



THE SOUTHWOLD GOLF CLUB



Winter 2011

SOUTHWOLD RABBIT

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Wishing you a Very Happy Christmas and Good Golfing in 2012



Captains Drive-in

Incoming Club Captain **Alan Bagley** was joined for his Drive-in by new Ladies Captain **Vivien Hunt** and Club President **Mick Heil**. Each played three balls on the 18th hole, giving spectators a good view without straying far from the bar, after members had forecast the distance from the hole where each participant's best shot would finish.

The new captain's reign looked 'set to fair' when he stepped onto the tee-box and launched his first shot onto the green. Moreover, when all had played their three shots the Captain's first ball was still nearest to the pin. Unfortunately the rules of the competition specified that, as the 'ceremonial' shot, it didn't count! **Robin Mann** had shown lack of confidence in him, in forecasting the Captain's best effort at between 25 and 27 feet from the pin. Half that would have been right for the first one, but Alan's next two shots were some way off even leaving pitch-marks on the green!

Viv Hunt brought a touch of dignity to the proceedings with shots well within the scope of **Brian Brandwood's** measuring tape. President **Mick Heil** was nearest of the three contestants, but he'd have had a difficult birdee putt.

Speaking afterwards in the club-house, where members retired for a buffet lunch, the Captain recalled that the Drive-in tradition began when the Prince of Wales became Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in 1863. Some clubs still held this as a 'Captain-only' event but, in this day and age, Alan felt it was appropriate to involve members more widely. Expressing enthusiasm for facing the challenges of the year ahead, Alan drew particular attention to Captains' Year fund-raising activities. His chosen charity would be the Lowestoft-based "Thursday Club", which provides support for the mentally-handicapped and adults with disabilities and special learning difficulties. Viv Hunt has selected Cancer Research as her charity. Proceeds from forecasting the drive-in results were a welcome contribution to these causes. He closed by wishing all members a successful and enjoyable year's golf with regular visits to the Captain's Charity bunker!

Suffolk Pro Strokeplay Championship

Suffolk Professional Strokeplay Championship is coming to Southwold for the first time in the Championship's history – it was started in 1924. Both the Club and PGA are excited by the prospect of holding the event at Southwold. It is a great opportunity for Southwold members to watch 36 Pros pit their skills against our Course. It is Robin's hope to get our top 3 Suffolk Tour Pros - Jamie Moul, Jamie Abbott and Lawrence Dodd taking part. (On Jamie Abbott's last visit in October 2010 he shot a score of 63).

Annual General Meeting of Southwold Golf Club

The Annual General Meeting of Southwold Golf Club took place on Saturday 29th October 2011.

Conrad Swan, completing his year as Captain, thanked his Committee for their work during the past year, which had been marked with notable achievements such as winning the Hambro Cup and installing Photovoltaic Cells on the roof of the Clubhouse. The Captain commented on the fact that the club was maintaining levels of membership, but warned against complacency during the difficult financial climate.

Amendment to Rule 8 Subscriptions

A change to the date of renewal of annual subscriptions from January 1 to April 1 was proposed and approved by the meeting. In order to facilitate this change, the subscriptions for the next year will cover the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 March 2013. Since Fairway Credit is no longer available for less than £20,000 per annum, the Club is working on setting up banking facilities so that members can pay by standing order. There are various payment options that you will be advised of with your subscription renewal notices. There is no change to the Club's Financial Year.

The New Committee and their Functions

Captain	Alan Bagley
Vice Captain	Bob Lee
Honorary Secretary	Roger Wilshaw
Honorary Treasurer	Andy Merricks
Ladies Captain	Vivien Hunt
Business and Finance	Carey Taylor
Future Developments	Bob Griffin & Adele Spindler
Juniors	Keith Hurr
Match & Handicap	Conrad Swan
Chairman of Greens	Ged Gerrell
Chair of House	Carol Scilly
Match & Events	Richard Holmes

Club Fees

The new Management Committee have set the Club fees at £480 per annum for full membership, and £260 per annum for country membership.

