

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT 2016

Mr. Captain, Mr President and Club Members, I would like to welcome you all to the Twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of West Waterford Golf Club for the year 2016.

After the highs of Gary Hurley's involvement with the victorious Walker Cup Team last year, it might have been a bit sceptical to think that the accolades that both Gary and Seamus Power had reached would not be repeated or even surpassed. How wrong this assessment would prove to be. In 2016, it was Seamus who hit the headlines when he qualified to play for a medal in golf at the Rio Olympics. Not only that but he was placed in the top 25 on the Web.Com Tour which gave him his card for the PGA Tour. An incredible achievement for Seamus and another incredible piece of history for West Waterford Golf Club. Later in the report I will elaborate on both Seamus's and Gary's progression in their professional careers.



Seamus Power with Pádraig Harrington in Rio de Janeiro

Now it is with great pleasure that I present to you a summary of the 2016 golfing season at West Waterford Golf Club.

The Past Captains and Presidents Trophy, now in its second year was played for in early November 2015 and was won by Tommy Butler with Jimmy Murphy claiming the committee prize. While we were lucky that the day held fine for this competition, the same can't be said for many of the events which were due to be held over the coming months due to the disastrous wet, wet, wet, weather.

The Annual WLR Lions Club Christmas Hamper Appeal was held in early December. This very worthy fundraiser was very well supported once again even in terrible conditions. The renowned talented golfer Justin Spratt off 19 came in the winner with 29pts.

Killeagh GAA Golf Society gathered at West Waterford for their 24th annual Christmas outing at the club in mid-December. Ger Ahern, Haulie Collins and Adrian Galvin took the honours.

As every year, once Christmas is over, players are more than anxious to get out and play in the Winter League, but in 2016 each week from late December on, the headlines that greeted us in the weekly notes was "Comeragh Oil Winter League will commence as soon as weather conditions permit". With over 170 players signed up and 20 teams competing, members were frustrated as they were unable to get on the course. Eventually the League started in mid-January but it was mid-February before the first round was completed. Abbeyside were fast out of the blocks and were 5 points ahead of the chasing pack who were tightly bunched together. After Round 2 there were quite a few changes with Coolcormack topping the table and only a few points separating the bottom 4. March saw some improvement in the weather and this was evident on the course as Captains urged their players out to try and make it to the playoffs. Round 4 of the League was once again badly interrupted by the weather and it was mid-April before the qualifying rounds were completed. Table toppers "Old Boro" were pitched against Glenbeg who had scraped through to the matchplay rounds. There were some great battles in round 1 of the matchplays with some going down the 19th. The semi-finals then saw Touranore versus Carrigaline and Abbeyside versus Coolcormack. After a tough round of matches Justin Spratt's Touranore and Jason Louch's Coolcormack came through to fight it out in the Final. Coolcormack played the best golf in the final to claim the Cole Memorial Trophy for 2016. Many thanks to our sponsors Comeragh Oil and to the many members who turned out to play to make this another very successful Winter League "despite the weather".

Congratulations to Ray and Ann Rochford for their great organisation of the Margaret Rochford and Tom Fitzgibbon Memorials which were held in February. The overall winner was West Waterford's own Tommy Butler.

The South East League team got their campaign off to a winning start with an 8 to 4 win over Youghal at West Waterford in early March. The following week saw West Waterford with another comprehensive win against Castlemartyr at Youghal Golf Club. West Waterford had a 6 to 6 draw against Dungarvan in their next outing at Dungarvan Golf Club. Our South East league team had to play Youghal a second time due to a slight controversy caused by Lismore not playing in the League and once again West Waterford beat them away in Youghal. West Waterford were now into the section final against East Cork Golf Club which was held in Dungarvan Golf Club in mid-April. Our lads put up a great performance on the day but were unfortunately beaten 4 to 2. Well done to Team managers Stephen Spillane and Tommy Butler and to all the team for some great performances.

Sean Wade's JB Carr team had a great away win against The Gold Coast in early April. In mid-April the Team travelled to Waterford Golf Club to take on the home team, but lost out to a strong outfit in the second round of that competition.

