



## Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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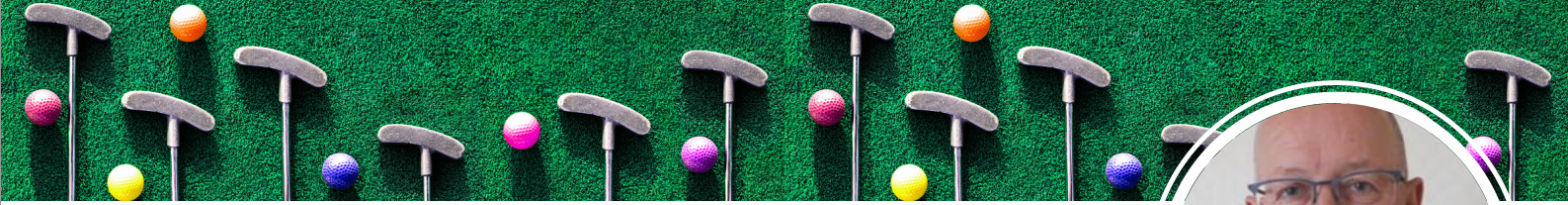
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## Chairperson's Report

The growing season appears to have arrived with a vengeance. We are advertising for a new head greenkeeper and expect to be interviewing prospective candidates in early June. In the meantime please give your support to the greens staff who work exceptionally hard to keep the course in good order with limited resources.

Dave Moreland has been with us as our new professional for a month. Unfortunately he has had to return to Qatar to close down his business and family affairs there. He will be back permanently at the end of June.

I would again repeat that we still need new members. Doug Walker and his team are actively marketing the Club with a view to attracting new members and visitors. If you see new faces on the course please be courteous and welcoming. They could be prospective new members.

Many thanks

Peter Izod



## Captain's Report



Hi all, I must say that this month has flown by, it doesn't seem long since I wrote last month's entry.

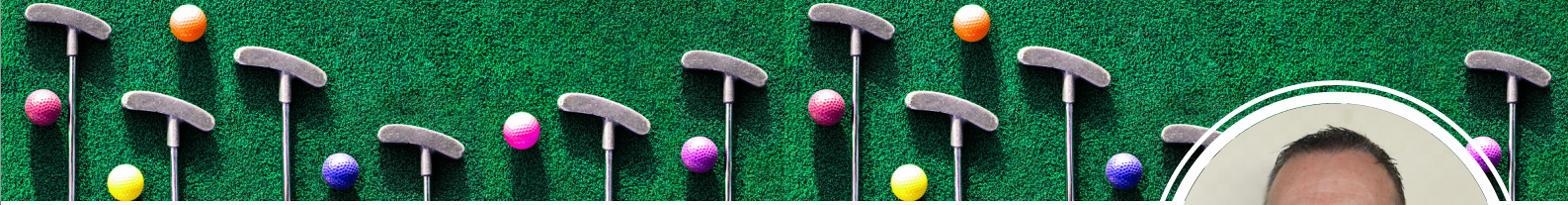
I will begin with April's victors, earlier in the month we held our Easter competition which was a 4bbb format. On the Saturday, Richard Nunn and Barry Watts won on countback from two other pairs and on the Sunday, Guy and Jack Bolsover were victorious. The following weekend saw a foursomes competition where Richard and Barry took the honours once again. The club's first board competition of the year takes place in April, the Dawson Trophy which was won by David Jack. Jim Detjen took the second division.

Congratulations go to Alan Jones, Philip Twiselton, Michael Thompson and Ted Jones for winning the Spring Texas Scramble on countback. I decided to hold a nearest the pin instead of the normal two's for this one, let me know your thoughts if I see you out on the course and I'll go with the majority for the summer scramble. Richard Cole was successful and his team each won a £15 proshop voucher. At the third attempt we finally completed the first round of the Summer Stableford competitions with Chris Jones winning the first division with an excellent score of 42 points. Nigel Cox with 36 points won the second division. I will put the running totals up in the changing room after we have completed the second round later this month.

On to the 100 club draw, the first prize went to Martin Camp second Mick Ives and third Richard Cole.

The bar receipt winner and a bottle of wine was won by Guy Fowler.

Our Hollingsworth team had their first match in April and beat Silverstone 3-2 well done to Charlie and his team. Not so much good news for the handicap league team who narrowly lost their first game 7-6 against Kettering.



