



# John O'Gaunt Golf Club

Magazine - May 2019



# Bone Cruncher!

Simon has a Spring in his step

**Inside...**

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



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

# Club spirit is alive and well at John O'Gaunt

IT has been a lot of fun watching our club wake up to the new season.

Every section, roll-up and visitor alike has had a real spring in their step, and a sense of purpose on the first tee.

The clubhouse has been buzzing with activity, and the club spirit is clearly alive and well at John O'Gaunt.

I'm delighted to announce the appointment of our new General Manager. Details will be posted on the notice board soon.

The recruitment process was very thorough and the chemistry with our new appointment was consistently good.

We've identified a lot of common ground to take forward into the General Manager's role, and we look forward to making the introductions in July.

In the meantime, please join me in thanking Simon Davis for his ongoing support as caretaker General Manager, and to his team for their professionalism throughout the interim period.

I've been overwhelmed by the support for our club's charitable work already - it has been great to see Jock Allan and members of the Senior Section set the tone with funds raised from his annual prostate day tipping a fantastic £50,000 in its ninth year.

Dawn French speaks highly of the incredible response to her own Ladies Section Charity days, and the club's Auction Cup raised over £1,100 for my Captain's Charities.

A big thank you to everybody for your generosity and deft organisational skills - it is appreciated.

Congratulations to everybody who's come out the blocks early this season and earned a mention in the results round up. It's been great to see so many new names competing in all categories.

Competitors of the future are also a theme up at the club following an overwhelming response to the 'Try Golf' initiative on Good Friday.

Organised by our administration and pro shop teams, along with an army of willing helpers, the pipeline of pee-wee and junior golfers is suddenly looking much healthier. Good luck everybody for the next round of introductions this month!

Our new committee is in place and focussing on activities that will hopefully make a difference to us all. In particular, clubhouse improvements, which are not contingent on building work, are actively being pulled forward.

I hope everybody can see evidence of these works taking place, as described in the featured article.

It's already been a busy Spring, so why not take time to relax away from the course and dress up in your posh frocks.

Please join me for an evening of partying with your fellow members and friends at our Summer Ball on June 21st. It's going to be a great evening, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Enjoy your Summer up the club.

Phil Haddow - Captain 2019



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## Tap-Ins

**FIRST** prize in the Spring Medal went to Simon Albone, pictured front cover, after he posted net scores of 67 and 69 on the two courses to nudge one ahead of Paul Wharton.

GARY Branch and Mark Davidson lifted the Grouse Trophy with a round of net 67 on the John O'Gaunt course.

**FOUR** strokes was the difference between first and second in the Teens Cup as David Winetroube (net 70) grabbed the honours ahead of Trevor Neilson.

KEN Wildman didn't live up to his surname in the St. George's Day competition as a consistent round of 42 points secured the top spot on countback from Simon Dickens.

**COUNTBACK** was also needed in the Ladies St. George's Day event as Christine Phipps squeezed in front of Sandra Gardner after both shot the leading mark of 37 points.

CLUB Captain Phil Haddow wasted no time in getting his year off to a winning start as he led the way in the Staysure Trophy Qualifier with a net 69.

**ANOTHER** large field of professionals and amateurs will compete in the John O'Gaunt Pro-Am on Monday, May 20th.

AN evening with Liz Munroe is open to all our members and their guests on Saturday, June 1st between 7:30pm-10:30pm. At just £12 per person, if you wish to attend please use the sign-up sheet in the main entrance to the Club.

**ENTRIES** are now being taken for the Captain's Charity Day on Tuesday, September 3rd. With golf, prizes, auction lots, food and drink on offer, anyone wishing to enter a team needs to return their form to Wendy in the office asap.

SAM Bonham and Jack Bonham are the latest of a line of new members joining John O'Gaunt Golf Club. As always, if you see them around the Club please say hello and make them feel welcome.

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



# SUMMER BALL



JOHN O'GAUNT GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY JUNE 21<sup>st</sup> 2019

7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Carriages 1.00 a.m.

