



Oundle Golf Club Newsletter

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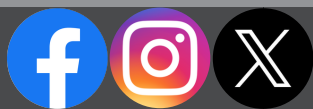
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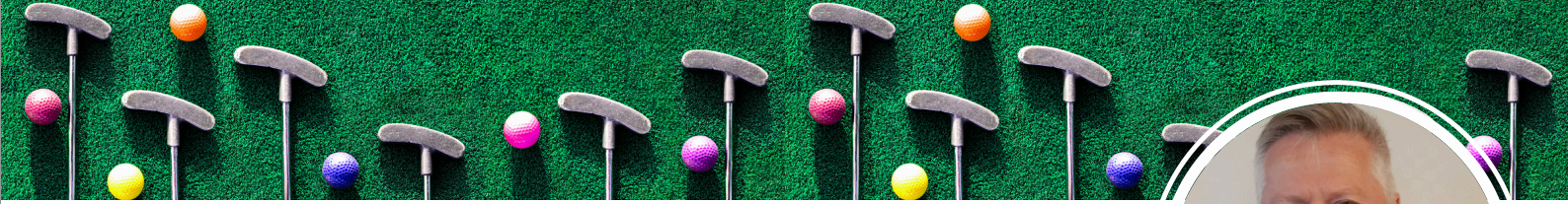
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JUNE



Chairperson's Report

Summer has arrived in all its glory and the course is holding up well in the baking sunshine. Ian and his team have clearly put the greens into top gear with dreaded de-greening now a real threat on several holes. Fortunately, the condition of the greens has ensured consistency and true-running, so we only have ourselves to blame...

The management committee met on 3rd of June. The finalised accounts for the year were presented and are in line with what I summarised in the last newsletter. These will be tabled at the upcoming Annual General Meeting which has been scheduled for Wednesday 6th August at 7pm; please do come along if you are able as we will both be explaining the numbers and talking about our approach to managing the club's finances over the next few years. Nes Reed will be distributing the accounts by email prior to the meeting.

The Greens Committee gave their usual comprehensive update. The Accessibility initiative has been a success, with over £5,500 having been raised against a target of £5,000. Materials are now being sourced for the installation of hand-rails and this, together with a less steep re-routing of the pathway from the 2nd tee-box and improvement of the steps down to the 18th green are hoped to be complete by calendar year-end. The money raised is going this far due to the commitment of our excellent volunteers who will be doing much of the work – our sincere thanks in advance to these stalwarts who make such a difference to a club with a small membership. (You may have noticed the new lean-to shed being built next to the greenskeeping shed; another example of volunteer work making a big difference.)



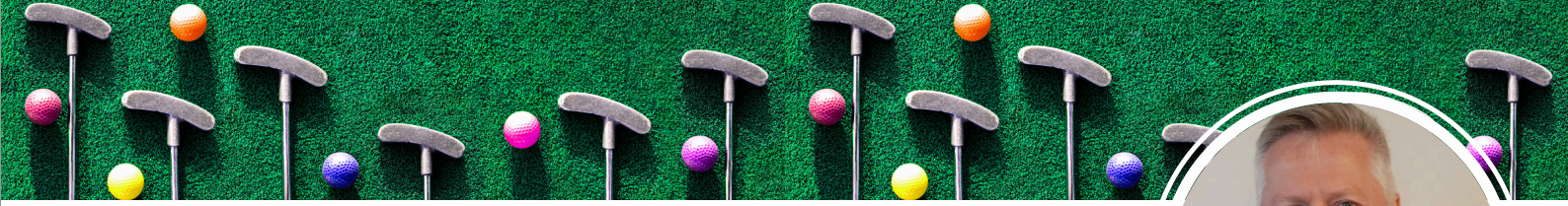
Chairperson's Report - continued

Among the other items covered by the Greens Committee was the 4th fairway tree-line project. With money raised from the Captain's Charity and a contribution from the Senior's Open we are close to meeting the funding target. Fingers crossed and we should see some very visible improvement there in the not-too-distant future.

Ian and his team are also looking to the future and what can be done to improve a number of the tee-boxes and enhance drainage on the more affected greens. Success here would mean fewer mats and temporary greens in play over the winter, so we will do what we can to support those efforts.

