

# OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS



## NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWELVE

SPRING/SUMMER, 2021

### THE CAPTAIN'S GREETING

**Dear Captains,**

It really feels at last, now that we're back on our golf courses, that the 2021 season might actually happen, so fingers crossed for the rest of the year.

The Cornwall trip has been happily and successfully concluded, and I would like to congratulate our winning team for returning home with both trophies. Later in this newsletter, Chris Spearing will cover off the finer details for you, but despite some nasty weather and one match being cancelled by the host club, it was a thoroughly enjoyable tour, topped off with some excellent results. My thanks go to Chris for his wonderful skills in herding butterflies!

We have managed to re-schedule the majority of those matches and events that were due to happen ahead of the lifting of Covid-19 lock-down restrictions. This has resulted in the loss of only three matches, but now means we have a couple of really crowded months later in the summer; I know we can rely on members' support to ensure full turn-outs.

I look forward to meeting up and playing with as many of you as is possible in the coming months - Covid-19 and Boris permitting of course.

**Graham**

Graham Robinson.  
Captain 2020/21

### MATCH SECRETARY'S NOTES

I think the optimism, about getting back to golf, that I expressed in the last Newsletter, now seems (hopefully) well-founded. We are back on our courses and, unless the Delta Covid-19 variant causes us problems, the summer looks set fair.

You will read elsewhere about our first event, the successful Cornwall tour, but the results between our two Counties over the past 51 years have been remarkably close. After this most recent trip, the record looks like this; -

	<i>Matches Played</i>	<i>Matches Won</i>	<i>Matches Halved</i>	<i>Matches Lost</i>	<i>Games</i>	
					<i>Won</i>	<i>Lost</i>
<i>Cornwall - Away</i>	95	17	6	72	419	618
<i>- Home</i>	93	71	7	15	623	372
<i>- Total</i>	188	88	13	87	1042	990

The remainder of our matches are due to kick-off on 21<sup>st</sup> June, when we are all currently still hoping the final set of Covid-19 restrictions will be lifted.

Your golfing calendar has been drastically re-scheduled, driven by the need to drop back events and county matches beyond 21<sup>st</sup> June. For various reasons, I have had to change dates and golfing venues, and you can find below, on the last page of this Newsletter, all the changes on the updated calendar. The net result is that we have only lost three matches and our winter lunch.

To avoid any possibility of future confusion, please delete/destroy earlier copies of the 2021 golfing calendar and, where you have been selected to play in matches, please make sure that your diary and the new calendar are reflecting the same information - many thanks.

**Roger**

Roger Sillence  
Match Secretary

## 1. THE CORNWALL TOUR 2021

It was great to be back at the Carlyon Bay Hotel, after the Covid-spoiled 2020. The virus still had an impact, as we were unable to play the scheduled match at Looe, and the hotel arrangements for dinner were very different. Also, there were just 16 of us, instead of the usual 34/36.

Instead of the Looe match, we played a 4BBB tournament at Carlyon Bay golf club, easily won by David Lakin and Bill Major, with 48 points. Special wooden spoons were presented to the lowest pair, although that had to be resolved on count-back from 2 others. The course was in excellent condition and, although very windy, there was no rain!

Tuesday came, and at St Austell GC we met up with the Cornish boys at last. Much "Hail fellow, well met!" On the course, the weather was foul. Rain most of the time, even horizontal due to the wind. We even had hail at one point and the puddles on the greens, which were slower than Carlyon, just made life more difficult. Clearly, we breed them tough in Oxfordshire as we came away 5-3 victors, meaning we would at worst "retain" the shield for the series.

Back to the Carlyon Bay golf club on Wednesday, when thankfully the sun came out. Astonishingly, we did even better with a 6-2 victory, winning the Truscott trophy as well. I believe 7 players won both their matches over the two days. Dinner was a rolling affair, again due to Covid but, as usual, was excellent. The presentation had to be done outside and both Captains spoke eloquently and - thankfully - briefly!

The hotel gave us a trophy to be awarded to the best player in the team. This was won by our Captain, who produced two very comfortable wins. I hope he remembers to bring it back next year!

It is great to come away with the trophies, but much more important was the camaraderie with the Cornish boys who had clearly been looking forward to our tour as much as we had. Our thanks go to Roger Sillence for his excellent organisation and it was sad that he was unable to join us

### **Mr Grumpy**

AKA Chris Spearing

Treasurer and Organiser

## 1. AVAILABILITY RETURNS FOR COUNTY MATCHES AND EVENTS

The selection process for all our matches was completed without a hitch and, even though fewer members responded this year, all the matches have been filled, with any number of reserves standing by for each one.

Our first match at Calcot Park against the Berkshire Captains is due up on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June. The team sheet has been circulated, so it is now just a question of keeping fingers crossed, and hoping that neither Covid-19 nor Boris get in the way of things.

## 2. OGC INTERNAL EVENTS

Well ahead of each internal event, you will be hearing in due course from Stuart Dobbs, our Events Secretary, seeking your entry returns.

We have managed to retain all of these, and although I have confirmed them all with the host clubs involved, it would not surprise me if any of them withdrew their facilities in favour of membership access to their courses. That would be entirely understandable, but I am optimistic that it won't happen.

