



A message from the captain.

Welcome to Beverley Golf Club 2010.

It is an enormous honour and privilege for me to captain this great golf club over the year, and I am hugely looking forward to the challenges ahead.

The golf club – Yorkshire's oldest – plays on land known locally as the glorious Westwood, and those of you who have sampled the variety and uniqueness of this wonderful venue will know only too well that the word glorious is definitely no exaggeration.

We have views that are surely among the most splendid in Yorkshire, while the Westwood's sheer size and variety makes it a favourite escape for both walkers and picnickers.

No two holes on our course are similar and no two challenges are the same. In fact only two holes run parallel to each other, the 13th and 14th, while the other 16 holes are completely individual in their design and require both a fair degree of thought and skill to at least have a chance of mastering them.

And yet on first viewing the course doesn't appear to be that tricky. There are few trees on the course and only a limited number of bunkers; even the rough (if

you're lucky) will permit you a decent-length shot back on to the fairway and a chance of rescuing your par.

I wonder how many newcomers have stood on the first tee with thoughts of beating the course.

I do know that very few who have tried it have actually succeeded.

Beverley is no walkover, but as tough and fair a challenge as you'll find anywhere in the county.

For a start the texture and condition of its greens are the envy of many, and through careful maintenance and loving care, are usually playable throughout most of the year. Rarely does the weather dictate that we move to temporary greens.

Then there are the fairways. I wonder how many other parkland courses have fairways that tilt and slope like the best coastal courses, giving you an uphill lie on one shot and a downhill lie for the next.

And finally we have the Westwood's famous gorse. It doesn't cover the entire course, neither is it situated in any position that could be considered unfair. But there are holes where a wayward shot, or an over-ambitious shot, will be punished by ending up in the gorse. You have been warned!

If you have never visited us do give us a try. Apart from our splendid golf we also have excellent clubhouse facilities, and our chef prides himself on his kitchen creations (providing you give him due warning, of course!).

A word about our members, too. I have rarely come across a friendlier bunch in 40 years of playing golf, and I have never yet heard a complaint that a new member was unable to get a game with one of the regulars.

If it all sounds too good to be true, then perhaps you'll begin to understand how I feel, and why captaining this very special golf club is a privilege indeed.

Come and give us a try!

Mark Humphreys, Captain of Beverley Golf Club.