



# alresfordgolfclub

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With so many momentous events worldwide it is a welcome break to play a round of golf! The trepidation in the political arena is nothing compared to the apprehension when about to drive off on the first following a short break.

I am, of course, describing my game, which is sporadic and very variable. Holidays from the game are a setback for me. Consistency is the key, I am told. Usually by those for whom it is achievable. It would be nice to return to a Tee, having already birdied that hole, to be confident of repeating earlier success. Well, we can all dream?

**BTW: Congratulations to our many club players visiting South Africa this winter...**

*...enviously* **Tony Gard**  
*'Fore Info'* Editor

## Management Corner

### Locker Rooms.

A firm order has now been placed with the chosen contractor. Work should commence on 6th February and is expected to last six weeks. Temporary facilities will be provided in trailers parked in the car park.

### Winter Membership.

This initiative by the Planning & Development Sub-Committee has been very successful with 24 new members. It is hoped that they are enjoying the experience of belonging to our club and that all will decide to stay with us by transferring to another playing category after 31st March.

### Sub-Committee Membership.

The Management Committee has approved the membership of its sub-committees, as follows:

**Bar & Catering:** Simon Freemantle (chair), Trevor Nice, Trevor Pearce, Liz Thorne, Gill Freemantle (chair of Social), David Maskery, John Murray (Bar Manager), Chris Pullinger (catering franchisee).

**Green:** Mark Tiplady (chair), George Clelland (Match Secretary), Tony Stanton (Vets' Section), Lyn Travers (Ladies' Section), Bob Moore, Jon Capp, Tim Wootton-Beard, Harry Dhand (temporary), Malcolm Scott (Professional), Steve Privett (Course Manager).

**House:** Eddie Martin (chair), Ken Richmond, Paul Batty, Gill Freemantle, Catherine Carberry, David Maskery.

**Planning & Development:** David Pain (chair), Ron Beal, Dave Farr (Land Trustee), Mike Dickens, Brian Wright (Vice-Captain), David Maskery.

**Finance:** Ray Panter (chair), Peter Kinloch (Lenders' Trustee), Richard Bass (Lenders' Trustee), David Maskery, plus two members yet to be approved.

**Personnel:** Mary Rook (chair), Ray Panter (Treasurer), A.N.Other.



**Alresford**  
Golf Club

## Getting in touch...

**DISCLAIMER**  
The Editorial Team take no responsibility for incorrect information received from Contributors.

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**Andrew Frearson**  
*Club Captain*

The weather has played a large part in the golfing calendar since the last Fore Info with many frosty mornings delaying those who wish to, or have to, use trolleys. The fog, on the other hand, has done the unthinkable - closed the course for two, admittedly separate, days.

The course is bearing up well and looking remarkably green for the time of year. Another positive is that our neighbours, Southern Water, have succeeded in removing the horses that troubled us from their land, so we should have no further incursions of this nature.

Membership enquiries continue and I have held several interviews for 7 and 5 day members. As I mentioned in my last report, we do not expect further Winter Golf applications at this stage.

I am preparing the teams to play against Hampshire Golf on 19th February and Hampshire Golf under 18's on 5th March and my thanks to all those who have put their names forward for selection. For anyone not playing who wants to see some good golf played on our course, a visit to one or other (or both) of these days would be worthwhile.

The social scene continues apace with a very successful New Year's Eve Dinner Dance for which a number of potential supporters had to drop out, due to the winter coughs and colds. Thankfully, most people seem to have recovered now. The pub quiz on 13th January saw the club house full again and we were royally entertained by Gill Freemantle and her conscripted husband, Simon. Following the quiz, the draw for the Captains Charity parking space was won by Jenny Dillon - it will get plenty of use I am sure. Thank you for your generous support - the raffle raised over £220!

The last event I have to report on is Burns Night. This was the 25th time this event has been held at the club and it is sad to report that one of the main contributors to this and indeed to the club in general, John McIlree, died on the weekend before it took place. Our condolences go to the family. The organisers decided that John would not have wanted the event to be cancelled on his account and it went ahead, led by Mike White and George Clelland. What an enjoyable and well choreographed evening it was with Robin the piper entertaining us and the irrepressible Chris and Kelly feeding us. Not to be outdone, John, in his finery, and Leslie ensured that glasses were full for the various toasts that were called for during the evening.

It would pay everyone to keep an eye on the notice boards for the culinary events that are happening - tables are filling up very quickly and you need to be on the ball not to be disappointed!





