



alresfordgolfclub

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This summer I had the good fortune to play golf in Italy. My 2 sons-in-law and myself found the club, only 10 minutes from the villa, to be very well maintained especially given the dry heat, quite a challenging course (without being impossible) and the restaurant food was sublime. The club was founded in 1899 and must have been a major installation at that time given the terrain and the altitude difference between tee and green, and between the various holes.

Circolo del GOLF Dell'Ugolino is well worth a visit if you find yourself in Tuscany. Playing in the morning made it possible due to the afternoon temperatures, as did the important assistance of the buggy - owing to the gradients, with 15 degree slopes to be found on many of the fairways.

It was, however, most refreshing to return to Alresford with its well maintained course set within superb Hampshire countryside - and the chance to play all day with the distinct advantage of not being slow cooked at gas mark 4.

Tony Gard
'Fore Info' Editor

Management Corner

Review of the Club Rules.

The Chairman announced at last year's AGM that the Rules would be reviewed and good progress has been made by a small working group led by Immediate Past Captain, Terry Glynn, who has been assisted by Derek Myers and Pat Wallis. Their suggestions are to be considered shortly by the Planning & Development Committee who will make recommendations to the Management Committee. If the latter decides to propose that the Rules should be altered, a motion will be included in the agenda for this year's AGM on 25th November. The Rules may be altered only if two thirds of the members who are present and entitled to vote approve the proposal.

Catering Franchise.

There have been 20 expressions of interest which will now be considered by the Bar and Catering Committee.



Alresford
Golf Club

Getting in touch...

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You may have heard on the grapevine that all contributors to Fore-Info have been asked to make their submissions pithier, so here goes! For details of all the matches and invitations played since my last epistle, please check my report to Cap Comm following our meeting on the 30th September, (once it gets onto the web site).



John Dillon
Club Captain

On general issues, it has proved to be hard work getting male members to play in friendly men's matches. The men's match against Meon Valley on the 6th August had to be cancelled because Meon were unable to field a side, which demonstrates that other clubs are having similar problems, although there does not seem to be a specific cause. We are currently trying to keep the overall participation time as short as possible by not having a formal meal afterwards at home matches, which has met with limited success.

To play in the weekend games you need to be a 7 day member with a competition handicap, while 5 day members can play in the odd weekday matches. To try and identify why this is happening, it would be of great assistance if those male members who could play but do not, would let me know what changes could be made to persuade them to participate.

Although I have avoided reporting on specific matches, I must mention the successful Parkinson's day held on the 18th August, organised by Ray, Chris and Ken Chant. Their efforts raised over £4,000 for the charity. Well done boys, a great result.

The discussion on whether the Championships should be played over one day or two continues, so if you have a view please let either me or George Clelland know as soon as possible so they can be taken into account.

Lastly, don't forget that it is Captains Day on Sunday the 18th September. Tee times are between 08.00 and 10.00 in the morning, and 13.00 and 15.00 in the afternoon. It is open to all despite the class of your membership or whether you have a competition handicap. It will be a fun day with the prizes following a mainly champagne flavour, although the board competition can only be won by someone with a competition handicap. Entry is free as well as the halfway house, but a donation towards this year's charity when signing in would be appreciated.

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I am going to start on a personal note; July and August were not bad golfing months for me, although it could be said I was always the bridesmaid and never the bride. I was second last month in the Chetwode Trophy and second again this month to Lyn Travers who won the Medal Winners with a nett 69.



Linda Glynn
Ladies' Captain



Suddenly I was heading to Frilford Heath to a sponsored Ladies Captains England Golf event proudly, but nervously, declaring my newly won 16 handicap. I was positive all would be fine, after all this is only golf, what could possibly go wrong? Seemingly, not the golf as I was third and won the nearest the pin in 2 but the golfing gods made me pay with a damaged cruciate ligament. I am hobbling around but getting better so thank you all for your good wishes. I had, during the previous weeks, bored the socks off any one that would listen to my "I am playing with Charley Hull" declarations. All the field played the 3rd hole, a par 3, with Charley; the objective was to get the ball inside Charley's shot. My previous level of ambition on par 3's was to get the ball on the green. Nervously I hit the ball and, admittedly, I was a foot outside her shot, but a "nice swing" comment made me feel 9 feet tall.

Charley very kindly signed a visor, which will be on display in the trophy cabinet, and it will be raffled for the Captains charity, Alzheimers Research, in case you have forgotten. Further details on how to enter are coming soon.