In early May, Tommy Butler brought his Jimmy Bruen Team to Youghal where they defeated both Youghal and The Gold Cast in the first two rounds. They then took on a tough Waterford Castle side and came out on top to set up a meeting with Ballykisteen in the East area final. Tommy fielded a very strong team with a good mixture of youth and experience

for the match against Ballykisteen in Carrick-on-Suir Golf Club at the end of May. Our lads put up a great battle against a very tough side but unfortunately it was not to be our day and we lost out on a 3 to 2 score line, but well done to Tommy and his panel of players.

Pierce Purcell manager, Stephen Spillane was delighted when his team had a great win over a fancied Tramore side in the preliminary round at Waterford Castle in mid-May. At the end of the month they came up against Lismore in the morning, again in Waterford Castle and after dispatching them the West Waterford men did likewise against Williamstown in the evening. They travelled back to the Castle on Sunday to play Youghal in the area semi-final. Another great performance saw the Purcell team progress to the area final which was set for Clonmel Golf Club on June 9th. Last year's All Ireland finalists, Thurles, were our opponents this time. Although the West Waterford men performed admirably they had no answer to a very strong Thurles team. Thanks and well done to Stephen and his entire panel who represented the club with distinction.

Michael Byrne's youthful Barton Shield team put up a great performance against Faithleg at Dundrum Golf Club in early July and were very unlucky to lose out in a very tight finish.

Our Junior Cup team were beaten by Youghal in the first round at Faithleg Golf Club in early July but thanks to manager Sean Wade and his team for their efforts.

The Senior Cup got under way at West Waterford at the end of June. Victories over Gold Coast and Dungarvan saw West Waterford through to a semi-final against a fancied Tramore side on Sunday morning. Our youthful team claimed victory in the deciding match on the 19th. This set up a final encounter with Waterford Castle on Sunday afternoon and once again our team of young lads, despite two tough days of competition acquitted themselves admirably and made Waterford Castle fight every inch of the way to claim a well deserved victory. Once again thanks to Michael Byrnes, Justin Spratt and the whole team.

The GUI introduced a new Inter Club competition in 2016 called the Inter Clubs Fourball Championship. In early June team manager Pat Landers and his West Waterford men defeated Gold Coast in the first round. Youghal provided the opposition in Round 2 later on in June and once again Pat's team did the business. This set up a meeting with Thurles Golf Club in mid-July. All concerned knew from experience that playing Thurles in any competition was going to be a major test. Unfortunately, Thurles lived up to their reputation and played the better golf to move into the next round. Well done to Pat and all his team for a great effort.

Well done to our Mixed Foursomes team who put in a spirited performance against Lismore at Gold Coast in mid-June. Lismore came out winners by clinching victory on the 19th in the deciding match. Thanks to Captain, Dermot, Lady Captain Jean and the entire panel for their time and effort.

Once again this year as the Belvedere Cup approached, all eligible players were keen to see if they had impressed team manager Edward Hickey to warrant a place on the side. In mid-June they travelled to Lismore and came away with two matches meaning they had a bit to do in the home leg to ensure moving to the next round. A 4 to 1 victory over Lismore in the

second leg played at West Waterford in late June ensued thus giving the Belvedere team a place in the semi-finals against Waterford Golf Club. The team recorded a 3 to 2 result over a strong Waterford side in the home leg at West Waterford in early July. With a slender lead and a place in the County Final at stake, the second leg was always going to be a tense affair. After some controversy and a lot of toing and froing during the matches it ended all square meaning Edward Hickey and his playing partner and seasoned campaigner Fintan Gee had to tee off the first again in sudden death. Experience told and West Waterford were into a County Final once again after victory on the second playoff hole. In early August the Belvedere team struck for Faithleg Golf Course in quest of a record fourth County Final win. Back to back wins in 2008 and 2009 and another win in 2015 was sure to inspire the team. Waterford Castle were the opponents this time in the final. Edward had his team well prepared and from the first match on the team were up for it and what a performance they gave to retain the title. Well done to Edward, Pat Power and all the team and to all the supporters who travelled to Faithleg.



BELVEDERE CUP COUNTY CHAMPIOS 2016

Once again thanks to all Team Managers and panellists. Hopefully 2017 will bring more hardware to West Waterford.

