



Ups & Downs

Pyecombe G C

Newsletter

July / August 2009

Editor Alf Bickham

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

Our members

At a time when many of us have been able to enjoy wonderful weather and a packed calendar I am embarrassed to say that I rarely have the time to turn my thoughts from enjoying myself and my duties to those members who are struggling with their health. I personally have two wonderful friends at the club who are going through black times at present and I am sure there are others that I am not personally acquainted with. My wishes for speedy and full recovery go to all of them and I am sure that I echo these thoughts for all of us.

Captains Day/Gala Day/Gala Night

What a brilliant week-end in all senses of the word!!! I have posted a report on the Captains board about the events but there are many thanks that deserve to be repeated.

I thought the catering and bar service was outstanding and that Alex and the whole team deserve thanks from all of us. The course looked outstanding and played very well thanks to Simon and his team and Jason and the pro shop did a great job all over the week-end. Jason gave much time to discuss his swing analysis from the recordings made of members first tee shots. My thanks also go to Dickie Attwood for the excellent work he did in checking and recording all of the Captains Day scores and Len Meredith for starting the whole field on Gala Day

Without the help of various people the charity raising effort would not have been so successful. In total we raised £775 not including proceeds of an auction. My wife, Beverly, worked very hard all over the weekend and was helped all day Saturday by our daughter, Alexandra and on Sunday by Pat Dossetter who also sold the raffle tickets so successfully. Andy Barnes was fantastic and on the Sunday stayed at the 5th tee challenging everyone to beat his tee shots for more than 7 hours. Other members that helped were Peter Gavin and Dave Schwartz who took over from Beverly and Pat so that they could sit for lunch and all the ladies that helped tear and fold the raffle tickets. Throughout the week-end I also had support from the Vice Captain, Jim Dossetter who gave freely of his time, announced the Captains Day results and acted as a sounding board for any thought I had. It was also thanks to Jim and his team of Angie Bainbridge, Joanna Greenstreet and George Eves that the Saturday night live entertainment and party went so successfully. The report made to the press by George with winners and results appears on Page 9.

My heartfelt thanks go to all of them.

Men's Scratch Team

As you will know the Men's scratch team lost to Highwoods in the quarter final. It was a very close run match with the results

(Continued)

MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

Leave in the Office with the Secretary or in an envelope in the foyer marked for the attention of Alf Bickham / Newsletter or send Alf an Email message to his Email address of: alf@abickham.freemove.co.uk or to make contact by telephone, call him at home, Tel. No. 01444.242101

CAPTAIN'S REPORT (Continuation)

Men's Scratch Team (Continued)

..... swinging to Highwoods Highwoods in the last few holes in almost every game. Alan Davey & Andy Selsby who manage the team have penned a poem in this issue (**See page 8**) – please take the time to read it – it is amusing and informative. I can only echo Alan and Andy's thanks to the team and the many members who support them in matches. In most matches, home or away, the Pyecombe supporters outnumber those of the other side, often to the embarrassment of the other club. Well done and thanks to all of you who have supported the team!! As to the team, their record over the past 10 years has been outstanding and, as recorded in the poem, we are proud of them.

Chris White Trophy

Chris kindly donated the trophy to be played for in a fun, team event (Reported on in the last issue of Ups & Downs) that would be presented on the day and retained by the winning team rather than being locked away in the trophy cabinet. This year, as the team scoring the most points was not present at the prize-giving, I awarded the prize to the runners up. Subsequently, I reviewed this result and concluded that there had not been sufficient notification of the need to attend the prize-giving and have reversed the decision. I can therefore confirm that the winning team of the Chris White Trophy in 2009 was Ken McNeill, Corrine McNeill, Neil Beard-Neilson and John Secrett and my apologies and congratulations go to each of them. My thanks also go to the 2nd placed team for their understanding and cheerful return of the trophy that had been awarded to Ken Barnard, Mary Barnard, Brian Chapman and Catherine Chapman.

Captain/Professional Challenge – FINALS DAY

Jason and I will be inviting all of those who have taken part in the challenge against us or against the Vice-Captain and Assistant to enter a finals day on 31st October. There will be a dinner to follow play and some good prizes on offer as Jason has generously agreed that his fee for each of the matches will go back into

the prize pot. Watch the Captain's board for details in due course.

Pyecombe's Annual Ball

Date 7th November 2009

This year we are returning to Wickwoods and I hope to be able to provide a really enjoyable dinner and dance and to keep the ticket price well below £40. This relies on having a good number attending so please mark out the date in your diaries and look out for the notices and entry list on the Captain's board. I really do hope you will be there.

Whist Drive – 26th September 2009

Quiz Night 23rd October 2009

In a repeat of last year's very successful event we are hoping to attract more of you card sharps to the tables at the Whist Drive. Don't let inexperience of cards put you off – it's an easy game to play. This is a low cost event and really enjoyable so please come along.

29th October brings another very popular Quiz Night. Why not form a team and take part? Again, this is a low cost event and is immensely entertaining.