Other notable achievements this month are an amazing second round by Diana Hampton with a nett 64 in the Senior Ladies Championship, but this was not enough to beat Jan Haring who had two great rounds. Jenny Dillon won the Summer Salver with a handicap cutting stableford score of 40. Last but not least Gill Freemantle's handicap has come down to 22 with a nett 68. All results at the bottom of this report.

I was hugely disappointed not to be able to play the Mixed Invitation, but I did get along to help with sign-in and for the meal. Jane Scott stood in and played with my lovely friend Stephen Moore and they had a creditable 38 points. The first, second and third partnerships all had 39 points but on count back Terry Glynn and his partner Bridget Moore won. As always with these events there are many people to thank, not least of all George Clelland and his fabulous wife Jennifer. David Robertson signed in and then helped Marlene Coburn provide the halfway house and Mandy Caldwell came along to sort out the scores. What a great team effort.

I am sure you sometimes wonder what we do at the Ladies Committee Meetings apart from laugh a lot. Most of the time is spent organising ladies golf but every now and again a knotty problem comes up and so here is this month's knotty problem. Along with the Captains committee, we are discussing the Club and Ladies Championships format whether they should be one or two day. Many of you have written or spoken to us but, if you have strong feelings, please let me know on lindaglynn1@gmail.com in total confidence.

Amazingly, we are already into September, starting with the Munroe Spencer Bowl and then moving on to the Autumn Meeting, our fun meeting, no medal competition here!! Later in the month will be the Ladies Daily Mail Foursomes. Also look out for the sign up notice for the Ladies v Vets match; it really is about time we won this!!!

I know you will all welcome our newest lady member, Fran Hart who is returning to golf. She will join us initially as an Academy member.

GOOD GOLFING

Linda Glynn

AUGUST RESULTS

Ladies Medal Winners

Winner: Lyn Travers

Runner Up: Linda Glynn

Senior Ladies Championship

Winner: Jan Haring

Runner Up: Diana Hampton

Summer Salver

Winner: Jenny Dillon

Runner Up: Mal Hope-Mason



Men's Invitation

The Men's Invitation was held on Sunday 31st July and contested by 27 members and their guests over 12 holes American Greensomes in the morning and 18 holes of 4BBB in the afternoon. The prize winners were...

Winner Dave Seager & Norman Hitchman (The Drift) 76 pts

Runner-up Weikus du Toit & Nico Beukman (Cams Hall) 75 pts

Third Mark Tiplady & Derek Salter (Royal Winchester) 72 pts

Best AM Tim Wootton-beard & Michael Lewis (Llanwern) 17 pts

Best PM Brian Stopp & Colin Burnside (Wisley) 15 pts

Best Par 3's Ken Richmond & Michael Ryan (Southwick Park) 19 pts (ocb)

My thanks to those who helped on the day and with the organisation and planning, especially David Robertson, Brian Overton, Lesley and Eddie Martin, Linda Glynn, Geoff Jenkins and Peter Spreadbury; not forgetting the Greenstaff, bar staff and caterers. I'd also like to give a special mention to Richard Bass who stood in at the last minute to act as marker for one of the pairs.

Competition Results

7th August Cornhill Trophy

1st Bill Ragan	41 pts
2nd Ron Markwick	40 pts
3rd Richard Bass	39 pts
4th Chris White	38 pts

13th August Wilkinson Trophy

1st Andrew Sibbald	66
2nd Richard White	66
3rd Ashley Wilmott	66
4th Liz Thorne	66

Lowest Gross

Jack Austin 72

24th August Over 60's Medal

1st Bob Sanger	66
2nd Richard Ewart	69
3rd John Little	70
Lowest Gross Bill Ragan	80

Mixed Invitation

The Mixed Invitation was held on Sunday 21st August with 20 members and their guests contesting 18 holes of American Greensomes. The results were very close with the top 3 places being decided by count-back on the back nine.

Winner Terry Glynn & Bridget Moore (Meon Valley) 39 pts (Back 9 – 21)

Runner-up Ray Panter & Shirley Percival (Market Harborough) 39 pts (Back 9 – 19)

Third Ken Turnbull & Sally Huffam (High Post) 39 pts (Back 9 – 17)

Our members being extremely gracious, allowed two guests to win the Nearest the Pin prizes.

My thanks to those who helped on the day and with the organisation and planning, especially Amanda Caldwell, David Robertson, Linda Glynn, and Marlene Coburn; not forgetting the Greenstaff, bar staff and caterers.