While our Teams have competed in the various Inter Club Cups and Shields, many members have had some great individual performances. In November 2015, Des Cleary and Phill Kinsella had wins in the South East Junior Alliance at Gowran and Carrick-on-Suir Golf Clubs respectively. Liam Hansbury secured first place at Dungarvan Golf Club in January also in the South East Junior Alliance. In March, Phil Kinsella was once again in the prizes in the Junior Alliance at West Waterford Golf Club. In April, Ray Rochford and Pat Power both won prizes in their categories in the Autumn Senior Alliance at the Gold Coast. The Senior Alliance was held at West Waterford in early May and John Flynn claimed first spot with Phil Kinsella coming in second. Well done to a past Captain, Ollie Broderick for coming in third in his

category. In July, Noel Murray narrowly lost out on a category 1 prize losing on a count back at Callan Golf Club in the Senior Alliance. Michael Byrne captured first prize with 42pts at Dungarvan Golf Club in October in the final outing of the Autumn Seniors Open for this year. Des Cleary had a magnificent score of 43pts in the South East Junior Alliance at Dungarvan Golf Club recently. Fellow clubman Stephen Spillane finished in 5th place with 37pts.

Once again it is an absolute pleasure to give an account of how our two pros have done over the past 12 months. Their progress and most especially Seamus's this year, now hits not only the minor golf publications but also the major ones and the major TV stations. Seamus's steady progress early in 2016 on the Web.Com Tour was completely turned upside down, when in May, he claimed his first professional win on that tour in the United Leasing & Finance Championship at Victoria National Golf Club in Indiana, the first Irishman to do so. Seamus carded scores of 69, 70, 70 and a final round of 67 to finish on 12 under par giving him a one shot win. Having started the week in 47th place on the money list, this win moved him up to 7th place and put him in a strong position to achieve his ultimate ambition of playing on the PGA Tour in 2017. A tied 7th place finish at Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship in the Dominican Republic on 18 under par in early June, a tied 9th place finish at the Rust-Oleum Championship in Illinois the following week, a tied 11th finish at The Nashville Golf Open in Tennessee a week later, a tied 16th finish at The Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonbrae, California, helped to keep his dream alive. Then in Oregon at The WinCo Foods Portland Open at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Course, Seamus finished on 11 under par which saw him tied 11th for the tournament. This all meant that he finished comfortably in 9th place in the top 25 for a PGA Tour Card. What a superb achievement by Seamus as he receives his PGA Tour Card and who knows what the future will bring. While concentrating on Seamus's progress on the Web.Com Tour during the year I skipped over one small detail. Well one couldn't really call it a small detail as it turned out not only to be one of the milestones in Seamus's career, but also another milestone in the history of West Waterford Golf Club. In July, after several top golfing stars withdrew from participation, Seamus was selected to represent Ireland at the Rio De Janeiro Olympics. When Ireland's Team Captain, Paul Mc Ginley contacted Seamus, he had no hesitation and was absolutely thrilled to be on the same team as Pdraig Harrington representing his country. After the excitement of Gary Hurley's Walker Cup success in 2015, this was yet another occasion when the fever pitch would go off the scales at West Waterford. After a 112 year interval, the sport of golf made a long awaited return to the Olympics. Seamus carded rounds of 71, 67, 74 and a 67 on the final day to finish 5 under par and tied 15th overall in the tournament. No medal for Seamus this time but a proud week for him and his family as he represented his country with flying colours. Congratulations Seamus and well done to our West Waterford Olympian. In June, Seamus won another Park Hotel Sports Star Monthly Award. Of course the celebration night for Seamus at West Waterford on September 14th will go down in history. On his first outing on the PGA Tour at The Safeway Open at Silverado Resort and Spa in Napa, California, Seamus was very unlucky to miss the cut by 1 shot. Two weeks later at The Sanderson Farm Championship in Mississippi, Seamus made the cut this time and very comfortably at that. Going into the final day on Sunday, Seamus was in a four way tie for sixth spot on 12 under par and only 2 shots behind the leaders, Luke List and Chris Kirk. A 77 on the day knocked him back to 29th place but well done Seamus for 3 great days of golf. Seamus's next outing was at The OHL Classic at the El Camaleon Golf Club in Playa del Carmen, Mayakoba, Mexico. Brilliant rounds of 68, 66 and a 64 saw him on 15

under par, well up the leader board. Although Sunday`s golf did not go too well for Seamus, he fought on to finish on 10 under par after a 76. Seamus made his fourth successive cut on the PGA Tour in the RSM Classic in Georgia at the Sea Island Resort in mid-November. The PGA used the secondary cut rule in that competition and this ruled Seamus out unfortunately. He is now taking a well earned break. Well done Seamus for the highlights over the past number of weeks.

