



June Newsletter

I'm staring at the rain as I write this so...welcome to Summer!

What a fantastic turn out we had for the very well organised, annual Rotary Club of Royal Wootton Bassett Charity Day in aid of Prostate Cancer. 28 Teams turned out, which I have been told is the most they've had to date which is fantastic news.

First place goes to four of our own boys, Team Slowcoach. So well done to Adrian Webb, Malcolm Baker, Terry Newman and Darren McKenzie.

I personally want to say a HUGE thank you to my girls, Sue and Megs, for all their hard work catering this event and making sure that everyone was fed and watered on time.

From boys to primates; the Monkey Club played Dad's Army on Saturday 11th May with a turnout of 44 in total. However, sadly the score was a whitewash 11-0 to the Monkey Club. Come on the Army, rematch set for August 3rd – you got this!!

COURSE NEWS

We hope you all like the new road and clubhouse signs. There are still more to come on the course. The trees on the main road have had a minor trim to allow traffic from Wootton Bassett direction to see the new road sign. Equally, this also gives passers by the opportunity to 'notice' the course when passing.

Our new Tees mower is in operation and our thanks go to Nick Tanner who has been cutting them twice a week which has helped to make them look better. Weeding of Tees is also ongoing, and Mike is currently using our new AR machine to cut and trim the tee banks which are now starting to look nice and is a vast improvement on last year.

Mike watered all greens prior to this current bout of rain, and we are still saving and fundraising for the irrigation system. However, we feel that in the interim there is a need to purchase another bowser to keep on top of any watering during the dry weeks. We are currently sourcing this.

Mike has also been spraying the greens to remove leather jackets and although the crows have been a little more active, this should subside in the next couple of weeks. Justin has been on vermin control.

Thanks go to Geof Bryant, Callum and Malcolm Baker who between them all have been strimming the 9th and tidying up the trees, hand weeding and edging the main bunkers amongst other things.

To the righthand side of the 5th, 6th and 7th holes, the whole area is now a red staked penalty area and new white 'Out Of Bounds' markers have been formed between the 18th green and the clubhouse.

We recently signed an agreement to rent 4 brand new golf buggies and after a couple of teething problems, these are all now up and running. New secure locking stations will be erected for extra security in the coming weeks.

Work will be starting on bridge repairs very shortly. We have secured two used trailer flatbeds to repair a couple of the buggy bridges around the 1st, 2nd and 4th. However, we are still awaiting delivery of these. We have also been offered some reduced-price telegraph poles to use on the course which we hope to have delivered along with the flatbeds.

Weather permitting, we plan to verti-cut, top dress and seed all greens by the end of September.

CLUBHOUSE NEWS

Since the last newsletter, we have managed to increase our Food Hygiene Rating from 2 to 4 Stars in just 6 months. In the words of the Environmental Officer 'Wow, I can see it's 110% better already'. Still a couple of tweaks but we are on our way to a 5 Star!

We've also had some staff movement in the last 3 months...Teresa came and went but we are really pleased to announce that Kim Ogborne has now joined the team. Kim lives locally and has had previous experience working a bar and cooking in a commercial kitchen. Some of you may have already met Kim but do say hello next time you are visiting. We also met with a young man called Paul who will soon be joining us on an ad-hoc basis.

On 24th May we had our first Quiz Night hosted by golf course resident, Tom Evans. Thank you Tom - great job! Every table was full, the curry went down nicely and the winning team were...not golfers!! Having advertised the event locally, we attracted two external ringers, I mean teams, one of which won the night and bagged the first prize of £60. Looking forward to the next one.

As previously advised, there is now a 'suggestion book' behind the bar. I am pleased to see that some of you have started to use it and feedback on individual requests has been given as and when.

We have invited Wiltshire Golf Union to present a short piece on the New Rules of Golf. Provisional date is Monday 8th July at 6.30pm with referee Paul Berry. The format is usually a 45 minute to 1 hour presentation followed by a Q&A session or, if you would like a practical demo after then this is also available.

Our next newsletter is scheduled for September, as always your input will be most grateful. Please email kay@ohmynosh.co.uk with your contributions.