



alresfordgolfclub

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I am sad to see that Phillip is leaving Alresford. He has always been very helpful to me and his contribution to the club over the last 10 years has been excellent. In addition he made a valuable and welcome addition to the orchestra for Acts and for the small ensemble for the TOADS (The Old Alresford Dramatic Society) performances. Well done Phillip and good luck with PGA Hampshire and with your new post at Hayling Island Golf Club.

Tony Gard
'Fore Info' Editor

Management Corner

Corporate Membership Scheme

Hampshire Police Leisure and Sports (HPLS) is an organisation to which serving and retired members of both Hampshire Police and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service may belong. HPLS has had corporate membership schemes at five other golf clubs in Hampshire for several years. As the result of an initiative by the Chair of the Planning and Development Sub-Committee we will now become the sixth club to have such a scheme which has been approved by the Management Committee and the Captain's Committee. It will run initially from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. HPLS have purchased six 7-day memberships so that up to 36 of their members may use the main course provided that not more than six are on the course at any one time (this will be managed via the Pro Shop). Such HPLS members are not full playing members of the club, will not have any voting rights nor will they be able to participate in team matches, board competitions or knockouts. Nor can they utilise our reciprocal arrangements with other clubs. They will be able to enter Medals and Stablefords (if a CONGU handicap is held) and be able to participate in Club Roll-ups and social golf, use practice facilities, attend social functions and bring guests at the members' guest green fee rate. It is hoped that HPLS members will be made welcome by all and encouraged to participate in club activities.

Winter Membership The initial trial has now been completed and will be reviewed by the Planning and Development Sub-Committee. It is pleasing to report that, of the 24 winter members, seven have already upgraded to full playing membership.

Men's Showers

Since the recent re-opening of the men's changing room there have been some comments about the showers, in particular an excess of water on the floor. This is occurring due to a combination of the type of shower head selected and the higher water pressure resulting from the replacement of the old water softener. The House Sub-Committee is arranging for different shower heads to be fitted and these are expected to result in less water on the floor.

Attention 5-day members

The Management Committee has agreed to trial a reduced green fee rate for all 5-day members who wish to play on Good Friday and Bank Holiday Mondays. You will be able to play in any social golf competitions, but not the Linnets competition, for £14 (50% discount off of members' guest rate). The number of players will be reviewed at the end of the season and a decision made as to whether to extend this further.



Alresford
Golf Club

Getting in touch...

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

Alresford Golf Club

Cheriton Road, Tichborne Down, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 0PN
email: secretary@alresfordgolf.co.uk www.alresfordgolf.co.uk

Secretary: David Maskery Tel: 01962 733746

Professional: Malcolm Scott Tel: 01962 733998

editor: Tony Gard email: tony_gard@btconnect.com

As the weeks fly by there is more golf to report on. The grass is beginning to grow and the greens are doing what they are supposed to do and recovering from Steve and his team's sometimes harsh nurturing. The daffodils are out and the sheep are getting the last out of the remaining areas they were brought in to clear. Thanks sheep for another year.



Andrew Frearson
Club Captain

As I reported last month, we were awaiting the arrival of the Hampshire U 18's side and they duly turned up with their brilliantly low handicaps and their ridiculously supple swings, which were a delight to watch. Our own U 18's did their bit with both Henry Glanfield (Junior Captain) with Ashley Wright and Will Briggs with David Pain winning their matches. Alresford won the match 3/2 - well done to all the participants.

Our intra-club Team challenge was fought on 25th February between our Stoneham Cup, Gales Hockley and Men's County 7's teams, which was won by the latter team - 'of course' Grant tells me!

I had the pleasure on 14th March of starting the Ladies who gathered for the Coffee morning and Golf. It is a very popular event and, having started it before, I am always pleased to see familiar faces.

Tim Wootton-Beard and Len Lochrie were successful in their opening match of the Daily Mail Foursomes against Hockley - congratulations to them.

The Spring Texas Scramble was not as well supported as in the past but, nonetheless, there were enough participants to fill the clubhouse after both the morning and afternoon competitions. Thanks to David Maskery for organising it.

We had our first Men's match of the season - away against Alton. A cold day with a brisk wind and a quite muddy course did for our chances of an away victory, but, in the usual spirit of these matches, a good time was had by all.

The social scene has been active with events put on by the caterers - the mixed grill night and the St Patrick's Day celebration being well supported. I believe Jean will comment further on the latter event.