**Jean Coveyduck**  
*Ladies' Captain*

The New Year Roll-Up was sparsely attended but 4 valiant teams ventured out and returned to some welcome soup and rolls provided by Pullinger Leisure, despite their long spell of duty at the New Year Party the night before. More people turned up for the soup than played but it was good to share the start to the New Year at the club with such a happy group.

Foggy days rather than cold ones affected play early during the month but on 10 January we had our first Stableford of the year and also managed to complete the Turkey Trot. Kathryn McLaughlin won the outstanding prize so can now go and order her turkey, perhaps for Easter. For the rest of this month we have roll-ups scheduled with an emphasis on fun over 9 holes and then a quick retreat indoors. It has been good to see our Winter Members taking part.

The Christmas decorations came down much more quickly than they went up, thanks again to a willing group of volunteers. It will be interesting to see what decorative initiatives take place during the coming year in the bar and dining areas as well as in the changing rooms.

The Burns Night dinner was a great success and Jennifer Clelland gave a wonderfully apt and amusing response on behalf of the Lassies to George's toast. A number of people said the haggis was the best they had ever tasted – probably southerners, but it was good.

Barbara Hutcheson and Malcolm have been busy planning a course of lessons for new members and another for existing members so please look out for the notice giving dates and then sign up in the Pro Shop if you are interested. We also look forward to a Coffee Morning meet and greet for Academy and Winter Members at the end of this month in the hope that they will all feel encouraged to become full members in due course.

We received notification early in the month that the Mail on Sunday competition will not take place this year and a decision has still to be made about 2018.

The third Maple Leaf competition took place and Alresford lost to Sherfield Oaks.

The second leg of the Winter Triple was scheduled to be played but cancelled due to freezing fog. Corhampton players did not even want to leave their homes as it was so dense there and Lee on the Solent turned back because of traffic jams. The news reported over 60 accidents on Hampshire roads so I think they made a good decision. The match will be rescheduled.

We look forward to some more clement weather for our games in February although the course has looked so pretty bathed in white and eerie mistiness.

## ...a look at rules

## Fore Info

**In Stroke play, B's ball lies just off the green. A's ball lies close to the hole in a position to serve as a backstop for B's ball.**

Q. B requests A not to lift his ball. Is such a request proper?



## Winter Leagues

The last day for playing league matches for the Winter Leagues is, or was, Sunday 5th February. On Monday 6th the winners of each group, together with the relevant runners up, will be calculated and the draw for the knock-out sections will have been posted on the notice boards. In addition, the draws will be published on the website. Please remember that both parties in the draw are equally responsible for arranging the match and make sure you take notice of the closing date for each round.

## Summer Knock-outs

The entry sheets for all the Summer Knock-Outs are in the Pro's Shop. The closing date for entry to the Wessex (Men's singles), Ross Over 50's (Men's singles), Rotherham (Mixed foursomes) and Company Cup (Mixed singles) competitions is 5th March. The draw for all the competitions will be done on Monday 6th March starting at noon in the Clubhouse.

## New Local Rule

The R&A has strongly recommended that all Clubs introduce a new local rule to cover the accidental movement of a ball on the putting green. We are following that recommendation and the new rule has been posted in the changing rooms and the Secretary's notice board. The R&A felt that it was important to introduce this change now as a Local Rule rather than wait until the next update to the Rules of Golf in 2018.

## Recording of non-qualifying Scores

England Golf has just released an instruction that, to assist handicap committees with handicap reviews, from 1st January 2017 players must return all scores in non-qualifying competitions away from the player's home club. These scores will not directly affect a player's handicap, but may be used as 'supporting evidence' of performance when it comes to a handicap review. This decision has been made to promote the integrity of the system and maintain player confidence in handicapping.

Individual scores or team results must be returned in all Singles, Am-Am, 4BBB and team competitions with the exception of Texas Scrambles and Greensomes competitions, or casual social rounds. These Away scores should be recorded in the Away Scores binder in the Changing Rooms using the forms provided. Club Secretaries are also being provided with forms to pass on a player's score to his/her Home Club. Clubs are also asked to be aware of regular roll-ups that take place and the performance of players in them, though there is no requirement to formally record individual scores.

# Results

NB: This new section will list the results of all competitions and matches so that all will appear in the one place rather than in various places within 'Fore Info' articles.

