



# John O'Gaunt Golf Club

Magazine - Winter 2018



## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

**Festive presents  
inside for you  
include...**

**Captains, Seniors,  
Ladies, Juniors,  
Clubhouse  
& More...**

[www.johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk)

# Up with the lark to join 50 other members

WELCOME to the Winter edition of the John O'Gaunt Golf Club Magazine.

As another golfing season comes to an end, I think this year will be remembered for some great golf by John O'Gaunt members, along with a summer to remember.

Towards the back end of the year a good field competed in the Autumn Texas Scramble. It started with a hearty breakfast in the Burgoyne Suite, then out for a shotgun start on the Carthage, which proved difficult.

Roy Anderson, Nathan Buckland, Martin Whinett and Mark Wright won with a score of 53.5 as they beat Paul Adams, Tom Greenaway, Matthew Gudgin and Michael Rhodes by just 0.1. Well done to all who played.

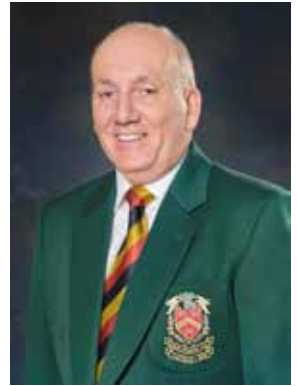
The annual dinner was held in November. The members present were well entertained by our guest speaker Steve Parrish and his antidotes from a racing career over many years, with a good dinner and the Captain's port! It was another very enjoyable evening at John O'Gaunt.

Just a few hours later, a field of over 50 slightly 'worse for wear' golfers were up with the lark to play the Morning After Cup, which was won by Chris Collin. Thank you to all who supported the annual dinner and the Morning After Cup.

A big thanks for all the entrants in various competitions in 2018 and congratulations to all the winners.

We now look forward to the Captain's Christmas Fayre, which is always a great event in the calendar.

Stuart Gardner - Captain 2018

A banner for FLOYD, a tooling specialist. The banner has an orange background with a grid pattern. It features a black flag on the left and a white flag on the right. The word "FLOYD" is written in large white letters. Below the name, it says "THE TOOLING SPECIALISTS FOR PRECISION COMPONENT MACHINING". Below that, it says "SUPPLIERS OF PRECISION TOOLING AND EQUIPMENT TO MANUFACTURERS OF COMPONENTS FOR THE MEDICAL, AUTOMOTIVE, AEROSPACE, AND ELECTRONICS INDUSTRIES". At the bottom, there are five small images: a turbine engine, a medical device, a mechanical part, a circuit board, and a stethoscope. At the bottom left, there is a phone icon and the number "+44 (0) 1462 491919". At the bottom right, there is a globe icon and the website "www.floydautomatic.co.uk".

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# Keen to encourage the next generation

YOUR Club has some excellent news for all Junior and Youth members regarding current and future Membership.

The Club recognise that the transition to Full Seven Day Membership could prove to be a significant financial stretch for many, so we have decided to offer all Junior and Youth Members a qualifying discount on the Entrance Fee.

Anyone who joins the Club as a Youth Member after the age of 18 will be entitled to a 10% discount on the Entrance Fee (currently £1,630) for each complete Year of Youth Membership - up to a maximum of 80% discount.

From 2019, ALL Junior Members will no longer have to pay an Entrance Fee if they make the transition into Youth and Full Membership - previously Junior Members were eligible for a maximum discount of 80%.

We hope this initiative proves popular and encourages you to enjoy a continued active membership.

Your Club will monitor the success of this programme, BUT there has to be a maximum number of Youth Members we can accommodate.



With this in mind should you know of friends, colleagues etc. who may wish to benefit from this opportunity then please make them aware.

We will continue to conduct interviews throughout the remainder of 2018 (normally on Wednesday evenings) so new membership applications can be considered.

## Tap-Ins

**SEVERAL festive events are taking place at the Club, including Christmas Conservatory Lunches, the Christmas Fayre on Saturday, December 15th and the Carol Service on Friday, December 21st.**

NEW Year's Eve is filling up fast. We offer a disco, buffet, plus fizz at midnight, at only £25 per person. To avoid missing out, please contact the office on [wendy@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:wendy@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk).