Trevor Greenfield

As many of you know, it is 'The Friends of Pyecombe' that are providing the tee furniture that you now see bringing a really classy look to our course. This doesn't happen without a lot of effort and in this regard Past Captain Trevor Greenfield's efforts have been outstanding. Trevor will be stepping down from 'The Friends' as he is now Vice-Captain elect of the Sussex County Golf Union and already his duties in that regard are taking much of his spare time. I am certain that you will join me in saying how proud we are of Trevor and grateful for his dedication to Pyecombe Golf Club over the years. As Captain of Pyecombe he brought a special something to the task and I am sure that his bright and cheerful character and (some would say twisted) sense of humour will serve Sussex as well as they have served Pyecombe. Thanks Trev and good luck with your new challenge.

Michael Price

LADIES SECTION

July 7th was my Lady Captain's Day. We had a mixed bag of weather, with the last few players being caught in a thunder storm and getting rather more than a bit wet. However, I hope everyone enjoyed the day. A few thanks are in order as follows: To Brian and Dave, TUVVM - code for 'thank you very much', for manning the hut and dispensing Pimms and nibbles to everyone. Thanks to Jason for helping me with selection of the prizes and taking a video of everyone's drive off the 1st tee. I thank Alex for producing a fantastic buffet and John for helping work out the starting sheet. I have to say 'thank you' for all the lovely cards and to Mike, thank you for the lovely bouquet of flowers. Lots of memories for me to cherish! (The report – with photograph, sent to the Press by Anne Eves appears on **page 11**)

I also organized a competition for the Sunday ladies on July 5th. I know only a few of you managed to take part, but I am pleased that the thought was appreciated.

If anyone did not get their memento of the Lady Captain's Day, let me know as I have some extras in hand.

Unfortunately, in the end our Division teams did not progress into the final rounds. Div I being pipped by Worthing and Div III by Bognor. Div II suffered badly this year with illnesses and injury. A big thank you to Aileen, Sheila Pearce and Ann Langley for captaining their respective divisions. Hopefully, we may do better next year. Also, thanks to all those who took part in the Kathleen Rider 4s and the Jerdein.

At last the weather has improved and Gala Day and Captain's Day were superb (What's the secret Mike?).

The Ladies Open was also blessed with good weather last Thursday 13th August and with a full house, even after some overnight rain. I know Sandra has sent her thanks to everyone who helped. There is a lot of work that goes on in the background to make a day such as the Open successful, so I would like to add my thanks as well.

We have our ladies away day on Thursday 20th at Hill Barn and I am keeping everything crossed that the weather lasts. Unfortunately, the weather people are not being very helpful, but I am sure we will have a good day.

Bron Morley Lady Captain

Pyecombe Mixed Invitation

The Pyecombe Mixed Invitation was played on Saturday 18th July when the weather forecast was dire but in the end, the showers were few and far between, although the wind made for some interesting golf. The successful pairings were as follows (Pyecombe players mentioned first):

1 st	Colin Pateman & Pat Johns (Cottesmore)	40pts.
2 nd	George Eves & Gilly Ewers (Mannings Heath)	39pts.
3 rd	Sheila Pearce & Ron Adams (Ifield)	38pts.



Ladies' nearest the pin 5th hole:
Gilly Ewers (Mannings Heath).
Men's nearest the pin 8th hole
not won (money given to Captains Charity)

Photo shows L/R:

Jim Dossetter (Pyecombe Vice-Captain)
Pat Johns (Cottesmore), Colin Pateman (Pyecombe)
Bron Morley (Pyecombe Lady Captain)

The President reflects

I know, I know, where has our summer gone? The days are slipping by and it won't be long before the blackberry picking season heralds Autumn. However, there has been plenty of golf played and our course has looked magnificent throughout the summer, thanks to the efforts of the Green staff led by Simon, and of course, Richard our Greens Chairman.

Once again our Scratch team had a good run in the County competition with some commendable away wins under their belt before facing Highwoods away in the quarter finals. A very toughly fought morning foursomes saw our boys leading 2 ½ - 1 ½ and hopes must have been high for the afternoon singles. Alas, despite early signs that we might do it, Highwoods suddenly switched gear, and played inspired golf to win the match by what seemed a convincing margin of 8 ½ - 3 ½; but the truth is that it was much closer, with many of the matches going to the last 2 holes. Disappointed as they were, our team can nevertheless reflect that they once again did well in this competition. Incidentally, the support from club members at these matches has been most encouraging, particularly in the away fixtures, when we quite often outnumbered the home supporters to their embarrassment!

The Gala Weekend proved a great success and thanks must go to the many club members who helped out over the weekend. In particular, congratulations must go to Captain Mike for his hospitality / prizes on Captain's Day. Well done, Mike. The Hog Roast presented a challenge to Alex as he found that the equipment hired to cook it, was, to put it bluntly, useless! However, Alex dealt with the dilemma in his usual cheery manner and still managed to provide everyone with a delicious roast hog and buffet.

