



Ups & Downs

Pyecombe G C

Newsletter

July / August 2011

No. 120

Editor Alf Bickham

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

It has been an action packed golfing time over the last couple of months, despite the rather disappointing 'Summer' weather. High winds and rain are not ideal golfing companions, but these have been, at the very least, the occasional conditions faced at the club as well as all around the country...challenging indeed!

We were very lucky with our trip to The Open at Royal St George's in Sandwich, as we managed to choose the calm and sunny day (the Friday!), the other 3 days were very wet and or windy! A very successful trip, thank you George for organising things for us. Same again please, assuming this venue is chosen in 8 years time!

The Open trip was good but without doubt the highlight for me of the last couple of months has been Gala Day and Captain's Day, which took place in early August. The weather could have been kinder with gusty wind and occasional heavy downpours of rain on the agenda, but hopefully these conditions did not spoil the weekend too much for the participants.

A lot of effort was put in by Nigel and his staff and also of course Jason & Michael, to keep the busy weekend plans on track. I really enjoyed seeing you on the 1st tee on the Sunday morning and sending you on your way

with a glass of Champers. I have quite a collection of photos to remind me of the occasion!

Many thanks are due to a merry band of helpers including my wife Anita and daughter Bethany, the Lady Captain Carol Crothers, Pat Dossetter and Ritchie Farmer, but I would also like to thank you the members for supporting the weekend and the Captain's charity. £1500 was raised over the two days for MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT. Fantastic. Special Thanks to Michael, who raised £630 on the beat the Pro challenge at the 5th. Obviously this sum could not have been raised without the generosity of you the members!

Details of who won the various Divisional prizes will appear later in the publication, but the very popular winner of the overall event was Tony 'the barman' Muzzall, who had a fantastic 39 points which was a terrific score in the very difficult condition.

The Gala day team event was won by David Lodge, Steve Brown, Mark Gunn and their guest. In all well over 300 players supported the event over the weekend, there was a great atmosphere in the clubhouse and at prize giving, again many thanks for your support.

Of the many other events and fixtures that have taken place over the last couple of

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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 or to make contact by telephone, call him at home, Tel. No. 01444.242101

CAPTAIN'S REPORT (Continued)

.....months, I have cherry-picked just a few for special mention!:

The Mixed Open, with 64 participants from all over the County took place 7th July and the Mixed Team Rumble with 18 teams of 4 players took place on 21st July.

The mixed Open was won by Adam Kuzimski and Jean Thompson from Rusper?. The 'Rumble' was won by a team (from Bramley) Michael & Sue Knight, Peter & Sue Goodsir.

Both these occasions were well supported. The catering as usual was fantastic. The course looked absolutely beautiful and the greens were fantastic. All participants vowed to return next year (Even the players in the Mixed Open who got a bit of a drenching as well!).

The Men's over 50's Invitation took place on 11th August with 28 pairs competing. There has been so much going on I just can't remember who won this event, but I had a nasty dream that it was Jim Cullen and his guest Paul Newman from Worthing.

Dave Schwartz and Jan Hawes continue to run the mixed matches and events, with some successes especially in the home fixtures! The recent Molly Keet 4 ball betterball stableford was well attended on Bank Holiday Monday and that popular pairing of Reg & Vi Auchterlonie were victorious. The traditional prize of theatre tickets was their reward (I wonder where they will go?). The Friendship Bowl was held at Cophorne this time, with each MSL club providing 10 pairs. Our very own Jim & Pat Dossetter were in the prizes (3rd if I recall! Well done)...as far as the team event was concerned should we just say that we were in the top five!

The Junior Championship was held on 28th July. Matt Greenfield was victorious in the scratch event over 36 holes with Heb Bailey taking the handicap trophy. Matt's achievement completed a treble for the 'family Greenfield' following the success of Trevor and Aileen! - A subject much reported in the Middy & The Argus! (See also page 9)

Many Congratulations to the Cyril Blake team for their success in the County Seniors

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foursomes. and for reaching the final after a great 4-0 win over Slinfold at Worthing GC. The final of this event is to be held at Ham Manor on Monday 19th September against Worthing. It would be great to see as many of you as possible at this final to support the team. Tee off is at 1200hrs. The team against Slinfold was Keith Gorrington & Andy Munday, George Eves & Mick Green, Peter Charman & Bob Watson, Alan Davey & Brian Megenis.

