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Welcome to the April issue which contains all the normal reports and news from all the Captains and various Committees. Also there is a correction from last month's bulletin on the Lady Captain's page.

As we were down visiting over last weekend, Claire took us to the Fun Pub Quiz on Friday evening and it was very nice to be greeted in such a friendly manner by all who knew us. The evening was superbly organised by Sheena and Robbie and, of course, the food was excellent. We would recommend these evenings to any members who have never attended to give them a try when they re-start in November!!

If you have an item of interest, photograph or a suggestion for inclusion in the eBulletin please submit by email at mpgmagwin21@sky.com.

Mike Gould
Editor

Forthcoming Events:

Easter Sunday Lunch

Sunday, 8 April

Captain's "Meet 'n' Greet" Evening

Friday, 20 April

Spring Texas Scramble

Sunday, 22 April

St George's Pub Night

Saturday, 28 April

For further details of above events see following pages and noticeboards





John McIlree
Club Captain

March didn't get off to the greatest of starts when the fixture of the Men vs the Hampshire County Juniors had to be cancelled at the last minute. The teams had actually assembled in the Clubhouse but the weather conditions deteriorated as they waited and as rain turned to snow, it was reluctantly agreed that it simply wasn't playable. It was disappointing after the Hampshire County Seniors match had suffered the same fate in February but we are very much hoping that a date can be found later in the year to stage the Juniors match.

It seemed astonishing, following this set-back, that within a week or so there was a complete turn-around in the weather and we have been blessed with a run of sunshine right up until the end of the month. Long may it continue!

During this period of good weather, a number of matches took place and success was achieved when the Men's Mail on Sunday team won through to the 4th round of the competition having beaten near-neighbours Hockley 4½ to ½. I was also pleased to see the Juniors Ben Hunter, Ben Broadbent and Elliott Humphrey win their Green Jackets match – a scratch competition – against Dibden at home, 2-1. In other matches, the Kindred Clubs Foursomes team played away against Blackmoor and, against formidable opposition, battled hard, reaching the 18th in nearly every match before losing 4-1, and the Gales Hockley Over 50s match took place against South Winchester at home but, despite their best efforts, was lost 6-3.

The first Men's Club match of the season took place at home against Alton Golf Club when we ran out

winners 3½-1½. It was good to host Alton when their last couple of years have seen such turbulent times and, indeed, even a question mark over their ability to survive. There is more stability now and we wished them well for the coming season.

On the Social front, I enjoyed taking part in the Club's Annual Quiz Night master-minded by Kit Neilson. Anybody who has ever tried compiling a quiz will know the challenge that it presents. Kit, for the 34th time, delivered the goods and the 76 participants enjoyed a superb evening in the Clubhouse. Well done to Terry Ellis, Rob Black and partners for finishing in first place. The next day, there was an equally good turnout for The Famous Grouse Greensomes, the competitors playing in warm conditions and creating a great atmosphere at the prize-giving in the bar when Alan Bruce and Mike Dale collected the trophy – and the whisky!

For many golfers, the first week of April, and The Masters being televised from Augusta, signals the real start of the season for all of us. Let's hope we have continued good weather for both rounds of our own Linnets competition at the start of April and later, the Spring Texas Scramble. Don't forget the Members Guest Day on Sunday 29th. I hope you can play in all of these. Later, the Social Committee will hold their St Georges Pub Night and your support would make it a great evening.

I would like to finish by thanking "The School" for inviting me to their Annual Lunch. I enjoyed the golf beforehand and would like to thank my playing partners for their generosity and the members for their warm hospitality.





CORRECTION

The caption beneath the Winter Triple Trophy team photograph published on this page in last month's issue wrongly stated the format was foursomes. It should have read St Andrew's Greensomes. This was not Fiona's wording as I had copied it from another source, which unfortunately gave the wrong information – Ed.

First of all we have another success to report. Annie Beal and Jane Hendry represented us in the Daily Mail Foursomes playing Hockley away where they won on the 20th hole - a fantastic result. The next round is at home on 17 April against South Winchester and we wish them luck.

On a sad note many of you will have heard that a long standing member and past ladies captain, Audrey Veall has passed away. Audrey's company will be greatly missed by her fellow bridge players and the regular Tuesday ladies. Her funeral is at Cheriton church on 4 April at 2pm.