The headlines which appeared everywhere last November “Hurley and Walker visit West Waterford Golf Club”. What a piece of history! It was a great honour for Gary`s home club to have this trophy in the clubhouse giving all its members, friends, dignitaries from other golf clubs and sports enthusiasts alike the chance to come and view this trophy in reality and also show their support and how proud they are of the Aglish man on his great achievement. Gary was one of Ireland`s “famous five” that were part of the Great Britain and Ireland Team that defeated the US to win the Walker Cup in September 2015 in Royal Lytham & St. Annes in Liverpool. This performance was one of the main reasons that Gary was picked as Munster Golfer of the Year 2015. In January, Gary was joint winner of the Park Hotel Sports Star Award for 2015 with Ferrybank Athlete Thomas Barr.



In early February, Gary won his first event as a professional on the Algarve Pro Tour. He had a one shot win at the Onyria Palmares Beach & Golf Resort to win the Palmares Classic V from very tough opposition. In mid-March, Gary had a top twenty finish at the Barclays

Kenya Open on 7 under par. In early May, he had another great performance at the Montecchia Open at Padova, Italy, where he finished on 15 under, tied 4th, only 2 shots behind the winner. Excitement rose once again at West Waterford when news filtered through that Gary was going to be playing in the Irish Open at the K Club from May 19th to 22nd. Rounds of 73 and 71 were sufficient to see Gary safely make the cut. As always "The Gary Gang" were out in force to show their support to the West Waterford golfer over the four days despite the variable weather conditions. As well as collecting a sizable pay cheque Gary will have gained invaluable experience which will stand to him in future events. At the end of September, Gary had another impressive performance in the Kazakhstan Open at the Zhailjau Golf Resort. In November, Gary just missed out on a European Tour Card at the European Tour Qualifying School final stage which was played at PGA Catalunya Resort, Girona, Spain. He was just 3 strokes outside the magic number to win that elusive card. Despite his disappointment, Gary left Girona with more than he had on arrival – a full Challenge Tour Card and the knowledge that he is good enough to make it. During the year, renowned Limerick Leader golf columnist Ivan Morris published a list of the top 25 all-time greatest golfers in Munster. Gary ranks at no 19 on the list.

All at West Waterford wish Gary and Seamus the best of luck in the future and we all hope that there are many more big performances coming down the road.

Fordes Daybreak once again sponsored the Junior Scratch Cup which was held at West Waterford Easter Bank Holiday Monday, March 28th. Sam Morrissey of Slievenamon Golf Club off 9 came in first with a 76 just shading it from our own Conor Sheehan off 7 also with a 76. 1st and 2nd Net went to club members Stephen Spillane and John Fleming both with 67`s.

The Intermediate Scratch Cup sponsored kindly again this year by Moorings Bar & Restaurant was held in mid-August and was won by clubman Pdraig Breathnach off 13 with an 82 winning on the back 9 from fellow clubman Phil Kinsella off 14 also with an 82. West Waterford dominated the prizes with Ray Donnelly off 12 coming in third with an 83. 1st Net going to Alan Twomey off 15 with a 69.

The Minor Scratch Cup sponsored very kindly by An Seanchaí Bar & Restaurant was held over the same weekend and once again it was a clean sweep for West Waterford with Eddie Glavin off 19 taking the trophy with an 82. Percy Walsh off 20 just shaded it from Mathew Mc Carthy off 21 with an 87 winning on the back nine to take second spot. Seasoned campaigner John Mulcahy off 26 took 1st Net with a 69.

The Al Eile Open Qualifier once again commenced this year at the start of April. The Grand Final was held on Sunday, September 18th. In dry but gusty conditions, clubman Stephen Spillane off 9 carded an excellent 38pts to emerge as the winner and in so doing received a five year exemption from qualifying in future Al Eile Qualifiers. Darren Cunningham off 16 of Millicient Golf Club ran in second with 36pts winning on the back nine from West Waterford man Phil Kinsella off 14, also with 36pts. Junior member Simon Kelly off 7 took Gross with 28pts. Thanks to all the members and visitors alike who played in this year`s qualifier.

