male and female. I also noted that the original course was over nine holes with historic Monkstown Castle as your clubhouse, surely the envy of surrounding clubs then and thereafter. Sixty three years on and you had extended your course to eighteen holes and moved to a new clubhouse. All the while you have continued to upgrade your course and by 2006 you had moved to yet another new clubhouse, this time to the striking one you occupy today.

I am so pleased to be associated with this beautifully written and designed book which faithfully charts your progress over the past century. You must be so proud of the historic material you possess dating back to 11 April 1908, the date of your first Captain's drive-in. The book captures the spirit and ethos of your club down through the years and it illustrates all that is best in our wonderful game. Most especially it demonstrates the way in which golf, even at the highest level, can be combined with a most enjoyable social side; this added dimension undoubtedly gives a club a greater sense of camaraderie and unity of purpose.

To the officers and members of Monkstown Golf Club, I salute you on your remarkable achievements during your first 100 years and it is my sincere wish that your successors will continue in your footsteps and bring further glory to your wonderful club over the next century.



Hamish Ritchie

Hamish Ritchie

Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews



THE CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

In the ordinary scale of time and its relentless passage, a centenary is truly a momentous occasion for either a person or an organisation. Its achievement confers venerability, dignity and the wisdom of great age.



As our club achieves its first century of existence, it is a matter of great pride to those of us who have witnessed the progress made over the years. That progress is the legacy we have been fortunate enough to inherit from those members who worked to establish this club in times less fortunate than now. They were indeed circumspect, diligent – but kept before them the ideal of a club dedicated to friendship and achievement.

So in this time of celebration, let us enjoy our achievements whilst at the same time remembering the efforts of those who over the years gave with such generosity to Monkstown.

Guím gach beannacht ar ár mbaill uilig anseo, i láthair na huaire sa todhchaí, gan dearmad a dhéanamh ar ár sinsir agus an oll-obair a rinne siad dúinn. Tá súil agam go mbeidh greim doct againn ar a sprid, agus go mbeidh a leithéid ann againn 'sna réimsí atá le teacht.

It is with great pride that I take this opportunity of contributing to the Centenary Book of this great club.

Brian Dunphy
Chairman, Committee of Management

THE PRESIDENT

Our Centenary Book captures the unique history of our club, its officers, members and staff in minute detail, from our origins in the historic castle clubhouse to our recently constructed new modern clubhouse. It also chronicles the development of our golf course from the original nine holes to our current much developed eighteen hole

course. I believe the book captures the significant voluntary effort of members over the years in developing the various golf course layouts and clubhouse facilities for which the members can be rightly proud. In addition, it celebrates the golfing achievements of our members on the national and international scenes down through the years. Great credit and thanks are due to Sean Geary and his Centenary Committee who worked extremely hard to make this publication possible.

It has been a unique honour for me to have been President of Monkstown Golf Club in this Centenary Year. The goodwill and friendship, which is synonymous with our club, will leave Madeleine and me with lasting fond memories of a year of great celebrations to which many members contributed.

Our Centenary Captain's versatility over the years on the entertainment scene both outside and within the club made him an inspired choice to represent the club in this special year. Our Ladies' Club Centenary

Captain brought a charm and dedication to the role which more than matched the requirements of a truly demanding year. It was a pleasure to have Maurice Healy and Maura Long as colleagues for our Centenary Year.

I hope that you have enjoyed the Centenary Year as much as I have and that the Centenary Book will provide you with many happy hours of reflection.



Larry O'Dwyer
President

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

THE CAPTAIN

It has been a wonderful honour to be elected captain of this great club in our Centenary Year. It is the highlight of my thirty years of Monkstown membership.

As we look back over our past 100 years we celebrate the journey that our members have undertaken and we applaud the vision of these members during the years. This book is a fitting recognition of our history and we thank all who contributed photographs and other material and indeed their own memories and anecdotes. Our very special thanks to Hamish Ritchie, Captain of the Royal and Ancient, for his attendance at the launch and his kind words.

With our new clubhouse and our course improvements, our facilities are now of the highest standard but be assured we will not be resting on our laurels as we look forward to our second hundred years. I am confident that we will continue to have members with the vision and the talent to keep this wonderful club progressing for many years to come.

Our centenary celebrations have received enormous support from our members and friends and we hope that there was something for everyone to remember. As our year draws to a close the memories of a fantastic 2008 will be always with me. Who can forget events like our 100th anniversary drive-in, our centenary ball, Ryder Cup weekend, the twinning with Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club and the Munster and All Ireland Finals of the Bulmers' Cups and Shields?

May I thank my fellow officers Larry O'Dwyer and Maura Long for their support and particularly for such an enjoyable year. Thank you to all the members and staff for making 2008 so special for me and my family. May we all enjoy many more years of good health and good golf at Monkstown.



Maurice Healy
Captain



THE LADY CAPTAIN

To be selected by our members to represent Monkstown Golf Club in its Centenary Year has been an honour and a privilege and I am grateful for the wonderful opportunity afforded to me.

Can you imagine life without golf and particularly Monkstown Golf Club? Just over one hundred years ago, Parkgarraffe, Monkstown and its environs was a much quieter place than it is today! We are indebted to past members who were inspirational in the setting up of this club and gave us this wonderful legacy to enjoy. Over the years Monkstown has become synonymous with golf, lively social activities and a wonderful culture. We have had three clubhouses, each with its distinctive personality, with the present wonderful building being completed in 2006. We are proud that in this fast changing world, Monkstown continues to adapt to new challenges while, at the same time, retaining our charm and family spirit for which we are so well known. I have no doubt that good golf, good fun and great friendships will continue for another hundred years.

A great deal of work has gone into this Centenary Book and the planning of events during 2008 and I would like to express my thanks to Sean Geary, Chairman of the Centenary Committee, and all our subcommittees for their efforts throughout the year. Thanks also to our members who supported the many centenary events that gave us all such unforgettable memories. We were so proud to have our Ladies Challenge Team and the Bruen team reach the National Finals during this year.

A personal thanks to my fellow officers of Captain Maurice Healy and President Larry O'Dwyer for their support and friendship during this wonderful Centenary Year.

I hope you will spend many happy hours reading these memories of 100 years.



Maura Long
Lady Captain



THE CHAIRMAN CENTENARY COMMITTEE

In 2005 I was honoured to be invited by the then Chairman of the Management Committee, Brendan Mulcahy, to chair the club's Centenary Committee. The committee, consisting of Eleanor Murnaghan, who acted as honorary secretary, Philip O'Dwyer, John O'Reilly and Aidan Punch, all of whom had considerable administrative experience within the club, have given so generously of their time over the past three years. Working with the officers of the day, we drew up and continuously refined a programme of celebratory events which we trust has marked our centenary in an appropriate fashion.



One of the major highlights of our centenary year was the production of this centenary book. Acclaimed historian and author Dr. Alicia St. Leger was chosen to research and write the history and distinguished designer Fran Walsh of Fran Walsh Design was chosen to design the book. On behalf of the club I had the privilege of working closely with them and the end product is a reflection of the professionalism and attention to detail so amply demonstrated in every facet of their work. Alicia had the distinction of writing the book produced to mark the club's 75th anniversary in 1983 and so she already had a sense of the culture and motivation of Monkstown. She has faithfully and beautifully recaptured that sense with this publication. I have worked with Fran Walsh for some twenty years on various Port of Cork publications and also on an award winning GAA book. On this occasion Fran has again demonstrated his immense artistic skill and imagination.

Alicia, Fran and I are truly indebted to the many members and indeed non-members who have helped us in our efforts to produce a fitting record of the club's first 100 years and they have been acknowledged elsewhere in the book. However, at the possible expense of causing offence unwittingly to someone, I feel compelled to highlight the exceptional contributions of past

Captain and architect of the additional nine holes, Tom Carey, esteemed member and amateur photographer Rob Breathnach and long time members and past Captains, Violet Murphy and John O'Reilly whose vivid recollections of times past helped us to name so many members in early photographs. The wonderful images provided by professional photographers John Lotty, Tom Tattan and Finbarr O'Connell have done much to embellish the book.

We trust that, as you read this book and contemplate the remarkable achievements and vision of our predecessors, members will derive the same degree of pleasure that we did in compiling it.

A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads "Sean Geary".

Sean Geary
Chairman Centenary Committee



Clubhouse and surrounds 2008.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

1908-2008



PREFACE

Reaching a centenary year is a significant milestone in a club's history. For Monkstown Golf Club it was a perfect opportunity to look back on one hundred years of club life by producing a publication to mark the occasion.

The club had its origins in the Edwardian era with a group of energetic, forward-looking individuals who were fascinated by the game of golf. Their enthusiasm ensured that in 1908 the club was established on a solid basis, with its clubhouse in Monkstown Castle beside the newly created nine hole course. From these surroundings, the club grew and developed over the ensuing decades. By the early twenty-first century, the course had expanded to eighteen holes and a fine new clubhouse had been constructed. Throughout its first century, the club retained

its friendly and sociable atmosphere while the love of the game of golf remained undiminished.

This publication aims to capture some of the spirit of the club and to acknowledge the dedicated contribution made by so many members over the years. Men and women worked hard for the club, allowing it to grow during good times and ensuring its survival during difficult periods. The story of Monkstown Golf Club is set against the main trends in golfing, both in Ireland and further afield. The book also records the main achievements of the club's many notable golfers as well as celebrating its important social life.

Many sources were used in compiling this history. Perhaps the most important were the minute books which survive in unbroken line from 1912 to the present day. Unfortunately, the first minute book from 1908 to 1912 no longer exists, but information on this period was found in a club competition book and in other contemporary sources. The minutes record the details of many aspects of club life, including the mundane, but important, day-to-day management of the club. The names of club office holders, professionals, catering staff and many others are recorded on the pages of the minute books, showing how the club developed over the years. Other club books, such as membership books and accounts, provided further glimpses into the life of the club. These club sources were augmented by published works, particularly newspapers, which recorded important events over the years. The club is fortunate to have photographs of the official opening in 1908 and these images allow us to look back in time to the founding members and their world. Other photographs and artefacts from later years provide further views of club life in a rapidly changing twentieth century.

The members of Monkstown Golf Club are, of course, the key to the club and the author is grateful to the many members who kindly agreed to be interviewed or who provided information and assistance. Memories of club life stretched back to the 1940s and evoked the life and times of the club in that period and later decades.

Sincere thanks are due to all of those who assisted in the production of this book. The members, club officers, general manager, professional and all those who work at the club were unfailingly helpful. Particular thanks to Barry Ferriss who kindly proof-read the text. Appreciation is expressed to the staff of libraries and other institutions, especially staff at Cork City and County Archives and Cork City Library.

Centenary Committee Chairman Sean Geary has been associated with this project from the beginning and the author is very grateful for his guidance, help and encouragement. Thanks also to Fran Walsh for his expert design which has contributed so much to this publication.

Alicia St. Leger

Alicia St. Leger





MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Map showing the Monkstown estate of Bernard Robert Shaw, 1862. The beautifully drawn map shows the fields that later became part of the golf course.

CHAPTER 1 EARLY YEARS 1908-1939

*'The Hon. Secretary's beautiful little daughter, who looked charming in a cream serge dress, and a red hat, then took up her position on the tee, and at the second attempt, drove off, to the accompaniment of much applause.'*¹

So it was that Miss Eileen Bournemouth drove the first ball at Monkstown Golf Club on a sunny Saturday afternoon on 11th April 1908, as part of the formal opening of the club. As the applause died away, the nearly three hundred people present made their way to the nearby castle for tea.

The opening of a new golf club in Monkstown was just one of the latest developments in the fashionable village in the early years of the twentieth century. Over the previous decades Monkstown had emerged both as a desirable place to live and as a health resort for the wealthy. It had come a long way from its origins as the site of a Benedictine priory that was to give its name to the area.

A small religious house had been established at Legan in the early thirteenth century, possibly endowed by the MacCarthys. Although marked on some early maps as being located near the present-day castle, the exact site of Legan priory is not known. A modest establishment, it was dependent on the larger Benedictine priories at St. John's in Waterford and Bath. The priory functioned until the mid-fourteenth century, after which time it appears to have been leased out and farmed: certainly in the sixteenth century the Benedictine priory and hospital in Cork received corn from the lands at Legan.² Following the dissolution of the monasteries from the mid-sixteenth century, the religious lands at Monkstown passed into secular hands. However, the name of Monkstown recalls the area's links with the Benedictines.

Originally held by the MacCarthys and O'Mahonys, the greater Monkstown area passed to the Anglo-Norman de Cogan family in about the thirteenth century. The de Cogan retained much of the area until 1438 when it was transferred to the

Fitzgeralds, Earls of Desmond. The lands at Monkstown subsequently passed through a number of hands and by the 1630s belonged to the Archdeacon family. In 1636 John Archdeacon and his wife Anastasia built a fortified house in Monkstown. It was this structure, Monkstown Castle, that became the clubhouse of Monkstown Golf Club in 1908.

MONKSTOWN CASTLE

Monkstown Castle was the much loved and unique home of Monkstown Golf Club for many years and there is a fascinating story connected with its construction in 1636. The woman behind the castle was Anastasia Archdeacon who reputedly had it erected as a surprise for her husband who was serving with the army of the King of Spain. John Archdeacon had land at Dromdowney, near Mallow, which originally had belonged to his father. In 1634 the Dromdowney lands were sold and two years later the fortified house on his property at Monkstown was built.

Anastasia Archdeacon was the daughter of Alderman Thomas Gould, member of a prominent Cork merchant family. She obviously inherited good business acumen as when she built Monkstown Castle she managed the accounts so well that in the end it is said that it cost her only a groat (four pence). She achieved this by operating profitable stores supplying goods and provisions for the workers. Another version suggests that she deducted the cost of board and lodgings from the wages of the workers. In any event, she completed the structure for very little cost.



Monkstown Castle in the mid-nineteenth century.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Late nineteenth century view of Monkstown Castle.

When John Archdeacon returned from Spain, he apparently was so surprised to see the new castle in Monkstown that he thought an enemy had erected it. He even aimed his guns at the castle, reputedly damaging the upper part of one of the towers.

Monkstown Castle was a strongly built house, constructed with defence as a major concern. It consists of a three-storey central block, surrounded by four sturdy towers. Each of the towers rises to four storeys, with attic, and each has a bartizan or defensive projection at the top of the outside corner. This enabled defenders to fire on attackers or to throw items down on them. There also were gun loops at ground floor level. These precautions were necessary in a turbulent era and indeed the Cromwellian and Williamite wars later in the seventeenth century showed the necessity of good defences.

In design the castle at Monkstown is very similar to that of Mountlong Castle, on the eastern bank of Oyster Haven creek near Kinsale. Mountlong had been built five

years earlier, in 1631, for John Long. It is so similar to Monkstown that it is very likely that Anastasia Archdeacon was familiar with the newly-built Mountlong and simply decided to emulate it.

Monkstown Castle also shares similarities with other fortified houses of this period: a large central block surrounded by four towers. It was an era when defence was still important but an element of comfort and space was incorporated into the design. This was achieved through larger windows, particularly in the upper stories, that allowed light to flood into the building. These fortified houses also had wider, more accessible staircases instead of the narrow stone spiral staircases of earlier castles. Monkstown had large and elegant fireplaces: vital in a building where the main aspect faces north-east. Similar houses to Monkstown Castle include Rathfarnham Castle in County Dublin, Kanturk Castle in County Cork, Burntcourt in County Tipperary and the military structure of Mountjoy Fort in County Tyrone.

Not long after Monkstown Castle was completed, Ireland was engulfed by a series of political, religious and military events that led to great instability. The risings of 1641 were followed by involvement in the Civil War that had broken out in England in 1642. In the subsequent struggle between Royalists and Parliamentarians, where religion played a major role, power ultimately ended up in the hands of Oliver Cromwell whose army had subdued Ireland by 1653. During this period, the Royalist and Roman Catholic sympathies of John Archdeacon had led to the loss of his estates, including Monkstown Castle. It was occupied during the late 1640s by Parliamentarian Captain Thomas Plunkett and later was owned by Colonel Hercules Huncks before passing into the hands of Michael Boyle in the 1660s. Boyle was Church of Ireland Dean of Cloyne and was a cousin of the powerful Richard Boyle, First Earl of Cork.

While the Archdeacons lost their property in about 1647, they seem to have remained in the area. John Archdeacon died in 1660 and was buried in a tomb by the small late medieval chapel (which he repaired) near Monkstown Castle. His wife Anastasia died in 1689 and was also interred there.

Michael Boyle, who eventually held the office of Archbishop of Armagh, retained the lands and castle at Monkstown despite the further upheavals of the Williamite wars of the 1689-1691 period. On his death in 1702 the property passed to his daughter Elizabeth Muschamp and then to her daughter Mary who married Sir Thomas Vesey. So Monkstown Castle transferred to the estate of the de Vesci family where it remained until 1959.

Boyle and his descendants retained ownership of the property, but did not live there. The castle had different tenants over the years. In the late eighteenth century John Callaghan lived there and by the early years of the following century it was occupied

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Detail from Ordnance Survey map, 1902, showing the location of Monkstown in Cork Harbour.

by members of the Shaw family. Bernard Shaw, Collector of Customs at the Port of Cork, had a keen interest in the castle which he repaired and altered. A large carriage entrance was created on the ground floor of the castle and one of the fireplaces was enlarged and embellished. Bernard Shaw's initials and the year 1804 were carved on the fireplace. Shaw also enriched the surrounding estate by extensive tree planting and building a new entrance arch near the graveyard. After his sudden death in June 1808, the family remained at Monkstown where a fine large house was built close to the castle. Now generally known as Castle House, the building was described as 'charming' by a visitor in 1854 while a Shaw estate map of 1862 shows the residence, then named as Monkstown House, set in ornamental grounds.³

While the Shaw family lived in the nearby house, the castle itself had a variety of uses. During the end of the Napoleonic wars and for some years after that, it was used as a military barracks. By 1837 it was described as a 'a gloomy structure, and was once rented by the government for barracks, but it is now used as a store-house'.⁴ It seems to have been little used in the later nineteenth century, but continued to present a dramatic element in the surrounding landscape. In June 1864 it regained some of

its former dignity when one of the rooms was converted into a banqueting hall as part of the celebrations following the marriage of Cornelia Shaw and Edward Hoare.⁵

Financial problems led to the sale of Bernard Robert Shaw's property at Monkstown and on Great Island in 1870. The new occupiers of Castle House were members of the Newman family who made repairs to the old castle building. By the opening years of the twentieth century Monkstown Castle was being used as the headquarters for the Monkstown Badminton Club. A few years later, the castle began a new phase in its life when it became the clubhouse for the newly formed Monkstown Golf Club.

Monkstown is one of a network of villages scattered around the extensive harbour of Cork. The outbreak of the wars against France in the 1790s led to considerable activity in the lower harbour as defences were increased and troop transport became a common sight. The town of Cove (now Cobh) was central to this activity, but Monkstown and nearby Passage were also important. During this period, troops marched from Cork through Rochestown and Rathanker to Monkstown for embarkation. Temporary military camps were established and Monkstown Castle itself was used as a barracks towards the end of the Napoleonic wars.

By the time military activities declined with the coming of peace in 1815, Monkstown had taken on a role as a fashionable resort. In 1837 the changing face of Monkstown was evident: "The village, which has a penny post to Cork, comprises a great number of detached villas and cottages, many being new and very handsome, particularly twelve beautiful marine villas recently built close to the shore; they are constructed in the pure Elizabethan style, and are chiefly occupied by respectable families as bathing-lodges, for which purpose the village is most favourably situated."⁶ Health resorts were gaining in popularity at that time and nearby Cove was renowned for its mild and equable climate. Sea bathing was seen as having medicinal benefits and from the late eighteenth century was



Watercolour of Monkstown by Constance Eleanor Westrop of Ravenswood, Carrigaline, c.1895. The painting shows some of the attractive houses in Monkstown, with sailing ships in the bay.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Distant view of Monkstown Castle by Constance Eleanor Westrop, c.1895.

increasingly recommended for good health. The mild climate, attractive scenery and waterside location of Monkstown made it ideal as a resort for the wealthier elements of society. Similarly, nearby Passage had a bathing house and assembly rooms by 1809 while in 1838 the Royal Victoria Baths were opened at Glenbrook, between Passage and Monkstown. A 'hydropathic establishment' was later established at Carrigmahon house to the rear of the Glenbrook baths.⁷

Access to Monkstown was greatly improved during the nineteenth century. Passenger steamship ferries began to ply the harbour from 1815, providing important water links between Cork city and many of the harbour towns. Roads were also

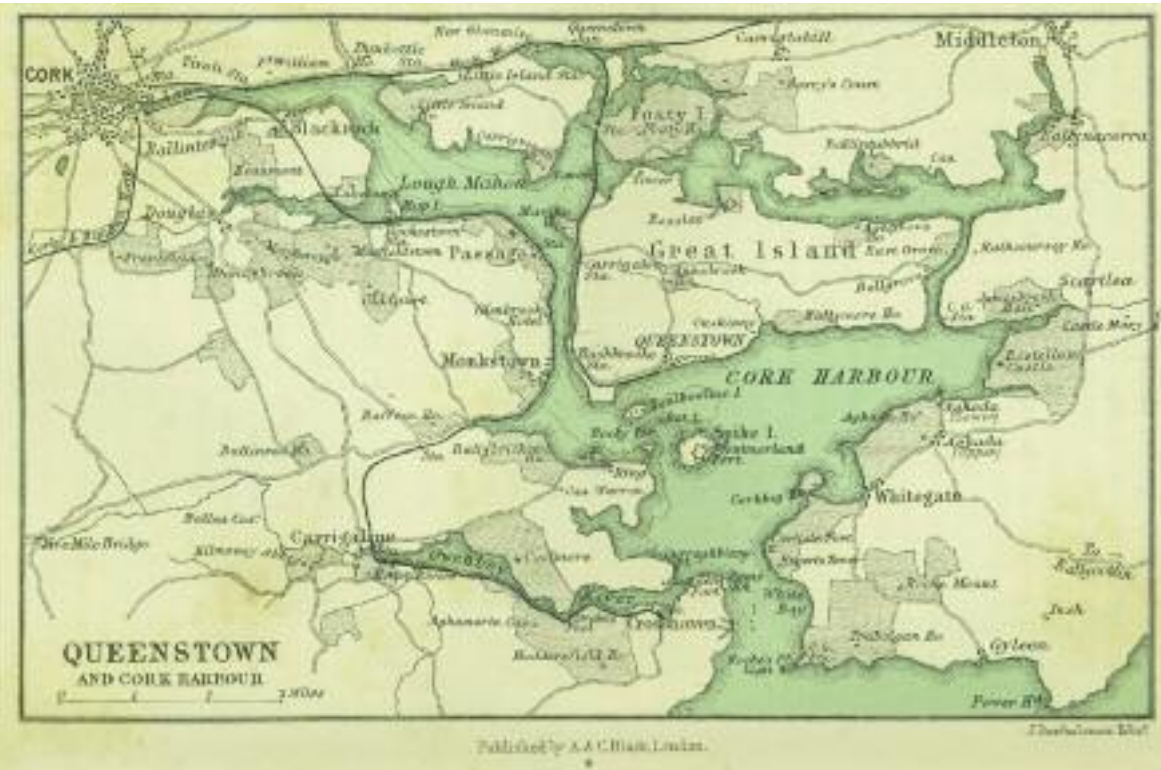
improved and in the 1830s a new route was cut along the shore between Monkstown and Passage. It was a technically difficult road to construct, necessitating cutting through the prominent rock formation known as the Giant's Stairs. In 1837 the new road was described as having been "designed by Robert Shaw, Esq.; it winds round the base of all the bold and wooded hills, only a few feet above the level of the highest tides."⁸ Rail links with Cork were established from Passage in 1850 and company steamers met the trains at Passage to bring passengers to Monkstown, Queenstown (Cobh) and elsewhere in the harbour. The rail line was extended to Monkstown in 1902.

In 1888 Monkstown was described as "one of the most picturesque localities on the river. This fashionable watering place was formerly confined in the gorge of a romantic glen, but has gradually extended itself along the shore."⁹ As the years moved towards the twentieth century, so Monkstown was well established as a desirable place to live. Many of the wealthier residents lived in large, attractive houses and could avail of a variety of leisure activities.

The Cork Harbour Rowing Club had been set up in 1859 in neighbouring Passage where a clubhouse was built in 1864 on the site of a former timber yard and sawmill. The club regularly competed at regattas, both in the harbour and further afield, and saw some notable successes.¹⁰ Another local club was the Royal Munster Yacht Club which was founded in Monkstown in 1872 as the Munster Model Yacht Club. Its members sailed out of Monkstown, where the club rented a portion of quayside and also had a building for storing sailing gear. It did not have a clubhouse, but many of its members belonged to the Munster Club, a gentlemen's club which met in premises near the quayside at Monkstown. The yacht club ran regular races at Monkstown as well as holding successful annual regattas.¹¹ A tennis club was set up in Monkstown in 1880 and five years later the Gaelic Athletic Association established a club at Passage, building on the existing enthusiasm for hurling and gaelic football in the area. At the turn of the century, there also was keen interest in the newly fashionable activity of cycling. In 1898 a cyclists' cafe opened in Monkstown to cater for those enjoying this new sport.¹²

Thus it was not surprising that the idea of establishing a golf club arose in Monkstown in 1908. It had a local population that included many members of the middle and upper classes who had the leisure to indulge in sporting activities. It also had local well-established sporting clubs, such as the rowing, tennis and yacht clubs, that showed support for such activities. In addition, it had recently been linked directly to Cork by rail with the Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway extending its services to Monkstown in 1902. This railway link was vital, not least because the company actively encouraged developments along the line that would increase its own business. At both Monkstown and Crosshaven 'Improvement and Amusement' committees were set up in 1907 encouraged by the company and by the local

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Map from *Black's Guide to Ireland 1906* showing the rail link between Cork city and Crosshaven, passing through Monkstown.

authorities. It was the Monkstown Improvement and Amusement Committee that first suggested the idea of setting up a golf club in the area.

Golf was a rapidly spreading sport in Ireland by the early twentieth century. Its origins lay in the game of 'colf' played in Holland as early as the thirteenth century. The players with their clubs and wooden or leather balls are depicted in many early illustrations. It is possible that the game spread to Scotland through trading and military links between the two countries. Certainly, 'golfe' was mentioned in a Scottish Act of Parliament in 1457 when King James II of Scotland forbade both golf and football in favour of archery which provided skills that could be used during war. The ban was repeated by the king's successors in 1471 and 1491. Despite this prohibition, golf continued to be played in Scotland where it was established and consolidated over the centuries.

Golf came to Ireland with Scottish settlers during the early seventeenth century. James Hamilton and Hugh Montgomery, both from Ayrshire, led the settlement of Scots in east Ulster from 1606. Newtownards, Greyabbey and Donaghadee in County Down were all expanded by Montgomery to encourage the settlers to succeed in their new venture. In Newtownards he established a "great school" which taught "Latin, Greek and Logycks, allowing the scholars a green for recreation at golff, football and archery."¹³ This is the earliest mention of golf in Ireland. The school at Newtownards did not survive the disruptions of the 1641 rebellion but it is likely that some of the settlers played the game, as they had done in their native Scotland.

It was not until the eighteenth century that golf began to be organised into clubs: the earliest Scottish clubs date from the 1730s. The famous Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews was founded in 1754 and became very influential in the game. In 1897 it became the governing authority on the Rules of Golf, in consultation with other bodies. The first mention of a club in Ireland was a 1762 newspaper notice referring to a "Goff Club" meeting in Bray in County Wicklow.¹⁴ A golf course was established on common land beside the seashore at Bray, but little is known about this early club. In the 1850s golf was played on the Curragh of Kildare on a course laid out by David Ritchie in 1852. Ritchie had come to Ireland from Scotland the previous year and had been a member of the Musselburgh Club in Edinburgh. John Gourlay, a renowned golf ball maker from Musselburgh, laid out links at the Curragh where the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Eglinton, played in 1858 and 1859.¹⁵ There are references to golf being played in other parts of Ireland in the later nineteenth century, many of them linked to the stationing of Scottish troops in an area.

Clubs were established all over Ireland from the 1880s. The earliest was the Belfast Golf Club, founded in 1881 and granted the prefix 'Royal' in 1885. In County Kildare, the Curragh Golf Club was set up in 1883 and was closely associated with the military establishment there. Military links were also important in the laying out of a course at Fota Island in Cork harbour in 1883. Little is known about this first Cork golf course, but it appears to have been inspired by Lieutenant General Sir Henry Torrens who commanded the Cork District between 1881 and 1884. A keen golfer, he encouraged the establishment of golf courses wherever he was stationed, including at The Cape in South Africa and at Malta. It is likely that golf was played at Fota during



Advertisement showing a lady's golf cape, from *The Sketch*, 12th September 1894.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Advertisement from 1894 featuring men and women playing golf, from *The Sketch*, 3rd October 1894.

Torrens' time in the area and probably ceased when he left. A golf course was laid out at Fota by Lady Barrymore in 1906. In the 1880s golf also was played at an eight hole links close to Kinsale, being associated with a Scottish regiment stationed nearby.¹⁶

The spread of golf in Ireland in the 1880s was tentative at times, but by 1889 there were eight clubs in existence and knowledge of the sport was starting to spread rapidly. Over the next decade (1890-1899) one hundred and three clubs were founded, a huge expansion in the sport in Ireland. Many clubs had strong Scottish connections, but others were founded by Irishmen who had developed an enthusiasm for the sport perhaps when visiting or living in Britain. Amongst the clubs established in County Cork by 1900 were Rushbrooke, Cork, Mallow, Bandon, Fermoy, Clonakilty and Youghal. These varied in size and longevity, but all were part of the game's expansion in the 1890s.

The rapid growth of clubs meant differing sets of rules and regulations emerged. An element of order was brought by the establishment in 1891 of the Golfing Union of Ireland (GUI) to which clubs increasingly affiliated. The GUI came about from meetings held in Portrush, County Antrim and was related to

discussions about the establishment of an Irish championship. Those involved represented various Ulster golf clubs, with the original GUI clubs being: County Down, Royal Belfast, Killymoon, Dungannon, Auchnacloy, Ballycastle, Portsalon and Buncrana. The GUI was formally established at the Royal Hotel, Belfast on 13th November 1891. Amongst its aims, the union hoped to co-ordinate competition dates, to establish recognised handicapping rules and to advance golf in Ireland. A key objective was to set in place an Irish Championship and this was achieved with the first competition for the Irish Amateur Open Golf Championship held at Portrush in 1892. The following year the first Irish Close Championship was held at the same

course, while in 1896 Portrush hosted the first interprovincial match when Leinster surprised their Ulster hosts by winning the competition.¹⁷

As the twentieth century dawned, golf clubs continued to be founded, albeit at a slightly slower rate than in the 1890s. Between 1900 and 1909 there were 68 new clubs established in Ireland, including one at Monkstown. As outlined earlier, the idea for the golf club came from the Monkstown Improvement and Amusement Committee. The recent proliferation of golf clubs in the country and the active encouragement given to such clubs by local railway companies made an area like Monkstown ideal for a new club. Most of the people behind the club were local residents, many of whom retained a keen interest in the venture for many years.

The key people involved in establishing the club were Alfred H. Exham, Alfred G. Boumphrey, J. Stratford Cummins, Graham A. Goold, J. H. Hogan and J.F. Maguire. They comprised the golf sub-committee of the Improvement and Amusement Committee and it was Goold who applied to register the club in early 1908.¹⁸ They acquired a site for the club by renting Monkstown Castle and some of the grounds surrounding it from Yvo, 5th Viscount de Vesci. Negotiations were carried out with de Vesci's Dublin agents J.R. Stewart and Sons, with the assistance locally of Major E.B. Broadley.

The suggestion to use the castle may well have come from Alfred Boumphrey who was secretary of Monkstown 'Badminton Club' which used the castle as its clubhouse. Little is known about the badminton club, but it was successful in 1902-1903 when members won five out of the six matches played.¹⁹ The badminton club clearly no longer used the castle in 1908, allowing the golf club to take it over as its first clubhouse. Boumphrey, who lived at Rock Lodge in Monkstown, was a keen sportsman. As well as his involvement with badminton, he won croquet championships in England, Scotland and the north of Ireland. An enthusiastic golfer, he was the first joint secretary of Monkstown Golf Club, a role he shared with J. Stratford Cummins.²⁰

Negotiations with de Vesci took place in late 1907 and were completed by mid-January 1908 when the course began to be laid down. The man in charge was Peter O'Hare of Greenore in County Louth who was to become the club's first professional. He was assisted by David Brown the professional at Cork Golf Club in Little Island and the greens were laid by Messrs. Saunders. The ground was set out as a nine hole course of 2,500 yards and was on a sloping site, with magnificent views over the harbour. The existing mature trees in the area complimented the course. Most of the work was completed in only three months during which time the committee spent £300 on setting up the club and course.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Alfred H. Exham

The first general meeting of Monkstown Golf Club took place on 4th April 1908 in Monkstown Castle. It attracted an attendance of some fifty members, showing the keen enthusiasm for the new venture. At the meeting Alfred Bournemouth, Alfred H. Exham and Graham A. Gould were elected as trustees of the club. The first President of the new Monkstown Golf Club was Viscount de Vesci whose role was more a nominal than an active one. During the early decades of the club, the office of vice-president was held by a man who was closely involved in its affairs. This was Alfred H. Exham who held the office for many years and who was a lifelong supporter of the club. The first captain was J.F. Maguire, while the joint secretaries were Alfred G. Bournemouth and J. Stratford Cummins. The first committee comprised Lieutenant Colonel John Barry, James G. Crosbie, Walter Dwyer, G.M. Gray and S.G. Harris. There were also two representatives each of the Improvement and Amusement Committee (F.E. MacNamara and J.H. Hogan) and of the Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway Company (J.H.

Sugrue and R.J. Coppinger), showing the importance of these groups in the setting up of the club. Indeed, for the official opening a week later, the railway company ran a special train service from and to Cork. The meeting set the limit on membership as 325, having already signed up nearly 300 members.²¹

Thus everything was ready for the official opening of the club on the following Saturday, 11th April 1908. The *Cork Examiner* described the event: "On Saturday afternoon, in beautiful weather and in the presence of nearly three hundred members, as well as many of their friends, the new golf club, situated in the Castle ground, at Monkstown, was formally opened. The ceremony was a simple one. Mr. A.H. Exham, Vice-President, made a short speech to those gathered around the tee for the first hole, in which he expressed regret at the absence of their President, Lord De Vesci, to whom they were much indebted. It was mainly through the kindly and generous manner in which he had met the promoters, that it had been possible to form the club. He had written a very nice letter, regretting his inability to accept the

committee's invitation to open the links. Under the circumstances, Mr. Exham explained, Miss Eileen Bournemouth would drive the first ball."²² This ceremony completed, the crowd adjourned for tea at the clubhouse (Monkstown Castle) before inspecting the course.

Monkstown Castle in 1908 was described as providing "four dressing rooms for gentlemen, two for ladies, a kitchen, a room for the professional, another for the caddies, and the hall ... which will be used as a general club room."²³ The club had carried out some repairs to the castle before occupation. The 'links', on opening day, was deemed to have been "very well laid out, and considering the difficulties that had to be surmounted; the men who planned them may be heartily congratulated. The course cannot be said to be a difficult or unfair one; but at most of the holes straightness from the tee is adequately rewarded. The sixth hole is the largest, as well as the hardest. A fence and a high stone wall have to be cleared, and then the approach is blind and down a steep hill.

This hole is 550 yards, and the whole course of nine holes is 2,500 yards. Players will find the lies through the green excellent, and for the time they have been in hand, the putting greens are very good; and what is better still, capable of being made first class. Situated as they are, on the hill above Monkstown, one of the most delightful features of the links, is the magnificent panorama of landscape and seascape that is unfolded to the view. Indeed, few if any courses can boast of such an outlook."²⁴

Having successfully opened the club, members set about playing golf – or in many cases, learning to play golf. Although there were several other golf courses in the Cork area, many of the members at Monkstown had little experience of the game. Indeed, the winners of the first 'Gentlemen's Monthly Medal Competition' on 22nd August 1908 were Cecil H. Exham in Class A (handicaps of 18 and under) and J.H. Sugrue in Class B (handicaps of 19 and over). The newspaper report noted "it may be added that these players have begun golf quite recently and are both pupils of P. O'Hare, the



Painting of Monkstown Castle in about 1895, by Constance Eleanor Westrop of Ravenswood, Carrigaline.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



The first captain, J.F. Maguire, 'drives in' at the official opening of the club on 11th April 1908.

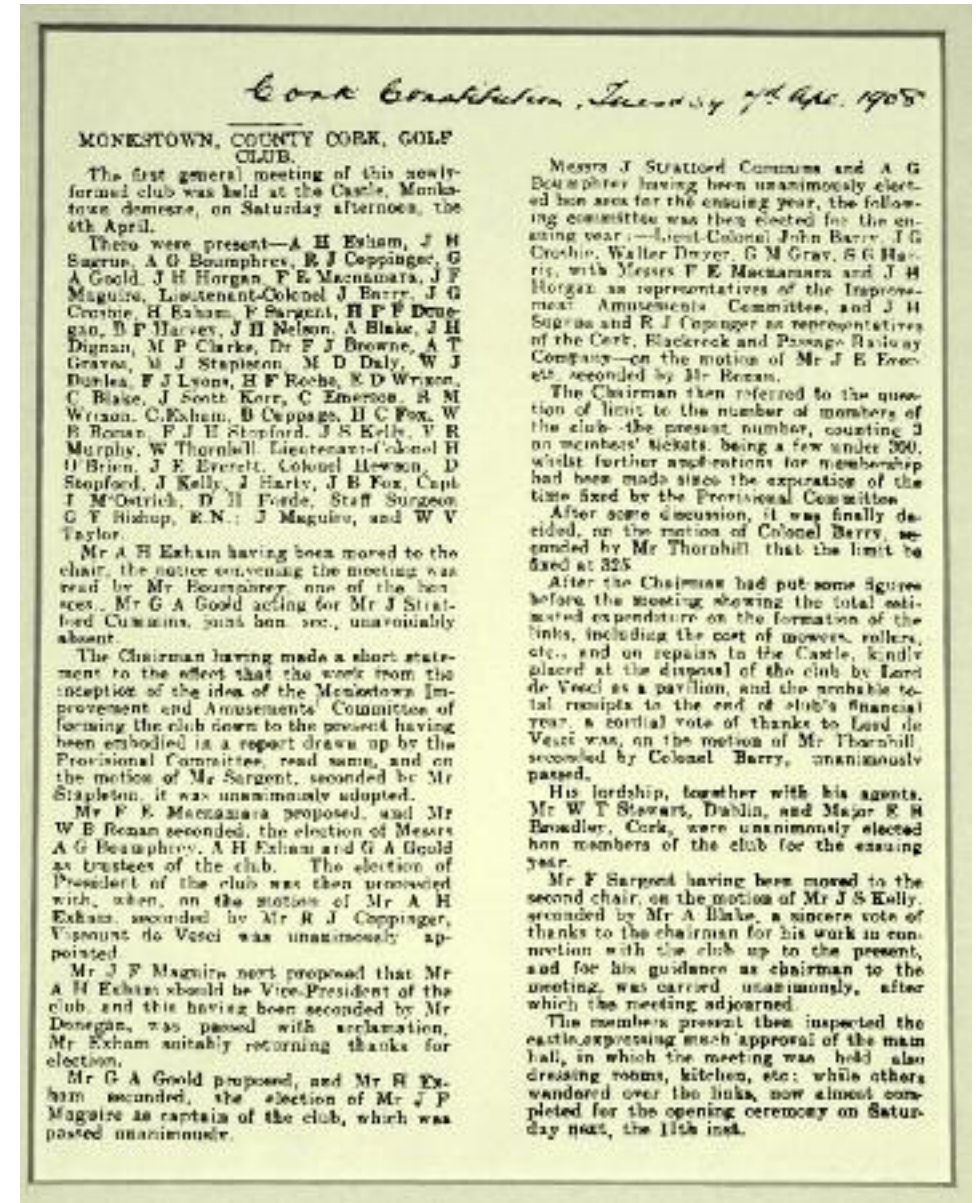
MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

Monkstown professional. Mr. Exham, especially, as a golfer of only four months' standing, is to be congratulated on a most creditable performance."²⁵ Cecil Exham, the son of the club's vice-president, played off a handicap of 18 while J.H. Sugrue's handicap was 28. The decision to divide the competitors into two classes was taken "in view of the fact that too many members have begun but recently."²⁶ Four days later, on Wednesday 26th August, the first Ladies' Medal Competition was held and attracted thirteen entries. It was won by Miss Walker, playing off a handicap of 32. Although the Ladies Branch of the club was not to be founded until 1923, it is clear that ladies were active golfers from the very beginning of the club. Despite the newness of the game for many members, two of them managed a 'hole in one' on the course during the summer of 1908: Miss Exham and Major Fisher.

The new Monkstown golfers of 1908 bought golf equipment that had been steadily improving in previous decades. The earliest golf balls were made of wood, but by the seventeenth century the 'featherie' ball was in use. These balls were made of leather, tightly packed with feathers and were expensive to produce. In the mid-nineteenth century the gutta percha ball became popular. Made from the sap of the gutta tree, the rubber-like ball was cheaper and more easily repaired than the featherie. However, the introduction of the Haskell ball in the 1890s soon led to its domination of the market. Coburn Haskell of the Goodrich Tyre and Rubber Company in Ohio invented the ball which had a solid rubber core surrounded by wound rubber thread encased in gutta percha. These balls travelled much further distances than earlier designs. Like the earlier gutta percha balls, people used a variety of patterns on the surface of the ball to try to control and improve its flight. From the early 1900s the familiar dimple pattern was applied to Haskell balls and proved to be a great success. As golf balls were increasingly mass produced, so they became cheaper to buy.

Along with their Haskell balls, Monkstown golfers had clubs that similarly had evolved over time. The earliest golf clubs were made of wood, but by the eighteenth century metal began to be used on the heads. The invention of the gutta percha or 'guttie' ball in the mid-nineteenth century meant that club design had to adapt to the harder and heavier ball. Wooden club heads became wider and deeper and iron clubs increasingly were used. Different woods were used to make golf clubs, with hickory and beech being particularly popular. Many clubs were made by skilled craftsmen, but mass production was beginning to make an impact. At the time that Monkstown Golf Club was founded, golfers used an unlimited range of clubs. Many of these bore names such as a brassie, mashie, niblick and cleeks. The brassie club had a brass sole plate, the mashie was a lofted iron club, a niblick was used to play out of ruts, while cleeks were light, narrow bladed iron clubs. These and other early clubs were adapted over time until the modern club designs were reached.

The members generally wore their usual outdoor clothes when playing golf. Tweed jackets and 'plus-fours' were favoured by men, while women had long skirts and



Newspaper report of the first meeting of Monkstown Golf Club on 4th April 1908, from *Cork Constitution*, 7th April 1908.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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For the purposes of Handicapping,
the Scratch Score of the
Course has been fixed (by
the Golfing Union of Ireland) at 74.

The Boyer of the course
is 76, made up as follows

<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>4th</u>	<u>5th</u>	<u>6th</u>	<u>7th</u>	<u>8th</u>	<u>9th</u>
4	4	4	5	5	3	3	5	5

1.2 38 (9 holes)

Captain's Prize. Qualifying Round
Mar 20th 1909

[illegible][illegible]

Captain's Order Nov 1919

Final of Capt's Prize. Apr 1929

The composition for the composer's prize resulted after many excellent readings, in a song for Mr. M. E. Chase, who won \$25.00. He was the first to sing it.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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[illegible]

Details of the Men's Match Play Competition played in 1909 and won by J.S. Cummins, from Competition Book 1908-1924. (Cork City and County Archives, U351)

[illegible]

Details of the Ladies's Match Play
Competition played in 1909 and won by
Miss Waggett, from Competition Book
1908-1924. (Cork City and County
Archives, U351)

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

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Frederick W. Wynne of Neptune Lodge, Glenbrook, an early club member.



Henry Exham

strong shoes. Hats were always worn, as was normal at that time. Edwardian fashion was not always the most suitable for activities such as golf and players must have suffered during wet weather.

The Monkstown club affiliated to the GUI in 1908 and adopted its system of handicapping. The whole area of handicaps was subject to much discussion in the early years of golf and systems were under constant scrutiny. In 1926 the GUI adopted a standard scratch score and handicapping scheme that also came into effect in Britain. Information was sent to all clubs and Monkstown noted the changes in a meeting in October of that year. The club was given a scratch score of 72 under the new scheme. Over the years, changes in handicapping had an impact on the members of the club.

Caddies were an essential part of golf clubs and in the early years were hired by most of those playing golf. A caddie, often a boy or young man, carried a golfer's clubs as well as assisting the player by attending to the flagstick. The golfer hired his or her own caddie and paid them directly, usually one shilling and sixpence per day with a tip of sixpence. Some players had particularly good caddies whom they tried to hire each time they played golf. The question of giving tips to caddies arose on several occasions: in 1917 the committee agreed that a notice would be placed on the club board "requesting players not to give any caddies more than twopence in the way of a tip for any day's play owing to the bad effect that larger tips created."²⁷ The opportunity to earn money as a caddie was appreciated by many boys and young men in the area. The caddies had their own room on the ground floor of the castle. In 1913 a speaking tube linked that room to the kitchen, allowing easier communication between the two places. While a Caddie Master was appointed in later years, it appears that the professional had a role in managing or supervising the caddies during the earlier period of the club. Caddies or former caddies were not permitted to play on the course: in 1918 ex-caddies and non-members who played at Monkstown were likely to be prosecuted. In a club that placed considerable emphasis on rules and etiquette, it is not surprising that members complained about the behaviour of caddies from time to time. Nevertheless, the caddies provided a valuable service to the club and their assistance was much appreciated by many members.



