

February/March 2026 NEWSLETTER

We hope that you have enjoyed the recent months of golf here at Casterton. Despite the frosty weather there have still some hardy players making use of the course. The last month has been quite busy in the SIM studio with players improving their skills. Remember that for existing course members you can become a member of the SIM Studio for just £80 which gives you 50% off SIM room hire and out of hours access up to 10pm. Best to book ahead to avoid disappointment.

TROLLEYS IN WINTER - If there is a frost we do not permit the use of golf trolleys on the main course. Either play once the frost has lifted or use a carry bag (carry bags can be borrowed) or play on our PAR 3 Course where trolleys are allowed.

AGM

The Casterton Golf Club AGM will be held on Thursday 12th February 2026 at 7:30pm in the clubhouse. Please see the notice board for further details. If you are a member of the club, please come along.

SAVE THE DATE!!

**Captains Drive in Saturday 28th March. 9:30am mass start.
We welcome our new captains and vice captains. Please book in on BRS or in the clubhouse.**



Golf Characters - Linda Carter



Linda with grandson Lucas receiving the mixed doubles trophy

This addition of golf characters features Linda Carter, the incoming lady captain. I asked her a few questions about golf and about playing at Casterton golf course.

How and when did you start playing golf?

2017. My husband played golf, so started to play with him but came here to Casterton with a friend and stayed for all the nice members.

What's your favourite type of golf to play?

Team matches. I like the social element, working as a team, I don't feel pressure to play well unless it's more serious like the route trophy. Although some friendlies can get quite serious.

How long have you been playing here at Casterton?

Since 2018.

What's your favourite hole on the course?

The 9th because there is plenty of space. Generally I love the views on the course.

What's your favourite club in your bag?

5 wood. I can usually make good contact. My worse club is a sandwedge.

What do you enjoy about golf?

I enjoy the social side, meeting different people and visiting the different clubs.

Tell us a little bit about what will be involved in being lady captain this year.

Organising teams on social Thursdays, organising friendlies, working alongside the men's captain. It's a good experience, having contact with other clubs and organising an away day. I think Stuart will be a good captain to work alongside. I will need the support of the Ladies.

You had a successful season last year, picking up quite a few trophies at awards evening. Do you think you can win so many this coming year?

Well Grandson Lucas is keen to win the mixed doubles again.

Do you take credit for how well Lucas plays golf?

Well we did get him started, taking him to play golf when he was very young.

Anything else you would like to mention?

I just want to say this is a very friendly and welcoming club. The course is well maintained and the café serves good cappuccinos.

Golf Lessons at Casterton Golf Course 2026

ADULT MIXED LESSONS

Every Tuesday

10am - Beginners (from February)

11am - Intermediate (from March)

**With PGA
Pro
Gareth
Couzens**

Pay as you go:

Non members £9

Members £6



JUNIOR LESSONS

From March 2026

Tuesday 4.30pm - 5.30pm - Primary Age Group

Friday 5pm - 6pm - Secondary Age Group

Pay as you go:

Non members £6

Members £5 (or £90 full season)

**To book on a session
ring 015242 71592**

Recent Results

Winter League 06/01/25 (men)

1. Geoffrey Udall 40 points
2. Andy Coram 30 points
3. Chris Challis 29 points

Winter League 17/01/25 (men)

1. John King 40 points
2. David Brown 38 points
3. Tom Clark 37 points

Winter League 11/10/25 (ladies)

1. Ruth Brown 44 points
2. Cheryl Udall 36 points
3. Christine McGrath 33 points

Winter League 17/01/25 (ladies)

1. Cheryl Udall 29 points
2. Gillian Dobson 28 points
3. Chris McGrath 28 points

Course closures

It is rare that the course is closed. In the event that the course is unplayable or unsafe due to bad weather then we will put a message on BRS by 9am.

Frost - Trolley Ban

We will not notify you of frosty conditions on BRS. If there is frost on the ground no trolleys will be permitted on the maincourse. You will still be able to use your trolley on the Par 3. Please do not set off on the course with your trolley!

Joining the club

The club here at Casterton golf course, which runs competitions and maintains handicaps, is run separately to the course. If you are a member of the course but not a member of the club why not consider joining, getting your handicap and playing in some of the competitions.

To join the club you need to fill in the application form for the club (copies can be found in a folder on the notice board). Once you have filled this in add your £40 annual joining fee (£25 juniors) and put that in an envelope and put it in the box underneath the desk in the foyer. You will then be issued with an England Golf membership number.

Getting a Handicap

To get your handicap firstly you need to join the club. Then you need to complete the equivalent of 3 rounds of 18 holes (you can play 9 holes) with someone who has a handicap. Once you have your cards post them into the box in the foyer. The handicap secretary will then be able to record your scores and calculate a handicap

If you don't have anyone to play with who has a handicap there are many of the members here who would be happy to mark a card for handicap purposes. If you don't know many other club members then coming along on a Saturday or Thursday morning for the members roll up which is a great way to get to know other members who will be able to help you out. Clubhouse staff can also help you find markers for cards.

Greenkeeper news

We are currently pruning the trees on the course and have started to repair and fill the bunkers. The first snow drops of the year have appeared on the course so spring will soon be on its way. We have also just planted 30 new trees on the par three course. Pine trees, whitebeam, rowan and hornbeam.