Whilst on the subject of successes after 8 years we have finally managed to regain the 'Jack Squirrel' jug from Mannings Heath. This popular club event, held on a 2 leg aggregate 'home and away' basis has been very much dominated by Mannings over recent years, but the tables were turned this time. A report on the event follows later in this publication (page 10), compiled by that well known correspondent Mr Lew Smith. Colin Prior the only other Captain to touch the trophy also provides a few memories of past glories.

Word has just reached me that Aileen Greenfield has been successful in winning the 'County Plate' after a gruelling 112 holes in 3 days over West Sussex...Well done Aileen...I'm sure that winning this event helps a little towards the disappointment of relinquishing your County title this year.

Finally...The Pyecombe Ball is to take place on Saturday 15th October at Wickwood's Country Club in Albourne. The notice for this event will very shortly be appearing on my board. Please add your names if you wish to attend. It should be a great evening, with live entertainment being provided by Des Desmond who plays his golf at Willingdon and reckons he can sing, (we shall see...if he's no good George Eves, Kevin Fairfax and Trevor Greenfield will take over!).

Happy Golfing

Peter Gavin

LADIES SECTION

The last two months have been a very busy time for the Ladies' Section. Championship Day in July was very well-supported. Congratulations to Aileen who, for the thirtieth consecutive year, became Ladies Scratch Champion. Could there be anyone else in the country to have achieved this? Lyn Rees won the handicap prize. A report was sent to the press and this appears on page 9 with detailed results and photographs.

On August 9th at our Ladies Open, we greeted 94 Ladies from 31 clubs. We were so lucky with the weather. The team from Boar's Head won first prize. I was most grateful to Peter and Reg for acting as welcoming Starters to our guests. Many thanks to Sandra Staynes, our committee, and all the volunteers who helped the day to run so smoothly. Prize winners were:

- 1st place from Boar's Head with a score of 43 points: Val Groombridge and Sandie Heslop
- 2nd S Brown and J Parry 39 points from Cowdray Park
- 3rd Barbara Smith and Frances Friend 38 points from Cowdray and West Surrey
- 4th (on countback) Moira McMillian and Barbara Johnson 38 points from Chartham Park
- Nearest the Pin on the 5th Debbie Fardell from Singing Hills
- Nearest the Pin (in 2) on 13th Myra Taylor from Haywards Heath
- Best front 9: Penny Cattanes and Debbie Fardell from Singing Hills
- Best back 9: Valerie Bates and Patricia Reid from Sweetwoods Park
- After a superb buffet the prizes were presented by the Lady Captain, Carol Crothers.

Our Ladies Away Day at Dewlands Manor saw 32 members enjoy this delightful nine-hole course in beautiful East Sussex countryside. The winners were Joanna Greenstreet, Carol Kemp and me! In second place were Rosemary Oliver, Chris Muschamp and Heather Jordan.

Once again the weather smiled on us last Friday (26Aug) when despite heavy early morning rain, the supper competition went ahead. This was organised by Irene Silander who went to great trouble to find some interesting twists to this most amusing evening event. After an excellent supper Joanna Greenstreet recounted her fantastic experience of being a scorer at The Open at Sandwich. Her full account of her experiences is given on page 8.

Once again, congratulations go to Aileen for winning the Plate Competition in the Sussex Championships. The report forwarded to the Press is given below.

Ladies' County Championship

Aileen Greenfield (defending County Champion), Alison Vermes and Jo Galway all played in the **Ladies' County Championship** at West Sussex on 23rd - 25th August. Of the 52 competitors, 16 go through to the matchplay stage, and our three qualified comfortably for the second day: Aileen 76+73; Jo 80+76; Alison 80+85 (SSS was 74+73). Jo did not carry on, having entered only the stroke-play day.

On the morning of Day Two our Pyecombe ladies were both narrowly defeated: Aileen lost to teenager Hope Beland (Royal Eastbourne) on the 19th, and Alison lost to Paula Carver (Worthing). They went on to play in the Plate in the afternoon: Aileen beat Emma Morgan (Crowborough) on the 22nd and Alison beat Carol Smith (The Dyke) 3&2.

