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Welcome to the May issue which contains all the normal reports and news from all the Captains and various Committees. Also there is a re-printed article from the Internet that contains an error which may raise a chuckle from you!!

Reading all the contributions and watching the weather forecasts, I think we have all been enduring this terribly wet spell (as was stated in the media last week: "Must be the wettest drought ever"!), although it seems as if you have been luckier than us here in Lincolnshire. Our course has been closed for most of the last week owing to waterlogged fairways, obviously you have the benefit of chalk downland drainage. But as I write this it is a beautiful sunny day with a much warmer temperature, hoping it's the beginning of drier conditions.

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

**Mike Gould**  
*Editor*

#### **Forthcoming Events:**

#### **Bridge Club**

**Tuesdays 15 May/12 June**

#### **Sunday Social Golf**

**Sundays, 20 May/17 June**

#### **Captain's Charity Day**

**Sunday, 10 June**

#### **Dawn Patrol**

**Saturday, 23 June**

For further details of above events see following pages and noticeboards





**John McIlree**  
*Club Captain*

In my previous report, I referred to the good weather in March and my wishes for its continuation. Well, I spoke too soon! April turned out to be a pretty wet month and whether it was my fault – somebody addressed me as Captain Noah a few days ago! – or the result of the hose-pipe ban, is anybody's guess. One thing is certain, we needed some rainfall and the course has benefited from it.

The Club played in two inter-club matches this month – it should have been three but, unfortunately, Royal Winchester were unable to raise a team on Sunday 15th – and we won both of them. First, with a strong showing against Alton at home and then, on a blustery but dry evening last week, we travelled to Hockley and secured an excellent 2½ -1½ away win.

Other successes in the club included the Men's Mail on Sunday team, with James Stewart playing a strong leading role, winning through 3-2 against Rowlands Castle. There were also three victories for the Ladies: Claire Gould and Linda Hainsworth beating Petersfield in the Knight Cup County Foursomes competition, Jane Hendry and Annie Beal winning at home against South Winchester in the Daily Mail Foursomes and, in the North Hants Trophy, the County Scratch Knockout, Becky Scott, Jane Scott and Lynne Cowser secured victory over Lee-on-the-Solent. I would like to congratulate all these members for their winning ways and maintaining a strong profile for the Club.

I enjoyed participating in a couple of social golfing events, starting with the Mixed Golf Greensomes Flag competition which took place on Easter Monday and which, despite the rain, was enjoyed by more than 40 members. A week later, I was also invited to join the 80 members participating in the Vets and Ladies 'Breeze-up', the activities of which have always intrigued me; but now I have been let into the secret. I hope to be able to reveal more in a subsequent article when the lawyers come back to me. Needless to say, both events were followed by excellent lunches.

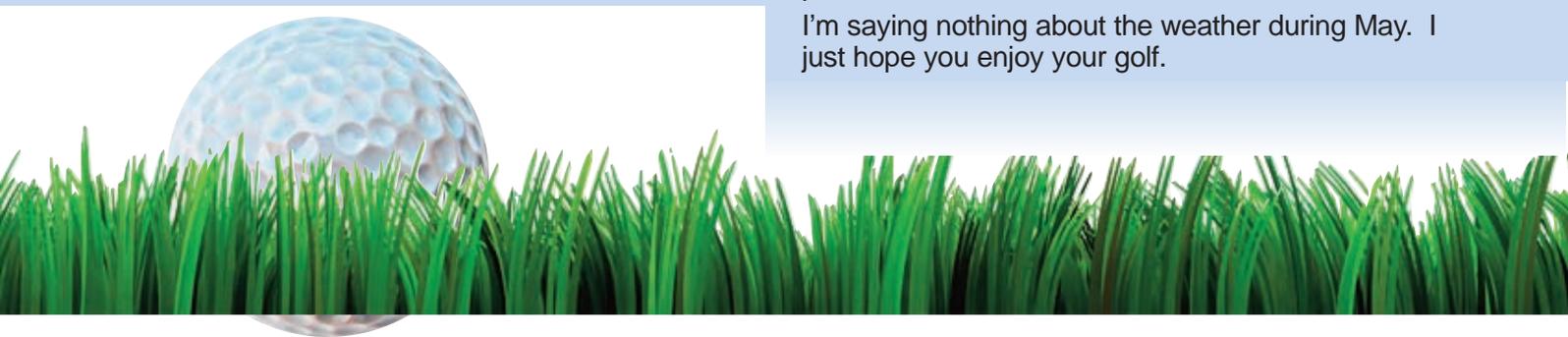
I attended the St George's Pub Night evening masterminded by Don Meadwell and the Social Committee. It was a most enjoyable evening which didn't quite attract the expected number of members but those who were there enjoyed the 'pub food' and the melodious tones of Trevor 'Fingers' Nice on the piano. Pub games of all sorts were available on the night and a rousing group witnessed the dart throwing 'for the first time' of one of the male guests who, we all assumed, must be in training for the javelin event at this year's Olympics. He didn't quite take a run-up, well not much of one, but certainly secured the dart board to the back wall of the dining room!