The friendly matches have now started and we have played Hockley and Blackmoor away and Royal Winchester at home. So far we have not managed a win but two of the matches had very close results.

At the Ladies Coffee Morning on 20 March we hosted 76 ladies from a variety of different clubs who enjoyed a fine day's golf. Due to their generosity the raffle raised £198 for the Captains' Charity. This is always a very popular event and provides great value for money.

The Vets and Ladies Breeze Up is on 19 April and this event is so popular with the Vets that we do require more ladies if we are not to disappoint the men. So please sign up if you are able to play by 5 April.

The Ladies Invitation on 24 April is now being advertised. It provides great value for money at £34 per pair for the famous Alresford two course cold buffet which includes Sheena's fabulous desserts and a variety of prizes and surprises. So do invite a friend and showcase our fantastic club at what is always an enjoyable social occasion. The closing date is 16 April and the draw will be available through the website.



Fiona Corkhill
Ladies' Captain

The poster is up in the ladies changing room for the annual Away Day on 30 May at Crane Valley Golf Club. The cost is £39 with a deposit of £10 required by 15 April. If you have never attended the Away Day before please consider joining us for what is always a very enjoyable day out. There are usually up to 30 ladies who go and a coach is provided if there are sufficient numbers to make it cost effective. If you want more information please contact this year's organisers, Carol Middleton, Viv Pain and Gill Male.

The Ladies Committee have been pleased with the positive feedback received from members with our arrangement for having a committee member available on Tuesday medal and stableford days to assist in making sure everyone has a partner. As part of this process we are encouraging people to play in 3 balls at busy times. This has the added benefit that if someone has to withdraw their playing partner is not left stranded or a player without a partner can join a 2 ball and not feel uncomfortable about holding up play.

On that note are you short of qualifiers? Charlotte Bass has kindly offered to help put people in touch with each other or find someone willing to mark a supplementary card. We each need to submit six qualifying cards over the previous 12 months to be eligible for entry in board and trophy competitions and supplementary cards can be used. You need to sign the Ladies supplementary cards book in the Pro Shop before play and any member of the ladies section with a handicap can mark your card for you. After the round the completed card goes into the box in the ladies changing room. A notice with Charlotte's contact details will be found on the noticeboard.





Roger Corkhill
Vets' Captain

At our Committee meeting on 2 March we agreed to match the sum of £250, donated by the Ladies' Section, to fund the safety feature ladder for the tees on the first hole.

The lottery element attached to entries in Wednesday roll-ups and matches began in March. One lucky winner so far is Brian Clark with £70.

Our Wessex Winter League team achieved equal second place with Hockley; South Winchester narrowly won. This is our best result so far. My thanks to co-ordinator John Adams and team captains Peter Spreadbury, George Hand and Jack Moody.

Our friendly match "season" has recently started with a home wins against Rowlands Castle 7-1 and against Corhampton 5-3. An excellent start.

Two special events this month are

1) Farewell home match against Dunwood Manor. Their course closes at the end of April. We are mixing up the two teams so that each member of our side partners a Dunwood player in a better

ball competition with prizes. On Tuesday 24th they host a farewell match. Our team will include Club Captain John McIlree and Club Chairman Tony Bussy.

2) Vets' and Ladies' Breeze-Up on Thursday 19th Pete Dowse and I will do the draw on Thursday 5th. In this event we play with a lady in a 4BBB Stableford.

The draw for both the Vets Singles and Over 70's Championships have been posted on our noticeboard and will be on the club website courtesy of Ken Coburn, who will also update results as each round is completed. The first round of the respective competitions have to be played by 30 April and 30 May. The finals of both Championships have to be played by 23 September.

We welcome 3 new members Phil Huddart, Charles Kidd and David Hill, who will play in the roll-up on Wednesday 4 April.

from the chairman



For those of you who have not seen the notice on the board at the Club, it is with regret that I have to inform you that Mike Dale has resigned from his position of Treasurer with immediate effect.

The Management Committee wishes to thank him for his hard work and contributions not only to the financial management of the Club over the last few years but also his input into general matters within the responsibilities of the Management Committee.

Martin Gillie has now kindly agreed to fill the gap and the Management Committee has therefore appointed him to act as Treasurer until the next AGM in November. During this time Ray Panter will continue to sit on the Finance Committee as a non-voting member, working alongside the Treasurer with the preparation of the budget for next year and with a view to standing for election as Treasurer himself at the AGM.

