

contents

- 2 Club Captain
- 3/4 Ladies' Capt./Ladies results
- 5 Vets' Captain
- 6 Match Sec./100 Club
- 7 Junior Invitation
- 8 Secretary
- 9 Secretary contd.
- 10 Greens/Social Scene

Congratulations to the young girls for their initiative in raising a wonderful amount for the Ebola crisis in Africa and all those who took part to make it a success. I visited the Club on that day and there was such a good atmosphere in the foyer with all that was going on. Well done girls!

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

The Girls did well!!!



See Lady Captain's report inside

Shorts/Skorts compulsory



As announced at the AGM, shorts or skorts are compulsory on the course from May to September 2015.

£1 in the Captains' Charity gives an individual exemption for the year.

Happy golfing

from the Club Captain



The Gales Hockley Over 50s team continued their winning run this month but the match was much closer. Their 5–4 win over Rowlands Castle, at home, avenged their defeat in the quarter-finals at Rowlands Castle last year but was hard fought. Well played to David Pain, Paul Wager, Torquil Jack, Mick Grant, Bill Ragan, Graham Marshallsay, Kevin Peel, Neil Flowers and Dave Fox. Their third round tie is away but their opponents are yet to be determined.

The Juniors' county competition, the Royal Greenjackets, fared less well. Despite also being at home, Jack Southgate, Will Briggs and Henry Glanville were unable to overcome a strong Rowlands Castle side.

The Bank Holiday mixed competition, on Easter Monday, was a greensomes flag competition this year and was played in excellent weather. Kenneth Turnbull and Charlotte Marsh took the winners' prize by virtue of being further down the first hole than Merv Fullbrook and Annabel Laird. Everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Thanks to Marion Bruce and Mandy Overton for organising the event.

The Men's matches are now coming up thick and fast. We have played three in the last three weeks with varying levels of success. We won the home match against Royal Winchester but lost against Rowlands Castle and Hockley, both also at home.

The first Mixed match, against Tylney Park, was at home too and this ended in a victory for Alresford.

I now want to look forward to early June.

The 125 celebration week is only a few weeks away so I thought a reminder of the events would be helpful. There is something for everyone to participate in so look out for the notices requesting players for each of the events.

The programme for the week is as follows:

Wednesday, June 10th – 125 Invitation.

Mixed event, team competition AGC and visiting club

Thursday, June 11th – 2015 Triumvirate.

Invited teams from local clubs

Friday, June 12th – Seniors Open.

Entry forms from the office

Saturday, June 13th – Summer Ball.

Reserve list still open

Sunday, June 14th – Juniors Invitation.

Mixed pairs from AGC and local clubs

Sunday, June 14th, 5pm – Trick Shot Show.

Paul Barrington's wizardry, open to everyone

Monday, June 15th – Vets 125 Invitation.

Team competition AGC and visiting club

Tuesday, June 16th – Ladies Captain's Day



Terry Glynn
Club Captain

The notices for the 125 Invitation event are already up in the clubhouse. The event is a mixed pairs competition, any permutation of men and ladies, playing with a pair from either a local club or another club also celebrating 125 years. The best score from each pair will go towards the team score with a prize presentation and meal after the golf. Sign up either individually or in pairs.

The Trick Shot Show on the Sunday, performed by Paul Barrington, former world longest drive champion, is sure to be exciting. This is a charity event with all profits going towards the Captains' Charity. Posters will be up shortly with more detail and how to get your ticket.

There will be a few restrictions on the course that week for general play. Obviously there will be tee reservations for the events but there will also be a drop zone close to the 18th green to keep wayward play (like mine) away from the marquee. An alternative route to the 10th tee will also be in operation throughout the week to avoid golfers and trolleys going through the marquee.

Lastly, the setup and running of the Summer Ball on the Saturday will necessitate some restrictions on the 18th hole and around the clubhouse. There will be a temporary green on the 18th all day, with an exit route via the far gate of the car park, and the hole will be closed from 6pm. The clubhouse will also be closed from 3pm.

Full details of the restrictions will be posted in the clubhouse.

The first Sunday in June is the Captains' Charity day.