So on Day Three it was load up again in the shared car and back down to Pulborough to play *against each other* in the semi-final of the Plate. The heavens opened and the greens flooded mid-morning, so players retreated and let the green staff clear up before play resumed an hour or so later. Although Alison was 2-up after 13 holes, Aileen finally beat her, 2 up. Alison said, "I think I made them work for it and am very happy with my three days". In the afternoon Aileen played in the Plate final, having now

(Continued on next page)

Ladies' County Championship (Continuation)

.....gained a caddy - Alison - **and was triumphant against Daisy Kane of West Sussex, 2 & 1.** Aileen had played a total of 112 holes in three days, even playing the 1st hole five times on Wednesday, and Alison had played not much less.

The County Championship, as opposed to the Plate, was won by Stacey Rodger of West Hove, who beat Tiffany Hewetson of East Brighton, 5&4.

Carol Crothers
Lady Captain

THE PRESIDENT REFLECTS

The main golfing events of the year have now passed - how time flies - and it will not be long before we are reminded of John Keats poem 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness.....'. One of the principal attractions was, of course, The Open, which this year was held in our neck of the woods at Sandwich. A goodly number of us went on the Double Decker kindly arranged by our reticent Head of Social, George Eves. A most enjoyable day was somewhat marred by the fact that we didn't get onto the Course until midday, due to severe traffic problems around the Sandwich area – a loss of over two hours – and the fact that to save more delay, most of us got off the bus and walked the last 45 minutes to the Course. Hopefully, the organising authorities will ensure that next time The Open comes South, the traffic arrangements will be much improved.

Speaking of The Open, I cannot think of many members of our Club that have been involved in it, one way or another. In fact, apart from Henry Longhurst, who wrote about it, and later in his career, commentated on television in his inimitable style, I can think of only one other – last year's Lady Captain, Joanna Greenstreet. Joanna acted as official scorer for several matches including Lee Westwood, Jim Furyk and Tom Watson. An experience never to be forgotten! What a responsibility! Joanna certainly had to keep very focussed, and had little or no time for those essential moments when one's comfort required a short interlude! She got round the dilemma by not drinking any liquid well before taking up her duties! An account of her experience appears elsewhere in this edition - (page 8).

In the Cyril Blake County Competition (Over 55's) our team has continued its winning ways and has now reached the Final, having disposed of Slinfold at Worthing by the impressive margin of 4 games to nil. They now face Worthing at Ham Manor on Monday 19th September to try and win the Competition for only the second time in the Club's history. I am sure we all wish the team well – it would be great to see strong support on the day to cheer the 'lads' along.

Reg Auchterlonie

Seniors Invitation

The Seniors Invitation was played on Thursday 11th August when it was a bit on the windy side, 25 mph gusting to 30 mph which made for some interesting golf, however, we the rain that was promised didn't materialise.

- 1st Jim Cullen & Paul Newman (worthing) 38 pts.
- 2nd Peter Windham & Brian Ranson (Addington Palace) 37 pts.
- 3rd Len North & Tony Lewis (Eastbourne Downs) 36 pts.
- 4th George Eves & Peter Dray (Highwoods) ocb 36 Pts
- 5th Mick Green & Barry Smallwood (Woodcote Park) 36 pts.



Paul Newman, Captain Peter Gavin & Jim Cullen.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

You should all have received your subscriptions letter by the time you read this. It has been a difficult financial year and during the last couple of months expenditure has been reduced so that we can be near to a break-even point.

Please try to pay your subscription or return your DD mandate to the office by the end of the month as per the instruction in the letter to avoid paying more than necessary. I would emphasize that we need additional members to help the finances of the Club and would ask you all to do what you can to help with this. We have an excellent Club so please praise the positive points to family and friends.

Our Treasurer Brian Chasser's three year term ends at the next AGM and he has decided not to seek re-election. Brian has done a tremendous job for the Club and has also been a great support to me in my first year. If you are mindful of consideration for the role and wish to find out more then speak directly with Brian or me.

A couple of developments have taken place to help the members of our Club. Contact has been made with the Burgess Hill Driving Range. We will each have a link on our respective web sites to each other. They will also display a banner advertising our Club and will direct anyone interested in joining a golf club to our good selves. They have a good driving range facility should it be of interest to you. A new and additional reciprocal has been arranged with Saffron Walden GC. SWGC is about 20 miles south of Cambridge. We are also in the process of seeking additional reciprocals in the same area so that potential trips can be arranged.

The Secretary, Treasurer and I are in the process of arranging a round table discussion with other local member clubs to see if there is any opportunity to help each other. I will hopefully be in position to report, in the next U&Ds, on how this initiative will help Club members.

