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### Please note changes to Friday Bar closing times

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 current list of dates when the bar will be closed earlier:

Friday 7th November  
Friday 21st November  
Friday 5th December  
Friday 12th December  
Friday 19th December  
Friday 2nd January

Please check club website and main notice board for any changes to these dates

Welcome to the November bulletin which includes final contributions from all the retiring Captains prior to their respective AGMs. I personally would like to thank them all for their excellent time keeping in meeting my deadlines during the year, which definitely makes the production of these bulletins a whole lot easier!

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](mailto:mpgmagwin21@sky.com)

Mike Gould  
Editor

### WIN YOUR SUBS FOR 2015 – FOR ONLY £10

Due to the continuing success of the promotion last year, we have decided to run the membership subscription raffle again this year. Details of the scheme are posted around the clubhouse. The winner will be announced at the Christmas Draw night on Saturday 13th December.

Entry costs just £10 (multiple entries are permitted).  
Please enter directly with the Secretary



And if this is too much, why not win your **OWN PARKING SPACE** for 2015. £1 a ticket available from the bar – all money in aid of the Captain's Charity. Draw takes place on Trophy Presentation Evening, Friday 14th November.



**Les Thorne**  
Club Captain

Well here goes then, my last report as Captain. The trip to Ryde Golf Club to play against the Pirates was a highlight in October. This is a fixture that was started by Malcolm quite a few years ago. Malcolm is hugely respected at Ryde and he re-designed their nine holes into a really playable course. We were down on numbers again for this fixture, hopefully we can rectify that in the future. The last mixed match was at Weybrook Park and I had a great game with incoming Ladies Captain Carol Roe, whose handicap will come down next year if she carries on playing like she did that day.

I was pleased to host a few of the 2014 Hampshire Captains at the club. One thing that didn't expect is the way that you build up great friendships with the other captains in the area. There were 10 playing including myself and Terry Glynn (someone had to organise it properly). The day was won by Dave Patterson, from Alton, and he gets the task of hosting us next year.

I understand that the Murder Mystery Night went well. I was away working in Nottingham but Liz said the food and the atmosphere was good. Now considering the amount of whodunit type programmes she watches I was surprised that the right answer eluded her. Two days later though Liz got everything right in winning the Harry May Two Generations Trophy with Grant. I had the pleasure of playing with my Dad who insisted on walking and carrying his clubs and even when he was completely knackered on the 14th still thought that he had made the right decision - something about parents always being right.

My last major event of the year was the match against the Hampshire Schools. I had the pleasure of playing with our own David Harrison. We did play well together and the match finished 3-3 overall, this is the 3rd tie in a row in this fixture. It is slightly surreal getting suited and booted in all our finery to have sausage, egg, chips and beans followed by ice cream. It is a great example to us all how the younger players present themselves both on and off the course. They are a credit to their parents and the junior county organisers.

The question that I am constantly asked at the moment is how has my year gone and have I enjoyed it, well here goes. It has been an unbelievable experience and one I have enjoyed fully. To represent Alresford Golf Club across the county is a very easy thing to do as everyone loves the club and the course. Sometimes you have moans and groans from members, but I like to think that shows how proud of our club we are, and how we all want to maintain the quality of our golf and membership experience.

Now comes the part that you have all been dreading - my long list of thanks to all the people that have made my year so enjoyable, just in case you are not able to attend the AGM. To my Ladies Captain, Charlotte. I like to think that we have had a great working relationship as well as becoming good mates. It's a great shame that I didn't get to play with Captain Andrew from the Vets. We never seemed able to fit in a game at the same time, my thanks to him and the vets for all their help this year. And not forgetting Josh who went and got an apprenticeship which limited his golf this year. He was a great help to myself and Charlotte on the charity day in June, good luck to him in his future career. Immediate Past Captain George was always manning the Captain's helpline, Jennifer got quite used to saying "its Les again" especially in the early months. Terry, who has been a wonderful P.A., along with David in the office who acts as Captain's prompter, many times he has quietly said, you should have started organising this that or the other, so I am really grateful for his help. Malcolm and his team have been a great help donating their time and prizes to my year. The other members of my committee for their support, so thanks to Chris and Peter. Thanks to Mike Gould, who puts together this publication every month from a far. Finally to all you members that have made my captaincy so special, I thank you all so much.