This year's charity is very personal to the club as well as being in support of all those suffering from brain injury. Ian Voak is aware of the support the club is giving to him and Headway, and is hoping to be at the club that day. It will be a momentous occasion for Ian as it will be the first time he has ventured beyond his care. I do hope that he will be able to make it and that you all will be there to welcome and support him.





Carol Roe
Ladies' Captain

At the end of my last entry in the bulletin, I wrote about the heavy winds we were experiencing with little hope of a gentle spring around the corner. No sooner were the words sent off to Mike Gould, than the weather made a complete about turn. As Bob Hope said: "If you don't like the weather in England, just hang around for half an hour." That first week of April saw golfers appearing in shorts (yes, of course it was Terry G) and shirt sleeves. I even took the unusual step of removing my vest.

The 6th April, Easter Monday, was an important day for the section. Not only was there the Easter mixed Bank Holiday flag competition but there was also the first match of the North Hants Trophy. The Bank Holiday mixed competition was a great success. It was organised by Marion Bruce and Mandy Overton. Thank you, ladies for a very enjoyable well run day.

At the same time, the North Hants Trophy team led by Lyn Cowser had a resounding victory over South Winchester at South Winchester, 2.5-5. The team on the day were Lynne Cowser, Sue Pearce and Jane Scott. Congratulations for an excellent win.

The North Hants Trophy squad members are Sue Pearce, Sarah Farthing, Kelly Travers, Jane Scott, Becky Scott, Mary Rook and, of course, Lynne Cowser. The team will be meeting either Hartley Witney or Blackmoor in a home draw. Keep a lookout on the notice board for this match and come along and support the team.

On April 9th, Terry Glynn and I took part in the Concord Trophy at Camberley Heath Golf Club. It is a fixture designed to bring club captains and ladies captains together. The format was greensomes and the course was tough. We valiantly attacked each hole, even when we couldn't see over the hill to the heather covering the downslope or realise that the lush green grass ahead was a very deep dip. As Terry described it: "We didn't do as bad as we thought. We are in the top half of the field". Yes . . . enough said.

On April 10th, we played our fourth friendly match against Romsey at home. We had a solid win 3-1. An enjoyable day, good competition and excellent company. The Ladies and Vets sections met for the annual breeze up competition on 16th April. There were 60 participants, 29 ladies and 31 vets and I was told that the vet who was an honorary lady for the day enjoyed the experience but perhaps should have got into the swing of it by wearing a skirt! The Vets Captain expressed concern that the numbers were down from last year. One explanation was

that it was close to Easter and perhaps people were not around to put their name on sign-up sheet. Consideration to be given to this next year. He also reminded the company that it would be the last time that we would be meeting in friendly combat as there were a number of competitions coming up where we would be competing against each other such as the annual autumn meeting where it was the Vets turn to decide on the format. He was rather gleeful about that part.

On 18th April three girls from our junior section, Jenny, Millie and Hattie, ran a Par 3 competition in aid of the Ebola Crisis fund. A couple of months before they had written a charming letter to Malcolm Scott asking for permission to run the event. Both the Club Captain and the Ladies Captain were consulted and immediately gave their support to the project. Malcolm supported the girls in organising the event. One of their parents said how much they had enjoyed their committee meetings with him. On the day, the event was well supported



by those who played or who bought raffle tickets. They raised £586. The girls have to be congratulated for their initiative and for all the work they did in preparation and running the event. I felt rather privileged to be asked to be of some assistance to them and to take part in the competition. There was also a hole-in-one on the 4th hole of the Par 3. Catherine Carberry managed this which helped bring her team to victory. The winners were Annie and Ron Beal and Catherine. Since Annie and Ron each won a sponge, one was offered up for auction and £11 was added to the fund.

The first Stoneham match of the season was at home against Worldham on April 22nd. A close match, but a good start with a 4-3 win. Two days later the ladies played a friendly match against Blackmoor at home. Once again a close match. The greens were very hard and presented a major challenge to the players on both sides. However, a good result with an honourable half.

The Spring meeting, on 28th April, was played on an exceptionally cold day with a fierce wind. With 73 ladies playing in the morning, 48 in the afternoon and 77 ladies enjoyed the buffet meal. It was a triumph of organisation for Jennifer Clelland and Pat Wallis. Prizes were awarded for the Winter 9-hole competition and the Winter eclectic. Once again Mary Rook scooped the prize in the eclectic.

