

Nº 108 . APRIL 2013

Altos views

PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr. Graeme Thomson

Dear Members,

Following on from a highly successful Irish Captain, I felt it was important to set out on my year with a Scottish tone.

I hadn't, however, expected that the normal Scottish weather would wish to play such an active part!

Despite what has proved to be very unsettled weather during a busy month of March, the Club membership have proved their resilience and played through. Congratulations are due to all participants in the numerous competitions, the successful and of course the 'less' successful!

The AGM on Thursday 28th provided an opportunity to thank our immediate Past Captain Mr. David Markey, and indeed his entire family, for their generosity and significant support to Pinheiros Altos throughout the past year... truly fantastic! I must acknowledge the kind assistance of Alan Bentley in this regard, and his video skills which were thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance.

David has made quite an impact on the Club, and we wish him well as he ponders his next career move.

We must also acknowledge Thérèse van Doorn, who has just completed her 2nd innings as Lady Captain, an exceptional

achievement, and wish Rie Cherubini as our new Lady Captain, together with Adrienne Buth as her Vice, an enjoyable role in office.

My Vice Captain is Mr. David Pirret, a Pinheiros Altos resident and APPA fiscal board member and I look forward to his support and involvement during the year ahead.

Following the AGM and my 'excellent' but slightly 'topped' drive-in, we held a 12 hole cross-country competition on the Olives course. A huge thank you must go to Brian and Christophe for their preparation and attention to (blue & white) detail, as there were at least three redrafts and redesigns of the course to accommodate our participant numbers.

Remarkable, with over 100 players 'having to' carry their clubs because of the wet ground conditions - and braving the prospect of further downpours - we actually played in glorious sunshine... a minor miracle! which was subsequently attributed to our Presidents 'blessing' at the end of the AGM.

Our on-course good fortune set the tone, as we returned to the Clubhouse in good spirits, to enjoy an excellent lunch prepared by George and Nuno.

Fiona and I wish to thank everyone involved in making my first day as your new Captain so special.



David Markey, Graeme Thomson and Brian Evans



Drive-In celebrations



Rod Brown wins Drive-In prize



Captain and Vice Captain David Pirret



The New Captains Rie and Graeme



Graeme and Fiona



Captains' Drive-In lunch



Cross Country winners

Final Report from David Markey - Immediate Past Captain

Thank you! I just wanted to put on record my thanks and appreciation to one and all. The last 12 months have gone by so quickly for me.

However we witnessed a new dawn at the AGM with the appointment of Graeme Thomson as Club Captain. Graeme will bring a new vision to the club at a time of real change for Pinheiros Altos.

As outgoing Captain my job will be to support Graeme and his Vice-Captain David Pirret. I very much appreciate the honour bestowed on me as your Captain, it was a pleasure to serve you.

As our President pointed out at the AGM, we are the envy of all the clubs in the Algarve and socially, no club even comes close.

I appreciate the great send off I received from Graeme, Brian and Walter. I also want to thank the many members who supported all the functions in PA during my year, particularly the charity event on St Patricks Day, in which we raised €15,000 for three local charities. Thank you to the many members who supported the auction and for the many donations and prizes we received.

To Brian, Christophe and Cristina, thanks for all your help and support. My final thoughts are to wish Graeme the best of luck in the coming year. He is ably supported by Rie, David and his committee. Your support of Graeme is a support for your club, be proud of what we have achieved. I certainly am!

Finally, to Mai and my family, thank you for all your support. I can now start concentrating on my golf!

Immediate Past!



Cyril and Shona



Josie and Pat



Mai, Linda and Janet



Margo and Paul



Karl Markey



St Patricks Day Winners David and Zoe Pirret and Graeme and Fiona Thomson



Director of Golf - Monthly Report

New job for Past Captain



Reference for David John Anthony Markey

To whom it may concern

Following an earlier internship in a junior role, David has been promoted and appointed by Pinheiros Altos, from April 2012 until March 2013... on a one year contract, in the position of Club Captain.

By general consensus he conducted his duties in an exemplary fashion and despite his SHY and TIMID nature... is highly credited with having developed the role, and thereby the membership enjoyment!

He has worked extremely hard on improving his social skills, but acknowledges there is still work to do in this regard.

We have absolutely no hesitation in recommending David to any future employer, but feel it is our duty to point out a couple of minor deficiencies in his skill-set!

David... appears to struggle slightly with the English language. Particularly four letter words... where he seems to mix-up his vowels! (Note: There is a belief that this is genetic and possibly in the Irish DNA)

He also has an occasional habit of 'Dressing in the Dark', which has led to a number of fashion faux pas. Should it be required, we have volumes of photographic evidence!

That said... with a little guidance and the appropriate training, we feel sure that he will excel as his career develops!

Should any further details be required please feel free to contact the Director's Office at Pinheiros Altos.

What a month of golf and social occasions; even the AGM became a social event including the Captains Drive-In, a 12 hole cross-country fun event and a superb lunch attended by 110 very happy members.