**Les**

*P.S: To Terry, Carol, Stuart and Jack I wish you the best of luck, you have a huge year ahead – enjoy the 125th year at Alresford Golf Club!*



**Charlotte Bass**  
Ladies' Captain

*It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Joan Ogilvy on October 19th. She was our Lady Captain in 1979 and a hard working and supportive Vice-Captain to Dorothy Coombs before that. She served on various Committees in her time, including the Social Committee. Joan also volunteered on many occasions to help with the halfway house, and would always cheerfully help out wherever she could. She was very talented and artistic with flowers, and decorated the ladies changing room and the main hall with her beautiful displays for many years. We will miss her smiling face.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Wednesday 29th October saw the 2014 Vets', Ladies' and Juniors' Bowmaker. We had a fantastic number of teams, including 12 juniors. Although we had some rain on the way round, our spirits were not dampened and we all had a good time. I very much enjoyed my game with Stuart Slater and Jack Southgate. After the game, we tucked into sandwiches and chips, and then heard the results and held the prize giving. The winners with 94 points (!) were Esme Goodacre, Pete Dowse and Will Pakenham-Walsh. There were prizes for the winners, and all the juniors received a sleeve of balls. This is a great event, and everyone enjoyed the day. The Junior Vice-Captain, Jack Southgate, announced the prizes.

Sunday 16th November sees the Captain's v Lady Captain's match, always keenly fought! It promises to be a great occasion, and is the last major event in our golfing year. Les and I are keeping our player choices quiet until the last minute – a bit like the Ryder Cup. That's where the similarity ends!

It has been an honour to be the Captain for the Alresford Ladies, a fine bunch of golfers and a great community in a wonderful Ladies' section. I have many happy memories to take forward into my "retirement" – although I haven't heard about the pension yet!

Les has been the most fantastic Club Captain to work with, and my enjoyment of this year has been greatly enhanced by his help, kindness and consideration and his wicked humour! It has been a pleasure to work with Andrew and with Josh, and their company has made my tenure most enjoyable and memorable.

I wish Terry, Carol, Stuart and Jack every good luck for their coming year, and look forward to joining with all club members to help them celebrate the first 125 years of this everlasting club!

### The Alresford Cup

On 12th October the Alresford Cup was held at Alresford as it is every year. This year Berkshire, Dorset, Kent, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex, played for the prestigious trophy which was donated by the Ladies of Alresford GC. A team consists of six junior girls who each play an individual full handicap Stableford round, the best four scores to count. Each team consists of one player in handicap range 0-9, two players in handicap range 10-15, two players in handicap range 16-24, and one player in handicap range 25-30. The teams are selected by the County Junior Organiser.

Sussex, who last won the Cup in 2006, were the worthy winners with a four-counting-scores total of 149 points. Dorset were runners up with 145 points. We all enjoyed the day enormously, and are already looking forward to Sunday 27th September 2015 for the next competition.

### Friendly matches

On 21st October we hosted Worldham for our first friendly against them. They are also opponents in the Stoneham Cup next year, so we were all eyeing each other up! We had a great day and lots of fun, and were pleased to win 3-1. We look forward to a long relationship with them.

### Stoneham Cup

The draw has been done for the 2015 season, and as it happens all the clubs in our group are located towards my area of the County. Mandy has already got dates for our matches in the diary, and I am looking forward to a great campaign again next year.

