



Southwold Golf Club

Established 1884

Southwold Rabbit

New Year 2024 140 Year Anniversary of SGC

The greens are flooded, the wind is howling and its freezing cold!



Not only will you warm up and perfect your swing under the 'Eiffel Tower' on the driving range mode, but with some of the world's top golf courses available to play such as **Wentworth, Royal Troon, Carnoustie, Kings Barns, Royal Lytham and St Annes** and the treacherous **Valderramma**, the Swingroom will be enjoyed by all of the membership throughout the year.

A recent annual meet between Southwold and Halesworth named the 'All Stars Match' organised by **John Mills**, was unfortunately called off due to heavy rain but all 24 players spent 2 hours in the Swingroom with our Professional **Tom**, who showed them the ropes in a 'Closest to the Pin' challenge on the famous 'Postage Stamp' par 3 at this year's 2024 Open Championship venue, Royal Troon.

As well as the impressive Swingroom, the new facility also boasts a 4M 'PuttaAway' moveable Putting Platform, used to hone in those all-important putting skills. Not only can this be used to improve your putting stroke but with 5 of the world's leading Putter brands, that all important tool can be specifically tailored to your game to help you roll in those crucial 10ft putts!

Various Putter models to suit different styles from Scotty Cameron (Titleist), Odyssey (Callaway), Ping, Wilson & Cleveland are now available to be custom fitted so please book in ASAP!

Why not enjoy a game at Valderramma?



With our new State-of-the art Swingroom, this is now possible

Captain's Drive In



The Captain's Drive In took place on Saturday 11th November 2023. **John Meikle**, Senior's Captain; **Anita Edwards**, Ladies Captain; **John Pywell**, President, and **Richard Holmes**, Club Captain took up the challenge to hit over the pit on the 18th Hole to get nearest the hole.

Each competitor is allowed 3 tries – and things were not going well, until **John Meikle**, Senior's Captain, landed his third Drive on the green, which proved to be the winning shot, as after careful measuring by the trusted team of **Brian Brandwood** and **Richard Frost**, it was nearest the pin.



The Winning Drive

Betting on their favourite Captain is always popular for this event, and thanks go to **Barbara Hurr** for setting it all up, which raised over one hundred pounds for the Club funds.



Chairman's Report

Well, what a rollercoaster 2023 proved to be and am I glad to see the start of 2024!

“**Jack** you should think about joining the Committee ‘it’s fun’ they said, “**Jack** you should put your name forward, you could make a real difference” they said, “**Jack** ‘You’d be great’ they said, but what they never said is in 2023 you will go stir crazy, stop working, no golf and deal with the everyday life of a golf club. However on the flip side, hopefully we can all agree that the club is in a far better place and I wouldn’t change any of it!

As we closed off 2023 I’d like to remember those that are sadly no longer with us. A year when we not only lost significant long standing members of the club but we also lost their personalities and presence within the club. My love and best wishes can only go out to the families and close friends of those we now remember.

A New Building

Having been talked about for some time we finally got the keys for the new pro-shop and swing room. This was some task; and I’d like to personally thank all those that were involved with it from start to finish. Many hours have been taken up looking at all aspects of this building, so it’s so nice to finally see it being used. I can only wish my good friend and fellow junior member ‘**Tom Kirtley**’ many happy and prosperous hours using it.

A New Irrigation System

An opportunity given to us in the memory of the late ‘**Edwards Cripps**’ and the foundation that followed, the club will forever be in debt to the generosity that they have given us. We also thank the members who supported the ‘levy’ which gives us an opportunity to protect the future of the club. I only ask that all members are patient whilst the Irrigation works commence.

New Faces

New Secretary – I was delighted to be able to offer **Terry Smith** the job as club secretary. His strength of knowing the club was forefront of our decision process. And hasn’t he made a significant impact. The whole Executive Committee wish **Terry** all the best in his role and thank him for all his efforts thus far.

New Green Staff – I still remember that cry of help to **Mark Broughton** with a hope of ‘let’s pray he says yes’. **Mark** quickly got to work and a lot of fact finding, telephone calls and research got us back on track and I can only thank all the team, past and present to assist in that period. Then here we are today with a brand new team lead by head green keeper, **George Butters** assisted by **David Barbrook** and their apprentice **Rhys May**. We look forward to a bright future with these guys.

Return of an old face behind the bar – **Amber** was super excited to re-join us as bar supervisor having worked for us previously as casual staff. And what a delight **Amber** has been.

Catering

Please help and support our caterers they are a vital part of our club and the weather over the past two months have certainly hindered them. Prawn baguette and chips is definitely my choice!