I have a request from our Catering area. If you are trying to organise an event involving food could I ask that in the first instance you go to the Office rather than direct to Nigel. We have found some of our procedures being confused and this reflects badly on the response and service; so your help in this area would be very much appreciated. Whilst talking about Catering, a reminder that the Dining Room is available for members to book their own special events, such as birthday parties or anniversaries. With Christmas coming it may also be an opportunity to organise a function associated with your work. Talk with the Office for further information and any proposed date.

Pyecombe Golf Club – A traditional golf club in changing times

I recently gave a presentation to members of the various committees, plus some other selected members. It was about the Club and its future. The Management Committee (MC) need the Members help as to how the Club could operate over the coming years. Particularly taking into account that for every member there is likely to be as many views! The following is just a summary of that presentation, but if you would like the full version, just let me know.

The MC has three main objectives:

Objective 1

- Set goals to obtain 95% of our annual revenue from an increased membership of 100 over a four year period
- In achieving the above keep membership fees at or below inflation
- Reduce the need to rely on green-fees and societies *during peak times*
- Investigate opportunities to increase revenue through the clubhouse.

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Objective 2

- Investigate different Membership options that could be of interest to:
 - The occasional playing golfer
 - Potential members who do not live near to the Club.
 - Families

Objective 3

- Improve the Club's Information Systems

We are in a changing world. There is a long-term trend away from golf club membership, but there is no shortage of golfers. The social / economic environment puts pressure on prospective members who prioritise their expenditure and question whether to pay subscriptions to a golf club.

There was an explosion of golf clubs and courses back around 1990, now there is an oversupply situation. Our past finances were based on joining fees and waiting lists, which no longer apply. Our Club is a business with a turnover of around £500k and employs in excess of 15 staff, but we are not blessed with the best of information to help us going forward and we are looking at ways to improve this.

Information we do have indicates that 85% of our membership is over 50 years of age and 54% is over 60. Not in itself a bad thing, but as we go forward the good solid members from the past are getting fewer and replacement is becoming more difficult.

Other golf clubs are offering alternative types of membership and consumer attitudes are changing. We may need to adapt and change some of our entrenched views in order to, in the long term, survive.

Our Club finances have broken even over the past years without the build up of capital to allow for facilities to be maintained and improved. Our clubhouse needs important maintenance work (flat roof and window replacement to name two) and that is without any improvements. We need to at the very least keep our course to a high quality standard, particularly if we wish to attract discerning golfers.

We are a members club and we are all passionate and proud of our Club. Pulling together will I'm convinced put us in a better position to face the challenges of the future.

Len North

Molly Keat

The annual Bank Holiday mixed four-ball-better-ball, known as the Molly Keat competition, was played on 29th August. The coveted prize is always theatre vouchers for two.

Winners: Reg & Vi Auchterlonie (42 points)
 Runners-up: Neil & Bea Janes (41)
 Third: Mick Green and Mary Barnard (40)



L/R: Vice-Captain David Schwartz, Reg & Vi Auchterlonie & Carol Crothers Lady Captain.

Gala and Captain's Days

The weekend of Saturday & Sunday 6th & 7th August was a busy weekend at Pyecombe Golf Club with Gala Day occurring on the Saturday and Captain's Day on Sunday. Gala Day was a team event, 4 per team, of which one person had to be a guest. Captain's Day was a stableford competition for all sections of the club. Winners of the various competitions are given below.

Gala Day Winners were:

1st team 129 pts Mark Gunn, Dave Lodge, Stephen Brown & Matthew Shoebridge (Rustington)
2nd team 123 pts Trevor Greenfield, Phill Hubble, Alan Davey & Brad Turner (Willingdon.)
3rd team 120 pts Pat Coleman, Tim Gleave, Roy Lawson & Celia Schultz (Cooden.)
Nearest the pin 5th (ladies) Angie Bainbridge.
Nearest the pin 8th (Men) Andy Turner.
Longest Drive 9th Bradley Turner (Willingdon) 320 yards

Captain's Day

Division 1

1st 37pts S M Green
 2nd 36pts Andy Selsby
 3rd 36pts G Billennes

Division 2

1st 38pts P J Corney
 2nd 37pts David Lodge
 3rd 36pts Peter Fray

Division 3

1st 39pts Mr Tony Muzzall
 2nd 35pts Chris Moquet
 3rd 33pts David Bessant



Gala Day's winning team with Capt Peter Gavin (right)



