



# Ups & Downs

## Pyecombe G C

# Newsletter

July / August 2010

Editor Alf Bickham

## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

It only seems like yesterday that I was closing my May/June report with reminders for the Abba Night and Captain's Day and "Enjoy the summer"

Well here we are nearly at the end of August and I hope that you have enjoyed the summer as much as I have. Who would have thought that we would now be quite pleased to see some rain!! How lucky have we been to enjoy such great weather, particularly at a time of year when the days are long and where better to spend time on a late summer evening than Pyecombe Golf Course?

### **GOLF**

And what a lot of golf!!

Gala Day and Captain's Day obviously make up the big weekend for me but I want to start with congratulating our best golfers. What a great job Alan Davey has done, together with his trusty sidekick Andy "Cracker" Selsby in building such a strong [P@VIT](#) team. There really has been a great team spirit which resulted in them winning through to the semi-finals of this major inter Club scratch competition. Being knocked out of the competition at the last knockings in no way detracts from a great achievement, losing as they did by the smallest of margins to really tough opposition from East Sussex National. It was also really good to see this spirit extending to support given by PGC members.

How lucky am I to be the Captain of such a Club where support is so freely given – and speaking of whom there is one who deserves a special mention and thank you for the very big contribution he made to my Captain's Day. Phil Hubble alone raised £531 out of a total £1620 for the Sussex Air Ambulance. He would not, of course, have achieved this splendid figure without the generosity of so many members and to all who took up his challenge I extend my very sincere thanks. Gala Day and Captain's Day only work because of all the hard work put in by all involved in the preparation, organisation and running of the competitions and catering. We start as you would expect with our golf course and this, as it has been all year, was in great condition so to Simon and his team- well done. Alex and Nigel put in that extra effort both before and during the two days to ensure that I had all that I required and that we were all fed and watered extremely well. My very sincere thanks go to both and to all the catering team. Assistance has come from all quarters John, Jo and Christine in the office always play their part and Jason, assisted by Michael ensured that the competitions ran smoothly. Family and friends also play a vital role on days like these and I am indebted to my wife Pat who along with daughter Zoe and grandson Jordan worked extremely hard, as did my Vice Captain Peter Gavin and his wife Anita .....

(Continued on next page)

### **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.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:alf@abickham.freeserve.co.uk) or to make contact by telephone, call him at home, Tel. No. 01444.242101

## **CAPTAIN'S REPORT** (Continuation)

.....and daughter Bethany. And what can you say about a man who refuses to leave his post when the considerable discomfort he was in would have felled a lesser man. Such a man is a friend indeed – and Chris Shafer is that man. I know that there were others who gave a hand over the weekend and to all I am most grateful.

### **Gala Day**

It was good to see Chris White and his wife Alison back at the Club and playing for his trophy proved a success. Well done to the winners:

Rob Phelps, Jack Buglass, Stephen Brown and Dave Lodge

(See report on page 10, also the full results for the day can be found on our website)

I hope that you enjoyed the Jazz Band.

### **Captain's Day**

There was good golf played on the day and an outstanding winner:

**Tom Fairfax** who showed himself by the way he played golf and by the way he presented himself and spoke at the Prize Presentation to be a very worthy winner.

(See report on page 10 for full results)

My congratulations go to all the Prize Winners and thanks to members and guests alike for joining in to make the weekend a success.

And there has been yet more success for our winner – a recent hole in one, congratulations Tom.

Another of our young stars is also doing Pyecombe Golf Club proud. Congratulations go to Matt Greenfield on his success in winning the West Hove Junior Open and on being selected for the County U16 team and for coaching by David Leadbetter.

Can't leave 'Dad' Greenfield out of things – What bout that Iron Man Challenge!!?? Six rounds of golf played that quickly and with those scores, fantastic. Would that I could achieve one round with such a score!!

(See report on page 11 for full results)

Then to break the **COURSE RECORD** with a 66!! Trouble is there was a man waiting in the wings to take it off him. What a way to wave farewell to PGC as he leaves for America to

hone his golfing skills. We congratulate **RICHIE FARMER** on a fantastic 65 and wish him good fortune in his golfing career and look forward to reading of his success in wider read newsprint than this, and of course we look forward to seeing him back at PGC in the near future. (See report on page 9)

The **MIXED OPEN** was a very successful competition with some 44 pairs taking part. From our point of view the course and our catering were the winners!!

The **MIXED INVITATION** was not so well supported but the day went well, particularly so for my wife who with her partner Ian Witham from Cooden Beach came out the winners.

It was our turn this year to host the **FRIENDSHIP BOWL** when 10 mixed pairs from the five Mid Sussex League Clubs do battle with the best 8 scores from each Club to be counted for the Team Prize. There is also a Pairs Competition. We did not disgrace ourselves but Worthing proved their strength by winning both Team and Pairs Prizes. Well done to Sarah Godfrey-Ladies Nearest the Pin winner.

### **SOCIAL**

Our main summer occasion was the ABBA night, most enjoyable. Brian Perry certainly seemed to be enjoying individual attention from the girls!! Good music, good food, good fun.

A reminder of future activity –

25<sup>th</sup> September- Whist Drive

8<sup>th</sup> October- Quiz against East Brighton Golf Club

22<sup>nd</sup> October- Karaoke Night

Finally a reminder that the **PYECOMBE BALL** (Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October) is fast approaching and a notice will be going up shortly.