Unfortunately, the Members' Guest Day was almost completely wiped out by the wettest and windiest day of the month. Only two participants of the 26 nominated on the start sheet, ventured out, and that for only 9 holes. This event was put into the diary following a member's request and we were happy to respond on the basis of a trial event. Although the event didn't actually take place on the day, the Captain's Committee will review the planning, the way it was prepared and the interest level shown and to consider how we go forward.

Looking forward to May, I am especially looking forward to the Captain's French trip when 44 members will be travelling to Evreux in Normandy for three days of golf and 'entente cordiale'. This is a great way to get to know others in the Club and I'm pleased to see some new faces in the group.

Please, also, keep an eye out for the poster announcing the details of the Cross Country Scramble which this year will take place on Friday 25 May. I'm grateful to Jack Moody and Steve Privett for their assistance in preparing the course and I'm sure the new date will allow more light for the later starters who finished in the dark last year, not that it seemed to inhibit the Scott family from securing the nearest the pin prizes! Finally, during May, details of the Captain's Charity Day will be posted.

I'm saying nothing about the weather during May. I just hope you enjoy your golf.





**Fiona Corkhill**  
*Ladies' Captain*

The fine weather in March soon gave way to April showers and our first soaking in April was on Easter Monday in the Bank Holiday Mixed Golf. A greensomes flag competition was played in good spirit despite the rain by over 40 members followed by a very convivial meal. The winners were Les Thorne and June Evans who were the only players to reach the 18th green closely followed by the Club Captain John McIlree and his partner Rita Robinson who almost reached the green.

The Vets and Ladies Breeze Up took place in slightly better weather. Due to the imbalance in entries, having many more men than ladies wanting to play, it was decided to change the format to a 3-ball Texas Scramble. We had a field of 78 players and the winners off the 1st tee were Pat Gray, Ed Fox and Terry Lane and off the 10th tee Jane Scott, Pete Dowse and Tony Bussy. In second place off the 1st tee were myself, Roger Corkhill & John McIlree and off the 10th tee Clare Monkhouse, Patricia Clark and Les Widdecombe. There were also prizes for nearest the pin, longest drive for the men and straightest drive for the ladies.

We were very fortunate to have the Ladies Spring Invitation on the only dry day in the week. The course was in fantastic condition and 30 Alresford members played with their guests. My thanks must go to all the helpers both before and on the day including John McIlree and Roger Corkhill who were our starters. They all made sure the day ran smoothly and was a great success.

The winners with a fantastic score of 41 stableford points were Karen Fox and her partner from

Corhampton, Paula Richards.



*Fiona pictured with the Ladies Spring Invitation winners*

It is great to be able to report several successes in external competitions. In the Knight Cup Claire Gould and Linda Hainsworth won against Petersfield at home.

Following their success against Hockley in the Daily Mail Foursomes Jane Hendry and Annie Beal played at home against South Winchester and won. They will be playing Alton away in the next round and we wish them luck

We have also had success in the North Hants Trophy, the County Scratch Knockout competition, against Lee-on-the-Solent. Becky Scott, Jane Scott and Lynne Cowser played them at home and won 2/1.

Our first Stoneham Cup match was played away at Andover on 29 April.

So overall we have had a very busy few weeks and look forward now to the Ladies Spring Meeting and the Captain's Charity French Trip and hopefully some warmer drier weather.





**Roger Corkhill**  
Vets' Captain

**The viewing ladder** has just been erected in front of the hut by the forward tees on the first hole. Trials showed this to be the least intrusive location. We jointly funded this safety feature with the Ladies Section.

**Our farewell away match against Dunwood Manor** took place on Tuesday 24 April. It was their final match before the club ceased to exist on Tuesday 1 May.

Despite everything we had an excellent day playing an unusual format. Each 4-ball played in a red ball team stableford competition with the best three scores per hole to count. At each hole the red ball had to be played in a strict rotation amongst the team of four players. You doubled your score using the red ball, this put the pressure on us all. The winning team were myself, John McIlree, Dunwood Captain Tony Loizou and David Bloomfield with 156 points. Pete Dowse and Tony Bussy were in the second place team with 154 points. Both teams received prizes.