New Committee: Because sufficient members did not put their names forward to fill the spaces available, the Management Committee has invited members to sit on the Committee in order to carry out the work required. This will be ratified next year at the AGM.

Captain's Report

Having been a member of this club for some 20 years, I feel honoured to accept the role of Club Captain for the coming year. It's a proud time for me, and I'm grateful for the confidence placed in me to take over the role from **Conrad Swan** and lead the Club into Olympics year.



Conrad's year was marked particularly by the Olympian achievement of our Hambro Cup team in bringing the very prestigious Hambro trophy to Southwold Golf Club for the first time. It also saw the installation of solar panels on the roof of the club-house. So, he's left a hard act to follow on the golf course and a bill for me and my successors to pick up! However, the photovoltaic system will pay for itself in the medium to long term, so the club should receive worthwhile benefit from the up-front investment.

After a period of difficulty our finances are now in the black, but we can't sit back with a satisfied smile in that regard. As my predecessor was wont to point out, there are other clubs in this region competing for members, and we need to ensure that the quality of our course and facilities, the friendly members and the social events which we run are recognised by those looking for enjoyable golfing experiences. While new members are always needed and welcome, I believe that a significant number of our current 300 or so members don't take full advantage of all of the golf and social events open to them. I'd like to see wider active participation, and would welcome comments from individuals on why they may feel excluded from, or not attracted to, club events.

Believing that it's important for the Club Captain to be visible, I plan to continue to take an active part in Gents competitions, Seniors matches and competitions, and to be present to support the Ladies whenever possible. The ambitious programme that **Keith Hurr** and **Robin Mann** are developing for the Juniors is an admirable project. I'm keen to see Southwold become a recognised strength in Junior golf and will do all that I can to help to achieve that.

Bob Lee, who has been very active in developing our programme of social events, has agreed to be my Vice Captain. I look forward to working with him and the Club Committee to assure an enjoyable and successful year for Southwold Golf Club. This being the last edition of the club newsletter for this year, I'll close by wishing all members and their families a Happy Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful 2012.

Alan Bagley

Men's Results

Trophies

September Brian Allen Trophy . The inaugural 2011 – in house Competition was won by **Peter Obern**

September Club Championship
Alex Taylor 71 & 73 = 144 gross
 Club Championship Handicap
Richard Cookson 70 & 63 = 133 nett

Winner Order of Merit **Richard Cookson**

Knockouts

Stonehouse Cup **Alan Burrage** beat **Liam Cuthbert**
 in the Final

Peter Whiteley Rose Bowl **Roger Wilshaw & Jeremy Ladd** beat **Richard Cookson** and **Paul Lamen**

Field Foursomes **Steve Fitzgerald & Mark Langley** beat **Michael & Darren Jordan** in the Final

Charlie Elmes Trophy 3 Clubs
 and a Putter **Steve Aldous** 40 pts

Competitions

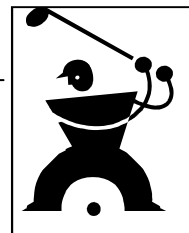
October Horwood Medal
Steve Aldous & Roger Wilshaw

October Single Stableford **Mark Langley** 38 pts

October Single Stableford **Keith Hurr** 42 pts

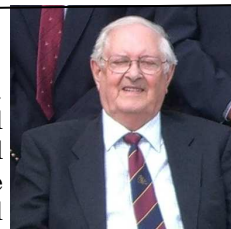
November Horwood Medal **Jeremy Turner** 64 net

November Stableford **Phil Vasey** 43 pts



A Tribute to Ivan Guy – a much valued Member of our Club

For many years **Ivan** and **Gladys Guy** together with **Brian Allen** were Southwold Golf Club. Ivan held the post of Secretary for 9 years, and was President from 2003 to 2005. He worked hard for the Club, and together with Gladys and Brian he was involved in running the Southwold Festival weeks that raised a substantial amount of money, part of which went towards the purchase of a brand new tractor. A first for the Club as up until then we could only afford second hand tractors.