On membership and marketing, I am happy to report that this year is looking solid on renewals and new members. Additionally, we are off to a good start on visitor greens fees with April being comfortably ahead of budget. Social events have been going well, and on that subject please keep in mind our Women's Captain's Day on 8th July and Men's Captain's Day on 25th July.

Dave Moreland, our pro, also attended the meeting to update the committee on his area and in particular to let us know about his plans, with the help of Michael Davidson, to enhance the junior membership activities of the club. More on that later in the year.

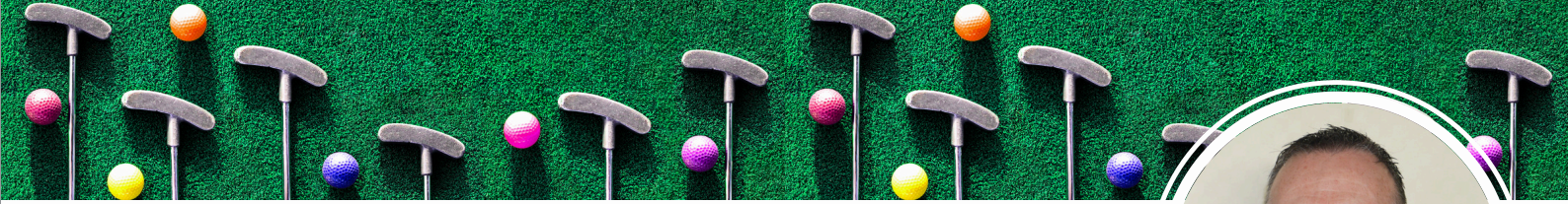


Chairperson's Report - continued

I mentioned our volunteers earlier. One post we will be looking to fill soon is for oversight and guidance on our health and safety obligations. If you feel that you could help with this, please let Nes know. Prior knowledge of health and safety matters would be helpful but is not necessary. And this is a role that will be covered by our volunteers scheme (please see the email of 4th June "Your Golf Club Needs You!").

That's it for now. I will write again in July and I hope to see you at the AGM on 6th August.

Best wishes,
James



Captain's Report

Welcome to June's newsletter.

I'll begin as usual with the 100 club winners for this month.

1st John Homer

2nd Richard Dempster

3rd James Ormrod

The money has been placed on your bar cards. Congratulations.

The bar receipt winner was Chris Hardinges.

Now onto the golfing results.

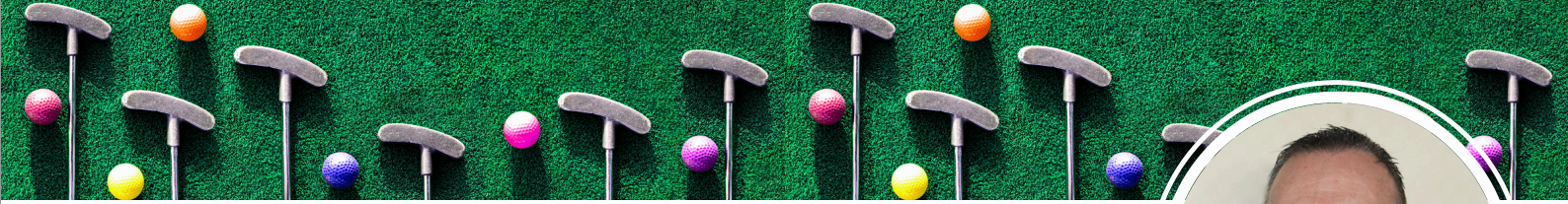
The handicap league team appear to have turned the corner with their form, after a narrow defeat away to Elton Furze, they managed to beat Kettering at home 16 - 3. Long may it continue.

The semi final for the Hollingsworth team has now been arranged, it's against Kingsthorpe at Rushden GC on the 29th June.

The Club's friendly matches are still going well, after a 4-2 win at home to Overstone we remain unbeaten.

Finally the results of the two majors that were held in June. The Secretaries Cup went to Bob Svarups, with 40 points, three clear of Charlie Underwood in second. A special mention to Peter Black, who had the only two on the day, quite a good earner.

Richard Hook was the only person who bettered his handicap on the way to winning the Poole Cup, with a nett 68. The second division was won by Denis Price with a nett 74.