Monkstown Golf Club Scratch Challenge Cup, 1911. The cup was converted in 1929 to the Monkstown Senior Challenge Handicap Cup.

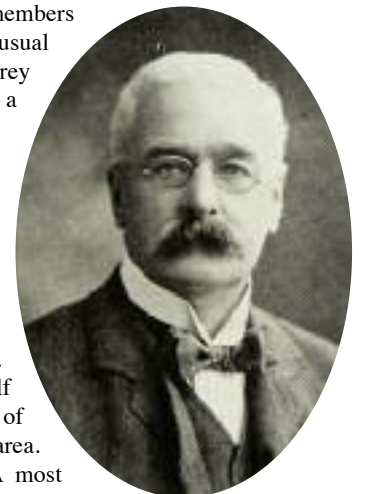
The early members of Monkstown Golf Club were drawn mainly from the middle and upper classes. They were people who had the time and resources to play golf and were very typical of golf club members at this time. The club committee tended to admit members who were from the same social classes as themselves and many would have been connected or related to each other. The legal profession featured strongly in the early years. Both Alfred H. Exham and his brother Henry were solicitors and came from a long established and respected Cork firm. Other solicitors

were Graham Goold and Walter Ronan, while Alfred Boumphrey's son John qualified as a solicitor in 1911. Other early members belonged to successful Cork business and professional families. Many members lived in the Monkstown area and the fine houses at Alta Terrace, adjacent to the golf course, were the residences of Alfred H. Exham, Henry Exham, Graham Goold and John Boumphrey in 1913. Other members lived in Cork city or environs. They travelled to the club on foot, by bicycle, by horse, by train or, increasingly, by car and even motorbike. As early as 1920 there are references to 'motor cars' and 'motor bicycles' at the club, showing that at least some members could afford these new and novel forms of transport.²⁸

The entrance fee in 1912 was £11.0, while the annual membership subscriptions were £22.0 for men and £11.0 for ladies. Visitors' daily fees were one shilling for weekdays and two shillings and sixpence on Saturdays and Sundays, or five shillings per week and ten shillings per month.

The club began to develop a routine as the years headed towards 1914. Regular competitions were held on the course and members doubtless improved their skills over time. There were unusual incidents: in January 1911 the secretary Alfred Boumphrey reported "a ball struck by E.J. Cummins from the 1st tee hit & killed a goldfinch in midair".²⁹

Later that same year, in May 1911, the local press described a "very interesting match" between "Major Fisher's Team, consisting of the Cork Harbour Garrison, and a team got up by Major Lynch, consisting of members of the Monkstown Golf Club. Major Lynch's team just managed to win."³⁰ The victorious team consisted of Major Lynch, B.P. Harvey, J.F. Maguire, W.F. Cave, Frank Maguire, J.H. Sugrue, A.G. Boumphrey and A.J. Hogan. Major Charles J. Lynch lived in Parkgariffe House on lands just to the north of the golf club. A veteran of the Anglo-Boer War, he would have known many of the military and naval officers who were stationed in the harbour area. Two months later, in August 1911, club records reported that "A most



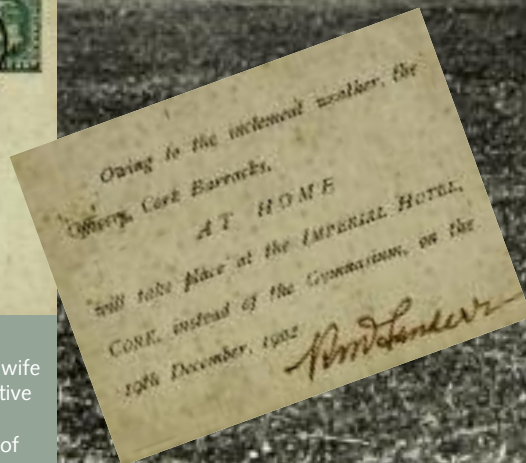
Alfred G. Boumphrey

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

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Post card to Mrs. Dora Lynch of Parkgariffe House, 1902. She was the wife of Major Charles Lynch who was an active member of the club. The lands at Parkgariffe subsequently became part of the golf club.



The first fairway on the new course, with some of the crowd that attended the official opening in the background, 1908.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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Fitzjames Murphy walking the third fairway at the official opening of the club, 11th April 1908.

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Monkstown Golf Club
Handicap Challenge Cup, 1911.

enjoyable match was contested on the 17th inst., when the Atlantic Fleet accepted the challenge and hospitality of this club. The day was perfect for golf ...³¹ Again Major C.A. Fisher led one team, while V.J. Holt, Naval Instructor, brought together a team from the Atlantic Fleet that included an Assistant Paymaster and a Captain. Major Fisher's team was victorious. Naval and military officers obviously were fairly regular players at the club: in 1913 it was recorded that "Mr. Exham and the Secy were asked to write to the Admiral re launches or boats to convey officers of the ships in the Bay to Monkstown hard."³²

Other sports activities impinged on club events from time to time. In June 1911 both ladies' and men's monthly medal competitions were postponed because of the major joint regatta held by the Queenstown-based Royal Cork Yacht Club (R.C.Y.C.) and Royal Munster Yacht Club of Monkstown.³³ Some members belonged to these clubs and in 1909 J. Stratford Cummins briefly was secretary of the R.C.Y.C. Similarly in September of that year, the date of a semi-open mixed foursomes was changed as Cork Park Races were held on the original date. Other competitions continued without incident including eclectic, inter-club, foursomes and open flag competitions.

Prize money was awarded in many of these competitions, although in 1912 it was agreed that a first prize would only be awarded where there were five or more entries, with a second prize being given where there were eight or more competitors. The value of prizes in 1912 was as follows:

Men's singles 1st 30/-, 2nd 10/-,
Ladies' singles 20/- and 10/-
Men's doubles 20/-, 10/- each player
Ladies' doubles 10/-, 5/-
Mixed doubles 20/-, 10/-.³⁴

In the pre-war years there was one member who was a player of note. Arthur Henry Patterson won the Irish Amateur Close Championship at Newcastle, County Down in 1909 when playing for Dublin University Golf Club. This was a considerable achievement for the 23 year old Donegal



Arthur Henry Patterson (third from left, back row) pictured with some of the other members of the 1913 Irish International Team. Patterson was the first Monkstown member to achieve international status.



Report and newspaper cuttings relating to the earliest competitions in the club, 1908, from Competition Book 1908-1924. (Cork City and County Archives, U351)

man. Patterson then moved south, joined Monkstown Golf Club and in 1913 was on the Irish International Team that met Wales at the Royal Dublin Golf Club. This talented player fought in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers during the First World War and, sadly, was killed in October 1918, aged 32.³⁵ During the years up to 1914, the club continued under the vice-presidency of Alfred

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Captain William R.E. Annesley of Old Wood, Rochestown who was captain of the golf club in 1912.

H. Exham. In 1912 Captain William R.E. Annesley was elected as captain of the club and presented a cup in July of that year. Unfortunately, he had to resign in August because of ill health and was replaced by B.P. Harvey. Captain Annesley lived at Old Wood, Rochestown and was an Anglo-Boer War veteran who had retired from the army in 1908. In 1914 Somers Payne took over as captain for three years, being succeeded by J.E. Jenkins who held office for several years. The role of secretary was held by Alfred Boumphrey until 1914 when D.P. Sarsfield and Colonel Lynch took over for three years. Edward D. Wrixon became secretary in 1917, a position he held for three years until R.M. Wrixon took over for two years. During this period the secretary seems to have been paid at times. From 1912 the secretary received £50 a year as “the amount of work connected with the keeping of the a/cs and the general superintendence of the Links involved such an amount of labour that it would be unfair to expect anyone to take it without some recompense.”³⁶ This may have lapsed after a time, as in 1920 a decision again was made to have a paid secretary. However just two years later H.B. Scott seems to have been elected to the role in an unpaid capacity.

The outbreak of the First World War in August 1914 had an impact on the club. The harbour area was directly involved in the war effort as the naval establishments at Haulbowline and Queenstown became the centre of operations for the whole region. There was a great increase in troop movements, the naval dockyard on Haulbowline Island was in full use and, from 1917, ships and troops from the United States arrived in the harbour. There even was a United States Naval Air Station based at Aghada on the eastern side of the harbour from early 1918.

Not surprisingly, one of the first impacts on the golf club was the loss of members as they left to take up war duties. There were many resignations during the early years of the conflict, including committee member R.M. Wrixon. At the same time, the increase in military and naval personnel in the area led to many officers playing golf at Monkstown. In December 1914 a committee meeting reported that “Lt. Newport wrote asking if officers stationed at Glenbrook could play on the Golf Links and asking what the subscription would be. Hon Sec. replied 1/- per day or 21/- for six months.”³⁴ The club adopted a policy of not charging entrance fees to service personnel, something that was extended to consuls and their wives following a complaint about the issue by Mr. W. Frost, the American Consul in Queenstown, in June 1915. A year later two new members, R.E. Newton and A. Sinclair, from HMS *Pioneer* joined the club for six months.³⁸ The arrival of the Americans in the harbour led to further use of the golf course by their officers. However, it was considered necessary to inform them of club etiquette regarding the hiring of caddies and similar



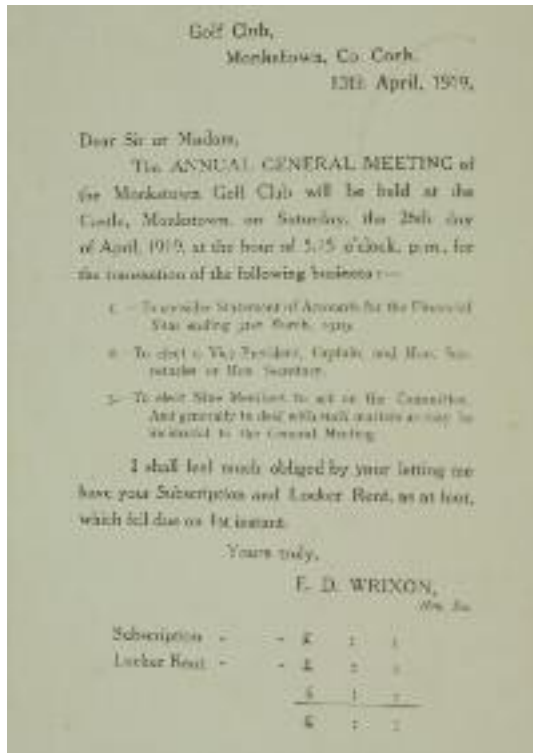
Monkstown Castle in about 1900.

issues. A circular letter was sent to each of the commanders of the United States Navy in the harbour in October 1917. At the Annual General Meeting in April 1918 “A strong feeling was expressed that two American Naval Officers be co-opted to assist the committee in working the club” and the following month “Lt. Comdr. C.A. Dunn & Lt. B. Perry U.S.N.” duly joined the committee and were given a “hearty vote of welcome”.³⁹ The naval link continued after the end of the war as in November 1919 it was recorded that cadets from HMS *Cumberland* could join the club for a fee of £1.1.0 for six months.

The service personnel using the course boosted the numbers using the facilities, but the overall number of competitions was much reduced. In 1915 it was decided that no challenge cup competitions would be held until further notice and the following year four silver challenge cups were placed in the bank to avoid the additional insurance costs.

On a more domestic level, the war directly affected catering at the clubhouse. Mrs. Mary Hayes was the stewardess at the club during the war and had to cope with various official directives regarding rationing and food shortages. In 1915 Mrs. Hayes

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Official notice sent to members notifying them of the club's Annual General Meeting, 1919. (Minute Book, Cork City and County Archives, U351)

Golf Links Order required golf courses to devote a minimum of ten percent of their holding to tillage. The result was that many golf clubs had to plough up portion of their lands. At Monkstown some land certainly was devoted to tillage. At a meeting in May 1917 Alfred Exham "... read a letter from Messrs Stewart & Son intimating that the fencing of the land for tillage cost £46 & asking for a substantial contribution towards same."⁴² In October it was agreed that "A.H. Exham & G.A. Goold wait on Rev. Mr. Kennedy with a view to obtain his field for tillage & to intimate that grazing would be found for his donkey elsewhere."⁴³ The Reverend John Alfred Kennedy had been Church of Ireland rector of Monkstown from 1903 until 1916 and presumably had retired in the area. It is not known to what extent his field, or his donkey, were affected by the tillage order! In November Stewarts informed the club that no further tillage was necessary that year. In 1918 the first tee was altered "to avoid balls being driven into [the] ploughed field"⁴⁴ Golf continued to be played

and the committee decided to charge "1/- for Bread Butter Jam and Tea Lunches up to three o'clock, Afternoon Tea 8d, Jam extra."⁴⁰ However, problems arose and in May 1917 Mrs. Hayes and the committee met informally when "The food question was brought before the meeting & Mrs. Hayes was instructed that no one should get more than 2 oz of Bread at any one meal & that this should also apply to the caddies. Notices to this effect to be posted in the club room & in the caddies house."⁴¹ Difficulties continued and in June 1918 it was reported that Mrs. Hayes had been prosecuted under the Food Act and as a result a notice would be put up in the club room that no meals would be served at a cost exceeding one shilling and two pence.

Food supply was a major challenge during the war and the government tried to increase food production as much as possible. In 1917 the Corn Production Act and a subsequent Tillage (Ireland) Racecourses And

during the war, so the club obviously fulfilled its tillage quota with minimal interference to the course itself.

Although the castle may well have been used for club entertainments prior to the war, it was in 1917 that the first record appears of an event being staged there. In January of that year it was decided to hold a dance at the castle and a sub-committee was set up "to deal with entertainments at the Castle" – no intoxicating liquor was to be sold at such events!⁴⁵ That summer £7.10.0 was expended in cleaning and painting the large club room and in the autumn the sub-committee of G.M. Gray, H.F. Tivy and E.D. Wrixon organised three paper chases "with entertainment following".⁴⁶ Also in late 1917 Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Emerson and Miss Somerville were given permission to use the castle, free of charge, for a concert for the Red Cross. The event, on 7th November, was notable as amongst the performers was eleven year old Charles Lynch who went on to have a distinguished musical career. He was the son of Major Charles Lynch of nearby Parkgarraffe House who was an active member of the golf



Mixed Foursomes at the club in the 1920s. Left to right: Burke Cuppage, Eileen Boumphrey, Gladys Boumphrey and Lionel Hill.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Notice of Open Meeting, 1921, from Competition Book 1908-1924 (Cork City and County Archives, U351). The winner of the competition was B.P. Harvey.

club.

A newspaper report of the Red Cross concert praised the performance of well known singer Rita Wallace, but also noted that “A remarkable feature of the concert was the playing of Master Charles Lynch who contributed a piano solo, and also accompanied Madame Wallace and some of the other singers. His playing showed a command of technique and artistic expression which would be remarkable in an experienced concert performer, but in a boy of 12 [actually 11] years old they must be considered almost phenomenal.⁴⁷ This was Charles Lynch’s first concert before a paying audience and was a worthy start to a renowned career. Other performers at the castle included two United States naval personnel, Hearle and Thompson, who played piano and violin duets. The concert raised a substantial sum for the Red Cross

which also benefitted from further fund-raising events at the club. The proceeds of the Easter Saturday 1918 competition went to the Monkstown Red Cross, while in the same year a dance in the castle was in aid of the Red Cross Hospital Supply Fund.

The success of the 1917 concert at the castle obviously encouraged others to use it as a venue. In January 1918 a piano was purchased and the committee agreed to charge two pounds for the hire of the castle, including fire, light and piano, but excluding payment to the stewardess Mrs. Hayes. Any entertainments were to be held between 7pm and midnight and were limited to fifty people. It was to be the start of an important part of club life when the clubhouse was used to host entertainments that were enjoyable for members and visitors alike.

The club barely had time to adjust to the end of the war in November 1918, when the War of Independence and Civil War led to political and military unrest between 1919 and 1923. Most of this had little impact on the club, although in late 1920 a threat was made to burn the castle and plough up the greens if a certain groundsman was not dismissed. After a difficult period, the issue was resolved and the threat was not carried out. The unrest led to problems for people travelling by train as services were

disrupted at times. The June 1921 men’s medal had no entries because of the lack of service on the Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway, while in September of the following year the committee agreed that “The free use of the Links was placed at the disposal of any member of the Cork Golf Club who may wish to avail of it during the present lack of travelling facilities to Little Island.”⁴⁸

During the early 1920s, as well as coping with the political and military unrest, the club experienced some financial difficulties. These were evident as far back as 1914 when a reduction in membership was noted. It is likely that membership waned after the first flush of enthusiasm for the new club died away. Resignations during and after the war were not countered with an influx of permanent new members. The use of the club by service personnel during the war obviously boosted its activities, but only in the short term. In early 1921 a sub-committee recommended an increase in fees and subscriptions and also suggested that one groundsman, with an occasional helper, could be employed instead of the existing two groundsman. The new subscription rates were approved at the 1921 Annual General Meeting so that men paid £3.3.0, ladies £2.2.0, juniors (under 18) £1.1.0 and family membership was £5.5.0. In the 1920s the club had between 80 and 100 members, down from about 300 when it first opened.⁴⁹

One of the recurring expenses for the club was the maintenance of the clubhouse. While the de Vesci estate paid for much of the ongoing work, the club was responsible for some of the costs. Leaking roofs, water supplies, the maintenance of the avenue and the need for improved sanitary facilities were all issues faced by the club in its early years. Another ongoing expense was that of staff. The club employed a stewardess Mrs. Mary Hayes who was assisted when necessary by Madge O’Brien. Outside staff included groundsman and other helpers. Amongst these was Jeremiah Condon who was appointed as head greenkeeper in 1929. The staff maintained the course using horse power: in 1913 the club spent £33.6.6 on a horse mower and horse boots. Mrs. Donovan was responsible for the mowing in 1921, while in the mid-1930s the horse was supplied by Mr. O’Shea and special horse shoes were bought “to avoid damage to the Course by O’Shea’s horse.”⁵⁰ From the 1930s lawnmowers were used to cut the greens and tees. Sheep were used to graze part of the course through an agreement with neighbouring farmer Dan Hayes. His grandson, Dan Joe Hayes, recalled that his grandfather grazed about 160 sheep on the fairways in the 1930s. While this generally worked well, there could be problems. In January 1916 large numbers of sheep damaged the third green, while there also was trespass of sheep on the shrubbery and grounds of Major Newman’s house beside the castle.

Professionals had been employed by Irish golf clubs since 1889 when Alexander Day was appointed greenkeeper and clubmaker at the Royal Belfast Golf Club. Other clubs soon followed this example and professionals increasingly were an essential

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*Rules of
Golf, 1925.*

part of club life. The professional generally was responsible for maintaining the course, making golf clubs and giving lessons and advice to club members. The first Irish Professional Championship was held in 1907 at Portrush, while the Irish Professional Golfers' Association was established four years later in 1911.⁵¹

The first professional at Monkstown, Peter O'Hare, played an important role in the club during its early years. He had been professional at Greenore from 1903 to 1907, before taking up the post at Monkstown. He was vital in the laying out and establishment of the course and his lessons to the many members who were new to the game were much in demand. In late April 1909 he took part in a contest involving the professionals from four local golf clubs: Cork, Muskerry, Rushbrooke and Monkstown. O'Hare was paired with H.F. Lafollett of Rushbrooke against David Brown of Cork and John McNamara of Muskerry. Thirty six holes were played at both Little Island and Monkstown, with O'Hare and Lafollett eventually winning the contest.⁵²

O'Hare resigned from Monkstown in April 1914 and emigrated to the United States where he had a successful career. In the following month Jack Higgins was appointed as professional. Jack Higgins came from a Little Island family that was to make an enormous contribution to golf in the Cork area and beyond. He probably began his involvement with golf by caddying at Cork Golf Club in Little Island. Jack Higgins' skills and enthusiasm for the game were clear and he was professional in Monkstown from 1914 until November 1917. He then moved to Muskerry Golf Club and from there to Cork Golf Club which was a championship course. In due course his younger brother Jim was to become professional at Monkstown and another brother Bob held the same position in Muskerry.

The departure of Jack Higgins in late 1917 led to a period of short term appointments in Monkstown. Jeremiah (Jerry) Finnegan, who had previously acted as caddie master and professional at Muskerry Golf Club, was professional in Monkstown for less than a year and left in September 1918. The club then decided to appoint William Holley who previously had worked at Rathfarnham, Stillorgan and County Kildare (Naas) golf clubs. Holley appears to have remained only a few months at Monkstown, from September 1918 until January 1919. He subsequently was professional at The Castle Golf Club in Dublin.

Thomas Gaffney of Milltown Golf Club in County Dublin, was appointed as professional in February 1919 at a salary of £1 per week, together with profit from the sale of balls and clubs. His weekly wages were soon increased to £1.15.0 but he did not remain long, leaving in June 1920. For the following six years the club did

not have a professional, but instead relied on the assistance of David Brown from Cork Golf Club. An agreement was reached whereby Brown or his son would provide lessons at Monkstown in 1921 and 1922.

PETER O'HARE

The first professional at Monkstown, Peter O'Hare, came from a golfing family in Greenore, County Louth. He and his two younger brothers, Pat and James (Jimmy), all became successful professional golfers.

Peter O'Hare served as professional in Greenore (1903-1907) and Monkstown (1908-1914) golf clubs before emigrating to the United States of America. There he worked as a club professional with the occasional tournament appearance. He reached the quarter finals of the US PGA (United States Professional Golfers Association) championship at Chicago in 1920. Four years later he was tied seventh behind Cyril Walker in the 1924 US Open at Oakland Hill – a remarkable achievement. It remained the best finish by an Irish-born player in the US Open until Padraig Harrington tied fifth behind Tiger Woods in the 2000 championship. It was also the best by an Irishman in any American major championship until being matched by David Feherty in 1991, when he was tied seventh behind John Daly in the US PGA Championship. In the 1931 US PGA at Rhode Island, Peter O'Hare defeated the five-times winner Walter Hagen in the first round before losing to the eventual winner Tom Creavy.



Peter O'Hare.

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Peter O'Hare.

Peter's brother Pat also emigrated to the United States where both brothers generally were called O'Hara, not O'Hare. Pat had won the Irish Professional Championship in 1919 and in America won the North and South Professional Open in 1922 at Pinehurst, North Carolina. It was one of the leading tournaments on the American scene and Pat O'Hare's victory was achieved over 54 holes after the second round was abandoned because of torrential rain. After this major achievement Pat O'Hare returned to Ireland for a holiday, but in fact never went back to America. He won the Irish Professional Championship again in 1927 and remained at Greenore.

Jimmy O'Hare also won the Irish Professional Championship twice, in 1914 and 1920. He served as professional in Skerries in County Dublin before eventually returning to Greenore. These three remarkable and talented brothers were all attached at various stages to Greenore Golf Club which honoured them by instituting the O'Hare Memorial Perpetual Cup in 2007.⁵³

The club was going through a difficult time in the early 1920s, with reduced membership and financial problems. In 1922 the committee discussed the lack of interest in competitions and decided to present winners of medal competitions with tankards, instead of the customary "order on a shopkeeper."⁵⁴ The first tankards were supplied by Alfred H. Exham, Cecil H. Exham, E. Jenkins, R.W. Wrixon, Edward D. Wrixon, B.P. Harvey, H.B. Scott and O.J.S. Piper. Tankard competitions thereafter became a regular feature of club life.

There also were concerns about the course itself. Since opening, the course had been maintained by the club, but does not appear to have been altered in any significant way. It had suffered from occasional trespass by animals. In 1915 cattle had "injured some of the Greens" while in early 1918 the South Union Hunt rode over the course on two occasions, resulting in letters of apology from Mr. D. Morrogh and Captain W.M. Kincaid Lennox offering to make good any damage caused.⁵⁵ In 1919 there were problems with carts being driven over the course. Ted Whitaker, who joined the club in 1920, recalled that "the course was in very poor condition in those days and cut with a horse drawn gang mower."⁵⁶

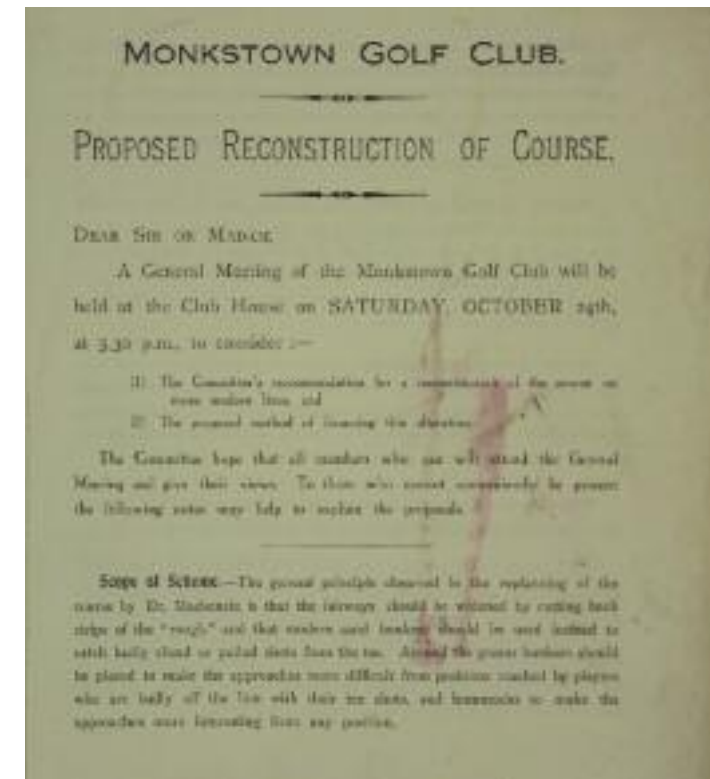
Problems with the course led to the setting up of a sub-committee to investigate permanent improvements. B.P. Harvey, J.E. Jenkins, Cecil H. Exham and R.M. Wrixon produced a report in late 1923 and shortly afterwards the club agreed to engage a greenkeeper jointly with Cork Golf Club. Early in 1924 the two clubs employed Andrew Sharp, then working at Alexandra Golf Club near Glasgow, and he appears to have worked on both courses throughout the summer. From October

Sharp was employed only by Monkstown where the greens doubtless benefitted from his work during the year or so that he spent there.

At this time, in the mid-1920s, work was being carried on to improve other golf clubs in the region. Muskerry expanded from nine to eighteen holes in 1924, Cork Golf Club made significant alterations to its course while Douglas also planned alterations that were carried out in 1926. All these works were carried out to the plans of a golf course architect who was to become internationally renowned: Alister MacKenzie. Born near Leeds in 1870, MacKenzie studied medicine but during service in both the Anglo-Boer and First World Wars he was drawn to the study of camouflage techniques. Already a golf player, MacKenzie started experimenting with golf course design using similar skills to those of camouflage. From 1918 his remarkable golf course designs began to win recognition. He worked on courses all over the world and moved to California in 1929 where he lived until his death in 1934. Amongst his best known designs were Cypress Point (California) and Augusta (Georgia) which became the home of the Masters championship.⁵⁷ He worked on several courses in the south of Ireland in the mid-1920s, not only those named above, but also Lahinch and Limerick golf clubs.

The presence of MacKenzie in the Cork area was an obvious opportunity for Monkstown to ask him for advice about the course. The fact that other local clubs were working on their courses provided Monkstown with the impetus to continue improvements. Yet the club was not in a comfortable financial position and had lost members in recent years. There was a reluctance amongst some members to incur heavy expenditure which could result in an overwhelming debt. At the same time, it was recognised that if the course was not improved then the

Information notice about the proposed reconstruction of the course by Alister MacKenzie, 1925. (Minute Book, Cork City and County Archives, U351)



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club had an uncertain future. This dilemma was shown in the committee's instructions in July 1925 that the Greens Committee was to consult Dr. MacKenzie but to keep the financial position of the club in mind.

MacKenzie produced a plan to improve the course, the details of which unfortunately have not survived. The committee approved of the plan in August 1925 and suggested that the costs of about £500 could be raised by a guarantee fund and a whip around of members. However, the plans had to be approved by a general meeting of the club. This took place on 3rd October and the vice-president Alfred Exham explained that work was needed on the course "to bring it up to date", while H.B. Scott pointed out that "these improvements were to be carried out in order to keep the links in the present position which it held in Cork golf."⁵⁸ Concern was expressed that the alterations would make the course more difficult, but Cecil Exham reassured members that this would not happen. At that stage the whip around had raised £35, while the guarantee fund stood at £145. There were long and detailed discussions

with "opinions being about equally divided".⁵⁹

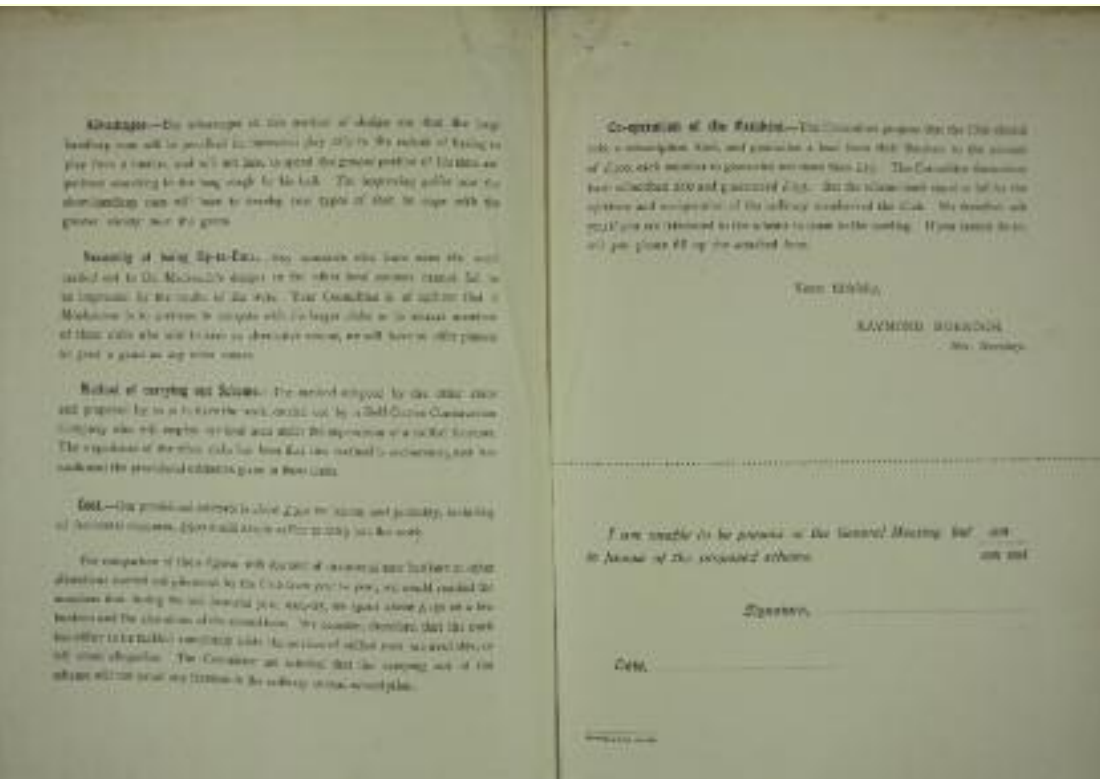
No conclusion was reached and so another general meeting was held on 24th October. At this second meeting, Alfred Exham told the members that the contractor whom the club proposed to use was then working in Douglas, having finished Little Island [Cork] and Muskerry Golf Clubs "entirely to the satisfaction of the members".⁶⁰ He argued that now would be the cheapest time to carry out the Mackenzie scheme and that "The main objection to the scheme, that was, the cutting of the rough would be met by this scheme. ... the club membership would gradually grow less if something were not done".⁶¹ Amongst those who opposed the MacKenzie plan was founder member Edward Wrixon who had drawn up a lengthy alternative scheme which, he felt, would be better from a monetary and golfing point of view. The details of this alternative plan have not survived. After long discussion Edward Wrixon's amendment was lost and the club finally had agreement to proceed with the alterations to the course.



Frustratingly little is known about the details of MacKenzie's alterations to the course. He appears to have worked on the fifth, sixth and seventh greens, adding bunkers and reducing the amount of rough. The ground in front of the bunkers was contoured to gather in the ball, yet could still easily be cut with a mower.⁶² The work was carried out during 1926 and cost about £520. By January 1927 the club was carrying a debt of £410 for the reconstruction work, but the overall financial situation had improved and there was general satisfaction with the position. However, there was a long drawn out dispute over the final payments to Dr. MacKenzie and to his brother Major Charles A. MacKenzie who also contributed to the project. Payments to Dr. MacKenzie were not resolved until late 1928, with Major MacKenzie's accountants still claiming £49.3 as late as January 1936.

Despite the protracted wrangling over fees and expenses, the improvements carried out to the course in 1926 met with general approval. They also appear to have increased confidence in and use of the club. In the late 1920s the financial position improved through an increase in members, competitions and visitors. The 1927 Annual General Meeting reported that the club was "in a very healthy state".⁶³ Visitors were important to the club and some of them were tourists in the area. For example, in the 1920s the States Hotel in Cobh provided guests with information about Monkstown Golf Course, noting that it could be accessed by ferry and that visitors' fees were two shillings a day or fifteen shillings a month.

The increase in members in the late 1920s was short-lived and in the early 1930s,



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1935			Amount	Club Wages	Tees showing wages etc	From Club	Coal Only	Prizes	Prizes	Rated Taxes	Insurance	Postage	Indies	Box	Change	Renewals
Forward			208 14 7	86 17 8	62 7 4		3 11 10	14 14 -	9 15 -		2 6 4	2 8 -	7 1 1	18 2 1		1 1 3
July	10	Costhins & Son etc to 20-4-1935	30 16 -													
	10	Swan Scotch Club	16 -													
	11	J. Higgins Prize etc 4-15-1935	27 -	2 10 -				2 10 -								
	19	J. Elmy Prize etc 4-19-1935	28 -	15 -				15 -								
	19	J. Elmy Prize etc 4-11-1935	29 -	10 -				10 -								
	19	Buttons Ltd etc to 20-2-1935	40 -	8 -												
	19	Eagle Printing etc to 20-2-1935	41 -	2 7 -								2 7 -				
	19	T. Lane 1st all Poor Rate	42 -	1 7 -						1 7 -						
	20	J. Brennan Prize etc	43 -	10 12 -												
	30	W. Egan Prize etc 2-19-1935	44 -	1 -												
	30	J. R. Stuart. Rent to 1-1-1935	45 -	22 18 -												
Aug	1	Wages to 2-8-1935	46 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	8	Wages to 10-8-1935	47 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	15	Wages to 17-8-1935	48 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	22	Wages to 24-8-1935	49 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	29	Wages to 31-8-1935	50 00 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	2	Small bills July	51 -	2 2 10 -				5 6 -					2 9 -			1 2 7 -
	2	J. Kelly. Gas & July etc	52 -	15 9 -										15 9 -		
	6	Telephone	53 -	2 18 10 -								2 18 10 -				
	9	T. Lane Water Rate 24/1/35	54 -	2 10 -						2 10 -						
	9	J. Brennan Prize etc 4-12-1935	55 -	3 5 -				3 5 -								
	29	J. Brennan Prize etc	56 -	7 2 -				6 12 -		1 10 -						
Sept	7	Wages to 7-9-1935	57 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	12	Wages to 14-9-1935	58 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	19	Wages to 21-9-1935	59 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	26	Wages to 28-9-1935	2560 -	7 10 4 7 4 16 4 2 14 -												
	2	Small bills August	61 -	1 3 5 -				5 3 -						7 8 -		10 6 -
	2	Winterbrooks Prize etc	62 -	10 -												
	7	Geo Costhins on etc	63 -	40 -										40 -		
	7	J. Kelly. August etc	64 -	6 18 8 -										6 18 8 -		
	7	McKinnies allowance	65 -	45 18 -												
	28	Buttons Text Book	66 -	15 -												
	28	T. Lane 2nd all Poor Rate	67 -	1 7 -						1 7 -						
	28	Book for 5 Tins Breeze	68 -	12 6 -				12 6 -								
	28	W. Egan. Prize 4-17-1935	69 -	2 -				2 -								
	30	Small bills Sept	2570 -	14 6 -				4 7 -								
	30	Small Tins Sept	71 -	4 3 -												
	30	Interest League Book etc	2 14 11 -													
Total			548 -	1 150 4 8	90 14 4	45 15 1	12 7 7	57 10 -	15 1 -	27 14 -	6 2 7	2 10 -	11 6 9	11 5 9		3 4 -

Club accounts from 1935 showing wages, prizes and other information. (Stock Book, Cork City and County Archives, U351)

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Pennants recording the success of the club in the Barton Shield competition, 1933.



concern was again expressed at a fall in numbers. A special financial meeting was held in October 1933 at the Munster and Leinster Bank on the South Mall in Cork. The venue was interesting, given that in this period many members worked in banks. The meeting noted that income from annual subscriptions had dropped steadily from £674 in 1929-1930 to £501 in the current year. Following discussion, it was decided "to keep expenditure at its lowest without any drastic alterations in the present arrangements."⁶⁴ Expenditure certainly was monitored carefully and in 1935 wages were reduced for some of the staff. Even the cost of a badly needed new mower was only approved after some members signed a guarantee of £200.

These prudent policies paid off as by the following year (1936) the club had a profit of just over £134, membership had increased and the course was in good condition. Ted Whitaker, who was club treasurer in 1937 and 1938 recalled that on taking up the post he was amazed to find some subscriptions outstanding for up to five years by members of the committee!⁶⁵ The collection of these and other arrears was vital in improving the financial state of the club. In fact, the club continued to prosper in the late 1930s and even managed to open a contingency account. At

the 1938 Annual General Meeting Alfred Exham, who had been a key figure in founding the club thirty years earlier, remarked "It was a wonderful year", noting that he never remembered anything like it in the club before.⁶⁶

One of the reasons for the success of the club as the 1930s progressed may have been related to the confidence generated by the golfing success of some of the members. In particular, the club's men's senior team won the prestigious Barton Shield in 1933 – a tremendous achievement for a club of its size. The Barton Shield Foursomes competition had been inaugurated in 1910 by the President of the Golfing Union of Ireland, Mr. Justice Dunbar Plunket Barton. It began as an inter-county competition, but from 1920 was an inter-club event.⁶⁷ Monkstown had entered the competition in earlier years, but the 1933 team of S.H. McCarthy, C.A. Murphy, J.G. Musgrave and J.F. Nicholson was the one that had most success in this period. The final was held at the Little Island course of Cork Golf Club on Saturday 3rd June on a day that started wet but later cleared. Monkstown played Dublin University in the final, with



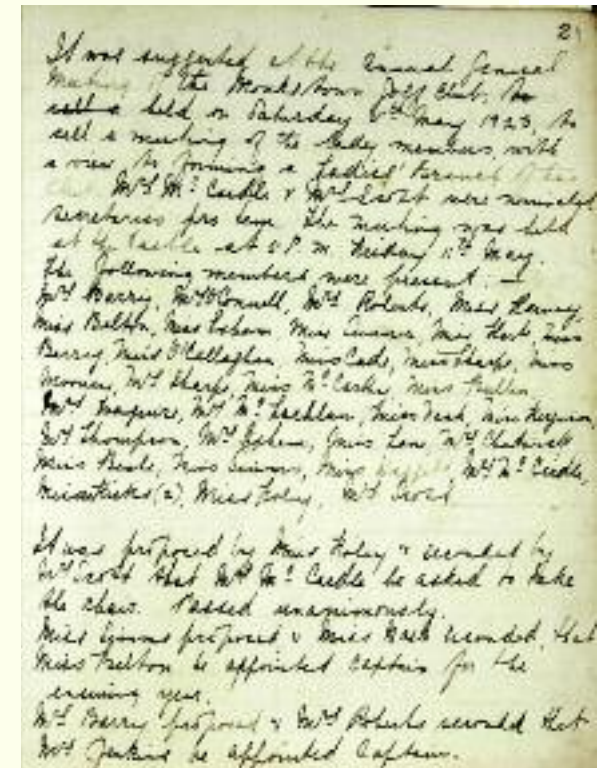
Barton Shield cup awarded to J.F. Nicholson, one of the members of the successful Monkstown team in 1933.

McCarthy and Musgrave winning their match 2 up and Murphy and Nicholson defeating their opponents 4 up. The Cork Examiner reported that "Monkstown scored a most praiseworthy win for the teams were very evenly matched, the total handicaps in each case being 16. Monkstown's representatives in both matches played remarkably well, C.A. Murphy's accurate putting being one of the features."⁶⁸ Amongst the other notable golfers in the club at this time were William Locke, G. Locke, F. Stafford, Frank J. Egan, R. Nix and D. Doyle. At about the same time, the ladies' teams were having successes in their competitions.

LADIES BRANCH

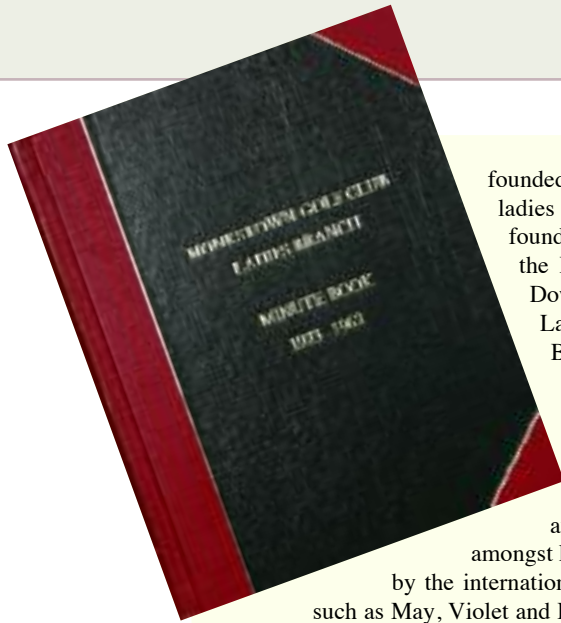
Ladies were a key element in Monkstown Golf Club from its foundation. As has been seen, Miss Eileen Boumphrey drove the first ball at Monkstown Golf Club at the official opening ceremony in 1908. She set the scene for lady golfers at the club where ladies' competitions were a regular feature of club life.

Although a separate ladies' branch was formed at the club in 1923, there may have been a more informal committee or branch already in existence before that date. In 1913 the Annual General Meeting referred to the election of a Lady Captain and also quoted from the 'Ladies Minutes'. Unfortunately, this earliest ladies' minute book has not survived and it is not known if a separate Lady Captain was in fact elected. However, there clearly was a keen interest in the game amongst the early female members of the club. This was not surprising as ladies adopted the new game with enthusiasm when golf clubs were



Detail from minute book recording the establishment of the ladies' branch in the club, 1923. Ladies Branch Minute Book, 1923-1962.

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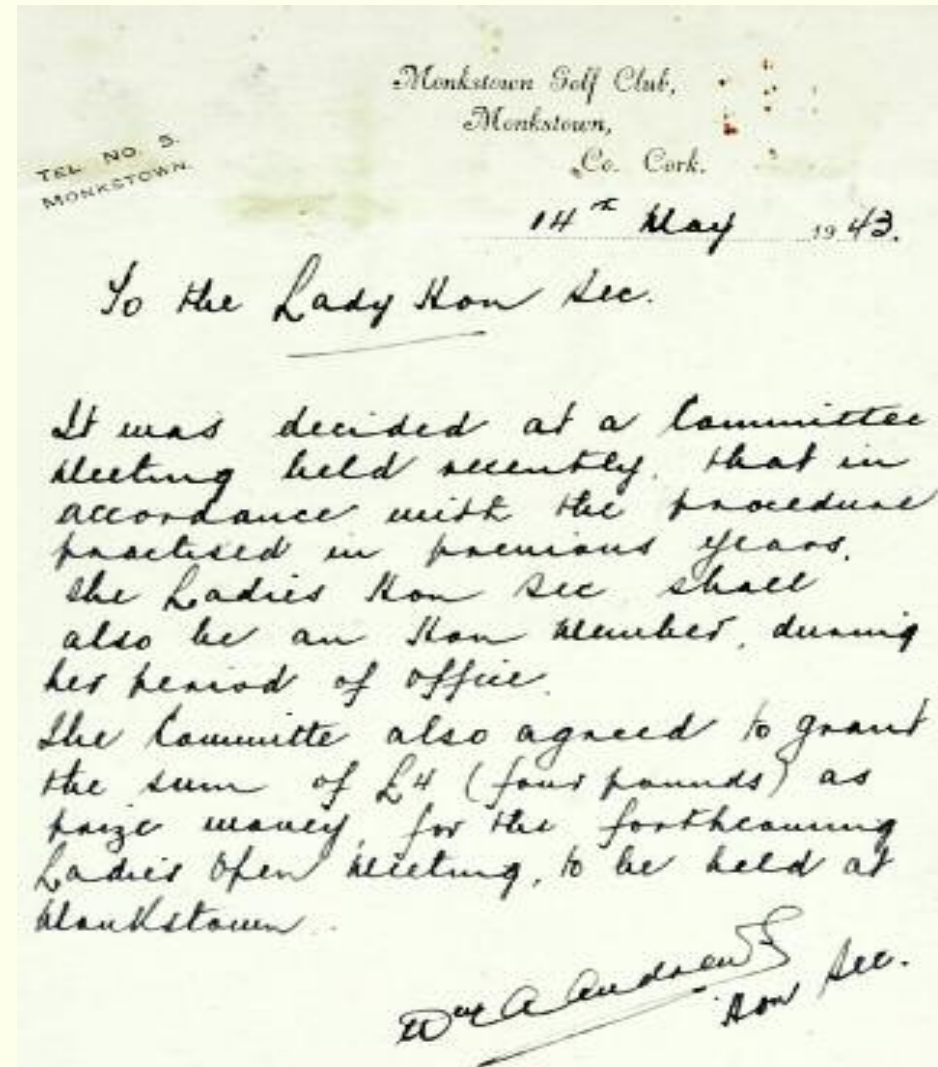


founded all over Ireland from the 1890s. While most ladies were members of a branch of a men's club, some founded their own ladies' club, the first of which was the Holywood Ladies Golf Club founded in County Down in 1888. It was as early as 1893 that the Irish Ladies' Golf Union (I.L.G.U.) was founded in Belfast and, like the GUI, was the first national union of its type. It organised the first Irish Ladies' championship in the following year, 1894, at Carnalea in County Down. Initially attracting mainly northern clubs, by the early years of the 20th century there were many affiliated clubs from the south. The interest in golf amongst ladies continued to grow during this period, helped by the international successes of some early northern lady golfers such as May, Violet and Frances Hazlet and Rhona Adair.