### Coming up next month:

- Ladies' Coffee morning and Christmas bazaar Tuesday 4th
- Ladies' Stableford Saturday 8th and Tuesday 11th
- Trophy Presentation evening Friday 14th - come and collect your trophy!
- Club AGM Friday 28th
- Ladies' AGM Saturday 29th
- Captains' Drive in Sunday 30th

## Ladies' section competition results



### October Medal 4 & 7 October

Div 1	Elaine Capp	73 (net)
Div 2	Lyn Jones	76
Div 3	Liz Petheram	74

### October Stableford 11 & 14 October

Div 1	Lyn Travers	34pts
Div 2	Lyn de Mestre	31
Div 3	Nancy Brooke	29

**Jane Hendry** Ladies' Handicap Secretary

## Ladies' Pro-Am



It has now been 13 years since we started the Pro-Am. Many of the teams that play have been coming back every year and from as far away as Monmouthshire. One hundred and twelve people played and afterwards sat down for a delicious curry lunch. The format is a shotgun start with an assistant or trainee Pro playing in the team with three ladies. However, only one lady member of Alresford GC may play in each team. This year's winning team was Dorset Golf & Country Club with their Pro Dominic Narramore. The Pro's prize was shared by our own Philip Bryden and Chris Reed from Shanklin & Sandown.

**Sally Willis**

## Friendly Mixed Matches 2014



As the golf season draws to a close, just an update on the friendly mixed matches that have taken place over the summer.

A total of 10 matches were organised, spread evenly between mid-week and weekend matches. Five at home and five away. Twenty nine gentlemen and 28 ladies kindly put down their names and volunteered to play in these matches. Some of them have been called in at the last minute and for that I am grateful. The results have been mixed. Some wins, some losses and draws. All of the matches have been played with good humour and friendships renewed and new friendships established amongst the teams we have met from other clubs.

Apart from a couple of matches we have been blessed with fine weather which has very much added to our enjoyment on the day.

The list of matches for next year will be posted on the board in the foyer early in 2015, together with a list for ladies and gentlemen asking them to sign up. Everyone, with or without a partner, whatever their handicap, is very welcome to play and everyone who signs up will get as many games as is possible. So when you see the lists go up please consult your diaries and get your signature down – we need you.

In the meantime hope your winter golf goes well and the weather stays kind. I have found the escape tunnel and will be away for most of the winter but will be back in the spring and look forward to more good mixed matches next summer.

**Jan Harring**

## a look at rules

supplied by **Celia Batten**

email: [celia@celiabatten.vispa.com](mailto:celia@celiabatten.vispa.com)



### Decision 13-4/7 Touching casual water in bunker with club

**Question:** A player's ball lies in casual water in a bunker. The player elects to play his ball as it lies and touches the casual water with his club prior to making the stroke. The player's club does not touch the sand in the bunker except in making the stroke. What is the ruling?

*Answer on later page*





**Andrew Frearson**  
*Vets' Captain*

It is difficult for me to believe that this is my last effort at reporting on the activities of Alresford Vets – my year ends on 12th November and current Vice-Captain, Stuart Slater, will take up the reins.

Since my last report we have had several in-house events, non-golfing and golfing. A number of competitions have also come to an end – glory for the envied few.

At the beginning of October we played the two-round Vets Secretary's Trophy. The first round – a Stableford event, was won by Robin Bashford with the magnificent score of 46 points! Second was Les Widdicombe with 40 points and third was Gordon Harness with a more normal, but still good, 37 points.

The second round was a stroke play format and the few that took to the course on the day were soon rained off and the conclusion of the competition was delayed for a week. And what a conclusion it proved to be! Robin came in with a net 66, Les Widdicombe a net 74, together with Geoff Jenkins.

The aggregate result was as follows:

1st Robin Bashford	20
2nd Les Widdicombe	34
3rd Geoff Jenkins	38
4th Dennis Jones	44
5th Stuart Slater	45

Congratulations to all the winners and particularly Robin.

Despite Charlotte's best efforts in concocting a format well biased in favour of the Ladies, the Vets v Ladies annual head-to-head resulted in success for the Vets. It is one of the annual meetings that is looked forward to by both sides and is played in a friendly but competitive atmosphere. Thank you Ladies for your participation.