I think that is about it for now.

Except to thank all who have involved themselves in Club activity, both golfing and social and again a big thank you for your support on Gala/Captain's weekend.

***Jim Dossetter***

## Photographs Taken on Gala & Captain's Days



## LADIES SECTION

It has been a very busy summer for the Ladies Section and as the weather has been so kind to us, we have had some very successful and enjoyable golfing days.

- The Ladies Summer Invitation went off well on a beautiful day, and despite a small, but select, field there was a good atmosphere and everyone enjoyed the day.
- My Lady Captain's Day was also blessed with good weather and 36 ladies all had fun playing in teams of three in a 6-6-6 format. The day started with buck's fizz, and a video was taken of every player driving off. Pimm's was served on the ninth tee and a buffet afterwards that was also attended by many social members.

**The winning team** on 88 points were Joan Cullen, Jamie Blades & Sandra Staynes.



**Jamie Blades, Captain Joanna Greenstreet, Joan Cullen, Sandra Staynes**

**Runners-up** on 84 were Jan Hawes, Carol Cruthers & Christine Muschamp.

**3rd** on 83 were Bea Janes, Val Grant, Doreen Shafer.

Nearest the pin on 5<sup>th</sup> Jan Hawes, 13<sup>th</sup> in 2 Loek Secrett who also won straightest drive on 9<sup>th</sup>

- The Supper Competition on 8<sup>th</sup> July proved very popular and everyone enjoyed Nigel's chicken dish washed down with John's wine, which made a lovely social evening.
- Championship Day on 27<sup>th</sup> July was a tough competition with the ball rolling on hard fairways, generally in the wrong direction. However, Aileen triumphed yet again for the 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive year which is an amazing feat. Well done!

### Ladies Club Championship Results

#### Scratch Winners

**1st** Aileen Greenfield 72+76=148.

**2nd** Alison Vermes 77+84= 161.

**3rd** Joanna Galway 80+82=162.

**4th** Sarah Godfrey 80+82=182.

#### Handicap Winners

**1st** Sarah Godfrey 140

**2nd** Bronwynne Morley 141

**3rd** Sheila McNeil 144

**4th** nett, Joy Millns on 145

- On 5<sup>th</sup> August we hosted the Sussex County Rumble when 120 ladies played and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I have received several messages of thanks and congratulations for the day which included, "Wonderful hospitality at Pyecombe", "Fabulous day, well organised, the food was delicious – a credit to Pyecombe caterers". Thank you to the ladies who helped me during a very long day.
- Unfortunately, the beautiful weather finally broke on the day of the Ladies Open. Despite the rain, and reducing the competition to 15 holes, the competitors enjoyed the day and were complementary about the food, prizes and organisation. My thanks go to Sandra and all the ladies who worked so hard to produce a very successful day.
- The Ladies Away Day at Ifield on 19<sup>th</sup> August was popular and 33 ladies thoroughly enjoyed their course and hospitality. The winners of the team trophy were Carol Crothers, Carol Kemp and your Captain; Carol Crothers, who played very well, also won the individual prize.
- The Kathleen Ryder 4s was played at Worthing in the wind. Aileen and Bea played brilliantly and had the best score of the day but thanks to Alison and my score not being as good, we came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 48 teams. The Jerdein was played at Royal Eastbourne when Aileen and Alison came 11<sup>th</sup> out of 50 teams which was a very good effort. Well done!

**Joanna Greenstreet**  
Lady Captain

## **The President Reflects**

The weather was kind to us over Gala/Captain's Day weekend and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Throughout the two days we were extremely well looked after – in particular the fine Hog roast with accompaniments went down well helped by copious amounts of beer and wine. I know it was quite hectic at times, but our staff coped admirably, led by Alex and Nigel. Thank you all.

But the biggest thank you must, of course, go to 'Cap'n' Jim and wife Pat who seemed to be everywhere at times making sure that things ran smoothly, aided and abetted by Vice Captain Peter Gavin and his wife.

On Sunday, our Captain was on the first tee to see everyone off, helping them on the way with a most agreeable bucks fizz or similar swing enhancement. At the 5<sup>th</sup> hole, Phil Hubble was there all day to challenge you to double your money by getting nearer the pin – not many did, which meant that Phil collected well over £500 for the Captain's Charity. A great effort Phil, and thanks to all those who were so generous in support. Then, at the halfway hut, there was Nigel with a barbeque and yet more imbibitions, courtesy of the Captain, to renew our energy for the second nine.

The chipping and putting contests proved very popular, but I must admit to being somewhat miffed when I lost the putting play off for the bottle of Champers to Gary Ellis who had the effrontery to beat me with my own putter!

The prize presentation ceremony was the only disappointment. Enthusiastic applause rang out for the worthy winners as their names were announced – only for it to become painfully apparent that so many winners were not present to receive their just reward. I have to say that I felt so sorry, and embarrassed, for the Captain out there on the rostrum when there were so many 'no shows'. Talk about lack of courtesy to acknowledge his 'big day' and very generous prizes! Call me old fashioned and out of touch with the way things are done these days, but when almost 50% of the prize winners 'no showed', I feel something should be said. I know it is a long day; there are bound to be some winners who played early and it would be unreasonable for them to hang around all day, but surely, if a player thinks he has a good score, he can phone the Club later to see if he will be needed to receive a prize? This is probably the biggest day in the Club's calendar, not one of the monthly competitions when the winners are posted on the notice board subsequently. Tradition and common courtesy require winners to be present at the prize presentation - unless there is a very acceptable excuse, in which case the Captain should, at the very least, be advised in advance and not be left holding a prize on the rostrum looking like a stranded turkey.

