



# Ryston Park Golf Club August Newsletter 2022

## Club Captain – Dave Stennett

Well finally got some rain, maybe only one day, but it will make some difference to the course. Please remember the warnings about the mature oak trees, we've already seen one branch down after the heavy rain and long dry spell of weather.



August sees the end of our cup competitions with The Gibb Cup being won by Nigel and Joe Wagg and last week The Keith Handscomb Cup being won George Dixon and James Anderson, congratulations to them all. Just a quick reminder that we are now looking for all the cups to be returned so we can get them engraved ready for the presentation night at the Sausage Supper on the 30th of September.

I have been asked questions lately regarding what's happening at the back of the 9th Tee. To make sure everyone is clear, it was agreed by your Committee to build a new 18th tee for all three colours, further back, which will make the course a little different when finishing the end of your round, hopefully this will lead to more improvements in the future on the course. Yes, the course will be remeasured, and the normal strokes adjusted once the tee is complete and in play.

This may be of interest to some of you, we have organised a Rules night on the 28th of September. A notice will be up very soon, please put your names down if you are interested, so we can know how many people want to come along on the night. We have an official coming over to give the presentation, it's very much a demonstration around the room on different rules for different situations around the course.

Hopefully most people will have seen the notice that our Social Committee have organised a trip abroad next year to play golf in the sunshine, if you are interested, please can we have your names in the office to make this

trip viable. I believe it's a good price and flights can be booked from Stansted to the resort.

Your Committee and Sub Committees are still working very hard on day-to-day running of the course and what improvements can be made and what functions can be organised for the rest of the year. Thank you for your support at the last social function, it was a great night and we continue to raise money for improvements.



A recent away day at Newark Golf Club for the Saturday morning boys. Well done Phil Scotney for winning the day.

## Lady Captain – Liz Forgan

We began the month with very hot weather and had friendly away match with Sutton Bridge which Janet Coles very kindly took for me. We managed a win although we had to reduce numbers as they couldn't provide sufficient players.

The County League matches are continuing and I am most grateful to Tracy and Trish and also to Ann for sorting out a few problems with arranging matches which have occurred recently.

This year's Coronation Foursomes winners, Pat Blyth and Janet Rice, travelled to Rushmere Heath in Ipswich for the Regional Final but found the heat, over 30deg C, and a hilly course just too much on the day and will not be going to St Andrews for the National Final.

Past Captains Day was well supported with 23 ladies taking part including those who just came for tea. Janet Coles was the Winner and Dang Kittisak won Nearest the Pin. It was very nice to see former members coming back to join us on the day.



The Ladies Open was the usual success organised by Lyn Kirk and her helpers. We had a full entry by Easter, which shows how popular this event has become with sixty players taking part from all over East Anglia. Overnight a large branch had fallen down on the first fairway but by six o'clock Jon Lewis, who is a member of the Greens Committee, came down to cut it up. Play was able to begin as planned by nine o'clock as it had all been cleared by Jon and the Greens Staff. Many thanks to them all. Thank you, Trish, for acting as Starter. We had a very nice Buffet Lunch supplied by Tonya and her staff, which was commented on by several of the visitors. To add to the excitement of the day one lady from Ely had a Hole in One on the 7<sup>th</sup> hole and she kindly provided Pimm's for some lucky players!



## Senior Captain – Eric Savage

Firstly, I would like to say that I have played quite a few different courses this month, and ours seems to be in a lot better condition than most of them.

On Thursday August 4<sup>th</sup> we played Wensum Valley at home, sadly losing by 3 and a half to 2 and a half,

On the 10<sup>th</sup> August we played against Tydd St Giles away, we all had a great time but had a resounding loss of 5 and a half to a half. Well done to Mike Reed for getting an Albatross on the par 5 13<sup>th</sup> in the match.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> August we had our C and B Cup Pairs, which was won by John Ireland and Mark Orwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> were Terry Russell and John Rice, with Ian Storey and Graham Mizen 3<sup>rd</sup>.

On 18<sup>th</sup> August we played away against Fakenham, where we actually had a win of 3 and a half to 2 and a half.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> August we played our Seniors Millenium Cup Qualifying Stableford, which was won by Ian Palfrey with a great score of 43 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> was Bill Scragg with 39 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> was Mike Window with 37 points.



Whilst playing in the Millenium Cup, playing the 4<sup>th</sup> hole, Jim Carpenter (left) had a fantastic shot and managed his first hole in 1, many congratulations Jim from all of us who had a drink on you.

At last the rain has arrived, and not before time, let's all hope that the fairways and tees start to recover now.