**Bucks Fizz Reception**

*followed by Dinner and Dancing*

## M E N U

### POACHED PEAR ROQUEFORT SALAD

*Rocket Lettuce layered with Pears, Roquefort, Avocado, and finely chopped Spring Onions, drizzled with a Mustard Dressing and scattered with Caramelised Pecans.*



### SLOW ROASTED SPRING LAMB RUMP

*served with a Light Port Reduction infused with Rosemary accompanied with Crushed Buttered Jersey Royal Potatoes, Summer Broccoli, Roasted Honey Parsnips, and Runner Beans,*



### LEMON POSSET WITH PIMMS

*served with a Medley of Summer Fruit Compote and a Lemon infused Shortbread Biscuit*



### CHEESE BOARD

*served with Biscuits, Celery, Grapes and Olives*



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# Club charity days surpassed all our hopes

LADIES Captain Dawn French said: "Wow! Where to begin my latest report? There is no other way than with a massive thank you, one and all, right from the bottom of my heart!

"I am overwhelmed by the support shown for my recent charity days, for the many donations, purchases of raffle and tombola tickets, playing golf, bidding on auction lots... and not forgetting all my helpers.

"Shelia Hale and Dorothy Coutts, who have twisted arms on Thursday when selling raffle tickets, and Lesley May and Julia Cottenden for persuading so many to part with their cash on Sunday in the tombola.

"To be fair, I don't think there were many folk, who got through the doors without helping to support my charities in one way or another!

"An incredible £5,877 was raised for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and the Gambia Education Project - more than I'd hoped to raise all year!

"A total of 127 ladies competed over the two days, which was a fantastic turnout. The top team on Thursday was Vice Captain Anita, Katie Ford, Niki Hunter and Pauline Wade with an amazing net 59.8 on John O'Gaunt.

"The weather was cold and a bit blustery but dry which is more than could be said for the Sunday, when showers prevailed on and off most of the afternoon.

"The competition result saw Yvette and Jacqui Bunker-Dare, June Evans and Amanda Harvey-Clark beaten by just 0.2 shots by the team of Terry Brown, Tricia Sills, Helen McDonald and Sue Lee with 57.6.

"Our first three League matches have had mixed results with a great 5½-1½ win away at Mount Pleasant and a 4½-2½ victory against Beadlow Manor in there alongside a narrow 4-3 loss at home to Aspley Guise. With another nine matches to play, there's a long way to go yet.

"Staying with County events, congratulations go to Hilary Pearmain and Sandra Gardner for scoring 41 betterball points at The Millbrook to lift the Audrey Bradley Bowls on countback. Very well played ladies.

"The County Championship and Spring Meeting is being held at Bedford and County Golf Club in the second week in May - hopefully more success there.

"Martin Stackemann hosted the Club's St. George's Day competition on Easter Monday with a traditional roast beef dinner followed along with the singing of Jerusalem.

"Twenty seven ladies competed for the Dragon Trophy, which went to Chrissie Phipps on countback from Sandra Gardner and Di Oliver 'should've stayed at home!' - thanks Martin for all the banter.

"Pauline Wade and Adrienne Massey won the Coronation Foursomes and will go on to represent John O'Gaunt at the regional final. Good luck ladies.

"Our boarded competitions kicked off in mid-April as 48 ladies battled for the Albert Moule Trophy, with Carolyn Gobey (38 points) coming out on top, and a handicap cut to boot. The Thirty Cup was won by Celia Dooley and the 'revamped' Auction Cup was won by Marian Farrow and Sue Bryan with 40 points.

"We have a busy time in May with the Ladies Captain's Cup and Audrey Shuter Cup, and the Under 12 Shield, Teens and 20 Cup all being played within a few days.

"The Spring Closed meeting is later in May. Keep your eyes on the notice board for posters so you don't miss the closing dates of all the boarded competitions throughout the year.

