



# Ups & Downs

## Pyecombe G C

# Newsletter

January / February 2012

**No. 123**

**Editor Alf Bickham**

## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

A belated Happy New Year to All Members.

January and February are reasonably quiet months in golfing terms; especially with the snow halting play. The Mid-Sussex Winter League Matches are among the few competitive games, but more of these later.

The Old Year finished with a flurry, congratulations to Peter and Carole for raising over £8000 for their Charity, Macmillan Nurses Cancer Support, a really good effort and I am sure they would want to thank everyone for their support. (See press report on page 6)

The Christmas Scramble was very well supported, the good weather helping, won by the team of Cahel Logan, Ron Pennicard, Tony Muzzell, Joe Cambridge and Jan Brittin, with the booby Christmas puddings going to the Greenfield Family Team. I must thank you for your generous contributions, the raffle, on the day, raised £375 for the Captain's Charity. Nigel's guess the weight of the chocolate log cake raised a further £52, thank you Nigel. The cake was won by Val Grant who guessed the nearest weight and as I reminded her 'two pounds of chocolate will put five pounds on a ladies waist'; I hope she had a very good Christmas.

I must also thank the members of the Saturday Roll-Up who, at their dinner on 16<sup>th</sup> December,

presented me with £100 for this Year's Charity, "Help for Heroes". (MRSU report page10)

There was tremendous support for Santa's Hidden Hole Stableford, on Christmas Eve, the weather was again very kind to us, congratulations to the winner Olly Phillips. Thanks to Andy Selsby and Nick Lee, who with myself, put up the money for the extra prizes. I did note that Andy won a good portion of his donation back, by winning nearest the pin in two on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

The New Year's Eve Celebrations, as usual was well attended, and was an excellent evening. The Valentines Lunch was an excellent menu, if you missed it; you missed Nigel at his culinary best. The Wine Tasting Evening was an excellent event, presented by Giles of Southdown Cellars; the very good wines from Spain and Portugal were superbly complimented by Nigel's tapas and cheese. Watch out for future lunch and dining opportunities.

In the Mid-Sussex Winter League we had a very good win over Ifield but, unfortunately, the result against Copthorne was a disappointing loss, we will finish in the top five again.

Thank you for supporting the Captain's Blue Tee Challenge, which got the new golfing.....

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

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

.....season off to a good start. Sign up for the Captain and Professional Challenge; the dates are on the Captain's Board. Do not forget the Annual Good Friday Captain v Presidents Match.

Members will note that we are hosting the Mid-Sussex Winter League Finals Day on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> when the Course will be closed all day. We are also hosting the Sussex County Ladies Golf Association's Scratch Foursomes Competition on Wednesday 11th, Thursday 12th and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April. The Course will

not be closed but there will be times during those days when members will not be able to play, the ladies will appreciate any support you can offer, I am sure the golf will be good.

Finally, I cannot believe that I am the only honest golfer in the Club, as my name appears in the Captains' Bunker Book many more times than anyone else. I do not think I am allowed to win this competition; then again, it may be the only thing I can win this Year!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

*David Schwartz*

### **A Very Warm Welcome to Pyecombe Golf Club**

Since the start of my Captaincy I have welcomed, and had the good fortune of playing golf with many of the following new members:-

Paul Hart	Alex Burford	Joe McCavana	Lee Appleby
David Foster	Steven Boniface	Colin Pierce	Stephen Daly
Alex Jago	Danica Bunt	Kirsten Redmore	Andrew Hother
Terence Adams	Michael Adams	Stephen Dutton	David Mellor

If you meet them on the Course or in the Clubhouse I am sure you will make them most welcome. I hope they will enjoy our Course and facilities for a very long time.

David Schwartz

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## **LADIES SECTION**

A pre Christmas fun day was held with the Juniors (see report on page 12) but not much has happen since Christmas although we had a New Years Fun Day, which was great fun, and a good format. This was won by Pat Webb, Barbara Lawden and Jamie Blades.