Tuesday Treats began back in early April also. With prizes for High Handicappers, Guests and Members from other clubs, this competition has gone from strength to strength. Much credit must go to John Joyce for all his effort in making this social golf event a great success and many thanks to all those who participated during the year.

The Annual Sunshine Classic got under way at West Waterford on St Patrick's Day and ran for 10 days. There was a fantastic turnout of golfers, from near and far, who competed for that Sunshine Holiday. While we were blessed with great weather for the Classic, the Final had to be postponed for a week once again due to the weather. The final took place on Saturday, April 9th with the 18 qualifying teams lining out to see who would be the 2016 winners. While the day started good, showers of hail and rain moved in fast to make conditions tough. The testing conditions did not deter the winners, Declan Mooney, Tony Davern, Bill Hanley and Brendan O'Keefe of Castlecomer Golf Club who took the top prize with 91pts. Well done to all concerned in the organisation and running of this year's Classic. A big thank you to our sponsors, Dungarvan Transport and to everyone who played in the event.

In mid-April a classic was held in aid of Suicide Prevention (Let's Get Together Classic). Leigh Desmond, Ross Desmond, Dave O'Keefe and Killian Daly took the honours with 93pts.

The May Bank Holiday Open Singles was sponsored by the Country Store. Mark Flynn off 13 took the spoils with 42pts followed by Stephen Spillane with 39pts. Best Gross going to Conor Sheehan off 7 with 30pts.

Club Déise held their GAA Classic in mid-May at West Waterford. Club President Diarmad Horgan, past President Pat Murray with Reena Landers and Joan Ronayne rolled back the years and romped home to win with 105pts.

The Qualifying round of Mr Dermot Drohan's Captain's Prize took place on May 27th, 28th and 29th of May with the final round taking place on Saturday, June 4th. There was a great turnout by the members for this major event in our calendar and a fitting tribute to our Club Captain Dermot. After the qualifying round, Liam O'Brien lead the field with a 66 closely followed by Tomás Curran and Fintan Gee, both on 68's. The top 60 gave it their all in the final which was held on a beautiful sunny day with temperatures high. Liam O'Brien off 11 held his nerve and carded a 71 to go with his 66 for 137 to lift the trophy. Jack Foley off 11 came in 2 strokes behind to claim second spot. Best Gross went to Phillip Spratt off 2 with a 146. Well done to Dermot and his wife Eveleen for a great weekend of golf and a great presentation night. Dermot congratulated all the winners and also thanked his Family who have been a source of great support during his Captain's tenure so far this year.

Well done to Nissan Mechanic Liam Suipéal, who won the Spring Challenge defeating Robert Torpey of GSK with 58pts in early June.

Early June also saw the running of the Friary Handball Classic for the fifteenth year at West Waterford Golf Club. First home were a Dungarvan team of Eddie Elstead, John Elstead, Jack Elstead and Declan Walsh with 71pts. In second place came some "familiar names", Diarmad Horgan, Pat Murray, Reena Landers and Joan Ronayne with 66pts.

In mid-July, the 20th Annual Killeagh GAA Classic was held at West Waterford and once again Ray Richford and his organising committee did humendous work to ensure another great

fundraising event. Eamonn Brennan, Michael Daly and Ken Harrington from Castlecomer ran in the winners with a huge score of 112pts.

The Annual Open Week began at West Waterford Golf Club on Friday, July 22nd. Specsavers Wilton, sponsored an Open 13 Hole Scramble on the first day of Open Week. Barry Hamilton, David Buckley and Jason Louch took first prize.

David Hayes sponsored an 18 Hole Open Singles Stableford competition on the second day of Open Week and this was won by clubman Denis Conway off 12 with 43pts closely followed by Robbie Deady off 9 with 42pts. Best Gross went to Darragh Herlihy off 3 with 34pts.

On the first Sunday of Open Week, Mc Guirks Golf sponsored an Open Fourball ("With a Difference") event which was won by Tom O`Donoghue and Breda O`Donoghue with 65pts. Martin O`Driscoll and Ger Mulcahy ran in second with 59pts.

