



# Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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### Chairperson's Report



I can't believe that it has been a year since I took over the Chair. It has certainly been a challenging year and with the economic situation as it is, I anticipate another difficult year for the club. It is vitally important that we attract new members and your committee is looking at various initiatives to help with recruitment. However if you know anyone who wishes to play, please encourage them to join us.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to raising sufficient funds to enable the Club to purchase a greens iron. It was pleasing to see so many members willing to help in this regard. The order for the iron is being processed and it should arrive within the next few weeks. This should mean faster and smoother greens next year.

Until then I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Peter Izod





## Captain's Report



### From the Captain

This my absolutely FINAL newsletter of my Captaincy. After 4 years in the role I look forward to handing over the reins to Chris Dix. Over the last few weeks we have been finalising the preparations for next year, preparing the club diary and planning of other events like our General Meeting which is scheduled for the evening of the 9th December, where we elect the officers of the club for the new golfing year. This will be followed by the Club Presentation night, where we will be completing the presentation of prizes to the competition winners, so I urge as many members to attend as possible.

It has been a huge honour to represent the club and its members as Captain, I have been humbled by the amount of support and encouragement I have received over the years. I hope and trust you afford Chris the same level of support. I can now relax and try and get some better golf played and get my handicap down.

There are so many people to thank it would take me ages, needless to say I have reached out already, to make my personal thanks to those members of staff, and club members who have supported me so well.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter we have now moved into the 'wetter' period of the year and at this time it becomes so important that all golfers replace divots and repair any pitch marks, to retain the course in the best condition possible during the winter months. I continue to get many comments from members complaining about this element of the club, but I have to be honest that I see many and repair multiple examples that are new issues and are caused by our members not looking after their course. It is your golf course – please look after it please.



## Captain's Report - Continued



I would like to emphasise that we are really struggling to find new members of staff to fill vacant positions within the bar & catering team. If you know of anyone who is looking for daytime work during the week or at the weekend please contact Roger.

Our Christmas Draw will be held on Sunday 11th December following the final competition of the year – AM-AM Stableford competition with a shotgun start. The tickets are now on sale in the bar area. Any donations to the prize table are always welcome.

I wish to thank all members for their continued support to me as Captain over the years.

Enjoy your golf, play well and stay safe.

Finally may I wish you all, a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Tony Shillcock  
Oundle Golf Club Captain 2022



## Women's Captain's Report

This is my last newsletter as the Womens Captain so I would just like to take this final opportunity to thank everyone who has supported and helped me in making it a very positive and successful year. Free from the constraints of the pandemic and back to near normal life we have been able to plan knowing that things would not be cancelled at the last minute. We held a very successful Open Day in June putting Oundle Golf Club back on the radar in terms of Womens Golf and hopefully we can build on this for next year. My Captains day was great fun and well supported and a good day was I believe had by all. We went through to the quarter finals with Cecil Leitch but sadly our journey ended there, however we will be back next year!

The summer seemed to fly by and there were some great competitions and results.

Suddenly we are into November and our AGM. It was an absolute privilege and pleasure to have Cicely Robinson attend. Cicely has been a member of the club for 50 years, she has not been playing for a while now but came back to join us for her 100th birthday celebrations. She wanted to tee off on the first hole to mark this and she did so with great joy and a great drive! What a true inspiration Cicely is to us all. Happy Birthday Cicely and we hope you enjoyed all of your celebrations.

Finally I would like to thank Karen Taylor for taking on the role of Womens Captain 22/23 and wish her all the very best as she takes up the position.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Happy Golfing in 2023.

Debbie



## Professional News

We hope as many of you as possible continue to play and practice during December and, as always, if I can be of any help with fittings or advice, please don't hesitate to give me a call or email (07949 706445 or [johnpengelly@btinternet.com](mailto:johnpengelly@btinternet.com)). We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a great golfing New Year along with many thanks for your continued support.

Enjoy your golf,  
John Pengelly PGA Professional

## December Offers

### Christmas Special Offers!

- Purchase any Powakaddy or Motocaddy electric trolley to get any golf bag at half price. Offer ends 31st December 2022.
- Spend over £100 in the Pro Shop and receive a half-hour golf lesson with Hannah free of charge. Lessons to be taken by 28th February 2023.