It is encouraging to know that the Professional is moving to Romsey Golf Club and the in-house staff are being rewarded for their loyalty and have secured employment elsewhere.

Over the three days Saturday 28 to Monday 30 April Dunwood had a full schedule of fun competitions before they move elsewhere. A sad ending for such a loyal membership at an excellent course that was still being well maintained.

**The Vets and Ladies 'Breeze Up'** on Thursday 19 April attracted more Vets than Ladies so we played a 3-ball Texas Scramble instead.

The weather was threatening but we managed 18 holes for all 27 groups. The winners off the 1st tee were Pat Gray with Vets Ed Fox and Terry Lane and in second place the trio of Captains Fiona Corkhill, myself and John McIlree. Off the 10th tee the winners were Vice-Captains Jane Scott and Pete Dowse plus Chairman Tony Bussy. Second were Clare Monkhouse, Pat Clark and Les Widdicombe. The successful day ended with an excellent meal.

**Our busy schedule of Vets matches** this month has resulted in wins against Hockley (away) plus Waterlooville (home), losses against Romsey (away) plus Stoneham (home) and a draw against Lee-on-the-Solent (away). The weather at Lee deteriorated so the match was abandoned after 7 holes and a draw declared.

**The Vets Championships** have begun. Ken Coburn has shown us how he is presenting and updating our championships on the club website. We will replace our K.O. sheets with Ken's layout for the website once preliminary and first rounds have been played. This will be discussed at our committee meeting on Friday 4 May.

**The Fred White Trophy** first round takes the place of a normal Wednesday Roll Up on Wednesday 9 May. The published draw took place last week. The response is lower than expected, due partly to recent misinformation on changes to the competition that were proposed and agreed at our AGM.





Having been away for half of April I managed to miss the first 36 hole competition of the year, the Linnets; together with the one for the oldest trophy, the Colonel Stratton Bates Bogey. This was awarded in 1907 by Colonel Stratton Bates when he was Vice- President of the club.

The winner of the "National Pro-Am" goes on to play a further round at another club with one of our professionals. The Maurice Jack medal is a qualifying competition, the top 16 then go to a knock out phase to find the eventual winner, the draw for this is on the noticeboard.

The sharp eyed among you will have noticed a change in the appearance of the draw sheets for the summer knock outs on the locker room noticeboard. Our "Web Master", Ken Coburn, is in the process of getting a greater degree of conformity between the notices in the club and how they appear on the website. Among other, one of the areas he has been looking at are the draw sheets for the various knock outs. To this end the proposed new draw sheets have been put up on our noticeboard. I think they look a lot neater than the old ones and they also have a number of advantages. However, this change is currently only a trial and is not set in

stone. Let us have your thoughts, I know the print is rather small which could be a problem for those of us who are slightly visually challenged (myself included) but I don't think it is any worse than trying to decipher my handwriting!

May 19th sees the Millenium Quaiche competition. This was presented by Alec Davie when he was Captain, originally competed for by two teams, Scotland versus the Rest. After several changes of format, for the last few years it has been played in teams of four as an Am-Am. While members are able to arrange their own teams and starting times, I think it will be helpful if there is a notice where you can enter your name(s) so that part teams can be completed.

The entry sheet for the Club Championship will be going up shortly. There are a total of 60 places for the event and any member wishing to enter must add their name to the list. The first 48 places will be taken from this list in strict handicap order. The remaining spaces will be filled according to the results in the two championship qualifiers. However, to qualify from these two competitions you must have entered your name on the entry list.

**Peter Spreadbury**

*Match Secretary*

## competition results

### 31 March - National Pro-Am Qualifier

#### Div 1

1 David Nightingale	78 – 12 = 66
2 Richard Lane	80 – 13 = 67
3 Andrew Jones	71 – 4 = 67

#### Div 2

1 Stuart Gaunt	84 – 21 = 63
2 David Reid	84 – 19 = 65
3 Mark Norris	90 – 25 = 65

(Overall Winner = Stuart Gaunt)

### 6/7 April - Linnets Cup

1 Richard Bass	66 + 62 = 128
2 Lyn Travers	64 + 69 = 133
3 Mick Grant	68 + 67 = 135

Best first round Dave Fox 64  
Best second round Barry Brooks 65

### 11 April - Over 60s Medal

1 Barry Young	73 – 9 = 64
2 Les Widdicombe	79 – 14 = 65
3 John Bone	81 – 15 = 66

### 14 April - Colonel Stratton Bates Bogey

1 Philip Cartwright	+4
2 Paul Over	+3
3 Roy Torbett	+2

### 21 April - Maurice Jack Qualifier

**Top 16:** Mark Norris, James Stewart, Kevin Lane, Malcolm Hoar, Richard White, Jess Miles, Neil Gandy, Les Thorne, Phil Armstrong, Dave Fox, James White, Paul Wager, Keith Turner, Ian Foden, Roy Partridge, Malcolm le May.