Captain's Report - continued

We have quite a busy month coming up, starting with the bi-annual match against the greenkeepers and staff.

This is on the 4th July, format, pairs Scramble. A BBQ will be served afterwards, on the veranda, weather permitting. If you are interested in playing, please add your name to the sheet in the Pro shop.

The Handicap league team have two fixtures, away to Wellingborough and at home to Peterborough Milton. The Club also have two matches, both away, to Gedney Hill and Overstone.

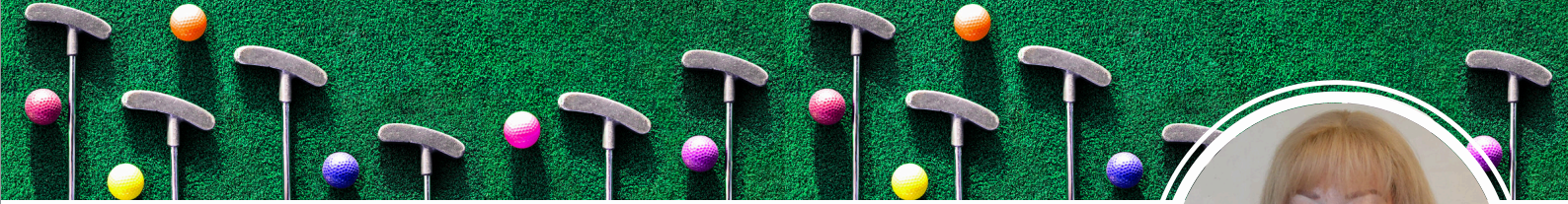
The mixed section hold the Fairgrieve Trophy and the Mixed Ping competition.

The rest of the competitions come in every format possible, a 4bbb in the Berridge Bowls, two rounds of the individual summer stablefords, the July medal, a Texas Scramble, the Fletton Cup which is a bogey competition, the Mark Kirk Invitational and finally but not least it's my Captain's day on the 26th July. All of these can be booked via BRS, so get your names down when they become available.

A quick update on my handicap, well no update really, I've stayed the same. Mainly due to no counting scores coming off. With seven scoring cards going in over the next month expect some changes though.

That's it for now, enjoy your golf and the weather and I'll see you out on the course in the near future.

Chris Dix OundleGC Captain.



Women's Section Report

Wow – who is enjoying our current heatwave? We seem to go from one extreme to another in this country don't we?

Anyway we have been busy playing matches and competitions despite the heat as has everyone at the golf club

Competition results are as follows:

13 May Coronation Foursomes - 1st Pat Wilkinson & Lyn Cater, who will go through to the next round at Belton Park on 30 July. Runners up Kim Pateman & Karen Taylor.

20 May Teese Trophy - 1st Christine Wright & Liz Swan, runners up Sally Anderson & Christine Rowell.

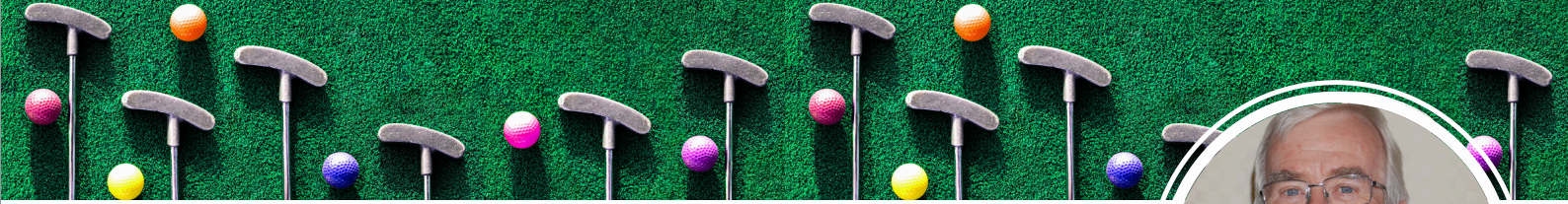
10 June Women's Ping - 1st Priya Salvi & Deb Scotland, runners up Debbie Verdino & Sarah Parsell.

I am delighted to say that it was a win for the Women in the Faith Brocklehurst competition versus the women. Well done in the rain!

In terms of friendly matches we beat Priors Hall convincingly, but our Cecil Leitch team have lost their last 2 matches against Daventry and Staverton Park – so mixed fortunes!