"Lets hope we have more lovely sunny weather, but with a few showers overnight so the courses will continue to be in great condition throughout the season – happy golfing!"





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TIMBER FRAME  
ASSOCIATION

# Boys and girls of all ages continue to impress

JUNIOR Organiser Sue Lee said: "It has been a very busy period for our juniors with matches and competitions, especially over the Easter break.

"In the Ver league first round we had a home and away fixture against Ealing Golf Club. We managed a halved match at home but unfortunately our team couldn't cope with the very fast greens at Ealing so we are out of the Shield but await our opponents in the Ver Plate.

"Our Tavistock Trophy campaign got off to a better start however at Bedford and County. All of the other clubs in our league group were playing against the hosts and the John O'Gaunt team of Joe Clark, Caitlin Thomas, Ixie and Ethan Akpan, Jess Sporle and Nathan Church managed to not only beat Bedford and County but come out on top over Beadlow Manor and South Beds in the points table.

"We take on the other three clubs at John O'Gaunt on June 15th.

"We had two competitions over the Easter school holidays, starting with the JR Trophy, which was a fourball betterball pairs event. We had six pairs competing and some very good scores were returned.

"The runners up were Jess Sporle and Ethan Akpan with 40 points, while the winners were Paul Smith and Bradley Williams on 42.

"The following week we had the Bogey Putter, a singles bogey competition with 14 juniors entered.

"The benefactor of this competition is long standing member Tim Henderson who kindly came along to present the prizes that he had donated to the top three places.

"After beating the course by four holes, Lawrence Jeffreys was first. Lila Belle Nacca collected the runners-up prize on countback from third-placed Bradley Williams after both finished three up.

"Our last competition in late April was the Toni Greensomes, where the juniors pick their own partners. We had five good pairings competing on the Carthage course and there were some excellent scores.

"Lila Belle Nacca and Nathan Church would have thought they had done enough to win when they came in with 40 points but last year's Captain Daniel Haugh and current Captain Joë Clark had an amazing four over par gross round to win with 44 points.

"On Good Friday, the club held a 'Try Golf Day' which was advertised through The Villager magazine and we were oversubscribed with interested youngsters.

"We had 24 participants in both the morning and afternoon sessions of coaching with Lee and Tom. The day went really well and there has already been lots of interest in our Pee Wee and Junior membership offers."



# Update on proposed Clubhouse improvements

CLUB President Philip Farrow said: "With the golfing season ramping up into top gear, your new Committee are turning their attention to picking up on ongoing/potential projects, particularly the refurbishment of the clubhouse.

"With that in mind, the Clubhouse Project Working Group met with our architects, Vincent and Goring Limited, on May 1st to consider a revised plan which meets the criteria of affordability, whilst still delivering on our requirement.

"The proposed design solution was accepted unanimously by those present and will now be put before a special meeting of the General Committee for ratification.

"If accepted, we intend for our architects to give a presentation to the members outlining the proposed plans, associated costs and timescales.


"The scope of the proposed interior design by way of upgraded electrics, decoration, floor coverings and soft furnishings is still being developed. The underlying aim is to make the clubhouse brighter, more welcoming and family friendly.

"Timings for the presentation will be announced in due course but expectations are that if things proceed according to plan, work could commence towards the end of this year but at this stage, a firm start date has yet to be confirmed.

"Every effort will be made to keep members abreast of any further developments as we proceed.

"Maintenance to various elements of the clubhouse roof has begun and work should be completed by mid-May. This task has been deferred for several years, so it'll be great to finally get it resolved.

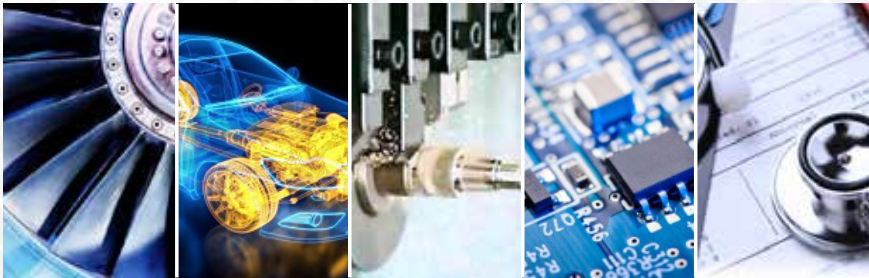
"Over recent years, the Club has investigated various models of stand-alone coffee machines in order to fulfill the requirement to provide members with an out-of-hours facility.