A less competitive and more sociable event was enjoyed by 60 Vets and their Ladies on 23rd October – well organised by Stuart Slater, Norman Sheen and Dennis Jones during my well timed absence from Alresford! It was an excellent evening and thanks are due to Viv Pain for the provision of lovely table flowers. Over a week later those flowers are still adorning the club dining tables. Thank you Viv.

Ladies again, as this week saw the combination of Vets', Ladies' and Juniors' in a Bowmaker competition in the rain. Ages ranged from 11 to 86 which just goes to show how effective the

handicapping system can be. This is a great opportunity for the Vets and Ladies to encourage our younger players and my thanks go to Simon Tillson for bringing together a good team. Unfortunately they do tend to cast a shadow over our abilities! The winning team was Pete Dowse, Esme Goodacre and Will Pakenham-Walsh. Will scored 51 points on his own in a total score of 96! Well done to Will. Joe Wilding parred the 7th hole and scored 6 points and Christian Bottomley who started playing in May had his handicap cut from 54 to 31 in one event earlier in the year. It is good to see the younger players coming on so well as it augurs well for our club's future.

This year's knockouts have recently been concluded and the results were as follows:

Vets Knockout	1st	Les Widdicombe
	2nd	Roger Norrie
Over 70's Knockout	1st	John White
	2nd	Brian Bellamy
Fred White Knockout	1st	John Clark & Phil Huddart
	2nd	Steve McWilliam & Tony Boyd-Heron

Congratulations to you all.

It has been a great privilege for me to be captain of a vibrant and growing group within the club membership. I have had the opportunity to play friendly matches against a great variety of other clubs and to welcome visitors to Alresford. Whilst our facilities are currently looking a little tired, the welcome we afford to these visitors has been much appreciated. The quality of the golf course is undeniable and probably unmatched locally, due to the excellence of Steve Privett and his highly professional team, and in addition, the catering provided by Merryl and Dean has always been praised.

The growing recognition of the Vets Section as an important part of the club's life and structure is much appreciated and my thanks go to Club Captain, Les Thorne, and other club members for this recognition.

Very special thanks are due to Vets Vice-Captain Stuart Slater and members of the Vets Committee who have been a great support, without which it would not have been for me such a wonderful year.

Thank you AGC!

## Course Ecology Statement



Alresford Golf Club is a private members course, founded in 1890. Nine holes were taken over for agriculture to aid the First World War effort and it was not until 1993 that it was restored to 18 holes with the addition of a parcel of land to the north. In total, including the practice areas, the total curtilage now represents some 105 acres. The course is situated on chalk downland and has been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre and Unique

and Superb by the Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust.

Large parts of the rough, such as the area enclosed by the 2nd, 3rd and 17th fairways, are rare ancient downland. There is good reason to believe they have not been ploughed for centuries and therefore hold many indicator species, which are not only endemic, but also vital to the entire ecosystem of



fungi, insects, birds, and mammals, which depend on them. Other areas such as the areas between the 4th and 5th represent a less diverse area as this was created from arable land only 25 years ago, but nevertheless the numbers of species is increasing with each passing survey.

Maintenance of these areas requires regular and active management, as to simply leave them to lie fallow would invite colonisation by saplings and shrubs, such that over time the grassland with its rich herb diversity would disappear. Alresford Golf Club is committed to maintaining this landscape as an asset to club members and indeed the public who are able to enjoy the displays of wild flowers from the various footpaths that bisect the course.

In consultation with the Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust, these areas are now actively grazed throughout the autumn and winter by a flock of native sheep and in addition a programme is in place to remove saplings of invasive woody trees and shrubs by mechanical means. These actions replicate the conditions prevalent when the vast downland pastures of Southern England were formed. Grazing in particular, not only prevents the formation of grassy tussocks but, the sheep dig, aerate and fertilise the soil, so helping with dispersal and germination of the native herbaceous seeds. Although this regime has only been in place since 2011, the results have been significant and many observers have remarked on the quantity and diversity of the wildflowers. At different times of year there are impressive colonies of Cowslips, Rock Rose, Ladies Bedstraw, Dropwort, Toadflax, St John's Wort and Wild Marjoram to name just a few. White swathes of Yarrow, Ragwort and Wild Carrot contrast with the purples of Knapweed, Scabious and the many Thistles.