## Captain's Report - Continued

The mixed section were also defeated away to Elton Furze. Congratulations go to Nick Harrison and Henry Cade who won a gain in the Daily Mail foursomes and go forward to the next round. Keep it going lads.

Coming up this weekend I've got my Charity Day. Thank you for your donations for raffle prizes, I could still do with a few more though, please either leave them behind the bar, hand them into the office or bring them along on the day. Many thanks.

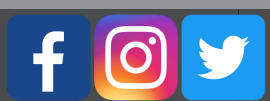
We are also hosting the Junior Golf Tour. Thanks go out to all the volunteers in the bar and out on the course who have given up their time to make this event a successful one.

May sees the first of the club's friendly matches, which is a game against Gedney Hill. I have put the entry sheets up on the notice board at the top of the stairs for both the home and away fixtures. The format will be breakfast at 9:00 first tee at 10:00 six pairs, ideally 15 handicap and above. Please try and support these matches.

On the handicap front I've gone from 10.5 to 11. Not what I wanted. Though conditions have been quite tough, with the rough very thick and not much run on the ball. This month I've bought myself a new GPS range finder and am looking to get my putter regripped to a thicker grip to stop me pulling the odd putt. We will see if this works.

That's all for now, happy golfing, see you out on the course.

Chris Dix  
Club Captain





## Senior Captain's Report

Well, April was a wet one causing the course to be closed a couple of times, lets hope the worst is over and sunny days are coming.

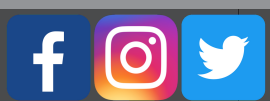
The April medal was a close fought contest. In division one Peter Rice pipped Peter Izod by one point, division two was a more comprehensive win for Dave Doveton with an eight point margin over Anthony Burrows. The first match of the season was away at the Cambridge Country Club on a very wet course and day, the team came away with a great draw. However we were soon bought down earth with a crushing 7-1 defeat away to Brampton Park, the white wash only saved by the last pair of Jim Clarke and Colin Stanyon.

The next match was again away this time at the Leicestershire, another a draw. The last away match before a run of home was at Spalding - always a popular venue. This had an eventful start, I teed off the first tee with no partner. I was halfway down the first before my partner John Foster decided to turn up with a load of excuses, I thought it was a 9 o'clock start, I was stuck in traffic, whatever. The result was a brilliant 5-3 win for Oundle.

The last match of the month was the Seniors County KO away to Staverton Park. We lost 5-0, with the captain and partner having the worst result. I'm too embarrassed to give the score, but I'm sure if you ask other team members they'll be more than happy to tell you.

Having said that it's been a good start to the season.

Ian Tucker  
Seniors captain





## Women's Captain's Report

Where is Summer!!! April has been a month of four seasons in one day, but we have managed a couple of 18 holes of golf, and hopefully, the warmer weather is now slowly hanging around!

We started the month off with the fun Easter Comp “Last Bunny Standing”, I think although there was a lot of changing the course Par with this Medal Comp, we eventually got it right and I think we all had fun, taking on this format. The overall winner coming in with the Bunny Plaque was Christine Rowell - well done Christine. The rest of the field did very well, finishing on the 12th and 13th. And I managed a sunny South African Day!

We have had a Friendly against Peterborough Milton, which was a good day, we did lose but it was a “Friendly”.

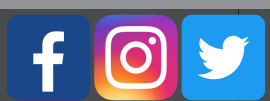
Cecil Leitch kicked off yesterday, and we had Peterborough Milton, I am very pleased and proud to announce we won 4 to 1. Well done team and thank you Pat Silburn for your support and organisation. The team are out again on Monday, good luck ladies.

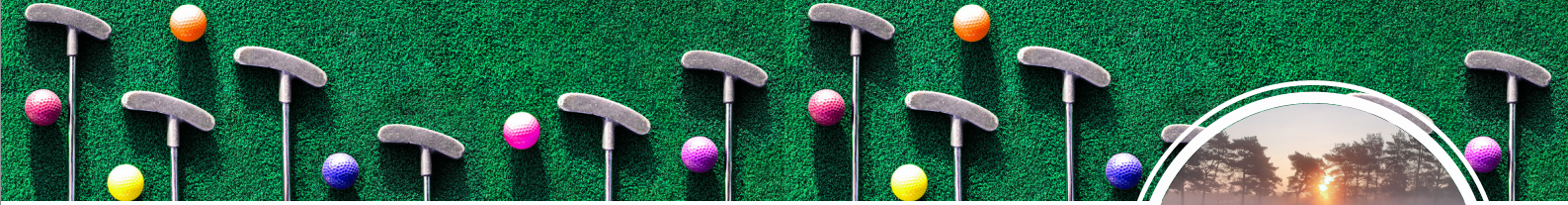
Mixed Friendlies are going well, our last one was Elton Furze, Oundle sadly lost 1 ½ to 4 ½ but a lot were decided on the 18th, but we had a really good day, lots of laughs.

