

Old Tauntonian Golfing Society

Hon Secretaries: Richard Jowett (OTGS) and Gill Jowett (Western Branch)

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Jan 2021

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Dear OT Golfers,

A Very Happy New Year to you all. Let's all hope that it is better than 2020! I do not have an 'unsubscribe' button but if you would rather not receive emails from the OTGS please do let me know. I appreciate that unwanted mail can be a real nuisance.

It goes without saying that our golf has been hit heavily this year and only two events have taken place. Thankfully each was a great success. Swinley was successfully transplanted to the late summer and again had terrific support. Many thanks to David Murrell for his organisation and financial help.

The other event was the Rose Bowl which Hugh Todd again organised at Oake Manor in September. A good turnout with several TS pupils playing and playing well! Unfortunately, Jack Malden has left the school to take up a job at Clifton College as master i/c Golf. He had started a renaissance of golf at TS and we can only hope that a successor is found to continue his efforts.

Two pieces of very sad news now. Iain Westwater is seriously unwell but is remaining very positive and responding to treatment for a brain tumour. And Chris Webb, a very long-standing member, died on New Year's Day in Loule, Portugal where he had lived for many years. He had cancer. To the families of both we send our sincere good wishes.

On 21st September we held our AGM on Zoom with six partakers; not a great turn-out but at least as many as had attended in person on at least two occasions in the last 15 years since I have been secretary! There were not many decisions taken; the officials were all re-elected nem con as you might have guessed. We are definitely in need of new blood however so at next year's AGM let's hope for some additional support please. It was noted, sadly, that the OTA had been dissolved. This leaves the OTGS as the only remaining OT club.

Financially we are solvent thanks to the guiding hand of Richard Norris. There is no compulsory subscription to be a member of the OTGS but we would always welcome more subscribers to help offset the increasing cost of entering the important competitions (>£1400 in 2019). Many alumni golfing societies have generous support from their parent school for these competitions in order to maintain the school's presence; we are not so lucky so if you feel able to help please send your donation to our Treasurer, Richard Norris, at 26 Sutton Court, Chiswick, London W4 3JE. (£25, or more! would be kind).

Below are details for this year's events; of course, we cannot be sure how many/if any will take place but here are the dates just in case. I really hope that you will be able to play in some of them. Don't wait to be asked and if you know of any OT golfer who is not on the OTGS radar or has now just taken up golf please introduce them to the society and get them to play in some of the meetings. Just contact the Match Managers shown below.

EVENTS 2021

Society Meetings (all welcome)

09/03/21	(Tu)	Invitational Meeting	Swinley Forest	David Murrell
02/05/21	(Su)	Thone Cup & OTGS vs TS	Taunton & Pickeridge	Hugh Todd/Clive Large
06/06/21	(Su)	Fairwater Cup & AGM & OTGS Championship	St George's Hill GC	Richard Willacy/Clive Large
29/06/21	(Tu)	Old Honitonians	Honiton	Richard Jowett
27/08/21	(Fr)	Invitational Meeting	Reigate Heath GC	Richard Willacy
26/09/21	(Su)	Rose Bowl	Oake Manor GC	Hugh Todd

Scratch Competitions (Bona fide OTs only)

26-28/03/21	(F-S)	Brent Knoll Bowl (Friday Practice)*	Burnham & Berrow GC	Richard Willacy
6-11/04/21	(T-S)	Halford Hewitt (Tues/Weds Pracice)*	Deal/Sandwich	Richard Willacy
23/05/21	(Su)	Grafton Morrish Qualifier	Worplesdon	Richard Willacy
23-26/06/21	(W-S)	Cyril Gray (over 50s, Weds Practice)	Worplesdon	David Morgan
1-3/10/21	(T-S)	Grafton Morrish Finals (Thurs Practice)	Hunstanton/Brancaster	Richard Willacy

* These events are unlikely to take place given COVID and given restrictions.

Match Managers

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With all good wishes for 2021,

Richard Jowett