Where vegetation is short, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Germander Speedwell, Violets, Violas, Vetches, Eyebright and Bulbous Buttercup can be readily seen.

In addition to the grassland areas, there are also several stands of mature Oak woodland together with immature broad-leaved plantations of native Beech, Birch, Hazel, Holly Rowan and Ash, which support a variety of woodland species such as Arum and Wood Anemone.

In total, the golf course contains over 180 recorded plant species of which 26 are chalk downland indicator species. The club holds a list, collated in 2013, showing common and Latin names. Many of the plants mentioned above, provide nectar for butterflies and bees, whilst some represent crucial food sources to support some of our flagship fauna. The Horseshoe Vetch for instance, is the principal food source for the Chalkhill Blue, whilst the much maligned Ragwort is similarly important to the Cinnabar Moth. There are also a number of areas where Nettles have been allowed to flourish, thus providing habitats for other butterflies such as the Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell.

Being surrounded by mature woodland and arable land bounded by ancient hedgerows, means that a large number of birds are present. Of particular note are the flocks of Goldfinch and Yellowhammer, which are often heard even if not seen, and the Green and Greater Spotted Woodpeckers which catch the eye with their dipping flight. Of the birds of prey, Buzzards, Sparrowhawks and Kestrels are resident, whilst Red Kites are increasingly seen as they extend their territories South-East. As well as around 20 nesting boxes for smaller birds, there are three Owl boxes which were introduced in collaboration with the Hawk Conservancy in 2012.

As regards mammals, the presence of the owls points to a healthy supply of Rodents whilst Rabbits, Hares, Foxes, and Roe Deer can be seen, especially late in the evening and in the early mornings.

Overall, AGC is committed to maintaining strong ecological credentials and to this end will continue working with the wildlife agencies to ensure a harmonious balance between the needs of its golfing members and the conservation of the natural world.

## match committee report

The competition season is virtually at an end although there are still some Stablefords to come and then the Christmas Turkey Trots. The end of the competition season is marked by Presentation Evening on 14th November when trophies are presented. I would be grateful if all prize winners could manage to attend and in addition it would be nice if other members who have not been so lucky this year came and congratulated the winners. To jog your memory, there are lists on the notice boards of those who have won trophies and we would be grateful if you would indicate on them whether or not you are able to attend.

A number of members seem unsure about how handicaps are reduced. This depends on the category of the player:

Category 1 (0 to 5.4) for each shot better than CSS you are reduced by 0.1

Category 2 (5.5 to 12.4) for each shot better than CSS you are reduced by 0.2

Category 3 (12.5 to 20.4) for each shot better than CSS you are reduced by 0.3

Category 4 (20.5 to 28) for each shot better than CSS you are reduced by 0.4

If you score such that you go from one category to a lower one, say Cat 4 to Cat 3, then you are reduced by 0.4 until you get to 20.4 then you are reduced by 0.3.

This applies to qualifying competitions when the CSS may not be known, however, until it is published it would be safe to regard the CSS as one shot less than SSS.

Supplementary scores are also subject to this rule but here the SSS is used.

Increases in handicaps are 0.1 for all categories if you are over your buffer zone irrespective of the number of shots over. The buffer zones are 1 over CSS for Cat 1, 2 over for Cat 2, 3 over for Cat 3 and 4 over for Cat 4.

While you have to play of your estimated lower handicap if the results have not been published, you are not allowed to self adjust to a higher handicap and have to wait until the results are published. Not fair is it?

If you are unsure about the calculation any of the handicap committee will be pleased to advise.