There’s always many thank you’s we can keep constantly making and when doing so there’s always someone you miss. Therefore it’s easier to thank each and every one of you that makes a difference to Southwold Golf Club. A Club I’ve been a member of for many years and will continue to do so. A Club I’ve loved and continue to love. A course that’s always a test of our ability and a course I’ve still yet to beat. But, the bigger picture is let’s protect our club, and let’s do what’s right, for the right of Southwold Golf Club.

Finally, a warm welcome to all our new members that have joined the club in 2023 I wish you a very enjoyable time at the club and we thank you for your support.

Best Wishes

Jack

Club Diary 2024

The 2024 Club Diary is available to members in digital form or printed version from the Secretary.
Our Sponsors this year are:

Adnams, Rejuven8, The Penny Bun Bakehouse, The Housekeeping Company, The dog shack, Mantins, Flunder Wines, Hillfield Nursery, Collen & Clare, Duncan & Son, Burrows & Watson, Sole Bay Fish Company, Flick & Son and Lavender & Jude.

You will see that **Collen & Clare** are offering a generous discount to members, but please use all of these companies whenever possible, and show them appreciation for their support for our Club. It is thanks to them we can offer our diary free of charge.

Fund Raising

Work goes on to support the Golf Club in raising funds for the Irrigation Project. As Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee, I have held several meetings with members who have offered their help and been encouraged by the positive response that I have received.



Several initiatives are under way, the first being a Burn's Night celebration at the Golf Club on Thursday 25th January organised by **Norman Jackson**. I am delighted to say that the event was sold out! 62 members sat down to dine on Roast Beef and Haggis with the arrival of the Haggis being accompanied by a Piper in full dress, a very successful evening. A raffle was held to further support the fund raising effort.

Members will also be delighted to learn that another Dinner is to be held, hosted by **Graham Gooch**, and featuring "A Night of Magic" with **Michael J Fitch** on **Tuesday 7th May 2024**. Those who attended the Dinner in 2022 will remember what a fantastic evening it was; I am certain that demand for tickets will be very high, so put the date in your diary and get your table of ten ready to go when further details are released!

The Ladies Section, led by Anita Edwards, is also getting behind the fund-raising effort by arranging a **Putt and Swing Evening** to coincide with the holding of the Gun Hill Cup. The date set for this exciting event is **Saturday 17th August**. Further details will be provided in due course, but please put the date in your diary.

Finally, the Fund Raising Committee plans to host an **Oktober Fest** style event, with the Lowestoft Longshoremen at the new Reydon Community Hall, which I hope will appeal to a wider section of the membership. Several other opportunities are also being considered that will encourage the feel good factor which is so evident within the Club at present, but I hope that the events above will appeal to all sections of the Club and that you will want to support the fund raising committee helping to raise the funds needed to meet the cost of the Irrigation Project.

Nigel - Chairman of Fund Raising Committee

Captain's Report

Welcome to 2024.

Last year was a very productive time for the club with a lot of changes and many improvements to the club facilities and course, all achieved under the guidance of a very proactive and progressive Executive Committee.

Looking forward to 2024 there is still much to be done. The installation of the new irrigation system will commence within the next few weeks which will help the Greenkeepers to maintain our, ever improving, course.

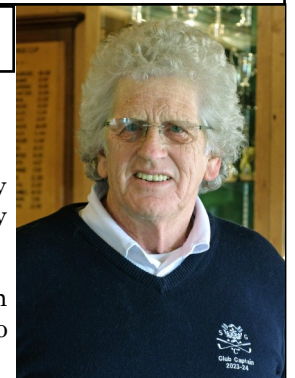
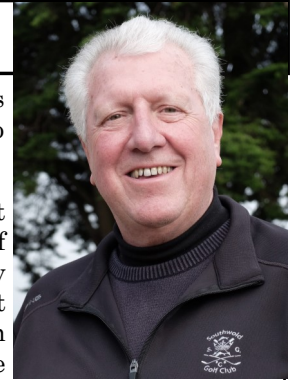
We have all the usual annual internal and external competitions to look forward to and we are hoping for great things from our county competition teams this year.

Socially, there is a 'Night of Magic' dinner with guest speakers in May; the Ladies are planning a 'Putt and Swing Evening' later in the year and the 'Festival of Golf' over 3 days in July which will conclude on Saturday 13th July, which will be Captains Day. For this, I am planning to celebrate the 140th Anniversary of Southwold Golf Club with a Texas Scramble throughout the day, and I will expect all to turn out in 1884 dress, suits and ties for the gents and full-length dresses for the ladies. The important golf accessory of the day for the ladies includes a parasol!

During the evening, we will be entertained by a vocal jazz band and buffet.

My personal thanks go out to all the Members and Staff for their continued support throughout the last year. The improvement to the services we can now provide, together with the outstanding condition of the course, is a credit to all.

