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I apologise in advance if this edition contains any errors as I have compiled all the contributions with more haste and maybe less diligence than normal, so I could produce this month's issue quickly after being away.

Celia Batten writes: The Rule for July is such an important one and I hope that the members do read it!

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

Mike Gould
Editor

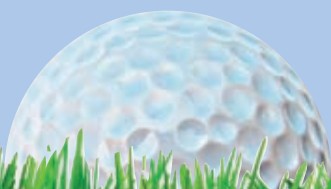
A Golfing Poem

*Life is like a round of golf
With many a turn and twist.
But the game is much too sweet and short
To curse the shots you've missed.*

*Sometimes you'll hit it straight and far
Sometimes the putts roll true.
But each round has it's errant shots
And troubles to play through.*

*So always swing with courage
No matter what the lie.
And never let the hazards
Destroy the joy inside.*

*And keep a song within your heart
Give thanks that you can play.
For the round is much too short and sweet
To let it slip away.*



from the Club Captain



I would like to thank you for all the support on the Captains' Charity Day. The extra flag idea was taken in exactly the spirit that I intended with some groups allocating two players to go for the easy ones and two to go for the difficult double point ones. The other thinking was for everyone to go for broke. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the people that made it happen, my fellow Captains as well as Stuart, Richard and Liz, who did a fantastic job of forcing money out of people and we raised an amazing £1485 on the day. The team of Ashley Wright, Matt Blake, Allan Farrell and Sue Pearce spent a fortune on buying mulligan's and free drops at £2 each and in true Chelsea/Man City tradition bought their way to the title. On the subject of the charity we have started the silent auction of woodturners work at the club so please fill in one of the forms with a bid, for an opportunity to own a piece of work from some of the world's best woodturners.

Now to the golf matters, we held our annual club invite a few weeks ago, this is the Triumvirate Trophy and is keenly contested by many clubs in the area. Blackmoor were the winners in the two previous years, and I have had to put up with Tony, the Captain, going on about if they won it this time, should they get to keep the trophy for good. I am afraid they were pipped at the post by Basingstoke, led by their current Vice-Captain as their club Captain is poorly, so we hope that this cheered him up. Basingstoke are already talking about trying to retain the trophy next year, so it shows how important this event is to the clubs in the area.

The following day we hosted around 90 players in our Seniors' Open. We had a total of 37 clubs from around the south represented including our own as this is the only open that we allow Alresford members to take part. Stuart Slater (Vets Vice-Captain) had a great round and ended up winning the whole thing, so well done. On a more serious note there was a theft on the day, the Captain's bottle of water was removed from the hut whilst he was starting, it was replaced by an empty one, this behaviour will not be tolerated unless monies are placed in the charity bottle on the bar. One thing that we should be proud of is the compliments that we got on the two days from the visitors, Steve had set the course up fantastically with tight fairways and slick greens.

The summer solstice actually fell on a Saturday this year so the Dawn Patrol was on the right day. Terry and Lynda Glynn joined myself and Liz at 5am on the first tee. The sunrise over the field of solar panel on Whitehill Lane was magnificent, the only problem that we had to contend with was the pop-up sprinklers coming on various holes as we went on. Luckily no one got a soaking especially me as I was wearing my pyjamas, a great winning score of 44 stableford points was acquired by Graham Marshallsay, so the Druids Cup will be awarded to him at the presentation evening later in the year. One of the best things about being Captain is the invitations that I get to other clubs and as Hockley is



Les Thorne
Club Captain

100 years old they invited Terry Glynn and myself to play in one of their events. We had a great time playing with a couple of Hockley members and finished third, just outside the prizes. If you haven't been to Hockley lately they have a new club house extension and new pro shop, the course was also in great condition as most clubs seem to be at the moment.