We are honoured to have the Vice Captain elect of Sussex County Golf Union in our midst! Congrats to Trevor Greenfield who will, I am sure, be a most capable and worthy incumbent of this prestigious position. Well done Trevor! Incidentally, on other family matters, son Matt continues to make encouraging progress in the County Juniors and was recently selected to be part of a small group of boys to go to East Sussex National for a day's coaching by none other than one of the world's leading golf coaches, David Leadbetter.

Lastly, I would like to use this space to say a very big thank you to the Club for allowing me the privilege of hosting my Sussex Golf Captains President's Day at the Club in July.

In particular, I much appreciate the help provided by our Managing Secretary, John Wilkinson, and Jason Bowen our Professional, for making the day run smoothly; also Alex and staff, who provided an excellent meal and 'halfway house' refreshments. I had many favourable compliments about the Club, Course and Catering from the past Captains who attended, which made me proud to be part of this lovely Club.

Reg Auchterlonie

CONSISTANT SCORING

Despite having scores well below a number of better rounds, a team of three members of the Veteran's Section were winners of the Willingdon GC Veterans Open Meeting held on the 8th July 2009.

James Easley led the way with 38 points with Peter Gavin and Chris Openshaw each scoring 36 points. Their consistent scoring meant they won by five shots from the team which came in second !!

**L/R: Peter Gavin
Chris Openshaw
James Easley**



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BALANCING THE BUDGET

The Management Committee has recently approved the 2010 Budget. Many members will have experienced the Budget setting process in other organisations, but it may be helpful if I outline the stages which we as a Committee go through.

The principal steps are:

- Deciding whether to aim for a surplus, deficit or balanced budget. For 2010 our objective is a small surplus, because in 2008 and probably in the current year we have suffered small deficits.
- Predicting income for the coming year. In 2009 we have seen a small reduction in subscription income but a significant rise in Green fees. We anticipate subscription income remaining approximately the same as last year with a continuing rise in income from visitors.
- Reviewing expenditures under the different budget headings, identifying areas where savings can be made, and deciding which areas should see an increase. There are always many Course and Club House improvements competing for this expenditure. Difficult choices have to be made because not everything that is desirable can be afforded.
- Then the big moment when predicted income and a “first cast” of expenditure are compared to see if the required outcome has been achieved. If yes it’s time for a celebratory drink; if not it’s back to the drawing board until the required outcome is achieved!

SUBSCRIPTIONS

A key part of the Budget process is the setting of subscriptions levels and forecasting the total income from them, since they represent some 90% of the Club’s total income. In the present economic climate we have opted for “no great change” – as you might expect. There will be a small adjustment but **no effective increase** – provided..... but that would be giving the game away!! You will receive your subscription renewal letter shortly!

What we are keen to do is continue the process of adding **EXTRA VALUE** to your membership. This year the Reciprocal Golf scheme has proved very popular. For 2010 another “free” benefit will be added – details with your subscription letter.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

A lot of activity below the surface would be the best way of describing the work of recent weeks on the three big projects.

- (1) Quotations from four building firms for the Professional Shop extension are being received and considered as I write this piece. We anticipate placing the contract early September.
- (2) A Planning decision on the Energy Project is promised by September 4th and, assuming it is favourable, a start is planned at the end of September. There will be some disruption to normal facilities, so read the Managing Secretary’s piece and watch for Notices.
- (3) Our Planning application for the Greenkeepers Shed extension will shortly be submitted. Meanwhile specifications are being finalised and quotations are being sought.

HEAD OF GREEN

Our long serving Head of Green, Richard Plummer, has (despite some arm twisting) decided to retire at this year’s AGM. One member has already expressed an interest. We are preparing a “Job Description”, so if you wish to consider standing for election for this important officer position then please contact the Managing Secretary or myself.

David Brown



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FROM THE OFFICE

2009 Opens and Invitations:

Well, that's another season completed, and in the main, we can claim a successful series of events this year. We have received many plaudits from visitors on the quality of both the course and the catering which is very pleasing to all involved in putting the arrangements together.

Two of the fixtures proved disappointing in terms of entries however. The Pyecombe Open, played for the Fraser Macdonald Thistle Trophy, only attracted 24 participants and the Mixed Invitation drew just 16 pairs; these numbers do not really justify course closure on busy Saturdays, so it is most likely that these events will be transferred to weekdays in 2010.

Next year will be the 25th Anniversary of inaugural 'Fraser Macdonald Thistle Pyecombe Open' and a special day is being planned in recognition; hopefully a stronger field will be attracted!!

In a future edition of Ups & Downs, I will include a summary of the history of 'The Thistle' as it forms a very interesting part of Pyecombe's history and which perhaps many members are currently unaware.

Food and Beverage:

We have now completed the revised bar and catering arrangements to give the Club greater flexibility re staffing levels in these uncertain economic times.

We have a core team comprising Alex Pereira, who will manage the food and beverage staff and be our principal 'front of house' man; a new head chef in Nigel Bostock who has a wealth of experience, knowledge and enthusiasm in the provision of quality fare; Alex Coley (assistant chef); Erika Rybarikova (assistant chef and service); Tony Muzzall and Josh Baldock (bar and catering service).