At Monkstown the ladies regularly played in competitions and were active in the club in the early years. In January 1920 the (men's) committee agreed that "a Ladies branch be formed & that a sub-committee consisting of Mrs. Kidd, Mrs. Barry & Miss Smith, Miss K. Belton Captain & Miss Payne Hon. Secretary be approved of to hold office until the Annual General Meeting 1921. Three to form a quorum. This committee to have powers to arrange Ladies Competitions, Inter Club Matches & Ladies Handicaps."⁶⁹ Despite this clear decision, nothing appears to have been done for a further three years. This may have been because of the unrest and disruption in the country during the early 1920s.

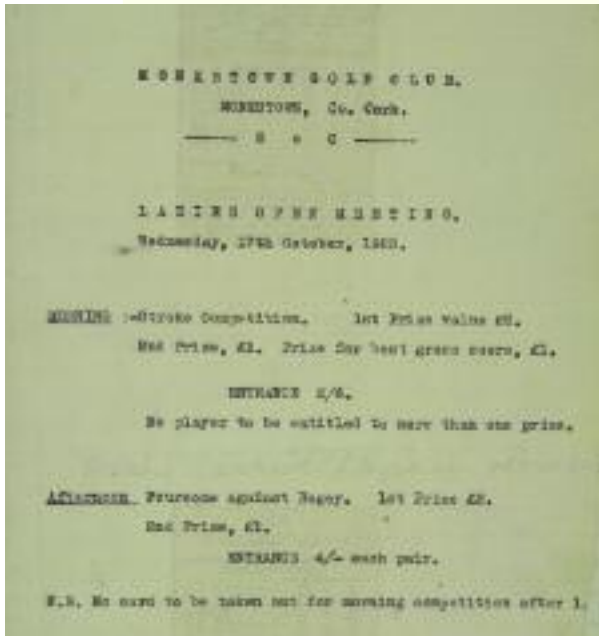
It was in May 1923 that the ladies' branch finally was formed. On 11th May the ladies' branch minutes record: "It was suggested at the Annual General Meeting of the Monkstown Golf Club held on Saturday 5th May 1923, to call a meeting of the lady members with a view to forming a Ladies' Branch of the club. Mrs. McCardle & Mrs. Scott were nominated secretaries pro tem. The meeting was held at the Castle at 5 p.m. Friday 11th May. The following members were present: - Mrs. Barry, Mrs. O'Connell, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Harvey, Miss Belton, Miss Exham, Miss Sunner[?], Miss Harte, Miss Barry, Miss O'Callaghan, Miss Cade, Miss Sharpe, Miss Morney, Mrs. Sharpe, Miss McCarthy, Miss Bullen, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. McLachlan, Miss Nash, Miss Ferguson, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Exham, Miss Lane, Mrs. Chadwick, Miss Beale, Miss Simms, Miss Waggett, Mrs. McCardle, Misses Hicks (2), Miss Foley, Mrs. Scott."⁷⁰ The first captain was Miss Belton, Mrs. Scott was the first honorary secretary, Mrs. McArdle was elected to the Chair and the three committee members were Miss Waggett, Miss Foley and Mrs. Jenkins.

With the ladies' branch officially established, they soon set to work organising



Letter to the honorary secretary of the ladies' branch, 1943.

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Notice of 'Ladies Open Meeting', 1923, from Competition Book 1908-1924. (Cork City and County Archives, U351)

was important in maintaining the ladies' programme in the club. There were golfing successes in the late 1920s and early 1930s when the ladies won shield and cup competitions. The teams also performed well in the Irish Senior Cup, reaching the national finals in 1931 and 1932.

After a period without its own professional in the early 1920s, Monkstown appointed Jeremiah (Miah) Coakley in May 1926. He had worked at the club for some years prior to that date and in his new role he gave lessons to members, at two shillings an hour, as well as making clubs in a workshop fitted up for him. Coakley also acted as caddie master during the week. Unfortunately, after less than seven years as professional, Miah Coakley died in early 1933. Club members contributed to a fund in his memory, to benefit his widow.

The new professional, James (Jim) Higgins, was no stranger to the club. His older brother Jack had served as professional from 1914 to 1917 and Jim seems to have worked at the club for a time before his own appointment in April 1933. He became

competitions and overseeing handicapping. The ladies' committee also arranged inter-club competitions, one of the first tasks being to choose a team to represent Monkstown against Douglas Golf Club in April 1923. In 1924 the Monkstown Ladies' Branch affiliated to the I.L.G.U. and maintained an interest in the union over the ensuing years by attending meetings and passing on information received.

The main work of the Ladies' Branch during the 1920s and 1930s was arranging and overseeing fixtures. Various competitions were held during each year, including the captain's prize, cup competitions and inter-club events. There were often only two or three committee meetings during the year, together with an annual general meeting which was usually held in April.

Most of the work was routine, but

professional and caddie master, provided lessons, supervised the course and supplemented his income through the sale of balls. He also made golf clubs and was renowned for his skills and dedication in this craft. He was to become a much admired and respected figure around the club for nearly a quarter of a century.

In 1937 Jim Higgins married Alice Galway, the daughter of the stewardess of the clubhouse. The Galway family were associated with the club for many years. Mrs. Galway had taken over from Mrs. Hayes who had retired in 1922 through ill health. A presentation was made to Mrs. Hayes in appreciation of her work over the years. Mrs. Galway's husband, Joe, was employed by the de Vesci estate to look after its affairs at Monkstown and the Galways lived in one wing of the castle. As in earlier times, there were occasions when additional help was required by the stewardess when catering for certain functions. Local people would assist on these occasions and during the Galways' time at the castle their four daughters also helped out when necessary.

Mrs. Galway had a reputation as a good cook, providing basic food of a high quality despite having to work in a small and ill-equipped kitchen. Facilities at the castle were minimal and diners always ran the risk of having dust and



Jeremiah Coakley, professional at the club from 1926 until 1933.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Jeremiah Coakley (right) with his brother Timothy beside Monkstown Castle.

insects fall from the ceiling of the club room into their food! There was no proper ceiling in that room and although the club discussed making improvements in the 1930s, nothing was done. Bill Andrews joined the club in 1938 and recalled that conditions in the castle “were spartan. The bar consisted of three small tables with a galvanised bath for the empties. There was no ceiling – the walls were bare stone and the heating was by way of an antiquated stove. In fact, in the winter months you had the choice of drinking copious quantities of whiskey or dying from exposure”.⁷¹ In 1940 the club room was described as “very cold and draughty in the winter”.⁷²

While conditions at the castle were very basic, this was a period when members did not have high expectations of facilities at their clubhouse. The clubhouse essentially was seen as a base for playing golf with rudimentary catering and changing amenities. Many members lived locally and used their own houses for their main meals and for any formal socialising. This view was linked to an inherent conservatism amongst the committee and a reluctance to borrow money or have the club fall into debt. It was felt that any improvements should be funded by the club’s

own resources. At a time of economic difficulty in many areas of the world, including Ireland, in the 1930s, this view was understandable.

However, it was not entirely the fault of the club that the facilities at its clubhouse were so basic. The club did not own the building and lands, although members managed to negotiate a more permanent lease in 1928. This replaced the agreement that had been in place since 1908. The need for a lease was linked to the club’s large expenditure on the course in 1926 and the need to clarify the obligations of both the club and the de Vesci estate regarding the upkeep of the castle. The new 35 year agreement was signed on 12th May 1928 and fixed the rent at £45 per year for approximately 45 acres of ground.

As part of this agreement, some new trustees were appointed for the club. Alfred H. Exham remained as trustee, but in 1928 Alfred Boumphrey and Graham Goold were replaced by Raymond Morrogh and Edward D. Wrixon. Boumphrey had been made an honorary member in 1923 in recognition of his work for the club since its foundation. Edward Wrixon only served as trustee for four years as he died in 1932, having contributed much to the development of the club. Raymond Morrogh subsequently retired as trustee and in 1937 Cecil H. Exham and Edward (Ted) Whitaker filled the vacant trustee positions.

Despite the new lease, various plans that the club made to improve conditions at the clubhouse were not fulfilled. There seemed to be a difficulty in obtaining the landlord’s permission to make any significant changes. For example in 1930 the architect James Buchan and Mr. Harrington drew up plans to add a new room to the castle, together with other alterations. The Annual General Meeting of that year approved the plans and agreed to spending up to £300 on them. Members had already guaranteed £200 of this large sum. However, the de Vesci estate did not approve of the scheme and in the end more modest changes were made: some of the windows were enlarged and the main room was improved. In addition electricity was supplied to the castle from 1937, at the same time as it was connected to nearby Castle House, then occupied by the Fox family.

There was a gradual increase in the number of members using cars to travel to the club. This was related to the closure of the rail link from Cork to Monkstown in 1932, although there was a bus service available. The increase in cars led to ongoing problems with the surfacing and upkeep of the avenue and over the years this was a cause of concern and negotiation between the club and the estate.



Club Visitors’
Book, 1935-1941.
(Cork City and
County Archives,
U351)

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008

One of the plans for the castle was to improve the floor in the main room which was not particularly sound. The club was aware of this and the floor was propped up from underneath. While safe enough for ordinary use, members recalled that there was some nervousness regarding the state of the floor when used for dances and on other occasions when there were a lot of people in the club. In 1932, following a successful dance, the committee suggested that the props be permanently set. The props remained in place as long as the club was in the castle and successfully ensured that revellers did not plunge into the room underneath. A limit also was placed on the number of people using the room.

The successful entertainments that had been held at the castle towards the end of the war were severely curtailed in the early 1920s and the piano was sold. The civil unrest at that time combined with a reduction in members meant that the venue no longer was in demand. In late 1923 the committee decided not to use the castle for dances or other entertainments. However, by the early 1930s the situation had much improved and dances were held at the castle once or twice a year, usually during the Christmas season. A sub-committee was set up to organise these events and received considerable assistance from lady members. The dances not only were enjoyable, but often raised much-needed funds: the dance in early 1932 made a profit of over £33. Tickets for the 1934 dance cost six shillings and sixpence each and a total of 120 were sold. These were occasions where members could invite others to join in the entertainment. In January 1937 a letter was received from the Officers' Mess on Spike Island thanking the club for providing transport to and from the pier on the occasion of the club dance. The Royal Navy still had a presence in the harbour at that time, a link that was to be broken the following year when its remaining facilities were transferred to the Irish Free State.

By the 1930s the club was well established and had weathered some difficult times. Its numbers were small: there were less than 200 men and perhaps only twenty or thirty ladies. Not surprisingly, most members knew each other well and moved in the same circles. At this time many members were bank officials, particularly from the Munster and Leinster Bank which was one of the largest banks in the region. Like many golf clubs of this era, there was a strict code of behaviour expected from members. William Locke recalled that when he joined Monkstown in the late 1920s it had a “small membership of well behaved members, well versed in the rules which were strictly adhered to. ... Members were not allowed to appear in the bar dressed in sportswear – collar, tie and jacket were expected. Visitors were not allowed under any circumstances to buy drinks and in general the conservative attitude in keeping with the period was observed.”⁷³ Despite seeming austere to outsiders, the club had a close and friendly atmosphere amongst its members. Ted Whitaker described how when he became a member in the 1920s he found himself “amongst a small group of fine friends ... Despite being a bad golfer, I loved every game with my fellow members.”⁷⁴ The first thirty years of the club had seen it become an important part of the life of Monkstown and it was well placed to face the new challenges of the 1940s and 1950s.







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Competitors for the Captain's Prize at Monkstown Golf Club, 1941.

CHAPTER 2

CONSOLIDATION

1940-1958

As the 1940s dawned, Monkstown Golf Club was a well established entity, with a small but loyal membership. The early years of the new decade, however, were to prove difficult for the club as a result of Second World War. Although the Irish Free State was neutral during the war, the conflict did have an impact on all aspects of society.

One of the major problems during the war (known as ‘the Emergency’) was the lack of fuel. Petrol shortages made it very difficult for members to travel to Monkstown to play golf as private cars were virtually out of use by the end of the war. This problem did not deter some members who took to other forms of transport such as buses, bicycles and horse drawn vehicles. The poorly maintained and badly rutted avenue was a formidable challenge to members, particularly on dark nights. Bill Andrews, who served as club secretary for many years, recalled this era: “We then took to cycling from the city to Monkstown. The road from the Monastery onwards was not

tarmacadamed and this coupled with the hill made the going pretty tough. Returning home to Cork we had the hill in our favour plus plenty of liquid refreshment, the journey was a good deal easier. Four of us made the trips on Sunday by landau. We would have to disembark at the monastery at Rochestown as there was no way the horse could tackle the hill with a full load. Coming home was quite an adventure with the jarvey and the passengers well and truly loaded. Even the horse was suspect.”¹ Although many members did continue to frequent the club during this period, there were others who were unable to do so and membership numbers fell.



Monkstown Golf Club Trophy presented by William Dwyer in April 1949.

As early as mid-September 1939, not long after the outbreak of war, the fuel shortage was having an impact. The Ladies’ Branch minutes recorded that the Autumn Open Meeting would be cancelled “owing to the shortage of petrol”.² Other events were also affected and in 1942 it was decided that the Handicap and Monkstown cups should be played as 36 hole competitions because of transport difficulties. Similar uncertainty surrounded some of the men’s competitions. At a national level, the Irish amateur open and close competitions were suspended during the war, as was the Open Championship of Ireland and many other Union Cups and Shields tournaments. Thus the general reduction in golf competitions, falling memberships and transport problems all combined to have an impact on club life. In Monkstown, the Annual General Meetings of the war years all noted the fall in green fees, bar profits and subscriptions. Naturally, this led to financial stresses for the club which reported losses during most of this period.

The club had been in a very healthy state at the end of the 1930s, so the financial problems during the war were disappointing for members. However, the reserve built up by careful management in earlier decades proved to be important in keeping the club operational. In addition, some members showed great initiative in fund-raising. One of the most successful schemes was run in 1943 by the secretary, W.A. (Bill) Andrews, the treasurer D.J. O’Sullivan, P. Barry, M. Horgan and M.F. Lynch. A case of Hennessy’s brandy was obtained for £25 and offered as a prize, with tickets costing one shilling each. The shortage of brandy was such that the members sold 276 books



Jim Higgins Trophy.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Members of the Monkstown team who were winners of the Cork Junior League in 1941. Left to right, front: Paddy Barry (Club Captain), A.E. McNamara (Team Captain), Harry Dale and Frank Maguire. Back: Jimmy Reardon, M.J. Lynch, Michael Anthony, Miles O'Byrne and Denis O'Sullivan.

of tickets! There was great satisfaction in late October when it was announced that the sweep had resulted in a profit of over £106. This was a significant achievement and ensured that the club did not record a loss in that financial year.

As during the previous world war, the club was used for fund-raising activities for the Red Cross. Unfortunately, a request to hold a dance at the castle in January 1942 had

to be turned down because of the condition of the floors in the building. However, a successful exhibition match, in aid of the Red Cross, had been held at Monkstown the previous year, in July 1941. The match was highly successful and featured well-known players: Jimmy Bruen was partnered by Monkstown professional Jim Higgins, while Redmond Simcox had the Cork Golf Club professional Jack Higgins as his partner.

Jimmy Bruen was one of the most accomplished players of that era, winning the Boys' Amateur Open Championship at Royal Birkdale in 1936 at the age of 16. He had remarkable success over the following two years: he won the Irish Amateur Close Championship in 1937 and 1938, played on the victorious 1938 Walker Cup team and won the amateur prize at the Irish Open Championships in 1938. Although born in Belfast, he grew up in Cork and was a member of both Cork and Muskerry golf clubs. He was renowned for his golfing talent and skills, including his distinctive back swing or 'loop'.³ So it was not surprising that crowds gathered at Monkstown in 1941 to see him play. Redmond Simcox of Cork Golf Club also was highly regarded for his golfing prowess and had lost to his good friend Bruen in the finals of the 1938 Irish Close Championship.



Trophy presented by J.J. Long, 1949.

Perhaps fittingly, the match ended in a draw with all players showing their skills at varying times. The local press reported: "The match attracted a gratifying amount of support, and as was to be expected, it was a very close affair. There was never more than a hole in the difference and a halved match was a very fair result. Simcox was the most consistent player of the four, fighting almost every hole of the round. Bruen was not his usual safe self off the tees, but his short game was perfect."⁴ Brothers Jim and Jack Higgins were doubtless satisfied with the result of the game, which was refereed by Lieutenant Commander George Crosbie, President of the Golfing Union of Ireland.

The exhibition match of 1941 was a welcome distraction from the shortages and inconveniences caused by the war. By May 1945, with the end of the war in Europe, D. O'Sullivan (Captain) reflected the thoughts of many when he spoke at the club's Annual General Meeting hoping that "with the dawn of peace the prosperity of the Club would be increased".⁵ His hopes were not in vain as the club gradually did recover, although it was a slow process. At the 1946 Annual General Meeting it was

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

Monkstown Golf Club
Balance Sheet - 20th Nov 1941

<i>Receipts</i>		<i>Expenditure</i>	
116 tickets @ 1/6	19 10	Band	19 10
Refreshments @ 1/6	2 10	King of Queens	2 10
		Supper	11 8 6
		Printing	2 7
		Decorations	1 12 6
		Cost of removing Marbles	15
		Cost of Lighting	10
		Postages	5
		<i>Gratuitous as follows</i>	
		Miss Higgins	1/6
		Miss Foley	1/6
		Miss -	1/6
		Miss -	1/6
		Miss Higgins	1/6
		Banquet	10
		Entertainment	10
		Flowers	10
		Shaw	1/6
1140 Tea stamps @ 1/6	7		
<i>Profit</i>	6 1 10		



Monkstown Golf Club Foursomes Cup, presented by the Three Towns Team, 1949.

Balance Sheet for a club dance held in November 1941. (Minute Book, Cork City and County Archives, U351)

envisaged that green fees would increase with the return of motor traffic. Earlier in the year the club had conferred honorary membership on the officers of the British minesweeping flotilla that was based in the harbour in 1946. The ships in that year, and again in 1947, removed the extensive minefields laid in the approaches to the Bristol Channel and Irish Sea. Their officers helped to increase the numbers playing golf at that time.

The shortage of golf balls throughout the war had been a major problem as factories concentrated on wartime

Jimmy Bruen putting on the third green during the Irish Red Cross exhibition match, 1941.

necessities. In July 1946, with wartime restrictions lifted, the Monkstown professional had two dozen golf balls for sale and the club committee had to decide how these precious new balls might be purchased. The decision reached was to put a list on the notice board to receive the signatures of members wishing to buy a ball. Then twenty four names would be drawn, allowing each of those members to purchase a single ball. Those lucky members would not be able to compete for the privilege of buying a ball again until all of the others had had such an opportunity.

By 1948 the effects of wartime shortages were waning and the club found itself operating at a profit. Not surprisingly the committee looked to the future with confidence and managed to keep the club in a good financial state for the ensuing decade. This was an admirable achievement at a time of economic difficulty and high emigration in Ireland. Both membership and green fees were increased in the early





Competitors for the 1943 Captain's Prize in front of the clubhouse, Monkstown Castle.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Page from the club membership book, 1951.



The Exham Teapot, donated by Margot A.H. Exham in 1999 in memory of members of the Exham family who played a major role in the early years of the club.

1950s and again in 1957 to ensure that the club remained in good financial order. It even managed some capital expenditure during this period.

The 1940s and 1950s saw the loss of several long-term members of the club. One of the most significant was the death in 1942 of Alfred H. Exham. He not only was a founder member of the club, but had held office every year from 1908. Exham was elected as vice-president in 1908 and was re-elected in every subsequent year until 1941. In that year the minutes record that he was elected as president of the club, with H.B. Scott holding the position of vice-president. Viscount de Vesci had served as president of the club from 1908 and continued to hold this role until his own death in 1958. Club records do not contain information as to why a second presidential position was created in 1941, but it is likely that members felt that Alfred H. Exham deserved to hold the title of president. He had played an active role in club affairs from its foundation and by 1941 was in his eightieth year and in poor health. It was a suitable way of honouring a man who had contributed so much to the club and it was a tribute which was much appreciated by Exham. He wrote to the secretary, P.J. Dunlea, on 3rd May 1941: "I am in receipt of yours of 29th ulto and cannot adequately express how honoured I feel at the action of the Monkstown Golf Club in unanimously electing me a President of the Club. From the formation of the Club I have always taken a deep interest in its welfare and though I cannot any longer, owing to my illness, take any active part in its affairs my interest in it is unabated. I hope you will convey to the members how grateful I am & how greatly I appreciate the honour they have done me".⁶ Alfred Exham died just over a year later and the club committee convened a special meeting to mark the occasion.



W.A. (Bill) Andrews, who was closely involved in the club for over fifty years.

Alfred Exham's older brother Henry, who also had been associated with the club from the start, had resigned in 1940 when he was nearly 87 years old. His resignation was accepted with regret. Other respected club members were granted honorary membership. In late 1949 Colonel J. Stratford Cummins tendered his resignation, but in early 1950 wrote to the club thanking members for "the great compliment" of honorary membership which he accepted as "a very great honour. ... As you say I have been associated with the club in Monkstown for many years having played over three different courses in the neighbourhood. In fact I was almost the originator of golf in that part of the world and was as you no doubt know joint Hon. Secretary of the present club at its start, so I am very happy to be associated with the club still."⁷ In the same year honorary membership was conferred on another founder member, W.J. Dwyer of the successful Sunbeam Wolsey textile company. In 1953 Mr. Maguire was granted honorary membership. This probably was J.F. Maguire who was a founder member and served as first captain of the club.

Alfred H. Exham was elected as president of the club in 1941 and again in 1942 not long before his death. His son Cecil Exham became president in 1943 and from that year onwards a new president was elected each year. The office of vice-president, which had been important in the club, was filled for a number of years but then appears to have been discontinued.

Viscount de Vesci died in 1958 and at the Annual General Meeting in 1959 it was proposed that Cecil Exham "by virtue of his long connections with the Club" should be "Honorary President" to fill the place vacated by the death of Viscount de Vesci.⁸ This suggests that de Vesci's role became 'honorary' from 1941. Cecil Exham died in late 1959 and his successor in 1960 as honorary president was Charles Fleury, another long-term and active club member. Fleury held the position, later known as life honorary president, until his death in 1976. The position of honorary president was not filled after that date.

During the 1940s and 1950s various men held the position of honorary secretary to the club. W.A. (Bill) Andrews served in this role in the early 1940s and again for most of the 1950s. It was in the mid-1950s that the decision was made to change the club year so that it began on 1st January instead of 1st April, as had previously been the case. It

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

The clubhouse at Monkstown Castle during the 1940s.



THE MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

MONKSTOWN, CO. CORR

(I)

AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1944 & 1945.

MACHINERY, LOOSE TOOLS

A. EQUIPMENT

(2)

FURNITURE & FITTINGS

(3)

CUTLERY, WARE, GLASS, LINEN

6. UTENSILS

Total b/f. 14:3:0

1 Triple Mower	30: 0: 0
1 Ideal " (Bad Repair)	1: 0: 0
1 Roller	2: 0: 0
4 Mowing Machines	30: 0: 0
2 Wooden Rollers	1:13: 0
1 IRON Roller	1:10: 0
1 Wadendo (Retired 31/3/1945)	Nil
1 Spike Roller	2: 0: 0
3 Sole Plates (Horse)	10: 0
1 Wheelbarrow	1:10: 0
2 Sole Plates (Hand)	10: 0
2 Shovels	5: 0
2 Rakes	5: 0
1 Pickaxe	2: 6
2 Scythes	5: 0
1 Turfing Iron	7: 6
1 Edging Tool	2: 0
1 Renovator	3: 6
1 Small Hatchet	2: 0
1 Watering Can	2: 6
5 Barrels	10: 0
4-Gal. Oil Tin	2: 0
15 Tea Boxes	8: 0
9 Flagstaffs	4: 0
9 Flags	- -
2 Roller Barrels (Scrap)	5: 0
1 Horse Machine (Scrap)	5: 0
1 cwt. old machine parts	5: 0

KITCHEN:-

1	Dresser	1	0	0
3	Tables	1	0	0
7	Chairs	3	1	0
1	Range	0	0	0
1	Sink	1	0	0
1	Electric Grill	5	0	0

COMMITTEE ROOM:

3	Tables	I: 10: 0
2	Armchairs	I: 10: 0
2	Chairs	10: 0
1	Basket Fire-Grate	1: 0
2	Oil Lamps	2: 0
5	Lamp Shades	1: 0
1	Sofa	3: 0
1	Floor Covering (Lino)	5: 0
1	Electric Shade & Bulb	I: 0

LADIES' ROOM:-

2	Tables	10:	0
1	Armchair	5:	0
2	Chairs	5:	0
1	Long Seat	1:	0
5	Mirrors	8:	0
1	Hotpress containing Copper Cistern	2:	0
1	Electric Shade	1:	0
32	Lockers	15:	0
1	Handbasin	10:	0

GENTLEMEN'S ROOMS:-

4	Handbasins	1:10:0
2	Geysers	6:0:0
1	Stove	1:0:0
25	Chairs	6:0:0
25	Clothes Racks	2:0:0
20	Lockers	2:0:0
2	Rollers	- - -
1	Pireguard	- - -
1	Wastepaper Basket	- - -
1	Electric Shade & Bulb	- - -

TEA ROOM :-

Tables	2	0	0
Armchairs	3	0	0
Chairs	3	0	0
Piano	3	0	0
Long Stool	3	0	0
Wash	3	0	0
Stove	3	0	0
Green Table Covers	3	0	0
Plywood Ceiling & Partition	5	0	0
Caribbees	1	0	0
Golf Board	1	0	0
Funeral Boards	1	0	0
Members' List	1	0	0
Handicaps	1	0	0
Photo's	1	0	0
Rules of Golf	1	0	0
List of Pictures	1	0	0
Electric Bulbs	1	0	0
Electric Cords & a plugs through	1	0	0

HALT:-

16 Switches & 2 plugs through-
out Club

Valuation as at 31/3/44 45: 8: 0
Add Cost of Footbath installed
within year to 31/3/45 14:16:10

KITCHEN:- 22 Large Plates 10: 0
16 Bacon & Egg Plates 6: 0
(104.10)

21	do (Green & White)	9:	0
23	Large Plates (Cracked)	5:	0
64	Cups	I:	10: 0
76	Saucers	I:	0: 0
4	Sugar Bowls	5:	0
39	Bread Plates	I:	0: 0
11	Egg Cups	5:	0
4	Egg Plates	I:	0
7	Jam Dishes	2:	0
8	Saltsellers	2:	0
3	Pepperpots	I:	0
5	Hotwater Jugs	3:	0

8 Milk Jugs	3: 00
1 Ware Pie-Dish	1: 00
2 Enamel Pie-Dishes	5: 00
1 Pudding Bowl	-
10 Teapots	5: 00
3 Meat Dishes	3: 00
1 Bread Bin	1: 00
3 Bread Boards	3: 00
6 Enamel Mugs	2: 00
1 Strainer	1: 00
1 Zinc Bath	3: 00

1	" Bucket	2:
1	large Iron Kettle	5:
1	Electric Kettle	10:
1	Enamel Bucket	2:
2	" Jugs	2:
1	Aluminum Saucepan (Small)	1:
2	Enamel Saucepans (Large)	2:
2	Boiler Pots (one Large one Small)	5:
3	Frying Pans (one Small Two Large)	5:
1	Boiler (Brass Tap)	5:
2	Cereal Dishes	1:

TEA ROOM:

3 Butterknives	3: 0
86 Glasses	3:0: 0
2 Wine Glasses	2: 0
2 Optica	1:0: 0
4 Glass Jugs	- - -
4 Lager Glasses	- -
2 Tableclothes	2:0: 0

LINEN :-

I4 Roller Towels	I5: 0
I4 Face "	7: 0
I8 Hand "	10: 0
<hr/>	
Valuation as	
at 31/3/44 £	22:0: 0
Additions	
(Kett) during	
Year to	
31/3/1945	3:1:10

Valuation as
at 31/3/48 £ 25:1:10

(4)

CUPS

1 Silver Senior	Cup	10:00	0
1 "Handicap	Cup	8:00	0
1 Silver Castle	Cup	5:00	0
1 " Monkstown	Cup	3:00	0
1 " Connor Cup		1:00	0
1 " Ladies'			
Handicap Cup		3:00	0
Valuation as			
at 31/3/44 &			
31/3/45	£	30:00	0

e/f 4 14: 3: 0

Asset analysis, 1944-1945. The inventory provides interesting information about the type of course equipment owned by the club, as well as details of the clubhouse and its furnishings.

Valuation as at 31/3/44 & 31/3/45 £	74: 7: 0
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MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Prizewinners of the 11-hole stableford inter-club competition pictured with club officials following the special jubilee event in October 1958. Left to right, front: Jerome McCarthy (Captain), Mary Foreman (Lady Captain) and Charles Fleury (President). Back: Mrs. Maureen Crosbie (second prize, members), Mrs. Elsie Andrews (first prize, members), Miss Ann O'Brien (first prize, visitors) and Miss Eileen Buckley (second prize, visitors). (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

was felt that this would allow for a more suitable date for the Captain's Prize competition, the incoming captain would be in charge of the various teams for the entire season and the new year would also be suitable for the auditor's report. Thus from 1956 the Annual General Meeting was generally held in February instead of in

May.

There were also changes in the trustees during this period. In 1943 J. Nicholson and J.R. Boyd Barrett were appointed as club trustees. Nicholson held the position until 1947 and on his resignation was replaced by J.F. Maguire.

Changes in the day-to-day operation of the clubhouse were also seen at this time. In 1942 ill health led Mrs. Galway to retire as stewardess of the club, a position she had held for twenty years. Her work catering for the members was much appreciated and the Galway family's connection with the club had been cemented by the marriage of her daughter Alice to the club professional Jim Higgins. A special presentation was made to Mrs. Galway on her retirement "after long and faithful service to the Club."

The new stewardess was Mrs. Pauline Buckley who worked at the club for three years until 1945. This was a difficult period for the club with wartime rationing and falling membership. Tea, butter, sugar and other foodstuffs were in short supply, although bacon and ham could be obtained locally. Catering conditions continued to be basic and in 1944 Mrs. Buckley requested permission to install a refrigerator at her own expense. The club readily agreed and paid for the wiring. Mrs. Buckley resigned in May 1945 and was replaced by Mrs. Letty O'Neill who served the club until early 1956. Initially Letty O'Neill and her husband Finbar did not live in the castle, but this caused problems when coping with the late hours in the clubhouse. In 1950 an area in the top storey of the castle was renovated for the use of the O'Neills. After the O'Neills left in 1956, John Ryan and his wife worked for the club for just over two years until May 1958 and Mrs. Murphy was employed from June 1958 until May 1960.

Those providing catering in the club worked under difficult circumstances. The kitchen range was run on turf during the war as coal was nearly impossible to obtain. As the turf frequently was damp, the range rarely worked effectively. An electric cooker was purchased in the 1940s and there was increasing demand for more substantial meals in the clubhouse. Until then, members generally required only light refreshments at the castle, particularly as many lived and socialised locally. However, by the 1940s members increasingly stayed on at the clubhouse until late and therefore needed more substantial fare. This meant that considerable upgrading of facilities was required. The state of the catering equipment was such that at one stage when the club asked the stewardess to provide soup for members, the only spoons in the kitchen were teaspoons – which could make consuming



Members celebrating, 1950s. Left to right: Elsie Andrews, Jimmy Hoare and DD McMullen.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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Pictured at the special jubilee year social in 1958 were (left to right)
Madeleine Corbett, Violet Hickey, Madeleine Kennefick, Nora Cronin and Ann O'Brien.
(Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Club members socialising during the 1950s. Left to right: Jimmy Hoare, Maura Egan, Elsie Andrews and Bill Andrews.

soup a tedious business! An inventory of 1945 revealed that the kitchen had a varied selection of utensils, including 64 cups and 76 saucers. In 1948 the bare boards in the kitchen were covered by linoleum and an improved electric cooker was purchased three years later.

The kitchen was not the only part of the clubhouse that needed improvement in the 1940s and 1950s. There had been very little investment in the castle over the previous decades except for necessary expenditure on the roof and other essentials. As the club began to grow again after the war years, the members expected a higher standard of comfort in the clubhouse. The main room had already been the subject of concern as the fireplace made little impact on the cold and draughts in the winter. In 1940 it was

suggested that a ceiling or fabric draping be put in the room to reduce the cold, but this does not seem to have been done. Certainly by 1946 members were urging that improvements be made and at the Annual General Meeting of that year it was agreed to spend £150 to £200 on upgrading the clubhouse. It was noted that Cork Golf Club had improved their clubhouse (following a bad fire in 1945) and that “we would also be well advised to make some improvements”.¹⁰ There were some in the club who argued that expenditure should be on the course and not on the clubhouse. Others felt that if the castle was not made more comfortable, members would go elsewhere.

In the end, much-needed improvements were made to the clubhouse under the guidance of architect and club trustee, J.R. Boyd Barrett. These took place in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The main room had a ceiling inserted and panelling placed around the walls, the fireplace was improved, new lights obtained and a semi-circular bar counter was put up to replace the previous rather primitive arrangement. At the same time the castle roof needed attention – an ongoing problem – and repairs were carried out during the 1950s, partially funded by the de Vesci estate.

With these improvements, the castle was made a more comfortable venue for entertainments. Annual dances had been popular before the war and these continued until 1941. However, transport difficulties meant that none was held in 1942 and the annual dance does not seem to have resumed until 1946. It continued into the 1950s and generally was held at the castle although on at least one occasion The Club Hotel in Glenbrook was the venue. A band was hired for each occasion and amongst those mentioned in the minutes were Miss Billie Foley’s Band, Edie Campbell’s Band and Declan Donovan’s Band. The dance not only was enjoyable, but usually made a small profit for club funds.

Other entertainments and parties were also held at the castle from time to time. At the 1942 Annual General Meeting, a member objected to barrels of draught porter that had been brought into the main room of the clubhouse on two occasions when parties had been held and had been offered for sale to members the next day. He also criticised the consumption of crubeens at such events: “It showed, he continued, a lack of common decency to see members flourishing crubeens in their hands and in his opinion lowered the prestige of the Club.”¹¹ Less controversial were visits by entertainers Jimmy O’Dea and Miss Lalla Dodd in September 1940. Both were playing at the Opera House at the time and were brought to the club by member Jim Meehan.

The Ladies’ Branch continued its work during this period, although transport

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Lady Captain Mary Foreman (left) and Mary O'Byrne checking the cards after the ladies' stableford competition held to celebrate the club's jubilee in 1958.
(Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

difficulties meant that events were reduced during the war. The committee met only on two or three occasions during the year, while a General Meeting was held once a year to elect a new captain and secretary. In 1943 Mrs. Simcox was thanked for "the capable way in which she acted as Hon. Sec. for six years", while in the following year the number of committee members was increased from six to eight.¹² Mrs. Payne was captain in 1944 and the committee members were: Mrs. Scott, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Miss Martin, Miss Foley, Mrs. White, Miss Hegarty, Mrs. O'Byrne and Mrs. Regan. In 1956 as well as electing an honorary secretary, the ladies elected an assistant (Miss H. Crofts) to deal with all matters relating to handicaps.

In the 1950s the ladies organised various golfing events during the year. The Lady Captain's Prize was held in May or June and usually took the form of the prize competition in the morning, with mixed foursomes in the afternoon and a social in the evening. At these events the stewardess supplied the supper with the lady members bringing confectionary. In 1954 the minutes noted that £4.4.0 was paid for sixteen

dozen sandwiches and tea for eighty people.

Ladies' Day in the club was on Wednesday. In 1958 the ladies' committee was approached regarding changing this arrangement as Wednesday suited the male golfers who had a half holiday on that day. The ladies were unenthusiastic about the proposal, although they did extend the time during which men had the right of way on the course to 2.45 pm. They refused, however, to change their day to another one.¹³

On the men's side, as golf competitions were renewed after the hiatus of wartime, there emerged a cohort of young men who proved to have exceptional golfing ability. These talented players began an era of personal and club successes which became a feature of the 1950s and on into the 1960s.

One of the first to emerge in the post-war years was Tom Egan, whose father Frank had been an active club member. Tom Egan remembers his father playing with other members such as George Kearns and W.J.L. O'Connell. Sadly, Frank Egan died in January 1939 when Tom was just eight years old. Three months later his mother gave him a present of a four iron and a putter. This was the start of his love of golf and, instead of doing lessons in the evening, Tom Egan regularly was practising on the fourth green behind his house. He recalls that there were few other young people playing at that time, one of them being his older brother Barry.

In 1947, when he was seventeen, Tom Egan was made a full member of the club although the qualifying age was then eighteen. Given a handicap of twelve, he promptly won the President's Prize on the following day and his handicap was reduced to nine. In 1948 he played in the Cork Scratch Cup and the following year was beaten in the second round of the Irish Open Amateur Championship at Killarney. He played in the South of Ireland Amateur Open Championship in 1950, reaching the last eight, while the following year he was the runner-up to Gerry Gilligan. Tom Egan's skills as a player were seen in 1951 when, at the age of twenty, he came close to defeating



The young Tom Egan on the course at Monkstown.

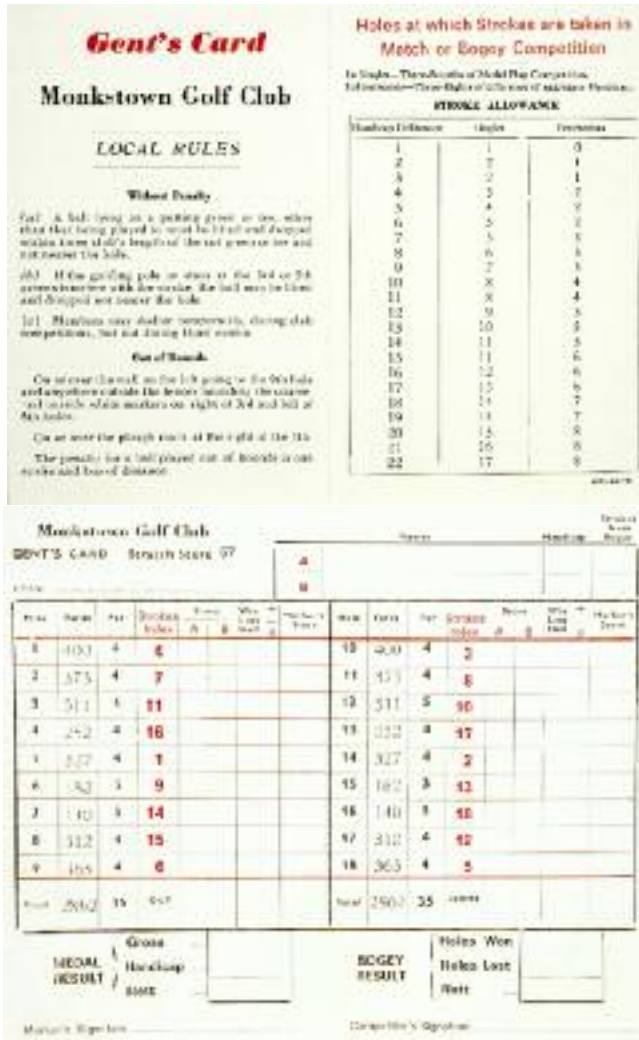
MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008

The elaborately decorated table at the special 50th jubilee ladies' social event in October 1958. (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)



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experienced Joe Browne and the 22 year old Tom Egan.

Not surprisingly, club members were delighted with Egan's success and organised a special supper in his honour on 11th October. The press reported that "fellow club members met [Tom Egan] at Glenbrook and a long stream of cars convoyed the young champion the remaining mile and a half to the Castle. On arrival he was carried

the renowned Joe Carr at the Irish Close Amateur Championship at Little Island. The press reported on the “epic struggle” which saw the match decided on the last green: “Egan, making his first appearance in the Championship, extended Carr as the Walker Cup player has seldom been extended, and Carr’s victory by two holes was one of the hardest earned of his career.”¹⁴

In 1952 Tom Egan became the first Monkstown club member to win a championship and to be selected for the Irish team. He caused a sensation by winning the Irish Amateur Close Championship at Royal Belfast in Craigavad, defeating the former (1934) champion Joe Browne of Tramore. Tom Egan recalled that he was in Belfast as a member of the Cork Golf Club team that had been defeated in the finals of the Irish Senior Cup. He stayed on for the Close Championship and defeated the title holder Michael (Mick) Power of Muskerry on his way to the final. The final match went to a record 41 holes and was an enthralling game between the



Tom Egan, winner of the Irish Amateur Close Championship, handing over the championship cup to J.F. Maguire, president of Monkstown Golf Club, 1952.

shoulder high into the 300-years-old clubhouse, whilst outside a huge bonfire blazed.”¹⁵ Egan was presented with a silver salver by the members and club president J.F. Maguire and club captain J.F. Lenahan were amongst many who spoke at the occasion. He was elected as club captain in 1953.

Tom Egan was selected for the Irish team that played in the amateur international championship at Troon in Scotland in 1952. It was the start of a long international career that saw him go on to represent his country from 1956 to 1960 and again from

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The Monkstown team, winners of the Cork Senior Cup for the first time in 1953. Left to right, seated: Billy Browne, Tom Egan and Bob Fleury. Standing: Barry Egan, Derry Murphy, Dick O'Sullivan and Peter Hickey.

1962 to 1969.¹⁶

Another emerging young golfer was Robert (Bob) McK. Fleury who showed early prowess at the game. He was the eldest of five sons of Charles Fleury who was club captain in 1947 and president in 1958. Bob Fleury recalls spending time as a boy carrying clubs for his father as he, George Peare and Tom Heappy played golf at Monkstown. Bob Fleury entered boys' championships when a pupil at Midleton College and acquitted himself well in the British Boys' Championships of 1949 and 1950. He showed similar success when a student at Trinity College Dublin in the early 1950s, representing Dublin University and also belonging to Portmarnock Golf Club.

Bob Fleury remained a member at Monkstown during this time and was a key part of the 1954 Senior Cup team. In 1955 club members were delighted when the 22 year old won the North of Ireland Open Amateur Championship by defeating Ian Forsythe at Royal Portrush. Bob Fleury was selected for the Irish team in the same year, the first Irish team to win the 'Home' Internationals at Royal Birkdale in England. The Irish defeated Wales and Scotland and drew with England and the press reported that the victory was "a most thrilling affair and a wonderful climax to what has been a remarkable season."¹⁷ Thus began a successful golfing career for Bob Fleury. His brothers Edward, Richard, Jonathan and David also began golf at Monkstown, with Richard and David having notable



Norman Baker (centre), winner of the Connaught Boys' Championship, presenting the trophy to Jerome McCarthy (Captain), 1957. The club president, Frank Skally, is on the left.



Robert (Bob) Fleury (Picture courtesy of Irish Examiner)

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Tostal Chorcaí Festival trophy,
presented by D.L. Daly in 1957.

success in the game.¹⁸

Other young club players in the 1950s included Barry Egan and Norman Baker. Barry Egan, brother of Tom, was a talented player who had success in many competitions and was active in club life, serving as president in 1969. He was an important member of the 1954 Senior Cup team. Norman Baker was another young player who showed promise in the 1950s that was to be fulfilled in the following decades. He won the Munster Boys' Championship in 1956 and the Connacht Boys' Championship in 1957.

The 1954 Irish Senior Cup competition was one of the highlights of Monkstown golf in this era. The club certainly had a strong team of Tom Egan, Barry Egan, Robert (Bob) McK. Fleury, J.A. (Tony) Mahon and C.F. (Christy) Horgan. Two years earlier Tom Egan had joined the Cork Golf Club senior team as Monkstown had no such team and his success encouraged the formation of a team at Monkstown. The Cork Area first round was played at Little Island in early May when Monkstown defeated the host club. A newspaper report noted that "In the top match T.W.

