



This month, we welcome our new Captains for the year, Alan Eccles and Katie Taylor. We wish them a great year in their new roles and look forward to the tradition of the Captain's Drive in on Saturday 29th March. Well done and many thanks to Roger and Angela for their work in 2024.

Spring is certainly on its way and our March opening times will be 8am to 5pm. Soon the clocks will move forward and we will start to enjoy lighter evenings and the return of unlimited golf after 4pm!

Our Ladies Social Evening will take place on Tuesday 25th March at 7pm. Join us for a delightful evening of Wine and Cheese tasting organised by our new Captain, Katie. These are always great events and a good opportunity to get to know other members. £7 per person payable on the evening. We will also restart our Ladies Golf Night, Bucks Fizz and Balls, in April (date to be confirmed).

Junior Golf returns in April and we look forward to our weekly sessions throughout the Spring/ Summer season and our entry in the 3 Sixes League. Our Juniors had a fantastic season last year and we are delighted to see our Junior Academy grow and so many of our Juniors develop their skills ready to consider handicaps.

## Tearing up the turf.....

Why you may be seeing damage around your golf course.

Fairways tees and greens can all provide a habitat for a wide range of insects. Most of these insects are beneficial to the turf ecosystem but some such as the chafer and crane fly have larvae that overwinter in the soil and eat the roots of the grass. The shorter managed grass of a golf course provides the perfect place for the crane fly to lay its eggs.



The presence of larvae create two problems:

**Direct Feeding:** Where larvae eat the grass roots.

**Indirect Feeding:** This is the greatest and the most visible damage and is caused by predators searching for larvae. We are having issues at Casterton with Crows, Rooks, Magpies, Gulls and Pheasents all pecking and scratching at the turf to find and eat the larvae.

In the past greenkeepers were able to use soil acting insecticides to manage the populations of larve however these products have now been banned in the EU. There are no options left for greenkeepers to use to protect the turf.

The greenkeeping team is doing everything possible to keep your course in prime condition. They cannot however act outside the law and have very strict guidelines when it comes to using insecticides.

If you see birds settled on the turf - please scare them away!





# COMPETITIONS COMING UP IN MARCH

## CAPTAINS DRIVE IN - 29th March 2025 Now open for entry on BRS

Welcome our new Captains, Alan and Katie, for 2025 and join us for the traditional drive in ceremony on Saturday 29 March.

A great event to start the new season - shotgun start, 3 Sixes format, team of 4. Alan and Katie invite you all to join them afterwards for soup and sandwiches in the clubhouse to mark the start of their year.

### WINTER LEAGUE

Tuesday 4th March 2025  
Saturday 15th March 2025

### KNOCKOUTS 2025

These are open for entries. Please see the boards in the foyer. Closing date 31st March.

### SENIORS MATCHES

If you wish to play in the seniors mens matches for 2025 please sign your name on the board in the foyer. New players welcome.

### Results

04/02/2025

Men

Division 1

- 1 Richard Eccles 35 points
- 2 Stuart McPhillips 33 points

15/02/2025

Ladies

Division 1

- 1 Linda Carter 33 points

15/02/2025

Men

Division 1

- 1 Stuart McPhillips 41 points
- 2 Michael Perry-Curwen 37 points
- 3 Jonathan Hewitt 37 points

## **NEW 9 hole competitions**

Open to all Club members who have a current handicap  
Mens, Ladies and Juniors

The Competitions will take place twice a month on the Main Course - stableford format and scores qualify for handicap purposes.

**Entry fee £4**

These will be held on the following dates:

MAY - Friday 2nd and Friday 23rd

JUNE - Friday 6th and Friday 20th

JULY - Friday 4th and Friday 18th



Junior coaching will start again on Tuesday 1 April 2025/ Friday 4 April 2025. We will run three sessions every week throughout term time and school holidays. £5 per session/ Free for Junior Coaching Members.

### Thursday and Saturday Roll Up's

You must sign up on BRS by 12pm the day before. These sessions are open to all members just sign up. Everyone is welcome. For more details ask in the clubhouse.

### **CLUBHOUSE OPENING HOURS MARCH**

**8am - 5pm. Last hot food orders 3.45pm.**

**We are please to welcome new additions to our clubhouse staff, Lisa and Christine. Christine is our new cook and will be baking up some lovely new cakes and bakes!**

## A message from your Captains

### *Mens Captain, Alan Eccles*

I would like to thank all who attended the AGM in February where plans for the coming year were heard, all of which can be found in the minutes.

My fundraising event, The Arran Challenge in aid of the North West Air Ambulance, will take place in May. Please see the posters in the clubhouse for full details.

On the 29th March Katie and I will formally 'drive in' as Captains. The format will be "three sixes" stableford in teams of four. Please sign up on BRS to take part.

Thanks to all for wishing me well this year and my best wishes to all for a good year both on and off the golf course.

### *Ladies Captain, Katie Taylor*

As the Lady Captain for 2025 I'd like to start with some thanks: to Angela Cherry for last year, to Linda Carter who is Lady Vice Captain, and Alan our Captain this year.

I'd sum up my wish for the ladies section as, 1. to be inclusive and engage ladies in many ways, 2. to share our knowledge and learn from each other, and 3. for us all to have fun.

## Wine and Cheese Tasting

LADIES SOCIAL NIGHT TUESDAY 25 MARCH

Learn how to pair different cheeses with different wine types and explore the perfect combination of flavours. Whether you're a cheese connoisseur or simply love great cheese and wine, this is the perfect event to treat your tastebuds! Non alcoholic wines available.

Scarf Exchange stall and raffle for our club charity - bring a scarf, pay £2 to exchange for a new one!

Open to Club and Course Members: £7 per person payable on the evening