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"In pursuit of this goal, our House Committee Chairman, Graham Court, has carried out extensive analysis of available products already in use at local Golf Clubs.

"This has culminated in the General Committee agreeing to proceed with purchasing the preferred option, along with a suitable maintenance support contract. Following some minor works to facilitate installation, we hope to have it up and running soon.

"Our current patio furniture has been showing its age for some time and requires considerable work to bring it up to an acceptable standard. Therefore, it's been decided to replace it as a matter of urgency in readiness for the summer season.

"Your committee are currently investigating various options/cost to provide both four and six seat versions, complete with modern parasols. Once the new furniture is in place, the existing tables and chairs will be made available to members for an appropriate donation to the Captain's Charity. Those remaining will be disposed of.

"In conjunction with this project, our gardener Dave has already commenced tidying up our two patio areas which will be followed by a comprehensive pressure wash clean. On another note, please congratulate Dave for the excellent work on our flower beds and baskets/planters - they look a picture.

"The long, hot summer of 2018 reinforced the Club's requirement to supplement our water storage facilities. Previously, discussions had been held with various contractors and the local authority and it's the Committee's intention to re-open negotiations to identify what can be achieved by way of a reservoir to be located behind the sixth/eighth greens on the John O'Gaunt Course.

"Over the coming months, Chris Collin will be heading up a small team to investigate the feasibility of delivering such a facility. Updates will be made available to the membership as the project progresses.

"Now that our facility to store all our spare tables and chairs is up and running, our maintenance man Richard has been tasked with reinstating the gent's toilet off the Burgoyne Suite. If all goes well, work should be completed by the end of May.

"Depending on his workload, we also intend to carry out a similar exercise with the adjacent ladies toilet and passageway. Suitable heating is also being considered for both facilities.

"As part of the ongoing clubhouse refurbishment project, quotes have now been received to install environmental units in both the Burgoyne Suite and Lounge area. These will both heat and cool as necessary and be considered in conjunction with the clubhouse refurbishment project.

"Following the subsidence repairs to the wall adjacent to the changing room stairs, the contractor quoted for repairing damaged stonework on the bridges on the John O'Gaunt Course, as well as further pointing work to the wall on the other side of the changing room steps. We hope to complete this work soon.

"Although most of the work detailed above is relatively low-cost maintenance, it's considered vital in preserving the overall fabric of the clubhouse and enhancing members facilities.

"In addition, your Committee will be considering various other proposals over the coming weeks/months. For example, during the kitchen 'deep clean' in January, it was noted that the floor covering is damaged in several areas and will need to be replaced next time around.

"Keep healthy, and enjoy your golf."



## John O'Gaunt Golf Club

### **CAPTAIN'S CHARITY GOLF DAY and AUCTION**

**Tuesday, September 3rd 2019**



### **BOWMAKER SCORING**

#### **John O'Gaunt Course**

Starting between: 8.00 - 10.00am £120.00 per team of 4  
and 12.30 - 2.30pm £120.00 per team of 4

*(Afternoon Golf on Carthagena for Morning Starters)*

#### **Ladies, Gents or Mixed Teams**

#### **MAIN BENEFICIARIES**

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#### **PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY BANK TRANSFER**

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Entering a Team of Four:	£ 120
Sponsoring a Hole:	£ 50
Sponsoring a Tee or Green:	£ 30
Donating a Tombola Prize:	any value

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# Everyone wants to play for Seniors Team

SENIORS Captain Dave Gauge, pictured right, said: "In the last edition of the Magazine, I commented on how the season and my year in office had started quietly. How that has changed, with inter-club matches and competitions coming thick and fast with seemingly no let up.