**Peter Spreadbury**  
*Match Secretary*

## Competition results for October

### 4th Mens Medal

1 Simon Freemantle	90- 21=69
2 Barry Brooks	85- 16=69
3 Ashley Wright	79- 9=70

### 15th Mid Week Stableford

1 Simon Freemantle	45pts
2 Robin Bashford	36
3 Bob Germon	36

### 19th Harry May Two Generations

1 Liz & Grant Thorne	35pts
2 Jan & James White	34 o.c.b.
3 Lewis & Mike Wooding	34 o.c.b.

### 25th Mens Medal

#### Division 1

1 Bill Ragan	72- 6=66
2 James White	72-6= 66
3 Grant Thorne	74- 5=69

#### Division 2

1 Martin Pratt	83-16=67
2 Chris Brandon-Trye	88- 20=68
3 Chris Chapman	87- 18=69

## social scene

The Murder Mystery evening was a great success with 70 people attending. My thanks to the actors who gave their time for free, which enabled us to contribute a handsome sum to the Captains' Charity. There was also notable performances from some of our members, who were asked to play the roles of some of the suspects. As usual the food supplied by Dean and Merryl was excellent, which contributed to a very pleasant evening.

The list is up for the Club Dinner, with guest speaker Steve Richardson, talking about his experiences in the Ryder Cup, etc., but hurry because places are being filled very quickly.

The 125 Committee organised a Halloween Night on October 31st, which included a buffet and a chance to view and order clothing with the Club 125 logo on.

The Christmas raffle tickets will soon be on sale via members of the Social Committee. The Captain's Drive-in is on November 30th with a slight change in the format, as all four new Captain's will be involved.

Happy golfing.

**Chris Chapman**  
*Chair, Social Committee*  
[cchapman1@btinternet.com](mailto:cchapman1@btinternet.com)



## New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during October and November so far: Gerald and Charlotte Marsh (7 day), Tom McGrath, Catherine Carberry (5 day), Elliot Clements, Ashley Wilmott and Sean Yeates (Intermediate). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one for all of you.

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.

## 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.

### NOVEMBER

Wednesday 5th – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 12th – 10.30am (tbc due to Vets AGM)

Wednesday 19th – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 26th – 10.30am

### DECEMBER

Wednesday 3rd – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 10th – 10.30am (tbc due to Vets Xmas golf)

Wednesday 17th – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 24th – 10.30am

## Trophy Presentation Evening

**Friday 14th November - 7.30pm**

All trophy winners AND other club members are invited to come along to the Club Trophy presentations.

Please make every effort to attend and collect your trophy. A list will be displayed showing which trophies are to be presented on the night. Please confirm (or not) your attendance.

## Club AGM

**Friday 28th November at 7.45pm**

Minutes of the 2013 AGM can be viewed on the club website or copies via the Office.

Please note that your calling notice and meeting agenda/accounts booklet will be sent via email this year. There will be a small number of printed booklets available at the meeting and for those for whom we do not have email addresses.

**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!

## The Grafton Morrish Trophy



Robin Irving (third from left back Row), Alresford Golf Club Men's Champion crowned a successful year by being a member of winning team (Old Shirburnians Golf Society), played at Hunstanton 3-5 October. The first victory for Sherborne School since the start of the competition.

The name Grafton Morrish, by which the golf competition is generally known, is derived from the Grafton Morrish Trophy which is the major trophy of the Public Schools Old Boys Golf Association (PSOBGA). There are two other trophies played for each year, these being the Solihull Salver - the trophy of the Plate competition - and the Committee Bowl - the trophy for an extension of the Plate competition.

The Association is open to the golfing sections of Societies of Old Boys (which includes Old Girls) of schools the headmaster of which attends the Headmasters' Conference and other schools which are sponsored by six members.

The competitions are amateur scratch foursomes competitions for three pairs of former pupils of the school. There is a qualifying round in May/June, on one of eight courses to reduce the number of entrants - usually 105/115 - to the 48 which will take part in the knock-out "Finals" in September/October each year at the Hunstanton G.C. in Hunstanton and the Royal West Norfolk G.C. in Brancaster. Most societies field a team of six single figure handicap players for this scratch competition - some societies with six very low single figure handicaps!!



## Assistant Secretary

I am sorry to announce that Suzi Male has decided to resign her position as Assistant Secretary. Suzi has unfortunately only been with us a few weeks but has decided that she is unsuited to the position. I am sure that you will all want to join us wishing her good luck in the future. She will be leaving us as soon as the end of year accounting and AGM process is complete.