The Trees of Casterton Golf Course

– by Roy Williamson (retired PGA Pro)

Some people love trees, others less so but we would notice them by their absence. At Casterton we have many species of trees planted across the course.

On top of the bank on the 1st hole there are three larch trees plus one Christmas tree. As you go down the slope on the left there are more Christmas trees these once made up part of the Makinson Christmas Celebrations and have been allowed to grow to maturity on the course. When stood on the 1st tee, if you look right you will see a sweet chestnut tree between the 1st and 4th hole, with another some 70 yards up the bank. They bear fruit.

There is an unusual tree on the second hole, a lovely weeping beech. Further up the second there is a tree which miraculously has grown up out of the rocky crag and high in the branches are carved the initials of Peter and Ruth who climbed the tree as children.

Left of the 3rd green is a 25 feet high walnut tree which sometimes bears fruit. Behind the 4th tee is a whitebeam, from the same family as the Rowan Tree (sorbus). Peter and I bought from Westhouse nursery about 6 or 7 years ago. Going down the 6th hole before the dog leg are 2 conifers which were brought and planted by Peter Hogan who was an advisor for the course.

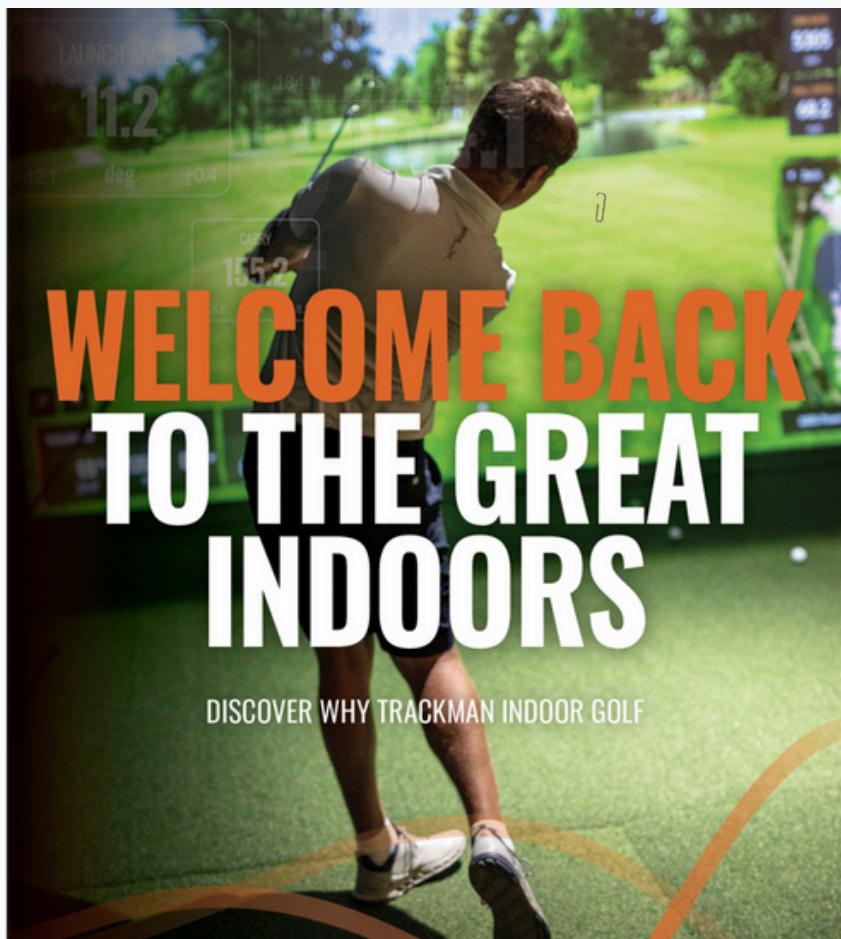
I brought a few trees from my garden and planted them on the course. The 6 feet tall oak on the 7th hole was only a mere 18 inches tall when planted and the birch tree on the 7th past the end of the wall was 3 feet tall and now stands 15 feet.

When the course was extended from its original layout in the 90's, course founder John Makinson planted the birch trees, the horse chesnut tree and the conifers down the 9th hole and around the 6th green. These were just tiny saplings but are now 35 footers.

Peter continues to add to the number of trees on the Golf Course each year. This adds to the biodiversity of the course and the playing experience. The 30 trees recently planted on the Par 3 and the significant number of trees planted to the left of the 8th fairway over a year ago are great additions. Tree maintenance is an important part of greenkeeping - its not all about Grass!

COMPETITIONS COMING UP IN February/March

Tuesday Winter League - Tuesday 3rd February
Saturday Winter League - Saturday 14th February
9 Hole Competition - Sunday 22nd February
Tuesday Winter League - Tuesday 3rd March
9 Hole Competition - Sunday 8th March
Saturday Winter League - Saturday 14th March
Captains Drive In - Saturday 28th March



**SIM STUDIO MEMBERSHIP
FOR EXISTING
COURSE MEMBERS
ONLY £80 per year**

Become a member and benefit from reduced prices and out of hours access

CURRENT CLUBHOUSE OPENING HOURS
8:30am-4:00pm
Hot food served from 8:30 to 2.45pm.