The Club will be hosting the County Scratch Inter-Club Knockout Foursomes, from Wed 11th April to Fri 13th April. Aileen and Jo will be representing Pyecombe. Should be fun to watch. If you fancy supporting our girls, or ball spotting, just let me know, the starting times are on April's Golf Calendar.

The first round of the "Mail on Sunday" was played away at West Hove on Tuesday 7th Feb. A rather cold but enjoyable day, unfortunately we came second.

On Tuesday 28th Feb, the annual Matchplay "Capt / Sec's challenge" took place. The Ladies divided into Captain's team and Secretary's team. The Captain's team won by two matches, A bring and buy sale was held afterwards, and raised £67 for the Captains Charity "Help for Hero's". There will be more fund raising events during the coming year.

I hope the weather in the coming months will be kind to us , and we all play some good golf.

*Janice Hawes*  
Lady Captain

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Having now come through the worst of the winter (hopefully) we can all look forward to sunnier playing days. The same is true of our financial status. Our membership renewal numbers at the turn of our financial year were not as strong as they were the previous year and as a result the expenditure budgets were pared to reflect our reduced income. This balancing act, however, does not make us financially strong for the future. We have some good news however relating to our green fee income, which is the highest it has been (November to February) for approximately 5 years. While it is not anticipated that the increased green fee income will continue through the summer it does at least mean we have got off to a good start.

You will all have seen the efforts that have been made with the various membership options. These are anticipated to attract members who find that the full 7 or 5 day traditional membership does not fit with their particular lifestyle arrangements. These initiatives are crucial to our financial stability and our ability to proceed with projects to improve our Club. History tells us that recommendations are the best form of attracting new members and you are all therefore asked to spread the word that our Club is the one they should play and join. Don't be embarrassed to tell who ever what a good Club we have.

As well as our initiatives to increase membership numbers we have also been looking at ways to increase value for membership. One way is with reciprocals with other member clubs. We have now also added Newmarket to our list, which together with Saffron Walden allows an enjoyable trip to the Essex/Cambridgeshire boarder. We are looking to add another course from that region to help improve the experience. We are also considering a special afternoon members guest rate to encourage you to bring along guests and enjoy our great course.

When the men's changing room was first built the lockers were made available to members on a lifetime basis. Over the years many of these members have since left and the lockers therefore returned to the Club. A review has taken place of those that are no longer being used and I'm pleased to say that both small and large lockers are now available for a yearly rent. Please contact the office to find out if one is available.

The Management Committee has decided to re-evaluate the Shed Project. There is no doubt that as a Club we need to provide good welfare facilities for the staff and at the same time care for our assets. We are looking to provide the correct solution for the staff which is cost effective to the Club. We still have £56,000 outstanding in loan notes, which we have to return over the next 3 years. Given the current financial climate the Management Committee are looking at ways to reduce the effect of this on the Club and its members.

Wednesday morning has a high course usage and causing some concern to Club members when societies are also booked. As a trial it was agreed that we avoid Society bookings during Wednesday morning. So far we have at least one Society that would not move their day and they went elsewhere. One Wednesday society has been allowed in December due to the large income the Club is likely to receive. A review will take place later in the year for the financial impact and to assess its continuation. A motion will be placed at the next AGM if appropriate.

A lot of hard work, on your behalf, goes on behind the scenes from staff, committee members and other members and without that dedication the Club would not be where it is today. We should all be aware of this situation and thank them as appropriate. A kind word and a smile go a long way.

*Len North*

## BRIAN RAISON 1934-2012



Brian Raison, who died in January following a short but acute illness, joined Pyecombe in 1976. Older members will recall that the summer of that year was particularly hot and dry so that a decision was taken to install a watering system for the Greens which had been badly affected.

A decade later Brian was Club Captain and it must have been a hectic year because Brian's job at the time with Cable and Wireless took him all over the world. His Vice captain John Secrett recalls frantic telex and phone messages from all parts of the Globe!

