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This issue, being the first of 2012, is few days later than usual because of the Christmas and New Year festivities. All of the contributors had a busy period so I decided to put back the publication to give them extra time to produce their reports. Also as it has been very quiet on the competition front there is no contribution from the Handicap Secretary as he had nothing to report.

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas and wish you all a Happy New Year, particularly on the golfing front.

If anyone has an item or suggestion for inclusion in the eBulletin please let me know by email at [mpgmagwin21@sky.com](mailto:mpgmagwin21@sky.com).

**Mike Gould**  
*Editor*

#### ***Forthcoming Events:***

**Bridge Club**  
***Tuesday 10 January***

**Pub Quiz & Curry Night**  
***Friday 20 January***

**Burns Supper**  
***Saturday 28 January***

**Sunday Lunch Club**  
***Sunday 5 February***

**ABBA-Fused**  
***Saturday 25 February***

For further details of above events see following pages and noticeboards



**2012  
SUBSCRIPTION  
WINNER:  
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During December over the last few years, it has been my pleasure to sit down with my regular playing partners to enjoy a Christmas lunch. For the last two years unfortunately, the dates chosen were both marked by heavy falls of snow leading to disruption and course closures. When our chosen date arrived a few weeks ago, I was alarmed to see snow on the ground and feared the worst for the festive programme. As it turned out, however, my concerns were groundless as the weather couldn't have been kinder and, in contrast with the last two years, has been much appreciated by all with no disruptions and a full playing programme over the festive season.

I particularly enjoyed my invitation to the Vets' Christmas Texas Scramble and the lunch that followed. More than 100 members turned out for the 9 holes in the morning and a few more arrived in time for lunch resulting in a packed clubhouse with a tremendous atmosphere. I was very impressed by the warm welcome and was pleased to be able to say a few words about the year ahead and the Captains' charity for 2012. I would like to thank the Captain and the Vets for a most enjoyable day and for their generous contribution to the charity on the day. So the Vets lunch got my Christmas season off to a great start and a few days later, the Christmas Draw Night maintained the momentum! There was a good turnout on the Saturday night and many thanks must go to Malcolm, Jane and Simon who welcomed members into the Pro Shop for drinks at the start of the evening. The Prize Draw itself was a great success and thanks are due to the Social Committee for their efforts before and during the evening. Les Thorne managed the draw itself and then handed over to Malcolm for his Pro Draw. Prizes galore, not all collected on the night, so please claim them soon if you haven't already done so. The evening finished on a seasonal note with carol singing led by the ladies.

Weather conditions were excellent for the Boxing Day Captain vs Pro Challenge. Over 70 people played, with the Thorne family providing the biggest family contingent. Yet another day for a packed clubhouse, just the right conditions for another ball draw before the result was declared. I'm afraid the Captain's team - chosen mostly by the Pro - lost by the narrowest of margins, but a good time was had by all and, most importantly, the Captains' Cardiac Rehab charity benefited from contributions from all the participants, as well as one generous individual contribution, for all of which the Captain was extremely grateful.

The New Year celebrations continued the revelry with 125 people present to enjoy the meal, no space being left unoccupied in the clubhouse! The Bells duly sounded the arrival of 2012 and a fireworks display was enjoyed by all. Not quite the budget of London's Mayor but an excellent display none the less, and enjoyed too, we later heard, by members who had a view from across the by-pass!

More thanks are due to the Social Committee and helpers for organising this superb evening and I'd like to make a special mention for Sheena, Robbie, John and all the bar and catering staff for their efforts during this evening, as well as the rest of the busy festive season. A lot of hard work and commitment is needed to ensure so many events are successful, the preparation, the delivery and then the cleaning up! At New Year, most of us were able to enjoy the fun into the small hours yet arrive the next



**John McIlree**  
*Club Captain*

morning to a pristine clubhouse; nearly 50 participants did just that for the New Year's Day Roll-up. They set off in excellent, mild conditions, but there was to be a sting in the tail! All but the first couple of four-balls were caught by the early arrival of some very heavy rain, enough to flood the greens by lunchtime.