Mandy Caldwell organised a plant sale which raised £350 for the Captain's Charity and very generous donation was made to the charity. The results of the day's competitions were:

Morning Medal:

Best Gross Silver Division	Mandy Overton	
Best Gross Bronze Division	Rosie Hallas	
Best Net Div 1	Mandy Overton	70
Best Net Div 2	Rosie Hallas	70
Best Net Div 3	Liz Petheram	71

Afternoon 9-Hole Foursomes:

1st Fiona Corkhill and Jan Harring	19pts
2nd Cynthia Mariner and Lesley Martin	18pts
3rd Liz Petheram and Mary Panter	17pts

Old Mutual Golf Challenge

Winner Mandy Overton 70 after count-back from Rosie Hallas

Also, Winter 9-Hole Comp

Blue group: Tina Over and Elizabeth Hesse on 13pts (joint winners)

Pink group: Gill Male 13pts

Green group; Jean Coveyduck 12pts

Purple group: Liz Petheram 14pts

Winter Eclectic: Mary Rook Net score 64

Joint Runners-Up: Jean Coveyduck and Lesley Martin Net 65.5.

On 30th April, the Club Vice-Captain, John Dillon, and myself represented the club at the 125 Celebration Invitation at Burghley Park Golf Club in Stamford, Lincs. We started our journey at 6.30am and three hours and twenty minutes later, arrived at Burghley. After a quick lunch, we competed in a 4BBB. We ended with a very good result, coming joint third with 40 points. Unfortunately, we lost on count-back.

On Friday, 1st May, the ladies played an away friendly match against Cowdray Park. This course can be said to have many "ups and downs" which challenged the less fit among us, namely me. However, the course also offered wonderful views of the surrounding countryside. We not only enjoyed the beauty of our surroundings but finished with a 3-1 victory. Congratulations to the team!

We have now played six friendly matches. We have won two, halved two and lost two.

Ladies' section competition results



AGE CONCERN Stableford April

Div 1: Sally Reid 32pts

Div 2: Chris Grevatte-Ball (overall winner after countback) 36

Div 3: Mary Panter 36

Chris Grevatte-Ball will represent the Club in the next round - congratulations!

April Medal:

Div 1: Liz Thorne nett 71

Div 2: Di Peisley nett 76

Div 3: Mary Panter nett 69

After two excellent qualifying competition results in April (the Stableford and the medal), Mary Panter is now in Div 2, with a playing handicap of 28.

APRIL SPRING MEETING:

Medal:

Div 1: Mandy Overton nett 70

Div 2: Rosie Hallas nett 70

Div 3: Liz Petheram nett 71

Winner best gross score - silver division: Mandy Overton 82

Winner best gross score - bronze division: Rosie Hallas 95,

As a result of her win, Mandy Overton will go forward to the next round of Old Mutual Wealth Golf Challenge sponsored by The Daily Telegraph - congratulations!

Afternoon 9-hole foursomes:

1 Fiona Corkhill & Jan Harring 19pts

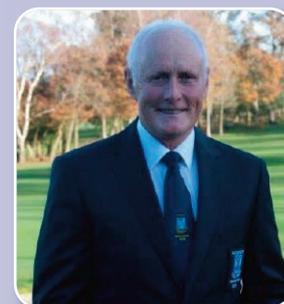
2 Cynthia Mariner & Lesley Martin 18pts

3 Liz Petheram & Mary Panter 17pts

Congratulations to all the winners and particularly Liz Petheram who won in the morning and the afternoon. Altogether, an excellent day, beautifully organised by Pat Wallis and Jennifer Clelland, and the plant sale for the Captains' Charity made £350 - grateful thanks to all growers and buyers.

Mandy Caldwell

Ladies' Handicap Secretary



Stuart Slater
Vets' Captain

I start this month's e-bulletin with the sad news that Hugh Smorfitt passed away on Friday 24th April. Hugh had been a member of the Vets Section for many years and played up to the time of his death. His "quirky" approach to golf was sometimes difficult to understand but those who played regularly with him knew him for his good sense of humour, his ability to take all the banter he received and his keenness to help others when he could. He will be sadly missed.