In addition, during his time as secretary, he was instrumental in making two major improvements to the club. Central heating in the Club House was installed, for which we are all very grateful, and the automatic watering system on the greens. It should be remembered, that during the time Ivan was secretary there were no computers to do the work and Gladys helped out with the scorecards and correspondence required.

Few people who met Ivan in later years knew that having volunteered for the army at the age of 18, he joined the Rifle Brigade and then the Manchester Regiment and after D Day went into action that meant spending several days in Mullbery Harbour waiting to attack. Their gun position was hit, and Ivan was the only one of the team of eight to survive, but he was badly injured and lost his leg. Despite this, Ivan took up golf when he retired and working with Brian Allen he got his handicap down to 18, and achieved a hole in one on the ninth hole. Quite some achievement given the injury he had received in the war.

A very modest man, Ivan was keen to do all he could to help others and this he achieved in many ways. He will be greatly missed by the many friends he made in the Golf Club, and our thoughts are with Gladys at this very sad time.

Edward Cripps Trophy

The Captain and some of the Committee met members of Edward Cripps' Family (some of whom were visiting from Australia) to receive a Claret Jug presented in memory of Edward Cripps as a trophy for a Men's Competition, the format yet to be decided. Funds were also made available for prize money and the Club is most appreciative of this generous gesture by the Cripps' family.



John Mills Charity Day

On Friday 21st October **Peter Hurr, Pat Bryne, Terry Gunton** and **John Scilly** competing as a team of 4 in the John Mills Charity Day were all out of bounds after teeing off on the 7th Hole. This meant they only managed to score 1 point on that hole, but amazingly enough, went on to win the Competition, proving you should never give up – despite how bad it may look at the time. An enjoyable day was had by all, besides raising good money for Breast Cancer. Thanks go to **John Mills** for arranging this Competition.



It's over a month since I became Ladies' Captain and already we have played 3 Winter League matches (won 2, lost 1) and we have had the Captain's drive in at which I failed to get on the green but at least made the charity bunker and contributed £1.00 to the Captains' charities (there's always a silver lining)! Congratulations to our Captain and President who fared much better!

First of all I would like to thank **Carol Scilly**, our Past Ladies' Captain, for all the work she put into making last year a very enjoyable one for us all, I know it was appreciated. I am now pleased to welcome **Jean Halil** as my Vice Captain and also **Jenny Pywell** as the newly elected Ladies' President and look forward to working with them. We have six new Committee Members and we all hope to make it a successful and happy year at Southwold.

Although we have, I consider, a unique and wonderful Clubhouse we do not have a very welcoming ladies' changing room, therefore we are endeavouring to make changes to it. These are very early days but hopefully we will have something positive to report in the next edition of The Rabbit.

My charity this year is Cancer Research UK. Seven years ago I was diagnosed with colon cancer and a year later I found it had progressed to my liver. I was extraordinarily fortunate enough to have an operation, which had only recently become available, to remove two thirds of my liver and consequently saved my life. This would not have been possible without monies raised by Cancer Research UK. Many of us have, if not personally, been touched by this terrible ongoing disease so I hope members will give generously to my charity and also to our Club Captain's charity 'The Thursday Club'. Remember when you despair at going in the left hand bunker on the 9/18th there is always a silver lining!

A happy and healthy and successful golfing year to everyone.

Vivien Hunt

Ladies Results

If this is Global Warming, then the Lady Golfers at Southwold Golf Club are all in favour. We got away without those bitter East Anglian winds until just a couple of weeks ago, and winter hats and gloves were almost in danger of attracting moths. Thanks to Sam and Nick, the Course is in good condition and congratulations are still coming in from visiting teams.