# Fore Info

## Men's & Mixed Competitions

### 24th December – Pro's Xmas Eve Stableford (non-qualifier)

1st Nigel Pascoe	37 points
2nd Mike Pigott	37 points
3rd Dave King	37 points

## Ladies' Competitions

### 7th and 10th January – Stableford (non-qualifier)

Division 1 Kathryn McLaughlin (Turkey Trot winner)	36 points
Division 2 Linda Fossey	34 points
Division 3 Jennifer Clelland	28 points

## Ladies' Matches

16th January

Maple Leaf Trophy v Sherfield Oaks (H) Lost 4-1



Ian Jones





**Geoff Procter**  
*Vets' Captain*

Since the beginning of the year our golf has been impacted by the weather. We have had glorious sunny but cold days: mornings abandoned due to fog, and delayed starts because of trolley bans. Not surprisingly, the turnout for our Wednesday roll up has varied from 30 to 40 players on a sunny morning down to zero when fog has closed the course.

Fortunately our two winter league matches in January were played in sunshine. At Hockley, who are the current league leaders, we managed to halve the match and at home we won against South Winchester.

The menu options for all our home matches have now been agreed, and I am happy to say that the match fee for a two course meal will be held at last year's price of £15, and for a one course meal it will be £10.

## Mixed Matches

We are looking forward to the start of the mixed match season this year. However, our first match away at Cowdray Park has been postponed by them and will now take place on Monday 31 July at mid-day.

The list for the next match is now on the board. It is at home against Tylney Park and will take place on Sunday 23rd April. The first tee is at 12.30 pm. If you would like to be considered to play in this match please sign up on the form that is in the foyer, by mid-March. Rather than ask individuals to sign up for a season's matches in one go, availability sheets will be posted two months prior to each match. The team sheet will then be on the board one month in advance. It is hoped this will prove to be a popular move rather than committing yourselves so far in advance. There will also be a separate list on the board asking if members would be prepared to go on a 'reserve' list. You will not be asked to commit to a particular match but would be happy to receive a phone call if we are unable to make up a team. Your support would be appreciated.

Anyone is welcome to play in these matches, with or without a playing partner, and no matter what one's handicap. So, if you have not played before in a mixed match, please consider signing up and enjoy some super away courses as well as meeting up with and welcoming other clubs to Alresford.

Any problems, please contact me.

Jan Harring 07980474448.

## ...a look at rules

## Fore Info

**A.** No, If A & B agree not to lift a ball that might assist B, both players are disqualified under rule 22-1. (Decision 22/6)



**Good luck Melissa for your imminent delivery, we all wish you the very best.** Welcome to Linda who will be working in the Office part-time covering Melissa's maternity leave. There may be occasions over the coming months when the Office is therefore unattended so please bear with us. Thank you.

### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during January and February so far; Susie Lintott, Kevin Stride, Chas Donnelly, Ken Giles, Jim Collins, Matt Collins, Mike Mead, David Marchant, Paul Wickland, Alistair and Bonnie Catto, (Winter membership), Richard Sharp and Paul Finch (7 day), Andrew Heathcock (5 day), Samuel White, Henry Reilly, Jennifer Reilly and Rebecca Reilly (Juniors Under 12) 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 REFFERAL OFFER

**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.**

### CLUB 'ROLL UP'

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 from January 2017 will be 11.00am all year - all timings subject to any advanced tee reservations

### FEBRUARY

Wednesday 1st ~ 11.00am  
Wednesday 8th ~ 11.00am  
Wednesday 15th ~ 11.00am  
Wednesday 22nd ~ 11.00am

### MARCH

Wednesday 1st ~ 11.00am  
Wednesday 8th ~ 11.00am TBC (Vets Capt.v Vets V-Capt)  
Wednesday 15th ~ 10.45am (due to society booking)

### PLEASE NOTE CHANGE 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. **Please check the club website and main noticeboard for changes to these dates.**

Friday 3rd, 10th February & 24th February  
Friday 10th March

### Forthcoming Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 14th February  
**VALENTINE'S RESTAURANT EVENING**

Friday 17th February **PUB QUIZ**

Friday 3rd March **MIXED GRILL & MEAT RAFFLE**

Saturday 11th March **CLUB QUIZ NIGHT (KIT'S QUIZ)**

Friday 17th March **ST.PATRICK'S NIGHT**

Sunday 26th March **MOTHERING SUNDAY CARVERY**

### Please bear the following in mind when playing...

\* If it is frosty or icy, the chance is that the car park will be slippery too! Take care when driving around the car park. **SLOWLY PLEASE.**

\* The fact that the course has not been officially closed does not warrant that it is entirely fit for play.