It suited the Captain to blend his "topped drive" in amongst all this activity but unfortunately for him it did not go unnoticed!

The last competition of David Markey's Captaincy was an absolutely superb St. Patricks Day event even though the golf was limited to a 7 hole tournament due to the thunder and

lightening. Even that did not dampen the mood for the Charity Dinner and with over €15.000 being raised for the Ladies chosen charities everyone benefited!

The Saturday of Easter was the Spring Medal, which incorporated the Past Captains' Tournament; and the play-offs of all the Stableford winners throughout the year, for the fabulous prize donated by David Markey of a weekend for two in the K Club! Since my wife Sally won this prize I will have to "play my cards right" to make sure I am the one who goes with her but I don't hold out much hope!

Vernon Reed took the Past Captains' prize and was presented with the trophy at the lunch which followed hosted by new Captain, Graeme Thomson.

The main event of the day, the Spring Medal, was won with a nett 70 by Peter Young, who pipped Sally with a better back nine.

We were incredibly lucky on Easter Sunday. The weather forecast was dreadful but all 160 players checked in for 10 a.m. Shotgun start and nobody got wet (at least not on the outside!). It was quite amazing and when 180 sat down for the prize giving and BBQ there was a great atmosphere, as though everyone felt like a winner having managed to complete a most unlikely 18 holes!!

The prize giving was a huge affair with St. David's Day, all the medal and Stableford winners for the year, the most improved

player which went to Tim Russell (now off scratch!). The K Club Prize, The Spring Medal and then the Easter Scramble were all presented and photographed in a matter of 15 minutes, thanks to Shirley Griffiths on the camera, the Captain and Lady Captain presenting, with Christophe assisting superbly!

The photographs tell the tales and the winners, but I would like to thank everyone who took part in any, or all, of this very busy Easter Schedule.

My congratulations go to David Markey and Thérèse van Doorn and their very successful years' in office.

My Best wishes go to Graeme Thomson and Rie Cherubini for their coming year in office and my thanks go to all of the above and my staff, especially Christophe and Cristina, who have worked tirelessly to make everything work like clockwork.



Peter Young receives the Spring Medal Salva from Graeme Thomson



Alan Bentley receives the St David's Day Trophy



Most improved golfer Tim Russell



K Club winner Sally Evans



*Easter Scramble runners-up Iain, Lubna and James
Cater with Vernon and Denise Reed*



*Easter Scramble winners Shirley Griffiths, Brenda
and Clive Boyles, Paul and Linda Dixon*



Youngest competitors Euan and Emma Wardrop



Easter Bunnies



Thérèse and Remo



Gordon and Joanna



Most festive team Peter and Helen Mills, Alan and Linda Bentley



what do you call a group of bunnies?

The golf course has been very wet, which has made Sisenando's work on our bunker projects somewhat delayed.

The bunkers on 4th Pines are now open and the bunkers by the green on 3rd Corks are now finished, but G.U.R. until the new turf has knitted together.

The large bunker short and right of the 3rd green Olives is being filled in, but this area is particularly wet. When completed, this area will be planted with pine trees and another hole will become more difficult!

Later this year, the 7th green Olives will be relocated; extending the hole by approx. 20 meters and bringing the water on the right and behind the green more into play.

There is a project which involves the planting of 350 Leylandi trees and the painting of the canteen and greenkeepers building (located by the 4th tee Pines), which will both screen and improve this whole area.

Also around the 9th tees Corks, works will be carried out to repair calçada, create a trolley path and increase and level the teeing areas.



GALA WEEK
Sunday 21st to Saturday 27th July
 The theme for this year's Gala Week is now **MUSICALS**
 Please enter through the Golf Office as soon as possible.

Competition Results for March

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 3rd	St David's Day Medal	Alan Bentley	74 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)	Tony Hickey	74 Nett
Wed 6th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Nancy Schofield	70 Nett	1st Division Susan Russell	77 Nett
		2nd Division Ilse Berg	86 Nett		
Thur 7th - Sun 10th	Mens Pairs Matchplay	Peter Harrison Robert Lester		Nevin Prakash Hamish Rumball	
Wed 13th	Ladies Day Blue Monster Team Game	Olives to Pines Susan Russell Diana Collins Pat Murrish	68 Pts	Olives to Pines Hilary Jessup Helen Mills Yvonne White	63 Pts
		Pines to Corks Denise Reed Ilse Berg Adrienne Buth	71 Pts		70 Pts
				Pines to Cork Shirley Griffiths Shirley Lamb Rie Cherubini	

Competition Results for March cont.