The weather for Club Championship weekend could not have been more different; the Ladies competition was washed out on the Saturday and will be re-played in August. Sunday dawned and the rain had gone, the sun was out, the greens were not quite as quick as the start of the previous day but still tricky for the Men's competition. After a long day on the course the Club Championship finished after a tense 5-hole play off, three of which were halved in par between Merv Fullbrook and Robin Irving back and forth down the 18th and then the 10th. Congratulations to the eventual winner, Robin Irving, and well played to all of you who took part this year. The top 16 finishers in the Club Championships are automatically selected to play in the Tichborne Trophy, 1 plays 16, 2 plays 15, etc., in a scratch match play scenario, now I'm not sure how I came 16th in the club champs but now I have to play Robin in the first round – will I make it past the 10th . . .

Once again I am going to flag up the invitations with the Ladies on the 22nd July, the Men's on the 3rd August and the Mixed being 31st August. We have had a slight change to the Men's this year, we will be allowing members to bring a guest who does not have an official handicap, they will be playing for a separate prize and we expect the members to play them off a handicap that suits their ability, if they win with 50 points we will definitely hold a stewards enquiry. This only in the Men's, the other two are open to handicap golfers only.

The Silent Charity Auction of wood-turning is up and running, the work is in the trophy cabinet, to bid on a piece there are some slips that you fill in with your bid and post or give into the Secretary's office. This is a great opportunity to buy a piece of work from some of the best woodturners in the land. There is a 4-ball at West Hill up for grabs also, if you want to discuss any of the work drop me a line on les@noturningback.co.uk or call 01962 732223 during the day.

I look forward to seeing you out on the course and if you fancy a game call me.



Charlotte Bass
Ladies' Captain

Our main golfing season continues with many club events and our Opens. Following on from the Ladies' Open, we have received many compliments about the course, the food and the organisation on the day. Committee members and many other Alresford ladies worked hard to make the day a success.

Our Club Championships were halted during the second round due to torrential rain. With a heavy heart I decided it was best to call it off for the day, a very sad end to a very soggy day. We have rescheduled the Ladies' Club Championships for Tuesday 19th August, to coincide with the first round of the Senior Ladies' Championships.

The Captains' Charity Day on 8th June was very enjoyable – I'm sure you'll read about it in the Club Captain's report. Suffice to say I enjoyed watching the holing out in the black flag hole on 18th. Josh and I went round in a buggy offering mulligans to people in trouble out on the course, some actually in a bunker, and we made good sales!

I was very pleased to be invited to join the Captain, Vice-Captain and, in Carol's absence on holiday, Mary Rook to take part in the Salisbury and South Wilts invitational Bowl on 10th June. We played in different groups, three-way match play, so meeting other golfers from various clubs around Hampshire. The Alresford players are familiar with the format, but many had never played it before.

I enjoyed the challenge of Camberley Heath Golf Club Centenary Captain's and Lady Captain's Invitation on Thursday 19th. Les and I had lots of fun and a great day.

The great Stoneham Cup run continues with another win, making seven wins out of eight matches so far. We have two more matches to come, away to Bramshott Hill and Royal Winchester.

I very much enjoyed the club BBQ on 14th especially as it was warm enough to sit outside until well into the evening. Merryl and Dean provided a great buffet, and the disco proved popular. After the festivities, some stayed to watch the first England World Cup game which rather dampened the atmosphere.

On 17th June the Grannies were out and about! Our annual competition was won by Lyn Jones with 36 points, ocb from Lesley Martin.

Five ladies played foursomes with five junior girls on 26th June, with the junior girls having their own special tees placed by Malcolm at the start of the fairways on the odd holes. Some hadn't been out on the course before so it was a very exciting experience all round. It was great fun and enjoyed by all of us who took part. I do hope we can encourage the girls to continue their golf at Alresford. If we have even a small group, they will hopefully continue to play together and support each other.

Isn't the course looking fantastic? I'm enjoying (?) the fast greens.

Friendly matches

On 9th June we were away to Sandown and Shanklin. We lost 3½-½. The 19th June saw a home match against Basingstoke winning 4-0. On 30th June we hosted a match against Sandford Springs, which ended in a draw.

