

Karen is back on course



TREATMENT:
Karen Hardy, 71

A WOMAN forced to stop playing her beloved golf due to a crippling illness has returned to the fairway thanks to a new wonder treatment.

Karen Hardy, 71, was diagnosed with what she thought was to be a “life sentence of pain and discomfort” when she was just 12. Scoliosis leads to a gradual and painful curving of the spine and affects around four per cent of the population.

Karen, from Selby, said she was told if her scoliosis worsened she would require a nine-hour operation involving the fitting of metal rods in her back.

She said: “I was aware that my condition was progressing quickly. I knew how risky surgery was and was desperate to avoid losing flexibility. I loved keeping active and knew that if I had spinal fusion surgery I would be unable to play contact sports.

“I also knew that it would make playing golf extremely difficult.”

By the time Karen reached her sixties she was forced to give up golf. She could no longer hold her bag and would be doubled over in pain if she walked for more than 30 minutes.

It was when she reached the age of

70, and desperate for relief from the pain, she discovered a clinic run by Scoliosis SOS. She spent four weeks there undergoing pioneering non-surgical procedures and eventually was able to stabilise the condition and find herself pain-free. More importantly, Karen has returned to the golf course.

She said: “Following the treatment I have gained more than I could possibly put into words. Being pain-free after so many years of suffering is amazing. I cannot believe that I am able to play golf again. I will be eternally grateful to the SOS team.”