\* Players have a duty of care not to behave in a manner that may be dangerous or cause harm to other players.

\* They also have a duty of care not to injure themselves by paying particular care and attention to the conditions.

\* Please take extra care with regards to slipping on the wet, muddy or frozen ground – golf shoes will collect the mud and ice on the soles rendering your spikes useless.

\* Avoid walking up or down slopes and banks wherever possible especially if with a trolley – use the proper paths.

\* Please obey all course signage and avoid area's roped off

\* Wooden sleeper edges will stay slippery and so

*do not walk on them.*

**RAIN / MUD / FROST / ICE = slippery golf course, especially grass banks, wooden sleepers and any untreated areas.**

**PLEASE TAKE CARE** and keep to the paths whenever possible. **DO NOT** walk on slopes.



Golf trolley damage

**NEXT TO A PATH!**

### MEMBERS GUEST GREEN FEES SPECIAL OFFER

Due to the continued success of this scheme, we will offer the GUEST GREEN FEE DISCOUNT OFFER again in 2017. 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 2017. No refund or extension will be given on unused 'visits'. Normal restrictions apply.

### SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS 2017

Despite our pleas there are still members who have not paid their subscriptions yet. You are not entitled to play until such time as we receive payment.

If you intend not to rejoin – a telephone call or email to let us know is greatly appreciated. Simply to ignore your invoice and subsequent reminders causes extra work.

### SLOW PLAY? "Its not me, its everyone else!"

Slow golfers do not believe they are slow. They just tuck their head under their shell and continue to display poor pace of play etiquette on the golf course. Slow play is just bad manners.

At this time of year the weather is a major factor on the course and I'm pleased to confirm that we have been open every day but have had some early morning closures due to fog. We have also had some early morning trolley bans due to heavy frost. The frost is now 3 to 4 inches deep into the greens so we could be on temporary greens for a while. As the frost thaws the walkways will start to wear and will become muddy so please can you help to spread the wear by walking away from the worn areas rather than right next to the traffic restrictions we have placed.

We have received suggestions that we close the white tees to save wear during winter months. We understand but feel that this would increase the damage and wear to the yellow teeing areas. We do suffer here as our tees are very small. The greenkeepers will monitor the wear and close white tees should the need arise.

The tree work on the 14th/15th is almost complete and the greenkeepers will try to clear some of the leaves that remain there. The blackthorn on the left of the 17th in the dip is dying and will be removed shortly. The tree over the fountain by the 4th/15th tees has already been removed because the birds were dropping into the drinking fountain and the roots were lifting the brick work. A large tree in Hassocks Copse on the left of the 7th boundary fell through the fence overnight 16th/17th January. The green staff managed to clear it away that morning.

We have a tree spade coming in on the 14th Feb (weather permitting) and we have identified locations for planting 12 to 15 trees. Some trees will be moved to replace damaged ones. 5 trees will be removed from the right of the 1st and we will also be planting 5 on the driving range to provide some definition. We will be building a target green on the right of the Driving range at approximately 145 yards this winter. To construct this we will utilise some of the chalk currently stored to the right of the range. This is the first target green of 5 planned over the next few years which will improve our practice facilities for our members and visitors.

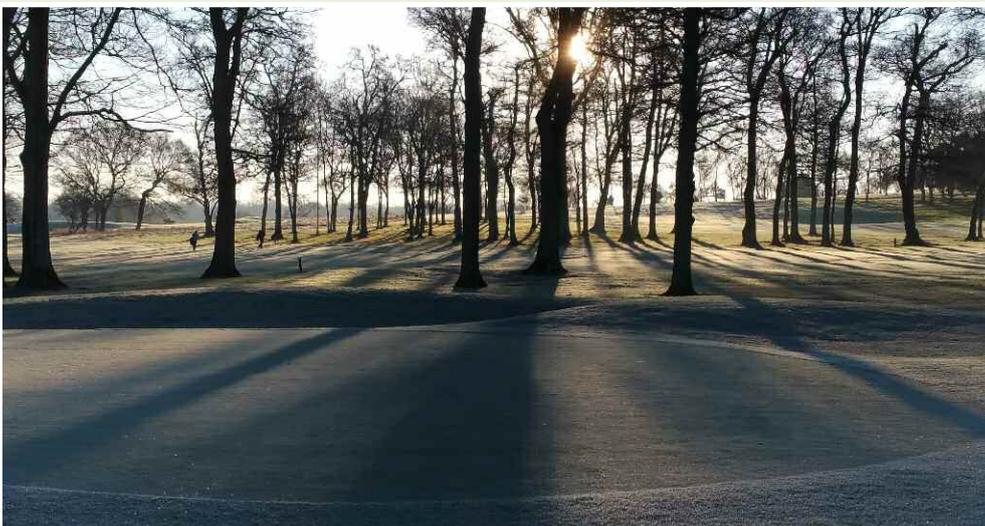
The 12th green is suffering from shading on the green and lack of air movement. Unfortunately this is not conducive to healthy grass growth. The trees at the rear and right hand side will be thinned and topped to allow light and air movement onto the green.