August EWGA Medal Div 1 Barbara Hurr nett 70 Div 2 Ann Frost nett 78	October Stableford Div 1 Rosie Owen 36 pts Div 2 Ann Frost 33 pts
September Past Captains Trophy Jenny Pywell 33 pts	October AGM 9 Hole Stableford Div 1 Pippa Macaulay 17 pts Div 2 Gill Gilbert 31 pts
September Club Stableford Margaret Perrett 33 pts	October EWGA Medal Div 1 Barbara Hurr nett 74 Div 2 Angela Day nett 78
September Autumn Meeting Scratch Goblets Silver Div Pam Cairress gross 87 Bronze A Carol Scilly gross 91 Bronze B Mary Miller gross 106 Nett Comp Silver Jen Cardwell nett 73 Bronze A Barbara Hurr nett 73 Bronze B Barbara Marshall 77	November Stableford Div 1 June Twist 33 pts Div 2 Gill Gilbert 31 pts November Bogey Bisque Div 1 Annabel Holder +4 Div 2 Mary Miller +6 November EWGA Medal Div 1 Jen Cardwell nett 72 Div 2 Margaret Adkinson nett 76

'Birds' on the Course

A wide selection of birds have been seen this month over the Course, including Herons; Kestrels and Marsh Harriers, but they were joined early one Monday morning in November by yet another. **Ellen Bayliss** had a good Drive off the 4th tee reaching about 10 feet from the Green on the left hand side. She then chipped in gaining a Birdee watched by a delighted and rather envious **Candice Austin** and **Barbara Smith**. Congratulations Ellen – welcome to the Birdee Tree.

Juniors' Programme

The Juniors' programme is accelerating at a fast rate with the assistance of **Keith and Barbara Hurr**, and other helpers. 51 Juniors are now under instruction plus 21 at St Felix. Group Tuition is moving to 15 minute one on one lessons. The Club is applying for a 'Golf Mark' register for Child Protection. We conform with Sport England.

Plans are underway to reinstate Junior Strokeplay and Marchplay Competitions during 2012, which have not been held for 10 years. Trophies are already in existence.

During the Summer Holidays a Junior Open is also planned.

The first Junior to receive an official handicap is **Tom Holt** aged 15 years, who has obtained a handicap of 10 after playing for only 3 months. Well done Tom.

RULES ARE RULES

A few members have asked me to qualify the rules on the use of Distance Measuring Devices.

Distance Measuring Devices are covered by Rule 14-3. The note to 14-3 allows the club committee to make a **local rule** that permits their use. Roger Wilshaw has confirmed a local rule allowing their use is in place at Southwold. Competition committees can ban their use in some club competitions.

New or Amended Rules for 2012

Addressing the Ball is now defined as: Grounding the club immediately in front of or behind the ball regardless of whether the player has taken their stance.

This change also affects Rule 18-2b.

Rule 18-2b: If a player's ball moves after address (other than as the result of a stroke), the player is deemed to have moved the ball and incurs a one stroke penalty, and the ball must be replaced.

Exception to Rule 18-2b: If it is known or virtually certain the player did not cause the ball to move, Rule 18-2b does not apply. For example: If a gust of wind moves the ball after address there is no penalty and the ball must be played from its new position.

Rule 13-4 Exception 2: At any time a player may smooth sand or soil in a hazard, even if their ball is in the bunker, providing this is for the sole purpose of caring for the course and nothing is done to breach Rule 13-2 with respect to their next stroke. So if the rake is in the bunker you may retrieve it and repair footprints and any other damage within the bunker, but not in the area of the ball. Damage in this area can only be repaired after the ball is clear of the bunker.

Test your knowledge

A ball comes to rest on a path where relief may be taken. The nearest point of relief is behind the path. The player properly determines this point, lifts and drops the ball within the relevant rule. The ball rolls and comes to rest nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief, but not nearer the hole than where it lay originally on the path. Must the ball be re-dropped?