Peter Gavin congratulates Tony Muzzle overall winner of Captain's Prize



Jan Brittin winner of the Ladies Prize with Captain Peter Gavin

SCORING AT THE OPEN

Having just experienced one of the most exciting and challenging weeks of my life, I thought you might be interested to hear about it. I was lucky enough to be sent an application form to be a Walking Scorer at this year's Open at Royal St George's because my cousin was running the Marshall's HQ there. I filled in the form which was daunting and demanded to know how much golf organisation I had done, whether I knew the course, what my handicap was and why I should be selected! To my amazement I was selected and duly turned up at the official 'Teach-In' on the Monday. This took over 2 hours with a presentation and lesson on how to use the electronic scoring system. By this time I was terrified, along with 80 other golfing ladies! We were given our uniform and instructions and I went off to stay with my cousin in Sandwich cursing him and not at all sure whether I could cope with the handheld gadget.

My practice round was on Wednesday when we went out in pairs to give each other moral support, and we were lucky enough to have Lee Westwood, Thomas Shadbolt and a young amateur from Australia who was as nervous as we were! I watched Lee get an Eagle on 7th hole using his driver twice and one putt! Everyone was very relaxed and I finished the day with a little more confidence.

My first round was on Friday with Match 14. On Thursday evening I scanned the internet nervously to discover that I had bagged Bernhard Langer, Jim Furyk and Tadahiro Takayama. I was thrilled and hardly slept a wink! I arrived at the course at 7.30 in my smart uniform and reported to the Scorers HQ. It took 45 minutes to kit me out and test the electronic scorer, clip board with the manual back-up score sheet, radio, ear piece and satellite navigation! By this time I could hardly speak I was so nervous but felt so proud as I was escorted to the first Tee through the crowds with my red armband announcing I was an Official Scorer. I was introduced to our Rules Official, Bunker Raker and Scoreboard Carrier and then the moment of truth arrived as the players walked off the practice putting green, shook hands with us and climbed on to the Tee Box. With adrenalin soaring through my veins, I watched Jim Furyk tee off first, tapped my computer and we were off. Scoring for 3 people was a little daunting as you have to enter where each person has hit the ball from, as well as the strokes they play, but my group were so slow (5 1/2 hours) that it wasn't as difficult as I thought. At the end of each hole you have to confirm the total for each player and once you hit the button the information goes straight to the main scoreboard, the BBC and Sky. (No pressure then!) You also had to repeat everything you had put into the computer on the manual score sheet. There was certainly no time to look for Pyecombe friends, eat or drink and obviously you had to concentrate as hard as the players. I didn't drink for another reason – we weren't allowed to go to the loo or if we were really desperate we had to radio in to Control to be relieved by an official and of course all the other scorers would hear your predicament! I dehydrated rather than do that on a very hot day!

The following day the weather was atrocious. However, nothing mattered as I was lucky enough to score for Tom Watson and Ricky Barnes! They were delightful and despite the rain pouring over my plastic covered computer and dripping off my glasses so that I could hardly see what I was punching into the gizmo, I thoroughly enjoyed the game. It was a pleasure to watch a totally relaxed Tom walking in front of me with his hands in his pockets as if he was just out for a stroll in the park. We had all the cameras and reporters with us too and I will never forget the feeling I had as I walked down the 18th fairway towards the grandstand with the cheers which greeted Tom.

After the rounds I had to go into the hut where the R & A officials sit to go through the cards and put all the scores on to yet another computer! The R & A officials were probably the most terrifying men I have come across. They all sat across the table from the players and me with scowls on their faces and absolutely no sense of humour whatsoever. Thank Goodness I had no problems and all was signed off and agreed. I thought the officials were going to implode when Tom decided to dry all his clubs and clothes in front of them with the towel they had provided for him! Incidentally, I dripped quietly on my chair without a towel!!

I returned to Sussex on Sunday evening completely exhausted both mentally and physically, having walked many miles, but would I repeat the experience? You bet!

Joanna Greenstreet

Pyecombe Ladies Championship

The Pyecombe Ladies Club Championship was held on Tuesday 26th July, played over 36 holes. The best scores of the day are given below with the ladies' names.