Tony Bussy *Chairman of the Management Committee*





Although only the end of March summer weather seems to have arrived! The course has largely lost all hooped off areas and although the grass needs a bit of time to grow, it is a joy to play on after the winter constrictions and forward tees.

Our first board competition, the Mackershaw on Sunday attracted 15 ladies among its 71 entries and was won by Karen Fox.

I know Celia is the one to whom we go for the rules but a couple of things have come up recently that may be worth mentioning:

In the Mackershaw on one hole a competitor apparently having teed off from the yellows correctly penalised himself 2 shots, but then continued playing the hole from there. He should have then teed off from the correct tees (whites). As he did not, the penalty becomes one of disqualification.

In the Medal on 31st I noticed that someone having had a poor drive on the 7th was playing his second shot from the path adjacent to the yellow tee. While this is not against the rules, he could have taken relief under our local rule number 2 which allows artificially surfaced areas to be treated as ground under repair and would have given him a much easier shot!

Next month sees the traditional Easter competition: the Linnets, followed by the competition for our oldest trophy: Colonel Stratton Bates Bogey (1907). The top 16 in the Maurice Jack qualifier go on to a knock-out competition. On Sunday 22nd we have our Spring Texas Scramble; the entry sheet for this is on the board in the lobby, if you haven't done so already please put your name up!

Peter Spreadbury
Match Secretary

March competition results

Stableford (10th)

Div 1

1 Keith Cooper	40 pts
2 Robin Irving	40 pts
3 Norman Andrew	39 pts

Div 2

1 Stuart Gaunt	39 pts
2 Graham Maycock	39 pts
3 Kit Neilson	39 pts

Famous Grouse (11th)

1 Alan Bruce & Mike Dale	nett 61
2 Martin Pratt & Peter Tandy	nett 61
3 Les Thorne & Craig Chapman	nett 62
4 Roger Corkhill & Bob Germon	nett 63

Over 60s Stableford (12th)

1 Stuart Slater	38 pts
2 Derrick Bastable	37 pts
3 Keith Pollock	36 pts

Mackershaw Trophy (25th)

1 Karen Fox	41 pts
2 Chris Chapman	40 pts
3 Martin Pratt	39 pts
4 Derrick Speed	38 pts

National Pro-Am Qualifier (31st)

Results in next month's eBulletin





The recent warm weather is helping the course to recover from the winter wear and it has been agreed that winter rules "Preferred Lies" ceased on the 31 March, however, with the exception of the 1st fairway. The 1st fairway, particularly the section which formed the old Practise Ground, is in poor condition. Holes from the hollow-tine work remain evident and bird damage is an issue. The whole area will be dressed with humus shortly and preferred lies on this fairway will remain until the humus has been absorbed into the turf.

APOLOGIES FOR THE SIGNAGE ON THE 1st & 10th TEES NOT BEING REMOVED AND TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO PLAYED THE SATURDAY COMPETITION USING PREFERRED LIES.

[A notice was placed in the entry book and on the noticeboard]

Generally all the fairways have been fertilized but will not be at their best until we get a spell of wet weather to help promote some vigorous growth.

The refurbished medal tees on the 7th, 16th and 17th holes have settled in well and are now back in play.

Generally the greens are in excellent order following the recent extensive maintenance work and a further top-dressing application last week. With the new growth in evidence their pace is slower than in recent weeks.

Some of the bunkers are a little short of sand and the base layer very hard. The green staff will be concentrating their attention on them with some intensive maintenance work during next week.

The drinking fountains have been turned on, however the drainage from the one on Curly's Barn will not improve until after Easter.

The area for the proposed new white tee for the 5th hole is being cleared presently and a gap formed in the fence to enable access by Members so that the benefits of the new medal tee can be fully appreciated. For the avoidance of any doubt, the yellow and red tees will remain on the present teeing area if the new tee is constructed.

The viewing platform for the 1st tee has been delivered and will be erected before the Easter weekend. Thanks are offered to the Ladies and Vets sections for their donations funding the associated costs involved.

Practise areas

Please note that play on the Practise Range should be from the artificial mats only. Play from the grass area in front of the bays is prohibited as it is dangerous and restricts others playing from the mats. There are plans to increase the grassed tee areas so that some managed play from the turf can be allowed in the future.