Stoneham Cup

We had beaten Burley at home, and they had their revenge on 16th June, winning on their course 5-2. We achieved a great win against Bramshaw at home on 24th June 4-3.

Coming up in the next month:

- Mixed Open Sunday 6th
- Friendly Match vs Stoneham (H) Monday 7th
- North Hants Trophy vs Burley (A) Friday 11th
- Mrs Stratton Bates Medal Saturday 12th
- Social Golf Sunday 13th
- Lady Captain's Day Tuesday 15th
- Cecily Leishman Platter Saturday 19th
- Stoneham Cup vs Bramshott Hill (A) Monday 21st
- Ladies' Invitation Tuesday 22nd
- Chetwode Trophy Saturday 26th and Tuesday 29th
- Friendly Match vs Corhampton (H) Monday 28th
- Stoneham Cup vs Royal Winchester (A) Wednesday 30th
- Past Captains Thursday 31st
- Friendly Match vs Foxhills (A) Thursday 7th August



Ladies' section competition results



Coronation Foursomes: 7th & 10th June

Winners: Mandy Overton and Gill Freemantle

Stableford: 14th June

Div 1: Claire Gould 36pts

Div 2: Tineke Ribibink 34pts

Div 3: Gill Freemantle 36pts

Grannies: 17th June

Winner: Lyn Jones 36pts

Runner-up: Lesley Martin 35pts

EGU Medal: 21st & 24 June

Div 1: Elaine Capp nett 70

Div 2: Lynne Duncannett 71

Div 3: Sarah Broke nett 69

EGU Medal: 28th June

Div 1: Casie McDonald Wood nett 73

Div 2: Victoria Mackintosh nett 73

Div 3: Gill Freemantle nett 71

Charity Bowl & Stableford: 1st & 5th July

Div 1: Claire Gould 32pts

Div 2: Gill Freemantle 40pts (and winner
Charity Bowl)

Div 3: Gunnel Berry 33pts

Jane Hendry

Ladies' Handicap Secretary

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



Touching and Rotating the Ball

I had to impose a penalty stroke on one of my friends when we played in the last competition. She touched the ball and rotated it without marking it, to identify the ball. She said: "Most of the ladies touch and rotate the ball without marking it"! Still she accepted the ruling and said that she has learnt something!

Past Captains' Salver

The Past Captains' Salver and Dinner was held on Monday 23rd June. Since the Past Captains do nothing by halves, the golf competition for the Salver was preceded by a splendid ploughman's lunch at which the 19 of us who were playing were joined by Peter Bentley (1987) and Terry Ellis (1986). Captain Les Thorne was invited to join us for the day primarily to experience the event so that he will know how to organise it next year. The competition for the Salver was keen even though some observers might have got the impression that the round of golf was purely a way of passing the time before enjoying some refreshment on the patio in the late afternoon sunshine.

At dinner, we were joined by Derek Mayes (1981), Kit Neilson (1988) and Rob Black (1999) and we all enjoyed an excellent meal. The conversation around the table had reminiscences of the past and many tales of missed putts and miraculous shots from the afternoon. The Salver was won by John McIlree (2012) with 39 points from David Farr (1995) with 38 points. Captain Les Thorne presented John with the Salver.

I think we are fortunate that so many of our Past Captains support this event as I feel it reflects the friendly and social nature of our club. For the record the attendees, not previously mentioned were Brian Young (1980 and 2002), Robin Good (1983), Tony Bussy (1985), Ray Fisher (1989), John White (1991), Brian Bellamy (1996), Terry Evans (1997), David Nightingale (2003), Keith Monkhouse (2004), Jack Moody (2006), Keith Halls (2007), Simon Cook (2009), Ken Coburn (2010), Ian Swann (2011) and George Clelland (2013).



*Les presents 2014 Salver
winner John McIlree
with the trophy*

George Clelland
Immediate Past Captain





Andrew Frearson
Vets' Captain

Our Vets' Championship was played over two days on 6th and 20th June. The winners were Tony Stanton, who won the best gross with 159, consolidating his last year's success, and Roger Hopkins, who took the best net position with 129. Congratulations to them both.