Despite this heavy rain, it is evident that members have been able to enjoy very good conditions over the festive period in stark contrast to the last two years. It's an appropriate time to recognise the efforts of Steve and his team whose efforts never cease to provide an excellent course for the members to play and especially over this busy festive fortnight. We are very fortunate to have the dedication of this team.

This is, therefore, an appropriate time to reinforce the message included in your subscription envelope regarding the part we are asking members to play in keeping the damage to greens by unrepaired pitch marks to a minimum. Please look for and repair your own – you will be making them, we all do! – and repair a few others whilst waiting to putt out. Look at <http://youtu.be/f-ZzT8Mnmg> if you need guidance for correct repairs.

I hope that the good playing conditions continue into January to allow you to progress your winter league commitments. And if another challenge is required, I have prepared a list of dates for the months of March and April with my Pro partner, Phil, who will be happy to accept any early dates for the Captain/Pro Charity Challenge.

I plan to continue the Club Triumverate match that Ian Swann set up last year in the same format as a 12 aside match between the County 7, Gales Hockley and Ladies Stoneham squads. This will take place on Sunday 26 February. For the Men's squads, the names of those eligible to be considered will be posted on the noticeboard so that we can include all who wish to be considered in the squads and for team selection. If members wish to be considered for the annual matches against the Hampshire County Golf Union and the County Juniors, please indicate their availability on the match sheets posted on the Match Board in the Men's Changing Room.

Finally, elsewhere in this eBulletin, there is a photograph of the presentation of a cheque to the St Michael's Hospice by Ian Swann and Lynne Cowser. Ian commented at that time on the enhancement of the final sum raised by the application of Gift Aid declarations. I hope you will help our charitable efforts by completing and returning the forms sent to you with your subscription notice. As we have seen, it really can make a significant difference for the Cardiac Rehab Charity.

I wish all members and their families a very happy New Year in 2012.



**Fiona Corkhill**  
*Ladies' Captain*

By the time you read this the Christmas and New Year celebrations will be but a memory and we will all be looking forward to the lighter evenings.

December started with our first match in the Winter Triple with Corhampton and Lee-on-the-Solent held at Alresford on 1 December. Playing St Andrew's Greensomes Alresford Ladies, having home advantage, finished with a five point lead to take forward to the next match. We play at Lee-on-the-Solent on 16 January so good luck to the team selected for that game. There is still time to put your name down for the final game at Corhampton on 20 February.

Thank you to the 85 ladies who came along for a delicious, beautifully presented and very enjoyable Christmas Lunch on 13 December. Earlier in the day 70 ladies had played the 9 hole Texas Scramble. The winning teams were Diana Hampton, Carol Clark, Lyn Jones and Jo White off the 1st tee and Casie McDonald-Wood, Tineke Ribbink, Jean Bax and Liz Petherham off the 10th tee. We were extremely fortunate to have a window of fine weather that morning following a stormy night which added to the overall success of the day. The usual tradition of the occasion, a few carols sung with great gusto to the accompaniment of Celia Batten, included of course the 12 Days of Christmas. It was lovely to see so many ladies who are no longer playing golf enjoying this very sociable occasion.

Other prizes were also presented that day to the winner of the Turkey Trot, Casie McDonald-Wood and runner-up Liz Thorne. The autumn eclectic was a three way tie between Jane Scott, Sue Pearce and Becky Scott, winner of the Birdie Tree was Becky Scott and winner of the Par Tree Jennifer Clelland. Congratulations to them all.

To keep your golf swing going through the winter months Malcolm Scott will be repeating the very successful group coaching sessions held last winter. Starting on Thursday 19 January from 9.30am – 11.00am with pitching and bunker shots followed by chipping and putting on 26 January and long irons, hybrids and drivers on 2 February. Groups will be restricted to five players enabling the sessions to be held under cover if the weather is poor and the cost is £12 per person. There will be a notice in the ladies changing room with all the information so please sign up in the Pro Shop if you are interested.

