

IMPACT REPORT 2022-23



DRIVING VETERANS FUTURES THROUGH GOLF

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Welcome to our Impact Report for 2022/23.

Our mission at On Course Foundation is to enhance our ability to transform the lives and wellbeing of wounded Service personnel and veterans through the sport of golf, supporting their recovery and enabling them and their families to enjoy the best possible chance of a brighter future.

After the issues that have been faced over the past two years I am delighted to report that the charity has once again been able to fully focus on providing its charitable activities to beneficiaries and in doing so has achieved record numbers in terms of both its delivery of events and their levels of attendance.

During the last twelve months we have staged 51 activities within our event programme that were attended by 640 members providing opportunities for improving their health, mental strength, personal wellbeing and golfing ability. The benefits from participating in these events are well-documented over the following pages and provide a detailed description of the personal impact and effects felt by each beneficiary.

The increasing number of beneficiaries together with their requirement for our services has meant that we have needed to extend the geographical spread of where activities are delivered and we have focused on ensuring that every region of the UK is well-served, relevant to the numbers residing in each area.

This year we visited Northern Ireland for the first time staging two Introductory Golf Days as well as a residential Golf Skills and Employment Course which were well-received and we have been encouraged to look at increasing our involvement in the province going forward.

Whilst a number of beneficiaries attended more than one event during the year in making up the overall 640 attendee figure, this total included 256 different individual beneficiaries, of which 79 were participating at an event for their first time. With 69 new members joining the charity during the year to take our total number of beneficiaries to 905, there will be a requirement to continue to look at expanding the programme in the future in order to be able to cater for their increased needs.

For many, employment can mark the successful culmination of an individual's recovery cycle and with 34 beneficiaries taking up some form of work position or educational related activity during the year, this result represents a positive outcome from the situation in which they had once found themselves to be in.

As we move into our fourteenth year of operation we shall continue to be there to help those that need it and whom have given up so much in order to help us. We are hugely grateful to each and every one of our supporters that allows us to be able to do this.

Thank you to you all – your ongoing support brings us nearer to making our mission a reality.

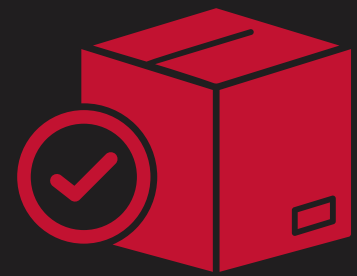
Alistair McKay Forbes
Managing Director

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



Overall
attendance

640



51

Events
delivered



256

Different
attendees



93

attendees at
our Introductory
Programme



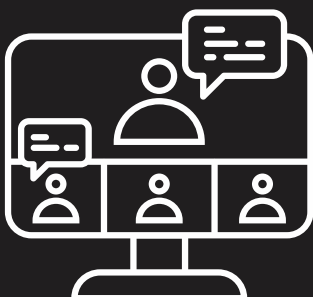
79

New
beneficiaries



199

regional 'hub
members



15

Virtual 'coffee
mornings'



WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

George Washington Hotel
Leeds Golf Centre
Hickleton Golf Club
Bedale Golf Club
Hurlston Hall
Mottram Hall
Carden Park
High Legh Park
Shropshire Golf Centre

The Warwickshire
The Nottinghamshire
Thonock Park
Kings Lynn Golf Club
Colchester Golf Club
Dale Hill Hotel
Sandford Springs
The London Club
The Springs Golf Club

Mapledurham Golf Club
Wellow Golf Club
Drayton Park Golf Club
Brickhampton Court
Dartmouth Golf and
Country Club
Boringdon Park
Cumberwell Park
China Fleet Country Club
Salisbury and South Wilts
Golf Club
High Post Golf Club



MacDonald Cardrona
Kingsfield Golf and Lesiure
Strathmore Golf Centre
Dunnikier Park Golf Club
Wellsgreen Golf Range
Mearns Castle Golf Academy
Trump Turnberry



Marriott's Grande Vista
Marriott's Hawks Landing
Ritz Carlton Grand Lakes
Royal St Cloud Links
Shingle Creek



Celtic Manor Resort



Blackwood Golf Centre
Galgorm Castle



Son Parc, Menorca

THANK YOU FOR HOSTING



POST-SEASON CONSULTATION

As part of our reporting processes, we conducted an end of season consultation amongst our beneficiaries - receiving feedback and allowing us to plan our future programme.

RESULTS SNAPSHOT

86%

rated the events that they attended as very good.

74%

stated that their mental wellbeing had improved as a result of being part of the programme

56%

camaraderie/friendship was the biggest indicator of this.

53%

reported an improved handicap over the course of the season.

STATEMENTS

It was an important factor in my recovery

74%

It helped me engage in more physical activity

87%

it helped me feel more connected to others

87%

It helped me gain control of events in my life

48%

It has led to more opportunities to help others

46%

it has helped others understand the value of my military service

51%

WHAT THEY SAID.....