Some confusion was evident in playing these two rounds in that they were played alongside two Over 60's medal rounds. It has been agreed this will be arranged differently in 2015.

The club Seniors' Open took place on 13th June, run by David Maskery, which I gather was a great success, especially so as it was won by our own Vets Vice-captain, Stuart Slater.

The Millenium Quaich was played for in a match between the Ladies, Men's and Vet's sections. There was a poor turnout, but I understand that those that took part enjoyed the experience. This will be better advertised in future.

Friendly match results:

Our success rate has dropped a little and to date we have won 7, lost 10 and halved 4 matches.

Between now and the end of July we have seven club matches, and our annual event against the Juniors. In addition we are making preparations for our Vets' Invitation, which takes place on 14th August.

Next events:

Hockley home 2.7.14
 Avington Park home 3.7.14
 Tylney Park home 10.7.14
 The Army away 11.7.14
 Vets Past Captains 17.7.14
 Weybrook Park home 23.7.14
 Vets V Juniors 28.7.14
 Bramshaw home 30.7.14
 Stoneham away 31.7.14

Numbers for the Vets' Invitation continues to grow but, if you have not signed up yet, please remember to do so.

In the meantime, enjoy playing the course in its pristine condition and accept, when the greens maintenance comes at the beginning of August, what it takes to make it so good!

social scene



I have now been handed the task of chairing the Social Committee and hope that I can fulfil my duties accordingly, which I know will be made easier, due to the wonderful committee that I have. Thanks to James for all his hard work in the past.

A wonderful day was had by over 80 people at the Club BBQ, which once again was blessed with glorious weather. Thanks to the catering staff for once again supplying marvellous food.

The following weekend saw the Dawn Patrol, where the hardy members (or maybe foolhardy), play golf at a time which most people didn't know existed. It did not deter good golf though, with the event being won by Graham Marshallsay with a magnificent score of 44 points. The only negative on the day was that four people failed to show up and the Social Committee had to pay for their pre-arranged meals.

Look out for upcoming events on the Social notice board and if you have any suggestions for events that we could stage, please email myself or David. We would value your input.

Thanks.

Chris Chapman
Chair, Social Committee

cchapman1@btinternet.com



match committee report



The Vets timed their stroke-play championship to coincide with the two over 60's Medal competitions which were played last month. This caused some confusion about who was entering which (or both) competitions. I am sure that the Vets' Section will be reporting on the results of their championship and so I will only list the over 60's competition results. I am reliably informed that next year the two will not clash and so any confusion will be avoided.

The Ladies Championship was unfortunately washed out by torrential rain on the Saturday and so has been re-scheduled in August. However, the weather for the Club Championship on Sunday remained good and we were treated to a thrilling final to the championship when two competitors for the first time for many years both finished on 149 after 36 holes. After checking the rules in the club diary it was established that the championship would be resolved by a sudden death play-off over the 18, 10, 18, 10 etc., refereed by the Club Professional. In the event the result was not so sudden as it was on the 5th extra hole that Robin Irving beat Mervin Fullbrook by holing his second putt for a par. As in

previous years there is a scratch knock-out for the Tichborne Trophy, which is competed for by the top 16 players in the championship.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped during the day: the starters: Charlotte Bass and David Robertson in the morning and David Maskerey and Malcolm Scott in the afternoon. Mary Rook was helped by Sally Willis and they did a sterling job with the scoring. Also I would like to thank Malcolm for running both the tote and the 2's club.

The Men's Invitation is to be held on 3rd August so time is running short to invite a friend and get your names down to play in it. We are following the same format as in previous years, i.e. 12 holes of American Greensomes in the morning followed by an 18-hole 4BBB competition in the afternoon. There is coffee on arrival, a light lunch after the morning round and a buffet dinner in the evening.

The Mixed Invitation is on Sunday 31st August and notices will shortly be posted with details of this.