"Over the past few weeks we have played six matches, and had one postponed, winning three and losing three. Our exceptional result was a victory against Bourn Golf Club for the first time in many years. Thanks and congratulations must go to all those who have represented the club, and also to Fred Williams who even turned up for a match for which he wasn't even selected!

"On the competition front, we played our Annual Four Ball Better Ball competition on March 12th where the successful pairing of Gordon Goodchild and Peter Jarman narrowly beat Harry Wakefield and Clive Thompson.

"This was followed up by the Annual Medal on St. George's Day - Tuesday, April 23rd.

"Played on the John O'Gaunt Course in good conditions, not all found the warm and dry conditions to their liking. However, two players managed net under par scores and each went down a shot for their troubles. The full result was the winner Jonathan Lean (now 15), followed by Jack Shepherd (now seven), with Fergus Moynihan finishing a stroke back in a very creditable third.

"The Jubilee Trophy, for players in the 21-28 handicap range, was clinched by last year's Senior Captain Jim Kerr, who must be benefiting from the more relaxed year.

"On the last day of April, we held the Rex Bullock Trophy competition, being an 18 hole stableford from the white tees on the Carthegena course.

"Whilst Steve Clark claimed the nearest the pin prize on the eighth hole, the main competition was less clear with three players all having the same score of 40 points, including yours truly!

"So hurried countback calculations had to be carried out before it was confirmed that I had finished third, the runner-up was Bill Walker, while Stewart Denny was the winner. All three players received handicap cuts."



## For those who don't know how the JOG Seniors started out, read on...

*IN the first of a series of short features on the history of the Seniors Section at John O'Gaunt, 2019 Captain Dave Gauge looks back at when it all started.*

Gauge explained: "The story began when a small group of retired members decided it would be in everybody's interest to add structure to their ad hoc arrangements to play midweek golf.

"This merry band formed the seniors and their first Captain Jimmy Lane was appointed in 1977.

"This group, which are recognised as the founder members, include Hector Barratt, Cedric Woodger, Rex Cleaver, John Spence and John Freedman.

"At the inception they numbered around 20, mostly of whom were over the age of 65. So, that's how the Seniors Section was born - in the next magazine we will find out how it has developed."



# Making John O'Gaunt better than ever

CHAIR, Course & Golf Committee's Pauline Aubigne said: "The golf season is off - there is plenty to do.

"Local Rules: This is at the top of our list and I hope that by the time you read this edition of the John O'Gaunt Magazine that these will be ready for ratification by General Committee.

"New Members Texas Scrambles: Over the past couple of years we have held a couple of scrambles for new members, which have been very successful, and two events have been put in the 2019 diary:

Sunday, June 15th at 3pm.

Sunday, September 29th at 2pm.

"Refreshments of sandwiches and chips will follow each event. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to support these events. Michael Grace will send out notices inviting the new members to play. Paul Fletcher has taken over as New Members Liaison and we will work together on this.

"Course Irrigation Water Storage: As you are probably aware, in the past, we have looked at the possibility of having a reservoir built. Obviously there are likely to be many obstacles in our way until a final decision can be made but with the memories of last summer's hot conditions still very fresh in our minds, we think it is something we should look into further. In view of his professional background, Chris Collin (pictured) will be running this project - we will keep you updated.



"John O'Gaunt Seventh Green: Nigel Broadwith has confirmed that a programme of treating this green with fertilizer and nutrients is working well and the green is improving every week. It will of course continue to be monitored very closely in line with the proposals put forward by Nigel earlier in the year.

"John O'Gaunt First Fairway: The condition of the fairway on the opening hole (pictured below) is now very good and has been treated with extra fertiliser. Towards the end of this year, probably around November, Nigel will, if necessary, look to rope off other areas which require extra treatment.