The short course is proving popular and to assist junior players the cut-approaches to the greens are being extended to reduce the carry from the tees. Please use the facility properly and only play to green designated for each particular tee.

Laurie Clark
Chairman of Greens





New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club recently: Richard Abbott, Karl Evans, Mrs Gill Neate and Phil Huddart (7 day) and Duncan Farmer (Social Extra). 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 £105 or 10 guests for £175. 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.

Price increases

Please be aware that from 1 April, the summer rates will apply for green fees. These are:

Weekday Members Guest	£23
Weekday Members Guest (Twilight)	£16
Weekend Members Guest	£26
Weekend Members Guest (Twilight)	£16
Range Balls	
'Warm up' basket (12)	£1.00
Small basket (25)	£1.75
Large basket (50)	£3.20
10 token card (250)	£13.00

Friday Night Fun Pub Quiz

The final Fun Pub Quiz Night was held on Friday 30 March. Thank you to Sheena for setting the questions and to all those who supported the nights over the winter. Once again they have proved very popular and we will certainly schedule them into the club calendar again next year. Indeed you may have noticed that the next Quiz is already scheduled for FRIDAY 30th NOVEMBER.

Club 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.

APRIL

Wednesday 11 - 11.00am
Wednesday 18 - 11.00am
Wednesday 25 - 11.00am

MAY

Wednesday 2 - 11.00am
Wednesday 9 - 11.00am (subject to Vets Competition – check noticeboard)
Wednesday 16 - 11.00am
Wednesday 23 - 11.00am

Easter Sunday

Sunday lunch will be available on Sunday 8 April for Easter Day. Come along either as a large or small table and with members or guests. Early booking direct with the Kitchen is advised.

Captain's "Meet 'n' Greet" Evening

All existing members and particularly new or newish members are invited to join the Captains at the club on Friday 20 April (7–8.30pm) for a welcome drink and to meet representatives of the Management Committee, club sub-committees and other members to find out what goes on behind the scenes and to meet potential new playing partners. If you are able to come along please let the office know in advance.

Spring Texas Scramble

There are still spaces available for the TEXAS SCRAMBLE on Sunday 22 April for both AM and PM shotgun starts. Open to all 7 day members and juniors (with adult handicaps), this is a fun competition with drawn teams and is always a popular and well supported event marking the start of the season. It is an ideal opportunity to meet new members and playing partners. Food will be available for those who wish to eat afterwards (both am and pm starters). Please sign up on the board in the foyer or contact the Secretary if you wish to play.

Club ties

As the golfing season gets under way with the first club matches, members are reminded that we now have a new stock of the Navy blue based tie, with shadow crest and pale blue and green diagonal stripe in SILK. These are priced at £16.50 and are available from the Office.



Please note change to Friday Bar closing times

Following the trial over the Winter/Spring period when we closed the Clubhouse (and Bar) on Fridays as per the normal weekday times, unless there was an event or pre-booked function, we will be reverting to the summer closing time of 11pm on a Friday as of Friday 13 April. For the rest of the week, the clubhouse will close 30 minutes after dusk accept when there are pre-booked functions.

We do reserve the right to close the bar earlier should the weather dictate, there are no players on the course or there are no cars in the car park.

Members should check the club website or bar for any changes to these dates.

David Maskery

Club Secretary

MEMBERS & GUESTS DAY – SUNDAY 29 APRIL

This year we are offering members the opportunity to bring along a guest to enjoy the club's hospitality and facilities on our 1st Members and Guests Day. The focus of the day is on fun and informality. This is not another 'invitation day'.

We want to encourage members to bring golfing friends and family to the club – we do however expect a level of competency from guests and it is the responsibility of the member to ensure this when inviting a guest.

Food will be available for purchase on the day both before and after the golf – its up to you.

Prize giving will take place immediately the final group are in the clubhouse.

- All 7 day members are invited to bring along a guest (up to 3 – to make up a fourball)
- £20 per guest entry fee payable in advance
- Tee reserved from 9.30 – 11.30am ~ limited numbers
- Open to guests with and without handicaps
- No individual or team competition
- Spot and fun prizes on the day (nearest the pin, longest drive, etc)

Select and sign up for a start time and make your payment to the Office .