Our internal events always attract large fields, and this year the numbers expressing their intention to play is nearing 250 over the five events, ie Captain's and President's Days, and the Spring, Autumn and Mixed Greensomes events,

These are all always great fun, enjoyed on courses and in the best possible company, so come along and join us and make Stuart's work worthwhile.

### 3. THE PAIRS KNOCK-OUT

Sadly, we have had to call time on this event for this year, entirely because the truncated season would not have allowed time to fit in all the rounds that the increasing number of participants would have needed.

Yet another casualty of Covid-19, our knock-out event was growing in popularity year-on-year, so much so that I am sure that will continue next year, when we will hopefully have this pandemic behind us.

### 4. THE CAPTAIN'S TOUR - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

I had planned for the Captain to take his fellow travellers this year to the Tracy Park Golf and Country Hotel, Near Bath. However, there is obviously more dosh to be made out of weddings than golf, because they decided to cancel all their golfing events, and to throw their facilities open exclusively to weddings.

Not to worry, an agile change of plans has resulted in us securing reservations at Old Thorns Hotel and Golf Club, Liphook, Hampshire - <https://www.oldthorns.com/facilities/leisure/golf> - which, although these things are always personal, I think is every bit as good as Tracy Park.

The details of the package remain the same, with two nights' dinner, bed and breakfast and three rounds of golf. The Old Thorns package also works out slightly cheaper than Tracy Park, single rooms costing £279 instead of £325 and twin rooms £209 instead of £235.

We have 27 booked to travel and it is possible, dependent upon room availability, that we might be able to fit in a couple more; let me know if you are interested and I will what I can do for you.

### 5. OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS' GOLFING CLOTHING

Should you have any kit requirement, our in-house entrepreneur, Glyn Hall, will be delighted to meet your needs on the very best of competitive terms, he claims. You can reach Glyn on [ogcclotthing20@gmail.com](mailto:ogcclotthing20@gmail.com) and the contents of his emporium can be viewed at <https://www.oxfordshiregolfcaptains.co.uk/clothing>

### 6. THE OGC 2022 GOLFING CALENDAR

I am plodding through the administrative arrangements for our 32 matches and events for next year's golfing calendar and, that is now mostly finished, with just a couple of away matches to resolve; it really looks to hold much promise for yet another superb golfing year.

***Stay safe and best golfing always,  
Roger***

*Roger Sillence  
Match Secretary  
Oxfordshire Golf Captains*

3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2021

*"Membership of the OGC is the best thing that ever came from being the Captain of a golf club."*

***Please see the following page for the updated 2021 OGC Golfing Calendar***

# OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CAPTAINS - FIXTURES 2021



<i>Date</i>	<i>Fixture / Event</i>	<i>Venue</i>
<b>March</b>		
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Winter Lunch	The Wychwood
<b>April</b>		
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	SPRING MEET NOW 04-08-21	Burford
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Somerset NOW 23-08-21	Weston-Super-Mare
<b>May</b>		
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Worcestershire NOW 31-08-21	Tadmarton Heath
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Cambridgeshire	St Neots
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	Looe
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	St Austell
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	Carlyon Bay
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Provisional date, only to be used if 14-04-21 has to be cancelled	SPRING MEETING	Burford
<b>June</b>		
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Sussex NOW 27-09-21	Badgemore Park
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> } Mini <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Dorset	Bulbury Woods
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> } Tour <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	Devon	Thurleston
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> <del>Cancelled Covid-19</del>	PRESIDENT'S DAY NOW 08-07-21	Hadden Hill
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup>	Berkshire	Calcot Park
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> Date change from 30-06-21	Oxfordshire Ladies (H)	Kirtlington
<b>July</b>		
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	Warwickshire	North Oxford
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	PRESIDENT'S DAY	Hadden Hill
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	Gloucestershire	Kirtlington
Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup>	FOUR COUNTIES	Maidenhead
Thur 22 <sup>nd</sup>	MIXED GREENSOMES	Drayton Park
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> New Date	CAPTAIN'S DAY	Oxford City
Thur 29 <sup>th</sup>	London	Ashford Manor
<b>August</b>		
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> New Date	SPRING MEETING	Burford
Thur 5 <sup>th</sup>	Hampshire	Weybrook Park
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	QUEEN'S JUBILEE	West Kent
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Buckinghamshire	Henley
Thur 19 <sup>th</sup>	Wiltshire	Bicester
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> New Date	Somerset	Weston-Super-Mare
Thur 26 <sup>th</sup>	AUTUMN MEETING	Studley Wood
Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> New Date	Worcestershire	Tadmarton Heath
<b>September</b>		
Thur 2 <sup>nd</sup>	* FOUNDERS' CUP	Feldon Valley
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> to Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Captain's Autumn Tour	Old Thorns Hotel
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	The Springs
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall	Oxfordshire
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	Cornwall #Dinner	Cotswolds
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> New Date	Sussex	Badgemore Park
<b>November</b>		
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Committee Dinner	Oxford City
<b>December</b>		
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	AGM & Dinner	Drayton Park

\* Entry restricted to current and past Captains and Presidents of OGC and specified committee members