In 1997 Brian played an important role on a small Committee which made some radical proposals for a change in the Club's Management structure, and following Members' agreement at the AGM later that year he himself was elected as the Club's first Chairman. Among the innovations during Brian's 3 year term were the introduction of the Swipe Card system, and, yes, with a compulsory £25 deposit for the bar!. (Unfortunately something which did not last long—but that's another story!!) And who will forget the controversy over the new white tee on the 15<sup>th</sup>? At the time it was affectionately known as "Raison's Folly" and there was considerable opposition. But Brian was made of stern stuff so it happened. A decade later most members recognise that it has made for a better hole—and most crucially a safer one.

Brian was a good and very consistent golfer, with a simple swing and excellent short game. Rather surprisingly he didn't win a Men's Board competition until winning his own "Raison Cup" (with a net 68 playing off 10) which he presented in 2004 for the best net score in a newly introduced Seniors Club Championship. In an Ups and Downs Profile he claimed to be embarrassed about this, but in fact he was highly chuffed! At the age of 67 he achieved his best ever score at Pyecombe with a gross 68—just one over his age (Ken Barnard marked his card so it must be true!!). In 2000 Brian was a member of the Cyril Blake Team which for the only time in the Club's history won the County Championship.

At the Annual General Meeting in 2006 Brian was elected an Honorary Life Member in recognition of his outstanding service to the Club over 30 years. In the same year he and Molly moved to Shropshire to be close to family, and Brian became an enthusiastic member of the Vets section at Bridgenorth Golf Club. However he continued to keep up with Pyecombe affairs and in one of our last conversations was commenting on the recent AGM papers. Nine members from Pyecombe attended Brian's funeral in the Parish Church of Much Wenlock on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

*David Brown*

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### **Brian Raison – Personal memories by Roy Plummer**

Brian was a great guy to play with and I treasure the times we had. At my reckoning we played together about 16 years. I have a few lasting memories of Brian that I would like to share with you.

I recall the two of us plus Mollie his wife playing in a competition where we all putted from the same spot. Brian went first and then proceeded to explain carefully the correct approach line.

(Continued on next page)

## **Brian Raison – Personal memories by Roy Plummer** (Continued)

Mollie and I looked at each other and smiled. Brian was baffled until we explained that we could choose the right line but putting along it was not guaranteed.

I asked if Brian had any photos of grass huts – bearing in mind that he had been to Africa. His reply, that yes he had one with big knockers, came on my downswing for the approach shot to the 14<sup>th</sup>. My shot went out of bounds and he claimed the hole.

We were playing together, the day after Brighton and Hove Albion played Tottenham, when a volley of shotguns went off – pheasant or clay pigeon shooters I presumed. Brian glanced up and calmly said, “Haven’t those Tottenham supporters gone home yet?” His quiet sense of humour was always enjoyable.

When Brian was captain I received a telephone call from the visiting captain from another club, who had been told to contact me for any information on Brian. He told me frankly that he was looking for ‘a bit of dirt’ to tease Brian with. My reply was that I knew of none and that the only time I saw him angry was when we caught someone cheating. When the visiting captain relayed this to the assembled diners at The Pyecombe ball, Brian’s youngest daughter took this as a deep insult to her father and said as much to me. I had to calm her by saying “Take it as a compliment – he tried to find dirt and could not. What a wonderful man your father must be.”

I felt it was an honour to have known him.

*Roy Plummer*

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## **PGC – Social Scene**

So, Christmas & New Year’s parties have come and gone and we are already looking forward to the start of the Golfing season. We can also look forward to various Social events which will hopefully encourage more members, family & friends to take an active part in supporting our wonderful Golf Club. Thanks to all those that attended the festive celebrations, great fun had by all and a fitting end to King George’s reign as Social organiser & Chief.

To date we have had two events, in the shape of a quality Valentines Lunch & an interesting and educating wine tasting evening. On both counts Nigel, Josh & Kirsty deserve high praise for the quality of Menu for Valentines & the superb Tapas that complemented the five Spanish & Portuguese wines sampled at the wine tasting. Giles Cutler from “South Downs Cellar” presented an enjoyable evening, and may have even sold some wine. Next time we might be able to work the audio system?