Peter Spreadbury
Match Secretary

Competition results for June

1st Millenium Quaic

This was competed for by three teams: Ladies, Men and Vets and was won by the mens team.

4th M/W Stableford

1st Brian Overton	37pts
2nd Michael Pigott	35pts
3rd Richard Prescott	35pts

6th Over 60's Medal

1st Roger Hopkins	88-24= 64
2nd Barry Norgate	79-12=67
3rd Duncan Webb	94-24=70 o.c.b.

14th Laming Cup Medal

1st Tony Stanton	70-6=64
2nd Grant Thorne	71-5=66 o.c.b.
3rd John Bonney	82-16=66 o.c.b.

20th Over 60's Medal

1st Brian Dunne	85-21=64
2nd Stuart Slater	84-19=65
3rd Roger Hopkins	89-22=67

22nd Pailthorpe Platter

1st Robin Irving	41pts
2nd Richard West	39pts
3rd Simon Freemantle	38pts

29th CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP DAY CHAMPIONSHIP

1st Robin Irving	76+73=149 (on 4th extra hole)
2nd Mervin Fullbrook	74+75=149
3rd Tom Warden	80+74=154
Best a.m. Neil Flowers	77
Best p.m. Grant Thorne	77 (o.c.b.)

JOHN HOLMES (on handicap)

1st Martin Pratt	70+63=133
2nd Steven Glass	68+68=136
3rd Robin Irving	72+69=141
Best am Brian Overton	86-15=71
Best pm ack Southgate	92-26=66

30th W Fields Trophy - Over 60's

1st Peter Dowse	85-18=67
2nd Peter Kinloch	87-16=71
3rd Norman Sheen	93-21=72

Our next committee meeting is on Friday 15th August at 15:30





New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during June and July so far: Paul Andersen (7-day), Malcolm and Jennifer Ball, George and Jennifer Sanders (5-day), Mary Waltham (Overseas), Jack Penn (Student), Phillip Charlton, Jack Edmonstone, Stephen Morgan and Rosalind Shepherd (Social Extra) and Edward Tufnell (Junior). 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.

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 2014. Over the course of the season bring either 6 guests for £108 or 10 guests for £180. These will be available ONLY from the Secretary in advance (not the pro shop). Please be aware that all "visits" must be used by 31st December 2014. No refund or extension will be given on unused "visits". Normal restrictions apply.

Club Roll Ups

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.

JULY

Wednesday 2nd – 11.00am (Mid-week Stableford)

Wednesday 9th – 11.00am (Mid-week Medal)

Wednesday 16th – 11.00am

Wednesday 23rd – 11.00am

Wednesday 30th – 11.00am

AUGUST

Wednesday 6th – 11.00am

Wednesday 13th – 11.15am (Mid-week Stableford)

Forthcoming events for your diary

HUSBANDS & WIVES - Sunday 27th July. Tee times from 12.30pm. Look out for signing up details on the Mixed Golf notice board.

MEN'S INVITATION - Sunday 3rd August. 30 holes of golf, plus lunch and 2-course dinner. This year you can invite a friend even if they only have a society/social handicap (separate prize on the day). Sign up in the Men's Changing Room notice board

BANK HOLIDAY MIXED - Monday 25th August. Make a note in your diary for the last Bank Holiday golf of the season!

Catering

Members can now enjoy 10% discount off of food purchased with their members card. The discount applies to anything from the daily menu, specials board or Sunday lunches. It does not apply to match meals, function and events food.

Sunday carvery will be on Sunday 20th July – make a reservation directly with the Kitchen.

FISH & CHIP NIGHTS: From 25th July Fish & Chips Evening will be FRIDAYS until end of September. No Fish & Chips on Team Golf Finals night (10/07/2014).

Catering Request

All members are politely reminded that if they "sign up" for an event, they are making a commitment to attend and support the event. This is particularly important where catering is involved. There have been occasions recently where members have signed up for food and then not turned up at all. The lists are there to assist with catering for the correct numbers and it is unfair when members do not turn up without any explanation or advance warning. In future if your name is on a list for catering on the day of the event and you do not turn up, you will be charged and expected to pay.

