



Communications Group

(On behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)

October 2017 Newsletter

Dear Members

Summer is over, but there is plenty of news and progress to report. In this Newsletter, we cover results of competitions, progress on the course including the August report from STRI, marketing projects, and events in the Clubhouse.

Marketing Projects

A number of offers are available to attract new members, for a limited time, and where you, as a current member, have introduced new members, you will gain a bonus on your membership. These offers have been advertised in local media, including Retford Life, and on-line. Here are the key points.

- *18 months full membership for new members of £995*
- *18 months Flexible 18 holes membership of 40 rounds for £600*
- *18 months Flexible 10 holes membership of 40 rounds for £300*
- *Full 7 days Family membership (2 adults + 1 or 2 children under 16) for £1800*
- *Full 7 days Group membership (4 or more) for £850 each*

On the Course

- *The STRI report following a course inspection in August, (see separate e-mail) is positive about the progress made and our new machinery has helped greatly in that.*
- *All approaches to the greens have been top dressed with the new spinner, and the greens and surrounds have also been tined and top dressed.*

- *A programme of tree pruning and removal began in October, in conjunction with the Whittaker estate woodsmen. The main focus has been the poplar trees near the 8th green, especially on the left, and the trees near the 14th green. The concerns are that these trees overshadow the greens, restricting sunlight and airflow, and in places roots are undermining the greens. Hence these greens are weakened and hit badly by disease.*
- *The 10th Tee development progresses, with irrigation trenches and some small tree removals completed, and the laying out of the tee top soil and turf is nearly complete.*
- *Some signage improvements are being made, especially to help visitors to the course (and any club members who lose their way!); signs will be added going from the 1st green to the 2nd tee, and from the 7th green to the 8th tee, and the sign coming off the bridge to the 10th tee is in place.*
- *We have been successful in appointing two new apprentice greenskeepers, Tobi Mayhall and Reece Jackson, who started work in September and are progressing very well.*
- *The provision of divot bags, for members and visitors to carry and help in repairing the course, seems to be working well. Please keep taking your bag, to help maintain the fairways.*
- *A proposal was made to place a bell on the 1st tee, to alert people nearby of golfers teeing off, but on balance it is felt that it would cause more problems, especially for our neighbours, than it would solve.*
- *An awareness of various health risks on the golf course should include members and visitors being alert to the signs of Lyme's Disease, a debilitating and potentially deadly disease that can be caught from tick bites. If you're not sure about any possible tick bite marks you notice, especially from going into the undergrowth and woody areas of the course, get them checked out with your doctor.*
- *A continuing request to Members about members of the public walking on the course, away from public footpaths: please avoid confrontation, but try to point out to them that they are trespassing and are in danger from lethal golf balls. Will you also report any such "meetings" to our Office, so they can collate all the reports and forward them to the relevant authorities. Many thanks.*

- **Our Head Greenkeeper, Carl Pigott, was rushed into hospital with appendicitis towards the end of September. He is recovering from the operation, and we wish him well. Many thanks to his team who are covering the work on the course.**

Competitions

After a busy season, just about all the results have now been decided. We apologise for arranging the finals weekend when the course and greens were being treated. We will revisit the club calendar for next year, to avoid that.

Here are the results of the wide ranging competition scene at the Golf Club.

Winners of Club Competitions 2017

<i>Captains Cup</i>	Tony Jackson	<i>Presidents Cup</i>	Darren Hunt
<i>Club Champion</i>	Tony Inman	<i>Retford Cup</i>	Alec Moir
<i>Victory Cup</i>	Alan Hopkinson	<i>Hospital Cup</i>	I Howlett
<i>Millennium Cup</i>	Norman Cook	<i>Past Captains</i>	Harry Fitzakerly
<i>Members Cup</i>	Lee Cook	<i>Scratch Trophy</i>	Ian Hardman
<i>Middleton Rose Bowl</i>	Stuart Moore & Pat Fox	<i>H Ledger Trophy</i>	B Roe
<i>Roy Caddick Cup</i>	Kris Vardy	<i>T Harrison (Rabbits)</i>	Michael O'Sullivan
<i>Ray Johnson Trophy</i>	John Straker	<i>Geoff Sharpe 30-50</i>	Adrian Harrop
<i>Coronation Cup</i>	P Chappelow & A Rodgers	<i>Percy Laws over 50</i>	Tony Jackson
<i>Allen Clark Pairs</i>	Mike Briggs & John Stevens	<i>Player of the Year</i>	Lewis Hunt
<i>Norman Cave Cup</i>	J Hugill & S Stone	<i>David Denton Eclectic</i>	D Hugill
<i>Mick Walker Foursomes</i>	Tony Inman & Peter Wheatcroft		
<i>Doris Cave Cup</i>	TBD	<i>Tom Hall Cup</i>	Mick Howsam
<i>Senior Singles</i>	Graham Batchford	<i>Senior Doubles</i>	Gary Lane & Sean House
<i>Senior Championship</i>	Ian Jackson	<i>Senior Player of Year</i>	Andy Salmon