The New Year's Day mixed roll up was entered by 44 people who played a 9 hole 4BBB off the 1st tee. Starting in dry weather the heavens opened later on meaning the last few groups came in soaked but were soon warmed up with a delicious bowl of soup. Despite the weather there were some high scores with the winning pair Lesley Martin and Les Thorne coming in with 23 points, Liz Thorne and Eddie Martin were second with 22 points and Elaine Spreadbury and Brian Young were third on count back from four others with 21 points.

Finally a housekeeping note to inform you that the Ladies Committee are starting their new year with a general tidy up of the ladies changing room on 27 January. You never know what we may find in the white cupboard!

If you are a new member and are having difficulty finding a golfing partner please feel free to contact me and I will endeavour to help you. With my good wishes to you all for 2012.





**Roger Corkhill**  
Vets' Captain

We had a highly successful Texas Scramble and Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 14 December. A total of 109 played in the 9 hole competition and were joined by six others who came for the lunch. A further six had to withdraw for a variety of reasons, which emphasises how popular this annual event is. Our formal guests were David Maskery, Mary Panter, Steve Privett and Club Captain John McIlree. Unfortunately Jane Scott was unable to join us. The logistics of having 115 was unusual but Robbie and Sheena were more than equal to the task. We had an excellent meal with service to match. Our Treasurer, Dennis Jones, distributed gifts to all bar, waiting and catering staff who all made it a special occasion. Steve Privett also received a token of our gratitude for all that he and his staff do to provide a course we feel privileged to play on.

There were two prizes for the Texas Scramble. Front 9 holes winners with a net score of 26.1 were: Ken Mills, Steve Cowser, Tom Middleton and Lawrence Wild. Back nine winners with a score of 23.9 were: David Nightingale, George Hand, Les Widdicombe and John Bernie. For those who were unable to play in the scramble a mystery prize went to Bob Germon in a draw conducted by John McIlree.

In recognition of the Captains' Charity for 2012 and that Hugh Bethell, fellow Vet and Cardiac Rehab Founder, was present, we held a Charity Lottery. Terry Parfitt won £50, John Miles won £25 and £100 was added to the Cardiac Rehab funds and was passed to John McIlree. My personal thanks go to Pete Dowse, Norman Sheen, Dennis Jones and Andrew Frearson for their invaluable contributions that made the event so successful. No one wishes to take credit for the microphones and sound system!

The Greens Committee have agreed proposed changes which are of particular interest to our Section. For the winter period the yellow tee markers have been moved forward on holes 11, 12 and 17.

This is being considered as a permanent arrangement and to include the 3rd. This would require new score cards and a potential reduction in the SSS but I view this as a positive step to encourage more Vets to enter qualifying competitions when the 'Over 60's Medals and Stablefords for 2012 become qualifiers off yellow tees. If you have views on this matter please direct to me in my capacity as Vets representative on the Greens Committee.

Vets Committee Meetings are to be scheduled bimonthly beginning this month on Friday 6th. Minutes will be published.

There have been some changes or additions that are relevant to our section. The changes are: Over 60's Stableford in March now on 12th, Captain v Vice-Captain in March now on 14th, match away against Sandford Springs in August now on Friday 24th at 11.00. The additions are: 'farewell' matches against Dunwood Manor in April at home on Wednesday 4th and away on Tuesday 24th. Both at 1pm. I suggest you amend your club diary.

Pete Dowse, Ed Fox and Alan Pike put their proposals to the Committee for changes to the Wednesday Roll-Ups. These will be published on Monday 9 January and take effect from Wednesday 9 February. With Committee agreement Andrew Frearson, Competitions Organiser, has already begun to set out fixed rules applicable to each competition detailing: entry requirements, format, date entry sheet to be posted, draw and entry fee date, competition date and/or months over which KO's are to be played. Already details regarding the Vets Championship, Over 70's Championship and Fred White Foursomes are posted on the Clubs website and will be posted on our noticeboard on 9 Jan with more to follow in February.

We have an excellent committee who are eager to make 2012 a highly successful year for us all.





### Winter Programme

The area to the right of the 3rd green is almost complete. The newly turfed area requires protection until the turf is properly rooted. Please walk around the roped section and **DO NOT WALK OVER THE TURF**. The drop zone will remain in force until the area is back in play.