### **Events to look out for –**

- Sat - 17 March. -- St Patricks Celebrations
- Sun – 18 March. – Mother’s Day Lunch
- Fri/Sat – 23/24 March – 24 Hour Golf in aid of Sports Relief
- Sat – 24 March – Quiz Night by Roy Aitken in aid of Sports Relief

Your support will be much appreciated.

*Colin AKA Ted Bovis*

## PGC 2011 Charity Cheque

### Pyecombe golfers raise thousands for charity



SWINGING golf clubs and the clickety-clack of knitting needles raised £8,198 for the Sussex Macmillan Cancer Support Centre Appeal.

Outgoing captains at Pyecombe Golf Club – Peter Gavin and Carol Crothers – swung into action and held a series of fundraising drives throughout 2011.

Carol and a group of friends used their knitting skills and sold more than 800 hand-made scarves. They raised a staggering £4,060 with more money coming in from Christmas sales.

On Peter's Captain's day, assistant professional golfer Michael Stoner carried out a "Challenge the Pro" competition, which raised more than £500.

The money will go towards a

project by Macmillan to build an innovative information and support centre for people across Sussex.

Carol said: "We are ecstatic to have raised this amount for such a great cause. I couldn't have raised so much without the great assistance from my fellow knitters, Joy Bellamy, Pat Borrill, Sheila Homewood, Jean Thurkettle, and Margaret Heathcote."

Rachel David, fundraising manager in Sussex, said: "I want to thank Peter and Carol for all their hard work, dedication and brilliant support."

Pictured are: Sussex fundraising manager Rachel David (middle) receiving a cheque from Men's Captain Peter Gavin and Ladies' Captain Carol Crothers.

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### **BRIGHTON & EASTBOURNE SENIORS WINTER LEAGUE**

The club have played two matches since the last Ups & Downs with very different results for Pyecombe. We beat Willingdon both home and away 3½ - 1½ at home and 4-1 at Willingdon. Andy Munday again losing at home and winning away. The result against East Brighton was a defeat for Pyecombe 1½ - 3½ both home and away, only David Jagger being undefeated for Pyecombe. Our last match is against Hollingbury when a good result could still see us win the league. Alan Gower being totally unbiased has worked out all the permutations required for Pyecombe to win, but to be safe win 10 - 0.

*Neil Beard-Neilson*

## **In Memory of Charles Beamish**

Charles Beamish, who recently, suddenly died, had been a member of Pyecombe Golf Club since 1979.

He was Club Captain in 1990 and a Trustee of the Club for many years until recently.

I first met Charlie when I joined Brighton Squash Club in Withdean. Charlie was one of a number of guys who made me welcome and we played regularly at the Club on Monday evenings.

A few of us played golf occasionally when the weather allowed. About this time the notorious MESS Club was formed (the Monday Evening Squash Society) the annual Xmas Dinner of which was riotous affair at Piero's Italian Restaurant in Brighton, with Charlie 'entertaining' with his own version of O Sole Mio.



**August 2002 Photo of Charles**

I joined Pyecombe in 1976 and, when Charlie and his family moved from Worth to Fulking a couple of years later I managed to persuade him that Pyecombe would be the Club for him. He had been a member of Hill Barn GC for many years. With his easy going personality Charlie quickly made many friends at Pyecombe and although his wife, Patricia, was not a golfer, they enjoyed many happy social occasions at Club functions.

Charlie was a very successful Building Company Proprietor, and an avid sportsman who, apart from golf, squash, football, skiing and tennis, was a solid opening batsman for his cricket club in Shoreham in his younger days. He was also a fine card player, particularly good at bridge – and poker!

A season ticket holder for Brighton & Hove Albion from boyhood, Charlie, happily, was able to see the Club he had supported all his life, play at their new stadium at Falmer with his younger brother, Peter, alongside him.

When, in 1989, the Freehold of the Course was advertised for sale Charlie with his many business 'contacts' was able to use his knowledge and, along with others, ensured that the course freehold was purchased by the members.