The core staff will be supported at peak times by part-time staff all of whom will have an acceptable level of experience in food and beverage service. The staff will also be receiving regular training from Alex and Nigel to ensure that the quality of service matches the high quality food that we can expect from our new head chef.

We are working on a new menu which will be launched within the next few weeks. Usual golf club favourites will be supplemented by some specials that Nigel will be crafting....and ladies look out for the home-made cakes that Nigel and Alex C will be making in the quieter times of the week!!

Members visiting the clubhouse in recent times will hopefully have noticed trailers of 'breakfast specials' that will commence on Wednesday 2nd September and be offered every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 8am to 11am (when the standard menu starts). We will continue this 'trial' until the New Year at which point we hope that sufficient business will have been generated to warrant the facility becoming a permanent arrangement.

We are also planning a series of 'pie/pint/TV sport' 'specials' that will be centred around key sporting events televised on Sky this winter. Dress code will be relaxed for these events and 'club colours and jeans' will be permitted. Please support this initiative on the basis of 'use it, or lose it'!!!

(Continued on next page)

FROM THE OFFICE (Continued)

Reciprocal Courses' Arrangements:

May I please remind members that to book a reciprocal round at one of our partner clubs (Ham Manor, Ifield, Purley Downs and Tyrrells Wood) one week's notice needs to be given via our Office staff.

Capital Projects: Probable Disruption

Borehole drilling is expected to start in connection with the ground source heat energy system in late September and some disruption particularly to the field car park will be experienced from that time and for several weeks until the ground re-settles. A full programme of works schedule will be posted on Club notice boards as soon as we have relevant details. This forewarning will give members the opportunity to consider options to alleviate congestion in the parking areas during the construction work, e.g. is car sharing feasible for a few weeks?

Tee Reservations:

Known tee reservations for the period between 1st September and 31st October are given on the last 2 pages of this newsletter.

John Wilkinson
Managing Secretary

Sixties Night

On Saturday 4th July we held a 1960's night in the clubhouse where all that attended had a great time. The music was supplied by Kev Stone Roadshows who played non-stop 60s music and Alex and his staff did a good job with the food, (scampi or chicken with chips) and plenty of it.



Everyone dressed in 60's gear, with Captain Mike Price appearing in a Sergeant Pepper outfit (it really suited him!). Vice-Captain Jim looked totally convincing as an ageing hippy; Bev Price had a psychedelic mini-dress on and Pat Dossetter had an authentic trouser suit with matching cap – she even got the make-up spot-on. The Kemps and their wives looked wonderful as ever and showed us all up on the dance floor despite not even having been out there in the 1960s.... Mark Kemp was sporting a bespoke 'mod' suit with a narrow tie.

The dancing was good to watch with everybody vying for floor space and some flaunting their sixties dance moves. Thanks to all for their support!

George Eves

The 2009 PAVIT Story & Thanks

More Down than Up

I'll tell of the battle of Highwoods,
Of those most courageous of souls,
Who although were in sight of a victory,
Fell short at the final few holes.

Those gallant and talented golfers,
In the last nine years we have found,
Have eight times surpassed expectations,
When they got past the opening round.

Those times they battled through round after round,
We could not have asked them for more,
Quarterfinalists in six of the previous eight years,
And twice they reached the last four.

There were mutterings of chance and good fortune,
They had lucky draws some would say.
But this year Haywards Heath in round one,
Preceded Ifield and Bognor away.

Conclusions of matches so daunting,
Need the team as a whole for a win,
No one star can light up the heavens,
And all the team members chipped in!

Old "*stalwarts*" who now include Hubble,
Were helped by new men on the list,
Who spent time on the range hitting drivers,
Instead of time in the bar getting pissed!

New arrival young Richie Farmer,
Has played with panache and some daring,
And he and the lovely Drew Bailey,
Have made a delightful new pairing.

Trevor Greenfield and ageing Phil Hubble,
Have been here for ever it seems,
Encouraging gullible youngsters,
Like John Deacon and Julian Deans.

Michael Stoner and young Ian Taylor,
Must listen to often spun yarns,
Of erstwhile tales of golfing deeds,
As told by and about Andy Barnes.

But together this motley collection,
Will give of their best every match,
And the club can be proud of their efforts,
With performances well up to scratch.

But what of the day at Bexhill?
By lunch Pyecombe were ahead,
And after the morning foursomes,
By just one, our gallant boys led.

Four up and four down at the turn,
So close was the nature of play,
Five matches went down the eighteenth,
But a victory was slipping away.

No one man should take the blame,
For the tears that we shed as we sat,
But we mused on how things might have been,
If Peter Gavin was not such a prat!

He failed to show for the fixture,
And he may never get over the shame,
Of letting his club and his team down,
When all of the rest of them came!

How different a man is our Cracker,
On whose wisdom we often would call,
Be it giving us tips on the buffet,
Or searching the rough for a ball.