Richard Holmes - Club Captain





Message From the Lady Captain

It has been a wickedly wet and cruelly cold start to my Captain's Year. Despite that, it has been a productive and happy time.

The opening of the New Swingroom and Pro Shop was uplifting and encouraging. The Committee should be congratulated on their tremendous efforts to get everything ready on time and particularly **June Twist** who has kept us all up to date with the building progress. It is a wonderful facility and fantastic for practise and lessons in the winter.

We have an active and enthusiastic group of ladies in the Academy who played a 6 hole scramble in November. **Penny Cleveley** organised a Newbies Christmas meal in December, with 11 new players attending alongside some of the Ladies committee and **Tom Kirtley**. I was really pleased to see there was already a good team spirit within the group.

The Ladies organised a very successful Christmas Fayre which raised over £1,600 for charity, £1,000 being donated to the Irrigation project fund and £500 allocated to Dementia UK. Thank you all for your time and energy. The ladies Christmas golf competition was played on one of the kindest winter's days we could have hoped for, bright and sunny. The best dressed Red-and-White team and the best Jingle-bell hat competitions were well-contested and all the players looked so festive moving around the course in the sunshine.



Ladies Christmas Party all Dressed Up for the Occasion

Now we are in 2024 it is time to look ahead to some summer planning and new events. This year I am re-instating the **Ladies Invitation Day**, this will be open to Members and Guest teams or Members only teams on Wednesday 7th August.

Annabel Holder is preparing for the AM-AM competition to be held on 6th September, always a very popular day. In the meantime, I am organising a **Putt and Swing Evening** on Saturday August 17th, to coincide with The Gun Hill Cup and the naming ceremony of The Swing Room. This will involve a Putting competition in the Swing Room, organised by **Tom**, in the early evening, followed by buffet supper and swing band at the Clubhouse. It promises to be a special event.

Wishing you all a very Happy and Successful golfing year

Anita



Message From the Senior Captain

I was delighted to have the opportunity to be the Seniors' Captain. Our chairman **Jack** and I discussed the Club's vision for the future and how the Seniors' section could help.

My first task was to try and be as competitive as possible in the Seniors Winter League. Luckily there are a number of Senior Members of the club that have previous history in the Hambro and Stenson that were more than willing to participate. At the time of writing this we were top of the league with a match to play away at Bungay. Regardless of where we finish, I am very proud of the teams commitment and desire to win at courses suffering hugely from flooding and weather related challenges.

Moving forward I am looking forward to a level of normality with our friendly matches of which there are plenty! I hope to continue the competitive nature with a more light hearted fun approach. It is a terrific opportunity to sell Southwold Golf Club to the surrounding clubs that we play against. Our course is getting back to it's best thanks to **George** and his team, **Tom** is doing wonders in the Swingroom, Putting Bay and Shop and our Catering is first class with terrific feedback from our visiting teams.

I can't wait to get stuck in to the new season and I look forward to playing golf with you all!

John Meikle Senior Captain

Message from Our Secretary

Well how time flies... First, I would like to thank all the members at Southwold Golf Club who have wished me well in the Secretarial role since I started in August. I want to thank everyone who has offered me help and encouragement in my new role. The past few months have certainly been a steep learning curve and eye opener for me, but I hope that I can fulfill the hopes of the Executive Committee who took me on, and the members who have made me so welcome in my new role.

For those of you who don't know me here's a little insight into who I am. Born and raised in Reydon, I first joined Southwold Golf Club as a Junior when at Reydon High School and we were lucky enough to have Thursday afternoon sports clubs. I chose golf as my activity and I was ably coached by the great **Brian Allen** and **Richard "Dickie" Day** my then math's teacher. A great grounding for any student.

At the grand age of 18 I joined the RAF as a RAF Policeman. After a few years of uniformed policing, I specialised in Counter Intelligence. I served 15 years in the RAF and served in places such as the Falkland Islands, Northern Ireland, and Saudi Arabia during the Iraq crisis. I left the RAF and returned "home" in 1998 where I joined Adnams as part of the Information Technology team (IT). I stayed at Adnams until April 2023 when I took voluntary redundancy. I rejoined Southwold GC after moving back to Reydon after my RAF days. I was lucky enough to win the Club Championships twice as well as other "majors" over the years. I have also represented Southwold GC in the Stenson, Hambro and Thursday league teams. My other interests outside of golf include football in which I played for Southwold for many years including veterans' football until a few years ago. I am also an ardent fan of Norwich City FC but please don't hold this against me!! I also have a local allotment and love growing my own vegetables and spending time in the garden.