Charlie and Pat had three daughters and theirs was a very happy, devoted family devastated by the death, six years ago, of the second daughter, Catherine. Charlie suffered a brain haemorrhage about five years ago and although he made a quick full recovery he had not played golf for the last couple of years. The Club Veterans will have missed his always cheery chuckle on Mondays and Thursdays.

For the last four years or so Charlie had lunched regularly with some old friends from the Club and had been on good form just weeks ago.

My lasting memories of Charlie will be of an honest, decent, trustworthy, caring and companionable man and great valued friend, much missed.

***Hylton Jolliffe***

## ON THE COURSE

Since my last article we have had some new additions to the course, a bell on twelve which I believe fits the Pyecombe bill for character and quirk, time had obviously rung out for the old one (apologies for that), also new bunker rake stands throughout the course, which I feel contribute to making a well cared for statement to the Pyecombe ambience, as well as having practical benefits. Thanks go to Andy Selsby for fabricating and providing these items for our use, nice one Andy.

On the subject of new additions, congratulations go to our assistant Head Greenkeeper Richard Evans and his wife Beth on the arrival of their son Jake, born on Christmas Day.

We are now moving into the period where the course struggles to maintain its quality as we move towards the end of winter (hopefully). Lack of growth makes it difficult to provide definition of fairways etc and then as we move on, the different grass species waking up at different times producing more uneven growth on greens. You can be assured that Simon and his team will be doing their best to produce as good a course as possible for us.

In the short time I have been involved with greens I have come to understand the key importance of aeration to the course. It is the single most important process for producing the end result that we all expect from our greens and fairways. Heavy aeration is at present taking place on fairways and more aeration in coming weeks on greens and surrounds. Unfortunately the old adage No Pain, No Gain, holds true with aeration and we must appreciate this fact. There is equipment available that will help return greens back to good playability much quicker, but unfortunately at Pyecombe we do not possess it, yet!

With regard to Winter Tees, Simon is investigating the possible use of a new grass rhizome which will produce a much harder wearing grass sward which could be of benefit to us. It does have its positives and negatives, the seed being a notoriously difficult germinator. If he decides to trial this I will update in due course, personally I don't think we have much to lose by doing so, but i will rely on his expertise to make the right decision.

Recent fencing works at the rear of the tenth green and right hand of the eleventh fairway have tidied up these areas and reinstated our boundary. The ditch to the rear of ten has been cleared of debris so as to maintain our protection against any water slurry surge off the field behind. A short term bonus of this work has been the opening up of the lovely view to the end of the valley, enjoy whilst it lasts as the brush will soon grow up.

Various turfing and rebuilding of bunker faces has been taking place and these bunkers will return to play as soon as turf is rooted and grass is growing again.

Recovering of the cart paths with shells will be taking place over the coming weeks along with limited upgrade to the walk off path at the old 18<sup>th</sup>, levelling the winter path from the third tee and a little later, the making of a new path around to the eighth winter tee. A new handrail will be erected to the eighth path. Ideally, we would like to be doing much more extensive work to the paths, but we are confined by budgetary constraint in what are trying times financially for our club, and indeed most golf clubs in the present climate.

A new triple greens mower manufactured by Toro, has been ordered, this will hopefully give the greenkeeping staff more ammunition in their armoury to enhance and maintain the production of top quality greens for the club.

In closing, congratulations to Simon, D.A. Richard and Tony from the bar on a grand win in The Greenkeeper's Turkey Trot at Worthing Golf Club.

