

## contents

- 2 Club Captain
- 3 Ladies' Captain/results
- 4 Vets Captain
- 5 Greens
- 6 Greens contd./Wanted!/Rule
- 7 Match Sec/Meet 'n' Greet/  
Social Scene
- 8 Secretary/Rule answer
- 9 100 Club/Poem

I understand some of you didn't receive the Bulletin via email last month and the Green Report contains a re-print of items the chairman considers are important.

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

### 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 13th March      Friday 20th March

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

DON'T FORGET...

# SPRING TEXAS SCRAMBLE

## Sunday 29th March

18 HOLE FUN COMPETITION WITH DRAWN TEAMS  
SHOTGUN STARTS AT 8.30am & 1.30pm

Entry Fee: £10 per team (£2.50pp) payable on the day

SEE SIGNING UP SHEET IN FOYER



**Terry Glynn**  
Club Captain

The men's match against the County on February 15th was an excellent day. The County brought their four top players within the team which demonstrates their keenness to play at Alresford. This fixture has been running for 43 years now and there is only one other club in the county where they play a similar game in their warm up for the season.

My tip for an Alresford winning pair was Robin Irving, current Club Champion, playing with Merv Fullbrook, last year's runner-up. They had the misfortune (or fortune!) to draw the No.1 player in the county who is in the top 100 amateur players in the world. They held him until the 10th but he pulled away from them on the back nine to record a win for the county. Nevertheless, Robin expounded afterwards on how much he enjoyed playing against a golfer of that quality.

In the end we recorded three victories to only lose 3-7, a very good result for this match, which we normally lose heavily, and exceeding Les' challenge from last year to better 2014's result. Thanks to Steve for getting the course to an excellent condition for the time of year.

The following weekend saw the annual Club Team Challenge between the Hampshire 7s team, the Gales Hockley team and the Stoneham Cup team. This is a 3-way match play competition where each win against the two opponents scores 3 points for the team or 1 point for a half. I was fortunate enough to go off first so the rain didn't hit me until the 12th hole. The later groups suffered for much longer in extremely cold, driving rain.

The result was a win for the Hampshire 7s team meaning that Grant Thorne and his men retained the trophy. Despite the weather, most enjoyed the day although the later groups to a lesser extent!

Thanks to Peter Spreadbury and Peter Harwood for maintaining the secrecy of the playing order for each team yet still producing the cards and handling all the scoring.



Ken Mills and I attended the draw night, at Hockley GC, for the Gales Hockley over 50s competition. There were less traumatic errors in the draw this year where Alresford came out with a home draw in the first round, against New Forest, and, should we win, a home draw in the second round too against Rowlands Castle who got a bye in the first round. It is a big advantage to play at home in these matches so the best of luck to all the team for the first match which will be played within the next five weeks.

The Jazz Night was a roaring success with all tickets sold soon after the notice went up. One senior member mentioned that he didn't think there had ever been a jazz night at the club before. Given its success there may well be another. Thanks to the Social Committee for organising it.

Last weekend was the second of our matches against county sides, this time against the Hampshire, IOW and Channel Islands under 18s. John Dillon expressed his thanks to me on the way up to the first tee that he was playing against two of their high handicappers; they were both playing off 5!

Alresford recorded a rare victory over one of the county sides with a 3-2 win in surprisingly good weather conditions considering the forecast for the afternoon. It was clearly my influence which held off the rain until just after the last group made it into the clubhouse. During the meal we saw an almost complete "white out" over the 18th green with both the 18th and 9th greens totally flooded for the best part of an hour. We were all very grateful to have missed that.

Some of you will have already noticed the Captains' Charity Teaser advertised in the bar. This will run from March 1st to October 31st so gives you ample time to enter more than once. Just try to work out how many shots all the Captains and Vice-Captains will hit over this seven month period in the competitions they play. Only official cards where every hole is completed will count, so no match play competitions, and stablefords will be counted by the points scored.

The cost of £2 a guess or 3 guesses for £5 will go to an excellent cause and there will be a prize for the nearest guess. Enter at the bar and place your donation in the charity bottle.

Good luck!