Egan holed a fine putt of about six yards for a four on the last green when his opponent G.F. Crosbie looked like winning the match as he was no more than three feet from the hole in three. However, Crosbie missed giving Egan the match, thereby setting Monkstown on the road to [a] fine victory. Another member of the Monkstown team who played very fine golf in the very difficult conditions was R. McK. Fleury."¹⁹

The next day the Monkstown team had a decisive victory over Muskerry at Little Island. Tom Egan defeated fellow international Michael Power "after a first-class exhibition by both players in which holes were either halved or exchanged up to the 17th where the tie ended. ... The second match, between J.A. Mahon, a newcomer to Monkstown, and the Muskerry international L. McCarthy was another closely contested affair which went the full distance. R. McK. Fleury had the biggest win of the night when beating J.F. Lawlor four and three" while Barry Egan defeated M.J. Hegarty and Christy Horgan won against D. O'Mahony.²⁰

Buoyed with these successful results, the Monkstown team next played Tralee in the semi-final at the end of May, again played at Little Island. Four of the five Monkstown players won their matches, with only Christy Horgan losing to his opponent. The team then progressed to the Munster final on 30th May when they met Castletroy at Killarney. Again they defeated their opponents by four matches to one with victories by Tom Egan, Tony Mahon, Barry Egan and Christy Horgan.



The Monkstown team were Munster champions and All-Ireland finalists in the 1954 Irish Senior Cup. Left to right: Barry Egan, Tony Mahon, Tom Egan, Bob Fleury and Christy Horgan.

Having won the Munster final of the Senior Cup, the five players progressed to their match against Portmarnock. This was described by the Irish Times as "a desperately exciting business" with Monkstown winning three of the five matches.²¹ Their opponents, with four internationals and the Irish Close champion (J. Malone), not surprisingly were favourites to win against the team from a nine hole golf club making its first foray into the Senior Cup. Tom Egan, the Monkstown captain, defeated Jimmy Malone in a very close match and his brother Barry also was victorious against J.R. Mahon. Bob Fleury had a close struggle before defeating K. Troy, but both B.J. Scannell and B. Herlihy proved too strong for Tony Mahon and Christy Horgan respectively.

So it was that the Monkstown reached the finals of the Senior Cup in a match played at Carlow. Their opponents were Malone who had defeated Galway to reach the final. The Monkstown players nearly succeeded in gaining victory, but unfortunately were narrowly



Set of Jim Higgins' clubs.

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Jim Higgins (right), Monkstown professional, playing during the Irish Red Cross exhibition match in 1941. Redmond Simcox and Jimmy Bruen are on the left of the photograph.

defeated. Barry Egan and Bob Fleury won their matches again W.I. Forsythe and R.M. Craigan respectively and Fleury's performance was particularly commended in the Irish Times report. However, W.J.J. Ferguson played exceptionally well to defeat Tom Egan and both Tony Mahon and Christy Horgan lost to their opponents J.G. McEvel and J.G. Irvine. The Irish Times reported that "it was a magnificent effort on the part of this little nine-holes club, and they fought out the last stage with fine determination against some first rate golf by the Ulster opposition. At one stage, indeed, it looked as if Monkstown would pull it off."²² Similarly, Irish Golf noted that "Tom Egan and his merry men gave a superb performance for an untried team by fighting through to the final."²³ Despite their amazing achievement, the Monkstown players were very crestfallen at the result. Tom Egan recalled his huge disappointment at the result and indeed it must have been frustrating for the players who had

performed so well against such high calibre players. Monkstown club members, however, were very proud of the team's achievements and at the 1955 Annual General Meeting they were congratulated on their "excellent performance".²⁴

During this time Jim Higgins continued as professional at Monkstown. He was a popular figure, a gentle man and devoted to the welfare of the club. Tom Egan remembers the encouragement that he received from Higgins when he was starting out in golf. Higgins was renowned for his skills at making clubs and sold many to golfers in America. His workshop was a converted coachhouse beside the castle and there he made and repaired clubs. His tragic death in 1957 was a huge blow to the club. On a stormy evening in early February he remained working late in his workshop. His concerned wife and friends later found him in the workshop with a fatal head wound. The circumstances of the death were never fully resolved, but the loss felt was all too clear. Huge crowds attended the funeral and club members willingly contributed to a fund for his widow. Tom and Barry Egan presented a silver cup to the club to perpetuate the memory of Jim Higgins and an annual club competition was held for the J. Higgins Memorial Cup.²⁵

JIM HIGGINS

Jim Higgins was professional at Monkstown Golf Club from 1933 until his tragic death in 1957. He was remembered as an encouraging influence on younger players, a fine player, an expert club maker and a diligent and loyal professional.

He came from a family steeped in golf. He grew up at Clash, Little Island, overlooking the sixth green of Cork Golf Club. His older brother Jack was professional at Monkstown from 1914 to 1917 before moving to Muskerry and then Cork Golf Club. Another brother, Bob, was professional at Muskerry Golf Club. It is rare to have three brothers serving as professionals – in more recent times David, Billy and Jimmy Kinsella held the position in the Dublin area at Castle, Woodbrook and Skerries golf clubs respectively.

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Club professional Jerry Collins pictured in his workshop, fitting a head to a driver, 1958. (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

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Jim Higgins married Alice Galway, daughter of the stewardess of the clubhouse. His father-in-law, Joe Galway, was a keen musician and shared his enthusiasm with Jim. Higgins was a sociable man and enjoyed excursions and bus tours. He also was willing to help others, giving assistance to those building up a pitch and putt course in nearby Cobh.²⁶

Bill Andrews, long time secretary of the club, paid tribute to Jim Higgins in 1983: "He combined green keeping duties with lessons and club making. In both capacities he had no peer. He was reckoned to be among the leading club makers of the day in the country. The golf club was his life and his love of nature was exemplified by the manner in which he bred canaries, played the fiddle and generally pursued the simple things of life. Jim was one of nature's gentlemen, may he rest in peace."²⁷

The new professional was Jeremiah (Jerry) Collins who held the position from 1957 until 1961. Others working at the club in the 1950s included William (Bill) Barrett whose uncle, Tom, had previously been employed on the course. Bill Barrett acted as caddie master for a time and worked at the club for many years. O. Downey recalled that the caddies "were good lads from the locality, who took as great an interest in their golfer's performance as the player himself."²⁸ Finbar Condon, who later became club professional, worked with Jim Higgins for a time during this period and remembers him as a very motivated man towards the club.

While the club primarily catered for its members, there also were visiting golfing groups from time to time. The Commercial Travellers Golfing Society was one such group that played at the club on a regular basis during this period. For members the main competitions were for the club cups, monthly tankards and, of course, the president's and captain's prize days. In December there was a Turkey Sunday when winners were presented with the turkey the same day, thanks to club member Ted Whittaker.

As the club approached its golden jubilee in 1958, it had much to celebrate. It had a fine golf course and a membership that was both active and successful. In its jubilee year the club had won the Cork Senior League and also had reached the Munster finals of the Barton Shield with a team of J.P. McCarthy, Tom Egan, D.R. Williams, Barry Egan and J. Kiely. Tom Egan, Bob Fleury and Norman Baker were amongst the club's most successful players and were competing throughout Ireland.

The Ladies' Branch, though small, was active and it organised a special Jubilee Meeting in October 1958. Lady members were invited from Cork, Douglas, Muskerry, Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Mallow, Macroom, Bandon and Kinsale golf clubs. The Visitors' Prize was won by Ann O'Brien of Muskerry, with E. Buckley (also from Muskerry) coming in second place. The Members' Prize was won by Mrs. Andrews, wife of the club secretary, while Mrs. G.F. Crosbie was runner-up. The Evening Echo recorded the event, reporting that "it was cold out of doors, even the sweeping view of the harbour failed to instil warmth and it was a pleasure to adjourn to the Clubhouse where the lady members had prepared afternoon tea for their guests. The room was candlelit from gleaming silver candelabra and for quite a while the guests forbore to upset the artistic array of savouries which quite literally ornamented the main table. The Captain of the club, Mr. J.P. McCarthy, and the President, Mr. C.E. Fleury, officiated at the presentation of prizes. The President extended a very special welcome to Miss Tivy who, in reply, said that she still remembered the day the first ball was driven off the first tee at the opening of the Club in 1908."²⁹

In 1958 there still were members who recalled the opening of the club itself and who could look back on the previous fifty years with some satisfaction. The club had survived some difficult times and had benefited from the loyalty and hard work of many of its members and officers. However, it was about to enter a new and much more active phase of its existence as both the course and clubhouse were to be transformed radically in the coming years.



Winners of the Cork Senior League in 1958 were (left to right, seated): Jack Clehane, Jerome McCarthy (Club Captain) and Norman Baker. Standing: Cyril Roche, Pat Cunningham, Eddie Murphy, Bob Fleury and Sean Treacy.

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Cork and Dublin Commercial Travellers golfing outing at Douglas Golf Club in 1947. The captain was Bill Andrews (front row, holding trophy), an active member of Monkstown Golf Club. The Commercial Travellers' Golfing Society regularly played at Monkstown.

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Enjoying the jubilee social in 1958 were (left to right): Miss Pat O'Donoghue, Mrs. Chris Coulter, Mrs. Bennie Rearden, Mrs. Betty Russell, Mrs. Myra Riordan, Mrs. 'Girlie' Hegarty and Mrs. Kitty Lee. (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

Detail from the club membership book during its golden jubilee year, 1958.

Hon. PRESIDENT RE NEW ACCOUNT IN VARIOUS

PRESIDENT C. C. FLEURY.

CAPTAIN J. P. MCCARTHY

HON. SEC. WA ANDREWS

Had TEXAS. A. BRADLEY.

C. H. EINHART, J. F. HARRIS, J. R. BOYD, GARRETT.

TRUSTEES
COMMITTEES
M. J. O'BYRNE, P. DOWNRY, D. J. HANGAN, W. NEWTON
D. BRYAN, F. SEALLY, B. DEAN

609-11-11

COMPT SEC.

Club receipt, 1947.

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	DATE
ANDREWS, W. A.	3414 TCE. MONKSTOWN.	990	76
ANDREWS, MRS. W. A.	DO	220	(MS) 10.10.1967
ARMSTRONG, R. E. P.	ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE WATERFORD.	110	(MS) 1.1.1968/1969
ARMSTRONG, MRS. D. M.	1 CAMDEN TCE. CROSSHAVEN.	440	
ARMSTRONG, MRS. E. I.	THORNCLEIFF MONKSTOWN.	220	
		330	(MS) 15.3.1969/1970

FAMILY	NAME	ADDRESS	COIN	DATE	REMARKS
✓	BOYD-BARRETT, J.R.	MARINA VILLAS HANSTOWN.	990	7.6.1961	9.12.61
✓	BARRA, H.	MADRI BLACKHOLE CORK	990	7.6.1961	9.12.61
✓	BARRY J.C.	COOLAMIN COLLEGE ST CORK	660	7.6.1961	6.12.61
✓	BARNES, A.W.	100% 1/2 BROWN THOMPSON, PATRIST. CORK	990	10.7.1961	9.9.61
✓	BOLINGBROKE B.	PALANIAN BRANTHOM	660	10.6.1961	6.6.61
✓	BARRY P.F.	11 PATRIST ST CORK	110	10.6.1961	1.1.61
✓	BARRETT, N.	BALLYTEMPLE, MARBLE HALL HILL CORK	660	7.6.1961	12.20.61
✓	BARDLEY A.	CRIS HARTLAND AVE. CORK	660	7.6.1961	
✓	BRADLEY M.L.	DUNOWEN BALLYTEMPLE	660	10.6.1961	6.6.61
✓	BENNETT M.	35 NORTH MAIN ST CORK	660	10.6.1961	6.6.61
✓	BARRY DES.	HIGHFIELD AVE. CORK	660	10.6.1961	6.6.61
✓	BUCKLEY MAURICE	7 ADELAIDE PL. ST. LOUIS CORK	330	10.6.1961	6.6.61

FAMILY	NAME	STREET	POSTAL CODE	TELEPHONE
✓	CROSBIE	CORR. RD. 73 PATRICK ST. CORR.	9 9 0	✓ 100 770
✓	CROSBIE	THOS. WARDLANS MONTAGUE	9 9 2	✓ 100 990
✓	CLAYTON P.	BANDYTER PARK MOUNTAIN RD.	6 6 0	7 6 100 600
✓	COPPINGER M.	KILCORNAN ST. FINBAR'S PARK.	6 6 0	7 6 100 600
✓	COLLINS D.	37 SOUTH MAU. CORR.	6 6 0	7 6 100 600
✓	GULLEN J.	2 STANWILL VILLAS ST. LUKES.	6 6 0	7 6 100 600







MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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An Taoiseach Jack Lynch cutting the ribbon at the official opening of the new clubhouse in October 1971. Left to right: Billy Browne (President), Jack Lynch, Mary O'Byrne (Lady Captain), Mrs. Maureen Lynch and Tom Carey (Captain). (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

CHAPTER 3

EXPANSION

1959-1971

Having celebrated their fiftieth anniversary in 1958, club members doubtless anticipated that life at Monkstown would continue along similar lines over the ensuing decades. Most would have realised that improvements would have to be made, but few could have guessed at the huge change that was soon to come.

In 1958, the golden jubilee year, Viscount de Vesci died. He not only was the first president of the club, but also owned the castle and lands. The club had a long relationship with his agents and over the years there was regular correspondence concerning the upkeep of the castle, the state of the avenue and other routine matters. In February 1959 the club received a letter from de Vesci's solicitors, S.S. Reeves and Company, that led to the immediate calling of a special meeting. The letter offered to sell the entire demesne to the club for £5,000 and also served three months' notice.

This was a huge dilemma for members. The future of their club was in doubt if they could not raise the funds to purchase the course and clubhouse that had been their home for fifty years. At the special meeting on 14th February, it was agreed that further details would be sought as well as an extension to the notice.

Two weeks later, at the Annual General Meeting held on 28th February 1959 the club members looked back on a successful year's golfing before turning to the crucial issue of the future of the Monkstown property. Naturally, there was a long discussion amongst the large numbers present who agreed that there should be no immediate change of officers given the importance of the issue and the need for swift action. A vote of confidence was passed in the committee led by the President C.E. Fleury, Captain Jerome McCarthy, Secretary Bill Andrews and Treasurer Austin Bradley. New officers were elected in April 1959 at a special meeting.

There was a determination to use all possible means to purchase the castle and lands and the option of relocating elsewhere does not seem to have been seriously considered. At that stage the committee did not have enough information to advise a

course of action, but the members were already devising ways of raising funds. J.R. Boyd Barrett suggested a whip around, while W. O'Byrne spoke in terms of £5 debentures. At the meeting slips of paper were sent around on which members signed their names and wrote down the amount they would be willing to contribute. This gave the committee a good idea of how they might reduce the amount of a possible bank loan.

After the Annual General Meeting, the discussions continued. Early in March the club made a formal offer of £3,000 for the entire property through their solicitor James O'Donovan. Given that the initial price was £5,000, it was not surprising that this offer was rejected by the estate's agents. However, negotiations were set in train, led by the club captain, president and solicitor. A further offer of £3,500 was made and again it was rejected. The club committee had what was described as a "full discussion" in late March and the decision was reached to make a final offer of £4,000.¹ By this stage the idea of debentures had been dropped and instead club members were encouraged to make voluntary private subscriptions. It was anticipated that these would raise about £1,500.

This final offer of £4,000 was accepted by the de Vesci estate and by early April 1959 the club had purchased the lands and buildings, subject to acceptance at a Special General Meeting. This meeting took place on 11th April and the decision to purchase was "passed with acclamation".² As well as subscriptions raised by the men, the lady members sent in £78 through their captain, Mary Fitzgibbon. This contribution was greatly appreciated. Those involved in the negotiations were highly praised, particularly the captain Jerome McCarthy who was given right of way on the course for ever more, as a token of appreciation. The club had entered on a new phase of existence as owners of their own clubhouse and course.

From the start of negotiations for the property, the committee had worked hard to minimise the financial burden on the club. Castle House, the large residence beside

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DEC. 19th 1959. TURKEY DINNER. £. 30. SHARP.

120 TICKETS. @ £1.5.0 each.

98 TABLE TABLES. 6ft x 3ft by Supper.
2 " " " " for Serving Tables. } Set by Con. R. Clubs.
5 TROLLEY 3 (8 desirable) Set by Mr. Doane, Miss Doane.
Miss Hickey. PLATE RINGS. 120. LENT by Miss Tuohy U.C.C.
Candlesticks - Mr. G. Byrne, Mr. Madden, Miss G. Flynn, Mr. Daly, Mr. Andrews.
Table Cloths, Mr. Madden, Mr. G. Byrne.
Scully Shells. 120. acquired by Mr. Daly (put away for future use)
Silver & Tongs - Mr. Palmer, Mr. Doane, Mr. Andrews.
MENU - Cherry, Salmon Mayonnaise, Lady. Ham. Various Salads.
Sweets. Black Coffee. Whipped cream - (Soup & 2 AM)

SALADS. Beetroot cut in Lemon jelly - Russian Salads. Potato Salads.
(43 lbs potatoes required to make six Perry dishes)
70 lbs potatoes (1960)

SWEETS. APPLE FOAM. PINEAPPLE Canon. FRUIT SALAD.
Mr. Doane. Miss Hickey.
Mr. Doane. Miss Hickey.
TURKEY. 15 lb. (one from sufficient) 8 Turkey. 1 lb. 12 lb.
HAMS. 2 (8 lb) + £1. 4. 0 each. 5
FISH.

SHILLING STORES. (WARE HIRED.)

108 Fruit Bids. 7-0.
84 Little Bids. 14-0.
100 Pencil Spoons. 16-8.
90 Tea Spoons. 7-6.
90 Plate (China). 7-6.
60 Cups. 5-0.
£2. 19-8.
12 Lemon Jells -
2-1 Marmell. House Puffs.
4 lb. Brown Sugar.
9 1/2 lbs. Rais. Persimmons.
x 1 Large tin Pears + medium.
x 1 Large " Pears " "
1 " " Carrots. "
1 gal. Mayonnaise + bottle.
1 lb. Mustard.
3 Shaved Pears. } 1-3. 10. not required. Sact.
gal - white Vinegar.
4 lbs. Lemon Juice.

1 1/2 lbs. Lettuce. } 34.
6 lbs. Tomatoes. } 10 1/2 lbs.
12 Pickled Beetroot. } 18 Pickled.
1 Celery. } £2. 11-0.
1 lb. Bananas.
1 lb. purple Grapes.
6 lbs. Orange Pears. } 12.
1 lb. Cherries.

10 pint Cream. 1-3. 10. 12 pints

2 for Hand boiled eggs. 4 1/2 =
12 Bristle Lany. (9 used)

Notes relating to the 1959 Turkey Dinner showing how the lady members organised the event. They borrowed or hired many of the items needed and kept a careful record of the quantity of food required. Ladies Branch Minute Book, 1923-1962.

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the castle, was part of the property acquired by the club but was soon afterwards sold for £350. Other portions of the property were also sold with the aim of bringing in funds to meet the purchase price. Some of these were small plots while others were house sites, particularly along the avenue. Many of these were sold in 1960 and 1961.

Meanwhile club members made concerted efforts to raise funds. As well as subscriptions, money was contributed through sweeps. Twenty per cent was deducted from sweeps and put towards the purchase fund. For example, in May 1959 the lady members made a £20 profit on the sweep on the James Higgins competition and this brought the fund to £1,974. By September of that year it was decided to formally close the voluntary subscription fund. When it was wound up in October a sum of £2,035 had been raised – a remarkable achievement.

The club was determined to clear the capital debt in five years and in November 1959 held an Extraordinary General Meeting to investigate how this might be achieved. It was agreed to raise subscriptions so that ordinary members paid £8.8.0, lady members £5.5.0 and family members £11.11.0. At that stage thanks to voluntary subscriptions, sweeps and the sale of Castle House and other sites, the debt had been reduced to under £800. Over the following few years, this was further decreased by the sale of sites along the avenue.

In the meantime, ownership of the clubhouse and lands brought new responsibilities and expenses for the club. Maintenance of water supplies, upkeep of roads and ongoing repairs to the castle were just some of the expenses that the club now bore. Previously the de Vesci estate had shared most of these costs. In addition, the course itself continued to need attention. In May 1959 dissatisfaction was expressed by the committee about the poor condition of the greens and the course in general. The professional, Jerry Collins, was carrying out a programme of improvements and the purchase of a second-hand tractor (for £45) later that year doubtless helped with the care of the course. Sheep continued to graze some of the club lands: in 1959 it was agreed to let the grazing for not less than £90 per annum. Occasional difficulties arose with neighbouring properties: in 1960 the committee was informed that residents in a cottage adjoining the course were using the boundary hedge for drying laundry, while in 1961 cattle straying onto the course were a problem.

In 1961 the club professional Jerry Collins resigned and his successor was Finbar Condon. The new professional knew the course well having been born and raised near the castle. He recalled surreptitiously visiting the club as a child, watching the work of the then professional, Jim Higgins, or following his father Jeremiah as he carried out his work as head greenkeeper. Finbar Condon worked with Jim Higgins for a time and so both the Monkstown course and the job of professional were familiar to him. He served as professional at a time of great change not only in the club but also with the growing popularity of the game.

FINBAR CONDON

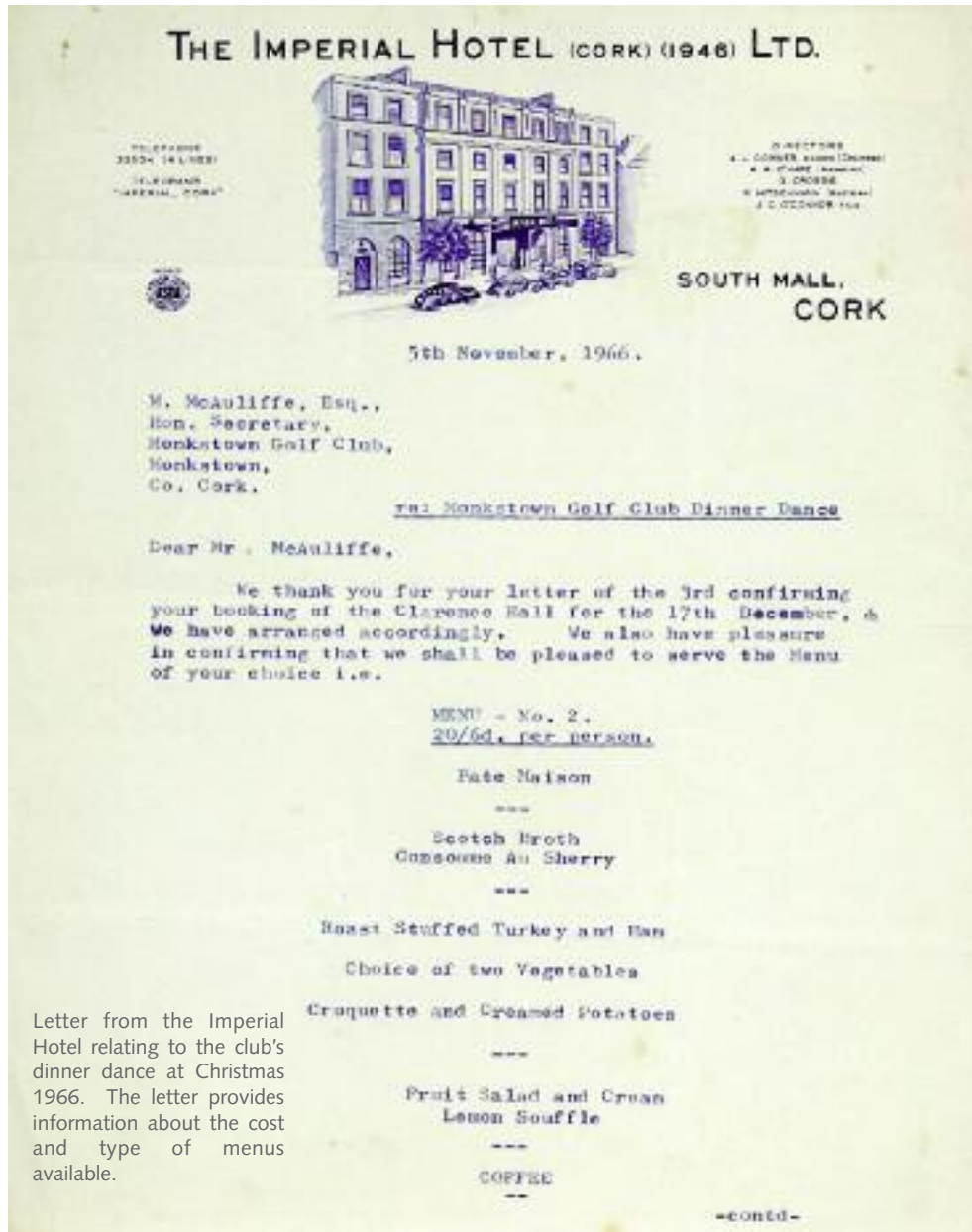
Finbar Condon, professional at the club from 1961 to 1974. Son of the head greenkeeper at Monkstown, he knew the course very well before being appointed professional in 1961. He held this position at a time when the club was growing, the course was extended to eighteen holes and golf was becoming increasingly popular.

Finbar Condon competed in championships about twice a year and met many well-known golfers. In 1965 he played with renowned golfers Peter Thomson and Max Faulkner in practice rounds for the Carrolls' Irish Open. Eight years later, in a noted match in 1973, Finbar Condon took Hugh Boyle to the 20th in Douglas Golf Club in the Carrolls' match play championship. Boyle was part of the Ryder Cup team of 1967. The following year, 1974, Finbar Condon missed qualifying for the British Open by just two shots. Playing at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's, he was greatly hampered by the appalling weather which resulted in some of the highest qualifying scores for the competition.

He contributed much to the development and expansion of Monkstown Golf Club during his time as professional.



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Letter from the Imperial Hotel relating to the club's dinner dance at Christmas 1966. The letter provides information about the cost and type of menus available.

Despite the financial drain on the club caused by the purchase of the property, it continued to improve facilities for members. The plumbing was renewed and showers were installed in the early 1960s. Members particularly recall the showers because of the mild electric current running through the water thanks to the rather precarious nature of the wiring at the castle!

At about the same time, the poor surfaces on the long avenues leading to the castle were causing concern. Considerable discussion took place in 1962 and 1963 about how the front and back avenues might be improved, whether passing bays were necessary, if the forecourt of the castle should be included and what type of surface should be put down. After much debate and an extraordinary general meeting, it was decided to resurface the entire avenue. This was carried out in 1963.

Although the club itself was small, with only about 200 members, it was an active place. Social events continued to be held at the castle and dances were organised at least once a year. In 1959 dances were held on 19th December and on St. Stephen's night resulting in a significant profit of over £94. Following these successes, a permanent social committee was set up to run future functions. Such dances were not always held in the castle and the airport was the venue on several occasions in the 1960s, while dances also were held in the Imperial Hotel. In 1963 a television was installed in the clubhouse to take advantage of the newly established Irish television broadcasts. Films also were shown in the castle from time to time in the 1960s, particularly during the winter months. These usually depicted golfing events, such as the Canada Cup, and were popular with members. The clubhouse also was popular for card playing.

The stewardess at the castle in the late 1950s was Mrs. Murphy, whose two year employment ended in May 1960. Her successor was Mrs. Barry who remained with the club for six years. Luke and Maureen Philpott were appointed in 1966 and acted as stewards until 1970 when Joe Power took over the role. All of these stewards operated in a clubhouse which was in poor repair despite the best efforts of successive committees.

Facilities at the clubhouse were basic with only one main room that was used as a dining room and bar. John O'Reilly, who joined the club in 1964, recalled that the club room was either very cold, or else very warm when the fire was lit. Breda O'Sullivan, who joined two years later, remembered that the club was a very sociable place with good relations between the men's and ladies' sides of the club. The ladies were renowned for the standard of their catering, providing excellent sandwiches and cakes for special occasions such as the supper on the evening of the Lady Captain's prize. They also organised the catering for turkey suppers and similar events. This involved a lot of work: borrowing items from members and arranging a three or four course meal in the castle. For example, in December 1961 the menu for the Turkey

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Paddy O'Sullivan pictured in Summer 1960 holding the South of Ireland Cup, one of his many trophies. He learned his golf at Monkstown where he grew up beside the course and where he was a caddie in his younger years.

Paddy O'Sullivan later joined Kinsale Golf Club and became a member of Monkstown in March 1960. In the same year he was chosen for the Irish international team. He represented Monkstown Golf Club with distinction for many years.

Dinner included prawn salad in scallop shells, turkey and ham, vegetables and potatoes followed by trifle and fruit cocktail and concluding with coffee. Given the minimal facilities at the clubhouse, it was quite an achievement to provide such catering.

As the face of golf began to change in the early 1960s, so there was an opening up of the Monkstown club whereby more local people were admitted as members. These brought new life to the club and over time there was an increase in members. The rising numbers and expectations led to consideration of how the club could be improved.

The demands on the clubhouse led to the decision in 1964 to build a new bar for the club. Dr. Kevin Walsh and Paddy Herlihy were keen promoters of the plan, drawn up by Tom Carey, to insert the bar into the area adjoining the dining room, enlarging a window to create a doorway. The new bar would overlook the then 7th green.

At about the same time as plans for the new bar were taking shape, a report was being prepared on the condition of the castle. This was precipitated by the recent collapse of a wall and arch over the entrance door. As the survey proceeded in the summer of 1964, feedback was discouraging from its authors Tom Carey and M. O'Driscoll. In late July a

committee meeting was told that both men "reported a gloomy state of repair regarding the Castle, wet rot existed all over the castle and the Club would probably be faced with a large expenditure in the near future."³

The report was issued on 7th January 1965 and was as gloomy as predicted. Although the external walls of the castle were found to be sound, the parapets, roofs and floors all needed urgent attention. In addition, the external walls, the timber lintels over windows and doors, the timber sheeting in the committee room and the rainwater goods were in need of upgrading in the near future. If repairs were carried out on the castle the cost could vary from £9,350 to £12,750 depending on the level of work carried out. Various options were offered to the club as to how to proceed. Retaining the castle as a clubhouse would mean spending approximately £10,000 on remedial works, with the likelihood of further expenditure over the years. Other suggestions offered included demolishing the castle and building a new clubhouse or repurchasing Castle House beside the castle and adapting that as a clubhouse. This latter option turned out not to be feasible as Castle House was not for sale. Not surprisingly, all thoughts of a new bar were shelved as club members decided on the best course of action.

Much discussion and debate took place on the options for the clubhouse. Many members were concerned about the prospect of long term expenditure on the castle, expenditure that would do little to improve amenities for golfing. In the end, it was agreed at a special general meeting in February 1965 to spend the minimum amount on the castle to ensure safety and to build a new clubhouse.

At the meeting subscriptions were raised to increase income for the club: men's subscriptions rose to £15.15.0, ladies' to £8.8.0 and family membership to £21.0.0. The entrance fee for ordinary and family membership increased to £10.10.0, while ladies paid £5.5.0. The following month saw alterations to green fees and juvenile membership. For example, green fees were 7/6 per day from Monday to Friday and ten shillings on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays.

By April 1965 plans were coming together for the new clubhouse. It was to be a modest affair, suitable for a nine hole course and for a small club. The location for the two storey building was the area at the back of the then 9th green. The design was drawn up by architect and club member J.R. Boyd Barrett, while funding had been organised by a loan of £12,000 from Munster and Leinster Bank. As May and June progressed, so the plans began to take shape. Mary Fitzgibbon, Ladies' Captain in 1959, was also an architect. She worked on the design alongside her associate J.R. Boyd Barrett. There was debate about the plans and the overall size was reduced to 5,000 square feet in June. Even at that stage some committee members felt that the clubhouse should remain in the castle. Nevertheless, plans continued to be developed over the winter and final drawings were received from Boyd Barrett by January 1966

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and club member Bill Carey was working on the bill of quantities. At the February Annual General Meeting the president, Dr. Kevin Walsh, praised the voluntary work of members J.R. Boyd Barrett and brothers Tom and Bill Carey in preparation work for the new clubhouse.

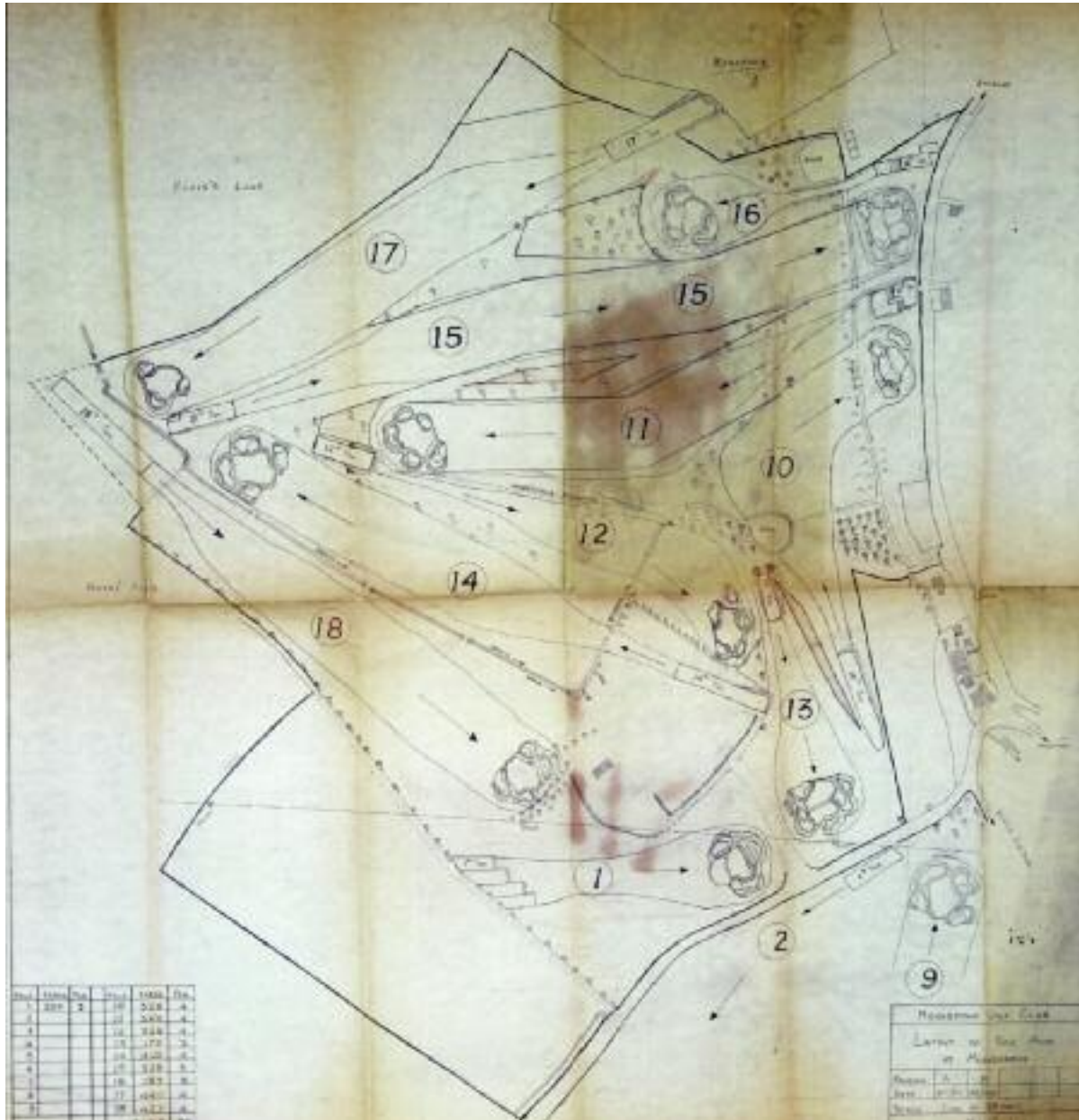
Despite all this work, the new clubhouse was never built. At the same 1966 Annual General Meeting, Dr. Walsh announced that in the previous week he had been approached by the owner of Parkgariffe estate with an offer to sell part or all of his land to the club. This was a major development as the Parkgariffe estate bordered the golf club to the north and it provided an opportunity to extend the course to 18 holes. The meeting readily agreed to an indefinite postponement of plans for the new clubhouse and to give priority to the prospect of enlarging the course.

The new committee, under president Pat Clayton, captain Maurice (Mossy) Buckley and secretary Malachy McAuliffe, set about investigating the purchase of the Parkgariffe estate. The estate in 1966 consisted of approximately 61 acres together with the fire-damaged remains of a mansion and nearby farm and other outbuildings.

Back in 1908, when the club was established, Parkgarriffe was the residence of Captain Charles J. Lynch and his family. Lynch was an active member of the golf club and served as joint secretary from 1914 to 1917. Mention has already been made of his talented pianist son, Charles, who performed at a concert at the clubhouse in 1917. Captain Lynch was the son of William and Catherine Lynch, his mother being the daughter of David Cagney who owned Parkgarriffe and was a prominent farmer and butter merchant until his death in 1885. Cagney in turn had acquired the property from his uncle Mathias Leahy. In 1906 the Parkgarriffe estate consisted of 270 acres and a large well-appointed house which was modernised and enlarged by Captain Lynch.⁴ In that year his son Charles was born and the pianist spent his childhood there, in comfort but sheltered from the world. Charles Lynch had fond memories of Parkgarriffe, some of which were recalled in a later press article: "It was a big house in its own right, consisting of over thirty rooms, with two L-shaped wings and an unfurnished extension, and it took a small army of staff to keep it in order. ... the house was always 'teeming with visitors' who were fair game for the enquiring mind of a small boy. ... The staff of four or five maids was recruited from the area round about. He remembers one entire family

One of the proposed eighteen hole layouts for the newly extended course at Monkstown, drawn up by Tom Carey, 14th June 1967.

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working at Parkgariffe simultaneously, the mother as dairywoman, the father as herdsman, the sons kept the kitchen gardens and the beautiful flower gardens and lawns in good condition, and the daughters ran the house under a housekeeper.”⁵

The Lynch family left Parkgariffe in the early 1920s, to be succeeded by the Creedon and later the Hill families. By the 1950s the house and some of the original land was owned by Arthur Forbes who kept some horses and a herd of pedigree Jersey cattle. In October 1956 the house and contents were put up for sale. The Cork firm of W. Marsh and Sons advertised the auction for 16th October, describing a “Choice Residence” on just over 63 acres, together with antique and old mahogany furniture. Amongst the descriptions of regency furniture, ornamental china and old Persian rugs was a Pye television set. Television sets were very rare in Cork in 1956 as Irish television broadcasting was not launched until 31 December 1961. Residents at Parkgariffe obviously could pick up reception from Wales.

On the night before the auction, 15th October, Parkgariffe House was destroyed by fire. The Forbes were away from the house and nobody was injured. The press described how “groups of local residents watched the Cork and Passage Fire Brigades fight the flames for some hours ... but the outbreak had gained a firm hold when they were first summoned around 8 p.m. and a charred empty shell was all that remained of what had once been an imposing dwelling. A great quantity of furniture, etc. was salvaged, thanks to the splendid efforts of local residents, ... The spacious lawn surrounding the building was strewn with varied pieces rescued, including a 1956 television set and a beautiful antique grand piano. ... The narrow by-roads leading to the house were jammed with cars bringing people who had been attracted by the glow which could be seen for miles around because of the elevated situation of the house.”⁶ One of those watching the blaze was local resident Finbar Coakley and he recalled seeing the famous television set being rescued! He and other local residents also remembered that Parkgariffe had the reputation for being haunted, to the extent that the local priest said mass in the house. Stories of ghosts also abounded during Charles Lynch’s time at Parkgariffe. After the fire only the shell of the house remained, although the nearby outbuildings were unharmed. The property was purchased by Stanley Sullivan who in turn sold it to the golf club in 1966. The site of the historic Parkgariffe House was to become the location of the new clubhouse.

Layout of the new holes at Parkgariffe, drawn by Tom Carey, 22nd November 1969.

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[illegible][illegible]

Advertisement for a greens mower, showing the type of course equipment available in the 1960s.

The decision to purchase the Parkgariffe land was a big challenge for the golf club and necessitated careful discussions and planning. In April Jimmy Bruen was invited to inspect the lands in company with Mossy Buckley, Malachy McAuliffe and Tom Egan. Bruen was enthusiastic about the site and he and others encouraged the committee in its efforts to purchase the property. After some negotiation, the price of £12,500 was agreed for the Parkgariffe lands in early May 1966 and the club could look forward to expanding the course to 18 holes. This was a highly satisfactory outcome for the club and credit was due to all involved in negotiations, particularly Pat Clayton, Malachy McAuliffe and Ray Murray.

Acquiring the Parkgarriffe property was only the start of an extremely busy few years. The lands had to be incorporated into a redesigned 18 hole course, a clubhouse had to be built and all of this expensive outlay had to be met by the club itself. In early May 1966 club membership stood at 123 men, 42 ladies, 29 family and 5 country members. It was a small, but enthusiastic, base on which to expand the club.

The decision to buy Parkgariffe was unanimously approved at an extraordinary general meeting on 21st May 1966. Attention then turned to how the new property could be linked with the existing course and to see if some parts of the lands could be sold to offset the expenses of buying and developing the new lands.

From the start it was considered that the steep land to the south and east of the castle had most potential as development land. In January 1967 Tom Carey drew up a map showing the lands that might be sold: approximately 27 acres. These consisted of the steep land at the south of the course, the lands to the right of the driveway, the castle and some land to the north of the castle. The plan was to sell the land in its entirety to a development company, rather than to dispose of individual plots of land. Throughout the first half of 1967 preparations and negotiations continued, with numerous meetings and considerable work by club members. At the end of July an offer of £21,000 was made for the land and a special general meeting was held on 1st September to discuss the proposal.

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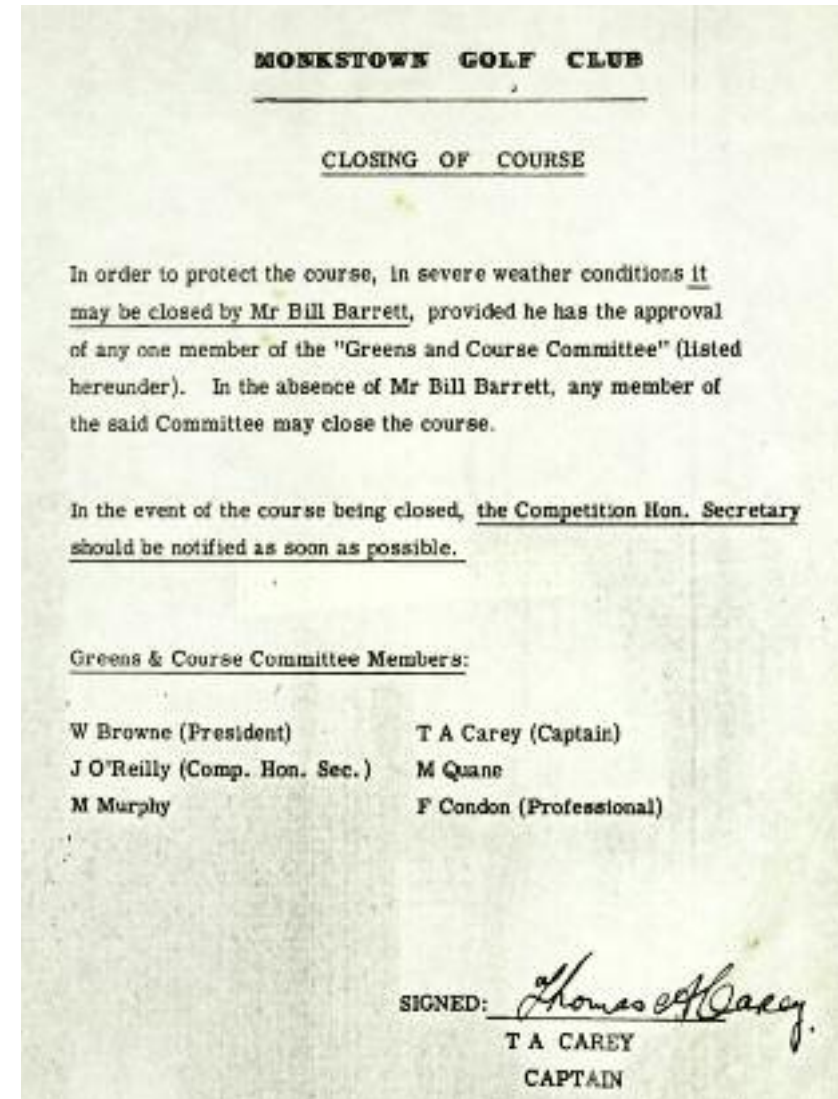
The special meeting attracted a large attendance and a full discussion ensued. The situation was outlined and the president, Donny Williams, pointed out the importance of having funds available to develop the new course. When the initial offer had been received, the bank had extended its overdraft by a further £5,000 to £17,000. Following discussion, the meeting gave permission to the trustees to dispose of the lands at the best possible price, with the best possible safeguarding conditions.