But throughout this season of triumph,
A ninth man has been on our side,
Who appeared at every location,
And helped us in turning the tide.

This Army of Pyecombe supporters,
From fairway to fairway would tear,
Or emerge from the shrubs near the tee,
God knows what they got up to in there!

But to them and our fine band of caddies,
Go our thanks as our season is done,
One of success and achievement,
But above all, one of pleasure and fun.

Thanks everyone
Alan Davey and Andy Selsby

Gala Weekend at Pyecombe Golf Club (George Eves' Report to the Press)

Captain Michael Price had a glorious weekend of weather for Pyecombe's Captain's Weekend.

On Saturday 8th August, Gala Day, the format was a combination of members and guests playing in fourballs. A total of 144 players took part in the stableford competition in teams of 4 where the scoring format was 2 scores to count on the 1st 6 holes, 3 scores the next 6 and all to count on the last 6.

As everybody came off the course they were met by Beverly (wife of the Captain) and their daughter, Alexandra, who persuaded the players to part with £1 to enter a chipping competition (also known as NITBY: Not In The Bunker Yet), followed by a putting competition. There was a glass of Pimms waiting for everybody in the clubhouse. A party night followed, with a superb buffet. Singer Johnny Wakelin crooned the night away and had everyone up on the dance floor.

The winner of the putting comp was Steve Neilson, a past West Hove captain, who also won the longest drive on the 9th. The winner of the chipping comp was Maggie Haydon of Copthorne. On the course nearest the pin shots at the 5th hole were won by:

Ladies: Cathy Chapman

Men: Bob Lowden

Team results:

1st	David Schwartz, Mike Williams, Peter Reiling & Ted Whitbourne	125 pts
2 nd	Rob Phelps, David Lodge, J Buglass & S Brown	124pts.
3 rd	Bron Morley, Alison Baker, Julia Pearce & Jan Hellings	124 pts

Sunday 9th was Captain's Day. The 1st tee was continuously busy for 7 hours. The Captain welcomed each player individually. In the face of some testing pin positions, the men took part in a qualifying stableford competition followed this year by the lady members in a 15-hole stableford. After the game, players enjoyed a delicious hog roast and buffet provided by the Captain.

Andy Barnes spent many hours on the 5th hole challenging members to get nearer the pin than him – players gambled as much as they liked and if they got closer than him, he paid them back double their money; if players didn't hit the green or were further away the money went to the Captain's Charity. Andy raised a mind-boggling £369 during the day. The overall money raised over the two days was £775.50 and this will be increased once the income from an auction is known.

Beverly Price and Pat Dossetter spent around 7 hours each cheerfully managing the chipping and putting competitions and organised a raffle.

Estate agents Mansell McTaggart sponsored Captain's Day and increased the charity money collected by £150.

Captain's Day Overall Winner :
Duncan Munro with 41 points
(pictured with Captain Mike Price).



Other Captain's Day Results:

Div 1

1st, Mick Green 40 pts
2nd Patrick Spencer 40 pts
3rd Colin Kemp 40 pts

Div 2

1st Dave Allen 41 pts
2nd Laurence Whitaker 40 pts
3rd Roy Jarvis 39 pts

Div 3

1st Heb Bailey 38 pts
2nd Peter Fearn 38 pts
3rd Ken McNeill 37 pts

Nearest the pin in two shots on 18th:

Nearest the pin on 5th:

Winner of the chipping:

Winner of the Putting:

Ladies' Stableford winner.

(played over 15 holes)

Ian Littlejohn.

Nick Gawen.

Rob Phelps with a score of 20.

Mark Kemp with a score of 21.

1st. Sarah Godfrey 30pts

2nd Anne Eves 29 pts

GILBERT PRINT PLATE 2nd Round Pyecombe GC Seniors v West Sussex GC Seniors

In the 2nd round match of the Gilbert Print Plate foursomes competition, Pyecombe Seniors were drawn away against West Sussex golf club's Seniors and played at West Sussex on Thursday 2nd July 2009.

West Sussex had a very strong team but we had to give between 4 & 1 shots in all of the matches. Nevertheless, we were level after 12 holes, but those shots & local knowledge cost us the match and we lost 3 games to 1 (see detailed results below). Although we came second, we had a good afternoon on one of the best courses in Sussex. With two losing away draws it has been a short season but we are hoping for a better draw next year.

Bob Watson & Mick Green	Lost	3-2
George Eves & Andy Munday	Lost	2-1
Brian Megenis & Mike Coward	Won	2-1
Alan Davey & Peter Coburn	Lost	1 down

Alan Gower Pyecombe Seniors Captain

Over 50's Invitation Day for Men

The weather forecast for Thursday 13th August was showery, but as is often the case predicting the weather is not an exact science so once again they got it wrong and it turned out quite pleasant.