## ladies' section



**Carol Roe**  
*Ladies' Captain*

On a bitterly cold day, on Sunday 1st February, Alresford Ladies began and finished their campaign in the Mail on Sunday competition against Hockley. The Alresford team, captained by Lyn Travers was made up of Kelly Travers, Elaine Capp, Claire Gould and Karen Fox. The home team fielded a strong team and Alresford were beaten 5-0.

On the 7th and 10th February we changed the stableford competition to a non-qualifier in response to very low numbers in January and the cancellations of the January and February competitions of 2014. There were 30 entrants over the two days. The much improved turnout would suggest that non-qualifying competitions in the worst winter months, as is the practice in the men's fixtures, is a welcome format for the ladies section.

The section also ran three roll-up matches which have proved very popular with the ladies. These are run between 9.15-10.00 on Tuesday mornings by a member of the committee and a volunteer from the section. It is a very friendly and fun format. In order to keep the ladies on their toes, the format of the competition is varied. Check the white board in the changing room for the schedule of events. If there are any ladies out there who haven't taken part in the roll-ups, please come and give it a try. I think that you will enjoy the opportunity of playing and meeting other members in a relaxed environment.

I would like to thank all those ladies who volunteer their time to support the committee, not just with the roll-ups but with other major events throughout the year. Their assistance is so important to enable

the committee to deliver a full programme of events for the section. If you would like to volunteer please look at the sign-up sheets on the Captain's notice board in the changing room. You can help with raffles or halfway house on big events. Be assured that your contribution will be very much appreciated.

I was very impressed by our ladies from the Stoneham Cup team who represented the Ladies section in the Triangular match. Although the weather started out cold and breezy, as the match continued, heavy rain settled in for the day. Everybody returned to the clubhouse soaked and frozen. Despite a sterling effort, the Stoneham Cup team did not win but demonstrated a high level of commitment and tenacity. Thank you, ladies.

The last big event of the month was the final leg of the annual Winter Triple competition. Alresford were not successful this year, coming third. Well done, ladies, for trying so hard to bring a win home for the club. There is always next year! Special thanks are due to the organiser, our Vice-Captain, Linda Glynn.

Looking ahead in March.

7th & 10th March	Ladies Stableford
13th March	Ladies vs Hockley (home)
17th March	Ladies Coffee Morning
19th March	Ladies Capt. Team vs Stoneham Cup Team
23rd March	Ladies vs Bramshaw (away)
28th & 31st March	Ladies Ping 4BBB

## Ladies' section competition results

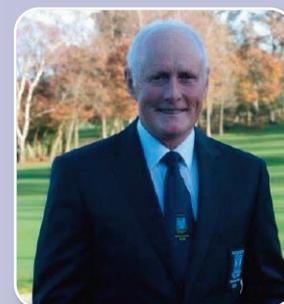
### *February/March Medal*

<b>Div 1</b>	Mandy Overton	78 (cb Sue Mortin)
<b>Div 2</b>	Amanda Caldwell	78 (cb Dibble Wills)
<b>Div 3</b>	Mary Panter	77

The competition's CSS was 75, resulting in reductions only (welcome news for all the participants!)

There was a voluntary collection for the Lifeboats

**Mandy Caldwell** *Ladies' Handicap Secretary*



**Stuart Slater**  
Vets' Captain

The Wessex Winter League is now complete. Firstly, congratulations and thank you to the team who beat RWGC. They played out the match in pouring rain and in the words of one of the players he was "literally soaked through to the skin"! Their determination gained us a very valuable 3 points and set up an intriguing finale to the league. The last match to be played was against Corhampton away. With points being equal going into the match Alresford achieved an away draw and pushed Corhampton into fourth place. We came third in the league.



The Summer "Friendlies" start this month and with a total of over 40 matches to play there is a lot to look forward to. By the time this is published the Vets Captain v Vets Vice-Captain match will have been played and I will confirm the result next month!!

Our next one-day event will be the Vets and Ladies Breeze Up on Thursday 16th April. This will be a 4BBB stableford competition off full handicap followed by a meal and prize giving. Each team will include a Vet and a Lady. The request for

players will be posted on 11th March and the draw will take place on 31st March. Last year we had 40 pairs and it was great day so make sure you don't miss the opportunity to play.