## Results

### August Medal

Nigel Crouch	66
Tam Payne	67
Martyn Wiles	69

### Gibb Cup

N.Wagg/ J.Wagg	12
A.Reeve/ R.Parker	9

### August Midweek Stab

David Ryder	37pts
-------------	-------

### Amy Goddard

Dorothy March	39pts
Trish McManus	38pts

### Doris Ball Rose Bowl

Susan filby	68
-------------	----

### Midweek Medal

Dick Martin	67
Robbie Mills	69

### Keith Handscomb

G. Dixon/J.Anderson	43
L.Osler/T.Brand	42

### Seniors Millennium

Ian Palfrey	43pts
Bill Scrag	39pts

### Kitty Gillies

Patsy Parker	42pts
Val Mellish	38pts

### Irene Mott

Susan Filby	
-------------	--

### **Eva-New Final**

**Dorothy and Roger March  
were the winners over  
Liz Tyler and Robin  
Huggins 3/1.**

## Golf Lessons Available

Peter Lunt is a fully qualified PGA professional of 35 years.

Lesson fees are:  
£15 for half an hour.  
£25 for 5 hole playing lesson.

All other lesson options  
negotiable.

Contact Peter on 07568318390  
[Plunt79@gmail.com](mailto:Plunt79@gmail.com) to book.



# GREENKEEPERS

# REVENGE

# FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

# FROM 3.00PM

**9 Holes of 'interesting golf' EVERYBODY WELCOME**

### **Cambell Cup Final**

**Jon Lewis vs Robbie Mills**

### **Lee Bennett Final**

**Dang Kittisak vs Pam Taylor**



## Greenstaff – Peter & Tiff

Finally, a decent 24mm of steady rain is just what the course needed last week.

So now we look ahead to maintenance and repairing the damage.

Top-dressing has been brought forward to this week and we are sorry for the short notice and realise this will have disrupted your plans.

Work will begin today, **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August** from 4pm when the 1<sup>st</sup> hole will be out of play and we ask no more golf is played after this time to allow us to get ahead spiking the greens so they're ready for sand the next day.

Please note hole cups will be removed. **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September** the course will be **CLOSED ALL DAY**.

Please know this decision was made with the best intentions for the course.

The weather forecast is not great for next week when it was due to be carried out and we cannot spread wet sand on the greens. We have to take advantage of the rain as we know this year it has been sparse to say the least and the rain will only help recover the greens faster.

But although the greens will not be playing their best for a few weeks after, this is crucial maintenance to ensure the greens improve for the following season. So how does it do this you might think?

Just below the turf surface is a layer of thatch, (dead and living plant material). A small amount of thatch helps the greens receive shots and withstand traffic, but an excessive amount results in soft conditions, deep ball marks, foot printing, disease risk and ultimately undesirable putting conditions. So, adding sand will break down this thatch layer resulting in a firmer, truer and faster surface. So, for the short-term disruption, the benefits will be far greater.

After the work on the main greens are completed we will begin to tackle the eye sore that is the practice green. Half of the green will be completely out of play for at least 4 weeks to give it the best chance of recovery.

After that we move on to areas that have not survived the drought as well, such as aprons, tees and fairways. Aprons and tees will be hollow-cored, seeded and brushed. This will look a mess for a time, but again it's vital the work is carried out as some areas will not recover on their own.

Fairways will also be chain-harrowed to aid recovery. We aim to complete all this by mid September, so if you see us working on an area, please allow us to continue as much as possible, we know you're playing and we will

move out of the way when it's convenient. **DO NOT** fire golf balls at us please!

Thank you for your patience while this essential work is carried out and we apologise for the disruption. But it's all to create a better golf course for you the members.



A number of large branches have recently fallen from various trees this month so please be aware where you are passing under and waiting. Work has begun this week to remove certain dead trees.

The pond clearing revealed roughly 6,000 golf balls (that we found) and you can still purchase the better ones for a bargain price of £2 for 15. They are behind the bar or in the office.



Happy to finally see some rain!

## Ladies Open 2022

It is pleasing to report that we have once again had a “sell-out” Ladies Open being fully subscribed within a fortnight of the release date in January. 20 Clubs were represented from Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire; the furthest afield being Gt Yarmouth & Caister – quite a journey to a small (very popular) West Norfolk Golf Club!

A Hole in One from one of the earlier groups was loudly congratulated at the Half-way-House – very well done to Marion Hough from Ely City; so there went one of the Nearest the Pins! Straightest drive to Pauline a Newmarket lady and the second nearest the pin to Jenny from Dereham. Despite a handicap limit this year, the winning pair from Gedney Hill scored 48, Ely City came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 47 points with Richmond Park in 3<sup>rd</sup> with a 46 on count-back.

Catering and half-way house provided by Tonya and her staff was very much enjoyed and highly complimented upon by our guests. The raffle was extremely well supported as always. The course was in excellent condition considering the recent relentlessly hot and challenging weather, and our thanks to the greens staff for all their hard work.

All told, a resounding success – thank you to all who played a part.

Lyn Kirk – Opens Co-ordinator



## ***Around the Park for Parkinson's***



On the 7<sup>th</sup> August, member Tom Redcar and friends Will, Adam and Liam challenged themselves to complete 72 holes in one day for Parkinson's Uk. They have raised an amazing £2,290 and you can still donate through the JustGiving page.

## **Downham Rotary turns 65!**



Awards were presented to four of Rotary's longest standing members. Club members (left to right) George Bell, Tony Fulford, Tony Firrell and John Alflatt for their long service to Rotary. Presented by President Martin Chilvers (middle)