**THE Clubhouse will close on Christmas Eve at 4.30pm and will re-open on Boxing Day at 8.00am. For the full details of Clubhouse, Catering, Bar and Pro Shop opening hours across the festive period, please turn to the back pages.**

The Christmas Fayre Competition takes place on Saturday, December 15th. Tables from 4.30pm until 8.30pm.

**IN-FORM Penny Fletcher-Gregory backed up her victory in the Ladies Par Competition in October by winning the November Ladies Stableford.**

FORTY two points was a magnificent winning score in the Martin Ives Shield as John Sandland clinched the top prize ahead of Bill Walker (41).

**THE annual handicap review will take place at the start of 2019 and members will be notified of any changes. All members are reminded they need three qualifying cards in 2018 to have a competition handicap for next year.**

IF you have any friends, colleagues or family contemplating a change to their leisure activities or looking to rekindle an interest in golf, please direct them to John O'Gaunt Golf Club.

**A SINGLE point was the margin of victory in the Jim Peacock Seniors Away Day Cup as Jim McIlwaine (36) edged out Dave Wood.**

DARREN Redman held off a strong finish from Scott Armitage to win the Medals Finals by one stroke on the John O'Gaunt course.

**THERE are opportunities to advertise in the John O'Gaunt Golf Club Magazine. Please contact the Club Office to get your message across to all the members, guests and visitors in 2019.**



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TIMBER FRAME  
ASSOCIATION

# I thought it was supposed to be a gentle intro!

LADIES Captain Dawn French said: "Whoever said that it's nice to take over the role of captaincy at the end of the golfing season when things are quietening down has obviously never been a ladies captain.

"My feet haven't touched the ground for the past four weeks!

"What fabulous weather for Sue's finale, which obviously suited the Collin family as they bagged a clean sweep of the top three prizes.

"It was totally contrasting weather for the finals day, where I was refereeing in the morning - cold, miserable, non-stop rain. So my congratulations go to everyone who competed, you all deserved a medal.

"No sooner did the AGM come and go, the glorious sunshine returned the following week when the Past Captains played their annual match against the ladies - a closely fought battle with my ladies team just pipping it 5-4.

"Thanks to those who played and enjoyed lunch afterwards. I think we had the biggest turnout of past captains playing this year - 17 in total, with two 'injured soldiers' joining us for the lunch.

"There was a good turnout too for the Roy Davies Memorial Shield but unfortunately the gents proved too strong for the ladies winning 9-6. Platters were enjoyed after the game and good fun was had by all.

"A chilly but dry day heralded the Seniors and Ladies Texas Scramble with 88 playing. Welcomed by chocolates from the seniors in the changing room on arrival, a good day was had.

"The team of Bill Conway, Derek Weller, Caroline Lewis and new member Celia Dooley were victorious with a score of 57.3.

"I was given a beautiful bouquet by Captain Jim and the Seniors section to wish me well in my year and the raffle contributed £89.50 to my charity. Thank you.

"In early November was the Annual Dinner - far too soon for my liking! A fantastic turnout attended the dinner and enjoyed a very entertaining evening with Steve Parrish.



"This followed a superb meal and my very nervous speech, thank goodness that one is over.

"Many past captains assured me that this one is the worst and it gets easier from now on - I'll let you know!

"The winter competitions started with the lists filling up rapidly, these are very popular with everyone loving the fun aspect.

"It's just a shame that the qualifying comps aren't supported quite so well.

"Over 40 ladies signed up for the first one but unfortunately the wet weather got the better of quite a few who came in after nine holes.

"Of the hardy players that continued, the worthy winner of the first division was Terry Brown with 33 points.

"Division 2 was hotly contested with Val Cooper winning on countback from Pauline Wade and Rose Wrench. Well done everyone.

"The second winter competition had much better weather than the previous week with 55 ladies taking part in a pink ball competition.

"The runaway winners by nine were Kay Daniels, Diane Munns and Pat Court on 134 points, while another fantastic turnout on November 15th saw Lesley May, Jane Cooper and Tanya Wilmott claim the top spot.

"The Christmas Hampers have opened and are filling up fast, and so is the Christmas Dinner - numbers are limited so be quick to secure your place in these fun events.