As we head further into Spring, the early rounds of the knockouts need to be played - don't leave the arrangements until the last minute - extensions are difficult to come by!

Lastly, congratulations to Eddie Martin and his sub-committee for seeing through the re-furbishment of the changing facilities.





Coffee Morning

The Ladies' Coffee Morning took place on Tuesday, 14 March. Once again this event proved popular with clubs in our area and was fully subscribed. We made a profit of around £190 from the raffle for the Captain's Charity. Thank you to everyone who helped.



Jean Coveyduck
Ladies' Captain

I am delighted to report that 2 lady Winter Members have converted to full membership and so it gives me great pleasure to welcome both Chris Hall and Sarah Densham to our section.

We had a team on duty for the Open Taster Day on 18 March and not only signed up one Academy Member for the men, but are hopeful more ladies, new to golf, will sign up as a result of this and the advertised introductory and beginners' lessons.

Earlier in the month I also interviewed a new player, Lucy Hutton, who signed up for the Academy so our push for new members would seem to be bearing fruit. We hope to see all our new, and nearly new, members at the Meet and Greet on 7 April from 6.30 pm in the Club House so that they, and we, can put names to faces.

Kit's 40th Club Quiz was a great success with an element of fun as well as some very tricky questions. He was subjected to a mini Mastermind himself at the end of the evening, courtesy of the Social Committee, and then presented with a bottle of champagne – a small token of appreciation for a truly amazing commitment over so many years.

Chris and Kelly treated us to a fun evening to celebrate St Patrick's Day with excellent food around a potato theme. The tables had lively and colourful decorations and there was live Irish music to accompany the event. At the end, Robin Good sang the old Irish folk song about Paddy McGinty for our entertainment. I remember my father had some rather different verses to this in his repertoire and it was a great family favourite!

The last two matches for the Maple Leaf Trophy were played this month. We lost the last away match at North Hants but it was well fought and a very close, 2-3.

The final match in the Winter Triple took place at home – this time in pouring rain instead of fog but at least we finished it. Sadly we didn't make up ground lost in previous matches and had to hand over the trophy to Corhampton this time. Their Ladies' Captain ten years ago, when the competition was inaugurated, Gill McMillan, captained their team and received the trophy on their behalf.

Our qualifiers from last year's Daily Mail Foursomes, Lesley Martin and Debbie Wills, played in the second round of this competition but were beaten by South Winchester.

We are delighted to have our changing room back in commission although there is still some work to do. It was christened when we came back in after the Winter Triple Match – greatly appreciated on such a wet, cold, windy day! We now look forward to spring arriving in earnest and more enjoyable experiences on the golf course.

...a look at rules

Fore Info

Q: A player has a 6ft downhill putt. He putts and his ball rolls past the hole and rolls down off the front of the green and finishes under the lip in a bunker.

May the player proceed under rule 28 (ball unplayable) stroke & distance option?



Proposed changes to the Rules of Golf

Many of you will have heard or seen reports about this in the media. The R&A and USGA have announced a major set of proposed changes to the Rules of Golf for implementation in 2019. These changes result from a Rules Modernisation initiative that began five years ago in an effort to bring the Rules up to date to fit the needs of the game today globally. The overall goals of this major revision are to

- Be more easily understood and applied by all golfers;
- Be more consistent, simple and fair; and
- Reinforce the game's longstanding principles and character.

There is a comprehensive set of information available online at <http://www.rules.golf> which I encourage you all to review. This includes background information, draft versions of the Player's Edition, the complete Rules and FAQ's and also a link to a Survey where you can give your own personal feedback. The Survey is open until the end of August 2017. It is expected that the new Rules will be published in the first half of 2018 to allow time for distribution and education before they become effective on 1st January 2019.

Winter Eclectic

Unfortunately, the copy deadline for Fore Info means that it hasn't been possible to include the final result of the Men's Winter Eclectic which finished on 26th March. This will appear in the May edition.

36 Hole Competitions

There are two 36 hole competitions in April – the Linnets, and Curly's Cup. A reminder if you're not able to play on both days, you can enter for just one round on payment of an entry fee of £3 and you will be eligible for the Best Score of that round. For those of you playing both rounds, the second round is played with the same playing handicap as you had when you started the first round. On each day there will be two Entry Sheets, one for those playing both rounds and one for those only playing that day – make sure you sign the correct Entry Sheet.