Finally, I send a tribute to our scratch P@VIT team who reached the semi final of the County competition for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in recent years. Playing a very strong East Sussex National team (mostly + handicaps) our team came agonisingly close to going through, losing 6 ½ - 5 ½ after fortunes fluctuated all day. I am sorry the Greenfield's act of loyalty (including Aileen!) in shortening their annual holiday to enable Trevor to play, with son Matt caddying, didn't quite give us the result wanted, though Trevor did have a great win himself.

*Reg Auchterlonie*

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### **Annual Quiz Match PGC v EBGC**

**The annual quiz match against East Brighton Golf Club is to be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October at Pyecombe. We currently hold the trophy. We need six teams of 4 at a cost of £10 per person including food (sausage & mash or curry) & prizes. Look out for a notice soon.**

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### MONEY MATTERS

It's that time of year when your Management Committee, following earlier discussions and revisions, agrees the Financial Budget for the coming year and the level of member subscriptions.

#### Setting the Budget

Good historical data, some judgement and a certain amount of luck are required in budgeting! The first step is to forecast the current year, which, even with only 2 months to go, is not without some uncertainty. Then comes the task of predicting Member subscriptions, Visitor income and any surplus (if any) from the Bar and Catering. In recent years subscription income has remained pretty static, while income from Green fees and Societies has (fortunately) increased. Since making the changes to our Catering Service a year ago that has also improved, so that we expect a small surplus this year. We hope to maintain this in 2011.

In many ways expenditure levels are easier to predict because many costs are fixed in the short term. But the requests for expenditure to make improvements or renovations to the Course and Club House always exceed what can be afforded, so choices have to be made.

The principal capital development will be the extension of the Greenkeepers' Equipment Shed, something which has been in our plans for some time. But we are also keenly aware of the need to renovate and enlarge the Men's showers and toilet facilities. However, with an estimated price tag of around £25,000 that will depend on the general health of the Club's finances in the coming year. Overall we have budgeted for a small surplus in 2011, though not as big as we

would have liked, because the Club needs to build up a Fund for future developments, something not achieved in recent years.

#### Subscriptions

As I write, preparations are in hand for all members to receive their annual Subscription renewal letter by the end of the month. A small increase is being applied, though for reasons set out in the letter a larger increase will apply to 5 day membership.

Last year a large proportion of members took advantage of the "£15 on the Card" discount for paying by the end of September. That incentive will be applied again this year. Our key priority is to ensure that members get real value for money from their subscription. Given the quality and presentation of our Course plus the other services offered I believe we do so. I hope you agree!

#### A SAFETY ISSUE

Exiting the Club, especially if turning north towards Burgess Hill, can be a hazardous business; and I expect many of us have had occasion to pull out and then have to stop and reverse in the face of traffic speeding north on the main road. This is doubly hazardous if another car is right up behind you. So please leave a space between you and any car ahead of you on the drive—just in case.

#### CLUB CHAIRMAN

Two Members, David Leach and Len North have advised me that they intend to stand for election as Chairman of the Management Committee at this year's AGM, when my 3 year term of office is completed.

*David Brown*

### **ATTENTION BRIDGE PLAYERS**

**Bridge Players (ladies or men) - are you interested in playing friendly bridge at Pyecombe Golf Club on Friday afternoons during the autumn and winter months? If so, please contact:**

**Rosemary Oliver (01444-236260) or Sheila McNeill (01273-832756).**

## John Hyslop – 50 Years of Membership

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June, fellow members, family, relations and friends enjoyed a lunch in the Clubhouse to celebrate John's 50 years (or thereabouts) of membership at Pyecombe Golf Club. John came to Pyecombe in 1960 as a play and pay member and had lessons from the then professional who sponsored him as a member. His first years subscription was £5.00.

Regular Sunday golfing partners, Ken Tompsett and Bob Lancashire spoke about their many humorous experiences while playing with John over the years. As John is a regular playing member of the Saturday Group, David Schwartz presented John with an engraved gold watch and a bouquet of flowers to his wife on behalf of the Group. Club Captain, Jim Dossetter, presented John with a whisky decanter from the Club.



John's daughter presented him with a trophy which she said represented the 50 years worth of shopping days he had missed while he was on the golf course

Congratulations to John and here's to the next 50 years during which we hope he plays a bit faster

*David Schwartz*

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## George Morley Gets his Hands on The Ryder Cup

George Morley who not so long ago was one of Pyecombe's greenkeepers is currently on the greenkeeping staff of Celtic Park Golf Club, South Wales. As you are most likely aware, the Ryder Cup will be played for in early October at Celtic Park. George has provided his mum Bronwynne with a photograph of him holding the Ryder Cup. It is to be hoped he has not left his dirty finger prints on the cup or perhaps he was given the task of polishing it.