"There were a good number of ladies playing in Heather Anthony's last weekend before her departure back to Wales after 16 years of membership at John O'Gaunt.

"I'd like to wish her all the best in this next chapter and thank her for the support that she has given to the ladies section over the years. She will certainly be missed.

"I wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year."

# Lila-Belle qualifies for World Championships

JUNIOR Organiser Sue Lee said: "As we near the end of the junior competitions for this year we look back on a very successful autumn of golf for the Junior Section.

"On September 15th, we had the annual match against the Club and Scratch teams (all pictured below).

"This eagerly awaited day started with breakfast at the club, which was very generously sponsored by Richard Bushell. Thank you.

"As in 2017, we managed to beat the Club team but the Scratch team were just too strong for us.

"Special mention for the top scorer of the day, which was Ethan Akpan with 38 stableford points.

"Ethan's sister, Ixie, was also triumphant in the Owen Watkin knockout final, winning on the 17th hole against Callum Bareham.

"Both were to be commended for winning through four rounds to reach the final.

"The Russell Hayes Cup went to Jess Sporle with a net 70, while Junior Captain Joe Clark was second.

"In half term, we had our annual match against the Seniors. Despite some close games we were unable to retain the TSB Trophy.

"Congratulations to the seniors on their win, but we aim to claim the Trophy back next year!

"Also in half term, we had eight pairs competing in the Anniversary Cup. The pairs were drawn and some strong partnerships emerged, with the top five scoring under par.

"In second place with 42 points was Rachel George and Alasdair Large, but pipping them by one was Tom Sennett and Lila-Belle Nacca.



"Lila-Belle (pictured above) has had a successful season on the British Junior Golf Tour as she has qualified for the Junior World Championships in San Diego next year after winning the final at Woodhall Spa, when she also appeared on Sky TV.

"For our final competition of the year back at the club, we had 12 trophy winners competing in the Champion of Champions in late November.

"Countback was needed to separate Jessica Sporle, Owen Williams and Callum Bareham on net 75.

"But the trio had to settle for second, third and fourth respectively as Archie Black came out on top with a magnificent net 67. Congratulations to all those that qualified."





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# Prostate Cancer Day 'Mark II' was a success

SENIORS Captain Jim Kerr, pictured, said: "I know you have all heard it before, but where has the year gone?"

"The last few months have been hectic with the Seniors matches coming to an end, along with several competitions and other business like Sue's Golf and Dinner Finale as Ladies Captain.

"Our matches finished in September with our last outing against Letchworth, which we unfortunately lost. This gave us a score for the season of 11 wins, 12 losses and three draws.

"Details of all the club competition results are on the results page in this Magazine, while a full report on the matches and competitions, with photographs, can also be found on the Seniors blog which is kept up-to-date by Algy (that's if I remember to write a report!).

"I have to say, I enjoyed doing our little turn along with the other members of the Seniors Crazy Gang - Fred Williams, Tony Lloyd and David Gauge.

"The big applause belongs to Pat Gilgallon for putting it all together and making sure we got some rehearsal time before the night.

"The other event that took over my life for a few weeks was the Prostate Cancer Project Golf Day, and again it was hectic but enjoyable.

"For those who didn't know, Jock Allan decided to retire from the Charity Day.

"I was then approached by other members of the Seniors and asked if we could look at putting together a team to carry on where Jock left off.

"Michael Grace looked at the calendar and gave us a date in October and so Jock Allan's Prostate Cancer Day 'Mark II' was born, and what was great is that Jock stayed with us and helped organise the event!

"My thanks go to Tony Goodson and Jim Peacock for making up the rest of the team, along with other members and wives that helped out to make sure everything went well on the day.

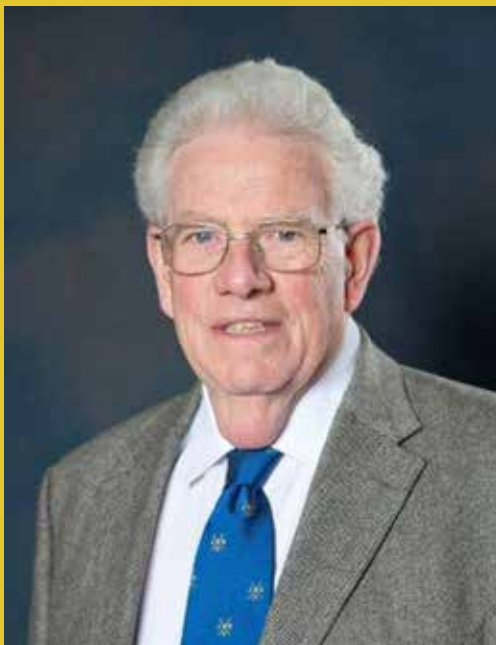
"The Charity raised over £3,600 and again I thank the members who sponsored and donated money to the charity.