The numbers for both these events, like many others, were down compared to previous years, so we would be interested in feedback from both those who took part and those who did not on the events and suggestions as to how we can potentially increase the participation. On the plus side, many of the guests commented on the quality and presentation of the course as it is challenging yet playable by all golfers ... a compliment we should be very pleased with.

10th August Mid-Week Stableford

1st Steve Hopkins	41 pts
2nd Drew Fielden	39 pts
3rd Richard Prescott	39 pts
4th Dave Cooper	

20th August Alresford Show Trophy

1st Jon Capp	37 pts
2nd Simon Freemantle	37 pts
3rd Robert Kirk	36 pts
4th Ashley Wright	36 pts

27th & 28th August Bill Young Trophy

1st Sean Yeates	36+42 = 78 pts
2nd Simon Freemantle	41+36 = 77 pts
3rd Kevin Lane	40+35 = 75 pts
4th Ashley Wilmott	35+39 = 74 pts

Best 1st Round Gary Venn 42 pts

Best 2nd Round Dave Seager 40 pts

16-1d/5 Rubbing Ball on Putting Green for Cleaning Purpose

Question: May a player clean his ball by rubbing it on the putting green?

Answer on page 5





Geoff Jenkins
Vets' Captain

The Vets Invitation was the last item to be mentioned in last months Fore-info article as it was to be held only a week and a half later. I'm delighted to say it was an event enjoyed by many with lots of compliments from our guests about our fantastic course.

The most disappointing aspect of the day was the fact there weren't more players there to enjoy it. Numbers were considerably less than 2015, which in turn were less than 2014. If you've played in the event in previous years and chose not to this year, please share your reasons with us as to why you did not participate. Interest in this event can only be regenerated if there is an understanding of what is stopping members from participating, so your input is essential. Please give me a call.

I mentioned in the previous paragraph comments received from our guests re our fantastic course which, considering greens maintenance took place the previous week, is a great testimony to the skills and quality of work undertaken by Steve Privett and his team. Well done Steve and team and many thanks.

And, if that wasn't sufficient accolade, Steve and his team completed the scheduled greens maintenance by Thursday of said week, in spite of a day's rain on the Tuesday. This ensured the Vet's Summer Inter Club match against Cowdray Park (their first fixture with us) on the Friday of that week was played without a temporary green in sight. Therefore, another big thank you, not only from the Vets, but also Cowdray Park who were very impressed with our course and its condition. (Food for thought for those in the club who desire course changes!)

And how did we do against Cowdray Park? We won 5 – 3 which brought the tally for the month to 2 wins, 2 losses and 1 halved away match, the latter being considered as good as a home win! Quite a positive month.

During the month we also held the Vet's Captain's Flag day event, which is actually three (age grouped) competitions in one. The overall winner and winner of the 75+ age group was Dennis Jones. Drew Fielden won the 67 – 74 age group and Ed Tinley the 60 – 66 age group. So, well done to all and clearly there is no stopping the 'oldies'.

Now when I mention October, the immediate reaction is "that's a long way off yet!" But no its not. And why do I mention this fact? Because in just over four weeks, 6th October to be precise, is when the annual Vets v Ladies Competition takes place. Needless to say there is just 'a little bit of needle' in this competition and we need to be able to match the ladies team in terms of numbers. How many will that be? ...don't know ...but let's not be outdone! The 'Request for Players' sheet will be appearing on the notice board soon, so, come on guys get signing up for what is always a great fun event. Further details of the event will appear on the request for players sheet.

Lastly, please be aware that there are two home Vets matches scheduled to be played on Wednesday 14th and Wednesday 21st September. Both of these matches will result in the 1st tee being closed to general play from 8:45am. If you intend to play in the Vet's Roll up on either of these days, avoid disappointment by arriving early.

...rule answer

Fore Info

Answer: Yes, provided the act is not for the purpose of testing the surface of the putting green. It is recommended that a ball be cleaned in other ways to eliminate any question as to the player's intentions.



* The autumn maintenance week passed without too much disruption and the greens recovered quickly with the help of some well-timed rainfall. As we have been short staffed, the raking of bunkers has taken a back seat as has the ironing regime on the greens, but as you will see below, these issues should shortly be resolved.

* We will shortly be erecting a raised mirror at the back of the main 17th tee. This is in response to continued pressure from certain members of the public who feel that golfers represent a danger to walkers coming up the hill from the 2nd since they cannot be seen.