Answer on page 7



Now that the past captain has well and truly been put out to grass (sorry Terry !) I am really looking forward to my year as captain working closely with my vice **Richard " Holmes "** and also our **Lady Captain Vivien** for our mixed competitions. My first match as Captain was against Thorpeness at home. The result of which was 4 matches won and 2 halved, well done to all . If we can emulate this result for the whole of next year I will be a very happy bunny !.

Apart from our usual abundance of friendly matches, we have now renewed our acquaintance with an old adversary Great Yarmouth & Caister, a true Links course which will add to the challenge for all who play.

Whilst I do not possess Terry's profound wit and humour I am able to see the funny side of things (at my height I seldom see the top), indeed this is the year of the " little people" as pointed out by the Lady Captain ! Vivien, Alan and I standing on each others shoulders may just be able to see over the bushes on the Gents 9 th Tee !!!!!

Can I remind all Seniors that I would like their e-mail addresses (if they have broken into the 21 st century) to pass on team selections, news and any information pertinent to the Seniors in conjunction with the usual notices on the Seniors board.

Finally, our season is winding down for the Winter months, but, rather staying at home in the warm with our pipe and slippers I shall still look forward to seeing lots of the Senior members who have made the effort to get out of a warm bed to turn up for the competitions and " roll ups " as usual.

Thank all for your continuing support and I wish everybody a happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Bud Holder.

Seniors Team Challenge – where was the lifeboat when needed!!

Tuesday Sept 6th dawned ominously and rapidly got worse. The light zephyrs traditionally experienced on Southwold's golf course were transformed into the sort of raging beast that really belongs on the other side of the Atlantic. Our intrepid Seniors feigned annoyance that they couldn't play the usual roll-up as the course was booked for the annual Seniors Team Challenge. Regrettably, as this competition is open only to teams from other clubs, no Southwold members were able to enjoy the challenge that the weather presented.

Quite apart from the rain, the wind was so strong and gusty that ball control was at a very high-priced premium. Several players voiced the view that the conditions were close to unplayable, and the need for frequent ball-hunting made for 5+ hour rounds. Of the 56 players, in 14 teams, only 9 broke 30 points, with 34 being the highest individual score: probably a record low for this event.

The Rookery Park team of Ian Dawson, John Pawsey, Mike Bryan and Ron Rushmere took first place with their 'best three from four' total score of 88 points. Diss 'A' took second with 84, and Diss 'B' placed third on count-back from Costessey 'B', both with 82. Terry Alderman (Costessey 'A') won the prize for longest drive on the 3rd and Mike Stevenson (Thorpeness) was nearest the pin on the 18th. The selection of team prizes, featuring several of Messrs Adnams products, was well appreciated and the highest scorer in each non-winning team received a bottle of wine for his efforts.

This competition, always well-attended by Suffolk and Norfolk clubs, had a real atmosphere of camaraderie in adversity this year. With a belief that "it can't be this bad again, can it?!", I'm sure that they'll all be back next year.

Hats off to Mark Clark for a great job in organising the event, and to the SGC members who braved the elements to act as marshals and ball-spotters.

Keith May

Tournaments

Professional **Robin Mann** has been playing in more tournaments and 7 members have joined the Suffolk Winter Alliance, including **John Scilly, Alan Bagley, Conrad Swan, Peter Hurr, and Pat Byrne**. If any other members would like to join, please see Robin.

During the first three months of 2012 there are Pro Ams planned at Great Yarmouth, Thetford, Rushmere and Hintlesham. If anyone would like a great day out, places are still available.

Pro Am at Southwold

The Southwold Senior Professional and Amateur Golf Society (SSPAGS) has been formed and the first Pro Am at Southwold was held on 23rd November 2011. The leading Pro Senior score was 66 – 4 under par with Robin's team (Alan Bagley, Conrad Swan and Peter Hurr) finishing second with 83 points.

The next event will take place on 23 December 2011 with between 18 -20 teams entering. If any Senior Members would like a game with a Pro, places are still available.

