

THE OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS



NUMBER ONE – THE AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2016

We are always keen to try to get members more involved in our golfing and social activities and, with this very much in mind, it was thought the publication of an occasional newsletter might increase enthusiasm, so welcome to our first edition.

2016 MATCHES AND EVENTS

Our full golfing calendar has only recently been brought to an end with the last of our 20 matches having been played at Burford against our Cornish friends last month. The matches resulted in us having played 20, won 7, halved 2 and lost 11, and with many new friendships forged and old ones renewed.

With one exception, our events were very successful and enjoyed by large fields; the results of these were;

Spring Meeting at Burford was won by Hamish Young with 40 points.

President's Day at Henley was won by Roger Sillence with 40 points.

Captain's Day at Tadmorton Heath was won by Derek Honey with 39 points.

Autumn Meeting at Kirtlington was won by Mike Cahill with 43 points.

Hookham Trophy (best two scores in above events) was won by Derek Honey with 77 points.

Powell Cup (best three club scores at Autumn Meeting) was won by North Oxford Golf Club on 112 points.

Founders' Day at Bicester was won by Mike Lewis with 33 points.

The one exception to all this, was our Mixed Invitation event, which very sadly had to be cancelled through lack of entrants. Your Committee has looked at ways of resurrecting this event and it is to be hoped that a different picture will emerge in 2017.

Two other events, with which most of you will be familiar, are the Queen's Jubilee Trophy and the Four Counties. The former is a singles event played between representative teams from Bedfordshire, Essex, Hampshire, Kent, London, Sussex and Oxfordshire, whilst the Four Counties trophy is a 4BBB competition for teams from Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire. This year your Captain, Tim Nunneley, brought both trophies home, something that does not happen too often!



Victorious Four Counties Team

THE SPRING AND AUTUMN TOURS

This year's trip to Cornwall was again centred on the Trebarwith Hotel in Newquay with our three matches having been played at Tehidy Park, Mullion and Carlyon Bay. Whilst the results were not the best (lost two and halved one) 34 members enjoyed the convivial and friendly atmosphere amongst both old and new friends.

Similarly, the autumn trip in September was to the Chateau du Lac, just south of Brussels, and golf was played on the nearby superbly immaculate courses of Bercuit, Sept Fontaines and Chateau de la Tournette. Some good golf was enjoyed by most, as was the superb food and drink at nearby hostelryes!

Next year, the autumn tour will be re-branded but more of that later.

WINTER DIARY DATES

There are two dates for you to consider during the looming winter months, both enjoyable and with good food and company guaranteed;

Wednesday 7th December at 6.30p.m. at the Oxford City Golf Club is the AGM followed by dinner.
Thursday 16th February is scheduled for our winter lunch at Tadmarton Heath.

Look out for Stuart Sinclair's circular on these two events and, especially if you haven't been before, come along and give either or both of them a try.

THE OGC WEBSITE

Your Treasurer, Chris Spearing, has lovingly created and maintained our OGC website but is quite often down-hearted that it gets so few visits. There is all manner of interesting stuff on the site, so why not cheer him by visiting <http://www.oxfordshiregolfcaptains.co.uk/index.html> ?

We now publish such exhilarating literature items as Committee Meeting minutes but you will need to enter the "Committee Minutes" area for that by entering the Username "Captain" and Password "Redtape."

You will only be permitted access to the "Members" area if you have agreed for your details to be published there. There is a separate Username and Password for this area, which you should already have; however, if you no longer have it to hand, please get in touch by email and it will be provided again.

.....AND SO TO 2017

THE 2017 CALENDAR OF MATCHES AND EVENTS

Your 2017 calendar is now complete and will be circulated in the New Year, together with an availability sheet for you to return to the Match Secretary; look out for this in your email inbox and please deal with it expeditiously. Every year there are 15 - 20 late replies that are received after teams have been selected and published; we do not like having to disappoint anyone unnecessarily, even if it is their own fault!!

It does help if you would kindly mark all the matches in which you might be interested in participating. It's not being greedy and does help in making match selections and, if there are matches in which you would particularly like to play, mark them in some special way that it makes this clear.

GOLFING TOURS 2017

Next year we have a number of golfing tours in which you may be interested and application lists are now open for all of them.

1. The Cornwall tour will happen between Sunday 7th and Thursday 11th May and will again be centred on the Trebarwith Hotel in Newquay. Our matches are to be played at Truro,

Launceston and Carlyon Bay golf clubs. This tour is always popular and will be again next year. If you have not already made your interest known please email roger.sillence@randesa.co.uk as soon as possible. With only three matches and 72 match places, unfortunately there is a finite number that we can take on this trip and a ballot may become necessary.

2. Our matches versus Dorset and Devon will take place next year on Wednesday 7th June at Lyme Regis and Thursday 8th June at Churston respectively. We will travel to Dorset on the 7th, stay somewhere nearby that evening and from there travel to Churston after breakfast. If you are interested in becoming a member of both those teams, you could also email roger.sillence@randesa.co.uk and register your interest now - but please note that there are only 16 places available.
3. With one exception, we have visited the Continent every year since 2000 for our autumn tour and have experienced most of the viable venues in France, Belgium and even the Netherlands. Your Committee decided a rebranding was necessary and, from next year, this trip will be the "Captain's Autumn Tour" when he will select the venue.

For 2017 your Captain Elect, Ian Allison, has chosen the most splendid Dartmouth Hotel Golf and Spa. The tour will be from Sunday 10th until Thursday 14th September, playing golf on three days, once on the hotel's championship course and once each at two other nearby courses, yet to be selected. The hotel website is at <http://www.thedartmouthhotel.co.uk/>

The cost might fluctuate slightly, but includes all the golf, four nights' bed and breakfast at the hotel and two three-course dinners, and is for £370 per person, based on two people sharing a twin room; single rooms, if available, are considerably more expensive.

We have initially reserved 15 x twin-bedded rooms and the hotel will hold them for a short period pending receipt of our deposits. At this price, I think this will be popular and will be dealt with on a "first come first served" basis. If we do exceed the reserved numbers, extra rooms may be possible but certainly cannot be guaranteed.

If you are interested in travelling, please email roger.sillence@randesa.co.uk as soon as possible and return the application form you have already been sent.

TO CONCLUDE....

That's about all for this first edition of your newsletter.

Next year we do hope our playing numbers will grow, even though it is quite obvious that those of you still working cannot play golf with the same regularity or frequency as those of us who are retired, but please do try and get involved with the OGC as much as may be possible for you. As so many have been heard to opine, "Membership of the OGC is the best thing that ever came out of being the Captain of a golf club."

..... and finally your Captain, Tim Nunneley, would like to thank most sincerely everyone throughout our membership who has supported him in any way, whether by playing in matches, attending social functions or competing in or officiating at our events, during his year of office. Tim wants you to know that you have jointly provided him with his best year in golf ... thank you all.

Cordialement,

Roger

Roger Sillence
Match Secretary
Oxfordshire Golf Captains.