"We will be going back to the original date of first Monday in April and would you believe it's April Fool's Day?... now that has got to be a coincidence!

"Our Seniors calendar is coming to an end with just the Annual Dinner and the Christmas Fayre to come at the time of writing this report and then I am FREE FREE (!) to try and rescue my handicap for next year.

"I am officially Captain until the AGM in February but with no matches or competitions it should be quiet (famous last words).

"I would like to thank everybody involved with the Club for all the help and advice I have been given over the last season. So to all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."





# Perfect opening for Seniors Scratch Team

JOHN O'Gaunt's Seniors team (pictured) made a great start to their 2018-19 campaign in the Bedfordshire Seniors Scratch League as they completed a 5-0 home win over Stockwood Park.

With Derrick Remington, Matt Gudgin, Peter Dobson, Rob Bage and Kevin Diss representing the hosts, all five players managed to take their games resulting in a whitewash victory.

Competing on the John O'Gaunt course, the match marked Stockwood's first season in the league as they replaced Leighton Buzzard to join Bedford and County, Bedfordshire, Aspley Guise and Woburn Sands, Millbrook, South Beds and ourselves.

The league consists of one division with each team playing three home games and three away games this season with the matches being reversed next year.

The scratch matches, which are singles with a team of five players from each side playing over 18 holes, offer two points for a home win, with three points awarded for an away victory. If the overall match finishes all square, then player number five from both teams will then play extra holes until there is a winner.



Seniors Scratch Team Captain Peter Dobson said: "This was a great start to the new season and hopefully we can take this momentum into our next matches.

"I would like to thank Barry Gaynor for his efforts as my Vice Capitan and acting as starter on the day, it was also great to see Tom McEvoy and we all thank him for his support and wish him a speedy recovery to full fitness.

"It's great to see Stockwood in the league - hopefully it will inspire other clubs to join in a competitive, but social series of matches."



# Golf's New Rules: Summary of changes

AS I am sure you are aware, the new Rules of Golf take effect on January 1st, 2019. A copy of the new rules will be posted on the noticeboard in the downstairs foyer. You can also collect the new R&A Rules book from the foyer or from Michael in the Golf Admin Office. Here is a two-page guide of the main changes.

## New Definitions:

- Penalty Area - an area from which relief with a one shot penalty is allowed (formerly 'Water Hazard'). Still defined as either yellow or red.
- Relief Area - the area in which the ball must be dropped (and come to rest) when taking relief under a rule.
- Reference Point - the point from which the size of the Relief Area is measured.
- General Area - anywhere on the course except Teeing areas, Penalty areas, Bunkers and Greens (formerly 'Through the Green').
- Temporary Water - formerly 'Casual Water'

## Pace-of-play support

- Encouragement of Ready Golf in Strokeplay. Players can agree to play out of turn in Matchplay.

## Elimination of 'Ball Moved' penalties

- No penalty for accidentally moving a ball on the putting green or in searching for a ball.

## Relaxed Putting Green rules

- No penalty if a ball hits an unattended flagstick in the hole.
- Players may repair damage to the green, whether their ball is on the green or not. This includes old hole plugs, spike marks and maintenance practices (but not aeration holes, unless there is a local rule in place).
- A ball resting against the flagstick is deemed holed as long as part of the ball is below the surface of the ground.
- No penalty for touching the line of putt.
- Interference by a Wrong Green now includes the player's stance.

## Relaxed Bunker rules

- No penalty for moving loose impediments (stones, leaves, etc.) in a bunker or for generally touching the sand with hand or club (but not directly in front or behind the ball or in making a backswing or practice swing).



- An extra relief option for an unplayable ball, allowing the ball to be played from outside the bunker with a two stroke penalty.