Please note that entries for our Knockout Competitions, including the Fred White close on 23rd March and the draw will take place on Tuesday 24th March. Please sign up.

Finally, since the last report I have been lucky enough to play with the no 1 Hampshire Amateur (playing off +5) against Alresford and in an Alresford team against the county juniors (a 14-year-old playing off -4 and a 16-year-old playing off -2!). In the former, I was amazed at the consistency and accuracy which should give us something to aspire to and in the latter I was equally amazed at the impetuosity and enthusiasm of youth which should give us something to remember and hang on to!!!

Spring is almost here - happy golfing.





Well, meteorological winter is over and as the first small bulbs burst forth, it will not be long before we are enjoying balmy golf in short sleeves. However, before then...

- The pruning programme has almost been completed, other than needing some dry weather to allow heavy plant in, so the last of the logs can be removed. There will still be a few small trees removed to allow machinery access in congested areas. I myself was sceptical about how the dense jungle to the right of the 4th would turn out, but I am extremely impressed with how this area has been opened up and is now much more visually appealing, without making the hole any less of a challenge. We are waiting for a tree surgeon to prune the tree short and left of the 10th – much in the same way that the tree in the middle of the 11th has been cut back. Those with long memories will know this is done on a regular cycle about every 3 years.
- The rest of the winter projects on tees and bunkers for this year have been substantially completed. In addition to the scheduled work, we have improved drainage in the right bunker on the 2nd green and if the weather holds off, we may be able to improve the bunker at the back of the 18th. The refurbished 3rd and 18th tees will remain closed for regular play until early April, although on request from the club captain, we have allowed play on a couple of days where there have been county matches.
- The extension of the irrigation piping up to the back tee on the 2nd is also underway. We have borrowed a mechanical trencher to lay the piping and whilst in possession of this machine, we are taking the opportunity to curtail root creep on some tees and the edges of some fairways.
- A reminder than Spring Maintenance is scheduled for the week beginning March 23rd. Early that week, the greens will be hollow tined, top dressed and fertilized. This should settle relatively quickly given that it is the start of the growing season.

---

Unfortunately last months e-bulletin could not be circulated by email as the file was too big and although it is available on the website, there were a couple of points which many of you have missed. These are repeated below:

- Whilst the ground has been cold, hard and unworkable, we have taken the opportunity to continue to manage the timber around the course. As I have explained to a number of people who have asked me, trees and shrubs grow at an average of 8-10% a year and unless we remove an equivalent amount each year, over time, the course will become overgrown. Not only do individual trees require judicious pruning, but we also need to remove individual trees in areas that have become congested, particularly where machinery needs access. In the past when trees have been planted in small groups, the intention has always been to thin these out and this has not always been done. The happy side effect is that balls will be easier to find and it may even help to speed up play!

There are also instances where the root systems are causing problems on greens, tees and fairways. Common sense dictates a long-term view and this means removing trees and shrubs that may become a problem in the future. An example is the tree we have removed about two-thirds of the way down the right side of the 3rd fairway. If you look closely, you will see thick surface roots spreading out onto the surface of the fairway. The soil here is very shallow and these exposed roots threatened to damage the fairway mowers. Leaving the tree in place was not an option.

In the main, the vegetation we are removing, consists of small stunted trees or shrubs (many which are self-seeded) that restrict the growth of the larger specimen trees and will give the latter room to grow. This work accompanies general pruning, such as along the right side of the 17th where we can now see walkers and they can see us. Much safer for everyone.

Finally, as part of a three year cycle we will be hiring a tree surgeon with a cherry picker, inter alia, to prune (ie lower) the trees at the entrance to the 10th tee and the small oak tree in the middle of the 11th fairway.