We are well into receiving entries for our Festival of Golf in September, our Open on the 5th, is chugging along slowly, please ladies, get your friends together and enter, this is a wonderful way to promote our Club and this year it will be a big one.

Take care always but especially over the next two weekends, whatever you might be doing.

Happy Golfing.  
Karen T.





# Greenkeeper Report

## The course

Wet conditions prevailed for the best part of April, resulting in extended closure of the top field (holes 5,6,7,8). It is now open and hopefully will stay that way! Otherwise, with ground temperatures increasing there is a growth spurt, particularly in the rough. The course is lush and green but has still not fully recovered from the drought last year, so you will see some bare areas on the fairways. This will fill in with natural seeding, normally about May time.

## Work completed

The course maintenance fortnight was carried out successfully. All the greens have been verti-drained, deep scarified, top dressed and overseeded. Recovery has been speedy and we should be able to lower the height of the cut in the coming weeks. All tees have been verti-drained, top dressed and overseeded.

The approach to the 15th and 17th greens have also been verti-drained, top dressed and overseed as part of a long- term ongoing programme, to help improve playability on the approaches.

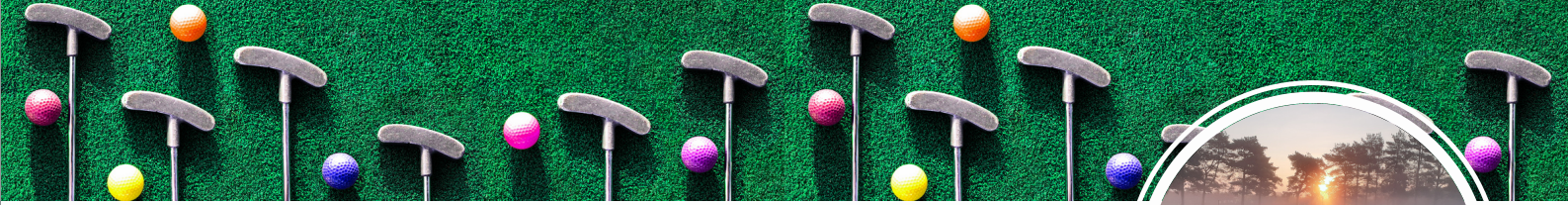
A new pump and pressure vessel have been installed to the irrigation system and this is now up and running. This should be a dramatic improvement on the past as it will help to increase sprinkler head efficiency.

Full mowing operations have now commenced in earnest.

## Works scheduled

All man hours will be dedicated to mowing operations. There is an incredible amount of growth taking place. The growth will allow the creation of definition and the presentation of the course will improve following the long winter dormancy. It is always a pleasure to see the course coming to life.





## Greenkeeper Report - Continued

### The team

The process of recruiting a new Head Greenkeeper continues with an advert out now in the Greenkeeper magazine. There have been some expressions of interest and hopefully we will be conducting interviews in the near future.

Seasonal staff will be starting at the beginning of May. We welcome back Mick Ives (1 day), Denis Price (2 days), and Charlie Underwood (2 days). This will complement the permanent team of 2 full time and 1 part time members of staff.

Our thanks go out to the Tuesday volunteer work party for their contribution which is always appreciated.

Volunteers for the specific task of maintaining the bunkers would be a welcome addition to our numbers. Please contact Gary Nimmo or John Homer if you are interested. Coffee and cake could be involved!!

The green keepers wish all players an enjoyable golfing spring!

**Gary Nimmo**  
**Caretaker Head Greenkeeper**



## Catering Report



Good day to you all golfers.

I hope my newsletter finds you all in good spirits. On the plus side the weather is getting better but on the down side it is still cold. Or at least it is to me because I have Caribbean Blood. I digress.

The ladies who have joined the catering team are settling in really well and they are both enjoying being here.