FACEBOOK – check out our new Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/alresfordgolfclub>



Make sure you "like" our Facebook page and you will link to it and get the regular pictures and updates on what's happening!

David Maskery
Club Secretary

MEMBERS NOTICE

The Management Committee is pleased to inform Members that following a formal tendering process, the contract to carry out improvement work to the car park, as submitted to and approved by Winchester CC, has been awarded to SCANDOR LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS Ltd. This is phase 1 of the proposed project previously displayed for members information.

The work to be carried out under this phase includes an extended area of block paving where the current 'drop off' area is located, extended hard surface areas on the current entrance and exit areas to the west of the car park, the construction of 3 french drains, the removal of all current fencing and kerbs and the laying of timber sleepers to form a division for parking. Underground ducting will also be laid for future supply of electricity to 5 new lighting columns (currently awaiting planning approval).

It is anticipated that the work programme will begin on or around **Wednesday 23rd July for a period of 6 weeks** and will involve immediate disruption to parking arrangements for those visiting the club. We will attempt to manage this disruption as best as possible on a day to day basis but members should be pre-warned that the traffic direction around the car park will change. Please look out for and adhere to any signage directing you around the car park. Please be aware of other drivers and pedestrians who may also be unfamiliar with the layout and take extra care around the car park during the work period. Traffic flow may change on a daily basis.

Mary Rook
Chairman

23rd June 2014





It has been a very busy month for the green keepers, with preparation for the Club Championships, on top of all the normal maintenance activities. It was a shame that the weather had an impact on the ladies event – approximately one inch of rain fell in an 18-hour period so it was still quite an exercise to prepare the course for the Sunday. The bunkers particularly required significant maintenance. I am sure all members will join me in thanking the greens staff for all of their efforts, in working considerable overtime to create textbook conditions.

Key points to note this month are as follows:

- On June 13, we had a seminar from Simon Banks the MD of our principal sand suppliers. Although I issued an open invitation for all members to attend, disappointingly, other than members of the greens committee, no one did so. This is surprising given the number of comments I receive about the quality of the bunkers! A summary of this talk is printed below and I will put a copy on the notice board in the reception area.
- Also of note is that we had a survey conducted this month by the STRI (Sports Turf Research Institute). Although we pay for this work to be undertaken, the STRI is an independent body who not only consult on the majority of golf courses in the country, but also advise on larger amenity areas (such as football pitches, parks etc). Part of this exercise is to benchmark us against other clubs in terms of the composition, health, trueness and speed of our greens and to provide recommendations. Again, I intend to make this report available to members when received.
- I have been made aware of an incident this month where a member drove his road car across the golf course, allegedly to retrieve his broken electric trolley. This really is unacceptable for all sorts of reasons too obvious to enumerate here, but any similar problem should be reported either to a green keeper or the pro shop.

The next greens forum will be at 2pm on Saturday 26th July in the clubhouse bar – note that this is an altered date. If you wish to discuss any specific issue in person, or even just turn up to hear what others are asking. This takes the form of an informal discussion and Steve Privett, myself and other members of the greens committee will do our best to answer any queries.

Play well!!

Harry Dhand
Chairman of Greens
greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk

Notes from Sand Seminar

The Greens Committee met with Simon Banks (from our sand suppliers Banks Amenity Products Ltd) on 13th June 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to expand our understanding of the available options as regards bunker sand and to gauge the relevance/suitability of the Heddon sand variety we currently use.