## Help Required - Golf Industry Surveys

Dr Steve Otto, Director of Research and Testing at The R&A, would like to invite all club members to take part in his survey on "pace of play".

Copy this link into your browser to participate in this research:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PaceofPlayTest>

The R&A are planning to run the survey until around mid-November. They would really appreciate your assistance with this as the issue of pace of play affects all golf clubs.

England Golf and the other Home Unions have commissioned a piece of research into handicapping and participation in competition for both Golf Clubs and Golfers. To help us shape the direction of the handicapping system and support our discussions with CONGU.

This has been sent out to all affiliated Clubs and Golfers on the England Golf Members Database as well as promoted on social media and the England Golf Website, the results are to be collated by the 21st November, in time for the next CONGU board Meeting.

England Golf is offering entry in to a prize draw for any Golfer or England Golf Affiliated Club who completes the survey before the closing date.

You will find the link to the England Golf Handicapping page of the website below where the surveys are situated.

<http://www.Englandgolf.org/Handicapping>

Thank you.

**David Maskery**  
Club Secretary

## news from the greens



Right on cue, as soon as I had alluded in the last bulletin to the wonderful dry Indian summer, the rain arrived and my waterproofs have been out more times in the last few weeks as they have been all summer. Added to which, we have had our first light frost and the trees are now shedding leaves with a vengeance.

### Key points to note this month are as follows:

- Winter rules are now in place as a means of protecting the course and also to help golfers avoid poor lies on the fairways.

- Despite the mild weather lengthening the growing season, and hence the requirement for unscheduled grass cutting, the winter project programme has commenced. Already around 280 square metres of turf have been re-laid to repair worn patches around the course. Generally, this has been marked with a white line as GUR, but even if this is not the case, or the markings have faded, members should use their discretion to treat these areas as such. Avoid walking or hitting balls on these areas.

- Due to a sporting injury, our Deputy Greenkeeper, Adam Brimson is hors de combat with a ruptured Achilles tendon and will be unable to perform active duties for possibly the next ten weeks. Whilst his absence will clearly have an effect on manpower capacity for the winter programme, we are taking advantage of the mild weather and in the next few weeks the 3rd and 18th tees will be levelled and re-turfed.

- We would like to record our gratitude to Mike Wooding who, through his firm RSAC, has provided us with an excellent aerial survey of the course, totally free of charge. This was performed using a drone-operated camera to produce an accurate mosaic of the course at a high level of detail. This will be really useful in two respects. Firstly, it will enable us finally to be able accurately to map out the positions of all our drainage, power and irrigation systems, which was a key component of the Development Plan. Secondly it will form a source template for the work to be performed by our proposed course architectural consultants Hawtree Limited – thus reducing our costs in this regard. Unfortunately, we do not yet have the software within the club to run this huge CAD file, but we are working on it!

- The 3 flag system has now been introduced on our greens to indicate the pin position. Our adoption of a **red** flag for a hole cut in the front of the green, **yellow** for the middle and **white** for a back pin position is in line with the protocol used on many courses not only in the UK but also worldwide. So far, reports have been positive, as the pin positions are much more obvious than before.

- Those of you who keep an eye on the minutes of the various committee meetings, will have noted that there has been some debate over the damage that one particular brand of golf shoe is causing. Whilst we have not sought to place an outright ban, as many other clubs have, we have inserted the following wording into our website:

*"Whilst we accept both soft spike and metal spike shoes, we would prefer for visitors and members to avoid wearing Adidas golf shoes with Adizero spikes. These have been found to have a detrimental effect on the surface of the greens particularly when conditions are wet and the ground is soft as they concentrate weight over a small area causing indents to the surface, which can take longer to repair. If in doubt please ask in the Pro-Shop."*

● The Greens Committee has revised the Ecology Statement on the website and a copy is included elsewhere in this bulletin. We should be proud of our flora and fauna as we have some extremely rare chalk downland habitat, which contains a huge diversity of wild flowers. However, we recognize that it is difficult to maintain this perspective in high summer when one's errant tee shot has disappeared into the thick of it, but nevertheless it is a valuable and attractive asset of the club.

