

Organisation: Canterbury Golf Club

Sport: Golf

Location: Canterbury

The offer: Alison Kingston – First Female Club Captain

Details:

Alison started playing Golf at 11 years old and was the only female junior member of a Golf club in Yorkshire. She was first influenced to play by her father, but then had a 16 year period of not playing.

In 1998, she joined Canterbury Golf Club with her husband and has since held a variety of roles at the club including looking after the junior girls, Director, Ladies Captain, Vice Captain and now Club Captain. She has responsibility for all golfing and social matters at the club and was voted in by the members, although admits it may have sent some shock waves through the male membership! Alison is also responsible for welfare matters and is a representative for the club at both internal and external events. Alison says Canterbury is a very equal and open club but not every club would be open to electing a female Club Captain. She's been told her performance this year will determine whether another female is appointed in the future!



In her previous role as Ladies Captain, Alison introduced a scheme to recruit more female members. This resulted in approximately 30 new members joining the club, some of whom were new to Golf. Some of these ladies now sit on the Ladies Committee and it is hoped that one will become Ladies Captain soon.

Alison's advice to potential female golfers is to pick up the phone and enrol on a lesson. Most clubs have flexible memberships to suit finances and time commitments.

Top tips:

- Clubs should host taster sessions and encourage current female members to engage with potential new members
- A relaxed dress code would help remove 'stuffy' misconceptions about golf clubs

Further information:

Canterbury Golf Club is an 18 hole golf course with a Driving Range and offers lessons for all levels. For more information about the Club and the sessions they offer please visit the [Canterbury Golf club website](#) or phone the Secretary on 01227 453532.