The winners, with a terrific round of 75 gross (45 pts) off 3/4 handicap, were our club chairman Mr David Brown partnered by Mr Ray Ward from Cottesmore. The results of the first 3 pairs where the first named is a PGC member were:

- 1st** David Brown & Ray Ward (Cottesmore) 45pts
- 2nd** Peter Coeburn & R Exall (Mid Sussex) 43 pts
- 3rd** Jim McGhie & G Copley (Singing Hills) 42 pts



Above centre: Captain Mike Price with David Brown Left & Ray Ward (Right)

Friendship Bowl

The Friendship Bowl is played annually between five mid-Sussex golf clubs, each club fielding 10 mixed-foursome pairs with the best 8 scores to count. The event was thought up by Wendy and Bill Goddard of Ifield, and has now been running 20 years.

As this year was the 20th anniversary the event was again held at Ifield, being the club whose idea it was and Wendy Goddard was in attendance to be starter and present the trophy.

Unfortunately, home advantage did not seem to help Ifield much as they came fifth. Said Wendy, "Some other team could've done a bit worse; we don't normally come last!" The Results were:

<u>Club</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Best pairs</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 st Worthing (holders of the trophy)	257	1 st Angela Nicholls & Alan Marsh	Worthing 38
2 nd Copthorne	243	2 nd Mo Whittall & David Kennard	Worthing 36
3 rd Pyecombe	238	3 rd Kath & Gerry Honeysett	Haywards H'th 34
4 th Haywards Heath	236		
5 th Ifield	234		

Lady Captain's Day – (Report to Press by Anne Eves)

Lady Captain's Day, organised by Bron Morley, this year's Captain, was held on 7th July. There was a high turn-out and many said it was one of the best lady captain's days they'd played in. The ladies experienced warm sunshine and heavy showers by turns as they played.

Pimms and doughnuts were available in the halfway hut and the Pro, Jason Bowen, video'd every drive off the first tee. Later, the ladies watched as the video was played again and again in the clubhouse to general merriment.

The format was stableford but with two joker holes, nominated beforehand, on which points were doubled. Sandi Selsby did best out of the joker holes, scoring 8 points on each one.

The Club Captain, Mike Price, presented Bron Morley with flowers and said, "Bron, I soon learnt that you have a unique humour and perspective on things, and that's what I have enjoyed this year as we have worked and played together. We both share the view that golf is a lot of fun but that winning is not the be-all-and-end-all, particularly as I think of one lady player [Sue Baker] who is not here today".

Individual Winners

1 st	Pat Webb	45pts
2 nd	Joy Millns	44pts
3 rd	Sandi Selsby	43pts

Others

Pairs: Jan Hellings & Helen Woodcock-Downey
Nearest pin at 5th: Helen Woodcock-Downey
Nearest pin at 13th in 2 shots: Sheila McNeill



Back row: Sandra Staynes (Lady Sec), Pat Webb, Joy Millns, Sandi Selsby, Club Capt Mike Price.
Front row: Sheila McNeill, Helen Woodcock-Downey, Lady Captain Bron Morley, Jan Hellings.

COURSE UPDATE

It is very much a work-in-progress report this month with many jobs active but several not yet quite complete. At least the bulk of the greens overhaul work is completed, with just one more overseeding operation with bent grass and a further top dressing outstanding, both tasks being due to be carried out next week. Tees will then need attention with some re-seeding on the 7th, 8th and 16th main tees that suffered some dieback when there were irrigation problems in July, not with our automatic system but with a reduced supply that Southern Water have resolved but not yet explained.

There are 6 more new tee signs to install and although all the replacement huts have been erected, the hard standing area in front of the hut at the 9th has not yet been done. The practice net is at long last ready for use, and a mini divot party managed to repair several fairways earlier this month. Some ragwort pulling is outstanding but will be done in time for the farmer's cutting of the rough that has been scheduled for next month.

Also looking ahead, the fairways are due to be re-sprayed for weeds next month by the contractor who carried out the work in May. The success rate was not considered high enough and the contractor has agreed to repeat the treatment at no cost to the Club. In October, David Stansfield, the course agronomist, is due to visit and report on the course condition. Last but not least, the Green Committee has decided to continue with the same arrangements as last year with regard to the use of the main tees this winter for competitions and matches and when weather conditions allow.

Richard Plummer
Head of Green

VETS SECTION

The weather has been conducive to more pleasurable golf during July and August. Ted and I are particularly grateful to those members who have offered themselves, often at the last minute, to replace late withdrawals from matches and to those players whose names are seen on the team sheets regularly. You derive the same great satisfaction from these social gatherings [with a hint of competitiveness!] that we do. However, these occasions are for ALL those who wish to participate, whatever your handicap [some would say they are many], often or occasionally. Keep an eye on the Vets noticeboard.

Results shown below include a splendid win at Seaford but a defeat at home to Cowdray Park. The away match at Crowborough was lost 3 - 5 but was a pleasing result all the same, on a difficult course.