Correction (LINKS article, P&D Committee, Page 16)

It has become apparent that there was an inaccurate statement inadvertently published in the recent LINKS magazine.

The Clubhouse Development LEVY introduced in 2002 is non repayable. The final collection date of the levy for those who opted to pay by annual instalments is in 2016. Some members had previously taken out LOAN NOTES as part of the clubhouse development process (referred to as Development Loans) which state as part of their terms and conditions that they are repayable no later than 1 January 2018. These should not be confused.





Club Quiz

The evening was very well attended on 10 March with the wide variety of questions compiled by Kit as usual. The worthy winners were Rob and Lyn Black and Terry and Veronica Ellis with a very high score. An excellent supper was served during the evening and prizes were presented by the Captain and Lady Captain. The MC was Les Thorne, scorer Roger Corkhill assisted by Fiona Corkhill, Lesley Martin, Viv Pain and Jan White.

St. George's Pub Night

During the evening of 28 April members will be able to play regular pub games including dominoes, cribbage, scrabble, shove-halfpenny, bagatelle and maybe "velcro" darts. Trevor Nice will again play during the evening which will end with a good, old fashioned sing song. Pub food will be served, so

please sign the notice on the Social Board with your choice. A FREE meat voucher will be the raffle prize so come along and have some fun.

Team Golf

Now in our 12th year this popular competition starts on 3 May details of which are on the noticeboard. Any comments or queries can be made to John White, the organiser, tel 01962 732283

Thank-you for your support and we look forward to seeing many of you at future events.

Jan White

Vice-Chairman Social Committee

House committee



Firstly, welcome to George Groom, who has joined the House Committee. His building experience will be a great asset to the club, which has already been put to good use.

You will all be pleased to learn that the new P.A system was installed on Monday 26 March so, fingers crossed, breakdowns and malfunctions will now be a thing of the past. We are also considering installing a deaf aid loop for around £800 but, before we commit to the expenditure, would like to ensure that it will be money well spent. David Maskery is checking with parties that hire the clubhouse to see whether there is a commercial case, and I would be grateful to learn what you, the members think about it please, by e-mail at my address below.

For the men's section, you will see that the flooring in the shower room has been replaced following the break up of the old surface, and hope you agree that it now looks much smarter. We are aware that there are issues with some of the shower heads, which is being tackled.

The storage project continues at pace, and the old paperwork taken down from the loft has now been

shredded by a professional company. The next stage is to select suitable lockable storage units for the outside store, so that we can empty the loft space and transfer non essential paperwork from the office.

We are still examining options for the lighting on the stairway between the car park and patio, having suffered another light malfunction, and are currently obtaining quotations to rectify the matter.

Finally, we have obtained a quotation for patching up the worst areas of the car park for consideration, particularly the last turning area by the road, whilst a permanent solution to the car park surface is being debated.

As always, if you see anything that you think needs attention or, have any suggestions on how we might improve the ambience of the clubhouse, please don't hesitate to let me know.

John Dillon

Chair: House Committee
(john.dillon@talktalk.net)

01420 543660





The winners of the 100 Club draw in March were:

£100 - Bob Smith	£32 - David Pain
£50 - Dudley George	£32 - Pat Wallis
£32 - Tim Chandler	£32 - Tony Bussy

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw took place on Monday 2 April 2012.

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 or call in to the Secretary's office.

a look at rules supplied by Celia Batten email: celia@celiabatten.vispa.com



PAR 3s - Ruling for "Preferred Lies" and "Winter Rules"

A ball lying on a closely-mown area through the green(area between the teeing ground and the green) maybe lifted, without penalty, and cleaned. Before lifting the ball, the player must mark its position. Having lifted the ball, he must place it on a spot within 6 inches of and not nearer the hole than where it originally lay, that is not in a hazard and not on a putting green.

A player may place his ball only once, and it is in play when it has been placed (Rule 20-4). If the ball fails to come to rest on the spot on which it is placed, Rule 20-3d applies. If the ball when placed comes to rest on the spot on which it is placed and it subsequently moves, there is no penalty and the ball must be played as it lies, unless the provisions of any Rules apply.

If the player fails to mark the position of the ball before lifting it or moves the ball in any other manner, such as rolling it with a club, he incurs a penalty of one stroke.

Note: "Closely- mown area" means any area of the course, including paths through the rough, cut to fairway height or less.



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