The Vets and Ladies Breeze up was played on the 16th April. A total of 60 players took part and enjoyed a super day of mixed golf. The eventual winners were Geoff Jenkins and Rita Robinson and the runners-up were Dennis Jones and Sally Willis. My thanks go to Wynne Tufnell who orchestrated the draw and wrote out all the scorecards, Tony Shelton-Smith for playing as a lady (no as a lady not like a lady!!), and to Ken Coburn who checked everyone in at the start, collected the money from those who had not yet paid and collated all the results when the tournament had finished. Just to remind everybody - the notice asked members to pay their entry fee before the draw date. Only 15 of the 31 who played did so! It makes life very difficult if we have to collect money on the day so in the future, those who have not paid by the draw date will not be drawn.

We have played six matches since the last bulletin. Of those we have won 2, lost 3 and halved 1. The results were Romsey Away 1.5-6.5, Stoneham Home 4.5-1.5, Lee-on-the -Solent away 5-3, Rowlands Castle away 3.5-4.5, Blackmore Home 3.5-4.5 and the Army Home half. Thank you to all those players who have taken part. There are many matches to play in the coming months and I am pleased to see that we have many members signing up. However, at the moment we are short of players for the away match against Waterlooville on Wednesday 20th May - please add your name if you wish to be considered.

Can all players please note that it is very important to arrive for matches with 30 minutes to go before the first tee time. This is very important not only because the Captain for the day can relax and have time to warm up if he wants but because in many away matches they use a two-tee start which means that, although you are well down the order, you might be teeing off at the same time as the first pair on the list!

Over the last couple of bulletins we have outlined the ways you can make sure your handicap reflects the general standard of your play. I would like to remind everybody that, in order to play in matches and tournaments, you need to have an active competition handicap. That means you must have submitted at least three cards for handicap in the last year (you will have a "c" next to your handicap on the board). With the Vets Championship coming up in June please make sure your handicap is current!!

One of the events during the 125 week is a junior tournament on Sunday 14th June. This tournament will be followed by a Trick Shot Show performed by Paul Barrington. He has performed his show in over 25 countries across Europe, Asia and the USA. His incredible ability with a golf club and his natural showmanship has won him many titles over the years including World Trick Shot Champion and British Long Drive Champion. This show will last approximately one hour and is open to all members at a cost of £5 a head. This fee gives you entry into a competition. Please sign up for this special event in the secretary's office to find details of the competition!

Finally, I am please to say that 20 teams of two have signed up for our 125 tournament on the 15th June. This should be a wonderful day of fun golf. We not only need to match the numbers of the opponents (40) but we also need volunteers to help on the day. If you want to play please add your name to the list and if you are willing to help in any way please contact one of the committee.

Many thanks and enjoy your golf!



match committee report

Although the summer knock-outs are still in the early stages, I have already had several requests for extensions to play by dates. The competition rules in the diary are definite and state that only the finals and semi-finals may be extended and then only with the agreement of the captain and only in exceptional circumstances. I cannot give permission for extensions.

The Millennium Quaiche has been going since Alex Davie introduced it when he was captain. Since then the Quaiche has been competed for in various formats. However, with dwindling numbers and a number of other reasons there is a feeling that we should discontinue the competition, at least for this year. This does not mean that it would be prevented from being resurrected in the future if a suitable format can be found.

Competition results

11th April Maurice Jack Qualifier

Top 16 go through to a knock out: Kevin Lane, Matt Blake, Barry Brooks, Sean Yeates, Andrew Thorne, Simon Wills, Richard Lane, Richard West, Ben Unsworth, Barry Norgate, Bill Ragan, John Ellerby, Alan Farrell, Brian Underwood, Neil Gandy and Chris Chapman.

18th April Medal & Lombard Qualifier

Division 1:

1st	Jon Capp	81 – 13 = 68
2nd	Ian Foden	83 – 14 = 69
3rd	Dave Seager	83 – 12 = 71

The new Club V1 software has been introduced and members have not seemed to find it a problem adapting to it. Certainly the fact that it doesn't hang up halfway though entering your scores is a great bonus. One of the differences in the printout of the scores is that members with non-competition handicaps are placed at the bottom as they cannot enter the competitions without a competition handicap. When Club Systems originally spoke to us about the change of software we requested that competitions comprising 36 holes, 18 medal and 18 Stableford such as Curly's Cup would be supported. The Match Committee are disappointed to find that these are not supported and we will continue to have to collate and print the two rounds manually.

