

December Newsletter from the Captain

Doesn't time fly! Christmas is upon us, the Credit Card is in meltdown, and here we are almost at the end of another year. It seems not that long ago since we were packed up and were just about to leave our Clubhouse for the renovations to start. From our temporary home in the Portakabin, we have watched each stage of the refurbishment of the Clubhouse, which is now well on the way to completion, with an end-of-January hand-over target date.

The Clubhouse: Despite attempts by the local Press to try and sensationalize matters, negotiations regarding a new lease are progressing in a civilized manner. As you would expect, these are of a sensitive and confidential nature, but rest assured, the outcome of these discussions will be relayed directly to our Members, not via the local Press.

Lockers: New lockers will be fitted. These will comprise a full-size locker at ground level with a half size shoe/small hold-all type on top. We believe there will be approx. 66 full size lockers and approx. 55 of the smaller lockers. We are currently trying to contact the remainder of the former locker-holders to ensure their names are not omitted from the list, this process is almost complete. We are currently discussing ideas to put to S.A.C. for the possible provision of a separate Trolley Store.

Bar: A Survey of the Cellar/Bar has been carried out this week by Heineken Brewers to determine the options available.

Lounge: Tables: So far, all our Lounge Tables have been re-polished. Chairs: Our larger 'top deck' chairs have been renovated, and the 'mid-size 'straight chairs' have been re-varnished and re-upholstered in a high-quality contrasting cloth. So far, we have sold 9 of the small 'low' chairs to members at £15 each - a bargain! Carpet: A new carpet has been chosen to complement our furnishings, the design is called 'Volcanic Splash' and looks very striking - could be an idea for a Cocktail!

Match Computer: An updated version of the software has just been installed, and hopefully this, and a more reliable Internet connection, will help the backroom staff avoid the difficult situations they had to deal with this season.

Annual General Meeting: This has been scheduled for Thursday 23, February, 2017. Next year will be an exciting and important year for Troon Welbeck Golf Club. The refurbished Clubhouse creates the opportunity for us to move forward and to grow as a Club that our Members will be proud of. But there will be challenges and we do need help – and the help we need, is for the younger members of this Club, to come forward and give a little of their valuable time, their talents and their ideas to help shape the future of this great Golf Club and take it forward. One of the interesting features on the new system was a graph showing our membership age profile, and not surprisingly, it is quite heavily weighted to the upper end of the age groups, and shows we have quite a lot less in the 30 – 45 age group. These are the people we need to encourage. The A.G.M. is where and when Committee Members and Office-bearers are elected and the Forms for Nominations will be displayed on the notice boards in early February – Why not add YOUR name to it? You will be welcome!!

May I take this opportunity, to wish everyone a happy, healthy, prosperous and peaceful New Year.

David McMahon,