"Course Work: Our green staff do a great job and we can help them greatly by replacing divots and repairing pitch marks. At the time of writing at the end of April, there has been coursework on the John O'Gaunt greens, light scarifying double pass at 5mm and the greens have been top dressed - 10 tonne of sand has been used on all greens.

"Preferred Lies: Having experienced a very dry winter we received permission from the County to continue with preferred lies, but after review we removed this option on May 15th. Play the ball where it lies please.

"Golf Etiquette: We all want to enjoy our golf to the full and as you know our courses are filled with members playing social and competitive golf. Could we please ask that you take notice of groups or individuals playing behind you. Some may be playing knockouts (of which there are a number at this time of year), or people just playing on their own. Please invite these players to go through when they catch up with you. Although there may be groups in front of you, if they take the same action these players will be out of the way very quickly.

"It will also make your game more enjoyable, which is the most important thing after all. Enjoy your golf."



# Results

Ladies Stableford - CAR (May 11th):

1 Val Cooper (34 points), 2 Helen McDonald (32), 3 Amanda Harvey-Clark (32).

**Ladies Stableford - CAR (May 9th):**

**1 Marion Cooper (36 points), 2 Katie Ford (33), 3 Charmaine Gillett (32).**

May Midweek Medal - JOG (May 8th)

Winner: Mark Haugh (net 74).

**Grouse Trophy - JOG (May 6th):**

**1 Gary Branch & Mark Davidson (net 67.0), 2 Ben Hull & William Worboys (69.5), 3 Ralph Black & Jack Shepherd (72.5).**

Spring Medal - CAR & JOG (May 5th):

1 Simon Albone (67 + 69 = net 136), 2 Paul Wharton (70 + 67 = 137), 3 Stephen McLaughlin (64 + 75 = 139).

**Ladies U-12 Shield, Teens & Twenties Cup - JOG (May 4th):**

**Under 12: Winner: Dawn French (36 points). Teens Cup: Winner: Amy Strange (33). Twenties Cup: Winner: Anne Marie Evelyn (32).**

Ladies Captain's Cup - JOG (May 2nd):

Winner: Hazel House (net 75).

**Ladies Audrey Shuter Cup - JOG (May 2nd):**

**Winner: Chantal Floyd (34 points).**

Seniors Rex Bullock Trophy - CAR (April 30th):

1 Stewart Denny (40 points), 2 Bill Walker (40), 3 David Gauge (40).

**April Midweek Medal - CAR (April 29th):**

**1 David Wood (net 64), 2 Scott Armitage (65), 3 Paul Jeeves (65).**

Ladies Auction Cup - CAR (April 28th):

1 Marian Farrow & Susan Bryan (40 points), 2 Amanda Harvey-Clark & Jacqui Bunker-Dare (39), 3 Jean Cobb & Pen Fletcher-Gregory (39).

**Junior Toni Greensomes - CAR (April 28th):**

**1 Joe Clark & Daniel Haugh (44 points), 2 Nathan Church & Lila-Belle Nacca (40), 3 Rachel George & Bradley Williams (37).**

Teens Cup - JOG (April 27th):

1 David Winetroube (net 70), 2 Trevor Neilson (74), 3 Trevor Lenton (75).

**Ladies Coronation Foursomes - CAR (April 25th):**

**1 Adrienne Massey & Pauline Wade (37 points), 2 Sandra Gardner & Hilary Pearmain (34), 3 Pen Fletcher-Gregory & Katie Ford (33).**

Seniors Annual Medal Trophy - JOG (April 23rd):

=1 Jonathan Lean (net 71), =1 Jack Shepherd (71), 3 Fergus Moynihan (72).