### 22 April - Spring Texas Scramble

#### a.m. round

- 1 Mike Dale, Karl Evans and Lee Cheong
- 2 Lynne Cowser, Eric Place, David Maskery and Tom Middleton

#### p.m. round

- 1 Ken Mills, James Stewart, Liz Thorne and Carol Roe
- 2 Ben Broadbent, Dennis Jones, David Farthing and Cynthia Mariner

### 28 April - Courage and Barclay 4BBB

- 1 Bill Ragan and Paul Wager nett 62
- 2 Peter Tandy and Dave Seager nett 63
- 3 Andrew Jones and J. White nett 65



The warm weather reported in the last bulletin has rapidly disappeared and despite threats of a hose-pipe ban, the course has suffered almost 6 inches of rainfall this last month. Several muddy patches are developing around the tees and bunkers and it would help their recovery if they were avoided and care taken to walk around them.

The wet weather has delayed the application of humus to the 1st fairway and it may have to wait until next autumn. In the meantime "preferred lies" will remain for the immediate future.

Generally the greens are in excellent order but will remain slow until the Poa-annua (meadow) grasses have finished seeding. Steve is confident of great putting surfaces this year given some reasonable weather!

The bunkers have been subjected to some intensive attention to loosen the base layer and sand levels topped up.

The viewing platform for the 1st tee has been erected. Further sighting tests showed an area in front of and to the right of the starters hut as the

best location for seeing down the fairway and cause least interference with play generally. The artificial surface area will be extended to the base.

The threatened hose-pipe ban is causing some concern, however, with around 50% of our water for the course taken from a bore-hole located near Curly's Barn, we are in a reasonable position to withstand any water restrictions if they are applied. Southern Water could impose restrictions on our water taken from their main infrastructure system but the Environment Agency who control the bore-hole water abstraction, have applied a restriction only once in September 1996. The governing parameter applied through our license to abstract water is the water flow/ level in the River Itchen. We are confident that we will have sufficient water to at least keep the greens watered in the event that restrictions on water usage are applied this summer.

**Laurie Clark**  
*Chairman of Greens*



### Decision 10-1c/1

#### Request for Player to Replay Stroke Withdrawn after Opponent plays

**Question:** In a match between A and B, A played his tee shot out of turn. B requested A to abandon the ball and play in the correct order. However, after B played, he told A not to bother playing another ball. What is the ruling?

*Answer below*



I have been advised that some members are concerned about the possibility of sustaining an eye injury from pieces of mud and grass whist using the new high pressure shoe cleaner. There are safety notices on the top of the machine that provide guidance, but if required a pair of plastic safety goggles will be available in the pro shop for anyone who wishes to use them

**John Dillon**, Chair: House Committee  
([john.dillon@talktalk.net](mailto:john.dillon@talktalk.net)) 01420 543660





## New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club in recent weeks: Brian and Mandy Overton, Peregrine Sims, Carole Exton and Susie Cartwright (7 day); Martin Sleight, David Hills, David Cooper, Charles Kydd (5 day); Cameron Mills (Intermediate); William Briggs, Oliver Le May, Jack Stebbing and William Upcraft (Juniors); and Paul Ellis, Shaun Parris, Stuart Upcraft and Robert Foster (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.

## 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.

### MAY

Wednesday 2 - 11.00am

Wednesday 9 - 11.00am

Wednesday 16 - 11.00am

Wednesday 23 - 11.00am

Wednesday 30 - 11.00am

### JUNE

Wednesday 6 - 11.00am

Wednesday 13 - 11.00am

## Spring Swing Midweek Medal (16 May) - sponsored by Fullers London Pride

The Midweek Medal on Wednesday 16 May is sponsored by FULLERS LONDON PRIDE. Open to all 5-day and 7-day members. The winner will receive a case of London Pride plus entry into a draw for a dozen Titleist balls, a Glenmuir sweater and golf shirt and a tour of the Fuller's brewery including overnight accommodation.

## Cross Country Scramble

### Friday 25 May

The ever popular Cross Country Scramble will be held at the end of the month. 5 clubs and a putter/£10 entry per team.