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## Official Opening of PGC Heat Pump System

With a view to gaining publicity from the installation of the ground source heat pump to provide heating in the clubhouse, the committee asked Anne Eves to organise an "opening". This was held a few weeks ago. The guest of honour who performed the "opening" was the local Green Party MEP. Attendees included Dimplex, the suppliers of the heat pump, Biddles who supplied the convectors and the contractors who installed the various parts of the scheme. MSDC and Sustainable Business groups also attended. Anne has issued "press releases" of the event in an attempt to gain publicity in various newspapers and magazines (see below)



Above some who attended the Opening

**L/R: Peter Randall Managing Director of Ecovision main contractor, Keith Taylor (Green MEP), Chris Openshaw (PGC Project Manager), Reg Auchterlonie (PGC President) & David Brown (PGC Chairman)**

### (PGC Press Release 21/7/2010)

Pyecombe Golf Club has just installed a ground-source heat pump which will save on heating bills and significantly reduce the club's carbon footprint. The system was officially opened today by Keith Taylor, Green MEP for South-East England.

Paying tribute to the club's vision in seeing through this project, Keith Taylor pointed out that "this shows that being green makes good economic sense".

Pyecombe Golf Club is famous for being the club of its past president, Henry Longhurst, the late lamented golf commentator. It is situated on chalk downland about five miles north of Brighton and covers 140 acres of land. Local golfers often catch sight of deer, hares, pheasants, red-legged partridges and weasels.

When the clubhouse's LPG heating system needed replacement the committee looked into alternative energy systems which would make better long-term sense. Drawing on advice from the West Sussex Sustainable Business Partnership, they opted for a ground-source heat pump as the best solution for the site. Despite the difficulties of installing such a system in an existing building, the payback time as compared to a like-for-like solution should still be under six years. A grant was awarded from the

Low Carbon Building Programme (over £30 000) and an interest-free loan of £20000, repayable over two years, came from the Carbon Trust. Without these, the project could not have gone ahead.

Work began in January 2010: the main contractor was Ecovision Systems of Gloucestershire. Seven boreholes were drilled in the field below the clubhouse to accommodate the collector loop, which extracts geothermal heat from the ground. The heat pump serves a hot water system and a new system of radiators. Work was successfully completed in May.

The overall cost of the project was about £80,000. Other energy-saving measures have been installed, such as movement-detection light switches, extra insulation and reduced-flow shower heads, the latter thanks to a grant from Business Link. Future options being studied include solar panels and water conservation methods.

Now that the system is up and running the Club expects to cut its heating fuel bills by approximately three quarters and its CO2 emissions by two thirds. An electronic display in the clubhouse allows members to keep track of the savings they are making, both in terms of kilowatt hours and reduced carbon emissions.

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**New PGC Course Record** (Report to press by George Eves)

The Club had only just ratified a new course record of 66 by Trevor Greenfield, when on Wednesday, along came young Richard Farmer (pictured) with a 65 (net 64) in the mid-week medal (he now plays off scratch). Richard got the jitters at the turn when he realised he could shoot 29 for the first nine. He promptly carded a double-bogey on the 10th. But overall, eight birdies in his round carried him through to a new course record.



Richard, 18, went to Dorothy Springer School, took up golf at the age of 12 and trains under Ryan Fenwick of Slinfold. He will be lost to the Sussex team when he leaves for America this autumn to study at Midland College, Texas.

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**Semi-final of PAVIT Knock-Out** (Report to press by George Eves)

Pyecombe played East Sussex National in the semi-final of the PAVIT Trophy on 13<sup>th</sup> August at Haywards Heath GC. The ESN are a tough team, reputedly having an aggregate handicap of +5, including four +2 players. Play was interrupted for about an hour in the afternoon owing to torrential rain, greens flooding and lightning.

Pyecombe were down 2 ½ to 1 ½ after the foursomes, their only win coming from Trevor Greenfield & Phil Hubble. The afternoon singles were looking very close for a while, with wins for Michael Stoner (Pye) against Ashley Rees, and Richie Farmer (Pye) against Chris Jess. Andy Barnes (Pye) fell to James Dolwell but Trevor Greenfield (Pye) managed a win on the last to defeat Luke Cornford. Drew Bailey won for Pye against Josh Hayes, but it was not enough to stem the tide of ESN's dazzling quality: Ollie Hayes (ESN) beat Phil Hubble, Rob Bury (ESN) beat Duncan Scott and J J Grey (ESN) beat Julian Deans. The final result was an honourable defeat for Pyecombe ESN winning by 6 ½ to 5 ½.

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**Pyecombe Colts**

Our run of results continue with one exception that was the week I was not available; so the season scores are played 9, won 1, lost 8, with 3 to play. I hope we can turn in some wins in three to come. In the interclub competition we finished fourth out of six with Gary Hann & Ian Semel winning individual prizes. All the team performed well and had a very enjoyable day.

One topic still confuses new members and that is the name of this section – “Colts”. This name usually refers to junior or youth members whereas we are high handicap players and definitely not in the youth category. We are therefore looking for a new name for this section for next year.

Please email me any reasonable suggestions at: [pyecombehog@talktalk.net](mailto:pyecombehog@talktalk.net)

Suggestions so far: - Millers, windmills, Stags, Taverners.

*Alan Carter*  
Colts Captain

## Gala Day at PGC

Gala and Captain's days at Pyecombe golf club, held this year on the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> August, is one of the busiest of the year with Gala day on the Saturday followed by Captain's Day on Sunday.