The extension and rebuilding of the 17th medal tee is substantially complete apart from laying turf on the rear embankment.

Rebuilding the 7th medal tee has been delayed due to the wet weather preventing work on final levelling and a decision to complete the heavy earthworks elements associated with rebuilding the 16th tee, before the Christmas break. Both tees will be turfed at the same time.

### Course Maintenance

Please note the greens maintenance work shown in the Club Diary for the 12-16 March has been rescheduled to 5-9 March. This alteration has become necessary due to a decision to try a new process of sand injection using high pressure water rather than the "Drill & Fill" process used for the last two years. The new process has several advantages including less damage to the playing surface and hence is less disruptive to normal play.

The greenside bunker on the 11th hole has been brought back into play. It has been dished and a drain incorporated into the base as well as returfing the face. The sand is a little too deep presently but will compact with use and the continuing effects of the wet weather! It could have remained "out of play" for a couple of weeks whilst the sand compacted but it was considered better to get it back into use immediately.

Comments have been made about the green staff using mechanical equipment when there is a "trolley ban" for members. The equipment is carefully directed away from greens and tees avoiding the areas usually trafficked during play by members which is the main concern whenever a "trolley ban" is imposed.

#### 8th Tee

The artificial surface is used to protect the grass tee from excessive wear during the winter months to allow the turf to recover when there is no growth. Please use the artificial surface when the markers are placed on the grass at the front edge or in the middle of it. Teeing off on the grass between the markers or behind the mat is not permitted as these areas are deemed "GUR PLAY PROHIBITED".

PENALTY for breach of this local rule is: MATCH PLAY- Loss of hole; STROKE PLAY- Two strokes.

#### 10th Tee

Starting play from the 10th tee is being restricted until after 9.30am during the winter months only.

With limited daylight restricting when maintenance work can begin it is essential the green staff have a clear run to cut the greens before play is underway. Delays with cutting the greens ultimately results in more golfers being affected during this work and has consequential restrictions on the green staff completing other work around the course later in the day.

#### **Laurie Clark**

*Chairman of Greens*





## New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting in December and January: Ken Hood (7 day), Richard Thomas (5 Day), Diana Fisher, Peter and Mary Grant, Barbara Jackson, Alec McCloskey, John Swinney, Bruce Willard (Social Extra) and Annie Teers (Social). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one.

May I remind all members that we are welcoming new membership enquiries for all categories. If you know any friends or acquaintances who are thinking of joining a club or changing clubs, please do your best to sell them the benefits of Alresford.

Membership packs are available from the office which detail the benefits and prices (including new payment options). We would be delighted to show any prospective members around the club and arrange a round of golf for them.

## Members guest green fees special offer

Due to the continued success of this scheme, we will offer the GUEST GREEN FEE DISCOUNT OFFER again in 2012. Over the course of the season bring either 6 guests for £99 or 10 guests for £160. These will be available ONLY from the Secretary in advance (not the pro shop). Please be aware that all 'visits' must be used by 31 December 2012. No refund or extension will be given on unused 'visits'. Normal restrictions apply.

## Roll Up

Fancy a game in the week? All members are welcome to come along to the 'club roll-up' on Wednesday mornings. The usual start time is 11am during the summer and 10.30am during the winter months all timings subject to any advanced tee reservations.

### JANUARY

Wednesday 4 Jan - 10.30am

Wednesday 11 Jan - 10.30am

Wednesday 18 Jan - 10.30am

Wednesday 25 Jan - 10.30am

### FEBRUARY

Wednesday 1 Feb - 10.30am

Wednesday 8 Feb - 10.30am

## Sunday Lunch Club

Sunday Lunch Club will be available on Sunday 8 January and Sunday 5 February. Come along either as a large or small table and with members or guests.

## Friday Night Pub Quiz & Curry

Friday 20 January, Quiz starts at 7.30pm. See Social Noticeboard for details.

## Bar & Kitchen Closure

Over the Winter/Spring period the Clubhouse (and Bar) will close on Fridays as per the normal weekday times, unless there is an event or pre-booked function. Below is the list of dates when the bar will be closed earlier.