Members are invited to sign up for an allocated start time from 1pm. Please allow the later times to be available for those 'working' members who wish to

play at the end of the day. Food will be available afterwards. Results and presentations will commence as soon as possible after the last group finishes (approx. 9pm).

## Seniors Open 2012

The Seniors Open (3rd year) takes place on FRIDAY 15 JUNE. Alresford members are invited and encouraged to play for the discounted entry fee of £20. There are separate prizes for Alresford members and the entry fee includes a 2 course buffet luncheon. It has been remarked each year so far that it is nice to have Alresford members mixed in with the groups who perhaps may not have played here before and to 'host' the visiting players. So far we have nearly 75 competitors. Entry forms are available from the Office. The draw will take place on the 18 May.

## 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 nights 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.

## Help please

With the recent wet weather the greens will remain soft, receptive and susceptible to pitch marks. We are issuing the larger societies with pitch mark repairers to encourage them the repair pitch marks during their round, however, we would also urge all members to pay particular attention to pitch marks on the greens and help us ensure that the greens remain in tip top condition during the summer .

As most golfers (members included) do not know how to repair a pitch mark correctly here it is again:

Insert the repair tool just outside the back edge of the ball mark. Pull the turf toward the centre of the hole. Repeat this action on all sides of the hole. Gently tap the repaired area down with your putter. This action stretches to the turf over the hole providing instant recovery. DO NOT pry up the centre of the hole.

Check out the following website for a video to show you how.

<http://youtu.be/f-ZzT8yMnmg>

**David Maskery**  
Club Secretary



## St. George's Pub Night

The number attending the St George's Pub Night on 28 April was very disappointing and some who had put their names up didn't come. This is unhelpful, to say the least, as the food was already bought and paid for so the Committee will be discussing pre-payment for all future functions! However, those who did come had a great time and the Social Committee would like to thank the members who let us borrow their games. The "free" meat voucher raffle was won by Alan Hansford £20 and Kate Mills £10. The vouchers worth £30 were sold to us discounted to £21 by Souls the butcher in Broad Street, Alresford.

## Future Events

We have the first of our Sunday Social Golf afternoons on 20 May and the list is on the Social Committee noticeboard. The format will be decided and the draw will take place and be promulgated on the preceding Thursday. Come along, it will be a fun afternoon. Also in May is the Bridge Club on 15th.

In June the Social Committee functions are the Bridge Club on 12th, Social Golf on 17th and the Dawn Patrol on 23rd and, in addition, we have the Captain's Charity Day on 10th and the Pro's Clubhouse Knockout on 29th.

As the ABBA evening was so popular, we are arranging another live music evening on 21 September. This time it will be "Nearly Diamond" as we thought Neil Diamond's music is appealing to all – well most. This time it will be on a Friday owing to the Club's and the performer's diaries.

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

Regards to all

**Don Meadwell**

*Chairman of Social Committee*

**My attention has been drawn to the following article that appeared on the Golf Club Management website (<http://www.golfclubmanagement.net/2011/12/basingtoke-to-sell-club-for-housing/>) by immediate Past Captain Ian Swann. Can you spot the error? Answer below.**

## Basingtoke to sell club for housing

Members of Basingtoke Golf Club in Hampshire could receive a huge windfall after they overwhelmingly voted in favour of selling their course to a developer to build 1,050 new homes on it. The members are expected to use the money to buy a new golf club and potentially make a profit on top.

Approximately 77 per cent of the club's 700-strong membership voted for the 43.4 hectare site to be available for bids from developers, after the local council had outlined it as one of several greenfield sites that could be the location for more than 3,000 homes to be built by 2026.

John Hiscock, manager at Basingtoke Golf Club, said: "I can confirm we had a meeting of the members and they have voted in favour of going to the council and saying they have agreed for it to be included in the development plan.

"We do not know if it will be included, and probably won't know until 2012. The golf club has been in existence since 1907 and it's been on this site since 1928 – so it's been around a long time. We will now wait and see what happens."



Reports in 2008 suggested each member could receive £130,000 from a sale, but a spokesman for the club said this figure is "highly inflated once all factors are taken into account."





The winners of the 100 Club draw in April were:

£100 - Jane Hendry

£50 - Mary Rook

£32 - Jack Moody

£32 - Simon Wills

£32 - Brian Clark

£32 - David & Mal Hope-Mason

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw took place on Monday 1 May.

### 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.

## rule answer



**Answer:** A was not obliged to comply with B's instruction to continue with the original ball. B incurred no penalty for giving the instruction. Whether A continued with his original ball or played another ball in correct order as was his right, the result of the hole should stand as Played.

**Article error: The photograph is of our 11th hole! (which I'm sure you all spotted)**



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