I feel very privileged to be given the chance to serve you all as Secretary of Southwold Golf Club. I believe I have the necessary skills and passion for this role as well bringing all my golfing knowledge and experience to the club. As with anything as steeped in history and tradition as Southwold Golf Club is, I believe we must also embrace new technology and look at opportunities where we can continue to grow the club and expand. With the new swing room and the V1 golf system Southwold Golf Club is moving forward well in this area. I feel that with my experience I can deliver what we would all like Southwold Golf Club to be – a place where golfers want to come and play golf, enjoy a quality golf course, and want to come back and play again.

Terry



Tee Box Sponsorship

We have a number of Tees available for Tee Box Sponsorship. With the improvements we are making to our Course and Club facilities, advertisements on the Tee Boxes will get good publicity. If you have any contacts that might be interested, the Secretary can give you details of those available, and costs incurred.

Saturday Boys Christmas Competition

Originally planned for 18 November but the weather was against us. The day before rain was forecast for late morning on the Saturday so arrangements were changed to play nine holes only. However on the morning it was raining so hard and the greens flooded so the course was closed. This meant a morning in the club house followed by the arranged Christmas lunch. The numerous prizes were packed up again and taken away.

So the competition was rescheduled for 6 January. Everyone kept watching the skies and biting their nails when after more heavy rain the course was closed the day before. Still everyone turned out on the day and fortunately the weather held and the course was open. Thanks to **Tom** and **George** for ensuring play was possible.

As usual everyone received at least one prize and some players several for the numerous categories. However no one managed to get on the 1st or the 10th greens.

The overall winner was **Alex Baker** with 36 points and the first team **Richard Holmes, Keith Townsend** and **Richard Peck** won the Charlie Elms Putter.



Saturday Boys' Winner

Fingers crossed for better weather next time although with the Swingroom now open we will have a fall back position.

Peter McNally



The Year of the Swingroom!



The Swingroom was opened on 25th November 2023 by the Mayor Simon Flunder, who tried it out wearing his official robes.



As previously mentioned, not only will members be able to experience gameplay at some of the world's top golf courses, the new facility also provides essential feedback necessary for continuous learning and improvement of the golf swing.

With the vast amount of both club and ball data provided by the Foresight GC3 Launch Monitor, accompanied with high-speed Swing Catalyst Cameras, all areas of the game can be carefully studied and then gradually improved through a series of lessons.



Christine Hamilton under tuition from Tom Kirtley

The initial Lesson feedback from Members from all of the sections has been fantastic so far and everyone is enjoying the presentation of the data.

As well as individual lessons, the 'Newbies' Ladies Academy group, led by **Penny Cleveley**, have been enjoying weekly sessions to help improve their golfing skills, all within the warmth and comfort of the Swingroom and Putting Studio.



Reading the results on the Monitor

The Putting Studio

The Swingroom is accompanied by a Putting Studio with an impressive moveable putting platform on a motor system, designed by 'PuttAway Golf'.

This platform moves up to 4 degrees both left and right in order to practise those all-important 5-10ft breaking putts. With the use of high-tech lasers, we are able to delve into both your initial alignment and then the putting stroke itself.

The Studio will also have a range of the world's best putter brands which can be custom fit specifically for you. This is an area of the game which is nowhere near looked at enough.

.....and you know what they say,

"You Drive for show and you Putt for Dough!"



Jane Camburn with Penny Cleveley



The Swingroom 9-Hole Winter League Championship

With the rain and wind and not to mention the dark winter nights, 14 Teams of 4 are now under way in the Club's first ever Swingroom 9-hole Winter League Championship!

Each team will battle it out for 9 holes on 5 different courses over a 10-week period in the Texas Scramble format. Each team is allocated a Handicap and individuals are put off the appropriate tees. Each player is required to take 2 drives which can make things interesting!

Carnoustie was the first of the Championship courses and after a slow start, **Paul Booth's** Team came alive in the last few holes and set the pace with a net score of 5.9 under par. There are a fair few teams lined up just behind waiting to pounce! Next up is another tough links course in Royal Lytham & St Annes, so players will have to have their A-game in order to catch the early leaders.

Valderramma, Wentworth West and this year's 2024 Open Championship venue Royal Troon will complete the Winter League line up.

..... who will be crowned the first ever Champions and claim the famous Claret Jug?

Custom Fitting Service to the highest of standards

Over the past 20 years, I have studied and learnt the art of Custom Fitting golf equipment. The science behind the equipment has been a major passion of mine ever since working in golf and over the past two decades, Custom fitting golf clubs has become a speciality of mine.

After achieving one of the highest marks in the history of the PGA for my practical Custom Fit exam, in 2018 I qualified to become a 'Master fitter' of 7 of the industry's top brands, 4 of which I will be stocking this year! This is the top level of fitting before becoming a club fitter on the European or PGA Tour!