"I love the golf itself, but the sense of belonging and improvements in feelings of esteem and self-worth are priceless. It is really quite an intangible thing and difficult to measure, but it is extremely valuable to me, and I know others feel the same too. In terms of mental health, the events are one of the few times in my life when I can speak openly and without hesitation to peers. They 'get it' in a way that even very close family members and my partner do not."

"I am now reaching out to other people and making new friends through golf. Since joining, I feel a whole lot less isolated and I am enjoying gentle exercise in the outdoors which I hope to do for the rest of my days."

"My mental health has been on a downward spiral for most of this year and it has been a real struggle, however when I have engaged with OCF these melt away and I manage to get out the house and on the course - something I hadn't managed to do without them."

MEET SCOTT

Name: Scott Robertson

Rank: Sergeant

Regiment: Royal Signals

Date joined: 15 April 2005

Length of Service: 13 Years 10 Months.

Why did you decide to join the military?: My Dad was in the Army and I wanted to serve my country.

What is your injury/illness and how did this occur?: PTSD from tours of Afghanistan, more specifically HERRICK 18/19 in Patrol Base Durai, Helmand.

What was your golfing experience prior to joining On Course Foundation?: Limited, had played a handful of times before and had my own clubs.



"I've said it before and I'll say it again, OCF have literally saved my life these past couple of years on a number of occasions. I've been in the darkest of places at times and if it wasn't for the events that OCF provide, I wouldn't be here today."

The camaraderie, inclusive environment, general squaddie banter and being outdoors playing a sport I love with like-minded people has been a massive help to me. The events are just a day or a couple of days to be away from the pressures of life and the darkness that surrounds mental health problems."

This year.....

As well as continuing to attend our confidence building programme, Scott has been able to throw himself into additional activities, including our beneficiary fundraising challenge called On Course to the Open. He was part of the Support Team for the 17 day relay, travelling from Kent to St Andrews - representing the Foundation and meeting individuals from the golf industry along the way.

His year culminated in winning the OCF Championship at the Warwickshire in October. Well done Scott, we are very proud of how far you've come.

EMPLOYMENT SNAPSHOT

in association with



4

BENEFICIARIES PLACED IN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

We are delighted to report that we have reached the milestone of 100 paid employment positions since our inception in 2010.

2

BENEFICIARIES PLACED IN PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

18

BENEFICIARIES PLACED IN VOLUNTARY POSITIONS

5

BENEFICIARIES UNDERTAKING WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS

5

BENEFICIARIES COMPLETING INDUSTRY RELATED QUALIFICATIONS



Paul Bonny - Caddie, Royal Portrush and LET



Four beneficiaries completed a month long training course with Caddie School for Soldiers



Michael Leather - Greenkeeper, Worsley Park



Stu Beaton - Caddie, St Andrews Links Trust



Gary Anderson - Volunteer Marshal, Alfred Dunhill Links Championship



Tim O'Reilly - Volunteer Greenkeeper, Princes Golf Club



Nick Hannah - Trainee PGA Assistant, La Moye Golf Club



David Simpson - Volunteer Greenkeeper, Alfreton Golf Club



Matt Neve - Pesticide and Chainsaw course, Greenkeeper, Gower Golf Club



Garry McNulty, Tim O'Reilly and Brian Woodcock volunteered as scoreboard operators and marshals at the English Trophy on the Challenge Tour. **Nine** other beneficiaries volunteered on the DP World Tour.

ON COURSE TO THE OPEN

In the summer of 2022, a 55-person team made up of On Course Foundation beneficiaries carried a golf pin flag from Royal St George's in Kent, venue for The 149th Open, to the Old Course at St Andrews, venue for the 150th.

It was a journey of some 1,500km, visiting (and hitting a tee shot) at 66 golf clubs, including all that have hosted the Open Championship since it's first staging in 1860. This was all achieved in the form of a relay using non-motorised means – walking, running, cycling, rowing, and swimming.



Via a mix of supporter donations and a four-ball auction, the challenge raised over £50,000 to support our confidence building programme.



Accompanied by Tommy Fleetwood, beneficiaries Ian Bishop and Laura O'Neill walked down the famous 18th hole to complete the epic journey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all of our supporters who continue to fund our confidence building programme.

- The National Golf Club Challenge
- Charles Skey Charitable Trust
- Royal and Ancient
- David Rasche
- The Sinclair Charity
- Princes Golf Club
- Chris Langhorne
- Royal St Georges Golf Club
- TDL
- Career Forces
- Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust
- Army Central Fund
- Team Army Sports Foundation
- Red Arrows Trust
- ABF The Soldiers Charity
- The Joseph and Lillian Sully Foundation
- Simon Gibson Charitable Trust
- Veterans Foundation
- Ryder Architecture
- Postcode Community Trust
- Alfred Dunhill Links Foundation
- The National Lottery Community Trust
- FB Coales No.4 (Family Trust)
- Hugh Fraser Foundation
- Edith Murphy Foundation
- The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund
- Charles S. French Charitable Trust
- Houghton Dunn Charitable Trust
- Hobson Charity Trust