We have appointed a new member of the team to replace Tom. Marc Oram starts on Monday 30th and I'm sure he'll be given a friendly welcome.

Have you seen the Twitter feed set up by our green staff - [@GreenstaffAGC](#) ? This can be accessed from the homepage of our website for those of us who do not use Twitter. This is really informative and often explains what, and importantly, why work is being done. Well done team!

Finally, a reminder that greens maintenance is planned for the end of February, weather permitting. We're now looking forward to the spring and some good golfing weather.

Mark Tiplady



Ian Jones



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

£100 - Peter Petheram  
 £50 - Derek Marsh  
 £32 - Esme Goodacre  
 £32 - Charles Kydd  
 £32 - Sally Willis  
 £32 - Ian Cantrill

Congratulations to this month's winners. Esme Goodacre is having a run of good luck, winning 3 months in succession with 3 different numbers! The next draw will take place in the week beginning 20th February ... look for the list of winners on the Secretary's notice board.

### 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 or telephone: 01962735008 [george.clelland@btinternet.com](mailto:george.clelland@btinternet.com) or call in to the Secretary's office.

**George Clelland**

## Social Scene

TWITTER – follow the green staff and see whats happening on and around the course.  
 @GreenstaffAGC

# FACEBOOK



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

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

## FUN PUB QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 17th February

£1 ENTRY PER PERSON - WINNERS TAKE ALL

Food at 7.00pm (payment in advance only)

Quiz at 8.00pm Everyone welcome

Teams of 4

But don't worry if you aren't part of a team, you'll soon find yourself in one !



## Burns Supper 2017

A full house of 70 members and guests sat down to our traditional Burns Supper on Saturday 21st January. This being the 25th Annual Burns Supper, the evening started with an acknowledgment of the contribution of Jack Maxwell who instigated and organised our first Burns Supper in his Captaincy year of 1993. This was followed by a toast to the memory of John McIlree who had been involved as both a speaker and joint organiser of our Burns Suppers for around 10 years. John died unexpectedly on Sunday 15th January and the evening proceeded as a tribute to him, as John had always very much enjoyed the event and had contributed so much to it over the years.



As always, the guests were greeted by the skirl of the bagpipes which set the scene for the evening. The traditional supper of Cock-a-Leekie soup, the centre piece of haggis served with neeps and tatties and Scotch Trifle (which had a nice little kick in the sponge at the bottom the glass), was expertly prepared by Chris and Kelly Pullinger.

As is traditional, the haggis was piped in, carried on the Petersfield Salver by chef Adam, and attended by John Murray bearing drams for the ceremonial party. George Clelland, with all due ceremony and gusto, then addressed the haggis.

The main speech and toast, The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, was proposed by Ray Grainger who gave us some food for thought on what Burns' thoughts might be on the weighty matters of today ... Brexit, President Trump, Nicola Sturgeon and Scottish independence.

George Clelland gave the Toast to the Lassies, drawing some amusing comparisons between male and female lyricists and asking whether women's attitudes had changed in the last 250 years. However, George was completely upstaged by his wife Jennifer, who gave a hilarious Reply frae the Lassies. The evening concluded with everyone giving a hearty rendition of Auld Lang Syne.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the evening ... Mike White for doing a splendid job as Chairman and keeping the whole evening running smoothly; Brian Wright for delivering the Selkirk Grace; Geoff Jenkins for proposing the Loyal Toast; Andrew Frearson for his complimentary vote of thanks; Chris and Kelly and all the kitchen and serving staff; John and Leslie at the bar; our piper Robin Bartholomew of the Hampshire Caledonian Pipe Band and finally, but by no means least, the other principal speakers, Ray Grainger and my wife, Jennifer.

George Clelland

