



Old Tauntonian Golfing Society

Hon Secretary: Richard Willacy (OTGS)

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Dear OT Golfers,

Happy New Year and I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year.

The minutes of the last AGM, which was held at Reigate Heath GC in September 2025, can be accessed via the OTGS website <https://www.oldauntoniangs.org/golf/> under News/Newsletters. This records the formalities of the society, the state of its finances and the current officers within the society. If further clarification is required, please do contact me at the above email address.

In 2025 most fixtures took place with varying numbers of players and Marriot St Pierre Golf & Country Club, Chepstow, was added to the calendar mid-September which was a great success thanks to Phil Sticker who hosted and organised it with our, ever efficient Captain, Pete Whalley. All reports on each event can be viewed on the OTGS website for more detail.

We had another fantastic turnout at Swinley and a big thank you to David Murrell for organising and sponsoring this event. Thone Cup and School match at T&PGC – the match against the school was won by OTGS with an average of 27.8pts versus the schools 25.3pts. The GB Johnson Salver was won by Bertie Bilson with 27 points. Simon Nicholson won the Thone Cup with 34pts, Lee Corfield came second with 30pts. At Reigate Heath GC in September only 5 attended for the AGM, lunch and golf playing for various prizes. Let's just say 'everyone was a winner'! Rose Bowl was held as usual at Oake Manor, and the Bowl was won by Clive Large & Terry Davidge by a single point. As mentioned above our new fixture at St Pierre attracted some new OT golfers and apart from various merchandise prizes, we also played for the Fairwater Cup and Scratch Cup, which was won by Rob Wickes 36pts and Phil Stickler 29pts, respectively.

In the scratch competitions: Year started in beginning of April with the Brent Knoll Bowl (BNB). First round against Warwickshire Bears we narrowly lost 2-1, first round of the Plate we beat the Royal Navy 2-1, semi-final of the Plate we lost to Epsom 2-1. Great weekend and great 100% record for Phil and Gary partnership. Halford Hewitt (HH) literally started the Tuesday after the BNB! 1st round we were up against Felsted who beat us 3.5-1.5 (5 Pairs). 1st round of the Plate we played Downside in the morning and beat them 2.5-0.5 (3 Pairs), 2nd round pm we beat Highgate 3-0. Saturday we only had 1 game to play and that was against Ampleforth whom we beat in the 1st round of the HH in 2022, we beat them again 2-1! Back to Deal Sunday and unfortunately, we lost to Eton 2-1 in the semi-final, however, it was a fantastic run. In the Cyril Gray, played at Worplesdon end of June, Taunton beat Framlingham 2-1 in the 1st round, but sadly lost to Kings Canterbury 2-1 in the 2nd round. Special thank you to David Morgan for his captaincy over the many years and congratulations to Matthew Pyke for taking on the captaincy. Last competition of year is the Grafton Morrish (GM). Having qualified for the GM Final in May we headed to North Norfolk in October for the 3rd consecutive year. Under the captaincy of



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Pete W, the team won their way to the 3rd round of the competition beating Sutton Valence and St Edwards Oxford. Saturday conditions were tough, 50mph winds, and Glasgow Academy won 3-0. The disappointment of defeat was short lived as the weather deteriorated in the afternoon!

School golf: School golf is expanding with more competitions and with girls participating. Years 11-13 are now able to choose golf as a sports option. Lee Corfield (Pro) has been contracted to work Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Westy simulator. The school is taking part in the Independent Schools Golf Assoc (ISGA), SWIFTS Golf (Leading Golf Tournaments for Schools and Junior Golfers), West of England Public Schools Competition, Southwest Schools League and Somerset Schools. Fin Pyke has played in the SWIFTS order of merit strokeplay events across the year, currently playing off 0.5 handicap. There are moves to enhance the practice facilities and moving them nearer the Westy simulator. Honour Boards are being provided in the Westy covering school and OT major achievements.

As ever, there is no compulsory subscription to the OTGS, and we now have around 18 regular donors, but to keep our fixtures going and more to point to help sponsor young OT golfers we need to maintain or increase our subscription income. The default amount is £25 pa, but some members set their own level, this is only 50p a week! If you feel so moved, please send a donation/subscription to the Treasurer Richard Willacy at Wraymead, 158 Croydon Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0NG or (preferably) by BANK TRANSFER or set up a STANDING ORDER to Old Tauntonian GS sort code 60-10-07, a/c 33210896 with your name as a reference.

Below are the details of this year's events. Please don't wait to be asked to take part; we hope that you will enjoy playing in some of them. Just contact the Match Manager, details below. Finally, if you know of OT golfers who are not on the OTGS radar or have just taken up golf please put them in touch with me. Also, checkout the OTGS website, I try to keep everybody informed and updated using this medium. We have also created a WhatsApp Group that you can join and be informed about what is happening within the OTGS. Link is below.

Open this link to join my WhatsApp

Group: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Bh5Sftt1LJy0RiInXPw0Vf>



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EVENTS 2026

Society Meetings (all welcome)

10/3/26	(Tu)	Invitational Meeting	Swinley Forest	David Murrell
26/4/26	(Su)	Thone Cup & OTGS vs TS	Taunton & Pickeridge	Clive Large
19/09/26	(Sa/Su)	OTGS Scratch/Fairwater Cup	St Pierre GC	Pete Whalley/Phil Stickler
04/10/26	(Su)	Rose Bowl	Oake Manor GC	Clive Large
TBC		AGM & OTGS Vet Cup	Reigate Heath GC	Richard Willacy

Scratch Competitions (Bona fide OTs only)

27-29/03/26	(F-S)	Brent Knoll Bowl (Fri Practice)*	Burnham & Berrow GC	Pete Whalley
07/4-12/4/26	(T-S)	Halford Hewitt (Tues/Weds Practice)*	Deal/Sandwich	Pete Whalley
17/05/26	(Su)	Grafton Morrish Qualifier	West Sussex	Pete Whalley
23-26/06/26	(T-F)	Cyril Gray (over 50s, Tues Practice)*	Worplesdon	Matthew Pyke
15-18/10/26	(TH-S)	Grafton Morrish Finals (Thurs Practice)*	Hunstanton/Brancaster	Pete Whalley

Match Managers

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All the best for 2026 and see you at some of the events.