- When I became Chairman of Greens, I discovered that overnight I had been expected to become an expert in course design. Over the first few months of my tenure, I was collared by a large number of members with ideas as to how the course could be improved and I have to say that these ideas in the main were well thought out and provided food for thought. However, many of these ideas conflicted with each other and I came to realise the Greens Committee did not really possess the expertise to make potentially critical architectural decisions. We decided that what was needed was a long term development plan which not only would address improvements on a hole by hole basis, but also provide a holistic plan for the course. Such a task, rather than being done internally would be best achieved by seeking external help. In consultation with the Greens Committee and subsequently with ManCom, we agreed to enlist the services of a recognised professional course architect to develop a ten-year plan and ensure we have a strategic template to follow as we develop the course in the future. This is in the budget for this year and the work will be done in March/April. David Harrison has taken a close interest in this project and introduced us to Martin Hawtree who is the principal of Hawtree & Co, a renowned firm which has been operating since 1912 and has completed in excess of 800 projects. I would encourage anyone who is interested, to have a look at their website [www.hawtree.co.uk](http://www.hawtree.co.uk). This firm of consultants has a world class reputation in this arena with an extremely impressive CV, which includes redesign work at Open golf venues such as Birkdale and Hoylake, full course design for the highly acclaimed Trump course in Aberdeen

and closer to home has designed Bearwood Lakes, now in the top 50 UK courses. He has performed many reviews with a brief similar to ours, a recent one being for Windlesham and the Eden Course at St Andrews.

The involvement of such a world-renowned architect, will raise the DNA of the club to a new level and potentially attract new members who are excited by the prospect of Hawtree-orchestrated improvements over a 10 year period.

Over the course of the summer we will report back on the conclusions and recommendations made.

Finally, the next greens forum will be from 12.00 on Friday the 10th April 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 with Steve Privett, myself and other members of the greens committee. We are keen to hear any constructive suggestions and will do our best to answer any of your queries.

**Harry Dhand**  
Chairman of Greens  
[greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk](mailto:greens@alresfordgolf.co.uk)

# WANTED

## PLAYERS FOR MENS CLUB MATCHES

The list of the men's matches for this year has been on the notice board for some time now, but the take up has been disappointing. As matters currently stand we do not have enough players to produce a full team at any of the matches.

As the first match at Alton is only two weeks away, I would be glad to hear from anyone who would be willing to play for the club in that match.

Players of all abilities are encouraged to put their names down for these very enjoyable occasions which normally conclude with a meal. Selection does not depend on playing ability! This is an ideal opportunity to meet other members and play on some of the best courses (other than Alresford!) in Hampshire for a very modest fee.

My email address is [john.dillon1048@gmail.com](mailto:john.dillon1048@gmail.com), or you can contact me on 01962 773246 (different from the diary as we have moved.)

**a look at rules** supplied by **Casie McDonald Wood**



### Decision 8-1/16

#### **Suggesting to Competitor that he declare his ball unplayable**

**Question:** B's ball was lying badly. B was deliberating what action to take when A, his fellow-competitor, said: "You have no shot at all. If I were you, I would declare the ball unplayable." Was A giving advice, contrary to Rule 8-1?

*Answer on a later page*



## match committee report

The Annual Review was done in February and adjustments were made to a number of members' handicaps. In the first instance I notified those affected by email and those where I did not have an email address I wrote to and posted the letter on the post board in our locker room. On 28th February I changed the handicaps of each member affected, printed out a new handicap list and also printed a separate list of those affected. If your name is not on the list then your handicap has not been changed. However, with the start of qualifying competitions there is plenty of opportunity for your handicap to change when entering the competitions!

The draws for the Summer Knock Outs have been done and the draws posted on the notice boards as

well as on the website together with the play by dates. My thanks to Ken Coburn for producing the charts and for putting them on the website. Please remember that if you fail to put a result on the board by the relevant date then the penalty is disqualification of both sides unless there are exceptional extenuating circumstances.

The 125 Celebration Ball is going to involve the erection of a marquee which will mean both the club house and the 18th hole will be closed by mid afternoon on Saturday 13th June. This is when the Laming Cup was scheduled so this has been brought forward to Saturday 6th June. We will be sending reminders about this nearer the time.

**Peter Spreadbury**  
Match Secretary

## MEMBERS 'MEET 'n' GREET

Friday 27th March - 7.00-8.30pm

An opportunity for all new and current members to meet the Captains and Committee Chairmen

Find out what's planned for this year

Find new playing partners

Learn about the forthcoming social events

Ask any questions you may have about the club and its operation

ALL WELCOME

But please let the Office know in advance if you intend to come along

## social scene

There was a very successful Jazz Night on Saturday 28th February and once again the food was excellent. One comment from one of our more senior members was that he didn't think that we had ever had jazz before and considering it sold out so quickly, I feel that we should consider having it again sometime in the future. Our next event is the Club Quiz night on March 14th, once again the Quizmaster is Kit Neilsen, although he has mellowed in the content of his questions. More teams are still required, so canvas your friends. We are planning a Chinese Evening in April, more details to follow. Watch the notice board for the sign-up sheet.