**Gala day** consists of a team event where PGC members are allowed to invite up to two guests to play in a team of four for the Chris White Trophy (named after the former Pyecombe Pro) and played as a Stableford. The format applied involves playing the 1<sup>st</sup> six holes where 2 scores count, the 2<sup>nd</sup> six where 3 scores count and finally all 4 scores count on the last 6 holes. The last six holes tend to decide the winners.

After the round of golf players are invited to enter chipping and putting competitions. The latter competition involved putting towards a bottle of champagne - nearest to the bottle was the winner.

A trad jazz band enhanced the atmosphere all afternoon.

1 <sup>st</sup>	Rob Phelps, Jack Buglass, Stephen Brown and Dave Lodge	124 pts.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brian Langley, Richard Martin, Paul Harris and Andy Taylor	123 pts.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kevin Brittin, Jan Brittin, Angie Bainbridge and Gene Meyers	120 pts.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Gleave, Pat Coleman, Nigel Glam and Alison Vermes	119 pts.

Nearest the pin at the 5<sup>th</sup>: Angie Bainbridge.

Nearest the pin at the 8<sup>th</sup>: Ted Whitbourn.

Chipping: Mike Dring & Roy Priestley 40 pts.

Nearest the champagne: Gary Ellis & Reg Auchterlonie. (Gary won the play-off, but to rub salt into the wound he used Reg's putter).

**On Right: 3 members of Gala Day winning team**  
**In background: Jason Bowen (Pyecombe Pro)**



### Captain's Day

Poor Jim Dossetter had to get up at the crack of dawn and when he opened his curtains his heart must have sunk: it was overcast and not very warm, but towards mid-morning it brightened up.

Jim was on the 1<sup>st</sup> tee by 7.30a.m. to greet the early starters and following his example Phil Hubble was at the 5<sup>th</sup> hole by 8a.m. where he stayed on duty until the last competitor went through. Phil, who plays off 2, challenged everybody to get closer to the pin than him. Successful players won doubled their entry fee. Phil raised a total of £531 so it is obvious not many players succeeded in beating him.

Throughout the weekend, Pat (Captain Jim's wife), worked tirelessly to make sure that everything ran smoothly and the total raised for Jim's charity (Sussex Air Ambulance) totalled £1620.

### Captain's Day Results:

#### Division 1.

Thomas Fairfax 44 pts (HCap now 8)  
2nd Matt Harper 41 pts.  
3rd Dave Hackett 40 pts ocb.  
4th S Copley 40 pts.

#### Division 2.

1st M Willmott 39 pts  
2nd Barry Wood 37 pts ocb  
3rd Gary Hann 37 pts ocb  
4th Richard Silander 37 pts

#### Division 3

1st Michael Wilkins 42 pts  
2nd Cahel Logan 38 pts  
3rd J Wiggins 37 pts

Ladies	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Cathy Chapman	29 points
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Alison Baker	28 points (count back)
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Christa Sexton	28points

Longest Drive	Duncan Scott
Nearest Pin (men)	Dave Bunby
Nearest Pin (ladies)	Alison Baker

## Six Rounds of Golf in One Day at PGC – (Report by George Eves)

Four intrepid golfers played six rounds in a single day on 2nd July to raise money for Sussex County junior golf.

The four guys were: **Ryan Fenwick**, 32 (professional at Slinfold & a senior coach for England and the SCGU); **Trevor Greenfield**, 44 (a scratch golfer and this year's SCGU Vice-Captain); **Richie Farmer**, 18, (a scratch member of Pyecombe and one of the SCGU elite squad); and **Bradley Turner**, 18, who works at Highwoods Pro Shop and plays off 2 (is SCGU boys' champion-of-champions).

The four decided, for no other reason perhaps than that two of them belong to Pyecombe, to play the six rounds there: one of the hilliest courses around. They agreed to accomplish the feat on one of the longest, and as it turned out hottest, days of the year. Supporters sponsored them by guessing what the total score would be. Trevor had actually pulled off similar feats at the age of 18 and 20, on the latter occasion even completing 10 rounds in a day, so he was keen to see if he could still make it.



**18th green when it was all over Richard, Ryan, Bradley, Trevor**

The team got off to a quick start at 5am, completing the first two rounds in one and a half hours each. No rounds were slower than 2hr30, and other golfers all gave way as soon as they hove into sight. There was no time to mark putts of course, and caddies ran to hand over clubs, tend the flag and keep the game flowing.

The course length is 6221 yards (three and a half miles), so the minimum distance walked (if playing dead straight) would have been 21 miles. After five rounds Trevor Greenfield said, "I can't remember when I've been in so much pain", as his knees were hurting badly.

All four were pleased with their scores, especially as there were two 69s on the last rounds. Richard Farmer said, "The fifth round was the only one I messed up, really," - referring to his 7-over score, which many would be proud of. The final scores were so close: Ryan beat Trevor by one shot.