Friday 13 January, Friday 27 January, Friday 3 February and Friday 10 February. Members should check the club website or bar for any changes to these dates.

Monday 30 January to Wednesday 1 February (incl) – The kitchen will be undergoing a full redecoration.

There will be a limited range of cold sandwiches available for purchase behind the bar (whilst stocks last) only. No hot food or orders available.

## Alresford Golf Calendar 2012

If you haven't collected your 2012 diary, no doubt you soon will. This will contain those club events which are known to the Secretary when the diary is sent to the publishers in November. You can also view the full club diary on our web site and, because this can be amended easily, the web site also lists events which are booked after the paper diary is published, such as society matches, which might impact on your desire to play at a specific time. In addition, the events page on the web site has 'pop-up' messages that give further information on individual events, and if it is a major event, there is usually an attachment that provides the same information that you would see on our noticeboards. Therefore, if you have a computer and access to the Internet, this is the best method of keeping in touch with what is happening at the Club.

Many of you may now have 'smart' mobile phones and these can be used to access the club diary via our web site. However, it is possible to combine the Club Diary with your own diary by importing a CSV file (a specially formatted text file) to your phone. How this is done will depend on your phone and computer software but this is usually provided with your phone or on the phone manufacturer's web site. If you want to give this a go Ken Coburn has provided the CSV file ([agc\\_diary\\_2012.csv](#)) in the General Documentation section of the Members Area of our web site.

An alternative method of view the Club diary, if you use Google Calendar or similar on-line calendars, is to import the CSV file into your on-line calendar. Ken has provided instructions in the same General Documentation section if you want to give that a go too.



## Christmas Draw

First our thanks to Malcolm and Jane for their kind invitation to drinks immediately preceding the Christmas Draw which was well attended but, for those present, it was disappointing that so many prizes were won by people who were not there. However, that's the "way the cookie crumbles" but it does lead to less, in Club, banter. The whole evening was great fun culminating in some enthusiastic, unaccompanied, carol singing. Perhaps we should start a choir! We have listened to members comments and have included these with the Committee's views to plan some changes to next year's draw. Briefly, the evening must be more dynamic, we must reduce the time taken for serving and eating supper, quicken and make the draw more interesting, have a short period of carol singing before the draws start and then have more at the end of the evening. We also intend to provide a higher value first prize.

## Boxing Day

The Boxing Day drinks and snacks were provided by the Social Committee and Robbie and Sheena and enjoyed by around 70 golfers.

## New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance

Next came the New Year's Eve Dinner Dance which, again, was extremely well attended with 112 diners and dancers. We were able to keep the cost down to £30 each with prudent financial planning by the ladies on the Committee when buying the decorations, and using a slightly less expensive disco. Nevertheless, the decorations were superb and the disco contributed to an excellent party. Due to a slight technical problem, the transition from 2011 to 2012 was slightly delayed but was followed by a firework display to celebrate the arrival of the New Year and, hopefully, a good time was had by all.

The Committee has decided that a similar celebration will be planned for next year but there will be an MC from the Committee who will control the run-down of 2012 and the run-up of 2013, and not rely at all on the DJ.

## Bridge Club

The first meeting of the Bridge Club is on 10 January when players of all standards are welcome to join us in the Club, to start playing at 7pm. It is only £1 each and is played in a very relaxed atmosphere. We meet again on 7 February.

## ABBA-Fused

On the 25 February we have arranged for two girl singers, ABBA- Fused, to come and entertain us. They will perform on either side of supper and we are just finalising how the evening will be organized. It does promise to be a fun-filled evening with option of wearing ABBA style dress or smart casual. Details will be posted early next week so get your names down early.

## Burns Supper

Although not functions organized by the Social Committee, in the next few weeks we have "Club" Sunday Lunch on 8 January, the Burns Supper is always a superb evening and this year it falls on 28 January. The list is up, come and join us and enjoy a Scottish orientated party.