May I remind members again that the Laming Cup will be played on Saturday 6th June not on the 13th June.

Peter Spreadbury
Match Secretary

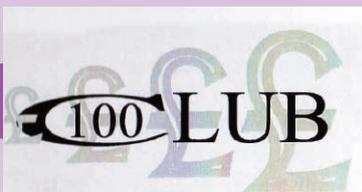
Division 2:

1st	Phil Armstrong	92 – 23 = 69
2nd	Mike Wooding	84 – 15 = 69
3rd	Charlie Kane	89 – 18 = 71

25 April

Mackershaw Trophy

1st	Norman Parker	38pts
2nd	Jess Miles	37
3rd	Dave Seager	36



The winners of the 100 Club prize draw for May are:

£100 - Ron Beal **£50** - Mary & Ray Panter **£32** - Bob Smith
£32 - Chris Grevatte-Ball **£32** - Carole Young **£32** - David Sault

Congratulations to all the winners The next draw will take place in the week beginning 1st June ... look for the list of winners on the Secretary's notice board.

Now the playing season is getting into full swing, remember to reserve Friday 7th August in your diary for the main event of the summer ... the 100 Club Stableford and Evening meal. An event not to be missed!

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 or call in to the Secretary's office.

George Clelland



ALRESFORD GOLF CLUB 125 JUNIOR INVITATION



SUNDAY 14th JUNE 2015

18 HOLE PAIRS COMPETITION (AGGREGATE STABLEFORD)

FOLLOWED BY

The Paul Barrington Golf Trick Show

**OPEN TO ALRESFORD JUNIORS
(with handicaps)**

Collect entry form from the Office

- Part of the 125 year celebration week
- Only £15 per person
- Competition open to boys, girls or mixed pairs under the age of 18 years on 1st January 2015 with active handicaps
- A 2-course lunch will be served after play
- Prize table
- **Free entry** to the Paul Barrington Golf Trick Show
- Limited entries – applications on a first come first served basis
- Closing Date Friday 15th May 2015

Please send the completed entry form and cheque for £15 per person (£30 per pair) to:
Alresford Golf Club,
Cheriton Road,
Tichborne Down,
Alresford,
Hants. SO24 0PN



THE PAUL BARRINGTON TRICK SHOT SHOW

Entry by ticket only - £5 (in advance from the Office or Bar)

The £5 gives you the chance of winning one of 2 bottles of champagne (or similar) by buying a square which will correspond to a square on a board that Paul will fire a golf ball through.

New Members

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting in April and May so far: Mike Battisson and Kathryn McLaughlin (7-day), Karen Upcraft (Academy) and Edward Sankey, Paul Sherrell, Karen Sprunt, Michael Young and Kenneth Henderson (Social Extra). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one.

May I remind all members that we are welcoming new membership enquiries for all categories? If you know any friends or acquaintances who are thinking of joining a club or changing clubs, please do your best to sell them the benefits of Alresford. Membership packs are available from the office which details the benefits and prices (including new payment options). We would be delighted to show any prospective members around the club and arrange a round of golf for them.

NEW CATERERS

Following the recent advertisement, selection and interview process, we are pleased to inform members that

Steven Wainwright and Asia Morys

have been offered and accepted the position of Franchise Caterers at Alresford Golf Club from 1st July 2015. We are excited about the prospect of working with them to further develop the reputation of Alresford Golf Club and continue the provision of excellent catering services for both members and visitors.

Background

Steven has been a chef and caterer for many years managing the catering franchises at both Pennard Golf Club and Garforth Golf Club. He has also been a chef at North Wales Golf Club and Sonning Golf Club. For the last four years he has owned and managed the successful Clock-watchers' café in Worcester.

Asia was until recently the store manager for Costa Coffee in Leeds city centre with an annual turnover in excess of £1m. She is a fully trained barista and responsible for the training and management of all front of house staff. She also spent some time at Garforth Golf Club in both kitchen and front of house roles.

We look forward to welcoming them to the club.