## Relaxed rules for Penalty Areas

- Expanded use of red penalty areas where lateral relief is allowed.
- No penalty for moving loose impediments, touching the ground or water or taking a practice swing in a Penalty Area.

## Simplified way of Taking Relief

- New procedure for taking relief by dropping in a specific Relief Area.
- Ball dropped from knee height and must stay within the Relief Area.

## Lost Ball & Provisional Ball

- A ball is Lost if not found within three minutes of commencing search - a reasonable amount of additional time is allowed to get to and identify a ball.
- A Provisional Ball may be played after the player has moved forward, at any time up to the end of the three minute search period.

There are a number of other changes and these along with those listed above will be displayed on the notice boards.

# Pee Wees ready for new programme in 2019



**JOHN O'Gaunt Golf Club will continue to run the successful Pee Wee programme in 2019.**

**With bookings already being taken, any boy or girl interested in joining the fun is advised to please call Wendy in the club administration office or email [wendy@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:wendy@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk).**

**As before, the Club will run a 16-week course culminating in a four-hole competition as all the Pee Wees will be working towards merit awards, starting with bronze through to platinum.**

## ***Golf's New Rules (Continued):***

### **Filtering Rules**

As we now have shorter days but the same amount of members wanting to play golf, please remember that we have two starting holes on each course – John O'Gaunt, first and 10th and Carthagen first and ninth.

If you are unsure about these rules you will find a copy on the notice board in the downstairs foyer. Please adhere to the filtering rules.

### **One Tee start**

There are occasions when one course is closed and a one tee start is in place for the other course. On such occasions, this will be marked on the notice boards.

We ask for your patience when other players wish to filter in and also when a one tee start is in place.

### **Course Work**

In the Autumn edition of the John O'Gaunt Golf Club Magazine, the Course Manager, Nigel Broadwith outlined the winter work programme for both courses.

This will include the reconstruction of the 13th tee on the Carthagen course and the 15th tee on the John O'Gaunt course.

Nigel also stated that quotations are being received to improve the pathways on both courses and these quotations should be in by the end of 2018.

Nigel and his team do a great job and 2018 will definitely go down as having been a huge challenge for them all.

Finally, I can't believe that this year is almost over so I would like to wish all members a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Pauline Aubigne



# Results

**Junior Champion of Champions - JOG (Nov 25th):**  
**1 Archie Black (net 67), 2 Jessica Sporle (75), 3 Owen Williams (75).**

Autumn Texas Scramble - CAR (Nov 18th):

1 Roy Anderson, Nathan Buckland, Martin Whinnett, Mark Wright (net 53.5), 2 Paul Adams, Tom Greenaway, Matthew Gudgin, Michael Rhodes (53.6), 3 Andrew Beck, Jay Billings, Gerald Keegan, William Worboys (55.9).

**Seniors Arthur Lucas Cup - CAR (Nov 13th):**

**1 Tony Goodson (42 points), 2 Brian Williams (38), 3 Rafe Bateson (37).**

Ladies November Stableford - CAR (Nov 11th):

Winner: Penelope Fletcher-Gregory (29 points), runner-up: Jacqui Bunker-Dare (27).

**Ladies & Seniors Scramble - CAR (Oct 30th):**

**Winners: Bill Conway, Celia Dooley, Caroline Lewis & Derek Weller (net 57.3), runners-up: Susan Garrard, Pat Gilgallon, John Gregory & Penelope Staveley-Smith (58.7).**

Medals Finals - JOG (Oct 28th):

1 Darren Redman (net 76), 2 Scott Armitage (77), 3 Matthew Bircham (78).

**Junior Anniversary Cup - CAR (Oct 26th):**

**1 Lila-Belle Nacca & Thomas Sennett (43 points), 2 Rachel George & Alasdair Large (42), 3 James Stocks & Owen Williams (39).**

October Midweek Stableford - JOG (Oct 24th):

1 Andrew Skinner (37 points), 2 Greg Osborne (37), 3 Karl Kendall (37).

**TSB Trophy - JOG (October 23rd):**

**Winners: Seniors beat Juniors.**

Ladies October Medal/Eclectic - JOG (Oct 20th):

Winner: Sandra Gardner (net 80), runner-up: Wilma Elam (83).