Trevor Greenfield	77	74	73	83	77	69	453
Richie Farmer	76	75	74	78	76	72	451
Ryan Fenwick	77	72	81	72	79	69	450
Bradley Turner	79	81	81	79	77	75	<u>472</u>
					<b>Total score</b>		<b>1826</b>

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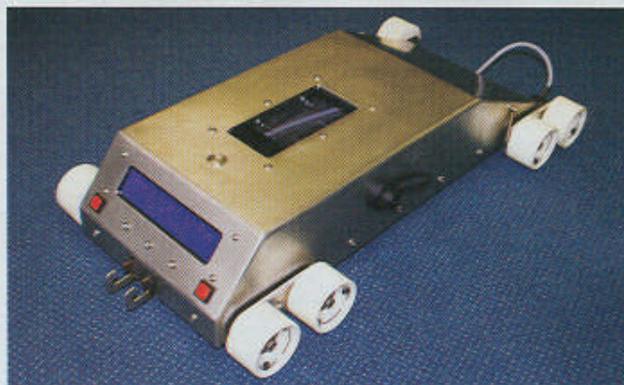
## SPORT

### Golf measurement device

# Smooth operator

**Who:** Academics from the Sports Engineering Research Group at Sheffield Hallam University have helped to develop a device that allows greenkeepers to accurately measure the smoothness of their playing greens.

**Technology:** The STRI Trueness Meter has been launched by the Bingley-based Sports Turf Research Institute. It is a trolley device that works by being pushed across the green at a pace that reflects the speed of the ball, starting at a 10ft putt. With the aid of electronics and a metal wheel that has the same footprint and down pressure of a golf ball, the device measures the amount of vertical displacement (smoothness) and lateral deviation (trueness) in millimetres. This allows greenkeepers to pick up minute textural differences in the turf. The technology is one of the biggest steps forward in the agronomy industry in 30 years and the only accurate, effective and efficient method of measuring smoothness and trueness of a green, says the company.



To the fore: **The STRI Trueness Meter**

**Application:** The STRI Trueness Meter was used at the Open Championship at St Andrews earlier this month. Nick Hamilton, a senior sports lecturer at Sheffield Hallam, who provided the research behind the device, says it could possibly be used in other sports in the future. "The technology is also capable of measuring surfaces across other sports, further helping to improve playing surfaces," he says.

## GILBERT PRINT PLATE 2<sup>nd</sup> round – County Seniors Inter Club Foursomes

Pyecombe GC Seniors being knocked out of the Cyril Blake Cup in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round were placed instead into the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Gilbert Print Plate. Pyecombe Seniors' first match in this competition was against the Seniors of Sedlescombe G.C in a home match at Pyecombe on Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 2010. We won this one 3 ½ to 1/2 .

Steps taken to reduce the shots given against a much higher handicap team worked although Bob & Mick still Won 5/4 despite giving 10 shots. Pyecombe have another Home tie in the next round against Highwoods. The team and Results of Individual pairings were:

Andy Munday & Brian Megenis	Won	7-6
Bob Watson & Mick Green	Won	5-4
George Eves & Jim Mcghie	Dormy 3 up but called a half due tie already won	
Ken White & Chris Muschamp	Won	5-4

Pyecombe played the 3<sup>rd</sup> round match against Highwoods on Monday July 19<sup>th</sup>. This match was drawn 2-2 but we lost on the new away wins rule.

It was a very closely fought match as expected, and both the last two matches went to the last hole but we couldn't get the winning half. This is the second time we have lost on the new away draw wins rule. We hope we get more away games next year!

The individual pairings and their results were:

Andy Munday & Alan Davey	Won	3-1
Bob Watson & Mick Green	Won	2-1
George Eves & Jim Mcghie	Lost	2 down
Ken White & Chris Muschamp	Lost	2 Down

*Alan Gower* Pyecombe Seniors Captain

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# JASON BOWEN

PGA PROFESSIONAL

The end of the summer season is now approaching and we are running a sale on ladies clothing and a special promotion on Greg Norman shirts. If you bring in a second hand shirt (not necessarily a golf shirt), you get £10 off any Greg Norman shirt. The shirts will be donated to the charity shop in Hassocks, so please make sure that they are at least clean!

Autumn clothing ranges will be arriving very soon. In the next week we will be taking delivery of some Ian Poulter autumn clothing (Colours are alot more subtle than the summer collection) and also underarmour clothing for both men and women. These 'coldgear' products are designed to keep golfers warm without weighing them down and restricting movement. The base layers are worn next to the skin and engineered to create a warmer body temperature by wicking moisture away from the skin and circulating body heat. These products really are at the forefront of technology when it comes to body temperature management and will no doubt be of significant benefit around Pyecombe Golf Club on those cold winter days. We are also going to be stocking a pair of winter gloves for playing golf in that are actually proven to warm up your hands by 2 to 3 degrees. This may not seem a great deal, but it will really take the edge of those frosty mornings. I for one will certainly be investing in a pair.



I am very pleased with the response to Buggies at Pyecombe. A number of members have been regularly using them and have commented on how easy they are to operate and to navigate around the slopes of Pyecombe. We are taking bookings in advance, but for those that do, please be aware that through the winter it may be necessary to stop them going out if the conditions are too slippery. If in any doubt, please contact the pro shop.

## Equipment corner - shaft fitting

Here's a little fact of life the golf industry never talks about. There are no established standards within the golf equipment industry for shaft flex.

The R flex from one company may have the same stiffness as the S flex from another company, or the A flex from yet some other company. The result is a lot of golfers walk away from their club buying experience without the right fit for the shafts in their new clubs.