Course Update

The swales on the 9th, 16th and 18th holes are no longer Ground Under Repair, so a ball lying in one of these swales should be played as it lies.

The Local Rule allowing Preferred Lies (Winter Rules) will be withdrawn at some point during the month of April. Please check the status of the rule before starting play.

Members should always use the footpath/bridleway when going from the 3rd green to the 4th tee and from the 6th green to the 7th tee. Walking across the 15th fairway between these points causes unnecessary wear on the course.

Results

Fore Info

Men's & Mixed Competitions

4th March – March Stableford

Division 1	1st Kevin Lane	41 points
	2nd Roy Partridge	39 points
	3rd Ian Jones	39 points
	4th Peter Grant	38 points

Division 2	1st Peter Gunn	40 points
	2nd Andrew Petley	36 points
	3rd Gary Venn	36 points
	4th David Tye-Reeve	35 points

6th March – Over 60's Stableford

1st Stuart Slater	47 points
2nd Richard Ewart	37 points
3rd Kit Neilson	36 points

15th March – March Midweek Stableford

1st Harry Dhand	37 points
2nd Tim Wootton-beard	36 points
3rd Brian Underwood	36 points
4th George Skayman	35 points

25th March – March Medal

Division 1 (nett)	1st Mark Tiplady	68
	2nd Darren Boreham	68
	3rd Jim Bulloch	70
Division 2 (nett)	1st Andrew Petley	65
	2nd Rob Gates	69
	3rd David Tye-Reeve	70
	4th Gary Venn	70

Daily Mail Foursomes (1st Round)

17th March	Alresford v Hockley (Home)	Won 1 up (25th hole)
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Men's Matches

5th March	Alresford v Hampshire County U18's	Won 3-2
18th March	Alresford v Alton (Away)	Lost 1½ - 3½

Ladies' Competitions

4th and 7th March – Stableford

Division 1	Pat Palmer	33 points
Division 2	Sarah Thorne	30 points
Division 3	Liz Petheram	36 points

18th and 21st March – Lifeboat Charity and Medal

Division 1	Kathryn McLaughlin	nett 74
Division 2	Sarah Densham	nett 72
Division 3	Gill Male	nett 77

Ladies Matches

13 March	Alresford v Hockley (Home)	Won 3-1
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Geoff Procter
Vets' Captain

Post Match Format

Following our decision to go 'smart casual' for our all our home matches, we emailed the 20 clubs we play against during the 'summer season' to advise this change to our post match dress code. So far we have received definitive replies from 12 clubs of which 7 have also decided to go smart casual and 5 want to keep their jacket and tie dress code. This means that we all have to note the dress code for each away game, and always pack a tie just in case.

Matches

The 'summer season' was kicked off by the annual Vets Captain v Vice Captain on the 8 March with 44 players enjoying the fine weather. I am happy to say that the recent tradition of the Vice Captain's team winning was maintained, so well done Chris's team. Also a big thanks to Wynne Tufnell for another well organised event.

The weather was also kind for our first 'summer' match against Corhampton, but less kind when we played at home against Petersfield - especially when I realised my trousers were no longer storm proof. Hopefully, now that I have ordered new trousers from the pro shop, I will be storm proof in the near future!

At the time of going to print we still have two matches to play in March and in April we will have 5 inter club matches, plus the fun Breeze Up match with the ladies.

Please look out for the 'Request for Players' that will be put on the notice board during month for the 8 games in May.

We have also played some international matches, and were recently represented at the Lakeview Golf and Country Club in Rotorua, New Zealand by Chris Thompson and Graham Lumb.



Chris and Graham

Enjoy your golf.

...a look at rules

Fore Info

A. Yes, even though this is nearer the hole. (Decision 28/8)



Thank you for your patience and understanding during the period of the changing room refurbishment work. The changing rooms are now fully functional although there are a number of 'snags' still to be rectified as with any building project. Please bear with us - these will be remedied as soon as possible and practical.

Sssh..... it's a secret!