Results of **Home** matches are:-

v Willingdon 7-1	v East Brighton 4.5-3.5	v Lewes 5-3
v Copthorne 4-4	v Highwoods 5-3	
v Cowdray Park 3-5	v Worthing 5-3	

Results of **Away** matches:-

v Seaford Blatchington 4.5-3.5	v Royal Eastbourne 2.5-5.5
v Ham Manor 2-6	v Cowdray Park 0.5-7.5
v Crowborough 3-5	v Eastbourne Downs 0-8 !

The Captain/Vice Captain Challenges take on a new lease of life during the coming months and we'll attempt to fit in all those who come armed for combat.

Aubrey Watson
Vets Capt. 2009

Pro Shop

I'm now into my fifth month at Pyecombe Golf Club and the time has really flown by. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first summer and feel very much at home. My wife has now come down from Exeter where she was finishing the academic year and is starting work at Ardingly College in September. We are both really pleased with how the move has worked out.

The last few weeks I have been running summer camps for girls and mother and daughter group coaching. The aim in the long term is to try and get more junior girls and ladies into golf and hopefully to join the club. I have been teaching girls as young as 5 years old and whilst the numbers haven't been massive, it has been a good start and hopefully the numbers will continue to grow. We have also seen a slow increase in the numbers attending the junior coaching on Saturdays. All very encouraging.

It will soon be sale time in the Pro shop and there will be reductions on all the summer clothing. My aim is to try and clear all seasonal stock out in time for the arrival of the autumn / winter clothing. Don't forget there is also the fantastic deal with the Cleveland Launcher – **Buy the driver and get a free fairway wood**. A number of you have taken up the offer and I have heard nothing but good feedback. Offer available until the end of September.

Finally my playing record in the Captain Pro challenges – No comment!

COACHING CORNER – August tip for the month.

Grip pressure – A tight grip causes the forearms to tense up which in turn causes all the muscles in the body to become too tight. The result is poor rhythm and timing and an overall loss of distance and control. Grip pressure will normally only get worse when you are under pressure. If you want to swing the club with the effortless ease of Ernie or Freddie Couples, try holding the club looser. It should feel like you are holding a little bird in your hand and you are trying not to crush it. This is not just at address, but the whole way through the swing.

SPECIAL OFFER G.A.S.P SYSTEM COACHING

Normally £35
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Compare yourself to the top golfers in the world.

Freeze frame, slow down the swing, dozens of drawing tools – all designed to exactly pinpoint where mistakes are happening. Free email of swing provided after the lesson.



TEE RESERVATIONS – September 09

Date	Day	Event	Time	Venue	Type
01 Sep	Tue	Ladies EWGA Medal (Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
02 Sep	Wed	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
03 Sep	Thu			-	-
04 Sep	Fri	Broken Spur	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Broken Spu
05 Sep	Sat	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
05 Sep	Sat	Pyecombe Pitcher Semi Final?	tba	HOME/ AWAY	Mens
06 Sep	Sun	Battle of Britain Medal	-	HOME	Mens
06 Sep	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
06 Sep	Sun	Club Match v Puttenham (confirmed)	(2pm)	AWAY	Mens
07 Sep	Mon	Vets - Over 70's Cup	8.30-9.30 am	HOME	Vets
08 Sep	Tue	Ladies Stableford (Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
08 Sep	Tue	Narpo GS Ray Bridger (provisional)	1.30-2.30	HOME	Society
09 Sep	Wed	Vets Stableford	-	HOME	Vets
09 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
09 Sep	Wed	Mid Sussex GS	9.30-11.00 am	HOME	Society
10 Sep	Thu	Burgess Hill Rotary Charity Day	11am - 1.30 pm	HOME	Society
11 Sep	Fri	Vets v Seaford (confirmed)	8.30-9.30 am	HOME	Vets
11 Sep	Fri	Bolney Rovers F C G S	1-2.15 pm	HOME	Society
11 Sep	Fri	Brighton Hospital GS	10-11.15 & 2.45-4	HOME	Society
12 Sep	Sat	p@v i.t. Trophy & Plate Finals Day	tbc	AWAY	P@VIT
12 Sep	Sat	Category Cup	c/closed?	HOME	Mixed
13 Sep	Sun	Seniors Champs Raison Cup/Slater Quaiche	12-2 pm	HOME	Seniors
13 Sep	Sun	Junior Autumn Cup	-	HOME	Juniors
13 Sep	Sun	Ladies EWGA Medal		HOME	Ladies
14 Sep	Mon	Vets Drake Pairs	8.30 - 10.00	HOME	Vets
15 Sep	Tue	Ladies Autumn Meeting EWGA Medal (Q)	8.45-11.00 & 12.45-2.45	HOME	Ladies
16 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
16 Sep	Wed	Covers Corporate Day	11-12.30 pm	HOME	Society
17 Sep	Thu	Ladies Friendly v Brighton & Hove	10.45-11.30 am	HOME	Ladies
17 Sep	Thu	Network Rail GS	9.15-10.15 & 12.15-1.15	HOME	Society
18 Sep	Fri	Broken Spur Captain's Day	1.45-2.45 pm	HOME	Society
18 Sep	Fri	Vets v Nevill (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Vets
18 Sep	Fri	Broadwater Cricket Club GS	9.30-10.45 am	HOME	Society
19 Sep	Sat	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
19 Sep	Sat	Colts v Ifield (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Colts
19 Sep	Sat	Broken Spur Dinner	7.30 p.m.	HOME	Private
19 Sep	Sat	Club v Littlehampton (confirmed)	11.50-1.30 pm	HOME	Mens
20 Sep	Sun	Woolan Challenge/Bridge Cup Medal		HOME	Mens
20 Sep	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
21 Sep	Mon	Vets Hole Tankards	8.30-10 am	HOME	Vets
22 Sep	Tue	Ladies Course Swap with Tyrrell's Wood	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
22 Sep	Tue	Royal British Legion GS	12.00 - 2 pm	HOME	Society
23 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
23 Sep	Wed	Hurst Festival Function	7-11 pm	HOME	Private
24 Sep	Thu	Ladies Friendly v Hollingbury	10.15-11 am	HOME	Ladies
24 Sep	Thu	Society Organisers' Day	12-2 pm	HOME	Society
25 Sep	Fri	MSL Summer Finals Day	c/closed	HOME	MSL
26 Sep	Sat	Whist Drive	6.30 for 7pm start	HOME	Social
26 Sep	Sat	Adult/Junior Greensomes (15 holes)	1.30-2.15 pm	HOME	Mixed
26 Sep	Sat	Pyecombe Pitcher Final	tba	HOME/ AWAY	Mens
26 Sep	Sat	Colts v Ifield (confirmed)	11.20-12.30	HOME	Colts
27 Sep	Sun	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
27 Sep	Sun	Bill Wise Trophy	7.30-12.30	HOME	Mens
27 Sep	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
28 Sep	Mon	Past Captains	12.00-1.30 pm	HOME	Mens
29 Sep	Tue	Ladies Porcelain Picture (S/F Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
29 Sep	Tue	Vets v Lewes (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Vets
30 Sep	Wed	Medal	-	Home	Mens

