

# OAK PARK GOLF CLUB

March 2008

## February Review

First I would like to welcome our new assistant Greenkeeper Daniel Capman, who started mid month, and Kenneth Maher, the new Greenkeeping mechanic, who starts on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March.

Last month typified the uncertainty with our climate; January extremely wet, followed by a very dry February with barely half an inch of rain being recorded. Along with cold east winds and a week of sub-zero temperatures, the colour has been lost from the course. This is not untypical but highlights that change can happen fairly quickly. With the weather being kind to us we have got the fairway bunker & greens RHS bunker on the 1<sup>st</sup> village fairway drained, scraped and re sanded. This has been long overdue and waterlogged for a considerable amount of time which was mainly due to the weather conditions and logistics of dumping and filling the material from and to the bunkers. All our new cups pins and flags have been ordered for both the woodland and village courses. The tee blocks are going through their final stages of renovation before they will be back out on the course. Turfing work has been underway on the 1<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Greens have been sarol rolled and slit tined with a star tine to commence in early March.

## March

**Greens:** These are due to be cross tined with 13mm tines at 2 inch centres during the first week, followed by sand dressing. We will apply Alleviate granules to areas that drought out in the summer months. Mowing height will remain at 6mm for most of the month. A granular feed will be applied immediately after the Captains drive in although a light foliar tonic will be applied prior to such work to help with recovery.

**Tees:** Hollow tining will be complete by mid month, all will be top dressed, with some over-seeding to those tees where recovery is not quite complete. Tee markers are now painted and will be ready to be put out mid month. Bins and ball washer painting will be completed in preparation for the new season.

**Surrounds:** General aerifying work will be carried out while conditions are suitable, along with a routine dressing of sand & g/waste mix to key areas where traffic flow is greatest. All areas will be fertilised towards the end of the month.

**Fairways:** Fairways 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> will be fed with 13 0 46 and iron. All fairways to be brushed & mown mid month,

**Other:** Additional sand to be added to the few remaining bunkers on the village. Path edging to be completed on the 8<sup>th</sup> and club house lawns area. All hazard marker cleaning will be completed. Flags, pins & cups have been delivered and will be out for March 15<sup>th</sup>. Remaining equipment to be serviced and all units re-sharpened. Irrigation system due to be primed and tested late in the month.

**Craig Earnshaw**

**Course Manager:**