It is often said that if you want to keep a secret put it on the noticeboard. Well, after nearly six weeks of building works here are some funny examples of golfers (members and visitors) being unaware of what is happening around them despite the notices, emails and consultation regarding the changing room refurbishment;

1. Golf society visitor comment to the Secretary – 'These changing rooms don't reflect well on your club. This was the worst 10 minutes of my life'. To which the Secretary replied, 'But Sir they are only temporary portable toilets and not our permanent ones!
2. Golf Society visitor – 'I can't find the temporary toilets, where are they?'
3. Vets Match visitor – 'Does your club not have toilets and changing rooms?'
4. Golf Club member, standing in front of the notices on the Ladies Changing Room door, was overheard asking 'When are they starting the new changing rooms?'
5. The Hollywood Walk of Fame Award – goes to the member who ignored 3 'keep out' notices and promptly walked on to the newly latexed floor in the Men's Changing Rooms.
6. The CSI Award – to the Vet who battled through the unlit, cold building site that was the Men's Changing Rooms, with no carpet, flooring, sinks or cubicles but managed to locate an unconnected urinal and 'take relief' all over the floor (and hopefully his feet!). We have your DNA....

Unfortunately despite the notices and the instructions not to wear spikes in the porta loo and cabins, this request was not heeded and the club has been presented with an additional bill for £320 + VAT for replacement flooring.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have all joined the club starting during March and April so far; Chris Hall, Gary Mugford, Chas Donnelly, Sarah Densham, Paul Wickland, Mike Mead and Kevin Stride who have all upgraded from winter membership to 7 day, Lucy Hutton, Margaret Jones and Kevin Malam (Academy), David Marshall (Overseas), Finley Turner-Hall (Junior). We hope that your time at the club will be a long and enjoyable one for all of you.

Welcome back to Ian Mackintosh, Mike Stenning and Brian McCormick who have resumed their playing membership after long term layoffs.

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

APRIL

Wednesday 5th	11.00am
Wednesday 12th	10.45am (due to society booking)
Wednesday 19th	11.00am
Wednesday 26th	11.00am

MAY

Wednesday 3rd	11.00am
Wednesday 10th	11.15am (due to society booking)
Wednesday 17th	11.00am

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.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS YOUR DIARY

Members 'Meet & Greet' Evening - Friday 7th April
Easter Sunday Lunch carvery – Sunday 16th April
Social Golf - begins Thursday 4th May, 5.30-6.00pm
All welcome.

TWITTER

follow the greens staff and see what's 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>

Here we are at the start of the season and the busiest time of year for our greenkeepers. The course now looks great with fairways mown and fertilised, greens spring work completed and debris cleared. All planned winter work has been completed. The swales on 9th, 16th and 18th have wintered well and are now in play. They will take some time to fully settle but they are ready to provide new challenges for us around the greens! Just to confirm, it is fine to take a trolley into or through these swales. The sheep have again done a fine job munching down our rough. They depart for pastures new early April.

The greens have generally recovered well although we are monitoring some nematode activity that has thinned some greens. They were quite quick and true for the March Medal on the 25th. The pollarding work around the course is expected to take place late week commencing 27th March. This is necessary to allow sunlight and air on the greens (in particular the 4th and 12th where bare patches have formed). We have also removed trees from behind the 13th tee where the shade and dripline had killed the grass.

Please remember that we are still one man down so struggling to keep up with cutting. Please give the lads a little more time before driving at them!

The rooks remain our biggest and most damaging pest. These photos show damage to the 9th bunker surrounds today (27th March). The most effective dissuader is to leave a dead rook nearby. Understandably this does not sit well with some of us and is not a permanent solution.



9th Bunker

The Greens committee are working on the Course Policy document and 10-year plan and hope to publish this when approved by Mancom. I have been most impressed by the input and energy of this team and look forward to working this to conclusion. We are also preparing answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) and expect to publish soon.

Last year's 'divot party' was a great success and will be repeated on Thursday 27th April. Details will follow. If you can help on this all you need is a bucket and a trowel. The more volunteers the better. 30 people working for 2 hours would make a huge difference and improve our fairways for the summer season. Coffee and sausage rolls will be provided upon completion.



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

- £100 - Pat Wallis
- £50 - Claire Gould
- £32 - Elizabeth Hess
- £32 - Sarah Thorne
- £32 - David Sault
- £32 - Chris Brandon-Try

Congratulations to this month's winners. The next draw will take place on Monday 24th April ... 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 or call in to the Secretary's office.

George Clelland

Social Scene

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>

TWITTER – follow the green staff and see whats happening on and around the course.
[@GreenstaffAGC](https://twitter.com/GreenstaffAGC)