Accurate shaft fitting has to consist of four important steps:

1. Measure the driver and middle-iron swing speeds of the golfer. The golfer's swing speed measurements must then be compared not to letter codes for flexes, but to a technically accurate list of swing speed ratings of many different shafts.
2. Fit the weight of the shaft to the physical strength and aggressiveness of the golfer's downswing move at the ball. Strong golfer + aggressive downswing + fast downswing tempo = heavier shaft weight (>85g woods, >115g irons). Less strong golfer + more passive downswing force and smooth tempo = very light shaft weight (<65g woods, <65-75g irons). In between these extremes for the golfer strength and downswing tempo = medium shaft weight (70-80g woods, 75-85g irons).
3. Adjust the swing speed rating of the shaft to the intensity of the golfer's downswing transition move. Very aggressive start to the downswing = choosing a shaft with a swing speed rating slightly higher than the golfer's swing speed measurement. Very smooth and easy start to the downswing = a shaft with a swing speed rating slightly lower than the golfer's swing speed.

(Continued on next page)

4. Choose the shaft's Bend Profile Design to match the golfer's unhinging of the wrist-cock angle on the downswing, also called the release. The bend profile of a shaft is how its stiffness can be distributed over the length of the shaft. For golfers with a late release, shafts with a tip firm bend profile (the tip end is the smaller end of the shaft) are a better fit. Golfers who release the wrist cock angle early in the downswing need shafts with more flexibility in the tip design. In between with the release means a tip medium bend profile.

One last point to guide your shaft fitting; the later the wrist cock release and more aggressive the downswing, the more the shaft becomes a vital component of performance in the club. The earlier the release and less aggressive the swing tempo, the weight of the shaft becomes far more important for the golfer than the stiffness design for shot performance. The only way for all golfers to find the best shaft for their swing is through professional custom club fitting. If anyone has any questions on these or any other issues regarding their clubs, please come into the shop for a chat with either myself or Michael.

*Jason*

<b>September Tee Reservations</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Type</b>
01 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
02 Sep	Thu		-	-	-
03 Sep	Fri	Sussex Lady Capts Committee Meeting	10.30 am	HOME	Committee Room
03 Sep	Fri	Broken Spur	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Broken Spur
03 Sep	Fri	Ladies' Friendly v Mid Sussex	10.30 - 11.00	HOME	Ladies
04 Sep	Sat	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
04 Sep	Sat	Battle of Britain Medal	-	HOME	Mens
04 Sep	Sat	Private Party	7 pm	HOME	Private
05 Sep	Sun	Club Match v Puttenham (confirmed)	(1pm)	AWAY	Mens Match
05 Sep	Sun	Ladies Par Competition (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
06 Sep	Mon	Vets - Over 70's Cup	8.30-9.30 am	HOME	Vets
06 Sep	Mon	Ashdown G S	10-11 am & 1-2 pm	HOME	Society
07 Sep	Tue	Ladies Par Competition (Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
07 Sep	Tue	NARPO GS	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Society
07 Sep	Tue	Private Lunch - Val Grant	1.00 pm	HOME	Private
08 Sep	Wed	Greenkeepers Challenge (BIGGA)	3.00-3.45 pm	HOME	Society
09 Sep	Thu	Hill Barn GS (provisional)	9.30-10.30 am	HOME	Society
09 Sep	Thu	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
10 Sep	Fri	Private Dinner - Val Grant	7.30 pm	HOME	Private
10 Sep	Fri	Private Lunch	12 noon	HOME	Private
10 Sep	Fri	Sussex Police GS	9.30 - 11.30 am	HOME	Society
11 Sep	Sat	Category Cup	10-12 noon	HOME	Mixed
11 Sep	Sat	P@V I T Trophy/Plate Finals	-	AWAY	P@VIT
12 Sep	Sun	Seniors Champs Raison Cup/Slater Quaiche	12-2 pm	HOME	Seniors
12 Sep	Sun	Junior Autumn Cup	-	HOME	Juniors

<b>September Tee Reservations (Continued)</b>					
12 Sep	Sun	Ladies EWGA Medal		HOME	Ladies
12 Sep	Sun	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
13 Sep	Mon	Vets Stableford	-	HOME	Vets
13 Sep	Mon	Rockwell Collins GS	1-1.45 pm	HOME	Society
14 Sep	Tue	Ladies Autumn Meeting EWGA Medal (Q)	8.45-11.00 & 12.45-2.30	HOME	Ladies
15 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
15 Sep	Wed	Dalani GS	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Society
16 Sep	Thu	Burgess Hill Rotary Charity Day	11-1.30 pm	HOME	Society
17 Sep	Fri	Broken Spur Captain's Day	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Broken Spur
17 Sep	Fri	Vets v Nevill (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Vets
17 Sep	Fri	L.O.G.S	9.15-9.45 & 2.30-3.15	HOME	Society
17 Sep	Fri	Ladies Friendly v Ifield	10.30-11 am	HOME	Ladies
18 Sep	Sat	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
18 Sep	Sat	Colts v Ifield (confirmed)	11.20-12.30	HOME	Colts
18 Sep	Sat	Broken Spur Dinner	7.30 pm	HOME	Broken Spur
19 Sep	Sun	Woolan Challenge/Bridge Cup Medal		HOME	Mens
19 Sep	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
20 Sep	Mon	Vets Hole Tankards	8.30-10 am	HOME	Vets
20 Sep	Mon	University of Surrey Committe Room	1.30-4.30 pm	HOME	Committee Room
21 Sep	Tue	Ladies Stableford	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
21 Sep	Tue	Headless Cross GS	11.45-12.30 pm	HOME	Society
22 Sep	Wed	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
23 Sep	Thu	Society Organisers' Day	12-2 pm	HOME	Society
24 Sep	Fri	MSL Summer Finals Day		AWAY	MSL
24 Sep	Fri	The Heath GS	10.30 - 11.30 am	HOME	Society
25 Sep	Sat	Club Match v Cowdray Park	11.30 - 12.30 pm	HOME	Mens Match
25 Sep	Sat	Whist Drive	7.30 pm	HOME	Social
25 Sep	Sat	Colts v Ifield (confirmed)	(11.30)	AWAY	Colts
25 Sep	Sat	Adult/Junior Greensomes (15 holes)	1.45-2.30 pm	HOME	Mixed
25 Sep	Sat	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
26 Sep	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
26 Sep	Sun	Bill Wise Trophy	7.30-12.30	HOME	Mens
26 Sep	Sun	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors
27 Sep	Mon	Past Captains Autumn Meeting	12-1.30 pm	HOME	Mens
27 Sep	Mon	Vets v Ifield (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Vets
28 Sep	Tue	Ladies Porcelain Picture (S/F Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
29 Sep	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
29 Sep	Wed	Jim Daniels GS	10.30 - 11.30	HOME	Society
30 Sep	Thu	Sx Ladies Cpts & Sec Ass Autumn Meet	Course Closed		