Talking about Mixed events – we have had to move the Fairgrieve Trophy to Sunday 29th June to combine with the Mixed Ping competition. This was because it clashed with Fathers' Day!

Happy golfing everyone
Veronica Lyon



Senior Captain's Report



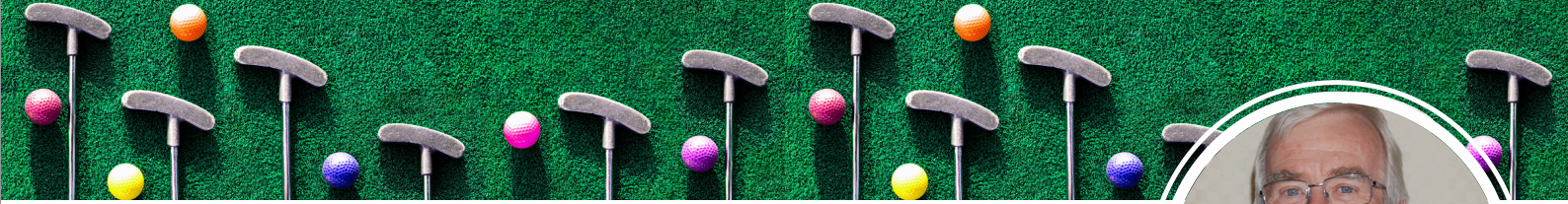
As we are writing this newsletter well before the end of the month we have only had two seniors competitions.

The first was our Summer Stableford Round 3 which was won by John Lynch with a massive score of 46 points (27 points for front nine) and 7 points ahead of second place, resulting in a handicap cut of 3.5 !

We then had a Seniors Medal with Division 1 being won by Peter Rice with a nett 73. Division 2 was won by Chris Hankins with a nett 64, 7 shots ahead of second place and again resulting in a big handicap cut of 2.4. Impressive scoring.

In our June matches we have been very successful. We had a draw away to Cold Ashby and we have won all of the four home games by quite convincing margins. My own record in these matches though is not quite as impressive, must be the pressures of captaincy! Well done team.

We have two more matches in June and then seven in July plus the next round of the Northants Seniors KO. A very busy month. We always need new players to join in with these team events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Roger, John and the girls who have volunteered to run the halfway house and make cakes for our matches.

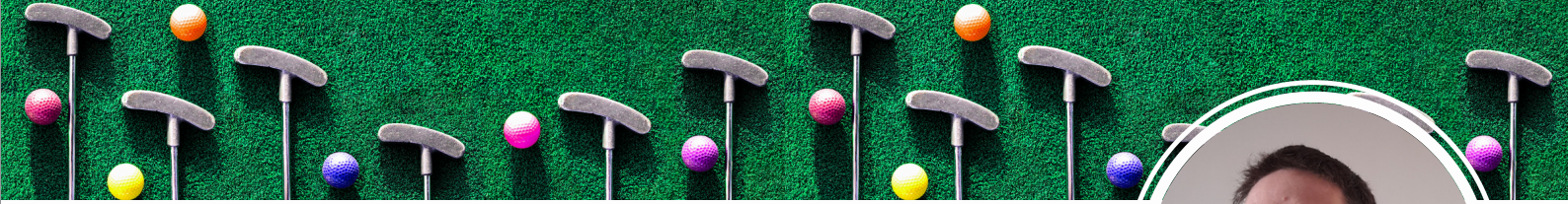


Senior Captain's Report - continued

With so many matches being at home over the last month it is good to report how many of our visitors have commented on the brilliant condition of the course and to the excellent catering for our after match meals. Thank you Ian and the boys on the course and to Roger and the girls in the bar/kitchen. And not forgetting Nes who keeps us all in order.

That's it for this month, enjoy this exceptional weather and hit that ball further than ever on these very dry and fast fairways and stay out of that rough.