News from the Pro Shop

Having now got the Pro Shop set up, my aim is to meet members' requirements by obtaining the best possible prices. A directory of email addresses is being set up and I plan to contact members on a regular basis giving details by email or text of good deals available which will undercut the chains, even American Golf.

If you are still looking for Christmas presents, visit the Pro Shop to see the new range available complete with Club logos, e.g. Lambswool Club Sweaters in 8 different colours, Sweatshirts in 10 different colours, Southwold 'baseball' caps in 6 different colours, plus Southwold markers.

If you need any golfing requirements please come into the shop and see either me or Sam between 8 am and 5 pm seven days a week.

If any members have any ideas that they would like me to entertain for the shop, please let me have them

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and have a great golfing 2012

Robin Mann

Greens

With the mild weather experienced during autumn, the Course remained in good condition, despite the growth of fusarium, which was duly treated.

A new compact tractor has been purchased which is to be used primarily for verti-draining the greens.

Answer to Question on Page 5

Yes. See Rule 20-2c(vii)(b). A ball must be re-dropped, without penalty, if it rolls and comes to rest nearer the hole than the nearest point of relief or maximum available relief.

Sensible Questions – silly answers?!

Ah, the Club Quiz – where you learn that the Spearmint Rhino is not an endangered animal and St Nicklaus wasn't the man who won 18 majors! The latest such event in the House Committee's programme to keep us entertained (and money rolling in) was held on the 25th Nov. With Chilli con Carne to fire them up before-hand, a dozen or so teams were straining at the leash by the time that the first question of the evening was posed.

The usual suspects were much in evidence, fancying their chances, and as the evening wore on two or three teams drew away from the pack (possibly because they knew the answers to the questions?). At the final bell the worthy winners of this good-humoured contest were the Wangford team led by former Ladies Captain **Sidi Scott** and Fife 'mastermind' Norman Jackson.

Sadly the club's foremost quiz expert Peter Hurr was unable to drive his team on to secure a place on the podium, but it is understood that there may be plans afoot to release his best contributions in a short book of humour for the Christmas market!

“Keith’s Kruises” – 2012 Tunisian expedition

Notwithstanding excitable behaviour in neighbouring countries, and some recent uncertainty about cheap flight availability, a return golfing visit to Port El Kantaoui, Tunisia is definitely going ahead - from 15th to 22nd April '12. This year's party enjoyed sun, good golf courses, friendly locals, and (possibly) the inclusion of all beverages in the package price!

Fifteen people, including several 'returnees' have signed up for the visit, and we're pleased that Mike Fisher, an ex-member now living in Devon, will be joining the group.

Bookings have not yet been finalised, so a few late-comers might be accommodated. Please contact me as soon as possible for information if you are interested.

Keith May (01502 724159) k.may@zen.co.uk

Dates for your Diary 2012

The newly appointed Social Committee have been busy and have already arranged a number of events to put into your new club diary

Quiz Nights: 20th January and 16th November; both dates to be confirmed.

Valentines Night 17th February to include entertainment and champagne

St Georges Dinner 21st April, a time to celebrate with a traditional English menu.

“Golf Made Easy” 16th March, an evening of entertainment and education, a must for golfers and non golfers.

Seafood Special, following on from last year's success there are two events planned for **25th May** and **24 August**.

Further events will be held during the latter part of 2012, you will be kept informed and thank you for supporting these events and the Club.

2012 Diary

The 2012 insert for the Club Diary is available from the Pro Shop, Office and behind the Bar. If you have already picked yours up, please check that you have pages 21/22 as we have found a couple of copies that have duplicate page numbers 23/24. If you have a copy that does not have pages 21/22, please exchange it for a correct copy.

We are sad to report the death of **Donald Sewell** after suffering a long illness. He will be sadly missed by the many friends he had in the club, and our sympathies go out to **Sheila Sewell** and the family.

Note from the Editor : Since I have just acquired a new computer, I would like to ask reader's indulgence for any errors that may creep in whilst I try and master the advanced technology!