**Ladies Par Competition - JOG (Oct 18th):**

**1 Penelope Fletcher-Gregory (+1), 2 Katie Ford (+3), 3 Adrienne Massey (+4).**

October Midweek Stableford - CAR (Oct 17th):

1 Malcolm Roberts (44 points), 2 David Stannard (44), 3 Jay Billings (42).

**Seniors 2 Clubs & Putter - CAR (Oct 16th):**

**1 Derek Weller (37 points), 2 Neil Pinnington (33), 3 David Lincoln (32).**

Aesopians Medal - JOG (Oct 15th):

1 John Gregory (net 74), 2 Neil Pinnington (78), 3 Christopher Hoad (78).

**Ladies Captain's Finale - JOG (Oct 13th):**

**1 Christopher Collin & Paula Collin (45 points), 2 Alistair Collin & Victoria Collin (45), 3 Graham Anderson & Laura Ann Collin (40).**

Ladies October Stableford - CAR (Oct 11th):

1 Val Cooper (41 points), 2 Lindsay Derry (41), 3 Christine Darts (41).

**October Midweek Mixed Medal - JOG (Oct 10th):**

**1 Ash Latter (70), 2 David White (71), 3 Chris Dennis (72).**

Seniors Autumn Stableford Trophy - JOG (Oct 9th):

1 David Lincoln (39), 2 Alan Anderson (36), 3 Stephen Collins (36).

**Ladies October Stableford - CAR (Oct 7th):**

**1 Lindsay Derry (37 points), 2 Sandra Gardner (35), 3 Wendy Percival (35).**

October Medal - JOG (Oct 6th):

Division 1: 1 Martin Whinnett (net 73), 2 Graham Tompkins (74), 3 Stephen McLaughlin (74).  
Division 2: 1 Paul Holloway (71), 2 Matthew Twigg (73), 3 Paul Jeeves (73).  
Division 3: 1 Andy Kaye (73), 2 Peter Clarke (73), 3 Stephen Elstone (74).

**Ladies October Medal/Eclectic - JOG (Oct 4th):**

**1 Nicola Hunter (net 75), 2 Heather Anthony (80), 3 Sandra Gardner (80).**

Ladies Team Stableford - JOG (Oct 4th):

Winners: Christine Darts, Jacqui Davidson & Susan Bryan (net 73), runners-up: Lindsay Derry, Pauline Wade & Anita Isaacson (73).

**October Midweek Medal - CAR (Oct 3rd):**

**1 David Barlow (net 62), 2 Christopher Joannou (65), 3 Gary Earl (68).**

Seniors Gordon Percival Trophy - CAR (Oct 2nd):

Team: Winners: Michael Tomblin, Allan Kirkham & David Gauge (112 points), runners-up: John Hazelwood, Allan Anderson & John Sandland (107). Individual: Winner: Sandland (42).

**Ladies Medal/Eclectic - CAR (Sept 29th):**

**1 Victoria Collin (net 67), 2 Wendy Percival (69), 3 Jackie Lansdown (72).**

Ladies September Stableford - CAR (Sept 27th):

1 Hazel House (43 points), 2 Jacqui Davidson (38), 3 Susan Bryan (37).

**Seniors Bailiff Shield - JOG (Sept 26th):**

**1 Jonathan Lean (42 points), 2 Robert Anderson (38), 3 Derek Weller (37).**

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## John O'Gaunt Golf Club Pro Shop News

SO we move into the colder weather and it's time to start thinking of presents for friends and family this Christmas.

Titleist are running their free personalisation promotion for December – minimum order one dozen of any Titleist balls. Pop into the Pro Shop to order some for Christmas pressies.

If you purchase any of the Motocaddy S Series electric trollies before December 31st you will receive a free cart bag – also certain trollies have £50 off along with the free bag!

We have some lovely winter wear in from Glenmuir, Oscar Jacobson, Footjoy and Under Armour to keep you warm and stylish this winter.

If you are looking for a bit more distance with your woods, why not try the new Titleist TS2 and TS3 drivers and fairways.

They have been made with speed as their goal. The distances these clubs are producing has to be seen to be believed.