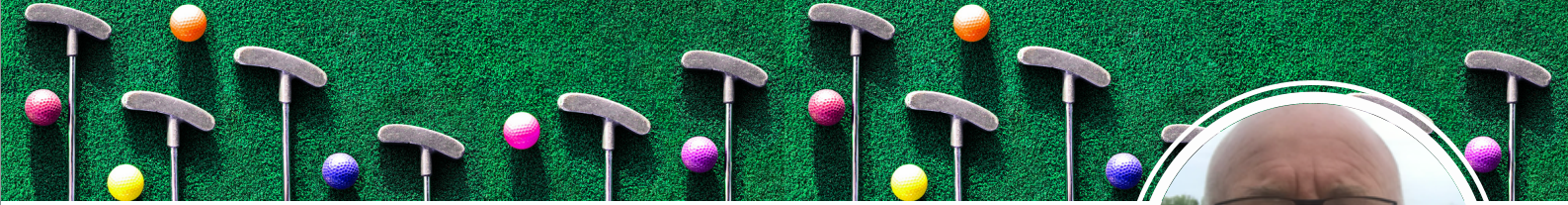
I am sure a lot of you have seen and also responded to the questionnaire that Malcolm Taylor kindly took the time to set up. I am happy to say we will be looking at serving more specials in the bar. These specials will vary so please speak to the bar staff to find out what we are serving. As they are specials once they are gone they are gone.

I am sorry I can't carry on waffling but I have some sausage rolls in the oven I need to keep an eye on.

Until the next time take care and watch out for red kites stealing your balls.

Best wishes

THE BAR CREW



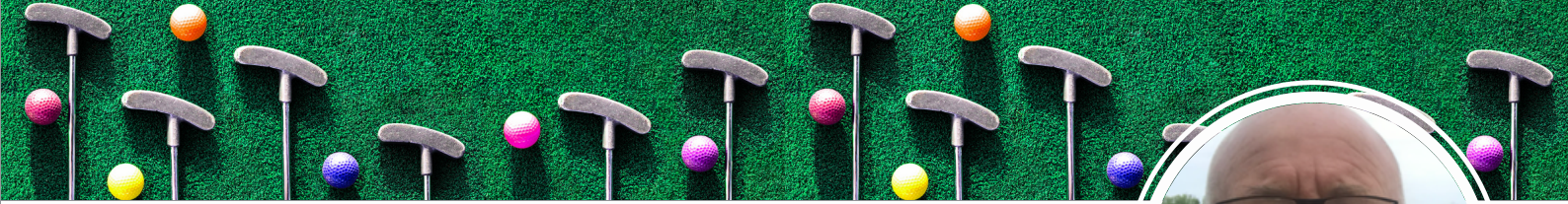
## Operations Officer Report

Despite the unpredictability of the great British weather, the proper golfing season is now well and truly underway. May is going to be a very busy month. In addition to the home matches in the Men's Handicap League, Women's Cecil Leitch and Seniors friendlies, the Club is also scheduled to host the following events:

1. Sunday 7th May - British Juniors Golf Tour with 80 players with accompanying parents/spectators
2. Thursday 11th May – Oundle GC Seniors Open
3. A total of 12 Societies involving around 320 players

I see these events as another opportunity to promote the Club in a very positive light. Roger, Nes and the team have commenced the preparation and planning of all events to ensure that we deliver the best possible service for all concerned. With so many visitors passing through our doors and out on course, we are determined that this will not have a detrimental impact on our members. I know that the team will do their very best to ensure that they maintain their current high level of service. Should you encounter any 'bumps in the road' during the busier periods I would ask for your patience and understanding. Thanks in advance.

As is always the case, the regular contingent of volunteers have once again stepped up to assist. Thank you once again to each and everyone of you, your help is invaluable. A recurring theme I know, but if you can spare some time to help in any capacity, please get in touch. Your club needs you!



## Operations Officer Report - Continued

The Halfway House will be back in operation for the serving of Tea/Coffee and Cakes on Friday 5th May for the Seniors home match versus Overstone. Thank you to Ian Tucker and to the team of women members for their work in bringing the HWH up to the required standard. The alternative to the preparation and cooking of hot food in the HWH is still being explored.

The outcome of the short survey that approximately 50 members recently completed, is that Roger will be periodically putting on 'Lunchtime Specials'. This will be run a trial basis, initially at weekends, and if successful, will extend to weekdays when the golfing programme dictates. Watch out for the Specials Board.

Finally, if anyone has a Freeview box and/or a satellite dish that is currently surplus to requirements, please get in touch! The intention is to reactivate the TV in the bar to receive the terrestrial channels. Any donations will be gratefully received.

Enjoy the sun!

Malc