Having been trained at the headquarters of many of the world's leading golf manufactures, I devised a 6-step custom fitting process which was certified by the PGA over 5 years ago. From the initial 'Consultation' to the final step on 'Grip Selection', each area of the golf club will be tested and tweaked to suit your golfing needs.



If you are sceptical on how much custom fitting and modern equipment can actually improve your game, please book in for a free MOT session with your current clubs, where I can compare and

showcase you some of the latest technology on offer by Titleist, Ping Callaway and Wilson! Book in ASAP to help lower those scores!!!

Tom Kirtley Professional Southwold Golf Club

Junior Golf We are currently in talks with a local School who have recently put Golf on the curriculum, giving students the option to learn golf as one of their three sport choices. We are hoping to form a link with the school so that the students can use the new Swingroom and Putting Studio as a training centre to help them develop their skills and technique throughout the school year. Spring, Summer and Winter Camps will also be advertised throughout the year to help build on the positive numbers that attended in 2023.



We are also hoping to improve on the fantastic numbers that we had for our **Junior Open** last year, with a goal of 50 being set by our Professional **Tom** for this years event, which is being held on Saturday 15th June.

The Gunhill Cup

is always a great day in the Club's Calendar and will be held on August 17th with many teams across both Suffolk and

Norfolk being invited to play in the fun, Junior based, Team event, sponsored by the Cripps Foundation.



Club President John Pywell training a young golfer



We start them young at Southwold!



Reuben Harvey b.12.2.05 Honours 2023

The Suffolk Open Suffolk Men's Scratch Order of Merit
Suffolk Junior Order of Merit The Race to Aldeburgh
Felixstowe & Aldeburgh Junior Opens
Southwold Golf Club Gold Medal

Reuben Harvey had a very successful year in 2023. He is the first person in history to win the Suffolk Men's Scratch Order of Merit as well as the Suffolk Junior Order of Merit in 'The Race to Aldeburgh'.



Replacement Irrigation Project Southwold Golf Club The journey continues

The existing system at Southwold Golf Club had been installed for approximately 35 years, and in recent years the system had become unreliable due to leaking joints and aging components. Greens Staff were replacing old worn-out fittings including replacing underground pipework.

Initial proceedings began in May 2022 when the Executive Committee agreed to engage **Irrigation Consultants Adrian Mortram Associates (AMA) Ltd** to provide an independent report on the existing system. I was approached to form an Irrigation working group to work with Adrian to focus on the recommendations in the report. Having discussed various design options, unfortunately the initial cost was too expensive for Southwold Golf Club. In October 2022 an EGM was held to discuss plans and the approximate costs of £500k. It was agreed the plans and proposal were too ambitious and we needed to explore a more cost-effective system, including setting up a Development Fund including Fundraising plans.

Meetings were held in January /February 2023 with **Irrigation and Water Ltd** as one of the preferred Contractors to provide a new plan and costing suitable for a nine-hole golf course. In May 2023 a Members Meeting was held to present new plans and quotation of £296,889 including VAT, from Irrigation and Water Ltd. The **Cripps Foundation** has supported the Club with the Gun Hill Cup including the Youth Academy and recognised the need for SGC to have a new Irrigation System. A very generous £150K was donated towards the system on agreement the Members would match the amount donated. Members agreed the cost was acceptable including a unanimous vote to introduce a Levy payment to help fund the generous donation to pay for the replacement system.

In June 23 **Prime Irrigation Ltd** approached SGC to provide plans and design for a new computerised Rainbird Cirrus system at a cost of £265,590 including VAT. Further meetings were held with the Working Group and Executive with Prime Irrigation Ltd. A decision was made to accept **Prime Irrigation Ltd** to be the approved Contractor to install the new system at a cost £31,299 lower than Irrigation and Water Ltd. In July 2023 a Contract of Works was signed to proceed with Prime's design and build installation commencing January 2024 with completion during March 2024.

During October 2023 meetings were held with Southwold Town Council and Common Trust for permission to install the proposed Irrigation System. Following the meeting STC has granted full approval to proceed. In January 2024 further meetings were held with Southwold Town Council for approval to set up a site storage facility at the Pit Stop parking area. A container was delivered to site on Tuesday 9th January followed by coiled pipe and materials in preparation for a start date later in the month.

Sincere thanks to the working group **Simon Flunder, Clyde Camburn, Sam Nunn, Terry Broome, Alan Bagley**. Sincere thanks to **Trevor Clifford** for the liaison meetings with The Cripps Foundation / Southwold Town Council / Common Trust. To all our Members who have kindly supported this journey from the initial meetings in May 2022. Thanks for supporting the Levy payments, 6-Year Membership, Life Membership payments and to The Cripps Foundation who without their generous donation this project would not be able to proceed.