TEE RESERVATIONS – October 09

Date	Day	Event	Time	Venue	Type
02 Oct	Fri	Broken Spur	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Society
03 Oct	Sat	Club Match v Cowdray Park	-	AWAY	Mens
03 Oct	Sat	Junior Middlewick Cup	-	HOME	Juniors
03 Oct	Sat	Keymer & Hassocks CC Dinner	tba	HOME	Private
04 Oct	Sun	Ladies Eve Holland 3 clubs/putter S/F NQ	-	HOME	Ladies
04 Oct	Sun	Chandler Cup	-	HOME	Mens
05 Oct	Mon	Vets Negus Trophy	-	HOME	Vets
06 Oct	Tue	Ladies Eve Holland 3 clubs/putter S/F NQ	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
07 Oct	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
08 Oct	Thu	Ladies Autumn Invitation	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
10 Oct	Sat	Queen Elizabeth Trophy	-	HOME	Mixed
11 Oct	Sun	Mixed Match v Sweetwoods (confirmed)	12.15-1.30 pm	HOME	Mixed
11 Oct	Sun	Ladies Sunday Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
12 Oct	Mon	Seniors v Seaford Head (confirmed)	9.50-10.30 am	HOME	Seniors
13 Oct	Tue	Ladies/Vets Comp	9-10.30 am	HOME	Ladies
14 Oct	Wed	MSDC Charity Day (provisional)	tbc	HOME	Society
15 Oct	Thu	Coarse Pitch GS	9.15-10.15 & 2.45-3.45	HOME	Society
16 Oct	Fri	Mackey Bowls Club Dinner Dance	7 pm	HOME	Private
17 Oct	Sat	Wooler Driver	-	HOME	Mixed
18 Oct	Sun	Ladies Daily Mail 4's	-	HOME	Ladies
18 Oct	Sun	Artisans Cups	-	HOME	Mens
20 Oct	Tue	Ladies Daily Mail 4's	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
21 Oct	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
21 Oct	Wed	Eastbourne Ladies GS (Provisional)	11.15 - 11.45	HOME	Society
22 Oct	Thu	Secretary's Inter-Club Challenge (JW)	10.30 - 11.15	HOME	Society
23 Oct	Fri	Quiz Night	7.00 pm	HOME	Social
23 Oct	Fri	CAA Foresters GS (Provisional)	9.30-10.45	HOME	Society
24 Oct	Sat	Longhurst Putter	12-2 pm	HOME	Mixed
25 Oct	Sun	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
25 Oct	Sun	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
25 Oct	Sun	Ladies Par Competition (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
25 Oct	Sun	Junior Competition Winners Cup	-	HOME	Juniors
25 Oct	Sun	Competition Winners Cup	-	HOME	Mens
26 Oct	Mon	Sussex U15 Boys Championship	10-1pm	HOME	County
27 Oct	Tue	Ladies Par Competition (Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
28 Oct	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
31 Oct	Sat	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
31 Oct	Sat	Captain and Pro Finals Day	1 - 2 pm	HOME	Mens