**St George's Day - CAR (April 22nd):**

**1 Ken Wildman (42 points), 2 Simon Dickens (42), 3 Peter Cohen (41). Ladies: 1 Christine Phipps (37), 2 Sandra Gardner (37), 3 Helen McDonald (36).**

Fourball Auction Cup - JOG (April 21st):

1 Jonathan Lichfield & Nathan Buckland (45 points), 2 Steven Jacobs & Mark Eaton (43), 3 Paul Lewis & Gary Taylor (41).

**Ladies Thirty Cup - JOG (April 18th):**

**1 Celia Dooley (26 points), 2 Sheila Murphy (26), 3 Patricia Lloyd (21).**

Ladies April Stableford - JOG (April 18th):

Division 1: Winner: Christine Ellis (38 points), runner-up: Tracie Allan (37). Division 2: Winner: Anne Marie Evelyn (35), runner-up: Dawn Marshall (31). Division 3: Winner: June Evans (30).

**Junior Bogey Putter - CAR (April 17th):**

**1 Lawrence Jefferys (+4), 2 Bradley Williams (+3), 3 Lila-Belle Nacca (+3).**

Staysure Trophy - JOG (April 16th):

1 Philip Haddow (net 69), 2 Dennis Barclay (71), 3 Dean Smith (73).

**Winter Mixed Final - JOG (April 14th):**

**1 Stephen Cherry & Val Cooper (48 points), 2 Richard Aubigne & Christine Darts (41), 3 Marion Cooper & Malcolm Waters (39).**

April Medal - CAR (April 13th):

Division 1: Winner: Joshua Pearson (net 66), runner-up: Christopher Collin (66). Division 2: Winner: Gerald Keegan (65), runner-up: Stewart Hyde (66). Division 3: Winner: Ian Riches (65).

**Ladies Albert Moule Cup - CAR (April 11th):**

**1 Carolyn Gobey (38 points), 2 Christine Billington (37), 3 Sue Lee (37).**

April Midweek Stableford - JOG (April 10th):

1 Cavan Kendall (net 35), 2 Jack Sauble (35), 3 Derrick Remington (33).

**Aesopians Medal - CAR (April 8th):**

**1 David Wilsher (net 65), 2 Christopher Hoad (65), 3 Peter Grimes (67).**

Twenty Cup - CAR (April 7th):

1 John Doyle (net 64), 2 Cavan Kendall (68), 3 John Thoday (68).

**Ladies Captain's Charity Day - CAR (April 7th):**

**Winners: Theresa Brown, Sue Lee, Helen McDonald & Patricia Sills (net 57.6).**

Ladies Captains Charity Day - JOG (April 4th):

Winners: Katie Ford, Nicola Hunter, Anita Isaacson & Pauline Wade (net 59.8).

**April Midweek Stableford - CAR (April 3rd):**

**1 Richard Barnes (43 points), 2 Peter Collin (41), 3 Ian Murray (40).**

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# Look and listen out for wildlife on the fairways

CONSERVATION Greenkeeper of the Year Steve Thompson said: "The weather is finally warming up and by the end of April some of our summer visitors were about both courses in abundance.

"The first Chiffchaff was heard on John O'Gaunt by the third fairway and the first Blackcap was heard singing near the 10th green on Carthagenas at the start of April. These two species are probably our most common summer migrants and always the first to arrive.

"You can quite easily hear four to five Blackcaps singing on a walk round either course and numerous Chiffchaffs. I heard a Cuckoo in Pegnut Wood by John O'Gaunt's sixth on April 29th.

"Other migrants that you would expect to see around the courses are Swallow, House Martin, Sand Martin, Swift, Willow Warbler and Whitethroat but, by the end of April, I had not recorded these on either course. The early May dawn chorus walk could have yielded some surprises (maybe a Nightingale?) and will be reported in the next newsletter.

"One of our winter visitors was still hanging on in March/April. Some Fieldfares were seen/heard on two occasions on March 28th and April 11th.

"The warmer weather has seen an increase in the Butterflies being reported, with the first Orange Tip (usually an early spring species) being spotted by the eighth fairway on John O'Gaunt.

"There were numerous sightings of Peacock from late March, the Speckled Wood was first seen on April 11th by the ninth fairway on JOG the Small White was seen four days later and Brimstone the next day.