Pipes stored at the Pit Stop

Together we will make this work and future proof SGC's irrigation system for the next 40 years. With the opening of the exciting new Pro Shop and Swingroom facility, including the installation of a new Irrigation System, it's important for all members to remain focused on supporting more fundraising events to ensure SGC has a bright future ahead, thank you.

John Mills Chair of the Irrigation Project

Our Newbie Members

Our group of Newbies, many of which are now Academy members, originally attended our taster day held last July.

Since then they've gathered weekly for hourly sessions with **Tom** and myself. The new swingroom has given an added dimension to learning as well as keeping everyone warm and you'll hear plenty of laughter when the ladies are gathered!



Newbies with 'Oldies'

It has been a pleasure encouraging the ladies, not only watching their confidence grow in golf but also seeing their friendships develop as they continue to learn, support each other and most importantly have fun!

The next step for these ladies is to be paired with a mentor from the ladies section so they can develop their golf skills and knowledge of competition and course etiquette. We will aim to set up another taster day for New Newbies later in the year. **Penny Cleveley**

Our Green Keeper's Report

Firstly I'd like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I've received since joining the club in November, I've been overwhelmed by the positivity and buzz around my appointment. It has very quickly made me to feel at home here at Southwold Golf Club, and excited to be part of the promising future of the club.

A little background on myself, I've worked in the golf industry now for 16 years, mostly at Ufford Park GC over two stints either side of 3 years as a technical advisor for Aitkens Sports Turf. In my first stint at Ufford I began as an apprentice also working evening shifts for the pro shop before making a switch to full time greenkeeping. Within 6 years I was made Deputy Head Greenkeeper and was in that role for 3 1/2 years before leaving to take up a technical advisor role working with golf and sports clubs across the whole of East Anglia for 3 years. While my time in this employment sadly fell foul to cuts during the pandemic, I was fortunate enough to swiftly return to greenkeeping at Ufford Park. Having returned to the practical side of the golf industry I soon realised I was much happier outside in a pair of boots and set about my pursuit of becoming a Head Greenkeeper.



George Butters, Centre, with David Barbrook (left) and Rhys May (right)

The whole greenkeeping team has had a shake up heading into 2024, supporting me in maintaining and improving the course are **David Barbrook** a long time member who's become a permanent member of the team after a couple of summers of seasonal work. His long term knowledge of the course and local area has proved vital already as I get to know the course and surroundings. In addition to **David**, **Rhys May** started back in November, **Rhys** is a local lad from Reydon and will be studying over the next two years to become a Level 2 qualified greenkeeper.

This winter we've set about tidying up the course, including some minor gorse removal, edging bunkers and installing a new path for the men's 9th tee. The new irrigation system installation is due to commence at the end of January - this project really will be a game changer for the course and provide a vital role in our efforts to improve the playing surfaces. During the installation period there will be some partial course closures at times, I'll be sure to keep you all well informed via ClubV1 as to when and where these will be.

Over the course of 2024 I'll be putting together a multi year development plan for the course looking at where improvements can be made to all facets of the course, whether that be an overseeding program for greens, bunker reshaping and relocating, tee levelling and extensions, gorse removal and regeneration, rough maintenance and thinning etc. together with the Executive Committee we are committed to raise the profile of the course and put Southwold Golf Club on the map as one of the best 9 hole facilities around.

George Butters Head Greenkeeper

RULES ARE RULES

A new year and a little bit late, but a big thank you to **George Butters, David Barbrook and Rhys May** for the improvements and state of the course in these cold and windy conditions. The greens, as always, are among the best in the county.

It has been noticed that some players are taking trollies across the fringe between bunkers and the green. **Please walk round the bunkers with trollies.**

A complaint from the Committee is the state of the returned score cards. Some cards are like a doctor's prescription, almost impossible to read or decipher. In social golf when a group of 3 or 4 all record on a single score card please use surnames, and always add a title (roll-up, medal) **and the date.**

Rules are rules:

At this time of year the Committee may introduce a local rule to protect the course.

One of these rules is to play from temporary mats on some or all tee boxes. For our example today all the tee markers, red, yellow and blue were placed together on the mat which was located at the back of the tee box.

A group of players in the Competition ignored the markers and played from the coloured discs set in the ground forward of the markers.

What is the rule and penalty if applied following this action?

See Answer on Page 10

A Review of 2023



Past Captain's Main Events 2023

I had a fantastic year as Captain of our wonderful club and I would like to share my highlights of my year.

Supporting the Men's and Ladies teams playing in the County competitions, where we had mixed results! All of the matches, regardless of the result, were played in the right spirit and once on the 19th, both teams enjoyed the friendship of each other's company. I would like to thank the members who captained each team and to the players selected to play in those competitions.

