



## **Communications Group**

*(On behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)*

### **October 2018 Newsletter**

*Dear Members*

*Welcome to the autumn Newsletter of 2018. After a heatwave summer, good golf on a good course is still our aim.*

*This Newsletter looks at the outcome of the August EGM, the winter programme for the course, some finals results, and events coming up.*

#### **The Extraordinary General Meeting in August**

- *The meeting was to explain to Members the medium and longer term concerns we have for the financial security of RGC, and to seek approval from Members for the Management Committee to investigate and decide how to proceed with a plan to sell off the Practice Field.*
- *There were nearly 100 Members at the EGM, and a further 20 proxy votes were sent in. After a presentation by Directors Harry Fitzakerly and Mark Allan, questions and comments were taken from Members.*
- *A range of issues were raised, about both the financial situation and the impact of the loss of the Practice Field and the development of more housing near the golf club. Prior to the meeting, some Members had written in with questions, some of which were answered in a special Newsletter before the meeting, and some of which were dealt*

*with at the meeting. The Management Committee will also continue to follow up, in the months to come, points raised, such as the future of the Junior section in the club.*

- *At the end of the EGM a vote was taken, and a very high majority, over 2/3, were in favour of the Committee proceeding with the proposal. It must be stressed that this is not a cut and dried done-deal to sell the Practice Field. Rather, it is a vote of confidence in the Management Committee to further investigate and, if they feel it appropriate, to proceed with such a sale.*

### ***Follow Up***

*We have started the process, looking for possible agents (surveyors, builders, planners etc) to help us, as well as continuing to discuss with the local council the necessary planning procedures and likely outcomes.*

*We would very much welcome any help and support from Members who may have a professional background in these areas, such as architecture, planning, land development, so if you fit that bill, please contact Harry asap.*

### ***Plans and progress on the Course***

*The STRI Report after the visit in August was very positive. Although some areas have suffered drought stress, the course has largely coped well, with the greens in great shape after the Graden work in the spring, and greens where trees were removed last winter coming through stronger than ever.*

### ***Winter Work on the course***

*Using the recommendations from STRI, and our own long term plans, the winter priorities will be*

- *To improve bunkers, and to replace some with grass hollows/mounds. In particular, fairway bunkers on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> will be tackled.*
- *Improvement of tees, especially 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, with a major project on the 11<sup>th</sup>.*

- **Tree pruning and removal where tees and greens are suffering. The 11<sup>th</sup> tee and slope down to the green will be a priority; trees next to the 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> greens will be taken out; trees near the 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> tees will be pruned.**

**This work will be spread across the winter, once the finals of competitions and the Captain v Vice-Captain matches are complete. The general aim will be to ensure that the course will be open for play every weekend, whatever the stage of work reached by Friday.**

### **News from the Loos**

**Once again, we urge ladies and gents to be sure that they close and lock the door to the toilets at the half-way house after they use it. We've had several incidents of passers-by going in and stealing toilet rolls when the door was left open.**

### **Matches and Competitions**

#### **Winners of Club Competitions 2018**

<i>Captains Cup</i>	<b>Ian Hardman</b>	<i>Presidents Cup</i>	<b>Bryn Jones</b>
<i>Club Champion</i>	<b>Chris Naylor</b>	<i>Retford Cup</i>	<b>Lewis Hunt</b>
<i>Victory Cup</i>	<b>Lewis Hunt</b>	<i>Hospital Cup</i>	<b>Lee Ellis</b>
<i>Millennium Cup</i>	<b>Ian Littlewood</b>	<i>Past Captains</i>	<b>Peter Masters</b>
<i>Members Cup</i>	<b>Ian Lindley</b>	<i>Scratch Player of Year</i>	<b>Tony Inman</b>
<i>Middleton Rose Bowl</i>	<b>Stuart Moore &amp; Pat Fox</b>	<i>H Ledger Trophy</i>	<b>James Dark</b>
<i>Roy Caddick Cup</i>	<b>Andy Rodgers</b>	<i>T Harrison (Rabbits)</i>	<b>Chris Glover</b>
<i>Ray Johnson Trophy</i>	<b>John Stevens</b>	<i>Geoff Sharpe 30-50</i>	<b>Tony Inman</b>
<i>Coronation Cup</i>	<b>A Caudwell &amp; C Simpson</b>	<i>Percy Laws over 50</i>	<b>Steve Spurr</b>
<i>Allen Clark Pairs</i>	<b>John Storey &amp; Paul Timms</b>	<i>Player of the Year</i>	<b>Lewis Hunt</b>
<i>Norman Cave Cup</i>	<b>Jack Reynolds &amp; Steve Perry</b>		
<i>David Denton Eclectic</i>	<b>Andrew Cook (junior)</b>	<i>Pete Barry Trophy</i>	<b>Andrew Cook</b>

*Mick Walker Foursomes* **Darren and Lewis Hunt**

*Senior Singles* **Bob Palmer**      *Senior Doubles* **Mike Briggs and John Stevens**

### Ladies

*HK Butler Doubles*                      **Pat Fox & Belinda Briggs**

*Silver Jubilee Singles KO*              **Karen Pollard**    *Senior Ladies Cup* **Sharon Machin**

*Spring Scratch KO*                      **Barbara Burton**

*(Apologies for any results not included)*

### Other Matches and Competitions

**Match and Competition results are regularly reported in Retford Times. Here are some recent ones.**

- **Juniors' Day at Sleaford GC, 27<sup>th</sup> August. Anthony Inman took a team of 3 Juniors, George Cordall, Louey Palmer and Liam Bennett, to this golf festival, and some superb play gained them second place overall with a net score of 14 under par. Equally pleasing was the praise they were given by Sleaford's Captain and committee on their play and impeccable behaviour. Thanks to all of them for proving such a credit to Retford GC.**
- **Notts Men's Inter-Club Foursomes. Retford won the 36 hole final of this competition in September for the first time ever. The team – Tony Inman, Shay Rafferty, Ralph Marshall and George Cordall – beat Stanton-on –the-Wolds, to bring a very prestigious trophy back to Retford Golf Club. Well done to all that team.**
- **The website diary now includes all mid-week medal competitions.**

### Social Events

**We've had two very successful and enjoyable social events at the Club in recent weeks. The '60s Music Evening and the Comedy Evening were both supported with good numbers, but there's no substance in the rumour that the Club is just for funny old folk. Many thanks to the organisers of those events.**

***And finally....***

***As always, if members have any concerns, ideas or proposals, please contact us so we can follow up with you.***

***From***

***Andy Massey, Dean Atherton, Mary Saddington***

***Communication Group (on behalf of the Management Committee and Club Members)***