Aileen Greenfield, our scratch player, won for the **30th time** the Championship Cup with a fantastic score over 36 holes of 74 & 73 gross. Other scores and trophies won were:

2nd scratch Joy Millns whose score gave her a net 71

1st handicap Lyn Rees, with net 68

2nd Handicap Helen Woodcock-Downey with net 76

A new **Greenstreet Salver** was won by Ros Mead with net 77

Best a.m. score (on countback) Jan Hawes with net 74

2nd a.m. score Sheila Pearce with net 74

Best p.m. score Sandi Selsby with net 71

Quondam Trophy (Best Past Captain)

was won by Sheila Pearce



Aileen Greenfield



Ladies Winners Group Photograph

Mixed Rumble

The first ever 'mixed rumble' was held at Pyecombe on 21st July, replacing the usual mixed invitation format. It proved a great success.

19 teams of four competed in a stableford competition, with 2 scores to count on the par-fives, three scores to count on the par-fours, and all four to count on the par-threes. Many guest players were returning to Pyecombe, having enjoyed the course before. Results were as follows:

Winning team (from Bramley) with: 119 points
Michael & Sue Knight, Peter & Sue Goodsir.



Bramley Team with PGCs Captain and Professional

Runners-up with 117 points: N Dugard (Singing Hills), Matt Ralph (Worthing), M Casey (Singing Hills), Shirley Earland (Worthing),.

Third (on countback with 117):

Angie Bainbridge, Jan Brittin, Tim Gleave (all Pyecombe), Steve De Souza (Hassocks).

Nearest the pin (ladies): Sue Knight, Bramley GC

Nearest the pin (men): Mick Blunden, Guildford

EIGHT YEARS OF HURT OVER. AS PYECOMBE TRAP THE SQUIRREL!

A carnival atmosphere swept through club house on Sunday evening, as the triumphant team staggered to the bar after capturing one of the biggest prizes in Sussex golf.

Being humiliated by Mannings Heath in the Squirrel Cup has been an annual event since 2003. Despite fielding some of our finest golfers*, in recent years winning the cup was a distant memory. The celebrations were nearly cut short when Mannings claimed their historical right to demand, large gin and tonics, from George Eves who failed to reach the ladies tee with his drive on the 18th. Luckily, after much cursing and threats of violence, George gave in and without any grace supplied the drinks.

The win proved even more satisfying when the Mannings captain Ian Jaggard let it be known that they had an arrangement with the engraver, two for the price of one. Such was their confidence.

*Dave "the grinder" Hackett; Walley "the Trolley" Lock; Les "you're nicked" Freer; Roy "It's not my Round" Aitken; Mike "only 12 down" Dring; Trevor "4 deep" Greenfield.

Lewis Smith

Past Captain's Congratulatiions:

As the first, and last, surviving Pyecombe Captain to have tasted victory in this competition, I feel that I really must extend my congratulations to the fine body of Pyecombe chaps who rested the trophy, after 7 years of tarnish, from the marauding folk of Mannings Heath. Obviously this cup has been in the custody of the "Northern Folk" for far too long. Seven long years ago it rejoiced in the name of "The Jack Squirrel Cup" (Jack referring to our windmill, and Squirrel to Mannings Heath logo).

Colin Prior

Lady Captain's Day, Tuesday 5th July.

On a lovely sunny day the ladies of Pyecombe turned out in something pink to help the Lady Captain, Carol Crothers, enjoy her day. Over 15 holes everyone enjoyed "something different" with golf: players having to use a squash racket for their drive on the first tee, a left-handed putter on the 5th, and finally a hockey stick on the 13th for the longest drive. An added bonus was that players could use a mulligan, a kick-out and a throw-out during their round to get themselves out of trouble. After the game a lovely buffet was supplied by Carol. A great day was had by all.

Results:

- 1st** Mary Barnard
- 2nd** Joanna Greenstreet
- 3rd** Aileen Greenfield



(L-R) Peter Gavin (Club Captain), Carol Crothers (Lady Captain), Aileen Greenfield, Mary Barnard, Joanna Greenstreet

Junior Club Championship Results

Pyecombe juniors competed in the junior club championship over 36 holes, on 29th July 2011. Below are the names of the successful players' gross and net scores.