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!

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.

MAY

Wednesday 6th – 11.00am
 Wednesday 13th – 11.00am
 Wednesday 20th – 11.00am
 Wednesday 27th – 11.00am

JUNE

Wednesday 3rd – 11.00am
 Wednesday 10th – No "roll-up"
 Wednesday 17th – 11.00am

Are you getting the most out of your membership

COURTESIES & RECIPROCALLS

"COURTESIES" are where a local club offers us a tee time when we have a course closure due to a county or open competition here at Alresford. These are posted on the Main Notice board and are booked on a "first come first served" basis via the Secretary's Office. Members should request these slots directly with the Secretary (at Alresford). Members are reminded that individuals are limited to 3 rounds only. The 2015 schedule will be posted on Monday 13th April.

"RECIPROCALLS" are agreements between clubs whereby members can play at another club, usually FOC or with a nominal green fee charge, Monday to Friday (subject to availability).

We have several clubs that we have reciprocal arrangements with namely:

BRAMLEY, nr Guildford, Surrey
 LEE-ON-THE-SOLENT, Hants
 WATERLOOVILLE, Hants
 TIDWORTH GARRISON, Wiltshire
 YEOVIL, Somerset
 SALISBURY & SOUTH WILTS, Wiltshire
 RUSHMORE, Wiltshire

Requests for tee times must be made through the Secretary's Office (Alresford) and can be made a maximum of 2 weeks in advance. We are restricted to 1x4 ball from Alresford per week at each club. This provides an excellent opportunity for members to play other courses during the year and have a "day out".

1 year only opportunity!

The normal reciprocal list is also extended this year due to the 125th anniversary. Details are available on the website or via the Office of all the 125 clubs you can visit and play this year.

They include: Lamberhurst (Sussex), Conwy (Caernavonshire), North Wiltshire (Wilts), The Glamorganshire (South Wales), Wilderness (Kent). Please note that terms and conditions do apply to some of these clubs.

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.

Forthcoming events for your diary

Monday 25th May ~ Bank Holiday Mixed

"Red, Yellow, White" competition, make your own team of four. Start times available from 12.30pm. Sign-up on the Mixed Notice board. Food not included. £2.50pp entry.

Friday 29th May ~ Cross Country Scramble

This ever popular annual event starts at 1pm and is a 10-hole event on a cunningly designed course showcasing the best of the rough and fairways from angles and directions you should not have played before!

Please sign-up on the team sheet in the foyer. Tee times are strictly limited so do not delay.

Last time for normal play is 9am.

Sunday 7th June ~ Captains' Charity Day

Help the Captains raise funds for Headway and join in a fun competition with start times in the morning and afternoon. Tee times are again strictly limited so do not delay. Open to both 5 AND 7 Day members. Signing-up sheet will be in the foyer.

Friday 12th June ~ Seniors' Open

Entries are welcome from Alresford members to enter this successful annual event. Each year our Vets are allocated to single entries to help "show them around" the course and make them feel welcome on the day. We receive many positive comments because of this. Alresford members entry fee is reduced by £10 to ONLY £21 which includes a 2-course luncheon and prizes. Entry sheets available from the Office. Separate prizes for Alresford members and visitors.

Not playing golf today? Help required please!

The Alresford Voluntary Care Group (AVCG) was set up some 45 years ago to help local people get to their hospital, GP and other medical appointments, in particular for those who are elderly, infirm or just not able to drive. The group provides a valuable service to the local community currently carrying out some 900 journeys each year over half of which are to Alresford Surgery, with most of the remainder to the hospitals in Winchester, Southampton and Basingstoke. Most appointments are scheduled between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Volunteer drivers use their own cars, transporting people from their homes to their appointments, and where necessary, helping them to the appropriate department at the hospital or surgery. Drivers receive a hospital parking permit and a payment to

cover their fuel costs, plus, of course, the satisfaction of knowing that they are providing a valuable community service and helping people less able than themselves. The "customers" themselves make a donation towards the cost of fuel.