Armed with this agreement, the negotiations continued into the autumn. Several members played an important role in these including Mossy Buckley, J.P. McCarthy and Tom Carey. At the end of 1967 the club discussions finally reached a conclusion with the sale of the lands to Denis O'Sullivan of Anglo-Eire Property Company for £22,000. The lands amounted to approximately 32 acres and included Monkstown Castle.

This sale not only brought much-needed money into the club, but it also broke the club's long association with the castle which was included in the sale. There were some who regretted the sale of their distinctive and historical clubhouse. While conditions in the castle had been basic, it had served well as a clubhouse since 1908 and many enjoyable events had taken place there: these ranged from friendly drinks between friends discussing the latest round of golf, to more formal dances and concerts. The castle was part of the identity of the club, was depicted on its crest and formed a unique background to the course. However, there was no doubt about the expense of the castle as a clubhouse. Once it had been purchased by the club in 1959, all of the liabilities of the castle had to be carried by the membership. Regular expenditure to maintain and upgrade the building gave way to the realisation in 1964 that major and ongoing investment would be needed in the future. For a small club this was a daunting prospect. Having decided to build a new clubhouse in 1965, members then were faced with additional outlay with the purchase of the Parkgariffe lands. The new lands offered a prospect of an 18 hole course, but the development costs would be large and it was hard for most members to see how the castle could be retained under these circumstances. Its sale in 1967 ended an important era for the club, although it was permitted to continue to use the building for up to four years from 1st January 1968. This would allow time for a new clubhouse to be constructed. Club members also were permitted to continue to play over some of the course that formed part of the sale. This applied to the 3rd, 4th and 5th greens and fairways which remained accessible for a limited period until the new course was completed.

While the sale of the lands in 1967 reduced the land available to the club, it actually gained property in early 1968 with the purchase of a field adjacent to the Parkgariffe lands. The field had been used by the local rugby club and was sold to the golf club for just under £1,000.

Thus the Annual General Meeting of 9th February 1968 saw the club in the midst of an exceptionally busy period. The members heard from treasurer Jasper Drury that



Club course closure notice, 1971.

thanks to the sale of the lands the club "appeared to be in a fairly sound financial position and even though in the next few years we must expect to incur considerable

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Competitors in the first golf competition played on the new eighteen hole course, 14th November 1970. Left to right: Paddy Kennedy, Val Jago, Ronnie Moore, Pat Goggin, Mick Murphy, Larry Power, Barry Collins, Tom Carey, Jim Pyne, Paddy Byrne, Billy Browne, Dermot Cusack, Malachy McAuliffe, Tom Desmond, Cal McCarthy, Harry Langton, Ronnie Connolly and Jack Fives.

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expense in the development of our new nine holes he had no doubt that we would be able to meet this and that the Club would go from strength to strength in the future.”⁷⁷ The outgoing president, Donny Williams, reported on the significant sale of the castle and lands which left the club in a good position to develop the new course. This work had already begun and the outgoing captain, Mossy Buckley warned that a lot of voluntary help would be required for the new course if it was to be ready in the projected two years.

Planning had begun for the new 18 hole course even before the Parkgarriffe land acquisition was finalised and once the property was purchased these plans continued in even more detail. Several layouts of the new course were examined before a final scheme was agreed. Commander John D. Harris, a well known international golf course architect, drew up a plan for the course in late 1966 and subsequently his greens layout was adopted at a cost of £200 or £25 per green. However, the final layout was designed by Tom Carey who was an integral part of the developments at the club in the 1960s. From 1966 he chaired a sub-committee to look after the development of Parkgarriffe. His background in the building firm of Sisks provided him with the skills necessary to design and build a golf course, while his enthusiasm and dedication ensured that the project was carried through to completion. All of his services were provided free to the club.

In 1968 and 1969 Tom Carey spent most of his time at the golf course where he laid out the course, set thousands of levels, hired and managed the machinery necessary to grade the land and made sure that everything was carried out according to plan. He carried out much of the work himself, assisted at times by his young children. It was an enormous task to convert former farmland into a golf course. Part of the Parkgariffe land had drainage problems that had to be addressed, including two streams flowing through the property. All aspects of the course had to be considered and Tom Carey ensured that the different works progressed according to plan. He aimed to have the new ten holes at Parkgariffe completed and the course playable by the autumn of 1970. The 1st and 10th to 18th holes were built at Parkgariffe, with the remaining holes being adapted on the old course.

The main construction work was carried out in 1968 and sodding and seeding took place during the following year. Club member Michael P. Murphy was an agronomist and his expert knowledge of soil management and grasses was of huge benefit. He contributed much to the new course, as did Billy Browne whose skills as a nurseryman were of great value.

The machinery to carry out the heavy work was hired from Edward Barrett and Sons, while club members themselves undertook many tasks. One of the most necessary, if back-breaking, was picking stones off the course. Other voluntary work was put in by members who were organised into gangs for raking and sodding the greens. For raking the greens and mounds and for sodding, four gangs of six men were organised for one night per week. Another volunteer carried out rotavating and club members basically helped out wherever they could. The sodding was complete by the summer of 1969 and was greatly helped by the purchase of a sod cutting machine for £500. The summer was dry and it was difficult to keep the new greens watered. A small electric pump was installed on a well near the site of Parkgarriffe House and hoses were run to the greens nearby. Those further away had to be watered using large trailers of water.

By the end of 1969 all of the hard work had paid off and the ten new holes at Parkgariffe basically were complete. The course was left to mature for most of 1970. The cost of developing the course was about £20,000: a remarkable achievement given the scale of the works. The enormous amount of voluntary input allowed the course to be laid out at such a reasonable cost.

The first competition played on the new course was a turkey fourball on 14th November 1970 with the first fourball consisting of the club president Billy Browne, captain Malachy McAuliffe, Tom Carey and Michael Murphy. The first 'hole in one' was achieved by Tom Carey on the 21st March 1971 at the 16th hole. It was appropriate that someone who had put so much into the course should not only achieve the first 'hole in one' but also receive an unusual prize. When the 16th hole was being constructed, Mossy Buckley (captain 1966-1967 and an employee of Cork Distilleries) buried a Cork Dry Gin bottle in the green. Inside the bottle was a note promising a free bottle of gin to any player who holed in one in competition!

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Details of furniture and fittings required for the new clubhouse, March 1971. (Minute Book, Cork City and County Archives, U351)

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Members of the Monkstown Ladies Junior Team, 1960. Left to right: Miss Martha Lynch, Miss Mary Cronin, Mrs. Mossie Browne, Miss Una O'Flynn (Captain), Mrs. Madeleine Corbett, Mrs. Pat Madden, Mrs. Helen O'Donovan and Mrs. Elsie Andrews.

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Tom Carey was elected as captain in 1971 and at the Annual General Meeting of 1972 was made an honorary life member in recognition of his “outstanding services” in the development of the Parkgariffe lands.⁸ In 1971 Tom Carey listed some of the many members who contributed to the creation of the new course: Mick Quane, Donal McDonnell, Malachy McAuliffe, Bobbie Nicholson, Frankie Fitzgerald, Derry Williams, Noel Dalton, Mick Corbett, Michael O’Mahony, C. O’Sullivan, Kevin O’Gorman, Paddy O’Flynn, Paddy Byrne, Tom Desmond, John O’Reilly, Pat Goggin, Austin Bradley, Larry Power, Tommy Jackson and Jim Hastings.⁹

While work proceeded apace on the course, other aspects of the club’s development were also under way. In particular, there was an urgent need for a new clubhouse. Given the new developments at Parkgariffe, it made sense to site the new building on that land. As early as February 1968 club members were discussing how a clubhouse could be built as economically as possible. New prefabricated building methods were analysed in detail and compared to conventional building techniques. In March members of a clubhouse sub-committee agreed to travel around to view newly-built clubhouses and to gather as much information as possible on all aspects of buildings and designs. As with the aborted clubhouse plan of 1965-1966, architect J.R. Boyd Barrett was closely involved with the plans for the new building.

In August 1968 initial plans for a clubhouse had been drawn up and it was estimated to cost about £40,000. By early January 1969 a two-storey building was being considered, to be located on the site of the original Parkgariffe House. The remains of the house and the associated buildings were removed by the club in 1969. Meanwhile, clubhouse designs continued to be developed and by early 1970 the estimates had increased to £55,000. By May the anticipated costs had yet again increased to £77,000 and a special meeting was called by the committee. The architect J.R. Boyd Barrett and quantity surveyor Bill Carey were in attendance and the aim was to somehow reduce the expenditure to about £65,000. This was achieved by economising on the details of the design. However, there still were problems as the club’s bank was not willing to extend the overdraft.

Financial issues were, of course, vital during this period of development at Parkgariffe. Club treasurer Jasper Drury and his successor in 1970, Donal McDonnell, were particularly busy during this era. Although the sale of the castle and lands provided important funding, there was a huge outlay in expanding the course and building a clubhouse. The club was aware of this and a fundraising committee was set up in early 1968. As well as the usual dances, the club organised draws such as the ‘300 club’ in early 1970. In addition, subscriptions were increased at a special general meeting in December 1968 and included raising ordinary membership from 15 guineas (£15.15.0) to 18 guineas, lady members from 8 guineas to 10 guineas and family membership from 21 guineas to 24 guineas per year. It was hoped that there would be a growth in the number of members from the 1968 level of 259 to an estimated 439 in



Winners of the Munster Junior League in 1966 were (left to right): Miss Madeleine Moloney, Mrs. Madeleine Corbett, Miss Nell Walsh (Captain, seated), Miss Una O’Flynn, Miss ‘Feenie’ Walsh and Mrs. Deirdre Donegan.

the future.

Despite these efforts, funds were tight and clubhouse plans continued to be examined to reduce costs. There was a suggestion that only the first storey would be built with the additional storey being added at a later date. However, in the end it was decided to build a single storey structure which, thanks to the work of Bill Carey, J.R. Boyd Barrett and Mary Fitzgibbon, came to about £50,000 including furnishings and fittings. The contract was awarded to Cedarlan Limited and excavation work for the new clubhouse began in November 1970. By early 1971 the details of the furniture and fittings were being finalised and building was progressing well.



Winners of the Cork Senior League, 1959. Left to right, front: Michael Coppinger, John Barry (Captain), Billy Browne. Back: Pat Cunningham, Austin Bradley, Eddie Murphy, Jasper Drury and Ray Murray.

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All was ready on Saturday 2nd October 1971 when the new clubhouse was opened by the Taoiseach, Jack Lynch. It was a special occasion and a source of satisfaction for all those involved in the creation of the new building. The president, Billy Browne, and the captain, Tom Carey, were key in the creation of the new club facilities. In his response to the toast from the Taoiseach, Tom Carey paid tribute to those associated with the building of the new clubhouse: the Munster and Leinster Bank, the trustees and committee, architects J.R. Boyd Barrett and Mary Fitzgibbon, quantity surveyor Bill Carey, consulting engineers Malachy Walsh and Partners and the building contractor Cedarlan Limited whose directors Dick Lane and Sean Jordan attended the official opening ceremony.

The new clubhouse provided all of the facilities required for the club, including locker rooms, a function room and bar/lounge area. The bright, modern clubhouse was a huge change from the rather spartan conditions in the old clubhouse at the castle and provided modern facilities for club members.

During the 1960s and early 1970s the trustees of the club were particularly busy as property was bought and sold. Their role involved a lot of responsibility and it was one that they took seriously, especially as it involved considerable sums of money. In 1959 two new trustees were appointed when Bill Andrews and Jerome P. McCarthy replaced Frank Maguire and Cecil Exham. Frank Maguire had a long and active involvement with the club and following his death, tribute was paid to him at the 1959 Annual General Meeting. Cecil Exham resigned as trustee in early 1959 and died later that year, ending another very long association with the club.

Trustees Bill Andrews, Jerome McCarthy and James R. Boyd Barrett were closely associated with the many transactions during the 1960s and the death of Jerome McCarthy in February 1970 was a great loss. A former president and captain, he had been granted honorary life membership in 1962 in recognition of his services to the club. He was an active trustee and tribute was paid to him at the 1970 Annual General Meeting, held on 27th February. A cup was presented to the club in his memory in 1971. Replacing him as trustee in 1970 was John C. Barry who had been associated with the club for forty years.

During the 1960s, when the Monkstown club was undergoing expansion, there was increasing interest in the game of golf. This spurred on the enthusiasm of members and helped to give them the confidence to commit the club to major development. The reason for the growth in interest in golf in Ireland was related to the achievements of key golfers, to the success of major events and to changing technology.

The achievements of professionals like Christy O'Connor from the late 1950s showed that Irish golfers could attain success on an international scale. In 1958 Christy



Members of the Monkstown team, winners of the Intermediate League in 1963. Left to right, front: Una O'Flynn and Mary McDonnell (Lady Captain). Back: Martha Lynch, Violet Hickey and Mary Cronin.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

TURKEY SUNDAY.

Total breakfast	75-0-0
Morning lunch	21-15-0
Afternoon "	20-0-0
	116-15-0
Pie & morning & afternoon	41-0-0
Club	25-15-0

MORNING		AFTERNOON	
1) P. O. Sullivan (17) - 31 1/2		1) L. J. L. - R. O. Ball - 4 up	
2) J. B. B. (14) - 32		2) J. L. L. - J. H. H. - 4 up	
3) J. M. M. (11) - 32 1/2		3) W. W. W. - H. H. H. - 3 up	
4) B. H. H. (10) - 33		4) R. R. R. - R. B. B. - 3 up	
5) W. L. L. (13) - 34		5) R. H. H. - R. O. O. - 2 up	
6) J. L. L. (6) - 34		6) R. B. B. - R. O. O. - 2 up	
7) R. O. O. (11) - 34 1/2		7) R. H. H. - R. O. O. - 1 up	
8) M. M. M. (6) - 34 1/2		8) J. J. J. - R. O. O. - 1 up	
9) J. J. J. (17) - 34 1/2		9) J. J. J. - R. O. O. - 1 up	
10) J. H. H. (7) - 34 1/2		10) J. J. J. - R. O. O. - 1 up	
11) P. H. H. (3) - 34 1/2			
12) J. L. L. (10) - 35		1) L. J. L. - R. O. O. - 1 up	
13) R. O. O. (2) - 35			
14) J. H. H. (18) - 35			
15) E. L. L. (10) - 35 1/2			
16) W. L. L. (15) - 35			
17) P. O. O. (2) - 35			
18) W. L. L. (10) - 35			
19) R. O. O. (7) - 35 1/2			
20) P. O. O. (1) - 35 1/2			
21) W. L. L. (1) - 35 1/2			
22) J. H. H. (14) - 36			
23) J. H. H. (2) - 36			
24) B. H. H. (8) - 36			
25) R. O. O. (8) - 36			

MORNING		AFTERNOON	
1) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		1) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
2) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		2) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
3) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		3) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
4) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		4) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
5) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		5) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
6) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		6) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
7) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		7) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
8) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		8) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
9) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		9) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
10) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		10) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
11) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		11) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
12) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		12) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
13) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		13) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
14) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		14) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
15) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		15) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
16) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		16) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
17) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		17) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
18) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		18) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
19) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		19) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
20) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		20) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
21) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		21) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
22) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		22) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
23) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		23) R. O. O. (2) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
24) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		24) J. H. H. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	
25) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0		25) L. J. L. (10) - 2-10-2 = 35-0-0	

TOTAL = 91-0-0

Details of the results of the Turkey Sunday competition held in December 1966, Competition Book 1966-1969. (Cork City and County Archives, U351)

O'Connor and Harry Bradshaw won the Canada Cup in Mexico City. The Canada Cup (later called The World Cup) was a major international tournament and just two years later was held in Portmarnock. The 1960 event in Ireland attracted massive publicity and saw Christy O'Connor and Norman Drew finish a creditable fourth behind the winners Arnold Palmer and Sam Snead of the United States. The Portmarnock event was the first tournament appearance outside America for Palmer who was already a star in his home country. He was a very popular winner and represented a new and exciting era in golf. The Portmarnock event was well organised and highly successful, giving a boost to the game in Ireland.

A year before the Canada Cup was held in Portmarnock, another major golfing competition took place at the same venue. The Dunlop Masters, a tournament inaugurated in 1946, attracted top professionals each year. Harry Bradshaw (Portmarnock) won in 1953 and 1955, while Christy O'Connor was victorious in 1956. Holding the event in Ireland in 1959 provided enthusiasts with an opportunity to see leading professionals in action. An added bonus was the inclusion, by invitation, of the talented and highly successful Irish amateur Joe Carr. Carr played extremely well and was narrowly defeated by the equally popular Christy O'Connor. A crowd numbering in the tens of thousands over four days revelled in the excitement of the tournament, bringing enthusiasm back to golf clubs all over Ireland. The Dunlop Masters was again held at Portmarnock in 1965 and proved successful despite being marred by bad weather. The Dunlop Masters and the series of golf competitions sponsored by P.J. Carroll and Company from the 1960s were just some of the events that fed the growing interest in the game in Ireland.

This interest was boosted from the early 1960s by the spread of television. As mentioned above, the Monkstown club acquired a television set in 1963, a time when increasing numbers of people had access to this media. Although sports broadcasting was limited, there were some programmes on golf. From 1963 Radio Telefís Éireann (RTE) broadcast a series called 'Shell's Wonderful World of Golf' and this and other programme brought images of top class golfers and world class courses into the lives of people all over Ireland. Viewers could study the games of leading players like Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus.¹⁰

There was a marked increase in interest in golf in Ireland. In March 1963 the Monkstown committee discussed a letter received from the GUI which commented on this phenomenon, particularly since the Canada Cup. Bord Fáilte was keen to capitalise on the international growth in golf by encouraging visitors to come to Ireland to play on the many fine courses. Ireland experienced some economic prosperity during the 1960s and, as the standard of living rose, there were more resources available to expand the game. Golf also became more available to people from all backgrounds and social groups.

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Members of the Monkstown Irish Senior Cup team in 1963. Left to right: Donny Williams, Paddy O'Sullivan, Bob Fleury, Billy Browne (Captain), Norman Baker and Tom Egan.

While change was happening all around at Monkstown in the 1960s, members continued playing golf with some success. The Ladies' Branch remained active, but only had a relatively small number of members. At the Ladies' Branch Annual General Meeting in January 1961 there were just 22 ladies present: Miss O'Flynn, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Mary O'Byrne, Mrs. Browne, Miss Fitzgibbon, Mrs Daly, Miss McDonnell, Miss Cronin, Miss Hickey, Mrs. Sheehan, Miss Clydesdale, Miss Lynch, Mrs. Riordan, Mrs. Morrogh, Mrs. McMullen, Miss O'Callaghan, Miss Shanahan, Miss O'Callaghan, Mrs. P. Madden, Mrs. O'Donovan, Miss Gleeson and Miss Mary Foreman together with apologies from Miss Geraghty, Miss Walsh, Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Madeline Corbett.¹¹ In the 1960s it was recalled that the Ladies' Branch were lucky to fill competitions with eight players while generally there were insufficient numbers to field teams. However, despite the small numbers, there were talented players such as Mary O'Byrne who reached the semi-final of the Irish Close Championship in 1956 and was a member of the Munster inter-provincial team during the mid-1960s. The ladies occasionally organised fund-raising events for club funds or for charities such as the Rehabilitation Centre. The ladies' locker room in the castle was very small and accessed by steps down to it – so the facilities in the new clubhouse were very welcome.

One of the leading players in the 1950s, Tom Egan, continued his run of achievements during the 1960s. In 1959 he partnered Jim Murray (Mullingar Golf Club) when they won the Munster Open Scratch Foursomes at Cork Golf Club. In the same year Tom Egan represented Ireland at the Home Internationals competition at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's in Lancashire. The Irish team was defeated by Scotland, but were victorious over Wales, an achievement in which Tom Egan's skilled play was vital. Then followed a notable victory against England when "Munster's representatives, Tom Egan and Paddy

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Monkstown winners of the Senior League, 1970. Left to right, front: Bob Fleury, Billy Browne (President), Malachy McAuliffe (Captain), Donny Williams and Nealie Murphy. Back: David Hughes, Jack Fives, Frank Fitzgerald, Cyril Healy and (inset) Denis Callanan. (Photo: G. & V. Healy)

Leyden, were two of the heroes in the afternoon's singles".¹² Egan again played well during the 1960 Home Internationals at Turnberry in Scotland and won all his matches in the Interprovincial Golf Championship at Royal Dublin in the same year.

Tom Egan was one of the leading amateurs in the Irish Hospitals' Golf Tournament at Woodbrook in 1961 and also played well at the Irish Amateur Close Championship at Rosses Point in County Sligo. He won the Castletroy Scratch Cup in the same year, defeating the legendary Joe Carr by three strokes. The following year, having represented Munster in the interprovincial championships at Royal Portrush, Egan again played for Ireland in the Amateur Golf Internationals at Porthcawl, Wales. However, it was his victory at the East of Ireland championship at Baltray, County Louth that was one of the highlights of his career. On his run to the title, he scored an amazing eight birdies in a row to equal the course record of 67. He carried out this feat in the third round, achieving eight birdies from the second to the ninth hole and recalled that "it was nearly a relief when I missed on the 10th hole!"¹³ Tom Egan was the first to score so many birdies in a row and by 2004 only fourteen professionals had matched the achievement.¹⁴ Following this success, Egan continued to perform well in many competitions over the next few years. In 1963 Egan played in the interprovincials at Lahinch and was part of the Monkstown team that reached the semi-finals of the Irish Senior Cup in 1963.

Tom Egan represented his country on numerous occasions, but it was at Turin in 1967 that his golfing skills were particularly in evidence. He was part of the Irish amateur golf team competing for the European team championship trophy at the beautiful La Mandria course. The Irish victory in the final against France was won in dramatic style as reported in the press "It was the 36-year old Cork jeweller Tom Egan who proved to be the hero at the



The victorious Monkstown team, winners of the Cork Junior League in 1968. Left to right, front: Finbar Scannell, Malachy McAuliffe, Paddy O'Flynn (Captain), Brian Begley, Billy O'Sullivan. Back: Dermot Cusack, Frank Maxwell, Fergus Coppinger, Ronnie Moore and Tom Desmond. (Photo: J.H. Audley)

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end. With the game tied 3-3 it was up to Egan to gain the vital winning point and he came to the last hole in his match against Roger Lagarde one up. Although he just made the apron of the green with his second shot he ran his ball up to within nine inches of the cup, leaving Lagarde to hole a four-yarder to keep the game and match alive. But the Frenchman's putt bounced into the hole and out again to give Ireland victory for the second time in three years. Egan's delighted teammates rushed on to the green to congratulate him ..."¹⁵ It was a particularly fine achievement given that the game was played during very hot weather. Egan represented Ireland until 1969 and thereafter concentrated more on raising his growing family and managing his business. He continued to play competitive golf whenever possible and was part of Monkstown and other teams that achieved success.

During this period Monkstown was fortunate to have several other excellent players, some of whom represented Ireland at international events. This led to plenty of friendly rivalry in the club and encouraged high standards of golf. Tom Egan recalled that even when he was playing at international level, there were others in the club who were convinced that they could beat him - and sometimes did! This led to a good standard of golf in the club and encouraged people of all levels to enjoy and improve their game. It also was a time when amateurs rarely turned professional, so that the good players continued to remain in their clubs. In subsequent decades, the professional scene became more attractive and gained in status and wealth. This increasingly led to more and more talented amateurs moving into the professional arena



Winners of the Cork Senior Golf League, 1971. Left to right, front: Nealie Murphy, Billy Browne (president), Tom Carey (captain), Frank Fitzgerald. Back: Jim O'Keeffe, Tom Desmond, Mick Quane, Jack Fives, Robert Williams and (inset) Malachy McAuliffe. (Photo: G. & V. Healy)

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at an early stage in their careers.

Monkstown had won the Barton Shield in 1933, but had failed to emulate this achievement in the intervening years. In 1959 the club performed well, winning the Munster title and thereby reaching the finals. The team of Barry Egan, Donny Williams, Tom Egan and Norman Baker defeated the favourites Portmarnock in the semi-final. However, in the final against Athlone they were beaten by three holes. With such strong players at the club, it was not surprising that just two years later a Monkstown team again annexed the Munster pennant and reached the semi-finals where they lost to Malone. The team consisted of Tom Egan, Paddy O'Sullivan, Norman Baker and Donny Williams.

In 1964 Monkstown again competed well in the Barton Shield competition. The team of Tom Egan, Norman Baker, Paddy O'Sullivan and Bob Fleury defeated Limerick at Little Island in the quarter-finals. According to the local press: "Monkstown swept majestically into the national semi-finals of the Barton Shield ... when they thrashed Limerick by eight holes."¹⁶ Hopes were high when they travelled to Portmarnock in July for the next stages. In the semi-final against University College Dublin the Monkstown team proved the stronger, with Baker and Egan defeating Walker Cup player David Sheahan and Mick Ryan by a hole. O'Sullivan and Fleury won 3 up against Sean Cooney and Eric O'Brien. However, the final against Rathmore was a different matter and Monkstown was defeated by eight holes. Paddy O'Sullivan played particularly well, but it was a clear loss for the club. It was a disappointing result, particularly since a large contingent of supporters had travelled to Portmarnock for the event.

In the previous year, 1963, the club had reached the semi-finals of the Irish Senior Cup. The team of Norman Baker, Tom Egan, Bob Fleury, Paddy O'Sullivan and Donny Williams defeated Cork at Little Island in the early stages. It was a notable victory as a very high standard of golf was played during the match against the Cork Golf Club players James Bowen, Liam Higgins, Ted Higgins, George Crosbie and Loyal Goulding. Monkstown then went on to defeat Tramore by a comprehensive five matches to nil, with Donny Williams beating D. Cantwell 7 and 6. The focus turned to Lahinch where the next opponents were Ennis. This was an exciting event with Monkstown narrowly winning by three matches to two. The semi-final was held at Sutton on a very wet day in late July. Monkstown had a very strong team and were expected to defeat Galway. However, despite starting strongly with victories for Bob Fleury and Paddy O'Sullivan, the other players were unable to maintain the team's strong position and Galway emerged as winners.

Monkstown performed well in the Senior League in the late 1950s and early 1960s, winning on several occasions. Although teams perhaps had less success in the late 1960s in different competitions, individual members continued to make their mark. In his report at the Annual General Meeting of 1968, club captain Mossy Buckley lauded

the achievements of Paddy O'Sullivan, Norman Baker and Tom Egan. The latter two members had, amongst other successes, won the Killarney Scratch Cup in 1967. It was a feat that they had achieved also in 1964 when the press reported that "both Egan and Baker showed their true golfing ability by adapting themselves to the conditions" on challenging greens.¹⁷

Looking back on 1970, outgoing captain Malachy McAuliffe noted that it was a momentous year for the club with its new 18 hole course. He also praised the achievements of Paddy O'Sullivan, John O'Reilly, Denis O'Sullivan, John Beale and Tom Egan. They and other players enhanced the fine reputation held by Monkstown in this era.

The years between 1959 and 1971 were ones of great change in Monkstown Golf Club. Thanks to some brave decisions and a considerable amount of work by many members, by 1971 the club had a brand new clubhouse and an 18 hole course – a wonderful achievement.



Winners of Kinsale Scratch trophy, 1971. Left to right, front: John O'Reilly, Tom Carey (Captain), Billy Browne (President), Tom Egan. Left to right, back: Denis O'Sullivan, John Beale. (Photo: G. & V. Healy)

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Tuesday June 3rd 1969
LADIES OPEN MEETING

9 HOLES STABLEFORD ENTRY 2/6

NAME	CLUB	CLASS	H'CAP	ENTRY
Mrs A. Smith	Cork J.C.	B	35	5/-
Mrs J. Deane	S.L.G.H.	B	20	5/-
Mrs H. J. Doherty	Monkstown	A	13	5/-
Mrs M. Fitzgerald	Monkstown	B	21	5/-
Mrs J. R. Kelly	Monkstown	B	29	5/- 2/6
Mrs Buckley	Douglas	A	11	2/6
Mrs Meynour	Douglas	A	18	2/6
Mrs T. Kelly	Monkstown	B	31	2/6
Mrs B. Wafar	Monkstown	A	16	2/6 2/6 1/6 4/6
Mrs A. O'Donoghue	Bandon	B	24	2/6
Mrs J. McSwiney	Bandon	A	14	2/6
Mrs M. O'Byrne	Monkstown	A	4	5/-
Mrs R. P. O'Leary	Cork	B	23	5/-
Mrs M. Walsh	Cork	B	21	5/-
Mrs D. M. Doyle	Cork	B	21	2/6 2/6
Mrs G. Ryan	Cork	A		2/6 2/6
Mrs H. Robertson	Monkstown	B	30	5/-
Mrs J. Madden	Cork	A	17	5/-
Mrs D. McSwiney	"	A	18	5/-
Mrs W. Hackett	Monkstown	B	22	5/-
Mrs O. O'Sullivan	Monkstown	B	29	5/- 2/6
Mrs J. Boycroft	Monkstown	B	36	5/-
Mrs Higgins	Monkstown	B	36	5/-
Mrs J. Sullivan	Cork	B	31	2/6
Mrs D. O'Donoghue	Monkstown	B	25	5/- 2/6
Mrs W. Broome	Monkstown	B	27	5/-
Mrs Kate Barry	"	B	19	5/-
Mrs J. Jones	"	B	24	2/6
Mrs J. Logan	"	B	30	2/6
Mrs C. J. Maguire	"	B	36	2/6
Mrs O'Leary	"	B	36	2/6

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NAME	CLUB	CLASS	H'CAP	ENTRY
Mrs D. Doherty	Monkstown	B	21	5/-
Mrs M. Deane	"	A	12	5/-
Mrs C. Reynolds	"	B	36	5/-
Mrs J. R. Kelly	"	B	29	5/-
Mrs M. Fitzgerald	"	B	21	2/6

7-15-0
2-6
2-6

Class A Winner

8-0-0

Mrs D. McSwiney Cork (2-0-0)
Mrs B. Wafar (Monkstown) (1-0-0)
Mrs M. O'Byrne (Monkstown) (1-0-0) best gross
Class B Winner Mrs J. Deane (2-0-0)
Mrs M. Fitzgerald (Monkstown) (1-0-0)
To be held

L. P. McSwiney Secy. L. 8-0-0

Details of the Ladies Open Meeting held on 3rd June 1969, from Competition Book 1966-1969. The meeting attracted competitors from other clubs including Cork, Douglas and Bandon. (Cork City and County Archives, U351)



Tom Carey's son, Tadgh, sitting on the family car. In the background is farmland which now contains the 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th holes, July 1968.



The remains of old farm buildings at Parkgarraff, July 1968.
The area was cleared and a new clubhouse built on the site.



Formation of 16th green, July 1968.



View from the 12th fairway toward the 14th and beyond to the 18th.



Forming the bunkers, Spring 1972, with new clubhouse in background.

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1908-2008



Looking from the 16th tee towards the 15th green & beyond, April 1971.

CHAPTER 4 NEW ERA 1972-1989

The opening of a new clubhouse and the creation of an 18 hole course combined to create a new lease of life for Monkstown Golf Club. It also brought with it a new scale of operations and an ongoing debt problem for the club.

The new facilities and increasing membership required much more management than previously had been required. This was recognised as early as 1972 when the captain, Tom Carey, spoke at the Annual General Meeting and pointed out that “at this stage the amount of work required to be done was beyond capabilities of Hon. Officers and [the] Club would have to face the fact that a full time paid Sec.-Manager would be required.”¹ Fortunately, however, the club had in its ranks William (Billy) Locke who at the time was recently retired and who volunteered to undertake a lot of the routine work. This he carried out for many years with commendable care and meticulousness. He devoted many hours each week to the club, looking after numerous aspects of the day-to-day management. In 1979 he was granted honorary life membership in recognition of his contribution to the club over the previous fifty years. He retired from his work in the club in 1982 and a special presentation was made to him.

The clubhouse staff were also entering a new era. Joe Power was appointed as steward in 1970 and remained for about two years. Over the ensuing years a succession of people were appointed to manage the catering at the club. The new clubhouse allowed for a greater range of catering in conditions that were much improved from the castle. It was the start of a new structure whereby there were more temporary and short-term staff appointments. A sign of change was the decision in 1974 to discontinue the Christmas staff list. This had been a feature of club life from the start whereby a collection was made toward the end of the year and the funds were distributed amongst the staff. Known as a Christmas Box in earlier years, by the 1970s this practice was being overtaken by a more systematic method of remunerating staff.

Although many catering and bar staff were employed over the years, there were a few who gave many years of loyal service to the club. Martha O’Connell began in a part

time capacity in 1972 and was made full time in 1973. She remained a valued staff member until her retirement in 2008 and saw the club move into the twenty-first century. At about the same time that Martha O’Connell began work at the club, Bob Humphries joined the staff. Together with Eileen Murphy, who helped out on a part time basis, they were vital in developing and maintaining the bar service in the new clubhouse. When Bob Humphries left in about 1980, Brendan O’Mahony joined the staff and served the club for around fifteen years.

During the 1970s and 1980s the main social events in the club were on St. Stephen’s Night, New Year’s Eve and, of course, President’s Night, Captain’s Night and Lady Captain’s Night. A special Santa Claus dinner was held for members’ children and grandchildren on the first Sunday in December and was very popular. Events also were held around St. Patrick’s Day and at Easter, while there were other special occasions from time to time. For example, there was a ‘Best of Monkstown’ night held in November at which people showed their many talents. Cards were another popular pastime and successful card events were organised, mainly during the autumn and winter months. Many of the dinners continued until late into the night, particularly on major occasions. For these, the core staff were augmented by part-time staff who often



Monkstown Bridge Club letter, 1980. The bridge club was established at the golf club in 1974 and is still a feature of clubhouse life.

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Performers at the ladies' show in February 1984 were Violet Murphy (left) and Mary Quane.

were employed just for the event. Many of these staff were the sons or daughters of members who helped out for a period.

An interesting development during this period was the setting up of a bridge club at the golf club. This came about in 1974 when John O'Reilly, chairman of the Social Committee, was approached by Liam Grainger with the idea of founding a bridge club. Interest was shown in the idea and Monkstown Bridge Club duly was brought into being. It proved to be popular and has remained a feature of clubhouse life ever since.

Another feature of club life that really began to blossom from the 1970s was the annual show devised and performed by the lady members and performed at the Lady Captain's Dinner. As has been seen, the club had shown itself to be friendly and sociable when based at the castle. Violet Murphy, who joined the club in 1948 and served as captain in 1954 and 1974, remembered that the club had a relatively small membership and everyone knew each other. At social events, most members had a 'party piece' that they performed informally.

This spirit continued into the new clubhouse where it developed and expanded. This was partly because of the better facilities, including more room, modern equipment and even a stage. Brenda O'Sullivan, the last Lady Captain at the castle, recalled an occasion where members decided to hold an impromptu dance there. They were quickly warned

against it by Malachy McAuliffe who predicted that they would be found "down with the tractors"!² The insecure floor in the main room of the castle was over the space where the tractors were stored. The new clubhouse had no such hazard and Frank Maxwell and Declan McDonnell had the space to construct a stage for the lady members' performances.

Another reason for the expansion of this aspect of the social scene at the club was simply because there were more members. From the 1970s there was a gradual increase in the number of lady members at the club and many of these brought skills and talent with them.

The ladies' show developed over the years. In the 1970s the Lady Captain's dinner tended to conclude with entertainment in the bar with members showing their talents at telling jokes, singing songs and performing other 'party pieces'. It was during the 1980s that the event started to expand. Maria Broderick recalled that "in 1980 Nora Flynn asked me to 'do' the show. I was 'jack of all trades' for a good few years, playing the piano, directing, performing all at the same time. ... then in 1986 Martina Lehane joined me in directing etc. and things improved enormously."³ Rita Murray and Sheila Williams were just two of the many other people who became involved.

A La Carte		MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB	
menu		SAT NOV. 27 th 1971	
STARTERS	{ GRAPEFRUIT COCTAIL	15p	
	{ MELON	20p	
	{ PRAWN COCTAIL	30p	
SOUP	{ THICK SOUP	8p	
	{ CLEAR SOUP	8p	
MAIN COURSE	{ STUFFED PORK STEAK	70p	
	{ CHICKEN A LA KING	70p	
	{ DEEP FRIED SCAMPI	70p	
	{ SOLE ON THE BONE	80p	
	{ SIRLOIN STEAK	95p	
	{ FILLET STEAK	95p	
POTATOES: CREAMED, CHIPPED OR CROQUET (INCLUDED).			
VEGETABLES: ONIONS, SPROUTS OR PEAS (INCLUDED).			
MUSHROOMS (10p EXTRA).			
SWEET	{ FRESH FRUIT COCTAIL	15p	
	{ APPLE PIE A LA MODE	15p	
	{ CHEESE CAKE	15p	
TEA OR COFFEE (INCLUDED).			
GUARANTEED QUALITY			
COVER CHARGE			
10p PER PERSON			

Hand-written menu, 1971.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Pictured at the Lady Captain's Dinner in January 1989 were (left to right): Margaret O'Sullivan, Peg Mulcahy, Kay Swanton, Ogie O'Callaghan (Lady Captain), Nora Flynn, Nell Bruen (President, I.L.G.U.) and Mary O'Callaghan.

The annual performance was staged on the night of the Lady Captain's Dinner. The show was topical, comical and highly entertaining. It centred on the lady captain

herself and humorously depicted events during the past year and aspects of her life. Nothing was taken too seriously and plenty of licence was taken with the facts! Lasting about an hour or so, the show generally began and ended with a chorus and in between were different sketches and solo performances by, for example, talented singers.

Initially the show was performed only to the ladies at their dinner, but later it also formed part of a 'Best of Monkstown' mixed evening when the president and the men's captain were the subject of various sketches and humorous songs. Over time, too, men were invited to contribute to the show at the 'Best of Monkstown' event. Their sketches added much to the event with Maurice Healy and PM Cooney amongst the starring players.

The shows were elaborate affairs, with costumes and scenery devised by the members. At first the ladies sourced whatever props were required from their own homes. Later, both costumes and props were devised especially for the show. Martina Lehane led a group of hard-working ladies who stitched the costumes which became increasingly sophisticated over the years. Others involved with the costumes, props, wigs and other necessary items were Maria Broderick, Breda Slye, Deirdre Dolan, Ann Murphy and Phil Williams, as well as numerous other ladies.

The scenery was a vital part of the shows and in the early years this was supplied very effectively by Declan McDonnell who arranged for some of his art students at the Cork Institute of Technology to paint sheets that had been acquired by Liz Flannery. It was remembered that these sheets were "absolutely brilliant" and after each show they were carefully folded up and stored until the next performance.⁴ Later John Cunningham arranged for scenery to be created on canvas and these sets then formed the backdrop for many shows. Music was supplied by different people, notably Catherine Thompson and later Rose Moore, who accompanied the singers and performers on the piano.

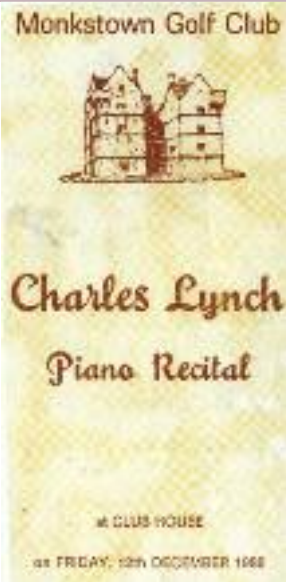
Monkstown was one of the first golf clubs in the Cork area to have shows of this type as part of the club's annual social events. On one occasion, Monkstown members invited members from Douglas, Cork and Muskerry golf clubs to come to Monkstown where each club performed a quarter of a show each. It was a great success and Maria Broderick recalled that "in one act Eleanor O'Regan from Muskerry, Joan Coughlan from Douglas, Sheila Dynan from Cork and myself did a rendition of the oldest swingers in town, complete with curlers, hairnets, walking frames etc."⁵ Monkstown later was invited to perform at Muskerry Golf Club and that club returned to Monkstown on another occasion to put on their show. These sort of events encouraged friendly relations between the different clubs.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The Past Lady Captain's inaugural reunion brought many former lady captains together on 20th October 1986. Left to right, front: Mrs. Una Cantillon, Mrs. Muriel Daly, Mrs. Angela Murphy (Lady Captain), Mrs. Mary O'Byrne, Mrs. Maria Broderick, Miss Irene Rahilly. Centre: Miss Catherine Reynolds, Miss Mary Fitzgibbon, Mrs. Catherine Thompson, Mrs. Margaret O'Sullivan, Mrs. Madeleine Higgins, Dr. Mary O'Brien, Mrs. Sheila Daly, Mrs. J. Madden, Mrs. D. O'Brien. Back: Mrs. Marion O'Sullivan, Mrs. Madeleine Corbett, Mrs. Nora Flynn, Dr. Audrey Bradley, Mrs. Rita Murray, Miss Nell Walsh, Mrs. Mary Quane, Mrs. Deirdre Donegan.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The annual shows that began in the 1980s continued to grow and develop over the decades, involving a great many members who gave their time and talents willingly. Many were involved behind the scenes, such as Eileen Tobin who organised stage management and ensured, for example, that microphones were in the correct place at the correct time. Performances grew increasingly elaborate but did not lose a sense of fun and camaraderie. The fact that no charge was ever made for the event gave it an additional appeal and it allowed members and friends to have an enjoyable and entertaining evening.

There were special events hosted in the club from time to time. One of these took place in December 1980 when the renowned pianist Charles Lynch gave a recital in the clubhouse. Lynch grew up at Parkgarraffe House and so it was an emotional return for him, bringing back memories of his early years in the area. Club members were delighted to welcome him to the clubhouse and he no doubt recalled the recital that he had given in the previous clubhouse when he was a child of eleven.



Charles Lynch, renowned pianist, pictured after a concert in Cork in 1955. (Picture courtesy of *Irish Examiner*)

At a more routine level, the club continued to hire a television set for members during the 1970s. However, in 1973 questions were raised as to whether it was worth spending £9 each month for a colour set, when a black and white one cost only £3.70. The issue was raised again in the following year when it was decided that the colour set should remain, despite the extra cost. ⁶

Colour was again under discussion in 1984. In that year it was decided to change the colour of the club sweater from the yellow colour which had been in use since the late 1970s to maroon. This remained the situation until 1989 when the distinctive yellow colour was again adopted by the club.

Away from the social side of club life, members had to grapple with some serious financial issues during the 1970s and 1980s. The finances of the club obviously had been much changed with the sale of land and the castle, the purchase of the Parkgarraffe land, the creation of an 18 hole course and the construction of a new clubhouse. One of those involved, J.R. Boyd Barrett, died in 1976. He had been made a life honorary member of the club not long before his death in recognition of his contribution as a former president, club architect and trustee. The same year saw the death of another former president, Charles E. Fleury, who made a major contribution to the club and whose sons were renowned golfers.



Pictured at the 1986 Lady Captain's Dinner were (left to right): Mrs. Deirdre McGowan, Mrs. Angela Murphy, Mrs. Maria Broderick (Lady Captain), Mrs. Bunny Clancy, Mrs. Nell Bruen (President I.L.G.U.), Mrs. Betty Ryan, Mrs. Mary O'Callaghan, Mrs. Nora Flynn and Mrs. Margaret O'Sullivan.

The developments at the club in the late 1960s and early 1970s were major financial transactions and much credit is due to all of those who oversaw the sometimes complicated procedures. However, the inevitable result was a debt that had to be

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Dance ticket, 1972.

carried during a particularly difficult economic period. From the early 1970s the Irish economy began to come under pressure, compounded by an energy crisis in 1973. This led to high interest rates, increasing emigration and a very uncertain economic climate.

The interest rates were of particular concern to a club carrying a large debt and members constantly tried to raise funds to meet the ongoing expenses. An obvious source of money was subscriptions and these were raised on several occasions during the 1970s. Subscription rates were raised in 1972, 1974 and again in 1975, resulting in a significant increase. In just three years, from 1972 to 1975, ordinary members' rates increased from £40 to £70, lady members

from £20 to £35, family members from £50 to £86, country from £10 to £17, pavilion from £5 to £8 and juniors doubled from £4 to £8. These huge increases reflected the high costs and inflation of the period and, not surprisingly, some members simply could not afford the increased costs. Bill Andrews voiced the concern of many in 1974 when he described the rate of inflation as "appalling".⁷

Further increases in subscriptions were to follow in subsequent years. The 1983 Annual General Meeting proposed increasing ordinary subscriptions by £20, from £150 to £170. This 13% increase in subscriptions was set against a background where the rate of inflation in 1981 was

20.4% and in 1982 was 17.1%.⁸ Even though the club subscriptions had increased every year, they did not keep pace with inflation. It was not surprising that the subscriptions continued to rise: ordinary members paid £200 per year in 1985, increasing to £303 by 1990, with other classes of membership following a similar pattern. Despite these subscription increases and a loss of members in the mid-1970s, overall membership numbers grew, particularly in the 1980s. In 1982 they were at

their highest level with 340 ordinary members, 110 ladies, 100 family, over 50 juveniles with a waiting list of over 200 names.⁹

Other fund raising efforts were made during the 1970s and 1980s. One of the most popular were the 200 and 300 Club Draws whereby cash prizes were drawn on a monthly basis. These and other draws were held regularly and raised much-needed funds over the years. For example, in 1971 there was a Monster Draw for £500 or a new Ford Escort with tickets costing 25 pence each or a book of five for £1. Some of the social functions also raised money for the club, while special events were held from time to time.