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<b>October Tee Reservations</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Type</b>
01 Oct	Fri	Broken Spur	1.30-2.30 pm	HOME	Broken Spur
02 Oct	Sat	Junior Middlewick Cup	-	HOME	Juniors
03 Oct	Sun	Ladies Eve Holland 3 clubs/putter S/F NQ	-	HOME	Ladies
03 Oct	Sun	Chandler Cup	-	HOME	Mens
04 Oct	Mon		-	-	-
05 Oct	Tue	Ladies Eve Holland 3 clubs/putter S/F NQ	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
05 Oct	Tue	Vets v Lewes (confirmed)	-	AWAY	Vets
06 Oct	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
06 Oct	Wed	West Sussex Fire Brigade GS	10.45 - 11.45	HOME	Society
07 Oct	Thu	Ladies Autumn Invitation	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
08 Oct	Fri	Quiz match v East Brighton	tba	HOME	Social
08 Oct	Fri	Mr Finch GS	11.30 - 12.15	HOME	Society
09 Oct	Sat	Queen Elizabeth Trophy	-	HOME	Mixed
09 Oct	Sat	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
09 Oct	Sat	Keymer & Hassocks Cricket Club Dinner	7 - 11 pm	HOME	Private
10 Oct	Sun	Ladies Sunday Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
10 Oct	Sun	Mixed Match v Sweetwoods (confirmed)	(12.30 pm)	AWAY	Mixed Match
11 Oct	Mon	Seniors v Lewes	9.50-10.30 am	HOME	Seniors
11 Oct	Mon	Private Meeting K Spence - Member	-5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	HOME	Private
12 Oct	Tue	Ladies/Vets Comp	9-10.30 am	HOME	Ladies
13 Oct	Wed	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
13 Oct	Wed	Rotary Club of Beachy Head GS	12.30 - 1.30	HOME	Society
15 Oct	Fri	Mackie Bowls Club Dinner & Dance	7 p.m.	HOME	Private
15 Oct	Fri	Vets v Neville	8.30 - 9.30	HOME	Vets
16 Oct	Sat	Wooler Driver	-	HOME	Mixed
16 Oct	Sat	Pyecombe Ball	-	SOCIAL	Social
16 Oct	Sat	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
17 Oct	Sun	Colts v West Hove (confirmed)	(1pm)	AWAY	Colts
17 Oct	Sun	Ladies Daily Mail 4's	-	HOME	Ladies
17 Oct	Sun	Artisans Cups		HOME	Mens
18 Oct	Mon	Drake Pairs (rescheduled date)	8.30-10 am	HOME	Vets
19 Oct	Tue	Ladies Daily Mail 4's	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
20 Oct	Wed	Wheatsheaf GS	1 - 2 pm	HOME	Society
21 Oct	Thu	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
22 Oct	Fri	Karaoke Night	7.00 pm	HOME	Social
23 Oct	Sat	Longhurst Putter	12-2 pm	HOME	Mixed
24 Oct	Sun	Ladies Stableford (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
24 Oct	Sun	MSWL v Haywards Heath (confirmed)	8.50-9.45 am	HOME/AWAY	MSL
24 Oct	Sun	Medal	-	HOME	Mens
24 Oct	Sun	Junior Stableford	-	HOME	Juniors

		<b>October Tee Reservations</b>	<b>(Continued)</b>		
24 Oct	Sun	Junior Competition Winners Cup	-	HOME	Juniors
25 Oct	Mon	Sussex County U/15's Championships	10.00 - 1.00 p.m.	HOME	Juniors
26 Oct	Tue	Ladies Stableford (Q)	8.45-11 am	HOME	Ladies
27 Oct	Wed	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
29 Oct	Fri	Private Dinner (provisional)	7pm	HOME	Private
29 Oct	Fri	Sussex Stragglers GS (provisional)	12 - 1 pm	HOME	Society
30 Oct	Sat	Stableford	-	HOME	Mens
30 Oct	Sat	Captain & Pro Finals Comp & Dinner	11.30-1.30 pm	HOME	Mixed
31 Oct	Sun	Ladies EWGA Medal (Q)	-	HOME	Ladies
31 Oct	Sun	Competition Winners Cup	-		

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