Finally, talking of errant balls, I am sure, like me, all members at some point will have sliced their tee shot off the 9th tee wildly (or hooked, if left-handed), towards the 10th green. The observant will have noticed a rusty bumper and an ancient tyre poking out of the surface of the soil, so Steve and his team decided to dig



it out in case anyone damaged their club or themselves. The following pictures show that these parts were actually attached to an entire vehicle, which has lurked under the surface for many years. Is anyone able to shed light on the history of this vehicle and in particular can anyone diagnose the make, model and year from the bonnet badge in the second picture?

Any answers that shed light on this would be most appreciated.

The next greens forum will be at 1.00–2.30pm on Tuesday 16th December in the clubhouse bar. 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 and consider any suggestions.

Happy golfing!

**Harry Dhand**

*Chairman of Greens*

[greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk](mailto:greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk)

### Free Junior Membership for 12-year-olds and under

From August 1st 2014, juniors aged 12 and under with a direct family member (parent/guardian or grandparent) who is either a 5 or 7 day member may join Alresford GC at no additional charge.

Junior membership in this category will offer the following benefits:

- Free golf on the 18-hole course after 5pm Monday to Friday and after 4pm on Sundays during the summer period - MUST PLAY WITH AN ADULT MEMBER
- Use of 6-hole academy course at anytime
- Junior Handicap
- Reduced coaching rates at foundation and development level
- EGU funded coaching for AGC junior members
- 25% off private tuition
- Free club hire if needed
- Opportunity to meet other junior golfers and participate in summer roll up junior events

The new membership category enhances AGC's commitment to the promotion of junior golf and, it is hoped, will encourage families with younger children to spend more time at the club.

Please contact the Club Secretary to process your application

### **LAST CHANCE!**

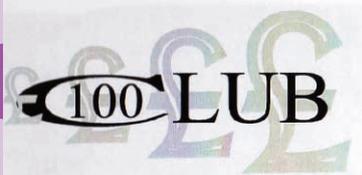
### **SPECIAL MEMBER REFERRAL OFFER**

**Refer a new 5 or 7 day  
playing member  
between  
1st September and  
30th November and  
receive a £50 credit on  
your bar card**

## rule answer



**Answer:** The player incurs no penalty as he did not touch the ground in the bunker with his club prior to making his stroke – see Rule 13-4b.



The winners of the 100 Club prize draw for November were:

**£100** - Mary Rook

**£50** - Hugh Bethell

**£32** - Sally Willis

**£32** - Henk Ribbink

**£32** - John Dillon

**£32** - Ray Fisher

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will take place in the week beginning 1st December.

You will receive a statement of the 100 Club's finances included in the notice for the Club AGM. We have spent £1814 on projects this year and paid out £3290 in prizes. We have earmarked funds to mark the 125th Anniversary with a new information board and clock for the 1st tee, and also we're looking to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator for the Club. There will be more information in the ebulletin when these projects come to fruition.

### Not a member of the 100 Club?

The objective of the Alresford Golf Club 100 Club is to raise funds for projects and items requiring capital expenditure that will enhance the Golf Course and/or the Clubhouse. Such projects would generally be considered as 'extras' and not necessarily be within the Club budget. The 100 Club was launched in 1987 to raise funds to augment the Centenary celebrations of the Golf Club in 1990, but at the request of the members, the 100 Club has continued to raise funds for items such as the provision of patio furniture, the pneumatic shoe and trolley cleaner, and the Starter's Hut on the 1st tee.

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.



Dear Member

Alresford Golf Club would like to invite its members to save the date for a number of exciting events to take place over the week 10 to 16 June 2015 to celebrate the Club's 125th Anniversary.



Alresford Members  
Cheriton Road  
Tichborne Down  
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### Getting in touch:

#### DISCLAIMER

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

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