Despite these efforts, the club's financial position was difficult, particularly as ongoing work was required on the course. Despite being opened for play in 1970, improvements continued to be carried out on the course over the ensuing years. For example, while the main tree plantations were in place at the time of opening, these were expanded over the following years. Most of this planting was on the new section of the course and, in all, thousands of new trees helped to change the appearance and character of the holes. Many of the trees were planted by volunteers from amongst the members and the trees included thinnings donated by friends in the forestry business. In the mid and late 1970s the club captains were vital in carrying out this extended planting, particularly Pat Goggin (1975), Donal

	1984 £	1983 £	
25 Feb. 1984 Ladies Show	1049	-	+ 1049
17 Mar. " St. Patrick's Night	1430	210	+ 1220
27 Mar. " Poker Classic	658	414	+ 244
22 Apr. " Easter Sunday	963	1699	- 736
19 May " Captain's Prize	1698	1446	+ 252
27 May " Lady Captain's Prize	838	399	+ 439
9 June " Jim Higgins Memorial	872	?	?
10 July " Teenage Disco	385	-	+ 385
25 Aug. " President's Prize	1353	1458	- 105
9 Sept. " President's Prize to Ladies	648	592	+ 56
27 Oct. " First 300 Draw/Mallmen	783	249	+ 534
28 Oct. " Jazz Session	564	196	+ 368
2 Nov. " Second 300 Draw	440	317	+ 123
15 Dec. " Third 300 Draw	773	73	+ 700
31 Dec. " New Year's Eve	1077	586	+ 491
TOTAL OF +	£5461		
TOTAL OF -	£1851		
NET GAIN	£3610		

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM QUIZ AND OPERATIC RECORD NIGHT

Information about social functions held at the club in 1984.

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Ticket for club draw, 1971.



Member's ticket for 300 Club Draw, 1970s.

the course. Some of the fairways were lifted up and a sanding programme was put in place on the affected greens.

The need for a proper watering system was recognised, not only to improve drainage but also to water the greens. Given the severe financial circumstances of the club, this

McDonnell (1976) and Peter Thompson (1979).

At about the same time, club officers were aware of plans by the Electricity Supply Board to erect pylons in the immediate area. Lengthy discussions succeeded in having the pylons and overhead cables re-routed around the perimeter of the club grounds.

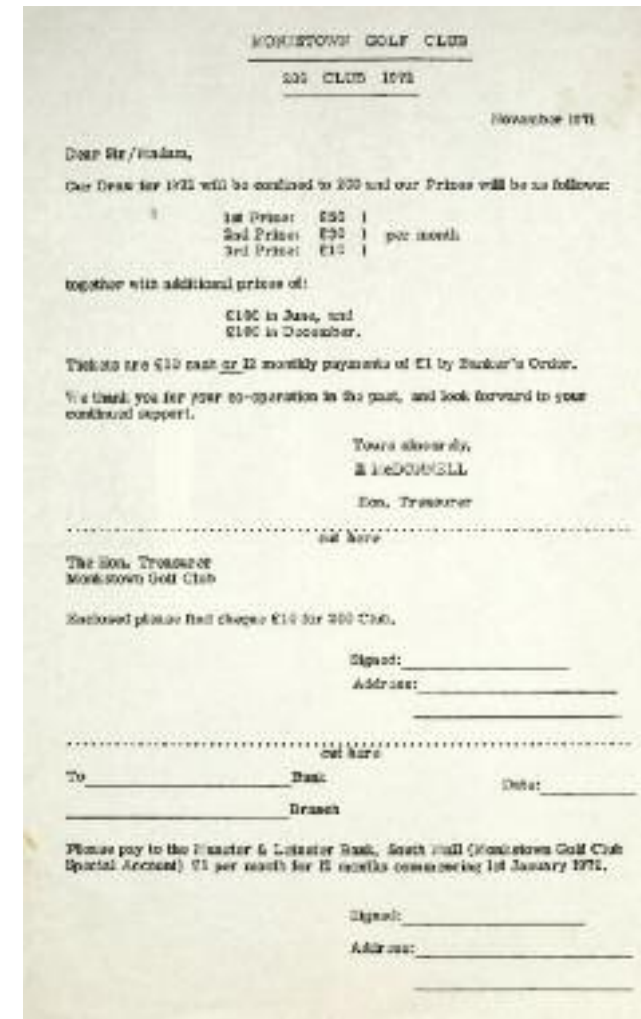
A major problem on the new section of the course was drainage. The original site was remembered by members of the Ellis family, who were neighbouring farmers, as very damp in places. Drainage continued to be a problem after the golf course was laid out. This meant that during the winter months part or all of the back nine was closed on a fairly regular basis, with the holes most affected being the 11th, 12th, 14th and 18th. A notice of 1971 recalls the problem as it warned members that in severe weather conditions the course could be closed by Bill Barrett, with the approval of a member of the Greens and Course Committee. These closures continued for many years as members grappled with the problems of water logging on

seemed unlikely to be achieved until in 1973 an opportunity arose to ease the burden. This was a proposal by the Pfizer pharmaceutical company to provide an interest free loan of £10,000 to the club, with phased repayments over several years. In return, Pfizer employees could use the facilities on a certain number of days each week, through a set number of membership cards issued to the company. The Pfizer company had begun building a new plant at nearby Ringaskiddy in 1969 and soon became one of the major employers in the area. The Pfizer offer seemed very attractive to some of the members, but others were more wary. This was the first time that the club had to consider what amounted to sponsorship. It was a new concept and there was concern both at the idea of accepting such a large loan and also a fear of congestion on the course by the opening up of the club to the new Pfizer members.

Although the majority of the committee supported the proposal, a Special General Meeting was called by request of sixteen members. This took place on 30th November 1973 and resulted in long and detailed discussions. Proponents of the Pfizer scheme pointed out that there was a need to bring the standard of the Monkstown course up to that of other Cork clubs and predicted that the extra number of players would not be a problem. Indeed, as it turned out, membership levels fell for a time in the mid-1970s and this prediction was accurate. Members aired their concerns and in the end it was agreed to proceed with the Pfizer scheme by 49 votes to 25. This enabled the vital work to begin on the greens and fairways. The loan proved very useful for the club which put aside funds each year to meet the repayment requirements.

In the late 1970s the club examined the possibility of redesigning the first nine holes. This arose because of some of the land on the southern boundary had been sold,

Information about 200 Club Draw, 1972.



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Signatures of some of the members who attended a special meeting at the club, 30th November 1973.



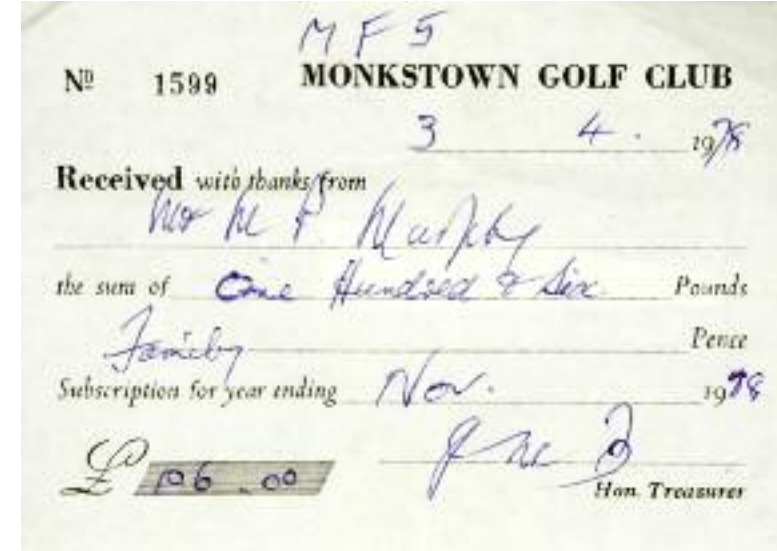
Blarney and started his career as assistant at nearby Muskerry Golf Club. He then went on to serve his apprenticeship at Castletroy Golf Club and in 1968 moved to Kilkenny Golf Club. He recalled the impact that television and golfing successes like Arnold Palmer made on golfing in the late 1950s and 1960s. As well as making golf more popular, that era saw the gradual increase in the status of and respect for professionals.

affecting the 3rd green, 4th hole and 5th tee. In 1977 and 1978 the renowned Dublin-based golf course designer Eddie Hackett visited the club and drew up reports and plans for the redesign of the affected area. Considerable discussions were held and various options examined in detail. The course was altered for a time: the par five 3rd hole became a par four, a new 4th hole was built and the 5th hole was altered. The land was repurchased by the club in 1986 and the course then reverted to its previous layout.

The extension of the course from 9 to 18 holes naturally meant that a lot more maintenance was needed to keep it in the best possible condition. However, given the financial constraints on the club, there was only gradual improvement in staffing and equipment.

The professional at the time of transition from 9 to 18 holes was Finbar Condon who served in this role from 1961 until 1974. His successor was Batt Murphy who was appointed in June 1974 and remains as professional to the club in the centenary year. Batt Murphy is from Tower, near

At Monkstown Batt Murphy recalled the active involvement of members with the care of the course in the 1970s and 1980s. Members assisted with developing bunkers, raking stone, sanding areas, planting trees and doing other practical work. There were only two full time staff on the course, with another part-time employee. Equipment was a tractor and a machine for cutting grass, but these were old and in need of replacement. Not surprisingly, the greens were often cut just three times a week as staff and volunteers did their best to maintain all 18 holes.

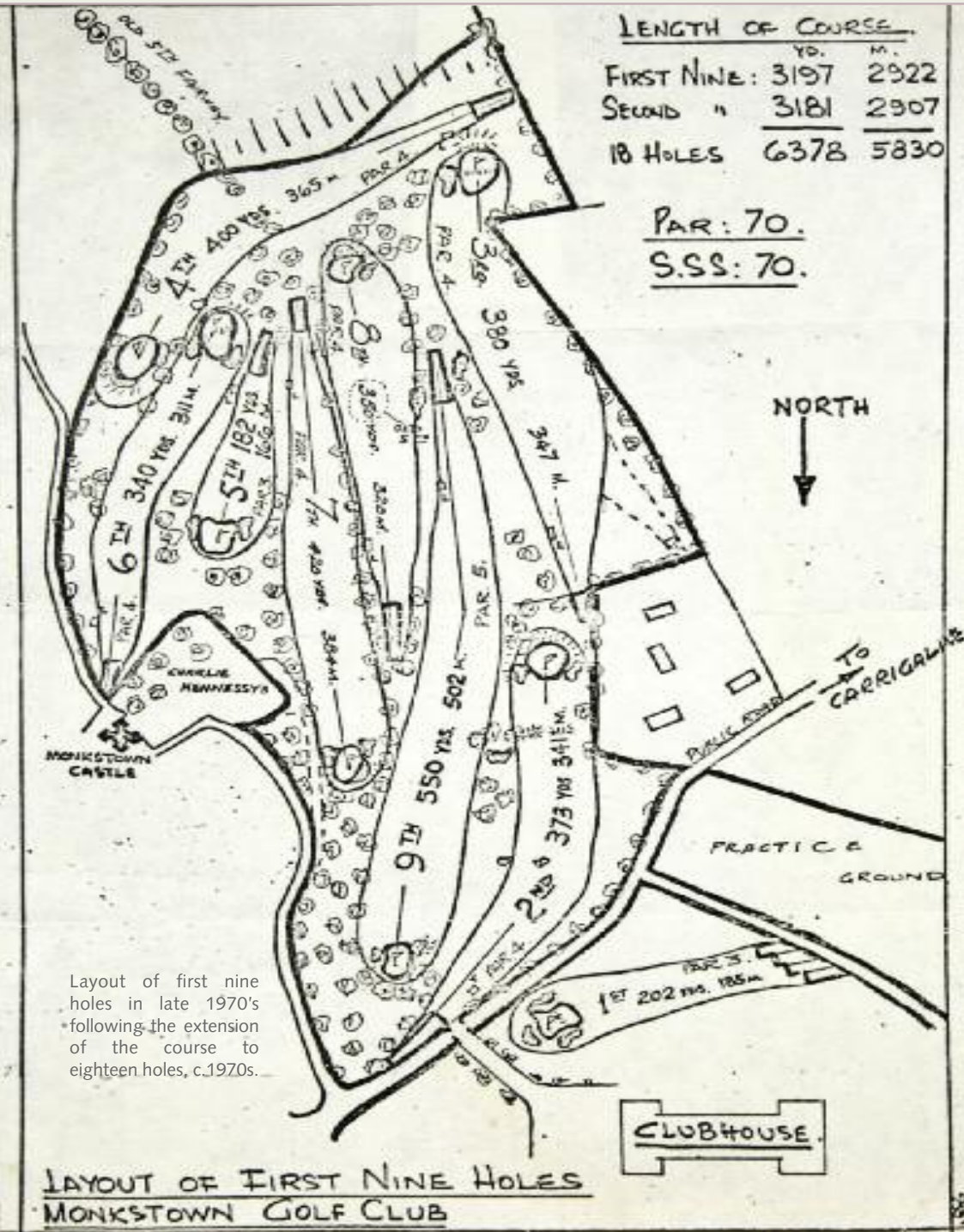


The year 1972 saw the retirement of Bill Barrett who had worked for the club for a remarkable fifty years. He had served as caddy master for much of that time and was a familiar figure around the club for generations of members.

There was a gradual improvement in the course over the years as new equipment was purchased, new staff employed and expertise sought for many aspects of course care. This was a slow process and often hindered by lack of funds for investing in improvements. However, these did happen and, for example, in 1974 a new machine shed was purchased at a cost of £1,000. In the following year the acquisition of a new greens mower enabled course staff to improve the greens.

The improved course was appreciated not only by the members, but also by the many visitors to the club. During the 1970s and 1980s various societies played over the course, some of them being associated with Monkstown for many years. For example in 1976 outings included those from golfing societies associated with Presentation Brothers College, Christian Brothers College, Cork Airport, Teachers, Gallaghers, Furnishers and Chemists.¹⁰ Members of the golfing society from Sullivan's Quay school also were frequent visitors to the club. In 1986 the Cork Commercial Travellers Golfing Society thanked the club for the facilities afforded to them on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.¹¹ That society had been frequent visitors to the club over the years, a link that continues into the twenty-first century.

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The Monkstown team, winners of the National Mixed Foursomes, 1974. Left to right, front: Mrs. Madeleine Higgins, Mrs. Catherine Thompson, Mrs. Madeleine Corbett, Michael Murphy (President), Mrs. Violet Murphy (Lady Captain), Barry Collins (Captain), Mrs. Deirdre Donegan, Mrs. Sheila Williams and Mrs. Sheila Daly. Back: John Beale, John O'Reilly, Paddy O'Sullivan, Paddy Byrne, Pat Kelleher and Pat Goggin.



Not long after the completion of the new course, Tom Carey updated the rules of the club. The revised rules were brought out in 1971. At about the same time the club adopted the new revised handicapping system of the GUI regulating the Standard Scratch Score. The handicap system was again revised in 1983.

The year 1983 saw the club celebrate its 75th anniversary. Under the presidency of P.C. Byrne and captain Walter O'Byrne, the club organised special events to commemorate the occasion. A Jubilee Weekend was arranged and a short history of the club was commissioned which included contributions from some of the senior members who recalled earlier eras in club life. In November pianist Charles Lynch gave a recital in

Entry form for Scratch Cup, 1972.

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honour of the club's 75th celebrations. Special competitions were held during the year.

The golfing scene at Monkstown, like the course, was in a state of transition at this time. Some of the golfers who had seen such success for the club in the 1950s and 1960s moved on in the 1970s. Tom Egan's impressive national and international golfing exploits began to lessen as he concentrated more on his family and business. Norman Baker resigned from the club in 1969, work commitments took Bob Fleury away from the city from the late 1960s and another talented player, Barry Egan, died in 1975. Nonetheless, club players performed well in Barton Shield, Irish Senior Cup, Irish Junior Cup and Mixed Foursomes competitions and club members were proud of the successes of players such as John O'Reilly and Ada O'Sullivan.

Particular pride was taken in the success of the Monkstown team that won the 1974 Irish Inter-Club Mixed Foursomes national championship at Tullamore in County Offaly. Having won the Munster title at Mallow Golf Club, they proceeded to the final against Athlone. Unfortunately, they lost the first two matches but after this inauspicious start, team members rallied and succeeded in winning the next two matches. The final match involved Paddy O'Sullivan and Sheila Daly who defeated

their opponents in an atmosphere of great tension and excitement. Their victory sealed the championship for Monkstown, much to the delight of the team members and their supporters. The team consisted of John Beale, Paddy Byrne, Madeleine Corbett, Sheila Daly, Deirdre Donegan, Pat Goggin, Madeleine Higgins, Pat Kelleher, John O'Reilly, Paddy O'Sullivan, Catherine Thompson and Sheila Williams.



Winners of the Aer Lingus Irish Youths Championship in 1976 were the Monkstown team of (left to right) Mark O'Sullivan, Pat O'Keeffe, John Collins and John Hayes.



Notice advertising Murphy Open Week, 1972.



Munster Champions and All-Ireland finalists in the Jimmy Bruen Shield, 1978. Left to right, front: Mark O'Sullivan, Frank Fitzgerald, Jack O'Byrne (Captain), Michael O'Callaghan (President), Mick Quane (Team Manager) and Finbar Scannell. Back: Martin Healy, John Foster, Sars Smith, Frank Maxwell, Jimmy Kelly, Sean Cuffe and John O'Mahony.

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Monkstown players were Munster winners and national finalists in the 1978 Aer Lingus Irish Youths Championship. Left to right: John O'Reilly (Munster Branch, G.U.I.), Kieran O'Regan, Mark O'Sullivan, Kevin Murphy (Aer Lingus), John Collins, Phil O'Sullivan (Team Captain), Pat O'Keeffe, Willie Scannell (Captain, Douglas Golf Club) and Gerry Roseingrave (Munster Branch, G.U.I.).

In 1980 Monkstown reached the semi-finals of the Carrolls Irish Golf Club Mixed Foursomes. In winning the Munster Section, Monkstown defeated Cahir Park in an exciting contest that came down to the team of Paddy O'Flynn and Ada O'Sullivan who won their game on the 18th hole. It was a great achievement to reach the semi-finals of the competition. Monkstown hosted the Irish Mixed Foursomes in 1985 when the winners were Ennis Golf Club. In 1989 the Monkstown team reached the Munster final of the National Mixed Foursomes competition.

The Jimmy Bruen Shield tournament was instituted by the G.U.I. in 1978 and was open to teams of ten, playing in foursomes format. In its first year 151 clubs entered in total, so it was with pride that Monkstown won the Munster section of the



Winners of the Munster Minor League, 1979, were (left to right, front): Kay O'Brien and Patsy Britton, (centre) Kay O'Mahony, Angela Murphy (Team Manager), Catherine Thompson (Lady Captain) and Phil Browne, (back) Marie Quinn, Liz Flannery and Bernadette Murphy.

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Ada O'Sullivan (centre) winner of the 1989 Munster Senior Championship, pictured with Bernie Kilbride (Captain) and Peg Mulcahy (Lady Captain).

competition. The team consisted of Sean Cuffe, Frank Fitzgerald, John Foster, Martin Healy, Jimmy Kelly, Frank Maxwell, John O'Mahony, Mark O'Sullivan, Finbar Scannell and Sars Smith, with Mick Quane acting as team manager. They reached the national final at Galway Golf Club where the overall winner was Stackstown.¹²

Some years later, in 1985, the Monkstown team reached the finals of the Irish Junior Cup. In the following year Monkstown were Munster winners in the competition with a team of Denis O'Sullivan, Dick Nolan, Steve Guinane, Sars Smith, Dick Dunlea, Myles Barry, Dave Coen and Pat O'Keeffe. The mid-1980s were also a time of success in the Pierce Purcell Shield competition when the club reached the Munster final in 1985. That competition had been inaugurated in 1970 and was an inter-club tournament with teams of ten players, playing in foursomes format, with an individual minimum handicap of 12.¹³

Younger players at the club also showed promise in this period. Coached by Batt Murphy, Monkstown teams had success in the Aer Lingus Irish Youths Championships in the 1970s. For example in 1976 the juniors were Munster champions and national finalists in the Aer Lingus championship. The team consisted of Mark O'Sullivan, John Hayes, Pat O'Keeffe and John Collins. In 1978 the club youth team again were Munster champions and national finalists in the Aer Lingus competition. That team consisted of Kieran O'Regan, Mark O'Sullivan, John Collins and Pat O'Keeffe. In 1979 John Collins had the honour of being selected on the Irish Youths' International Team which won the European Championship at Marianske Lazne, Czechoslovakia and among his teammates were Ronan Rafferty and Philip Walton, who later enjoyed outstanding success in the professional game up to Ryder Cup level. It was a period when there were many young players

Marion O'Sullivan, winner of the 1983 Munster Ladies Junior Championship.



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Breda Aherne (left) and Betty Dunne, winners of the Australian Spoons at Longford Golf Club, 1983.

at the club, most of them involved because of the family membership category in place at the time. One such young member in the 1970s was Ada O'Sullivan, a future international player and captain, whose parents were keen golfers. She and her siblings spent many summer days at the club. They and other young members enjoyed playing golf and her brothers and other boys sometimes were employed on the course itself for short periods during the summer. At other times she recalled that the young people, often under the supervision of Michael (Mick) Waldron, were put to work digging holes for planting trees and shrubs on the course. Despite blistered hands, the youngsters enjoyed the camaraderie of the work and the reward of Coca-Cola and chips!

It was a time when most families only had one car and young people relied on parents and friends for transport. Many cycled to the club, but depended on cars when it came to competitions and events elsewhere. Ada O'Sullivan remembered the kindness of Madeleine Higgins who often brought young golfers to competitions. Others members, such as Mary Maxwell, were noted for taking out and encouraging new and younger golfers. Many members gave great support to junior golf in the 1970s and 1980s, fostering a love of the game and reinforcing the family atmosphere at the club.

Ada O'Sullivan showed an early talent at golf, accompanied by an ability to work hard at the game and a healthy competitiveness. Starting with a handicap of 36 in about 1979, by 1982 she was playing with the Irish team in the Junior European Championships in Sweden with a handicap of 1. The early 1980s were years of great success for Ada O'Sullivan when she won many competitions and was an Irish senior international between 1982 and 1984. She enjoyed the game and particularly

Winners of the Ladies Foursomes Match Play Championships, 1981 were (left to right, front): Betty Murphy, Peg Mulcahy, Nora Flynn (Lady Captain), Vera Higgins and Geraldine O'Mahony. Back: Margaret O'Sullivan, Marie Boyle, Kay O'Mahony, Maria Broderick, Joan Sheehan and Carmel O'Sullivan. (Photo: Barry's)



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The Monkstown team, Junior League winners, 1982. Left to right, front: Kay O'Mahony, Deirdre McGowan, Marion O'Sullivan (Lady Captain), Nora Flynn and Angela Murphy. Back: Helen O'Mahony, Beatrice Hartigan, Joan Barron, Betty Dunne, Eileen Blake and Sue Cogan..

remembered winning the Munster Ladies Senior Championship in 1984.

That competition took place at Ballybunion and she remembers playing a relatively relaxed final, even waving to a busload of tourists! After twelve holes she was four down to her opponent Valerie Hassett from Ennis, but she made what the press called "a miraculous recovery" to finish strongly, claiming victory on the 19th hole.¹⁴

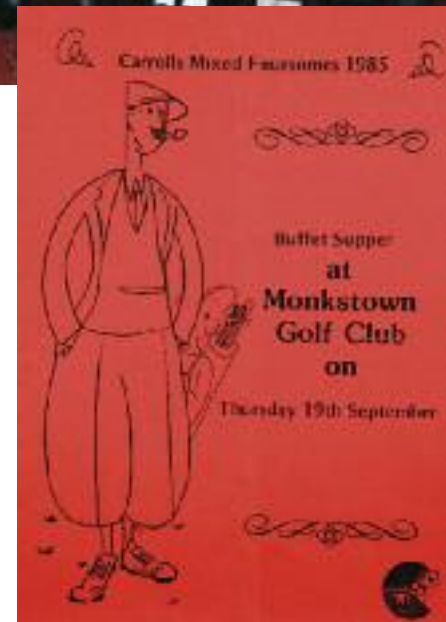
These and other successes brought great pride to the club and members were justifiably proud of Ada O'Sullivan's achievements. Although the late 1980s brought fewer successes, she had notable achievements in 1989 when she was victorious in the Munster Ladies Senior Championship and Leinster Ladies Senior Championships. Gaining the Munster Senior title was particularly memorable as the championships were held at Monkstown. Played on a wet and windy day in April, she remembered being very nervous and conscious of the pressures involved in playing on her home



National Mixed Foursomes, Munster Finalists, 1989. Left to right, front: Tess O'Mahony, Sheila Williams, Bernie Kilbride (Captain), Peg Mulcahy (Lady Captain), Donal McDonnell (President), Madeleine Corbett, Breda O'Sullivan and Marion O'Sullivan. Back: Denis O'Sullivan (Team Captain), Lil Murphy, Ray O'Mahony, Sean Cuffe, John Byrne, Noel Millar, John Foster, Howard Dunne, Noreen Buckley and Andy McNamara (selector).

course. It was a tense and "drama packed" final against Clare Keating of Douglas Golf Club.¹⁵ In the end she won the match on the 18th hole, much to the delight of her parents, family and fellow club members.

Other lady golfers also had success for the club in the 1970s and 1980s as the Ladies' Branch moved into playing more competitions. Their numbers were still small but by the 1980s had begun to grow and this encouraged some to compete on a regular basis. In 1979 club players won the Munster Minor League and



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two years later were victorious in the Ladies Foursomes Match Play Championship. They also had success in the Junior League in 1982 and the following year club member Marion O'Sullivan won the Munster Ladies Junior Championship. By the 1970s ladies' day in the club had moved from Wednesday to Tuesday and members recall that afternoons were busiest on the course. Most ladies played in twos or threes and generally had fourballs only on open days. The officers at that time recalled that in an era before computers, everything had to be handwritten or typed, a much slower process than later technology. This, of course, also applied to those involved in organising men's golfing in the club.

Another successful golfer in the 1970s and 1980s was John O'Reilly. Growing up in nearby Glenbrook, he was a noted hurler before taking up golf at the age of 28. He quickly showed his prowess at the game, competing on Senior Cup and many other teams and winning scratch cups at Macroom, Kenmare, Glengarriff and Monkstown itself. In 1984 he was non-playing captain of the winning Munster Junior Interprovincial Team. Having joined the club in 1964, he became Handicapping and Competitions Secretary in 1967 and two years later was elected to the Munster Branch of the GUI. Many club members were anxious to expand the role of the club, particularly as the new 18 hole course was under way. John O'Reilly's role in the Munster Branch was important in raising the profile of Monkstown and ensuring that it was given a more active role in GUI competitions such as the Senior Cup and Barton Shield. He served as captain in Monkstown in 1972 at the start of this new period of expansion in the club. John O'Reilly continued his active role in the Munster Branch and served as Match and Handicapping Secretary from 1975 until 1987. He became Chairman of the Munster Branch in 1988, a role that he held for four years.

Denis O'Sullivan, who turned professional in 1997, was a member of Monkstown Golf Club during the 1970s. He had significant success as an amateur, winning the Irish Close Championship in 1985 and representing Ireland at international level. He was granted honorary membership of Monkstown for 1986 in recognition of his success.

By 1990 Monkstown Golf Club had come through a difficult financial period, emerging with a course and facilities that were undergoing constant improvement. As the club entered the decades surrounding the millenium, members faced new challenges and developments as their club continued to expand.

Menu for supper on the occasion of the club hosting the Carrolls' Mixed Foursomes, September 1985.

A la Carte

At the Tee
Chicken Liver Pate
Seafood Pate

On the Fairway
Punched Salmon
Roast Turkey
Smoked Ham
Solein of Beef
Roast Pork
Selection of Salads

On the Green
Pavina Trifle

At the 19th
Coffees, Liqueurs & Irish Coffees

Semi-finalists in the 1980 Carroll's Irish Golf Club Mixed Foursomes were (left to right, front): Ada O'Sullivan, Marion O'Sullivan, Madeleine Corbett, Audrey Bradley, Michael Murphy, Rita Murray, Betty Murphy, Vera O'Byrne and Mary Quane. Back: Bill Menton (G.U.I.), Paddy O'Flynn, Andy McNamara, Sean Cuffe, Ray O'Mahony, Pat O'Keeffe, Martin Healy, Tom Taylor, P. Rossi (Carrolls) and Joe Furlong (G.U.I.).

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Pierce Purcell Shield, Munster Finalists, 1985. Left to right, front: Sean Collins, John Field, Richard O'Dell, Walter Morrissey, Jim Cogan (Captain), Paddy Barry (President), Harry Dowling (Team Manager), Barry Aherne and John Connell. Back: Frank Murphy, P.J. Meade, Maurice Kelly, Donal Gallagher, Brendan Mulcahy, John Keane, Frank O'Shea, Phil O'Sullivan, Noel Walsh and Peter Curley.



The Monkstown team, Munster finalists in the Irish Junior Cup, 1985. Left to right, front: John Foster, Jim Cogan (Captain), John Byrne (Team Captain), Paddy Barry (President) and Tom Morrissey. Back: Denis O'Sullivan, John Hayes, Sars Smith, Tony Boyle, Dave Coen, Vincent Farr and Myles Barry.



Munster winners in the Irish Junior Cup competition, 1986. Left to right, front: Barry Collins (Team Manager), Maurice Kelly (President), Finbar Neenan (Captain) and Sars Smith. Back: Denis O'Sullivan, Dick Dunlea, Dick Nolan, Miles Barry, Steve Guinnane, Dave Coen and (inset) Pat O'Keeffe.



Utmost Trophy winners, 1987. Left to right, front: Denis O'Keeffe, David Murphy (President), Paddy O'Flynn (Team Captain), Barry O'Shea (Captain), Michael Coppinger. Back: Michael Carroll, Bill Britton, Clem Hallinan, Michael Corbett and Jim Kennedy.

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Monkstown, winners of the Summer Shield in 1987. Left to right, front: Barry Aherne, Michael Byrne, Barry O'Shea (Captain), David Murphy (President and Team Captain), Robin Hanna and Donal Gallagher. Back: Finbar Neenan, Peter Barry, Brendan Mulcahy, Dermot Murnaghan and Peter Curley.

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Past Presidents and Captains, 1987. Left to right, front: Paddy O'Flynn, Ottie Downey, Joe Mangan, Kevin Walsh, Pat Clayton, Barry O'Shea, David Murphy, Billy Andrews, Harry Dale, John Barry, Billy Newton, Michael Coppinger, Eddie O'Sullivan. Centre: Liam Coughlan (sponsor), Phil O'Sullivan, Charlie Hill, Michael Corbett, Tom Jackson, Malachy McAuliffe, Barry Collins, Tom Gately, Michael O'Callaghan, John O'Reilly, Eddie Murphy, Michael Murphy, Denis O'Sullivan, John Barry. Back: Paddy Barry, Tom Egan, Maurice Kelly, Derry Williams, Jack O'Byrne, Jim Cogan, Walter O'Byrne, Finbar Neenan, Tom Carey, Mossie Buckley, Ray Murray, Peter Thompson, Tom Busteed, Donal McDonnell and Billy Browne.







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Celebrations by Monkstown players and supporters following the team's victory in the 1995 Jimmy Bruen Shield.

CHAPTER 5

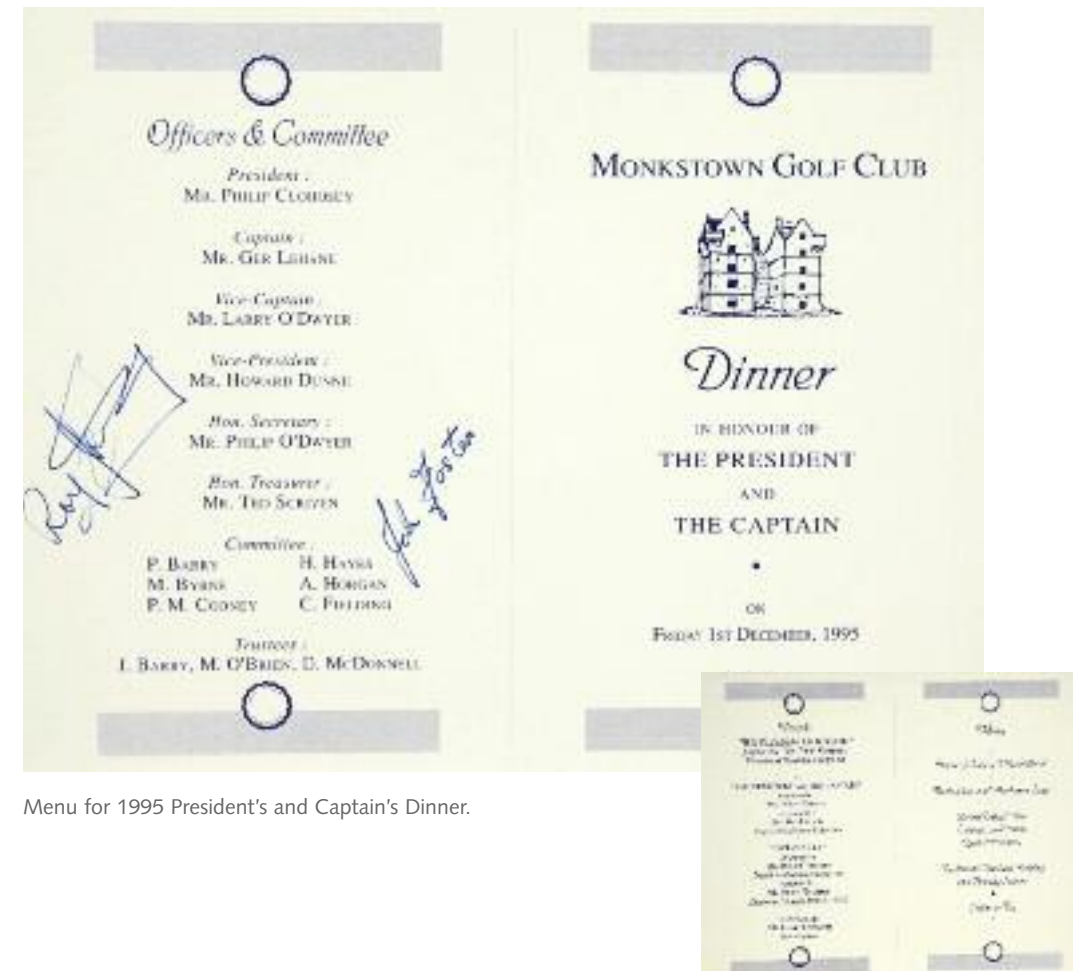
ACROSS THE MILLENNIUM 1990-2007

The final decade of the twentieth century saw Monkstown Golf Club begin a period of further improvements both on the course and in the facilities provided for members. From the mid-1990s the expansion in the Irish economy meant that new resources were available to the club and these allowed investment in many areas of club life.

In terms of social life, the friendly atmosphere that had been established from the early years continued to be a feature of the club. Members could avail of year-round catering and bar facilities as well as enjoying the special events organised at key times. These included the Captain's Night and Lady Captain's Night, Christmas and New Year celebrations and dinners arranged for special occasions. The Christmas events included the opening of the clubhouse around lunch time on Christmas Day when not only members, but also local people, were welcomed to the club. Martha O'Connell, who worked in the club since 1972, recalled that often the bar would be quiet at first, but by 12.30 or so the place would be filled. The festive atmosphere contributed much to the celebrations of Christmas in the area.

Another annual event that continued into the 1990s and 2000s was the cabaret show organised by lady members. As has been seen, the show began to grow and develop in the 1980s when it was one of the highlights of the club year. This continued over the following decades with the show being performed at both the Lady Captain's dinner and the 'Best of Monkstown' evening. The lady captain continued to be the focus of the shows, with topical themes being selected (or devised!) relating to her.

Maria Broderick, one of the key organisers of the show for many years, recalled: "Every year the show was tailor-made to suit the Lady Captain. When Harriet Ferriss [a Scottish doctor] was Lady Captain [in 2001] we had a brilliant Scottish night with a bit of 'doctoring' and medicine thrown in. 'The Flower of Scotland' was sung many times over the year, even in the car park late at night! Ada O'Sullivan was another very easy captain to cater for [in 2000]. Ada, as well as being a scratch golfer, was captain of the Curtis Cup and Vagliano Trophy teams, director of the family electrical



Menu for 1995 President's and Captain's Dinner.

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Above: Taking part in the ladies' show, January 1999, were (left to right, front) Harriet Ferriss, Marie Moran, Lisa Neenan Meagher and (back) Martina Lehane, Pat Neenan and Maria Broderick.

Above: 'The convicts with the moll', part of the January 2000 ladies' show. Left to right: Anne O'Gorman, Bernice Phelan, Maria Broderick, Lisa Neenan and Harriet Ferriss.

Above: Ladies' cabaret show, January 1991. Left to right: Marian Hill, Eileen Tobin, Breeda Slye, Anne O'Gorman, Martina Lehane, Aine Murphy and Clare Quinn.

Below: Colourful participants in the ladies' cabaret show, 2003. Left to right, front: Cora Lane, Marie Healy, Pat Neenan and Fifi Lauhoff. Back: Maria Broderick, Anne O'Gorman, Pat Cooney, Maria Doorley and Lisa Neenan.



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Above: A nautical theme at the 1992 cabaret show with participants (left to right, front) Breda Slye, Joan Barron, Deirdre Dolan, (back) Anne O'Gorman, Martina Lehane, Maria Broderick, Cora Lane, Eileen Tobin, Áine Murphy and Jean Maher.

Below: Some of the great Monkstown male entertainers featured as The Seven Dwarfs. Left to right: Finbar Gilligan, Noel McCarthy, Mark Elmes, Maurice Healy, P.M. Cooney, John Cunningham and Teddy Johnson.



Above: Pictured at the 1993 show were (left to right) Deirdre Dolan, Anne O' Gorman, Eileen Tobin, Joan Barron, Breda Slye, Mary Maxwell (Lady Captain), Áine Murphy, Liz Flannery, Noreen Kelly and Marie Moran.

Below: A Scottish flavour for the 2001 show. Left to right: Marie Healy, Maria Broderick, Pat Cooney, Maura Breathnach, Liz Healy, Martina Lehane, Ada O' Sullivan, Ros O' Rourke, Maria Doorley, Catherine Cronin, Maura Long, Fifi Lauhoff, Mary Rea , Ger O' Riordan, Cora Lane and Catherine Richardson.



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BATT MURPHY

Batt Murphy, professional at the club since 1974. Born next to Muskerry Golf Club, he was assistant at that club and worked at Castletroy and Kilkenny clubs before being appointed to Monkstown. He has contributed much to the development of Monkstown Golf Club and his coaching skills have been appreciated by generations of golfers. Amongst the many players who have benefitted from his teaching are well known golfer John McHenry and former member Denis O'Sullivan who is a successful player on the professional European Seniors tour. Batt Murphy has also coached other prominent professionals, including Joey Purcell (Portmarnock), Brendan McDaid (Rathsallagh) and Kevin Morris (Fota Island). During the 1980s he coached the Danish Youths International Team. For a period, he also provided tuition for the Munster Girls Inter Provincial Team, some of whom later distinguished themselves at a higher level.

Batt Murphy had a successful playing career for many years. He had particular success in Pro Ams and also competed in the professional Dunlop tournaments and match play competitions sponsored by Carrolls. In 1974 he won the putting professional championship in Hermitage following a play off with

Christy O'Connor (senior) and Eddie Polland. He also played particularly well in the 1983 Irish Professional Championship held in Woodbrook, finishing in fifth place.

After the mid-1980s family responsibilities meant that he had less time to play professionally, but he has continued to support and encourage golfers of all ages. He has seen many changes in the club and in golf in general. In 2008 he reflected "when I look at my life, I have been very lucky that I was involved with golf – a sport that I have enjoyed all my life. ... I have no regrets. I enjoy coming here all the time. It's been a great life for me."



Irish Junior Foursomes Munster Champions and Irish Finalists, 1990. Left to right: Kevin Coakley, Darren Hanna, Frank Murphy (Captain), Jim Long (Team Captain and Junior Officer), Donal McCarthy (President), John O'Sullivan, Peter O'Flynn and Stuart Roche.

business and a member of a very well known Monkstown golfing family. The title of her show was 'Ada's Electricks'. We are always invited by the Captain of the day to put the show on for members and friends – that's when the real fun starts. Some of the very talented men (who often become ladies) are invited to perform. Maurice Healy is the star. He can play the piano, sing, conduct, act, has a great pair of legs in tights and he has a great partner in P.M. Cooney. Another great duo were Aine Murphy and Noreen Kelly doing 'Pidgie and Josie'. We've had many great singers throughout the years and one of the most popular is Marie McCarthy 'chanteuse supreme'." / These and other talented club members contributed much to the shows over the years.

Catering and bar staff continued to provide services in the clubhouse over this period,

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Winners of the Munster Minor League, 1994. Left to right, front: Jillian Harris, Ann Murphy (Team Manager), Noreen Buckley (Lady Captain) and Eileen Blake. Back: Rita Coakley, Marion Hill, Ann Jackson, Eileen Cashin and Ena Morrison.



Ticket for President's and Captain's Dinner, 1995.

supplemented by temporary staff for big functions. The advent of computers and other technology assisted in the operating of this aspect of club life, although the book system introduced by Billy Locke in the 1970s continued to be maintained as a back-up. Martha O'Connell saw some changes during her time working in the bar – a remarkable thirty-six years. She recalled that by the early 2000s there was a much greater range of beers available, but that the old favourites of Beamish, Murphy's and Guinness products continued to be popular. One

noticeable change was the increasing popularity of wine with members. The bar staff always tried to ensure that both members and visitors were well served. Some members even had a special glass reserved for their use and bar staff often knew the favourite drink of certain members. This kind of personal service added to the friendliness of the club.

During this period Batt Murphy continued as professional in the club and his skills and expertise were available to members. Having worked in the club since 1974, he was closely involved with the improvements on the course over the years. He helped many of the talented golfers that were involved in the club since the 1970s and continually stressed the importance of psychology in the game of golf. Batt Murphy's time at Monkstown spanned an era when the role of the professional changed greatly. When he started as an assistant professional in the 1960s, he served a five year apprenticeship which mainly concentrated on teaching, repairing clubs and running a shop. In contrast, the person wishing to be a professional in the twenty-first century took a very different route, where diplomas, degrees and professional exams were all part of the training. Course work included learning about all aspects of the game, including teaching, merchandising and management.² As has been noted, the status of the professional in general also changed over this period and by the early twenty-first century professional golf had achieved very high levels

of publicity and popularity.

Meanwhile, members continued to enjoy their games of golf and club teams performed well in many local and regional competitions. The men's teams had some success in the Irish Junior Cup, winning the Munster section in 1996 with a team comprising Myles Barry, Dick Dunlea, Brian Morrissey, Noel Millar, Jonathan O'Flynn, Andrew Fitzgerald, Martin Daly and M. O'Sullivan. Four years later they were again Munster champions and All-Ireland finalists. On this occasion the team consisted of Martin Daly, Stuart Roche, John Hayes, Andrew Fitzgerald, John Herbert, Roy Downey, Jim Long and Noel Millar. Monkstown teams also performed well in Cork Senior and Cork Junior Leagues. They won the Senior League in 1996 and had several victories in the Junior League, including 'three-in-a-row' titles in 1995, 1996 and 1997 and another in 2002. The club also continued to contest the Pierce Purcell Shield competitions over the years, reaching the Munster finals in 2007. Other competitions included the Utmost, Topmost and Summer Shield events in which the club teams often performed well. For example, the Utmost trophy was won in 1996 and 2007. Monkstown were also victorious in the Topmost League in 2004 and 2007.

Perhaps the greatest team achievement in this period was the success of the Monkstown team in the Jimmy Bruen Shield in 1995. As has been seen, the club won the Munster section of that competition in its inaugural year in 1978. However,

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Presidents' and Captains' Dinner at Monkstown Golf Club, 1991.

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Officers and committee of Monkstown Golf Club in 1995. Left to right, front: Philip O'Dwyer, Larry O'Dwyer, Ger Lehane (Captain), Philip Clohosey (President), Howard Dunne and Ted Scriven. Back: P.M. Cooney, Michael Byrne, Charlie Fielding, Harling Hayes, Donal McDonnell, Aidan Horgan, Michael O'Brien, Paddy Barry and Tony Finn.

Monkstown had never actually won the Shield and in fact had not achieved a victory in a national competition since the Barton Shield success back in 1933. Some members felt that it was time that a national title should again come to the club and in 1995 a team was put together that set out to achieve that aim in the Jimmy Bruen Shield competition.

John Byrne was asked to manage the Jimmy Bruen team in the summer of 1994 and he quickly set about the task. He already was an experienced manager, having first managed juniors in 1985 and subsequently managed other club teams. In the autumn

of 1994 he invited Jim O'Brien and Martin Walsh to pick a panel of players for the team, focussing on those with handicaps between 6 and 12. Various players were selected and the process began to find those who were best paired together and who were playing well. By the new year there were ten teams of two players and, after some time, this was reduced to the eight teams. The sixteen players, ranging in age from 17 to 60, made a good team and blended well together. The input of club professional Batt Murphy was important, as was the support and encouragement received from other club members.