Feedback is always welcome - [d.meadwell@btopenworld.com](mailto:d.meadwell@btopenworld.com)

Regards to all

**Don Meadwell**

*Chairman of Social Committee*

**a look at rules** supplied by **Celia Batten** email: [celia@celiabatten.vispa.com](mailto:celia@celiabatten.vispa.com)



### Decision 1-3/2 - Agreement to concede short putts

**Question:** In a match, the two players agree in advance to concede all putts within a specified length. Is this agreement contrary to Rule 1-3?

*Answer below*





*At a recent ceremony a cheque for £11,013.35 was presented to Anthony Marten, trustee of the St Michael's Hospice, by last year's Captains, Ian Swann and Lynne Cowser*

## rule answer



**Answer:** In order to be in breach of Rule 1-3 for agreeing to waive a Rule, players must be aware that they are doing so. Therefore, the answer depends on whether the players knew that Rule 2-4 only allows the concession of the "next stroke" and does not permit them to agree in advance to concede putts within a specific length.

If the players were unaware that the Rules prevented them from agreeing to concede putts in this manner, there is no penalty under Rule 1-3.

If the players were aware that they were excluding the operation of a Rule then they are disqualified under Rule 1-3. (Revised)

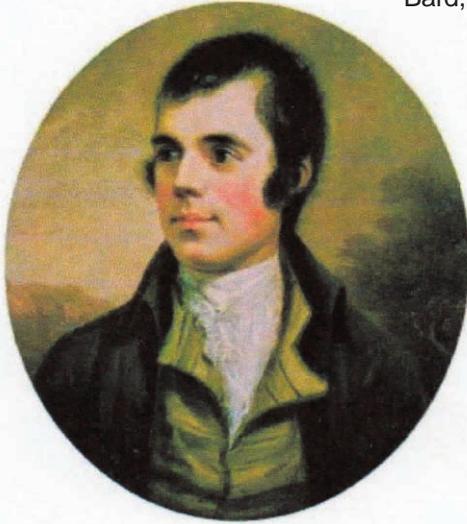


# Burns Supper 2012

**Saturday 28 January 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

## *Looking for something to brighten up a dreary January evening?*

Then come and enjoy the 20th Annual Burns Supper - a uniquely Scottish experience in good company featuring whisky, haggis, neeps (mashed swede) and tatties, and a light hearted appreciation of Scotland's Bard, and of course, the skirl of the bagpipes.



This year the principal speakers will be Roy Terry giving the Immortal Memory, Ian Swann proposing the Toast to the Lassies and Fiona Corkhill giving the Reply. Before the main course of the meal, George Clelland will give the Address to the Haggis.

The sign-up sheet is now on the Social notice-board, so make sure you reserve your place.

You don't have to make up a party to fill a table as we will work out a table plan for individuals and small parties which will keep those groups of friends together.

The cost of the evening will be £25 per person and includes the meal and a glass of your favourite tippie for the toasts after the meal.

*Members and guests are all welcome. The dress code is Black Tie.*

Contact **John McIlree** or **George Clelland** for further information.



The winners of the 100 Club draw in December were:

£100 - John Allen

£32 - Keith Halls

£50 - David Farr

£32 - Tim Chandler

£32 - Pat Wallis

£32 - David Sault

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will take place on Monday 9th January.

Many of you will have noticed that the shoe cleaner has been 'out of action' a few times already this winter. It's apparently coming to the end of its useful life, so the 100 Club Trustees have agreed that we will pay for a new machine to replace the existing one which we paid for about 10 years ago.

### **Not a member of the 100 Club?**

If you're not a member of the 100 Club, you can become one for as little as £1 per month. Shares in the 100 Club are purchased for £1 per month and there is no limit on the number of shares which can be held. In general, most members have between 1 and 5 shares and pay by monthly direct debit, though it's also possible to pay quarterly or annually. Each share is allocated a number which is entered in the monthly draw. The top prize is £100, with a second prize of £50 and four other prizes of £32. For more information contact George Clelland on 01962735008 or [george.clelland@btinternet.com](mailto:george.clelland@btinternet.com) or call in to the Secretary's office.

**George Clelland**



### *Getting in touch:* **Alesford Golf Club**

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