Colin Stanyon



Greenkeeper Report



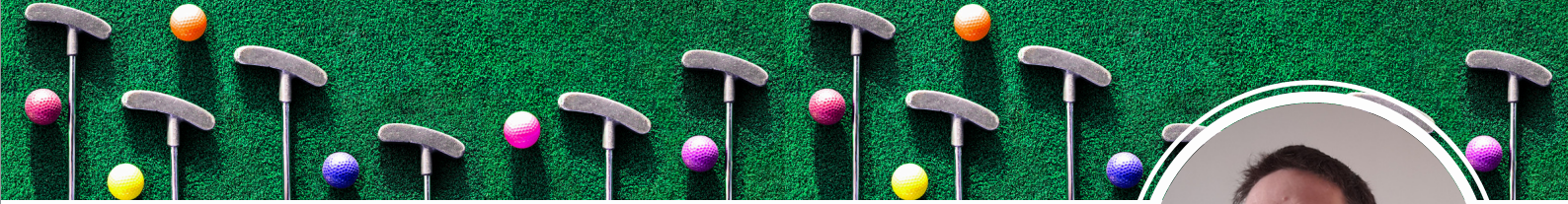
Hi everyone

Summer is here now after a very dry spring. The dry weather continues, bar a little shower here and there, the good thing with hotter weather means the grass growth slows up a bit. This allows us to do a few bits that get put off around the course as well as hand water some tees to keep them ticking over.

The tees are one area where I would like them to be better than they are, but next spring you will all see a massive improvement in them which will elevate the course to a higher level. Exciting times.

Regarding tees, the new world handicap system means you have a maximum of 10 metres in front and 10 metres behind the tee distance posts per tee with a overall distance of no more or less than 100 metres over the whole course. With our course being over 100 years old the maximum distance is reduced because most of the distance posts are at the back of the tees already. This gives us a very small footage area to use leading to worn out tees, the future and answer to this would be to widen and not lengthen tees and is something that from now on will be looked at so we can not only have a qualifying course all year round but protect and spread the wear to the tees.

The greens are nearly where I want them to be. As I write this, the greens today are stimping (method of collecting data as to how the greens are performing) at 11.0 ,which is well above member clubs levels. What we are achieving though is not at the detriment to the welfare if the greens good cultural practices like aeration proper controlled year round feeding and moisture management etc allows us to produce the surfaces you are now getting with it being sustainable though to do so.



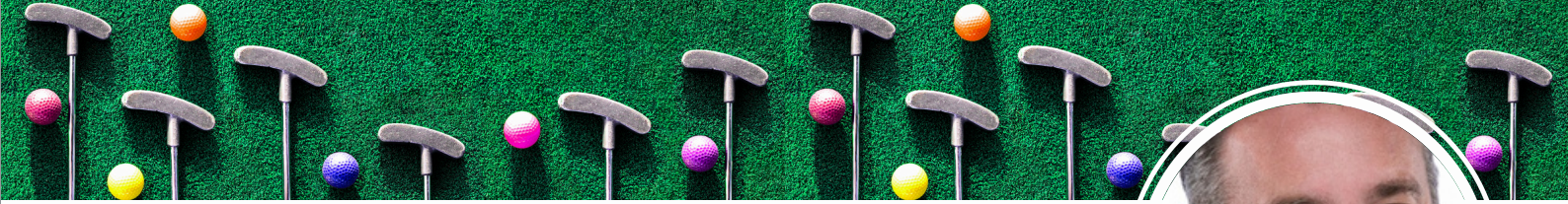
Greenkeeper Report - Continued

The 15th green has now got the go ahead to be drained, this will be started on the week commencing the 8th September. The work should be done within two days and back in play a couple of days later. I'm really looking forward to the results and being able to keep it open throughout the winter, with it being one of if not the driest greens on the course, first step in us getting away from temp greens during the winter.

Staff v club match is on the 4th July. This is our fourth match since we introduced it with the staff winning two and a draw in the other one. Looking at our team the club best get some more practice in! Lol!

Right, enough said, I'm getting some more suncream on and working on my tan on the mowers.

Ian Robins,
Head Greenkeeper.



Professional News

The golf season is in full swing and with so many tournaments and matches on the horizon it is the perfect time for an on-course lesson. On-course lessons focus on strategy, course management and short game helping you to lower your scores without worrying about swing technique. Lessons are available weekday afternoons and evenings plus Saturdays and if you book anytime during July you can bring a friend at no additional cost!!