Enjoy your golf

*Gary Hann* Chair of Green

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## Members' Saturday Roll Up (MSRU)

It has been another successful year for the MSRU. Of the Saturdays available for us to play (those without a match or other fixture in the club diary) there were only 2 when rain stopped play! To count as an MSRU game there must be at least 6 people playing so there is clearly a hardy core of desperate players. However, it must be remembered that for many so called 7 day members this is their only golf day. We have had 85 individual club members playing with us during 2011 and 33 of these played more than 15 times with an average of 25 people playing each Saturday. We had our annual dinner and prize giving on December 16<sup>th</sup> at the club which was a fine evening for all 28 that attended. The prize winners were:

### Gerry Allen Memorial Trophy

(Average of best 15 Stableford scores)

1st Andy Hayward	(38.07)
2nd Neil Beard-Neilson	(36.70)
3rd Phil Woolven	(36.07)

### Bryan Tidbury Trophy (Most Birdies)

1st Andy Hayward	(41)
2nd Phil Woolven	(30)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Martyn Little	(23)

### Bloody Bitch (Lowest Stableford Score in the year)

Ronnie Paulsen	(15)
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### Most Games Played

Stewart Dench	(39)
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### John Richardson Trophy

(Best Season Avg Stableford (min of 20 games count))

1st Neil Beard-Neilson	(35.1)
2nd Andy Hayward	(33.51)
3rd Colin Giles	(33.50)

### Roy Jarvis Award (Average Stableford score closest to the overall average!)

Steve Brown	(31.9)
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### Bandit Award (Highest Stableford Score)

Andy Hayward	(45)
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The group also donated £100 to the Captain's charity. :



The club provided an excellent meal and all enjoyed a very convivial evening. Photos from the dinner are shown above.

## Information about the MSRU

The MSRU meets each Saturday for social and competitive golf – times are shown on the club's diary. We have players of all abilities with handicaps that range from 5 to 27. We gather from around 0745 and members who want to play in the roll up must be in the clubhouse at 08.15 a.m. when names are drawn for the playing order. We play a Stableford Competition, with a normal prize of £15 for the winner and also play in any club competitions that are also running concurrently. The weekly scores also count towards the various trophies and prizes that are awarded at the end of the year. Any Pyecombe Member, regardless of ability or gender, is .....

(Continued on next page)

**Information about the MSRU (Continued)**

.....welcome to join the Group on any Saturday and you are not committed to play every week just join in when you can or when you are without a game. It also provides an ideal way for new members to play into the club and meet current members – many comment that the rollup was the key thing that attracted them to the club in the first instance. The MSRU prize year normally runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January to mid December ready for the dinner in mid December. However, as there are more than enough functions in Dec we are going to amend this from next year. Therefore next year's prize year will run from 1 January to 30 September with the dinner on 19<sup>th</sup> October. Thereafter it will run from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct to 30<sup>th</sup> Sept with the dinner in mid Oct to avoid the busy Christmas season and to align the MSRU season more closely to the club's membership year.

The Saturday Roll Up is organized by Mike Sexton ably supported by Phil Woolven, Richard Silander and Alan Blunden. Please contact us by email at [pyecombemsru@gmail.com](mailto:pyecombemsru@gmail.com).

**Presentation of Prizes**



**Phil Woolven receiving his prize**



**Neil Beard Neilson gets another prize!**



**Steve Brown receives most average golfer prize! Ronnie wins a golf lesson for the lowest score**



**Stuart Dench gets the prize for turning up most**

## COLTS SECTION

A message from the 2012 Colts Captain.

I look forward to the new season wearing the Captain's armband ably assisted by Harvey Smith as Vice Captain. Although the Colts have picked up a number of new members over the last few years we would like to attract some more of you to our group.

All 7-day Gentlemen members with handicaps of 18 and over are eligible to play in the Colts Team, all are welcome, no age limits –young or old. The Colts would like to have more players who have a handicap of 18 or above join the group, to ensure that they can field a full team in all of their 2012 fixtures. If you are an 18 handicap (or higher) player then do add your name on the entry sheets. You will be sure of a game and a good time. The Colts notice board is almost opposite the entry door to the kitchen. The difficulty for the Colts is that 18 plus handicap players are often those players whose handicaps are in decline and once below 18 they no longer qualify to play and are lost to the group. We would welcome those of you who have handicaps that have moved in the other direction. Colts golf is a great way to play different courses, improve your game, and meet new people. It is played in a competitive manner, but is never taken too seriously, and so if you have a handicap that qualifies please seriously consider signing up for a game.