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

## from the Secretary



### New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during February and March so far: Tim Wooton-Read (7-day) and Hilda Carr (Social). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one for both 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.

#### MARCH

Wednesday 4th – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 11th – 11.30am (due Vets Capt.  
 v Vets V-Capt.)

Wednesday 18th – 10.30am  
 Wednesday 25th – 10.30am

#### APRIL

Wednesday 1st – 11.00am (summer start  
 time)

Wednesday 8th – 11.00am  
 Wednesday 15th – 11.00am  
 Wednesday 22nd – 11.00am  
 Wednesday 29th – 11.00am

**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!

### ADVANCE WARNING

Book early for the  
**Sunday Lunch Carvery**  
**Easter Sunday - 5th April**

Book directly with Merryl

### Members' Guest Green Fees Special Offer

Due to the continued success of this scheme, we are offering the GUEST GREEN FEE DISCOUNT again in 2015. Over the course of the season bring either 6 guests for £120 or 10 guests for £200. 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 2015. No refund or extension will be given on unused "visits". Normal restrictions apply.

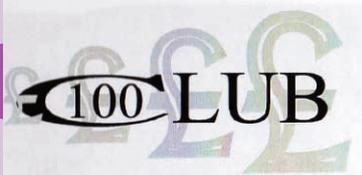
**David Maskery**  
 Club Secretary

## rule answer



**Answer:** Yes. A's suggestion could have influenced B "in determining his play". Thus, it constituted advice – see Definition of "Advice". It did not constitute "information on the Rules", which is not advice





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

<b>£100</b> - Tineke Ribbink	<b>£50</b> - Rosie Hallas
<b>£32</b> - Keith Monkhouse	<b>£32</b> - Tom Bechelet
<b>£32</b> - Terry Ellis	<b>£32</b> - Jack Moody

Congratulations to this month's winners ... interesting, but not significant, is that all but one is a past captain. The next draw will take place round about the Easter weekend and in time for publication in the April ebulletin ... look for the list of winners on the Secretary's notice board. In response to some queries I've had, the final cost for the information board on the 1st tee was £2646 and for the defibrillator was £1103.

### 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.

**George Clelland**

## POEM

### THREE UP ON ANANIAS\*

*Author: Grantland Ricw*

A group of golfers sat one day Around the nineteenth hole, Exchanging lies and alibis Athwart the flowing bowl. "Let's give a cup," said one of them, A sparkle in his eye, "For him among us who can tell The most outrageous lie."	And when they noticed, sitting by, Apart from all the rest, A stranger, who had yet to join, The fabricating test; "Get in the game," they said to him, "Come on and shoot your bit." Whereas the stranger rose and spoke, As follows, or to wit:  "Although I've played some holes in one And other holes in two; Although I've often beaten par, I kindly beg of you To let me off—for while I might Show proof of well-earned fame, I never speak about my scores Or talk about my game."  They handed him the cup at once, Their beaten banners furled; Inscribing first, below his name, "The champion of the world."
"Agreed," they cried, and one by one, They played way under par, With yarns of putts and brassey shots That traveled true and far; With stories of prodigious swipes— Of holes they made in one— Of niblick shots from yawning traps, As Vardon might have done.	

\*Ananias was a biblical figure, who fell down and died immediately after uttering a falsehood



### Getting in touch:

#### DISCLAIMER

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

#### Alresford Golf Club

Cheriton Road, Tichborne Down, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 0PN  
email: [secretary@alresfordgolf.co.uk](mailto:secretary@alresfordgolf.co.uk) [www.alresfordgolf.co.uk](http://www.alresfordgolf.co.uk)

Secretary: David Maskery Tel: 01962 733746

Professional: Malcolm Scott Tel: 01962 733998

eBulletin editor: Mike Gould email: [mpgmagwin21@sky.com](mailto:mpgmagwin21@sky.com)