# SOUTHPORT OLD LINKS GOLF CLUB

### where golf feels like home

## **Overview of Centenary Plans for 2026**

As we approach the Club's Centenary in 2026, the 'Centenary Working Group' (CWG) felt this was the ideal time to provide Members with an update on the proposed events and other projects planned for next year. These are based on the suggestions received from the Members' Survey completed in 2023.

Starting in the Clubhouse, Members will have already seen that the Main Lounge has been redecorated. It is planned to fit a new "Centenary logo" carpet in the main entry to the Clubhouse. If finances permit, other floor coverings will also be replaced. Several windows will also be etched to celebrate the Club being established in 1926:



On the Course, we have added new wording "Est 1926" to the signs and bridges around the putting green. We have ordered new Tee Markers, flags and cup liners for each hole, together with a new large flag incorporating the above design. We will be purchasing a Centenary Clock that will be located near the first tee. Subject to finances, we also hope to install a new Centenary plague to be affixed to the outside of the Clubhouse.

We will be running the normal calendar of competitions across each section of the Club. There will also be a number of extra competitions during June and July, ranging from fun events such as a "Hickory Golf Day" through to new Board competitions for each section.

The 2026 Social calendar will be extended to include a couple of themed events, based on different time periods over the last 100 years. The finale to the Social events will be the Centenary Grand Ball which will be held at the Grand Hotel on Friday 25 September 2026.

# SOUTHPORT OLD LINKS GOLF CLUB

### where golf feels like home

## **Overview of Centenary Plans for 2026**

We have contacted a number of other golf clubs who are celebrating their Centenary in 2026 and plan to hold a couple of "reciprocal" days with these during the Summer. Further details will be provided nearer the time. Lancashire Golf Union have also agreed to use the Club to hold a match against another region in 2026.

2026 will see the Open Golf Championship returning to Royal Birkdale for the 10<sup>th</sup> time. This will mean a major influx of golfers coming to Southport. The Centenary Working Group (in conjunction with the Club's Marketing Committee) has developed a range of reasonably priced Sponsorship and Corporate day packages to attract some of these visitors to the Club and to generate additional funds for the Centenary.

We are working with our partners at Southport Golf Academy to supply new clothing and golf accessories that will incorporate the above design.

Finally, we are preparing a "History of the Club" book which will capture the Club's major milestones over the last 100 years. This will be produced late in 2026 to allow the above improvements and events to be included.

\_\_\_\_\_

The CWG will continue to meet on a monthly basis and will work with the relevant Council Committees to progress each of the above. Minutes of Centenary Working Group meetings are available to read on Clubv1 (simply select Centenary 2026 in the Club Docs section). We are always open to new suggestions and ideas from Members for Fundraising, Sponsorship and for the Centenary itself. If you have any ideas, please feel free to use the Suggestions Box in the Members' Lounge.

#### Paul Rosenthal

On behalf of Centenary Working Group