This year's fixture list is given below for your information.

### *Cahel Logan*

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#### **Pyecombe Colts 2012 Fixture List**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Venue</u>
• 03 Mar	Sat	Colts Tankard	11.30 – 12.45	Home
• 24 Mar	Sat	Colts v Ham Manor	11.20 – 12.30	Home
• 31 Mar	Sat	Colts v East Brighton	11.20 – 12.30	Home
• 02 June	Sat	Colts v West Hove	11.20 – 12.30	Home
• 16 June	Sat	Colts v The Dyke	TBC	Away
• 23 June	Sat	Colts v Cottesmore	10.00 for 11.00 start	Away
• 30 June	Sat	Colts v West Hove	11.00	Away
• 8 July	Sun	Colts Inter Club Trophy	12.00 – 13.00	Away
• 15 July	Sun	Colts v Ham Manor	11.00 start	Away
• 29 July	Sun	Colts v East Brighton	11.30	Away
• 11 Aug	Sat	Colts v The Dyke	11.20 – 12.30	Home
• 01 Sept	Sat	Colts v Cottesmore	11.20 – 12.30	Home
• 15 Sept	Sat	Colts v Ifield	TBC	Away
• 29 Sept	Sat	Colts v Ifield	11.20 – 12.30	Home

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## Ladies & Juniors Pre-Christmas Fun Day



A very enjoyable time was had by all when the Ladies and Junior Sections joined up for a pre Christmas fun day.

It was just as well the Ladies were playing with the Juniors in teams and not against them, as they would not have stood a chance of winning. The Juniors have some excellent golfers amongst them including the youngest member of the golf club, Alfie Hutton aged 8yrs, who plays off a handicap of 31. Watch out Rory McIlroy!

The golf was followed by a light lunch and a quiz. Again the ladies would not have stood a chance in the quiz as all these bright youngsters knew far more of the answers than any of the Ladies.

It is hoped that this will become an annual event!

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## **GET READY FOR THE NEW SEASON**

With the weather definitely starting to improve, it's time to start thinking about getting ready for the golf season. Here are a few helpful tips you should look at to help make this year a successful one.

**1) Check your grips.** Grips should be changed at least once every two years but depending on how much you play, they may need to be changed as often as every six months. Worn and slippery grips may cause problems in your swing. Slippery grips will cause you to subconsciously grip the club too tight. Tension of any kind affects the swing but none as much as excess grip pressure.

Squeezing the club too tight may cause one or more of the following problems: loss of power, slices and overall poor contact. Cost of new grips - £5 to £10 per club. (10% reduction on full sets)

**2) Check your spikes.** Aside from the obvious safety reasons while walking up and down Pyecombe hills, spikes that are worn down may cause slipping during a swing. Loss of balance and excess foot movement may cause mishit shots leading to unnecessary bogies and worse. Cost of a set of new spikes including fitting - £9

**3) Book a lesson.** This is the perfect time to brush up on your basics. Starting the season with good fundamentals should lead to a more enjoyable year of golf. I am running a special promotion for Members through March of a **1 hour lesson for £25.** (Save £10) This will provide a great opportunity to have a check up on the long game and short game. All lessons come with an optional emailed video of your swing.

## **NEW STOCK AT PYECOMBE PRO SHOP**

This season we are stocking a larger selection of Golf Clubs. We are still offering the Wishon range and have added a wide selection of Titleist woods, irons and wedges and a similar selection of clubs from Benross.

We have a number of woods in varying lofts and shaft flex from all three manufacturers to try along with full sets of demonstration irons and wedges. In total we now have over 70 clubs that can be taken out to trial on the course. No time is spared in making sure that you make the right selection and a full custom fit is available at no charge to all Members. We want to make sure that you have the right equipment in your bag.

Don't forget that we can still order in most of the major manufacturers at internet competitive prices.

### **Special offers:**

- **2 Greg Norman or Ian Poulter shirts for £40**

- **25% off all Ladies Clothing**

- **Free coaching in March for beginners**

**Please let your friends know**