Gross Scores

1st	Matt Greenfield	74 + 73 = 147
2nd	Hebb Bailey	81 + 84 = 165
3rd	Thomas Fairfax	87 + 81 = 187

Net Scores

1st	Matt Greenfield	71 + 70 = 141
2nd	Hebb Bailey	69 + 72 = 141
3rd	Jack Troak	71 + 77 = 148

**On Right the winners:
Captain Peter Gavin congratulates:
Matt Greenfield (centre) &
Hebb Bailey**



**Above: The Junior Group photograph
Captain Peter Gavin (left) & Aileen Greenfield Junior Organiser (far right)**

VETS SECTION

Since my last report we have played 19 friendly matches against other Clubs Vets' Sections. Seven of the matches were away of which we lost six, but struggled to get a half in very wet conditions at Royal Eastbourne. Eight of the home matches were wins, one was halved, and three lost. All of the matches have been played in a competitive but very friendly manner, and have been thoroughly enjoyed by those taking part.

We have quite a good proportion of the vets section participating in these matches but there are still one or two members who could play not putting their names down on the Entry Sheets. If you are fit enough to play 18 holes, please put your name down for one of the matches. We try to give everyone a fair share of the games entered rather than trying to pick the best team.

I am very pleased to report that our course has been in excellent condition for all our home matches, and we have had compliments from all our visitors.....well done our green staff!

Similarly the bar staff and catering staff have done us proud and earned plaudits (With the exception of one batch of Bread and Butter Pudding!).

The Dancy Trophy on 6th June was won by Chris Muschamp with the splendid net score of 66, beating David Brown and Aubrey Watson's fine net 68s.

The Chevalier Spoon competition was held on 27th June, with a fine entry of 28. Peter Johnstone won with 39 points beating Maurice Woolgar 37 and Mike Smithers and Aubrey Watson both on 36 points.

On July 25th Maurice Woolgar was in winning form again winning the Drake Pairs competition with Gordon Richards. A fine win with a tough format and the course set up difficult.

Since my last report Martin Sutcliffe and I have played six more Captain and Vice Captain challenge matches. We just managed to win most of them but we were defeated by Alan Davies and Alan Dunstan who are now in the running for the Whiskey, but there are still four more challenges to decide who gets the malt!

Ted Whitbourn



END OF SEASON SUMMER SALE NOW ON

We are currently having a sale on a wide variety of clothing and golf bags. There is a 25% reduction on all Underarmour, Ian Poulter, Greg Norman, UKKO, Stromberg, Cross and Green Lamb clothing along with 25% off a number of Sun Mountain and Ogio golf bags. The sale will be running until the middle of September.

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FOCUS ON EQUIPMENT

Over the past few years more and more golf club companies have started to emphasize custom clubfitting as an option to their typical marketing to golfers to buy their clubs in standard form, bought off the shelf.

Custom fitting is very definitely for average golfers and not just for single figure handicap players. When done properly, custom fitting can reduce and offset some of your swing errors. In addition, proper custom fitting makes it easier to take swing coaching advice and make the changes in the swing to hit the ball better.

If you are thinking about custom fitting for your next driver or set of clubs, there are a few things you need to know to ensure you really do end up with properly custom fit clubs that will improve your game. A friend of mine in the golf business put this in the right way when he said that custom clubfitting can be much like having your car washed.

On one hand, you can pull out the hose and just spray water on it to wash off the obvious surface dirt. You can also fill a bucket with suds and scrub the dirt off the surface with a sponge. Or, you can pull out all the stops and scrub, wax and polish it. All three examples could be called a car wash.

Custom fitting in the golf industry today is much the same. There is fitting, and there is professional custom clubfitting. Examples of a fitting include “6 questions on a web site”, 15 minutes hitting a few balls with a swing computer, or 3 measurements and a response from a golf sales person to the effect of, “I know what you need.”

On the other hand, professional custom club fitting is going to involve a pretty fair amount of your time, often more than one trip to have your swing analysed in detail so that ALL the possible specifications that make up a set of golf clubs can be pinpointed and selected to match with your strength, size, athletic ability, and especially, the way YOU and only YOU swing. Professional custom club fitting really is like the scrub, wax and detail car wash I mentioned before. The other types of fitting are not going to get you really matched well to your clubs to really result in the level of improvement that a real custom fitting can and will do. In other words, which “car wash” do YOU want for your money?

To find more about professional custom club fitting, please come to our pro shop and ask myself or Michael for a little more information. If you do, you’ll be happy you did and your club buying money will be well spent.

To improve our fitting service we will be adding a launch monitor to the 30 question assessment sheet we use and next season we will be stocking a wider selection of golf clubs along with demonstration clubs to trial. Ball fitting will also be available.

Don’t forget, we can already order in a wide selection of the major brands at internet competitive prices.

Happy golfing,

Jason