"The first Holly Blue was seen on April 19th on John O'Gaunt. I have also had several reports of Green-veined White on both courses.

"The Red Kite continues to be seen on a regular basis with one or two records every week through March and April. It is usually one on its own but two birds were seen over Carthagenas's third fairway on April 1st. Another bird that is being seen more often is the Grey Wagtail with numerous records along the brook and the area by the fourth lake. I am hoping that it will decide to breed here.

"By mid-April some of the small bird boxes already had nests in, some even with eggs, one box had ten eggs. No chicks at the time of writing but it is looking good for 2019 so far with the Kestrels using both boxes too. All the boxes will be checked during May and reported on in the next newsletter.

"Other wildlife seen recently include Muntjac Deer on several occasions - sometimes in the middle of the day whilst golfers were playing a round.

"Mink footprints were found in the Mink raft recently, a trap was set to catch it but caught nothing. The Mink are responsible for the demise of the Water Vole at John O'Gaunt.

"Skylarks have been busy recently singing by the fifth fairway on John O'Gaunt and one record of three Skylarks flying over the opening green on Carthagenas on April 1st. Up to four Greylag Geese on John O'Gaunt, Great Spotted and Green Woodpeckers on both courses.

"Wildlife to look for include any butterfly species as the weather gets warmer, Swallows, House Martins, Hobby, Swifts maybe a passing Osprey if you're lucky."

Please continue to report sightings of wildlife by using the noticeboard near the changing rooms or email [steve@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:steve@johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk). Keep a check on club emails for details of any forthcoming Walks or Moth nights.



# John O'Gaunt Golf Club

www.johnogauntgolfclub.co.uk



## Fixtures

May 2019	Event (Course)
Tue 7th	Seniors v Harpenden Common (JOG)
Wed 8th	Senior Ladies v Leighton Buzzard (CAR)
Thu 9th	Ladies Stableford (CAR)
Sat 11th	Ladies Stableford (CAR)
	Club v Leighton Buzzard (CAR)
	Juniors v Woburn (JOG)
Sun 12th	May Medal (JOG)
Tue 14th	Seniors Ken Robinson Scramble (JOG)
Thu 16th	Ladies Medal & Senior 2000 Trophy (JOG)
	Ladies Team Stableford (JOG)
Sat 18th	BLCGU Junior Past Captains (JOG)
	Ladies Stableford (JOG)
Sun 19th	Carthagen Bowl (CAR)
Sun 26th	Matt Gentle Foursomes Trophy
Thu 30th	Ladies Australian Spoons
	Ladies Stableford (JOG)
<b>June 2019</b>	
Sun 2nd	Vice-Captain's Cup (CAR)
Mon 3rd	Senior Men's Open - Singles (JOG)
Thu 6th	Ladies Stableford (JOG)
Fri 7th	Club Senior Men's Championship (JOG)
Sat 8th	Ladies Medal (JOG)
Tue 11th	Senior Section Championship Trophy
Thu 13th	Ladies Past Captains' Salver (CAR)
Sun 16th	Midsummer Madness Trophy (JOG)
Thu 20th	Ladies Charity Cup & MacMillan Spoon (JOG)
Sat 22nd	June Medal (JOG)
Mon 24th	Sir Malcolm Stewart Cup (JOG)
Sat 29th	Ladies Silver Salver (CAR)
Sun 30th	Mixed Open (JOG)

### Address:

Sutton Park, Sutton,  
Bedfordshire, G9 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

### Summer Bar Hours

Monday	11:00am - Close
Tuesday	11:00am - Close
Wednesday	11:00am - Close
Thursday	11:00am - Close
Friday	11:00am - Close
Saturday	10:30am - Close
Sunday	10:30am - Close

### Summer Catering Hours

Monday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Tuesday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Wednesday	8:30am - 9:00pm*
Thursday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Friday	8:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday	7:30am - 6:00pm
Sunday	7:30am - 5:30pm

\* Includes Dining from 6:00pm - 9:00pm