### Lesson Offers

Lesson packages available throughout December and for Christmas are:

- 1 x 1/2 hour lesson for £25
- 3 x 1/2 hour lessons for £65
- 5 x 1/2 hour lessons for £100

## Catering Report



Hello Oundle golfers,

I hope you are all keeping well. You could say things have been a bit hectic for us. It seems having a damaged hand is the flavour of the month.

Since we last spoke I have been turning out various meals for our Probus groups and our ladies AGM. From the feedback I have received I can say everything is going quite well. Over the last week a few of the lady members plus Ian Tucker, John Mumford and Jamie from the pro shop have stepped up to answer my rallying call. Your help was gratefully received. Over the next month I have a few Christmas shindigs. I am trying to organise my rotas for the month so I can see what help I need. Unfortunately Paula has now left the club, so it would be great if some of you can help out. This means we can ensure we have the correct cover at the right time.

May I ask if you have anything booked through December can you give me numbers, menu choices, timings etc asap so I can ensure the smooth running of the department. Time is ticking and the elves need to know what they are doing. They are busy like we all are.

Well that's it for the time being as I need to get back into the kitchen. Until next time may I take the opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2023!

Best wishes

The Catering Team aka Santa and his Elves



## Greenkeeper Report



Over the last two weeks we have had 94mm of rain. The course has held up well for the most part with just a few puddles in places. The long dry summer had led to the course being very dry towards the back end of the season and this is the reason the course was able to absorb so much water in such a short period of time. I have brought the 90-degree rule into force on holes 5-8 to help try and protect these fairways during the winter period. As we know they tend to be our wettest holes.

The leaves have been coming down in ever increasing numbers over the last month. We have fitted mulching plates and blades to the rough cutter and have been going around the course as often as possible trying to chop them up. I think we are through the worst of this now and should be starting to win the battle.

The fairways were under a lot of stress through the summer with the temperatures reaching up to 40 degrees. The soil has been baked hard and become compacted. To solve this problem and help with drainage and recovery we have started verti-draining the fairways. This is a slow process but should be completed in the next few weeks.

At the end of October after the Crain fly's had finished laying their eggs we sprayed with a pest preventer chemical to try and reduce the amount of leather jackets that hatch. We will re-apply in the middle of December as recommended to get the maximum effect.



## Greenkeeper Report - Continued



The irrigation system has been shut down for the winter. This involves blowing all the pipes through with compressed air so there is no water in the system through out the winter. Some of the pipes are only a few inches underground in places and would freeze and burst if this was not done. A new tank liner and lid have also been fitted as the liner split mid-way through last season. I would like to thank the senior's section for their donation to make this happen.

We are currently in the process of buying a greens iron for the course. This is a ride on machine that has that has multiple rollers on the bottom of it. It is called a TRUE-TURF RS48-11D for those of you who want to google it. The purpose of this piece of equipment is to remove small indentations from the green and produce a smoother, faster putting surface. A big thank you to all the people who donated to make this happen.

Thank you

Dan



## Member News!

On Tuesday 22nd November 2022, Oundle Golf Club's oldest member celebrated her 100th Birthday. Cicely Grace Robinson has been a member at the club for 50 years, and she continued to play up to the age of 94.

Debbie Verdino, Oundle's Women's Captain, presented Cicely with a card and presents from Women members, while Club President Richard Cole presented her with a bouquet of flowers. They then cut her birthday cake while members sang Happy Birthday and gave three cheers.

Following the celebration, the women's team watched in wonder as she drove off on the first tee to mark the occasion. Cicely thanked everybody for their good wishes and said how much she missed them all.

Photos attached include Debbie Verdino, Oundle's Women's Captain with Cicely Robinson, and Cicely Robinson on the golf course.





## Member News!

From Oundle to Queenstown!

Nes Reed (club administrator) recently went on holiday to New Zealand and bumped into Colin Stanyon (Seniors member) in Queenstown!

Nes said "It was lovely for Peter and I to meet up with Colin and Jane, they were starting their NZ adventure as we were finishing ours. A wonderful country to visit, just such a long way...."



## Send us your pics!

Don't forget, you can send us your pictures to get featured in our newsletter and on social media! Send them to our social media. Just search @oundlegolfclub

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DECEMBER 2022