The Junior Open with 37 entrants was a great event and we joined the Suffolk Golf Union Junior league, I am hopeful that this event will grow and grow each year. The Gun Hill Cup was also a wonderful day with 12 teams playing from our neighbouring clubs and also the Cripps family.

The Coronation Cup organised by **Jeremy Turner** was a fantastic day and the evening entertainment from the 'Austin Beats' helped raised £2,600 for the Irrigation system.

Captain's Day was a day that I will not forget, so I would like to thank all the members who took part and embraced the day, even if they didn't join in wearing a Hawaiian shirt! The Festival of Golf week raised for my charity, Sole Bay Care Fund, the wonderful amount of £3434.

A great honour came to Southwold Golf Club at the end of May, we were chosen to host the Suffolk v Norfolk Under 14's match. All the boys and officials enjoyed a great day helped by those members who volunteered to ball spot and marshal around the course. It was greatly appreciated by Suffolk Golf Union and we have been chosen to host the Suffolk v Essex Under 14's match in August 2024.

The Ladies taster sessions have been a great success thanks to **Penny Cleveley**, with coffee & cake after each session in the clubhouse – a number of these ladies have now joined as Academy and full members. Congratulations go to **Tom** for running these sessions, which has increased membership of this wonderful club!

My final event was to run the Adnams 10K on 5 November 2023 and with the kind and generous sponsorship from the membership I raised £2135, which along with £500 set aside from the Festival of Golf week, gave a final amount of £2635 for the Irrigation System.

Nick Humphry

Ladies Section

We competed in the Cranworth and Stearn without success, but we are very proud of our ladies, **Fiona White** and **Adele Spindler** who won their way into the semi-finals of the Haskell, a competition played off scratch. They were finally beaten by Woodbridge played at Bungay. Well done **Fiona** and **Adele**.

Our AmAm was once again fully supported, and was won by a team from Stowmarket. The competition attracted 14 teams which included Ladies from Sherbourne and Saffron Walden.

The Ladies appreciate the changes to the course and the information our new Greenkeeper is sending us.



Senior's Section 2023



The 22/23 winter league was keenly contested with 4 of the 5 clubs including Southwold in contention until the final round. In our final match a 4 - 0 win would have won Southwold the title and a 3-1 win or 2-2 draw would have given us second place. Unfortunately a 4 - 0 defeat at Bungay meant we finished last! 19 Southwold Seniors played in the matches which were all played in a good but competitive spirit.

We had 22 friendly matches from March to October 2023. 37 Seniors played and as usual they were friendly affairs with a good meal and banter afterwards. Our win record wasn't great though - won 5, lost 12, drew 4 and 2 were abandoned. **Andy**

Answer; to Question on Page 7 Rule 6.1b(2). The player gets the general penalty of 2 strokes, and must correct the mistake by playing a ball from the markers on the mat.

The ball played from the wrong place is not in play.

If the player does not correct their mistake before making a stroke to begin the next hole, or for the final hole of the round before returning the score card, the player is disqualified.

Trophy Winners 2023

Gents Competition Winners 2023

Club Championship – Silver Medal Scratch	Russell Palmer
Club Championship – Handicap	Peter Hurr
Gold Medal	Reuben Harvey
Silver Challenge Cup	Paul Segust
Borton Cup	Nick Haward
Walberswick Cup	Mark Jolly
Major Belcher Cup	Mark Langley
PL Smith Cup	Derek Self
Penn Cup	Roger Emmerson
Wrightways Cups	Ian Gane & David Land

Presidents Salver	Alan Burrage
Over 50's Cup	Gary Cuthbert
Vic Fairs Cup	Paul Lamén
Bob Hind Cup	Mike Hill
Edward Cripps	Mike Brett
Stonehouse Cup	Gary Cuthbert
Eclectic Silver Challenge Cup	David Hammett
Peter Whiteley Rose Bowl	Roger Wilshaw & Barry Blemings
Field Foursomes	Mark Barlow & Nigel Brown
Easter Cup	Terry Smith
Charlie Elmes	Reuben Harvey
Hanner Putter	Peter Hurr

Mixed Competition Winners 2023

Harrissons Cup	Keith Hurr & Mrs Barbara Hurr
William Godell Cup	June Twist & Roger Wilshaw

Centenary Cups	Mark Barlow & Mrs J Cardwell
----------------	---

Ladies Trophy Winners

Easter Cup	Caroline Osmer
Sellars Vase	Caroline Osmer
Grace Ridley Spoon	Fiona White
Pat Gee Salver	Fiona White
Senior Ladies Cup	BarbarHurr
Senior Ladies Pill Box	Ros Self
senior Ladies Coaster	Margaret Beckett
Presidents Eagle	Penny Cleveley
Eaglet	Ruth Kemp
Osprey	Sally Anns
Captain's Cup	Penny Cleveley
Enid Scott Brooch	Anita Edwards
Winter Knockout	Ros Self
Club Championship	Fiona White
Barne Cup	Barbara Hurr