Whilst the steps exist to overcome this lack of visibility, few golfers actually take the trouble to use them regularly. The mirror will improve the situation and ensure that walkers are safer and golfers do not have to climb steps.

* Last month, we highlighted the fact that our greens staff complement was down from 6 to 4. I am delighted to report that we have since recruited two new replacements, John Bray and Tom Higgs, both of whom started on 30th August. As both are new to the vagaries of the club in terms of direction of play and likely shot distances, they will both be going through a steep learning curve.

At some times, whilst they are learning the ropes, they may be oblivious to the presence of golfers as they concentrate on operating complex machinery which is new to them. A degree of tolerance from the members over the next few months would be much appreciated

* As many of you know, I will be coming to the end of my three year stint as Chairman of Greens at the AGM this November. For work reasons I will not be offering myself up for re-election and the opportunity therefore exists for someone else to take up the mantle.

The role is extremely rewarding, offering the ability to work with a great team of people and to learn about many issues which strike at the heart of golf. If anyone is interested to talk to me more about what is involved, please either approach me directly or contact Mary Rook.



John Bray



Tom Higgs



NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club during August - *Paul Say* (7 day) and *Frances Hart* (Academy).

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.

SPECIAL MEMBER REFERRAL OFFER - EXTENDED

Refer a new 5 or 7 day playing member and receive an EXTRA £50 credit on your bar card. Speak to the Secretary for more information. (Not applicable to applications already received)

CLUB ROLL UP's

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.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 7th ~ 11.00am

Wednesday 14th ~ 11.00am (Mid-week Medal)

Wednesday 21st ~ 11.00am

Wednesday 28th ~ 11.00am

OCTOBER

Wednesday 5th ~ 11.00am

Wednesday 12th ~ 11.00am

Due to the continued success of this scheme, we will offer the GUEST GREEN FEE DISCOUNT OFFER again in 2016. 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 2016. No refund or extension will be given on unused 'visits'. Normal restrictions apply.

Look back over the 125 years of Alresford Golf Club

A fascinating insight into the club from the very beginning to the present day development and issues.

HISTORY BOOK Not got yours yet ? ONLY £10

Available from the Office whilst stocks last

COMING SOON

Captain's Day

Sunday 18th September

The Captain invites all club members (5 & 7 day with Active and Inactive handicaps) to play in an individual stableford and team bowmaker competition.

Teams and starts times can be self-selected . AM and PM starts.

Juniors with senior handicaps can enter as men.

Closing date for entries is Thursday 9th September

TROPHY WINNERS 2015

Would all trophy winners please start to return their trophies to the club for engraving and re-presentation at the Trophy Evening on 18th November. Trophies should be returned by Friday 7th October .

Every year we are left with a few unhappy members who either do not have an engraved trophy or a trophy at all , where previous winners have forgotten to return their silverware.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR TROPHIES IN PLENTY OF TIME.

DIARY 2017

If your contact details are incorrect in the diary or you have moved this year - please make sure the Office has your correct details in time for inclusion in the 2017 diary and the AGM / Subscription notices.

FACEBOOK



Please check out our Club page

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

David Maskery
Club Secretary

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

£100 - Robin Good
£50 - Ron Markwick
£32 - Ian Robinson
£32 - Richard Tallon
£32 - George Hand
£32 - Drew Fielden

Congratulations to the winners. The next draw will take place in the week beginning 26th September.

The 100 Club Stableford on Friday 5th August attracted an entry of 39 members. Even though it had been greens maintenance week the greens were in splendid condition as was the rest of the course. The clear winner of the 100 Club Salver was Mary Panter with 45 points, and the Liz Petheram was second with 38 points and then George Clelland took 3rd place on count-back with 36 points. At least this year, the men picked up one of the prizes compared with last year's clean sweep for the ladies.

49 members enjoyed a two course meal in the evening in a fine convivial atmosphere. After the meal the prizes were presented to the winners by 100 Club Trustee, David Farr. This year the winner, in addition to the traditional prizes, also received a fine silver salver, presented by Robin and Jennifer Good, which will be known as the 100 Club Salver.

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 Information Board and Clock on the 1st tee and the Automatic External Defibrillator in the Entrance Hall.

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 standing order. 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 by email: george.clelland@btinternet.com or telephone: 01962735008 george.clelland@btinternet.com or call in to the Secretary's office.

George Clelland

Social Scene

I have found a wood that can
actually lower my score!



It's called a pencil...

