

## Elsham Golf Club Seniors Section – Captains Report 2021

It was a big surprise to me when last year's Captain, Russell Orr, asked me to be his Vice Captain in 2020. This to the point I wondered what I'd done wrong to deserve this potential 'poison chalice' which resulted in me being Captain in 2021! I only took up golf at the young age of 70 and having joined Elsham Golf Club in 2017 was new to the Club and its members. However, I can honestly say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as your Captain over the last year and that is largely due to the Seniors membership and in particular the interactions with members of the committee. Working with Ian, Robin, Mike and Russell has been a pleasure. I believe the committee meetings proved to be very productive and I trust that the membership have appreciated the outcome of our deliberations – the feedback from the survey that we undertook early in the year was very encouraging and the committee took on board your views, although I am aware some members ('the conscientious objectors') were disappointed that their views were not always in line with the 'majority position'. Suffice to say we did consider all the feedback and made changes to the Roll Ups and introduced more fun days in line with your wishes, but of course 'you cannot please everyone all the time'! In addition to the usual Elsham Seniors competitions we have benefitted from two additional ones this year thanks to the support of Russell Orr and Jim Kirman who have provided the Trophies (see Ian's' report).

This year has been another challenging one due to the ongoing Pandemic yet we have managed a very full year of golf in terms of the various competitions, away days and of course interclub matches as detailed in Ian's' Report – even though Lincolnshire Golf determined inter-club matches could only commence from 17<sup>th</sup> May we still managed to play 25 matches. Two of these matches however were played before this date, 'over the river', because in Yorkshire interclub matches were permissible, under strict conditions, and Hull and Cave Castle Golf Clubs were able to accommodate us for our first matches of the season.

As you know the Captains Charity this year has been Lindsey Lodge Hospice and once again the membership has shown their generosity resulting in the Seniors donating £2108.83 to the Hospice. Many thanks to vice-captain Mike for organising the Christmas raffle which contributed the majority of the funds to my chosen charity. In addition, we also donated £183 to Lincs Air Ambulance. The Seniors Membership should be proud of raising a grand total of £2291.83 during the year for those two local Charities.

Finally, I want to thank in particular Ian Carr and Robin Peak on behalf of our membership for all the work they do to ensure the smooth running of the Seniors Section arranging all the Interclub Matches, Competitions and Away days etc. As Captain I have had a much easier year than our hard working Secretary and Treasurer who have ensured we have all enjoyed what I believe has been a very successful year.

In closing it has been an honour and a privilege for me to have been your Captain and represent the Seniors. Our section is a vibrant and important part of the fabric of Elsham Golf Club and I thank you all for your support and encouragement throughout the year. I wish Mike Gibson every success as your captain in 2022 in the knowledge that the membership will support him all the way.