We have 47 bunkers, of varying vintages, which contain over 300 tons of sand. With a delivered cost of around £40 per ton, we have a considerable investment in this component of course infrastructure. Of our bunkers, 44 contain a particular variety of sand called Heddon Sand, quarried in Plymouth. The 3 other bunkers, have original sand which pre-dates the current green keeping team – they are the fairway bunker on the 7th and the fairway bunkers on the 14th and 15th

Simon brought 10 samples of various grades and colours of sand which all have varying characteristics depending on where they are quarried, how they are graded, mixed and washed. He said that most sands are selected by clubs on the basis of colour, not functionality. Darker sands are often rejected purely on their similarity in colour to builders sand. Many links courses, although they are built on sand are no longer able to use local dune sand for environmental reasons and hence also use quarried sand. Ideally, bunkers need to be dug out and re-sanded every 5/6 years although Simon conceded that it was only the wealthier clubs (with more greens staff) who were able to do this. The ideal sand depth is 2" to 4".

Other than colour, there are basically two main decision areas to be made:

- Cost (of which a large component can be haulage distance)
- Angular sand or round sand

Angular sand typically packs denser and performs well in drier conditions where there is good drainage – heavy rain percolates slowly through this substrate, so it performs less well in the winter. A rounder sand granule will drain better and therefore perform well in the winter, but is much more mobile underfoot in dry conditions. High balls tend to plug in bunkers with round sand as it yields on impact rather than compressing.

Simon was at pains to point out that there is no sand that has the characteristic of being perfect in both summer and winter. Broadly, free draining courses will tend to use angular sand, whereas poor draining courses, built on clay will tend towards round grains. As sand changes as a result of its water content, it is part of the skill of golfers (other than not going into bunkers in the first place!) to read the bunker conditions and play shots according to their prevailing water content.

The Heddon sand (which we use) is a particularly white/grey sand, which has angular characteristics, making it pack well and hence performs best in drier conditions. Members will notice that not all the sand in our bunkers is the same colour. This is due to impurities that wash in over time. New bunkers (eg on the 5th) and raised bunkers (eg left greenside on the sixth) are virtually white, whereas older bunkers that attract a lot of run-off water (eg the greenside bunker on the 17th) will have a darker pallor.

It is worth noting that the Forest of Arden has recently completed a programme of renovating all their bunkers. After testing a large number of potential contenders over a long period in various conditions, they selected Heddon as their sand of choice. This is quite an accolade, given there may be over 100 alternatives available to them. Other courses using Heddon sand of which Simon is aware as a supplier are Basingstoke, Hindhead, West Surrey, Hayling, Harleyford and the recently constructed Dudsbury. Prestigious courses such as The Grove and The Buckinghamshire are currently trialling it as part of a small short-list.

In conclusion, we believe we have an appropriate type of sand for our course – additional investment in more frequent renovation and more regular maintenance, would require additional manpower; not currently an option. Members could also help by more thorough raking, on leaving a sand trap.



The winners of the 100 Club prize draw in July were:

£100 - Wynne Tufnell	£50 - Peter Spreadbury
£32 - Peter Harwood	£32 - David & Mal Hope-Mason
£32 - Chris Chapman	£32 - Richard Bass

Congratulations to all the winners. The next draw will take place in the week beginning 28th July.

100 Club Stableford and Evening Meal – Friday 8th August

This mixed Stableford competition is open to all members of the 100 Club. There is no entry fee. Please arrange your own playing groups and tee-times, but remember that the evening meal will be served at 7:30pm so make sure you'll be finished by then. On the day, you must sign-in at the Pro's Shop before you play to register your entry to the competition and to receive your free ball for participating.

Men will play off the Yellow tees; and Ladies from the Red tees. To equalise the scoring, ladies will add 2 strokes to their handicaps and play from their own card. Completed cards should be put into the box in the Entrance Hall.

All members whether they have played or not are invited to attend the evening meal during which the prize winners will be announced. The cost of the 2 course meal with coffee is £14.50, and we will start at 7:30pm. Please add your name and menu selections to the sign-up sheet which will be on the Social notice board by the end of July. Payments in advance to the office would be appreciated.

If you need a playing partner and aren't sure of who is in the 100 Club, contact George Clelland by email: george.clelland@btinternet.com or telephone: 01962735008.

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.



Getting in touch:

DISCLAIMER

The Editorial Team takes no responsibility for incorrect information received from Contributors.

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