There was enormous commitment from the manager and players as they began a gruelling process of practice matches, training and competitions. The preparation involved huge dedication by the players and many sacrifices by their families. The hard work paid off as the team defeated clubs such as East Cork, Mallow, Doneraile, Muskerry, Douglas, Charleville and West Waterford during the summer of 1995. Every match was carefully planned and the results equally carefully analysed. So it was that members of the Monkstown team found themselves travelling to the other end of the country to compete in the

semi-finals and finals at Portstewart Golf Club in September. The team defeated Headfort in the semi-final and faced North West in the final. It proved to be a test of nerves as the first two Monkstown pairs lost their matches. The final three pairs, however, won their contests and the whole team was feted by many supporters once the result was known. It was a wonderful achievement by the manager John Byrne and all of the team members: Peter Aherne, Finbarr Coakley, Dick Dunlea, Roy Downey, Andrew Fitzgerald, John Foster, John Hayes, Donal McCarthy, Michael McSweeney, Noel Millar, Brian Morrissey,

Maura Breathnach, Irish Seniors International, 2004.



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Officers and committee of Monkstown Golf Club, 1996. Left to right, front: Ted Scriven, Brian Dunphy, Larry O'Dwyer (Captain), Howard Dunne (President), Bernie Kilbride, Philip O'Dwyer. Back: Michael Byrne, John Cohalan, Michael O'Brien, Paddy Barry, John Barry, Jim Long, Ger Lehane, Val Griffin, Donal McDonnell and Pat Quigley.



Logo and signatures from the 2004 Curtis Cup competition. Signatures include one from Ada O'Sullivan of Monkstown Golf Club, captain of the Great Britain and Ireland team.

Jim O'Brien, Michael O'Sullivan, Paddy O'Sullivan, Sars Smith and Martin Walsh. Club captain, Ger Lehane, joined with the president, Philip Clohosey, in congratulating the team and a special victory celebration was arranged for 27th October when tribute was paid to all involved.

Ladies' teams continued to compete regularly in competitions in the 1990s and early 2000s. In 1994 they were victorious in the Munster Minor League and in 1999 won the Southern District Junior Cup. Two years later they won the I.L.G.U. Junior League. The ladies also performed well in Munster Junior Cup competitions in 1996 and 2000 when they were victorious.

Monkstown won the Mixed Most competition in 2001 and were Munster winners of the Irish Mixed Foursomes in 2007. The 2007 team won all matches in the first four rounds at Harbour Point Golf Club and defeated Lee Valley in Cork Golf Club in the area final. In the Munster final the Monkstown team were victorious over the home side Mallow when Carol Murphy and Sean Cuffe won on the 20th. In the semi-finals in Athlone Golf Club, Monkstown were defeated by the eventual winners, K Club.

Marie Moran, Irish Seniors Ladies Close Champion.



The Ladies' branch were particularly proud of the achievements of Marie Moran who was Irish Seniors Ladies' Close Champion in 1998. She won the Marie Lyster Cup in the competition at Athlone in September of that year. Pride also was taken in the achievements of Maura Breathnach who, amongst other successes, was an Irish seniors international in 2005. The club hosted a number of important competitions and events during this period, including Munster and All-Ireland finals of the Ladies' Senior Cup in 1996 and the Irish Mixed Foursomes Challenge Cup in 2005.

Ada O'Sullivan continued to demonstrate her skills and determination in a series of successes both nationally and internationally. She played competitively during the early 1990s, being Irish senior international 1992-1997 and winning the 1995 European Masters strokeplay championship in Sotogrande in Spain. That was a major achievement and she continued to compete at many events until 1997 when she decided to take a break. As with so many amateur players, work commitments began

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Curtis Cup Teams from the United States of America and Great Britain and Ireland, 2006. Ada O'Sullivan was captain of the Great Britain and Ireland team.

to demand attention and she focussed more on the family's domestic appliances business in Cork.

In 1999 Ada O'Sullivan's golfing career began to turn more towards a leadership role as captain to international teams. In that year she was captain of the Ireland under 18 team, a role that she repeated in the following year. In 2002 she was Captain of the Irish Junior under 21 European team. In the same year she was offered the position of

captain of the Great Britain and Ireland team that played at the World Cup in Malaysia. Her background as a professional business person meant that she brought a high level of organisation to her role as captain. She wrote a critical but constructive report of the Ladies' Golf Union, pointing out that it needed to improve in many aspects of its organisation of international teams. Her report was discussed and over the following years, great improvements were made.

Ada O'Sullivan was invited by the Ladies' Golf Union to captain the teams for the Vagliano Trophy in 2003 and the Curtis Cup in 2004. Both competitions involved a combined Britain and Ireland team competing against the continent of Europe for the Vagliano Trophy and against America for the Curtis Cup. Both of these are highly prestigious competitions and Ada O'Sullivan's selection as captain was a tribute to her skills and expertise.

With Fiona Norris as team manager, Ada O'Sullivan soon began preparations for the Vagliano Trophy. For the first time it was being played in Ireland, at Baltray in County Louth. It had not been won by Britain and Ireland for ten years and so there was a determination to succeed in July 2003. Following careful preparation, the Britain and Ireland team showed their skills and succeeded in winning the trophy. Ada O'Sullivan recalled that the competition came down to the last shot on the last green – "it was absolutely brilliant".³

The following year saw Curtis Cup competition at Formby in England. Unfortunately, there was not to be a repeat of the Vagliano success and the American team were victorious. Ada O'Sullivan was asked to stay on as captain for a further two years and so, together with Fiona Norris, she led Britain and Ireland teams to further Vagliano and Curtis Cup contests. The 2005 Vagliano competition was held at Chantilly just outside Paris and proved to be a tough battle between the teams. The players were very closely matched, but the Britain and Ireland team won on the final day by a two point margin. Great celebrations ensued, not least from many Monkstown Golf Club members who were keen supporters of Ada O'Sullivan and her team. Club members recalled that the French were stunned by the number of supporters that travelled and by the Cork songs

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Some of the large crowd, including many Monkstown supporters, at the presentation ceremony following the Monkstown team's victory in the Jimmy Bruen Shield championship in Portstewart, 1995. Inset: ticket for the Victory Celebration at Monkstown Golf Club on 27th October 1995.



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National winners of the Jimmy Bruen Shield, 1995. Left to right, front: Jim O'Brien, Finbarr Coakley, Noel Millar, Ger Lehane (Captain), John Byrne (Team Manager), Philip Clohosey (President), John Foster, Sars Smith and Donal McCarthy. Back: Dick Dunlea, John Hayes, Brian Morrissey, Michael O'Sullivan, Paddy O'Sullivan, Peter Aherne, Martin Walsh, Michael McSweeney, Roy Downey and Andrew Fitzgerald.

sung to celebrate the occasion! Club members had also supported the team in Baltray at the previous Vagliano contest and at Formby for the 2004 Curtis Cup.

In 2006 Ada O'Sullivan was captain of the Curtis Cup team that travelled to America to compete at Bandon Dunes, Oregon in late July. It was a difficult contest and despite a late rally, the Britain and Ireland team lost the contest. Ada O'Sullivan's success in her role as captain was clear and she was again invited to stay on for a further two years. However, she reluctantly declined as she could not give it the level of commitment it deserved. Throughout this time Monkstown Golf Club members gave her unstinting support and encouragement and were understandably proud of her achievements.

Another club member was making a significant impact on golf in Ireland during this

period. John O'Reilly, as has been seen, was active in the GUI from 1969 and was chairman of the Munster branch from 1988 until 1992. The next year he was President Elect of the GUI, becoming President in 1994. As president he followed in the footsteps of other Cork men such as Commander George Crosbie, Redmond Simcox, Pat Foley and Frank Bowen. John O'Reilly had a busy year as president, travelling around the country promoting the game of golf. A special reception was held for him at Monkstown Golf Club to honour his achievement and he was made life honorary member. The club was the venue for a meeting of the GUI Central Committee in October 1994.

John O'Reilly's involvement with the GUI also led to an association with golf on a wider scale. From 1991 until 1995 he was a member of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club's Amateur Status Committee. At about the same time (1990-1994) he served on the committee of the Council of National Golf Unions (CONGU), becoming chairman in 1994. He also served as director of the Sports Turf Research Institute which was based in England.

Through all of these links, John O'Reilly was very aware of developments in the game in Ireland and further afield. In Ireland the growth in the popularity of golf continued and was particularly

marked from the later 1990s when the improved economy meant that people had more disposable income. The growth in golf clubs in the late 20th century was significant: John O'Reilly recalled that there were about 200 clubs in Ireland when he became involved with golf in the late 1960s and this figure had exceeded 400 by the early 2000s. The increased enthusiasm for golf was initially fuelled by television coverage of events and the visits of golfing heroes to key venues. These golfing experts increasingly were professionals and this period saw the further advance of the professional game, with many successful amateurs moving into the field relatively quickly. The game also was popularised in Ireland by the growth in travel whereby more and more Irish people visited and played at golf courses abroad. This brought new enthusiasm

John O'Reilly,



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Munster winners of the Irish Junior Cup in 1996 were the Monkstown team of (left to right, front) Larry O'Dwyer (Captain), Joe Archer (Team Manager), Howard Dunne (President) and Martin Daly. Back: Brian Morrissey, Dick Dunlea, Noel Millar, Miles Barry, Jonathan O'Flynn and Andrew Fitzgerald. M. O'Sullivan was also on the team.

for the game, but also raised expectations for golf courses, including that at Monkstown.

John O'Reilly served as course chairman at Monkstown during the early 2000s and he



Monkstown, winners of the Utmost Trophy, 1996. Left to right, front: Paddy O'Flynn, Larry O'Dwyer (Captain), Howard Dunne (President) and Frank Hayes. Back: Tim Murphy, Noel Dalton, John Mulhare, Tom Busteed, Matt O'Brien and Jim Kavanagh.

and others were very aware of the need to improve aspects of the course itself. Despite the best efforts of members and staff, by 1990 the course continued to have difficult sections. These particularly related to the newer holes on the Parkgariffe lands where drainage remained an ongoing problem. Martin Travers was appointed as greenkeeper in 1989. He recalled that when he came from Scotland for his interview on St.

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Winners of Cork Senior League, 1996. Left to right, front: John O'Reilly, Larry O'Dwyer (Captain), Fergus Moriarty (Team Manager), Howard Dunne (President) and Jim O'Brien. Back: Charlie Cooney, John Hayes, Martin Walsh, John Herbert, John Foster, Pat Maher, Jim Kelly.

Patrick's Day, the course had not been open one day since Christmas because it was so wet. At that time the staff were working with limited and aging equipment so that the course needed urgent attention. Not long after his appointment, Martin Travers was involved in getting the course ready for a forthcoming Ladies' Munster Final. He



Topmost League Winners, 1997. Left to right, front: Liam Fitzpatrick, Aidan Horgan (Team Manager), Brian Dunphy (Captain), Jim Farrell and Greg Butler. Back: Michael Byrne, Maurice McGrath, John Daly, J.P. O'Sullivan, Maurice Healy and (inset) Peter Purcell.

remembered members coming to the course in the evenings and helping to reshape the bunkers and carrying out other urgent tasks. It was reminiscent of earlier years when members worked on the course, planting, raking, moving soil and generally assisting with maintenance.

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'Three-in-a row' Junior League Winners, 1997. Left to right, front: Paddy Barry, P.M. Cooney (Team Manager), Brian Dunphy (Captain), Billy Webster and Andy McNamara. Back: Mick Quane, Dino Creegan, Harling Hayes, Arthur O'Donoghue and Con McGowan. Insets: Peter Aherne, John Beale and Michael Casey.

Everyone recognised that the drainage system around the greens needed upgrading and in the early 1990s a project was begun to put in a new irrigation system. This, replacing the scheme which had been installed in the 1970s, resulted in immediate improvements. A sanding programme was put in place, using special sand from Wexford that allowed for good drainage. Along with these measures, expertise was



Winners of Youths Foursomes Inter-Club Competition, 1999. Left to right: Brian O'Connor, David Coen, Philip O'Dwyer (Captain), Donal McDonnell, Ray Downey and Andrew Fitzgerald (Team Manager).

sought to identify areas on the course that were preventing natural drainage. An impermeable layer was discovered at about 25 cm below the surface in some places and this prevented the water escaping. A machine was used to break up the relevant sections, thus allowing improved run-off in the future.

As well as drainage works, the club also carried out remedial work on trees on the course. The conifers planted on the Parkgariffe lands in the 1960s and 1970s were important to give the course definition and to screen off areas. However, some of them had grown too big and needed attention. The fine mature trees, mainly on the older part of the course, also required regular care. As well as these maintenance issues, many new trees were planted in the 1990s and early 2000s: mainly Scots Pine, Canadian Pine, oak, beech and ash.

These improvement works on the course were accompanied by an investment in new equipment, particularly in the early 2000s. There was a requirement for ongoing,

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Winners of the Junior Cup, 1999. Left to right: Marie Moran (Lady Captain), Joan Clohosey, Elizabeth Healy, Brenda O'Riain and Philip O'Dwyer (Captain).

sustained investment in this area to ensure that the best technology was available to care for the course. In addition, the good work of Martin Travers and other course staff was augmented by advice from experts when required. This was part of a move towards a professional approach to course management that marked this period. This was necessary in order to fulfil the needs of members to have the best possible course available to them, at all times of the year. By the early twenty-first century, the course was busier than it ever had been, as members enjoyed golf virtually all the year round. Given the vagaries of the Irish climate, it required considerable expertise and investment to ensure that these demands were met. The work was helped by the huge advances in technology, research and greenkeeping expertise in the

Irish Junior Cup Munster Champions and All-Ireland Finalists, 2000. Left to right, front: Howard Dunne (Assistant Manager), Sarsfield Smith (Manager), Charlie Fielding (President), Dan O'Sullivan (Captain) and Noel Millar. Back: Stuart Roche, Martin Daly, John Herbert, Roy Downey, Andrew Fitzgerald, John Hayes and Jim Long.

late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

Despite the improvements in many areas of course management, the challenges of keeping a course in good condition remained. By the early 2000s environmental issues were significant in day-to-day management. The use of pesticides and fungicides was increasingly regulated, with many older chemicals banned in the interests of environmental health. Similarly, health and safety regulations led to investment in equipment and training for all of those involved in work at the club.

These issues put increasing pressures on the management structure of the club from the 1990s. Members were aware of this and by the early 2000s



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

recognised that a more defined system needed to be put in place. The annual change in the position of club president, captain and lady captain meant that those office holders had only twelve months to implement policies. While this often worked very well, it meant that it was difficult to make long-term decisions at a time when ongoing investment was an essential part of club life. The expansion in the number of members, the need to provide high quality facilities for these members all year round

Winners of the Cork Junior League, 2002. Left to right, front: P.M. Cooney, Jim Long (Captain), Denis O'Sullivan (Team Manager) and Frank O'Leary. Back: Larry O'Dwyer, Larry O'Mahony, Denis Harrington, Tom Morrissey, Andy McNamara, John Beale, Pat Kelleher and Greg Barrett with (inset) Dick Dunlea (President).



and the increasing regulations involving everything from employment law to health and safety meant that it was unreasonable to expect volunteers to carry all of the workload and responsibility involved under the existing system. Thus in 2002 a new management committee was established to look after the facilities in the club. The organisation of golfing, teams and the social side of club life remained with the president, captain and lady captain, but responsibilities for other aspects of the club, such as equipment, long-term financial planning and the clubhouse, moved to the management committee.

This was a major change in club structures, but was something that occurred in many other clubs at around the same time. They faced similar challenges in the rapidly changing Ireland of the early 21st century and turned to new systems of governance to ensure that their clubs continued to serve their members well.

In Monkstown, the first chairman of the management committee was Aidan Horgan. He held this post for three years and was succeeded by Brendan Mulcahy. Both played a major part in ensuring that the transition to the new structure went ahead smoothly. The new committee had much to do, but were fortunate in that the economic boom of the late 1990s and early 2000s ensured that there were resources available to tackle some of the major issues. The members were supportive of the committee and generous when funds were being raised to carry out different projects.

One of the first tasks was to appoint a general manager/ secretary and Hilary Madden took up this position in 2002. He had a defined role within the club, implementing the decisions of the committee of management. Dealing with the many complicated aspects of administration, liaison with the chairman of the management committee, the president, captain and lady captain, employment issues, health and safety and day-to-day management, his role was a far cry from the voluntary work of the club secretaries during the early years of the club. His role and the whole structure of club management were incorporated into the updated constitution drawn up by the management committee.

An early objective of the committee was to increase investment in the course as outlined above. This involved major expenditure, so that careful long-term financial planning was essential. The purchase of equipment was particularly expensive, yet was essential to the ongoing and efficient maintenance of the course.

Another major issue at this time was that of equality legislation relating to the status of women within golf clubs. This was a subject that faced all golf

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Mixed Most Team, winners 2001. Left to right, front: Frank Murphy (President), Harriet Ferriss (Lady Captain), Michael Byrne (Team Manager), Joan Clohosey (Team Manager), Mark O'Sullivan (Captain) and John Field. Back: John Ryan, Rita Murray, Harling Hayes, Noreen Tighe, Liz Gibbons, Billy Buckley, Pat Dowling and John O'Hare. Other team members were Carol Dunphy and Paddy Byrne.

clubs and at Monkstown it involved negotiations and discussions with lady members. Ladies had always held a different membership category to men in the club and had not been eligible to become ordinary members. Following meetings, it was agreed in 2002 that lady members were entitled to become ordinary members or else could hold lady associate membership. However, from that date onwards new lady members were obliged to join as full ordinary members.

The clubhouse building became a major project for the management committee in its early years and resulted in a brand new clubhouse by 2006. The decision to build a new structure was not taken lightly and emerged following considerable discussion. The original 1971 clubhouse had served the club well, although it had been built to a limited budget and was estimated to have a life span of about thirty years or so. By

the early 1990s it was showing signs of age and required upgrading and extending to cater for the requirements of both members and staff. At an Extraordinary General Meeting in September 1992 members agreed in principle to embark on work on the clubhouse to a maximum cost of £400,000. This funding was to be raised through offering life and corporate memberships and also by temporarily raising subscription levels. However, the required number of life and corporate memberships was not taken up and the plans were revised in order to keep to a smaller budget. Work on the clubhouse extension was carried out in 1994 and early 1995 with the official opening taking place on 29th June 1995. Tribute was paid to the work of David Gibbons and his sub-committee who oversaw the clubhouse extension.

During the following years club members examined ways to create a general development fund. In 1997, following special meetings, it was agreed to increase the number of ordinary members from 442 to 462, lady associate members from 210 to 225 and junior (including intermediate) members from 85 to 95. Entrance fees were substantially increased and it also was decided to phase out the family membership category.⁴ These changes helped to fund development of the course and clubhouse.

At the Annual General Meeting of 1998 it was pointed out that there were constant repairs and renewals to the clubhouse and that, given the age of the building, these costs would only increase in the future. The following years saw detailed consideration of the future of the clubhouse. One option was to further upgrade and extend the existing building, while another was to build a completely new clubhouse. Following costings, members were faced with a choice of spending €2.8 million on an extension and refurbishment or €4 million on a new clubhouse. A special meeting was held for members at the Carrigaline Court Hotel at which the options were discussed. It was pointed out that whereas keeping the existing clubhouse would cost less in the short term, it faced continued upkeep because of its age. An extension would result in a building with a warren of corridors as the design had to work around the existing structure. There also were key issues, such as disabled access, food hygiene and health and safety, that could not easily be addressed in these plans. A new building would be able to accommodate these and other issues with relative ease and could incorporate the highest standards of design. It would cost more but the club proposed to finance this by an increase in the number of members, eventually agreeing to ninety in total. Funding also was raised through loans from club members and through bank loans. The majority of those at the meeting agreed to proceed with plans for a new clubhouse and so a new and exciting phase of club development began.

This phase was led by the Committee of Management which, between 2002 and 2006,

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The clubhouse that was in use between 1971 and 2006. The section on the extreme left was added in early 1990's.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
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The last function held in the old clubhouse, 2006.
Inset shows the dining room laid out for the event.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Demolition of old clubhouse, 2006

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Work in progress on the new clubhouse and water feature adjoining the 18th green.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Presidents' and Captains' Dinner at Monkstown Golf Club, 2003.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Members of the Monkstown team who won the Topmost competition in 2004. Left to right, front: Jim Farrell, John Cunningham (President), Terry Faul (Team Manager), Steve Guinane (Captain) and Pat O'Donnell. Back: J.P. O'Sullivan, Brendan Mulcahy, Frank Murphy, Colm O'Riain and Maurice Healy.

consisted of Brendan Mulcahy, John O'Reilly, Michael Scannell, Charlie Fielding, Bernard Cronin, Maurice Healy and Aidan Hogan. The committee established a sub-committee to develop the scheme for a new clubhouse. Members of the sub-committee over the years were Brendan Mulcahy, Aidan Horgan, Maurice Healy, John Cunningham, Denis Crowley and Pat McGrath. From 2002 to 2006 the sub-committee worked with the Committee of Management, club officers, trustees and staff to develop the project.

A considerable amount of research was carried out. This included travelling around to other golf clubs where new clubhouses had been constructed and learning about the process from those involved. In particular, members of the sub-committee sought information about how well new clubhouses might work and what practical elements could enhance their use. Experts appointed for the Monkstown clubhouse were brought together, headed by Wilson Architecture, and including the quantity surveyor, builder, engineer and other key people. Together a critical assessment was made of the proposed new clubhouse and how it might be designed and built. One of the most important issues to decide was the location of the new building. Various sites around the club's property were examined in detail, particularly those with a view over the harbour. However there were many practical issues to consider, such as access, and in the end it was felt that the new building should be constructed beside the 1971 clubhouse, on the relief car park.

A wide range of expertise was consulted when the design was being drawn up, including input from the members themselves, from staff, from kitchen consultants and from health and safety experts. An Information Day was held for members when the architects were present and members could talk to them. As the plans began to emerge, the design was further scrutinised. Some suggestions had to be omitted because of cost or other considerations, while others were developed and expanded. In the end a high quality, 1,400 square metre, two-storey design was agreed and work began in July 2005. Murphy Construction of Carrigtwohill was the main builder and over the following fifteen months the new clubhouse emerged beside the existing building. Once the new structure was completed and fully operational, the old clubhouse was demolished.

The opening of the new building in October 2006 was an important day for the club. A special ceremony on 21st October saw the chairman of the committee of management, Brendan Mulcahy, formally open the new clubhouse. He paid tribute to the many people involved in the project since 2002. He also pointed out that "the successful completion of the building was greatly assisted by many members who

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Group photo at the opening ceremony for the new clubhouse 2006.
Inset left to right: Dan Byrne (Captain), Bernadette Murphy (Lady Captain), Kevin Mulcahy (President), and Brendan Mulcahy (Chairman Committee of Management).

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The new clubhouse with practice greens in the foreground.

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Left to right: Tim O'Brien (Irish Examiner) with Monkstown players Michael Barron, Dermot Barron and Sean O'Mahony who won the Examiner Am-Am in East Clare Golf Club in May 2006. The Barrons were the first father and son combination to be part of the winning team.

because of their trade, profession or special business expertise provided very welcome advice and valuable guidance.”⁵ Brendan Mulcahy explained that the new clubhouse was vested in the trustees, who held all the land and property in trust, and that its management and maintenance was the responsibility of the committee of management. He also recognised “the imperative to ensure that, from today, the special ethos of



Munster finalists in the Pierce Purcell Shield, 2007. Left to right, front: Niall Kennedy, Larry Egan, Bernard Cronin (Captain), J.P. Ryan (Team Manager), Andrew Fitzgerald (Team Manager), Sean Geary (President), Peter Johnson and Carl Toal. Back: Sean O'Mahony, Joe Tighe, Alan Collins, Seamus McGovern, Liam Cronin, Barry Twomey, Alan Geary, Richie Dunlea, Richard Murphy and Jonathan Barriscale. Insets: John Boyle, Darragh Collins, Gavin O'Neill and Trevor Dunne.

Monkstown, the renowned camaraderie and unique atmosphere readily identified in the old building are successfully transferred to the new Clubhouse.”⁶

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Members of the Monkstown team who won the Munster Branch of the Irish Mixed Foursomes, 2007. Left to right, front: Aidan Horgan, Billy Webster (Team Manager), Bernard Cronin (Captain), Catherine Richardson (Lady Captain), Sean Geary (President), Vera O'Byrne, Steve Guinane and Beatrice Hartigan. Back: Donal McDonnell, Ronan Burke, Carol Murphy, Dick Dunlea, Ros O'Rourke, Donal McCarthy, Padraig O'Sullivan, Sean Cuffe, Mary Bergin, Brenda Ó Riain, Ann Duggan, Mary Egan, Pat Murphy, J.P. Ryan, Peter O'Flynn, Andrew Fitzgerald and Denis Richardson.

All of the services were transferred to the new building and staff adjusted to the new facilities. At that time there were two permanent staff in the office, three permanent staff in the bar, together with the general manager/secretary. The offices were located

on the ground floor which also contained a meeting room, fine spacious locker rooms and the professional's shop. The bar was on the first floor and the adjoining dining area could stretch the full length of the building with views across the course. If necessary, the dining area could be reduced in size by sliding doors to create smaller rooms. The dining facilities benefitted from the top quality catering arrangements in the clubhouse. Catering was franchised out to Alan Field and members benefitted from all year round dining facilities.

The building of a new clubhouse was a mark of confidence in the club.



i t
prepared
t o
celebrate
i t s

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Lady Captain's Prize to Juveniles, 1995. Left to right, front: Margaret McCarthy (winner), Maura O'Byrne (Junior Officer), Vera Higgins (Lady Captain), Gillian MacSweeney and Sarah Cooney. Back: Lorna Dowling, Amy Cooney, Ingrid Groeger, Emma Healy, Fiona Coakley and Alison Lehane (runner-up).

The junior section of the club continued to have success in the 1990s and into the new millenium. It nurtured junior boys and girls, many of whom went on to participate in various aspects of club life. They were encouraged to develop their golfing skills to their full potential, whether for competitive play or just to be able to participate in an enjoyable lifelong sport.

Many members contributed much to the success of the junior section over the years, being rewarded by the achievements of the young players. In some cases there were three generations of the same family enjoying golf at Monkstown, including members of the Gately, Grainger, Hayes and O'Byrne families. Father and son participation in competitions was not unusual with, for example, John and Nick Hayes, Tommy and Brendan Morrissey and Jim and Eoghan Long involved in contests.



Above: Long-standing member and former honorary secretary, Tim Murray, on the 3rd fairway with the famous passenger liner QE2 at Ringaskiddy in the background, 1990. One of the highlights of his career was his victory in the Captain's Prize of 1972 with a remarkable score of 46 points stableford.



Right: Three of Monkstown's international players, pictured with the Heineken Cup won by the Munster rugby team in 2006. Left to right: Tom Egan, Ada O' Sullivan and John Kelly, who starred on the winning team.









CHAPTER 6

MONKSTOWN GOLF COURSE

2008



CHAMPIONSHIP COURSE: 5663 METRES, PAR 70
LADIES' COURSE: 4838 METRES, PAR 73

HOLE

1

PAR 3

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

181

167

138

HOPE



HOLE

2

PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

PIMPLES

344

•

330

•

316

HOLE
3
PAR 5

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

513
•
490
•
439

OVER THE HILL



BALDWIN'S LAWN

HOLE
4
PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

230
•
230
•
222

HOLE
5
PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

316
•
286
•
281

AN CNOC MÓR



HOLE
6
PAR 3

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

166
•
158
•
140

THE CASTLE

HOLE
7

PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

284

•
273

•
262

THE DEMESNE





HOLE

8

PAR 4

LADIES PAR 5

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

361

•

347

•

315

DE VESCI

HOLE
9
PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

360
•
344
•
282

OLD FIRST



PERROTT'S SPOUT

HOLE 10 PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

315
•
284
•
258

HOLE

11

PAR 4
LADIES PAR 5

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

344

•
340

•
330

PADDY'S LOOK OUT



HOLE
12
PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

299
•
287
•
261

PARKGARRIFFE

HOLE 13 PAR 3

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

159

•
144

•
124

BRIDIE



HOLE
14
PAR **4**

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

377
•
350
•
281

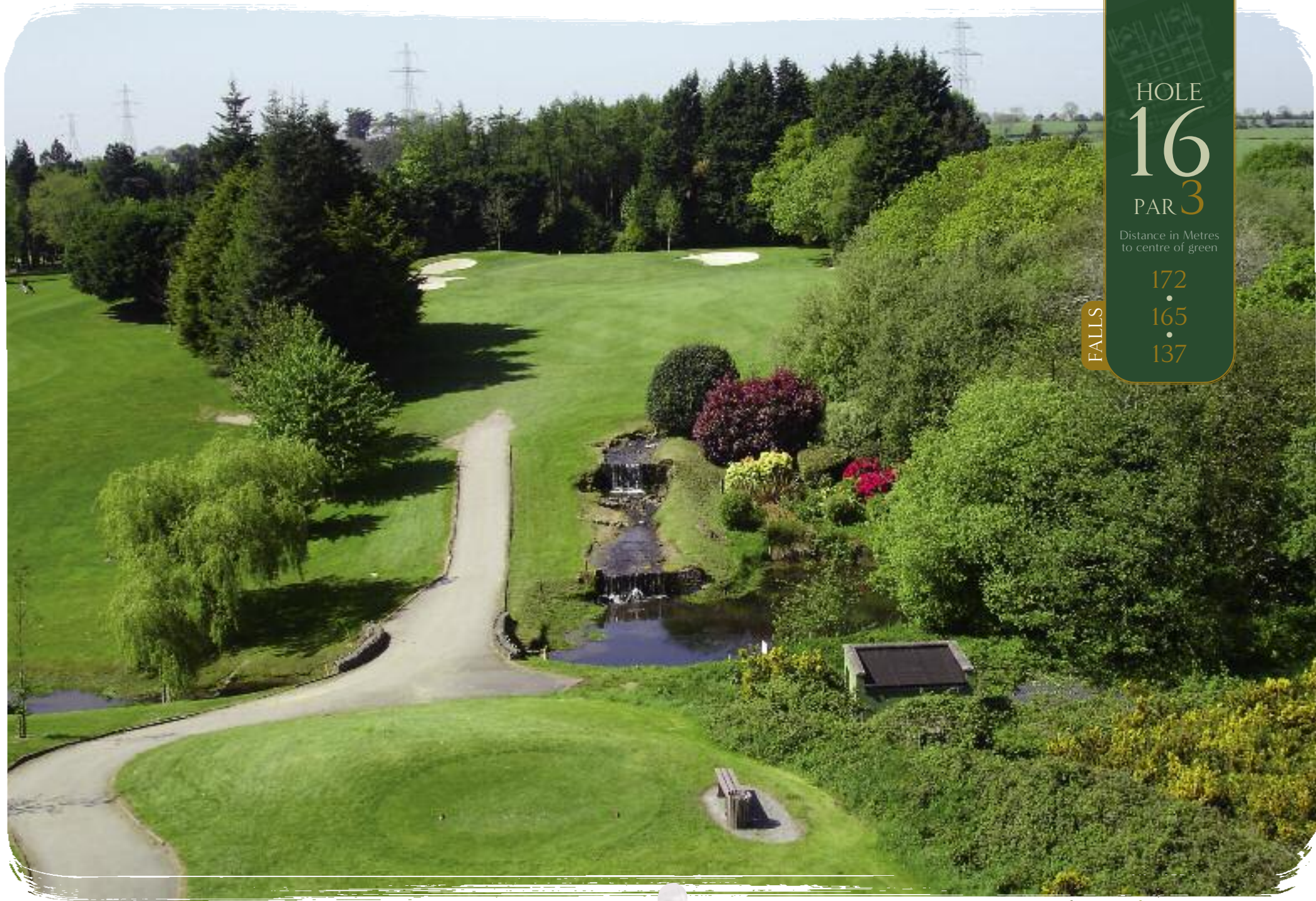
LYNCH'S VIEW

HOLE 15 PAR 5

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

470
•
455
•
432

DECISION



HOLE
16
PAR **3**

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

172
•
165
•
137

FALLS

HOLE
17
PAR **4**
LADIES PAR **5**

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

399
•
370
•
331

RESERVOIR



EIGHT FROM THE GATE

HOLE 18 PAR 4

Distance in Metres
to centre of green

373
•
350
•
289

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Happy group at New Year's Eve Ball, 31st December 2007.

CHAPTER 7 CENTENARY YEAR 2008

Monkstown Golf Club arranged a year of special celebration in 2008 to mark its centenary. The events were planned by a Centenary Committee consisting of Sean Geary (chairman), Eleanor Murnaghan, Philip O'Dwyer, John O'Reilly and Aidan Punch, working with the officers of the year. The celebrations began with the New Year's Eve (31st December 2007) Centenary Ball held in the clubhouse. This was a highly successful function with the centenary year being ushered in by a lone piper joining the merrymakers in a crowded clubhouse via the 18th fairway and footbridge linking the course with the clubhouse.



January also saw the centenary Annual General Meetings of the Ladies' Club (15th January) and of the Men's Club and Joint Club (18th January). At the latter meeting, two new life honorary members were elected: Phil O'Sullivan and Michael Murphy. Both men had contributed much to the club over previous years, with Phil O'Sullivan being particularly active in the Munster Branch of the GUI. Their names were added to the list of life honorary members: in 2008 these were Tom Carey, Tom Egan, Bob Fleury, John O'Reilly and Ada O'Sullivan.

Piper heralding in the centenary year, 1st January 2008.



New Year's Eve Ball, 31st December 2007. Left to right: Larry O'Dwyer (Vice-President), Maurice Healy (Vice-Captain), Brendan Mulcahy (Chairman, Committee of Management), Catherine Richardson (Lady Captain), Bernard Cronin (Captain) and Sean Geary (President).

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Centenary Committee 2008. Left to right, front: Maurice Healy (Captain), Eleanor Murnaghan, Larry O'Dwyer (President). Back: John O'Reilly, Aidan Punch, Sean Geary (Chairman), John Linehan (Social Chairman) and Philip O'Dwyer.

Committee of Management, 2008. Left to right: Charlie Fielding (Course Officer), Maurice Healy (Captain), Brian Dunphy (Chairman), David O'Driscoll (Finance Officer), Maura Long (Lady Captain), Larry O'Dwyer (President) and Colm Ó Riain (House Officer).

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Club Trustees, 2008. Left to right: Liam Coughlan, Michael Murphy and Michael O'Brien.



Men's Committee, 2008. Left to right, seated: Maurice Healy (Captain) and Philip O'Dwyer (President). Standing: John Linehan (Social Chairman), Michael Doorley (Vice-President), Jimmy Farrell (Hon. Secretary), Liam Moran (Competitions Secretary) and Alex Rae (Vice-Captain).

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

Newly elected honorary life member, Phil O'Sullivan (centre), pictured with his daughter Ada (also an honorary life member) and son Mark. All are former officers and have contributed enormously to Monkstown Golf Club.



Ladies' Committee, 2008. Left to right: Sue McGuire, Fifi Lauhoff, Sieglinde Murphy, Ger O'Keeffe, Catherine Cronin (Vice-Captain), Sally Pope, Phil Williams, Nora Flynn (Senior Representative), Carol Murphy and Maura Long (Lady Captain).

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



DRIVE-IN

On 26th January the President's, Captain's and Lady Captain's drive-in was held. The newly-elected officers were Larry O'Dwyer (President), Maurice Healy (Captain) and Maura Long (Lady Captain). Stylishly dressed in period clothing, they arrived at the club in a 1918 'White' car driven by Paddy Guerin. Having played the first hole, the officers, together with a host of members, repaired to the clubhouse for an enjoyable social afternoon.

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DRIVE-IN 2008



Maura Long (Lady Captain).



Maurice Healy (Captain).



Larry O'Dwyer (President).

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Relaxing after Drive-In: Maurice Healy (Captain), Maura Long (Lady Captain) and Larry O'Dwyer (President).

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Group taken at the 100th anniversary celebrations on 11th April 2008 were (left to right) Noel Millar, Liz Millar, Gerald Dowling, Maura Breathnach and Rob Breathnach.

11TH APRIL

The officers led the celebrations on Friday 11th April 2008 when the club commemorated its foundation, exactly one hundred years earlier. Young Eileen Boumphrey's key role in driving the first ball in 1908 was emulated by thirteen year old Kate Murphy who performed a similar task in 2008. She and many members wore period dress, recalling the clothing of the first men and women members of the club. The events on 11th April 2008 began, naturally, with golf. A centenary mixed team event was held during the day and was followed by a special dinner in the evening. A marquee was erected beside the clubhouse, approximately two hundred guests enjoyed their meal and the evening finished with some lively entertainment.

Celebrating 100 years of Monkstown Golf Club, in front of tMonkstown Castle, the original clubhouse, were (left to right) Liz Healy, Richie Dunlea, Sieglinde Murphy and Trevor Dunne.



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Happy group enjoying the 100th anniversary celebrations.



Kate Murphy emulating the first drive-in by young Eileen Boumphrey.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

CENTENARY WEEKEND

A few weeks later a Centenary Weekend was arranged for the 2nd to 5th May. This was a busy time with a good mixture of golf competitions and celebrations. It began on Friday 2nd May with a team event, followed that evening by entertainment in the clubhouse which was much enjoyed. The next day, 3rd May featured a men's fourball competition and a ladies' three ball team event, together with a juvenile competition. Again, that evening saw entertainment in the shape of a formal gala dinner and dance. Since this was such a major event, the clubhouse was not large enough to hold all who attended and so the venue was the Rochestown Park Hotel in nearby Rochestown. The guests of honour at the ball included Micheál Martin (then Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment), Barry Doyle (President of the Golfing Union of Ireland) and Ann Bradshaw (President of the Irish Ladies' Golf Union). This was a great social occasion and a fitting celebration of one hundred years of Monkstown Golf Club.

Ladies' group having fun at centenary ball. Front left to right: Deirdre O' Kelly, Carol Murphy and Catherine Cronin. Back left to right: Leone Levis, Mary Bergin, Barbara Hanan and Liz Healy.



Approximately three hundred guests, all attired in formal evening wear, attended from various parts of Ireland as well as Britain and the United States to enjoy an exceptional night of revelry.

The next day saw a men's singles competition and a ladies' singles competition. The final event of the Centenary Weekend was a men's team event on Monday 5th May.

The club had little time to relax after the four days of celebration as it hosted the Munster finals of the Irish Ladies' Senior Cup between the 9th and 11th May. This was just the first of three major national and provincial finals hosted by the club during its centenary year. On the weekend of 22nd to 24th August the GUI held the Munster finals of the Irish Senior Cup, Barton Shield and Irish Junior Cup at Monkstown. These events involved considerable preparation by both club members and staff and were deemed to be highly successful.

Life honorary member Phil O'Sullivan cutting the centenary cake with young Kate Murphy.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



Pictured at centenary ball.
Clockwise from bottom left:
Kathleen and Tom McCarthy,
Presentation by Lady Captain
Maura Long to Ann Bradshaw,
President Irish ladies Golf
Union. Presentation by Captain
Maurice Healy to Barry Doyle,
President Golfing Union of
Ireland, Nora and Sean Flynn.



CUPS & SHIELDS FINALS

Between the 15th and 20th September the club was host to the national finals of the Irish Senior Cup, Barton Shield, Irish Junior Cup, Pierce Purcell Shield and Jimmy Bruen Shield. This was one of the major highlights of the GUI year and was a week when Monkstown Golf Club was host to visitors and dignitaries from all over Ireland. The Irish Examiner described the scene on 17th September: “at the magnificent Monkstown venue, which occupies a unique setting overlooking Cork harbour, golf enthusiasts witnessed the best of action in glorious weather”.¹ After a dismal summer, the weather was good for the action-packed week which involved a huge amount of preparation and organisation.

The events were made even more exciting for members by the fact that the club’s own team had qualified for the national finals of the Jimmy Bruen Shield. The Monkstown panel consisted of Ken Treacy, Donal McCarthy, Kieran Grainger, Liam O’Tuama, Tommy Morrissey, Brendan Morrissey, Evan O’Mahony, Carl Toal, Nicky Hayes, John Tobin, Niall Kennedy, Billy Egan, Denis Daly, John Barry, Mark Hickey, Dave O’Leary, John Foster, Trevor Maye and Steve Doyle. Father and son duo Dick and Richie Dunlee shared the management duties throughout the year. Interestingly, Donal McCarthy and John Foster were on the winning Monkstown team in the same competition in 1995, as was the aforementioned Dick Dunlea. Having defeated Nenagh to take the Munster title, the Monkstown team played splendidly to beat Strandhill in the semi-finals. There was intense excitement as the host club approached the final against Clontarf Golf Club. Unfortunately, the centenary year did not see the Jimmy Bruen Shield return to Monkstown as the Clontarf team proved too strong. Nonetheless, Monkstown members were very proud of their team’s achievement in reaching the finals of such a major competition.

That these significant golfing events were held at Monkstown was a mark of the confidence that the GUI had in the course and facilities. It was an honour much appreciated by the club: in its members’ centenary newsletter issued in early 2008 the events were outlined and it was noted that “we are most grateful to the Golfing Union of Ireland (GUI) and the Irish Ladies’ Golf Union (ILGU) for acknowledging our centenary by awarding us major national and provincial finals in 2008. These competitions will involve some of the finest male and female amateur talent in the country and it will be enlightening to see how they handle the challenges our course will present. As a number of other prominent clubs are celebrating their centenaries in 2008, among them Delgany, Westport, Portarlinton and Mitchelstown, we are particularly honoured that for the first time in our history Monkstown has been chosen to host the national finals of the ‘Cups and Shields’.”²

The hospitality shown by Monkstown was much appreciated by the visiting teams and large crowds that attended the national finals. The club received many letters of thanks and appreciation, including one from the G.U.I. in which General Secretary, Seamus Smith, praised the members, volunteers, club staff and all those involved in “helping to ensure the huge success of this year’s Cups and Shields Finals. It was a truly memorable occasion, thoroughly enjoyed by all the visiting club teams and their supporters over the four days of competitions and two days of practice in glorious weather, all of which was made possible by the tremendous amount of voluntary work undertaken by the members of the club.”³

Niall Kennedy receiving advice on the line from J.P. Ryan.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The Monkstown panel who featured in the All Ireland final of the Jimmy Bruen Shield, September 2008 (full list of names appears on page 182). Also included is the team manager Dick Dunlea (extreme right) and his son, co-manager Richie Dunlea (fifth from right).

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Lady supporters (left to right) Ros O'Rourke, Phil Thompson, Lily Hesse, Baura Breathnach (seated), Anne O'Rahilly and Maura Long (Lady Captain).

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Vice-Captain Alex Rea in pensive mode at the
Cups and Shields Finals.



Denis Daly



Mark Hickey

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Some of the large attendance at the Cups and Shields Finals.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



A group of Monkstown supporters.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Donal McCarthy



Niall Kennedy (left) and J.P. Ryan crossing footbridge from 11th tee box.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



Cows observing the left handed swing of a competitor in the Cups and Shields Finals.



John Hayes lending fatherly advice to son Nicky.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB
1908-2008



A respite being enjoyed by (left to right) Billy Webster, John Cunningham and Tom Carey.



Keen supporters (left to right) Dan Cronin, Bernard Cronin and P.M. Cooney.

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Enjoying the competition were (left to right) Tommy Morrissey, Howard Dunne and Hilary Madden (General Manager).



Planning the next move were (left to right) Ken Treacy and John Foster, while Liam O'Tuama and Donal McCarthy await the outcome.

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Donal McCarthy putting on the 18th green, to the backdrop of the water feature, marquee and clubhouse.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



The clubhouse of The Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club.

OTTAWA

In 2008 there were many visitors to the club associated with the national and provincial finals, as well as those who attended other events. A significant international group of visitors came from The Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club in Canada with which Monkstown has an affiliation. The connection arose following visits to Ireland by some of the Ottawa club members. Friendships developed and this led to closer links between the two clubs, culminating in reciprocal membership arrangements that were set up in 2008.

Like Monkstown, the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club celebrated its centenary in 2008 and joint events were arranged. In late May a group of Ottawa members visited Monkstown where the first inter-club matches were played. Monkstown proved the victors and members of both teams enjoyed a meal and entertainment in the clubhouse on the evening of 31st May.

A group of Monkstown members then made a reciprocal visit to the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club in late September 2008. There they enjoyed golf, not only at the host club,



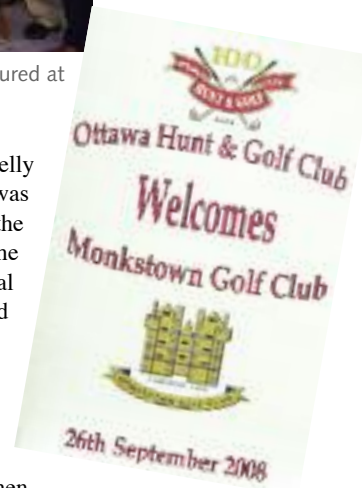
Members of The Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club and of Monkstown Golf Club pictured at Monkstown in May 2008.

but also at picturesque Smugglers' Glen. Irish ambassador, Mr. Declan Kelly and his wife Anne hosted a most enjoyable reception in their home which was attended by the entire Irish group and many from the Hunt Club. During the visit to Ottawa, friendships were renewed and strengthened and the Monkstown members were warmly welcomed and extended exceptional hospitality by their Canadian hosts. Such international contacts contributed much to the celebrations in the centenary year of both clubs.