The Ping G400 Max Driver is both hot and straight, probably the easiest driver to hit ever. We have both models in the Pro Shop to try. Please drop by.



# Clubhouse refurb progress is being made

PRESIDENT Phil Farrow said: "A big thank you to those members who filled out our recent survey regarding on course catering. The return was nearly 60%, which is far more than the average of 15-20% achieved in most surveys.

"The results clearly indicate that members would like to see a Club of our standing, providing some form of on-course catering by way of halfway houses, preferably located on both courses. The survey itself was only designed to establish if a requirement existed.

"This follows on from a discussion at General Committee on whether the Club should do more to provide such facilities and if so, how?

"In late summer, I was tasked with producing a feasibility paper to identify realistic, costed options for both static and mobile facilities, as well as a status quo scenario. We are now well placed to debate the issue further to determine its viability.

"You will have noted from our web page news section that, at long last, progress is being made on the Clubhouse refurbishment.

"Balancing the requirement with the expectations of the members was never going to be straightforward. Particularly so with such a complex and wide-ranging project.

"Frustrating though it is, time spent at this stage is an investment in delivering an affordable solution that works for most of the membership.

"In order to facilitate that outcome, your Committee have taken the decision to bring work forward on some of the smaller, less contentious elements.

"Preliminary work has already commenced to identify the cause of subsidence to the outer wall leading down to the changing rooms.

"Quotes have been sought from sources within the Club to resolve the issue, early in the New Year. In addition, the proposed design for the new storage facility for tables, chairs etc has been shelved.

"A cheaper option is to be erected along the back of the patio over the changing rooms that will also incorporate a covered extension to accommodate summer BBQs.

"Quotes have been received and are in the process of evaluation, with a view to completing the work as soon as is practicable.

"It's our intention to also bring forward, long overdue repairs to the clubhouse roof which were identified in a structural survey carried out in 2012.

"Quotes from suitable sources within our membership will be requested at the earliest opportunity in order to progress this work with the minimum of delay.

"By way of a holding solution, the conservatory roof joints and the flat roof across its top have been resealed. Although only a temporary fix, it should keep it 'weather tight' until it can be replaced in 2019.

"Work has also been completed to resolve the poor state of the road surface and associated drainage from the main entrance to the start of the car park. Further information on the main project will follow in the New Year.

"I trust this information will help to reassure the membership that your Committee are constantly looking to move outstanding issues forward and suffer the same frustrations when things don't go as they would always wish them to.

"Keep healthy and enjoy your golf and the company of those around you."



# Butterfly sighting is Clouded in mystery

STEVE Thompson, who is 2018 Conservation Greenkeeper of the Year, said: "On September 21st, I got a call from a very excited member (Phil Cottier).

"Whilst playing golf on John O'Gaunt he and his playing partners had spotted an Osprey flying down the fifth fairway heading towards Sutton, giving excellent views showing down to 75 feet as it flew over them. This is only the fourth record of Osprey at the club.

"Three days later, Phil then reported seeing a Clouded Yellow Butterfly by the first fairway John O'Gaunt course.

"This is a migrant butterfly usually seen further south in the UK but if the conditions are right, they can appear further north in good numbers.

"I have only had one previous report at the golf club by a member in 2013 and I've never seen one in the UK.

"The next day I was on Carthagena driving by the side of the ninth fairway when a Clouded Yellow flew straight past me!

"I had been waiting years to see one of these in the UK and finally I have. There were further sightings, over the next few days on both sides.

"When I checked my trail camera footage on September 29th, I was amazed to see two Otters.

"The first time I have recorded two at the club and the first sighting since March - it was probably a female with a youngster.

"The mild weather from September to early November has been good for Dragonflies and Butterflies.

"I saw Southern Hawker in September and October on both sides, while Common Darter was seen throughout October - the last record was from a member on November 15th by the 13th hole.

"There was also one sighting of two female Common Darters ovipositing (laying eggs) in the stream near the 13th green on November 2nd.



"Butterfly sightings have included Red Admiral, Speckled Wood, Peacock, Small White, Green Veined White, Small Heath and several Small Tortoiseshell including a late record on November 15th.

"Black Squirrels have been seen on both sides recently, for the first time in a few years.