On the Tuesday of Open Week Terra Nua Building Contractors sponsored an Open 3 Person Champagne Scramble and this was won by Justin Spratt, Phillip Spratt and Terry O`Callaghan with 105pts.

Wednesday saw Dungarvan Nissan sponsor an Open 18 Hole Single Stableford competition which was won by West Waterford man John O`Connell off 11 with 39pts with Eoin Conway off 2 taking Gross with 35pts.

Murray`s Pharmacy sponsored an Open Gents 9 Hole during Ladies day and this was won by John Keane off 15 with 22pts.

Deise Golf World sponsored an Open 18 Hole Stableford competition on the second Friday of Open Week and this was won by clubman John Fleming off 12 with 39pts closely followed by young golfer Max Quinn off 11 with 38pts. Best Gross going to Eoin Conway once again, with 36pts.

FDC sponsored an Open Fourball competition on the last Saturday of Open Week and this was won by Owen O`Keefe and Pat Higgins with 46pts.

We are very grateful to the Coolcormack Residents Association who kindly sponsored both of the last two days of Open Week. An Open Ladies and Gents 3 Person Team event on the Sunday which was won by the Quinn golfing family, Sergei, Max and John with 84pts closely followed by John Nolan, Joan Nolan and Therese Garvey with 82pts.

Mondays event was an Open 18 Hole Ladies and Gents Singles Stroke competition and was won by clubman Paul Morrissey off 11 with a 73.

During Open Week we were very lucky with the weather which was very kind to us and this is a huge help in holding any event. We had visitors from far and wide during the week who thoroughly enjoyed their golf. We would like to thank sincerely all our Open Week Sponsors and also everyone who came and supported West Waterford during one of the most important weeks in our golfing calendar.

Ardmore GAA held their Classic in early August and it was a local Ladies team who took the honours, Una Mulligan, Geraldine O`Connor, Jean O`Donovan and Aoife McGovern with 100pts.

The qualifying rounds of Mr Diarmad Horgan`s President`s Prize were held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 19th, 20th and 21st of August with the final round being played on Saturday, August 27th. Despite the rough weather conditions, members turned out in force to support our popular President. After a magnificent score of 41pts on Saturday to lead the

qualifying scores, Liam O'Brien was the talk of the town. Would he do the double? On the day of the final however, pressure must have got to Liam and the "Double" would have to wait for another year. It was Martin O'Driscoll off 15 who held his nerve to finish with 78pts over the two days to win the beautiful prize. Former Club President Pat Murray off 25 also had 78pts but lost out on the count back and had to settle for second place. Best Gross went to Luke Cummins off 1 with 72pts. There was a great crowd in the Clubhouse for the prize giving. Well done to Diarmad and his Family for a great competition and a great night of music and craic.

The Club ran a mini Autumn Open Week in the middle of September. The 13 Hole 3 Person team event was won by Shane Hanrahan, Paddy Murphy and Denis Hanrahan with 47pts. The Open Fourball was won by Stephen Spillane and Paul Carroll with 46pts.

A Classic in remembrance of the great Pablo from Clashmore was held at West Waterford at the end of September in aid of Marymount Hospice. 1st Overall were Liam Troy, Pa McCarthy and Percy Walsh with 78pts. Well done to Sean Fleming for his Hole in One on the 9th during the running of the classic.

An Open 3 Person Rumble was held over the October Bank Holiday Weekend and this was won by Clubmen Luke Swayne, Robbie Dalton and Liam Leahy with 78pts.

Each and every year I reserve a place for the Juniors in my report as we all know they are the future of the club. These Juniors now have two Professional players to look up to and hopefully one or two more will follow in the footsteps of Seamus and Gary.

In March, our Junior Foursomes Team under the guidance of Michael Byrnes and Justin Spratt, qualified at the Gold Coast for the next round in April at Carrick-on-Suir Golf Club. Here they put in a brilliant display against a fancied Tramore. With all matches going the full distance we lost out overall by 2 holes.

In the Fred Daly Trophy in April, West Waterford's young lads came up against a tough Faithleg side and although having battled very hard they lost out at Carrick-on-Suir Golf Club.