Gooch Cup	Caroline Osmer
Quay House Cup	Caroline Osmer
Centenary Rose Bowl	Jayne George
Centenary Vase	Caroline Osmer
Penn Vase	Fiona White/June Twist
Van Oss Sauceboats	Caroline Osmer/ Margaret Beckett
Silver Challenge	Barbara Hurr
Blyth Foursomes	Anita Edwards/Barbara Hurr
Golf Foundation Cups	June Twist/Caroline Osmer
Bunt Potter	Caroline Osmer
Adele Spindler Trophy	Caroline Osmer
Birdie Tree	Penny Cleveley
Southwold Spoon	Dott Wilson
Past Captain's Salver	Jenny Cardwell
Past Captain's Candlestick	Ann Frost
Golfer of the Year	Caroline Osmer

Seniors Section Trophy Winners

Spring Challenge Shield	John Stammers
Summer Challenge Shield	Derek Self
John Kennedy Shield	Phil Godbold
Jimmy Jordan	Alan Burrows
Bry Gladwell	Phil Dudfield

Winter Knock Out	Simon Halliday
Summer Knock Out	Keith Hurr
Gilbert Prism	Steve Smith
Brandwood Eclectic	Daryl Hill

Lunch Golf

Lunch golf is being well attended and it is nice to see people enjoying themselves. Good scores are coming in, and you are welcome to bring a guest, cost £14.50 plus £10.00 Green Fee.

Derek Self

In 2023 we have said Goodbye to a number of valued Members of our Club

A number of Past Captains :

Mike Heil who also served as Club President and gave much of his time in a variety of ways to the Club.

Keith May who served as Captain and also set up Keith's Kruises (I hope I have the apostrophe in the right place!) arranging enjoyable golfing holidays for member.

Janet Turney – Ladies Captain and also Ladies President

Jackie Selby – Ladies Captain

Also **Pat Donaghy** (over 100 years old), **Brian Davies; John Hughes; Dennis Fairs, Michael Wright, Derek Anns and Mike Wills.**

All of whom will be remembered by their many friends at the Club.

Southwold Golf Club, a brief history.

At 8pm on Friday 4th January 1884 seven local men met with the purpose of forming a Golf & Quoit Club in Southwold, they were: Messers **J.D. Garrett, A.R. Grubbe, Rev. P.L. Cautley, E.V. Adnams, J.B. Gooding, M. Garrett and D.R. Gooding.**

Permission was sought from The Southwold Corporation to play golf on the common. This was granted on 4th February with the first game being played on 28th August 1884. (The Quoit Club became a separate entity).



Southwold Golf Club's 9th hole 'The Pit' 1898



James Braid five times winner of The Open, playing a match at Southwold against Mr.W.Aveston of Cromer in 1898, Braid won.



Lady Golfers with the caddies ball hunting in the horse pond 8th hole 1898

Congratulations to Gary Cuthbert, Joe Howarth, Keith Hurr and Steve Potter for having a Hole in One in 2023

Gary Cuthbert had his second Hole in One at Southwold on the 10th hole playing against **David Hammett** in the final of the Stonehouse Cup in 2022. His first was playing in the Parks County Competition at Brett Vale.

Joe Howarth (in his own words) playing in a Texas Scramble, very badly, and I think my team were worrying if I would get my shots in as balls were lost on both 8 & 9 tees. But – using a seven iron on the tenth the ball went straight for the pin!

Keith Hurr had his third Hole in One at Southwold on 2nd June 2023 playing in the Coronation Cup, a team competition, on the 18th hole. There was a nearest the pin prize on this hole. Using a 9 iron, 134 yards, par 3 from the tee, it was not possible to see it go in until the team of **Barbara Hurr, Graham Shillings** and **Jayne George** reached the green.

Gary Cuthbert and **Steve Potter** for Holes in One on Friday Boy's Roll Up. **Gary** on 10th November on 9th Hole, **Steve** on 17th November on 10th Hole



Keith Hurr

Southwold Golf Club Bar Winter Bar Opening Hours 10.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

With a choice of fine Wines and Adnams' Ales, **Amber, Julie** and **Josh** are there with a smile to greet you.

Come and join us at weekends for a nice drink and a snack. All sections are encouraged to use the clubhouse over the next few months to help support the bar and catering departments.

Remember the Club is available for private functions.



Thanks to all who have sent me contributions to fill this issue; to **Steve Wolfenden** for working his magic on the photos, and to **Nick Humphry** for proof-reading.