"Birds seen recently include eight House Martins flying over Carthagena on September 26th, Kingfisher on the wall of the new pond, Red Kite several times flying over JOG, Little Egret, Grey Heron, Black headed Gull, Sparrowhawk and our winter visitors, Fieldfare and Redwing are back and have been seen on both sides.

"I would like to say a big thanks to those members that came along to the bird ringing demonstration at the club on Saturday, November 17th.

"We caught 41 birds, including three Nuthatches and a dozen Long tailed tits.

"Three birds we caught had already been ringed by us, a Nuthatch, which was previously ringed on November 5th 2017, a Great Tit ringed as a chick in a nestbox in May 2016 and a Great Tit as a chick in 2017.

"Lastly, I ran the Moth trap on November 17th, not expecting to catch much as it was turning colder.

"But when I checked the trap there was one moth in it, a December Moth (pictured above), which is usually seen in late autumn/winter months.

"What to look for: Fieldfare, Redwing, Waxwing, Brambling and Siskin.

"I would like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and thank you to all those that attended my Bat Walks and Badger Watches and those that continue to report their wildlife sightings."





# John O'Gaunt Golf Club

[www.johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk)

**Address:**  
Sutton Park,  
Sutton,  
Bedfordshire,  
SG19 2LY

## Administration:

01767 260360

Membership & general enquiries  
- option 2

Handicaps, competitions, reservations  
- option 3

## General manager/secretary:

01767 260360 - option 8

**Members and bar:** 01767 263429

**Restaurant:** 01767 261469

**Professional shop:** 01767 260094

**Fax:** 01767 262834

**Email:** [admin@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:admin@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk)

## Winter Fixtures

Dec 2018	Event (Course)
Thurs 6th	Ladies Christmas Hamper (Thursday)
Sun 9th	Ladies Christmas Hamper (Sunday)
Sat 15th	Captain's Christmas Fayre (JOG & CAR)
Tues 18th	Baz Backhouse Trophy
	Seniors Christmas Fayre
<b>Jan 2019</b>	
Thur 3rd	Ladies Bring and Win
Sun 6th	New Year Texas Scramble (CAR)
Thurs 10th	Ladies Winter Competition
Sun 13th	Ladies Winter Competition
Thurs 17th	Ladies Winter Competition
Thurs 24th	Ladies Winter Competition
Sun 27th	Junior AGM Cup & AGM (CAR)
	Ladies Winter Competition
<b>Feb 2019</b>	
Wed 13th	Junior Stableford (CAR)
Thurs 14th	Valentine Nine-hole Competition (JOG)
Sat 16th	Mixed Valentines Greensomes (CAR)
<b>Mar 2019</b>	
Sun 3rd	Spring Texas Scramble (CAR)
Thur 7th	Seniors v Ladies (CAR)
Sat 9th	Men's team at Bedford & County
Sun 17th	Sutton Cup (JOG)
Sat 23rd	Swansong Trophy (JOG)
Sun 24th	Junior Presidents Trophy (JOG)
	Mixed team at Beds & County
Tues 26th	Senior Ladies v St Neots (CAR)
Thurs 28th	Ladies Captain v Ladies Vice Captain (JOG)

Clubhouse Hours (otherwise normal)	
Christmas Eve:	7.30am-4.30pm.
Christmas Day:	Closed.
Boxing Day:	8.00am-3.30pm.
New Year's Eve:	7.30am-1.30am.
New Year's Day:	10.00am-4.30pm.

Bar Hours (otherwise normal)	
Christmas Eve:	11.00am-4.00pm.
Christmas Day:	Closed.
Boxing Day:	11.00am-3.00pm.
New Year's Eve:	11.00am-1.00am.
New Year's Day:	11.00am-4.00pm.

Catering Hours (otherwise normal)	
Christmas Eve:	8.30am-2.30pm.
Christmas Day:	Closed.
Boxing Day:	Closed.
New Year's Eve (full menu):	8.30am-2.30pm.
(limited menu):	3.00pm-4.00pm.
New Year's Day:	Closed.

Pro Shop Hours (otherwise normal)	
Christmas Eve:	7.30am-1pm.
Christmas Day:	Closed.
Boxing Day:	9.00am-1.00pm.
New Year's Eve:	7.30am-1.00pm.
New Year's Day:	9.00am-1.00pm.