In the Fred Daly Plate in August, West Waterford recorded wins against Youghal, Slievenamon and Blarney to set them up in a Munster semi-final against Mahon. At Youghal Golf Club in early September, despite their best efforts, the young lads had to give way to a more experienced opposition. Well done to the team, management and supporters. The experience gained will no doubt, prove valuable in the future.

Many thanks to all those who sponsored events for the Juniors during the year.

On the Monday of Open Week in July, Dawn Meats sponsored an Open 18 Hole Singles Stroke competition and this was won by Brian Elliot off 23 from Newlands Golf Club with a 63.

One of our Pros, Gary Hurley very kindly sponsored an 18 Hole Singles Competition in early August for the Juniors and this was won by Joe Kuhne off 20 with 45pts.

Our Club President, Diarmad Horgan also very kindly sponsored an 18 Hole Competition in August for the Juniors and this was won by Michael Hanlon off 8 with 43pts.

Junior Captain, Conor Duggan held his Captain's Prize in August at the club and this was won by Sean Ronayne off 25 with 45pts.

The Management of West Waterford Golf & Country Club sponsored The Junior Golfer of the Year and this was won by Sean Ronayne with 213pts followed in second place by Michael Hanlon with 208 pts.

The Ray Spratt Junior Matchplay Trophy was won by Sean Ronayne after victory over Conor Ryan.

The Club Matchplays once again were keenly contested during 2016.

The Gents Club Foursomes very kindly sponsored by Arachas Insurances was won by Stephen Spillane and Percy Walsh with a brilliant 61, followed in second place by Luke Swayne and Brian Murphy with a 65.

The Club Singles sponsored very kindly by Murray`s Pharmacy saw the experienced Pat Murphy up against the young kid on the block Richard Ronayne. Richard overcame a strong challenge from Pat to record a great 3 and 2 victory.

The Club Fourball very kindly sponsored by Quinlan Butchers saw Bertie Hallahan and Dennis Conway up against Pat Power and Richard Ronayne in the final. During the match there was never more than two holes separating the pairs. Richard made par on the 18th to send the match down the 19th. Dennis sank an 8 footer to win the match and break the hearts of Richard and incoming Captain Pat.

The Club Mixed Foursomes once again very kindly sponsored by Topline Currans was played over 13 Holes this year. Des Cleary and his "golfing hot partner" Ciara Donnelly ran in the winners with a 49.7 followed in second place by the "ideal partnership" of Edward Hickey and Jean Donovan with a 51.5.

We thank all those who took part in all our various competitions in 2016.

The competitive Teams and Team Managers get a special thank you and maybe 2017 will bring better rewards.

West Waterford Golf Course is the envy of many around and we are truly grateful to Austin, Morrie and their many volunteers.

The Restaurant is now one of the popular places to eat and we thank Bridget, John Joyce and their helpers for this great effort.

West Waterford is indebted to the huge work put in by Jimmy Murphy and Pat Power. Pat Murphy must be thanked for his help and work on the course.

The office would be a very drab place without Gillian`s smile and easy demeanour and her dedication to the job.

To all the committee members for all the work put in during the year, thank you.

A special word of thanks to our Captain, Dermot Drohan for his great year in office.

We thank our President, Diarmad Horgan for his generosity and help and we wish him the best of luck as he heads into his second year in office.

May I compliment Lady Captain Jean Conway for her great year in office (Noel, you can have her back now). Also to her committee, thank you for all your efforts in 2016.

To all the members, thank you for making 2016 yet another memorable year at West Waterford Golf Club.

Unfortunately, a former member, Mark Long passed away this year. For those who didn`t know him he was a popular member who was part of the 2008 winning Belvedere Cup Team who defeated Waterford Castle at Faithleg. His claim to fame on the day was having to go down the 19th, where he drove the first green to help win the hole and so claim the Trophy.

Mark also won a Minor Scratch Cup at West Waterford in 2007. To Mark`s Family we offer our deepest sympathy`s and to all members who lost loved ones, Ar Dheis dé go raibh Siad. In conclusion I would like to wish Pat Power every success as he starts his year as Captain of West Waterford Golf Club and to all the members, successful and enjoyable golfing in 2017.

Thank You.

Maurice Hallahan
Honorary Secretary
West Waterford Golf Club.