The Ottawa club was founded primarily as a hunt club in the Canadian capital in 1908. Fox hunting, riding and steeplechasing were the main activities of members between 1908 and the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Closed during the war, the club resumed activities in 1919 when the first game of golf was played over a temporary course. An eighteen hole course, designed by Willie Park (junior) and implemented by John Foley, was opened in 1921. Various improvements were made over the years and in 1959 a new nine hole course was built, known as the 'White Nine'. In the same year the club expanded into the sport of curling. Between 1989 and 1993 the course was reconstructed and rebuilt, resulting in a fine 27 hole course.

Like Monkstown, the Ottawa club has had several clubhouses. The first was opened in 1909 and enlarged in 1929. Tragically, it was destroyed by fire in February 1962 but a new clubhouse was built within a year. Various improvements were made over the years and in 2007 the building underwent a major renovation. Similar to Monkstown, the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club had a very busy 2008 with many special centenary celebrations.

It is envisaged that this new relationship will continue into the future and that reciprocal visits will be arranged on a regular basis.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

CENTENARY INVITATION WEEK

The club held a Centenary Invitation Week of golfing events between 30th June and 5th July. It began on Monday 30th with an open seniors' event, while a ladies' competition was held on the following day. Wednesday 2nd July saw an invitation singles' event, with an open team event being held on Thursday. A juvenile competition was arranged for Friday together with an open mixed competition. The next day saw an invitation fourball and the Centenary Week ended with a dinner served, in two sittings, to 350 guests. Once again, a marquee was put in place between the clubhouse and the water feature adjoining the 18th hole. The performance of The Band of 1st Southern Brigade was a highly popular feature of the lively entertainment which continued until the early hours.

A fitting climax to the Centenary Week was hosting a visit by the Ryder Cup, a remarkable honour for Monkstown Golf Club facilitated by the good offices of Ada O'Sullivan. Parnell Reilly, Captain of the Professional Golfers Association, brought the famous trophy to the club where it was on display over the weekend. On the Sunday morning, members were invited to have their photographs taken with the iconic cup, thus bringing an appropriate end to a special week of celebrations.



Pictured with the Ryder Cup were (left to right) Parnell Reilly (Captain, PGA), Maurice Healy (Captain), Maura Long (Lady Captain), Ada O'Sullivan and Larry O'Dwyer (President). Ada O'Sullivan was instrumental in bringing the Ryder Cup to the club.

Maurice Healy (Captain) addressing guests at the dinner marking the end of Centenary Invitation Week and hosting of the Ryder Cup.

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Lady Captain Maura Long's Prize to Girls, 2008. Left to right: Maura Long (Lady Captain), Niamh O'Kelly, Erica Paul, Rachel Hayes, Aoife Ó Tuama, Anna O'Neill (partly hidden), Ciara Desmond, Aoife Crowley, Sarah Doyle, Kate Murphy (partly hidden), Anne O'Rahilly (Juvenile Officer).



CLUB GOLF

As well as these major competition and special celebrations held during 2008, the year saw the club proceed with its usual golfing events. These included the Lady Captain's Prize held on 24th May, the Captain's Prize on 6th and 7th June and the President's Prize on 15th and 16th August. The Lady Captain's Prize was won by Mary Egan, while the Captain's and the President's Prizes were won by Finbar Coakley and Philip O'Dwyer respectively. In between the Captain's and President's Prizes was a Centenary Pro-Am held on 16th June and the finals of the local leagues were hosted by the club on 29th June. The Captain's Prize to Ladies competition was held on 15th June, with the Lady Captain's Prize to Men taking place on 30th August. The next day, 31st August, saw the President's Prize to Ladies competition. Club finals and gold medal competition were held on 12th October.

During the year the men's section achieved success with the Senior League team and the Junior League team being victorious in their respective competitions. Meanwhile, the Ladies Challenge Cup Team enjoyed a fruitful year and reached the national final of their competition in Limerick. Despite their best efforts, they were unsuccessful against the Athenry team. The juveniles recorded a win over Cork Golf Club in the

Phil O'Sullivan Trophy. As in previous years, there were regular highly enjoyable semi-open mixed foursomes' events, organised by the inimitable Michael Byrne and his committee.

The centenary year is scheduled to finish with the Closing Centenary Ball on New Year's Eve 2008. It was a hugely busy year for the club, when members and staff gave their best to ensure the success of the many special events. Incorporating local, regional, national and even international events, the centenary of the club was marked in fine style and as a fitting tribute to the members and staff who had contributed so much to it since 1908.

Monkstown juveniles, winners of the Phil O'Sullivan Trophy, 2008. Left to right: Anne O'Rahilly (Juvenile Officer), Maura Long (Lady Captain), Frank Bruen, Eoin O'Donnell, Robert Kidney, Chris Murphy, Brian Kidney, Eoghan Murphy, Stephen O'Mahony, Stephen Doyle, Jack Buckley, Rachel Hayes, Maurice Healy (Captain), Kiera Bergin, Jonathan Hayes, Sarah Doyle and Denis O'Sullivan (Juvenile Officer).



Munster Youths Inter-Provincial Team 2008. Monkstown's representative Eoghan Long is in the back row, second from left.



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Ladies' Challenge Cup Team, 2008. Left to right: Sheila Daly, Lily Hesse, Ros O'Rourke, Lorna Barrett, Ger O'Keeffe, Barbara Hanan, Sally Pope, Bernadette Murphy (Team Manager), Leone Levis, Fifi Lauhoff, Brenda Geary, Therese O'Leary, Ruth Coulter, Marie Moran, Chriss Bailey and Maura Breathnach.



Captain's Prize winner Finbar Coakley pictured with Maurice Healy and his wife Marie.

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Lady Captain Maura Long presenting her prize to winner Mary Egan.



Madeleine O'Dwyer presenting her husband Larry's President's Prize to winner Philip O'Dwyer.

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Past Presidents and Captains, 2008. Left to right, seated: Michael Corbett, John O'Reilly, Tom Carey, Tom Egan, Maurice Healy (Captain), Larry O'Dwyer (President), Brian Dunphy (Chairman, Committee of Management), Phil O'Sullivan, Michael Murphy, Michael O'Brien, Liam Coughlan (Trustee). Standing: Ger Lehane, Barry O'Shea, P.M. Cooney, Sean Geary, John Cunningham, Michael Byrne, Howard Dunne, Barry Collins, Walter O'Byrne (behind), David Murphy, Paddy Byrne, Denis O'Sullivan, Donal McCarthy, Mark O'Sullivan, Dick Dunlea, Jim Long, Michael O'Callaghan, Charlie Hill, Philip Clohosey, Mossie Buckley, Dave Gibbons, Brendan Mulcahy, Philip O'Dwyer, Austin Buckley, Dan Byrne, John Barry, Bernard Cronin, Peter Thompson, Aidan Horgan, Charlie Fielding, Frank Murphy, Steve Guinane, Kevin Mulcahy and Tom Gately. *Individual photographs*, left to right: Larry O'Mahony, Ted Scriven, Dermot Walsh, Tommy Jackson, Dan O'Sullivan, Jack O'Byrne, Donal McDonnell, James Cogan and Jim Pyne.

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Past Lady Captains, 2008. Left to right, seated: Sheila Williams, Mary Maxwell, Catherine Reynolds, Audrey Bradley, Breda O'Sullivan, Maura Long (Lady Captain), Violet Murphy, Mary Foreman, Deirdre Donegan and Sheila Daly. Standing: Noreen Buckley, Rosemary McNamara, Eleanor Murnaghan, Harriet Ferriss, Marion O'Sullivan, Peg Mulcahy, Bernadette Murphy, Nora O'Flynn, Ada O'Sullivan, Rita Murray, Catherine Richardson, Maura Cahalane, Catherine Thompson, Maria Broderick, Maura Breathnach, Angela Murphy, Mary Rea, Phil O'Callaghan, Vera Higgins, Deirdre McGowan, Noreen Kelly and Ann Murphy. *Individual photographs*, left to right: Marie Moran, Vera O'Byrne, Ogie O'Callaghan, Madeleine Higgins, Mary Monaghan and Nell Walsh.

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HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS 2008



Tom W. Egan



Robert (Bob) Fleury



Tom A. Carey



John O'Reilly



Ada O'Sullivan



Phil O'Sullivan



Michael Murphy

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Hilary Madden,
General Manager/Secretary.



Professional Batt Murphy (right), with
Assistant Professional Ronan Collins.



Administrative staff Gillian Devine
(left) and Jeanne Cronin.



CENTENARY YEAR MAJOR PRIZEWINNERS

MEN'S CLUB

Captain's Prize:

Finbarr Coakley

President's Prize:

Philip O'Dwyer

Lady Captain's Prize to Men:

Dick Dunlea

Club Championships

Singles:

Philip O'Dwyer

Fourball:

Tim Dennehy / John Boyle

Foursomes:

Finbar Coakley / Philip O'Dwyer

Mixed Foursomes:

Richard Murphy / Leone Levis

Jim Higgins

Donal McDonnell, Junior

Gold Medal:

Malcolm Coomber

Senior Scratch Cup:

Kieran McCarthy (Kinsale)

LADIES' CLUB

Lady Captain's Prize:

Mary Egan

Captain's Prize to Ladies:

Marian Reidy

President's Prize to Ladies:

Joan Dinneen

Golfer of the Year:

Anne O'Rahilly

I.L.G.U. Silver Spoon:

Carol Murphy

L.G.U. Silver Medal:

Anne O'Rahilly

L.G.U. Bronze Medal:

Brenda Geary

I.L.G.U. Pennant:

Carol Murphy

Foyer of clubhouse, 2008.

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Bar staff (left to right): Martha O'Connell (Bar Manager), Brian Hourihane, Piotr Korol and Noel Elliott .



Members of the club's catering staff. Left to right: Michelle O'Donovan, Faye Kelly, Debbie and Alan Field (Steward).



Martha O'Connell retired in 2008, having worked in the bar at the club for thirty-six years. A celebratory evening was arranged during which a presentation was made to her to acknowledge her exceptional service. The clubhouse was thronged for the occasion, a fitting tribute to her popularity and high standing within the club. Group pictured opposite, Left to right: Brian Dunphy (Chairman, Committee of Management), Larry O'Dwyer (President), Maura Long (Lady Captain), Martha O'Connell, Maurice Healy (Captain) and Michael Murphy (Trustee).

Pictured Left: Martha O'Connell

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Head Greenkeeper Martin Travers at work on the 18th green.



Outdoor staff at the 18th green.

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As Monkstown Golf Club prepared to celebrate its centenary in 2008, its resources would have amazed the members and staff involved in the early days of the club.

The first president of the club, Viscount de Vesci, would be astonished at the size of the club presided over by his 2008 successor, Larry O'Dwyer. The over 300 members who had joined in the club's first year had exceeded 1,000 by 2008, having varied over the decades. The first captain, J.F. Maguire, would compare his role in 1908 with that of his 2008 successor, Maurice Healy. The growth in the popularity of golf, the use of the course all year round and the development of many types of competitions were all significant changes. Miss Eileen Boumphrey, who drove the first ball at Monkstown, would be pleased at the formation of the Ladies' Branch and at the important role that ladies' captain, Maura Long, and other ladies play in the club.

The first professional, Peter O'Hare, would no doubt compare his work with that of Batt Murphy in the 21st century. He would be amazed at the development of equipment in the game: the highly developed steel alloy or titanium clubs in 2008 that replaced the wooden clubs of 1908, the modern balls that replaced the early Haskell variety and the fact that the professional no longer spent much of his time making and repairing clubs. Monkstown's 18 hole course of 2008 would impress Peter O'Hare, even as he marvelled at the advances in technology and research in course development and maintenance. Those actually building the course in 1908 used horse power and their own strength to lay out the greens and fairways and to maintain them. They would covet the modern, highly technical equipment used to shape and maintain the course a century later.

Early members would look with envy at the comfortable clothing and shoes worn by their 2008 successors. In particular, they would admire the lightweight, breathable rain gear that replaced the ineffective and heavy rain coats of 1908. The early lady golfers no doubt would wonder at the ladies of 2008 who no longer wear long skirts and fashionable hats when playing golf!

The representatives of the Cork, Blackrock and Passage Railway Company who attended the first general meeting of the club in April 1908 would have marvelled at the modes of transport used by members in 2008 to reach the club. They doubtless would wonder why the sound of the train was absent from Monkstown, since the railway played a vital part in the establishment and development of the club. The large car park beside the new clubhouse tells of the main form of transport used by their successors in the 21st century.

The clubhouse itself also would astonish the early members. The modern locker rooms are a huge improvement on the very basic facilities at Monkstown Castle in 1908. The warm and draught-free bar and dining areas contrast with the oft recorded memories of the biting cold of the main room in the castle. The rudimentary bar in the

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008



original clubhouse bore little resemblance to the well-equipped bar of 2008. Mrs. Mary Hayes, the first stewardess at the club, worked in conditions far removed from the professionally designed kitchen of the 2008 clubhouse. She would marvel at the range of equipment available to her successors and the variety of meals produced for members.

However, those associated with the club in 1908 would also see much that was familiar to them in 2008. Were founder members and first trustees Alfred Boumphrey, Alfred H. Exham

and Graham A. Goold to stroll around the club in 2008, they would recognise many aspects of its character and environment. Walking up to the club from the harbour shore, they would see the fine houses and terraces that they knew so well in 1908. Alta Terrace, where some early members lived, still stands, as do so many of the attractive buildings and churches that characterised Monkstown in the early 20th century. The original layout may have changed over the years, but aspects of the golf course would still be familiar to them. Some of the original trees still survive and the views across the harbour still encompass the attractive islands and waters of the lower harbour. Golfers in 1908 regularly would have seen ships of the Royal Navy around the harbour and in 2008 Irish naval vessels are based in the same location.

Turning to the clubhouse, the first trustees would see the castle in 2008 undergoing extensive private restoration as it begins a new phase of life. Houses line the avenues to the castle, but the building itself retains its proud and distinctive outline. Its incorporation into the logo of the club would no doubt be a source of pride to the 1908 trustees.

The Parkgarriffe section of the golf course would be totally unfamiliar to the three men, who would have remembered it as a large private house set in its own estate. Nonetheless, were they to stand and look at the 2008 members on the course and in the clubhouse, they would identify with them in many ways. The founders of Monkstown Golf Club loved golf and established a club so that they and many others could play the game in their own area. This enthusiasm for the game ensured that the club that began in 1908 developed over the ensuing years. It survived difficult and challenging times, it expanded and improved when resources permitted and, significantly, it grew into a club renowned for its sociability and friendliness. The founding members would be immensely pleased that, thanks to the hard work and dedication of generations of men and women, Monkstown Golf Club in 2008 is a strong and vibrant club, looking forward to the future with justifiable pride and confidence.



MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

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APPENDIX A CLUB OFFICERS 1908-2008

Year	President	Captain	Lady Captain
1908	Viscount de Vesci	J.F. Maguire	-
1909	Viscount de Vesci	J.F. Maguire	-
1910	Viscount de Vesci	T. H. Sugrue	-
1911	Viscount de Vesci	Major C.T. Lynch	-
1912	Viscount de Vesci	Captain W..R.E. Annesley	-
		B. P Harvey <i>(from August)</i>	-
1913	Viscount de Vesci	B. P Harvey	-
1914	Viscount de Vesci	S. Payne	-
1915	Viscount de Vesci	S. Payne	-
1916	Viscount de Vesci	S. Payne	-
1917	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	-
1918	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	-
1919	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	-
1920	Viscount de Vesci	W.F. Cade	-
1921	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	-
1922	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	-
1923	Viscount de Vesci	J.E. Jenkins	Miss H.E. Belton
1924	Viscount de Vesci	R.M. Wrixon	Miss B. Waggett
1925	Viscount de Vesci	C.E. Exham	Mrs. R.M. Jenkins
1926	Viscount de Vesci	R. Morrogh	Miss E.I. Harte
1927	Viscount de Vesci	R. Morrogh	Mrs. C.H. Exham
1928	Viscount de Vesci	J.F. Maguire	Miss D.E. Foley
1929	Viscount de Vesci	H.B. Scott	Miss M.E. Belton
1930	Viscount de Vesci	WJL O'Connell	Mrs. C.H. Exham
1931	Viscount de Vesci	G. Crosbie	Mrs. T.W. Payne
1932	Viscount de Vesci	E.W. Whitaker	Miss K. Sutton
1933	Viscount de Vesci	F. H. Dale	Mrs. A. Scott
1934	Viscount de Vesci	J.F. Nicholson	Mrs. C.H. Exham
1935	Viscount de Vesci	D. Connolly	Mrs. R. Simcox
1936	Viscount de Vesci	T. Crosbie	Mrs. A. Scott
1937	Viscount de Vesci	J.F. O'Sullivan	Mrs. R. Kerin
1938	Viscount de Vesci	E.J. Young	Miss D.E. Foley
1939	Viscount de Vesci	C.F.J. Hanrahan	Mrs. B. Traynor
1940	Viscount de Vesci*	P.F. Barry	Miss F.H. Hingston
1941	A.H. Exham	J.F. Maguire	Mrs. M. Ryan
1942	A.H. Exham	A.E. McNamara	Mrs. S.M. White

Year	President	Captain	Lady Captain
1943	C.H. Exham	M.J. O'Byrne	Mrs. M.J. O'Byrne
1944	J.R. Boyd Barrett	D.J. O'Sullivan	Mrs. A.W. Payne
1945	N.G. White	H.G. Dale	Mrs. E. O'Sullivan
1946	J.E. Harte	D.J. Mangan	Miss T.P. Hegarty
1947	W.J.L. O'Connell	C.E. Fleury	Mrs. A.J. Scott
1948	M.J. Horgan	W.G. Peare	Miss T.P. Hegarty
1949	D.C. Morrogh	J.G. Hoare	Mrs. D.C. Morrogh
1950	W.A. Andrews	J.J. Long	Mrs. D.D. McMullen
1951	J.B. Cottrell	T. Scott	Mrs. J. Cottrell
1952	J.F. Maguire	J.F. Lenahan	Mrs. M.J. O'Byrne
1953	T.O. Heappy	T.W. Egan	Mrs. W.A. Andrews
1954	W.J. O'Byrne	W. Newton	Miss V. Hickey
1955	T.J. Kelleher	J. Hickey	Miss H.Crofts
1956	D.J. Mangan	J.O. Downey	Dr. M. Monahan
1957	F. Skally	J.P. McCarthy	Mrs. J. Madden
1958	C.E. Fleury	J.P. McCarthy	Miss M. Foreman
1959	J.G. Hoare	J.C. Barry	Miss M. Fitzgibbon
1960	J. Hopkins	B.M. Egan	Miss U. O'Flynn
1961	Dr. J.E. Roche	R. Murray	Mrs. W. Browne
1962	W. Newton	M. Corbett	Mrs. H.J. Daly
1963	J.P. McCarthy	W. Browne	Miss M. McDonnell
1964	J.C. Barry	E.J. Murphy	Miss M. Cronin
1965	Dr. K. Walsh	M. Coppinger	Mrs. M. Corbett
1966	P. Clayton	M.A. Buckley	Miss N. Walsh
1967	D.F. Williams	M.A. Buckley	Miss I. Rahilly
1968	P. Maher	P. O'Flynn	Miss I. Rahilly
1969	B.M. Egan	D. Williams	Mrs. J.V. Wafer
1970	W.McR. Browne	M. McAuliffe	Mrs. O. O'Sullivan
1971	W.McR. Browne	T.A. Carey	Mrs. M. O'Byrne
1972	J.O. Downey	J.F. O'Reilly	Mrs. J.D. Donegan
1973	M.J. Corbett	P.C. Byrne	Mrs. D.G. O'Donovan
1974	M.P. Murphy	B. Collins	Mrs. D.J. Murphy
1975	M. McAuliffe	P.F. Goggin	Miss C. Reynolds
1976	T.P. Gately	D.J. McDonnell	Mrs. T. O'Higgins
1977	P.A. O'Sullivan	T.P. Jackson	Dr. A. Bradley
1978	M.J. O'Callaghan	J.A. O'Byrne	Mrs. J.J. Daly
1979	M.C. O'Mahony	P. Thompson	Mrs. P. Thompson

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

1908-2008

APPENDIX A CLUB OFFICERS 1908-2008

Year	President	Captain	Lady Captain	Chairman Committee of Management
1980	T.A. Carey	M.P. Murphy	Mrs. T. Murray	-
1981	T.P. Busteed	M.F.P. Waldron	Mrs. S. Flynn	-
1982	B. Collins	D. O'Sullivan	Mrs. G. O'Sullivan	-
1983	P. Byrne	W.J.G. O'Byrne	Mrs. M. Corbett	-
1984	J. Pyne	D.C. Hill	Mrs. P.A. O'Sullivan	-
1985	P.A. Barry	J.A. Cogan	Mrs. M. Broderick	-
1986	M. Kelly	F. Neenan	Mrs. D.A. Murphy	-
1987	D.A. Murphy	B. O'Shea	Mrs. M. O'Callaghan	-
1988	P. Thompson	J.N. Barry	Mrs. O. O'Callaghan	-
1989	D. J. McDonnell	B.F. Kilbride	Mrs. P. Mulcahy	-
1990	D.P. McCarthy	F.A. Murphy	Mrs. S. Williams	-
1991	A. J. Buckley	M.V. Byrne	Mrs. N. Buckley	-
1992	W. J.G. O'Byrne	L. O'Mahony	Mrs. M. Maxwell	-
1993	D.J. Gibbons	D.F. Walsh	Mrs. N. Kelly	-
1994	D. O'Sullivan	A. Horgan	Mrs. A. Murphy	-
1995	P. Clohosey	G.A. Lehane	Mrs. V. Higgins	-
1996	H.V. Dunne	L. O'Dwyer	Mrs. M. Cahalan	-
1997	B.F. Kilbride	B.R. Dunphy	Mrs. R. McNamara	-
1998	M.J. O'Brien	J. Cunningham	Mrs. E. Murnaghan	-
1999	B. Mulcahy	P. O'Dwyer	Mrs. M. Moran	-
2000	C.F. Fielding	Dan O'Sullivan	Ada O'Sullivan	-
2001	F.A. Murphy	Mark O'Sullivan	Harriet Ferriss	-
2002	R.A. Dunlea	Jim Long	Mary Rea	A. Horgan
2003	M.A. Healy	Ted Scriven	Maura Breathnach	A. Horgan
2004	J. Cunningham	Steve Guinane	Vera O'Byrne	A. Horgan
2005	P.M. Cooney	D.P. McCarthy	Deirdre McGowan	B. Mulcahy
2006	Kevin Mulcahy	Dan Byrne	Mrs. M. Murphy	B. Mulcahy
2007	Sean Geary	Bernard Cronin	Catherine Richardson	B. Mulcahy
2008	L. O'Dwyer	M.A. Healy	Maura Long	B. R. Dunphy

* Viscount de Vesci held the title of honorary president from 1941 until his death in 1958. He was succeeded as honorary president in 1959 by Cecil H. Exham who died later that year. Charles Fleury was elected as honorary president in 1960 and held the position until his death in 1976. The office of honorary president was discontinued after 1976.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

APPENDIX B MEMBERS OF MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1958

Honorary President:
Rt. Hon. Viscount de Vesci

President:
C.E. Fleury

Captain:
J.P. McCarthy

Honorary Secretary:
W.A. Andrews

Honorary Treasurer:
A. Bradley

Trustees:
C.H. Exham, J.F. Maguire,
J.R. Boyd-Barrett

Committee:
M.J. O'Byrne, O. Downey,
D.J. Mangan, W. Newton,
R. Murray, P. O'Flynn,
F. Scally, B. Egan.

Competition Secretary:
J.F. Maguire

Ahearne, Rev. P.
Allen, Mrs. I.F.
Andrews, Mrs. W.A.
Andrews, W.A.
Augus, Mrs. D.M.

Baker, N.
Barrett, N.
Barry, Des.
Barry, J.C.
Barry, P.F.
Bennett, M.
Bolingbroke, B.
Boyd-Barrett, J.R.
Bradley, A.
Bradley, Ml
Browne, A.W.

Buckley, Maurice

Canty, David
Carpenter, Geo.
Cashel, D.
Cashman, Rev. Fr.
Cave, N.
Clayton, P.
Clethane, Joe
Coghlan, Miss A.
Collins, D.
Collins, John
Collins, Mrs. W.T.
Coppinger, M.
Corbett, Ml.
Creedon, Miss M.
Crofts, Miss H.
Cronin, Miss Mary
Crosbie, Comdr. Geo.
Crosbie, D.
Crosbie, Geo. F.
Crosbie, Thos.
Cross, F.
Cullen, J.
Culliton, Miss P.
Cunningham, Pat
Curran, Miss Clare

Dale, F.T.
Dale, W.P.
Dalton, N.
Daly, Cormac
Daly, H.J.
Daly, J.B.
Dorgan, P.
Dorman, Ml
Downey, O.
Drury, R.W.
Duggan, Miss W.
Dwyer, Mrs. M.

Egan, B.M.
Egan, T.W.

Exham, Capt. C.H.

Fehily, Miss Clare
Field, D.
Fitzgibbon, Miss M.
Fitzpatrick, M.
Fleming, P.G.F.
Fleury, C.E.
Fleury, R.
Foley, Miss D.
Foreman, Miss M.
Freeman, G.

Gately, T.
Gayer, Miss A.
Glover, M.
Goggin, R.A.
Greenham, R.J.

Hall, Cyril
Harrington, Jack
Harvey, M.
Hegarty, C.
Hegarty, Ml.
Hennessy, F.
Hewitt, Miss Nancy
Hickey, J.C.
Hickey, J.W.
Hickey, Pat
Higgins, Brian
Hill, R.
Hingston, Miss T.
Hoare, J.G.
Hobbs, S.
Hopkins, J.
Horgan, Ml.
Howard, J.C.

Jackson, Mrs. N.W.
Jago, R.V.
Jenkins, Miss K.
Johnson, H.

Johnston, L.
Jones, Miss E.
Jones, T.

Kelleher, T.
Kennedy, J.
Kennefick, Miss M.
Kiely, Dr. J.

Lannin, J.
Lehane, J.C.
Lehane, Miss F.
Levis, C.
Locke, D.G.
Locke, W.T.

Madden, A.G.
Madden, Dr. J.
Maguire, J.F.
Maguire, Mrs. J.F.
Maher, P.J.
Maher, R.P.E.
Mahon, J.A.
Mangan, J.
Mangan, O.
McAlinden, John
McBride, Geo.
McCarthy, C.
McCarthy, J.P.
McDonnell, T.
McGrath, F.
McMullan, Mrs. J.
McSweeney, P.
Meade, Miss C.
Meehan, J.
Mills, R.F.
Moloney, Miss M.
Monaghan, Dr. Mary
Mooney, H.V.
Moore, Ronald
Moore, W.C.
Morrough, D.
Moynihan, T.

Mulligan, Miss Eileen,
Mulligan, Miss Elsie,
Murphy, D.
Murphy, Desmond
Murphy, E.
Murphy, William
Murray, P.
Murray, R.
Myles, E.V.

Newton, Wm.

O'Byrne, M.
O'Callaghan, Dr. K.
O'Callaghan, Miss F.
O'Connell, P.
O'Connell, W.E.
O'Connell, W.J.L.
O'Connor, Dr. Ina
O'Connor, Dr. Tom
O'Connor, Val
O'Donovan, J.W.
O'Driscoll, M.
O'Flaherty, Wm.
O'Flynn, Miss Una
O'Flynn, P.
O'Grady, Miss P.
O'Halloran, Miss T.
O'Herlihy, P.
O'Keeffe, Ml.
O'Shaughnessy, A.
O'Sullivan, C.E.
O'Sullivan, L.

Palmer, Mrs. S.F.
Payne, Mrs. A.W.
Peard, W.E.
Peare, Geo.
Power, Ml.
Prenderville, Ml.
Purcell, Miss Monica

Quillinan, Ml.

Rahilly, Miss I.
Rahilly, Miss R.
Reynolds, Miss V.
Riordan, J.
Riordan, P.
Roche, C.
Roche, Dr. J.
Roche, Miss M.
Rockley, P.
Ryan, John
Ryan, W.G.

Scally, F.
Scott, Miss E.M.
Scully, John
Sexton, T.
Shanahan, Anthony
Shanahan, Joseph
Sheehan, Miss N.
Shine, Miss E.
Swan, Mrs. V.
Swiney, Mrs.

Thornhill, Miss S.
Treacy, Sean
Twomey, Ted

Vance, D.

Walsh, Dr. K.
Walsh, Miss. E.M.
Warren, Walter
Waters, W.J.
Whelan, J.W.
White, N.G.
Williams, D.F.
Williamson, W.T.
Wood, G.F.
Wyer, John D.

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

1908-2008

APPENDIX C MEMBERS OF MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1971

Trustees: W.A. Andrews, J.R. Boyd-Barrett, J.C. Barry	Begley, B. Bell, Peter Blake, T. Boyd-Barrett, J.R. Bradley, A. Bradley, M. Bradley, Mrs.A. Brandriff, B. Bray, B. Broderick, Mrs. M. Browne, A.W. McR. Browne, Dr. G.M. Browne, Jerry Buckley, D. Buckley, Dr. D.I. Buckley, M. Buckley, M.R. Burke R.B. Burke, E. Burke, Miss L. Burkley, Mrs. A. Busteed, T. Byrne, J.M. Byrne, M.V. Byrne, P.	Cogan, Mrs. M. Collins, B. Collins, C.J. (Neil) Collins, D. Collins, Dr. B. Collins, J.R. Collins, Leo Collins, Mrs. D. Collins, P. Collins, S. Connolly, R. Cooper, F. Coppinger, F. Coppinger, M. Corbett, M. Corkery, J. Cotter, Mrs. M. Coughlan, J. Coughlan, L. Coughlan, Miss A. Coulter, J.A. Creedon, D.J. Croke, T. Cronin, W. Crosbie, Commander G. and Mrs.Crosbie, D.B.L. Crosbie, G.F. Crosbie, T. Curtin, J.P. Curtis, A.B. Cusack, D.	Deasy, N. Derham, Mrs. P. Desmond, C. Desmond, T.F. Dignam, S. Dillon, F. Dinan, J. Dineen, P.J. Dolan, T. Donegan, Mrs. D. Dooley, K.F. Dorgan, P. Dorney, J. Downey, O.J. Doyle, E.J. Drury, J. Drury, R.W. Drustrud, T.G. Duane, J. Duggan, D.J. Dunler, J.B. Dunne, N.K. Dwyer, Mrs. D. Dwyer, Mrs. M. Dwyer, P.O.	Fitzgibbon, Miss M. Fives, J.L. Fleury, C.E. Fleury, R.McK. Flynn, Capt. S. Foley, Miss Felicity Foley, W. Forde, J.B. Forde, M.D. Foreman, Miss M. Foster, J. Gaffney, A. Gallagher, P.J. Gately, T.P. Geary, S.J. Geelan, C.A. Gill, R. Gill, S. Goggin, P. Goldberg, G.Y. Grainger, K. Green, J. Gyves, Mrs. F.	Herley, M.G. Herlihy, P.B. Higgins, B. Higgins, Mrs. M. Higgins, W.G. Hill, D. Hill, L. Hingston, Miss T. Hoare, J.G. Hobbs, W.A. Holmes, P.N. Holt, J. Hopkins, J.P. Horgan, A. Horgan, M. Horgan, M.J. Horgan, W. Hourihan, D. Howard, J.C. Hughes, J. Hurley, J.P. Hutton, W.N.M.	Kelly, W.S. Kennedy, P.M. Keyes, M.J. Kiernan, Mrs. M. Kiley, W. Kinahan, F. Langton, H. Lehane, M.J. Lehane, T. Leland, G.A. Lenihan, D. Linehan, D. Livesey, D. Locke, W.T. Ludgate, V. Lynch, J.F. Lynch, P.M. Lynch, T.J. MacCarthy, W.B. Maguire, C.J. Maguire, Mrs. M. Maher, P.J. Mahon, W.A. Mangan, J.D. Mangan, J.O. Martin, J.B. Masson, A.W. Maxwell, F.J. McAfee, H. McAlinden, J. McAuliffe, M. McBarron, D. McCarthy, C. McCarthy, D. McCarthy, D.G. McCarthy, D.P. McCarthy, J.P. McCarthy, M. McCarthy, Miss C. McCarthy, Miss Mgt. McCormick, D. St.J.	McDonnell, D. McFarlane, M. McGrath, J.P. McGrath, P.J. McLoughlin, B. McNamara, A.W. McSweeney, M. McSweeney, P. Meade, P.J. Meade, T. Meagher, J. Meehan, Mrs. J. Monaghan, J. Moore, R. Moran, Miss M. Moriarty, T. Morrissey, W.T. Morrogh, D.C. Mulcahy, K. Mulcahy, P.E. Mullins, T. Murphy, B.M. Murphy, Barry P. Murphy, C. Murphy, D. Murphy, D.A. Murphy, Dr. N. Murphy, E. Murphy, F.J. Murphy, F.V. Murphy, G. Murphy, G.A. Murphy, J.B. Murphy, John and Patrick Murphy, M. Murphy, Miss M. Murphy, Mrs. G. Murphy, Mrs. T. Murphy, Mrs. V. Murphy, P.S. Murphy, R.C. Murray, B.
President: A.W. McR. Browne							
Captain: T.A. Carey							
Honorary Secretary: T. Desmond							
Honorary Treasurer: D.J. McDonnell							
Competition Honorary Secretary: J.A. O'Reilly							
Committee: M. McAuliffe, M. Murphy, M. Quane, P. Byrne, K. Walsh, P. Goggin, B. Collins.	Cahill, Miss C.M. Callanan, D.J. Cantillon, I.C. Carey, J. Carey, M. Carey, T.A. Carey, W.P. Casey, J.V. Casey, P.D. Cashell, D. Cashell, P. Cave, I.C. Clayton, C.J. Clayton, P. Clayton, P.J. Clery, Miss A.M. Coakley, J.	Dalton, A. Dalton, N. Daly, D.P. Daly, H.J. Daly, J. Daly, Miss I. Daly, Mrs. A. Daly, Mrs. S. Deane, Mrs. B. Deasy, M.	Edwards, G. Egan, B.M. Egan, T.W. Everett, M. Ewing, W. Feeley, Fr. J. Fehily, G. Fennelly, G. Fennelly, Wm. F. Fenton, Miss M.E. Field, Miss F. Finn, J.J. Finn, Mrs. F. Fisher, K.C. Fitzgerald, F. Fitzgibbon, D.J.	Hall, R.C. & Mrs. Hallinan, C. Hanna, R.E.V. Hannon, G. Harrington, J. Harrington, P.J. Harte-Barry, Mrs. B. Haslam, R.B. Hastings, J. Hayes, W.L. Healy, C. Healy, G.C. Healy, M. Healy, Miss R. Hegarty, Capt. D.F. Hennessey, D.J. Henrick, J. Henry, N.D.	Jackson, M. Jackson, T. Jago, V. Johnson, H. Johnson, T.P. Jones, D.T.R. Jones, Miss K. Jones, T. Judge, Miss E. Keane, S. Keating, J.P. Keating, R. Keegan, J.A. Kelleher, B. Kelleher, P. Kelleher, T. Kelly, Miss A.		
Andrews, W.A. Auchincloss, L Averies, J.D.							
Barrett Mrs. P. Barrett, D. Barrett, R. Barron, D.A. Barry, B. Barry, Dr. J. Barry, G.M. Barry, John Barry, R.J. Beale, J.T. Beebe, G.S.							

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1908-2008

APPENDIX C MEMBERS OF MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 1971

Murray, F.	O'Driscoll, Mrs. M.	O'Sullivan, P.B.	Sampson, Miss D.	Walsh, T.
Murray, P.	O'Dwyer, J.J.	O'Sullivan, Phil	Scally, B.	Williams, D.F.
Murray, R.	O'Flynn, F.	O'Sullivan, W.	Scally, Mrs. M.	Williams, D.P.
Murray, T.G.	O'Flynn, Miss U.	O'Sullivan, W.R.	Scannell, D.F.	Williams, E.F.S.
	O'Flynn, P.	Olney, F.	Sewell, Miss E.	Williams, K.D.
Nagle, T.	O'Gorman, K.F.	Ormond, F.	Sewell, Miss S.	Williams, Miss I.
Newton, W.	O'Herlihy, P.	Owen, Mrs. M.	Shanahan, Miss B.	Wyley, M.
Nicholson, D.	O'Keeffe, J.F.		Sheehan, Miss K.	
Nicholson, R.	O'Leary, C.	Packham, J.W.	Sheehan, Mrs. D.	Young, Dr. J.
Nolan, J.	O'Leary, T.	Paddle, Mgt. M.	Sheehan, Mrs. E.	
Noonan, F.	O'Mahony, J.	Peard, J.R.	Shinkwin, Mrs. M.	
	O'Mahony, M.	Peard, W.E.	Short, F.G.	
O'Brien, A.	O'Mahony, M.J.	Peare, W.G.	Skally, F.	
O'Brien, B.	O'Mahony, Mrs. E.	Phelan, J.	Slyne, P.J.	
O'Brien, J.	O'Mahony, Mrs. H.M.	Platt, J.	Stack, P.	
O'Brien, M.	O'Mahony, P.J.	Poer, Lt. Col. L.H.	Sullivan, D.	
O'Brien, Miss G.	O'Malley, J.K.	Power, L.	Sutton, Mrs. E.P.	
O'Byrne, M.	O'Malley, P.	Power, M.	Swan, R.	
O'Byrne, Mrs. M.	O'Regan, Miss J.	Pyne, J.		
O'Byrne, P.K.	O'Regan, P.J.		Taylor, T.	
O'Byrne, W.	O'Reilly, J.F.	Quane, M.	Thompson, P.	
O'Callaghan, Comdt. J.	O'Riordan, J.V.	Queen, Mrs.O.	Tierney, D.	
O'Callaghan, J.	O'Rourke, Supt. T.J.	Quigley	Tobin, T.F.	
O'Callaghan, M.	O'Shaughnessy, A.	Quillinan, M.	Treacy, T.C.	
O'Callaghan, P.	O'Shaughnessy, D.	Quinlan, J.K.	Trench, B.	
O'Callaghan, R.	O'Shea, Donal		Tuckey, T.B.	
O'Connell, David	O'Shea, E.F.	Rahilly, Miss I.	Twomey, D.J.	
O'Connell, P.A.	O'Shea, M.	Rearden, Mrs. J.V.	Twomey, T.	
O'Connor, B.	O'Shea, T.	Reynolds, Miss C.		
O'Connor, Dr. F.	O'Sullivan, C.E.	Riordan, P.	Vance, D.	
O'Connor, J.D.	O'Sullivan, D.	Riordan, J.		
O'Connor, M.N.	O'Sullivan, D.F.	Roberts, N.	Wafer, Lt. Col. J.V.	
O'Connor, V.	O'Sullivan, Denis	Robertson, Mrs. M.	Wain, J.G.	
O'Connor-Murphy, Fr.	O'Sullivan, Dr. O.	Roche, Mrs. C.	Waldron, M.F.	
O'Dell, R.A.	O'Sullivan, G.	Rockett, Mrs. M.	Wallace, D.F.	
O'Donnell, L.	O'Sullivan, J.	Rockley, V.	Wallace, H.	
O'Donoghue, D.	O'Sullivan, J.	Ronayne, F.	Walsh, D.F.	
O'Donoghue, S.	O'Sullivan, J.A.	Roycroft, Mrs. T.	Walsh, D.P.	
O'Donovan, D.	O'Sullivan, J.N.	Russell, B.W.	Walsh, Dr. K.	
O'Donovan, D.F.	O'Sullivan, Jer. C.	Russell, J.T.	Walsh, James	
O'Donovan, Miss A.M.	O'Sullivan, M.J.	Russell, Mrs. R.	Walsh, Miss N.E.	
O'Donovan, Mrs. D.	O'Sullivan, Miss Eliz.	Ryan, Miss C.	Walsh, N.	
O'Driscoll, M.	O'Sullivan, P.	Ryan, Miss D.	Walsh, T.	

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

1908-2008

APPENDIX D MEMBERS OF MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB 2008

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MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

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McCarthy, Martin	Moran, Fergal	Murphy, Bill	Murphy, Sean	O'Byrne, Jack	O'Donoghue, Arthur	O'Keeffe, Nick	O'Mahony, Tim
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McCarthy, Michelle	Moran, Marie	Murphy, Christopher	Murphy, Stephen	O'Byrne, Maura	O'Dowling, Mary	O'Keeffe, Paul	O'Meara, Conor
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McElroy, David	Mulcahy, Brendan	Murphy, Gerard	Neff, Benny	O'Connell, Emma	O'Dwyer, Madeline	O'Loughlin, Peter	O'Rahilly, Dan
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O'Sullivan, Denis A	Payne, Somers J	Roche, Michael C	Smyth, Maurice	Walsh, George	
O'Sullivan, Donnacha	Perrott, Michael J	Roche, Pat	Stack, Maura	Walsh, Kate	
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O'Sullivan, George	Pope, Finbarr	Rodgers, Jim	Stokes, Richard	Walsh, Noel	
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O'Sullivan, Jerry	Power, Joseph	Ryan, Diane	Sullivan, William	Walsh, Ruairi	
O'Sullivan, Joesph	Power, Marc	Ryan, John	Supple, J.F.	Walsh, Thomas	
O'Sullivan, John	Power, Mary	Ryan, John Paul	Tangney, Brendan	Walshe, Don	
O'Sullivan, John P D	Pratt, Richard	Ryan, John R	Tangney, James	Walshe, Valerie	
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O'Sullivan, John G	Purcell, Peter	Ryan, Linda	Taylor, Rose	Waters, Robert	
O'Sullivan, John M	Pyne, Jenna	Ryan, Thomas	Terry, Gearoid	Webster, Eileen	
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O'Sullivan, Kieran	Pyne, Ros	Scallan, Richard	Thompson, Peter	Webster, Meave	
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O'Sullivan, Laura	Quane, Mick	Scannell, Barry	Tighe, Joe	Weir, Tony	
O'Sullivan, Liam	Quane, Paul	Scannell, Cian	Tighe, Noreen	Whelan, Jerry	
O'Sullivan, Marion	Quigley Snr., Pat	Scannell, Finbarr	Toal, Carl	White, Ian	
O'Sullivan, Mark T	Quigley, Conor	Scannell, Michael	Tobin Jnr., Brian	White, Robert	
O'Sullivan, Mary	Quigley, Jim	Scott, R.D.	Tobin, Eileen	Whitnell, Tony	
O'Sullivan, Michael G	Quigley, Lorna	Scott, Richard	Tobin, Jane	Williams, Elizabeth P	
O'Sullivan, Orla	Quigley, Russell	Scriven, Ken	Tobin, John	Williams, Noel	
O'Sullivan, Pdraig	Quinn, John M	Scriven, Peter	Tobin, Marc	Williams, Sheila	
O'Sullivan, Patricia	Quinn, Robert	Scriven, Ted	Tobin, Sheila	Wixted, Declan	

MONKSTOWN GOLF CLUB

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APPENDIX E HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Honorary life membership is bestowed on people who make a major contribution to the club and/or who have achieved notable success in golf. At Monkstown Golf Club, honorary life membership has been conferred on the following:

1912	Mr. E.F. Bayley (Chicago)
1949	Michael Power
1950	William J. Dwyer Col. J. Stratford Cummins
1953	Tom W. Egan J.F. Maguire
1956	Robert McK. Fleury George F. Crosbie
1959	William A. Andrews
1962	Jerome P. McCarthy
1972	Tom A. Carey Jack Lynch
1975	James R. Boyd Barrett
1979	William T. Locke
1994	John O'Reilly
1995	Ada O'Sullivan
2008	Phil O'Sullivan Michael Murphy

APPENDIX F PROFESSIONALS

1908-1914	Peter O'Hare
1914-1917	Jack Higgins
1917-1918	Jeremiah Finnegan
1918-1919	N. Holly
1919-1920	Thomas Gaffney
1921-1922	David Brown (of Cork Golf Club)
1923-1925	No professional
1926-1933	Jeremiah (Miah) Coakley
1933-1957	Jim Higgins
1957-1961	Jerry Collins
1961-1974	Finbar Condon
1974 -	Batt Murphy

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Rob Breathnach
Maria Broderick
John Byrne
Tom Carey
Peter Carr
Finbar Coakley
Barry Collins
Finbar Condon
Jeanne Cronin
John Cunningham
Gillian Devine
Tom Egan
Edward Ellis
John Ellis
Barry Ferriss
Frank Fitzgerald
Robert Fleury
Richard Fleury
Valerie Fleury
Sarah Foott
Helen Geary
Billy George
Dermot Gilleece
Dan Joe Hayes
Marie Healy
Charles Hennessy
Jerry Higgins
Ted Johnson
Denis Keane
Fifi Lauhoff
Martina Lehane
Leone Levis
Michael Lenihan
Jim Long
John Lotty

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Hilary Madden
Mary Maxwell
Brendan Mulcahy
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A CENTENARY HISTORY

CUMANN GHAILF BHAILE AN MHANAIGH
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1908 - 2008