PRO SHOP DEALS

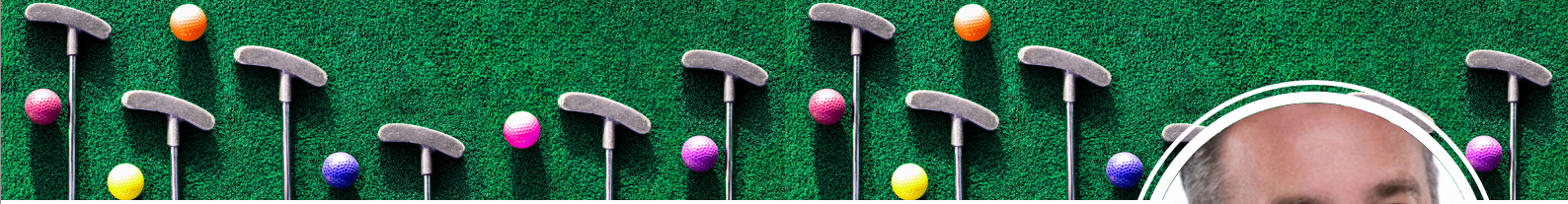
- ELECTRIC TROLLEYS - Buy any Motocaddy or Powakaddy electric trolley and get any bag at half price!
- CLOTHING - 10% discount on all clothing
- GOLF BAGS - 20% discount on all in-stock bags
- REGRIPS - Buy 6 get 1 free, Buy 11 get 2 free

LESSONS

TWO MONTH DEAL BACK FOR THE SUMMER BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Take a 30 min lesson every week for 8 weeks for the usual 5 lesson price of £150

Book 30 mins per week for 8 consecutive weeks any time between July 1st and Sep 30th.



Professional News

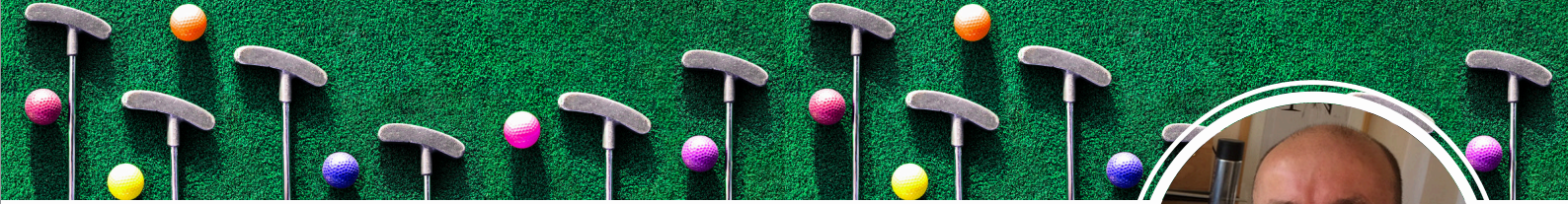
EVENTS

This month's THE OPEN NINE & DINE is on July 18th and tee times will run from 3.50pm onwards with a chipping demonstration & clinic starting from 3.30pm.

For booking please email professional@oundlegolfclub.com

We would like to encourage more non-golfing partners and friends to join the evening meal and activities so please spread the word.

The food will be available from 6.30pm and THE OPEN will be live on the TV throughout the evening.



Operations Report



Hi all,

I want to start by thanking everyone who volunteers. Without those people it would be difficult to operate. Catering and bar services across all sectors but especially in golf and leisure really have a challenge in meeting costs, providing a good service and paying staff able to do these things.

We are lucky to have a team that is small and able supplemented by volunteers. We recently welcomed Lauren to the team. She has fitted in brilliantly and is doing a great job. Welcome Lauren!

Nonetheless things get difficult when, as happened this month, two members of staff had to take time off. At this point the volunteers stepped up and we battled through.

The recent volunteer incentive that was sent out is an attempt to increase the volunteer pool so that when the unforeseen happens we are able to cope without incurring additional staff costs. Like myself, I joined Oundle to play golf but along the way I have become part of a willing team to help progress the clubs aspirations. It's enjoyable and enlightening to the challenges in running a course.

Finally, thanks to everyone for the positive feedback on the art exhibition. As I write this there are a few weeks left for the pictures to hang in the club. Just to remind everyone that the club takes 40% of the marked prices hence the current tags can't be reduced.

Until the next time, good luck on the course and enjoy the bar!

Paul Kane, Operations Manager