The AVCG operates a "pool" of drivers that can be asked to provide transport by one of the telephone co-ordinators; these are the volunteers that customers speak to when they need to arrange transport to the surgery or hospital. With the gradual reduction in home visits by GPs, and the cutting back of hospital transport services, the number of requested journeys continues to grow, possibly by as much as 20% this year alone. As a result, the AVCG urgently needs to recruit new drivers, so if you have a couple of hours to spare each month, and would like to help your local community, please contact 01962 734408 or 732695, or email david@casapequena.net to find out more about this worthwhile voluntary work.

Hampshire's David Harrison receives Micklem Award

Hampshire's David Harrison has received England Golf's Gerald Micklem Award for his contribution to the amateur game.

The award was announced at the England Golf annual meeting when delegates were told by the President, Nigel Evans, of Harrison's involvement in the sport for over 60 years.

He has been both a noted player and an administrator who has been captain of the R&A, was made an OBE for his services to golf and played a key role in the merger which created England Golf, as the independent chairman of the steering group.

David Harrison, an honorary member of Alresford, Stoneham and Hayling Golf Clubs, played for the Hampshire boys' and youths' teams before representing England boys. He joined the RAF as a national Serviceman and won the RAF championship twice and played in winning teams in two inter-Service championships.

He later went to Oxford where he gained a golfing Blue, before winning his county championship a record six times. He was county captain, played for the county team for 20 years and also twice won the Golf Illustrated Vase.

Harrison excelled as a golf administrator and was President of the EGU before becoming Captain of the R&A in 2007. He is a qualified Rules official and on many occasions has acted as a referee at the Open Championship and at other major golf events.

He is the President of the Hampshire PGA and has also held the positions of Joint Chairman of the International Golf Federation, President of the Association of Golf Club Secretaries and Chairman of the Championship Committee of The European Golf Association.



David Maskery
Club Secretary

news from the greens



I know it is May, but at last, the April showers have arrived. A boon for greenkeepers and gardeners, but a pain for golfers as we embark on our merry dance of hopping in and out of our waterproofs.

This time of year, the main tasks on the course revolve around cutting. Now that we have both moisture and warmth, the grass grows at an alarming rate and virtually as the course is cut, it is ready to be done again.

Key points to note this month are as follows:

- We are very confident with the health of the greens at the moment and the soil is starting to reach the magic 10 degrees we need for the grass to thrive. This is a key issue for the greens as the bent grass and meadow grass mix do not really grow properly until you get to this temperature. The fact that the surface is shaved also means that night time temperatures are key. As I indicated last month, the lack of rain, coupled with morning frost, have hindered the recovery of the greens after maintenance. It is always a lottery with the weather when you carry out work on the greens early in the year, but it has to be scheduled in far in advance to accommodate the fixtures diary. Not by reference to what Mother Nature is doing. The plus side is that this year we will only be doing light maintenance in August so the members will have a shorter disturbance time then. Some consolation for the amount of complaining that's flying about at the moment.
- Out of interest, if you look around the course you will notice the longer grass is in a much lusher growth phase. There are two reasons for this - firstly the type of grass is different - predominately Rye grass, which starts to grow when soil temperatures of about 8 degrees are reached. Secondly because it is kept longer, it preserves heat by acting as a blanket and therefore helps maintain soil temperature.
- Another by-product of the rain, will be that the rough areas will suddenly become lush and I suspect there will be a few lost balls. However, in searching for these, do take a moment to admire the beautiful chalk downland flora. As some of you will know the club is designated as a Site of Important Nature Conservation ('SINC') and we should be proud of the work we have done to maintain the natural areas of our course. As a special incentive to those sharp-eyed amongst you, a free drink is offered to the first person who emails me having found the Star of Bethlehem in the rough. To be fair you will need to pretty off beam to hit your ball there – which is obviously, how I found it!

Finally, we have suspended the greens forums for the time being due to a lack of interest – we have had virtually no one attending these informal gatherings. However, if there is enough interest, Steve and I will be happy to re-instate them either in their historic format or perhaps someone can come with a more enticing idea.

Harry Dhand
 Chairman of Greens
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social scene



The Chinese Supper at the end of April was very successful with members enjoying a selection of starters, crispy Peking duck and a stir fry selection.

The list for Social Golf on 25th May is displayed in the foyer, please sign up for the 6 white, 6 yellow and 6 red competition.

Gill Freemantle
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Alresford
 Golf Club

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DISCLAIMER

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