

Watsonian Golf Club

Whilst the 2020 season has suffered from the lockdown, that was in sharp contrast to the success of the 2019 season for the Watsonian Golf Club.

A successful Halford Hewitt in April saw the team reach the semi-final only to lose in extra holes to eventual winners Malvern, who rode their luck all the way to the end of the 23rd hole in the final.

Team success did arrive soon after in the Edinburgh Trophy Under 35 section where the team of Jamie Forbes, Rory Forbes, Duncan Johnston, Adam Rae and Matt Taylor pipped Heriot's FP at the post. Always nice to do that. Merchant Company School honour was complete with another Team victory in the Gilbert Archer Cup in conjunction with the Watsonian Ladies section over the Erskine Stewart's Melville Team.

Within the club, the year belonged to Richard Johnston who not only won the Gold Medal at Muirfield and the Club Championship, but was also selected to represent Scotland in the Senior Home Internationals. His excellent form survived lockdown and continued into 2020 with a 7 under round of 65 in the 2nd round to win the Scottish Seniors event at Strathmore in August.

The 2019 Yangtse Trophy at Muirfield was claimed by Martin Luca and the Spring Outing to Gullane was won by Greg Nicolson (scratch) and Rory Forbes (nett) and our B Champion was Jamie Forbes to keep it in the family.

Our 2020 Annual Dinner was one of the early casualties of lockdown and had been keenly anticipated after the success of the 2019 dinner when the main speaker was renowned rugby commentator Ian Robertson. Over 140 guests enjoyed a fantastic evening at Myreside and plans are ready for a blockbuster follow up at the 2021 dinner in March.

Golf has been one of the fortunate sports to emerge successfully from the lockdown and we are still hopeful that our outing to Gullane will take place on 24 October. We have a full schedule of events planned for 2021 and a thriving membership so please join us and get involved. Former pupils, parents of pupils or staff of George Watson's College are welcome and can join online at www.watsoniangolfclub.com

Martin Hopley
Captain