Ladies

HK Butler Doubles **Barbara Burton & Kathie Buzzeo**

Silver Jubilee Singles KO Kathie Buzzeo Senior Ladies Cup Joy Oddy

Spring Scratch KO Keran Hutchinson

Juniors

Jim Veck Cup Declan Stoppard C Basford Scratch Cup Ralph Marshall

Alan Hague Cup Ralph Marshall Stables Cup Ralph Marshall

Other competitions

- *The Ladies have won the Inter-Club Championship, and remain in the 1st Division of the Silver and bronze Leagues.*
- *In the club's Senior men v Senior ladies match, the men managed to reverse an abject two years of failure by winning 6-1.*
- *A very successful Senior Mens AM/AM raised a lot of funds for the club, and a lot of praise from visitors about the course, the catering and the friendliness of our club. The winners were our own team of Dave Hallam, Jim Hughes, John Broughton & Tim Kitchen. Thanks to everyone involved in that event.*

Social Events/In the Clubhouse

- *The Club Dinner-Dance is swapping dates with the 200 Club Dinner/Draw. The 200 Club event is now on Saturday 18th November, and the Dinner-Dance on Saturday 25th November. Please book and get your tickets from the bar now; £25 a head for 3 course meal and 1940s Big Band live music.*
- *The Captain's Dinner, on Friday 1st December, has the brilliant after dinner speaker Billy Foster, caddy for Seve and more recently Lee Westwood. Book your place now, and your guests', in the Office, before all the places are sold.*
- *Mark Allan arranged a very successful Poker Night, and hopes to fix (!) more in the future.*
- *We are planning for a successful New Year's Eve event in the clubhouse. A disco has been booked, and a buffet supper. There are posters in the clubhouse with more details. Please book now at the bar.*

- *The tables in the restaurant and lounge areas have been resurfaced, and the dodgy chairs will be next!*
- *The Information Monitor in the bar area is now operational and all competition results will be published on it.*

[A Blast from the Past](#)

Our ex President, Eric Basford, has unearthed a fascinating document from a previous era, and presented it to the Club for our records and interest. It is a compilation of minutes from the Club management meetings from 1948 to 1955. Dry as dust? Not a bit! Here are some snippets from the 1949 minutes, and we'll try to include more in future Newsletters.

- *After concerns from the ladies' section, it was agreed to purchase a new Door Knob for the Ladies' Locker Room.*
- *It was agreed that team travel to away matches should be by bus, and anyone living in Retford who did not utilise the bus would have to pay their share of the cost.*
- *The gas storage heater in the locker room had a faulty meter, and the gas consumed in the first quarter of 1949 had risen to 5 shillings.*
- *The Club Professional was instructed not to take any notice of "paltry and underground complaints" made to him about the condition of the course. Any person making a complaint should put it in writing to the Secretary.*
- *It was agreed that a new Professional's shop be erected adjacent to the Men's Locker Room, and the old shop handed to the Artisans' section. The cost for labour and materials for the new shop came to £40.*
- *Dogs on the course; a notice should be displayed saying dogs must be kept under proper control or not allowed on the course.*
- *Cricket played by the Highfields and village children behind the 1st tee must cease whilst anyone was driving off the tee, and if a caddy was wanted and he was playing cricket, he must caddy. If these instructions were not strictly adhered to, cricket would not be allowed on the golf course.*

Other Club matters

The Management Committee meets every month, and separate sub-committees meet when relevant, to consider aspects of the Club's work. If members want to raise any points/issues/queries for these meetings, please contact the chair of the appropriate sub-committee at least a week ahead of the date of that meeting.

The AGM for the Club is on Thursday 30th November, at 7.30pm. There are several vacancies on the Management Committee, so if any members are interested in standing for the Committee, please give your details to the Office.

The Ladies' AGM is the previous week, Thursday 23rd November, at 7.00pm.

Here is a diary of the dates of forthcoming sub-committee and full management meetings.

*Management: **Thursday 2nd November, 6.00pm***

*Greens: **Friday 27th October***

*House and Social: **Tuesday 7th November***

*Golf (competitions etc): **Friday 27th October***

From

Andy Massey, Dean Atherton, Mary Saddington

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