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 17th	St Patrick's Day Stableford	Graeme Thomson Fiona Thomson David Pirret Zoe Pirret	21 Pts (-7)	Keith Fletcher Barbara Fletcher Sumbaline Waters Beverly Burrows	19 Pts (-7) 8 Pts on their last 3
Wed 20th	Madrinha Greensome Stableford	Helen Mills Majida Lester	33 Pts	Rie Cherubini Stella Jeffrey	32 Pts
Mon 25th	New Captain's 9 Holes Team Game	Leigh Anderson Diana Collins Carol Counihan Janet Leffler	44 Pts	Helen Mills Fiona Thomson Marianne Wiren Yvonne White	40 Pts
Wed 27th	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Nancy Schofield	32 Pts	1st Division Hilary Jessup	31 Pts
		2nd Division Lisa Burns	34 Pts	2nd Division Eva Lamaison	30 Pts (<i>bbn</i>)
Thur 28th	Captain's Cross Country	Tim Russell Susan Russell Nils Leffler Janet Leffler Christine Soden			
Sat 30th	Spring Medal	Peter Young	70 Nett (<i>bb9</i>)	Sally Evans	70 Nett
Sun 31st	Easter Scramble	Paul Dixon Linda Dixon Shirley Griffiths Clive Boyles Brenda Boyles	- 12.5	Vernon Reed Denise Reed Iain Cater Lubna Cater James Cater	- 11

Ladies Section by Thérèse van Doorn

March was a busy and important month for the Club.

It started with the medal round; Nancy Schofield was the winner of the first division and Ilse Berg won the second Division.

The 13th March was a team game, two scores to count and played from the blue tees.

Playing from the blue tees is a good challenge; the winning team on Olives & Pines was Susan Russell, Diana Collins and Pat Murrish and on Pines & Corks Denise Reed, Ilse Berg and Adrienne Buth.

On the 17th March was the St Patrick's Day Charity Day organised by David Markey, with the help of Linda Bentley, Adrienne Buth, and of course his wife, Mai. The money raised was the enormous 15.000 Euros!

The 20th March was the Madrinha Greensome stableford. Originally started as a 9 hole matchplay competition to help the new players get familiar with the matchplay format. Unfortunately, the logistics did not work and the format changed to a greensome. The winners were Helen Mills and Majida Lester. Rie made a rules quiz, with difficult questions, so we all learned...



Madrinha Winners Helen Mills and Majida Lester

The 25th was the Ladies AGM, attended by many ladies where I handed over my Captaincy to Rie Cherubini.

There were some prizes to give out, the Wainwright Trophy was presented by Molly to Janet Leffler; Janet won from Margo Fletcher. Rie Cherubini was presented with her prizes, winning the Plate for the Wainwright and the Trophy for the most improved golfer of the year. This Trophy is now running from AGM to AGM. Rie and Melaura had exactly the same results in percentage, but as Rie played more competitions she took the prize. You had a great golfing year Rie, many congratulations!!!



Janet Leffler receives the Wainwright Trophy from Molly



Rie Cherubini receives the Most Improved Lady Golfer of the Year Trophy from Thérèse van Doorn to go with her Plate Prize from the Wainwright Trophy.

Liz Beal and Shona Callaghan were thanked for their work on committee and a big welcome was given to their replacements Adrienne Buth, our new Vice-Captain and Janet Leffler.



Outgoing Captain Thérèse van Doorn receives a beautiful bouquet of flowers from New Captain Rie Cherubini.



Shona receives a small token of appreciation for her work while on Committee.

Rie had a fantastic drive-in and we had a 9 hole competition followed by drinks and nice pizza's, offered by our new Lady Captain. Thanks Rie. The winners of the team competition were Leigh Anderson, Diana Collins, Carol Counihan and Janet Leffler with 44 pts.!!!

The last competition of the month was a Qualifying Stableford, where Nancy Schofield won the first division and Lisa Burns won the second division.

This is my last report for the newsletter. How quick a year can go... It was very nice to be Lady Captain together with David Markey as the Club Captain and it was a pleasure to work together with a very skilled committee and especially with my Vice, Rie.

I am convinced she will do a great job as Lady Captain.

Thank You all for your support, nice words and generous gift.

Social Golf by Iain Callaghan

A tremendous turnout of sixty players, plus eight non-playing guests attended the Social Golf event on Sunday 24th March; not quite an all time record but fairly close to it and the highest number for a little over seven years. As far as I can trace, the record is sixty-four players plus three guests in February '06.

The weather contradicted the forecasts and short but heavy showers, followed by equally short bursts of sunshine, dominated the first couple of hours of play... resulting in waterproofs on, then off, then on again, which somewhat slowed the early pace of play in the American foursomes competition. Thankfully the weather was a little more settled for the remainder of play.

In fairly tough medal-scoring conditions, there were some pretty high scores overall and 11 holes in which double figures were recorded, offset by only 4 birdies from the entire field. Both the winning pairs, however, managed to score under par, with Peter Young and Hilary Forde taking first place on Olives/Pines with a 3 under par 69 and on Pines/Corks, Niall Counihan and Meg

Black shot a net 70.5. Michel Sohier & Lisa Burns (net 73.5) and Mai Markey & Stella Jeffrey (net 75.5) were second and third respectively on Olives/Pines while Nigel Collins & Carole Carne (net 76.5) and Vera Watkins & David Goldthorpe (net 77.5) filled the second and third slots on Pines/Corks.

Following an excellent supper, at which Paul Black generously bought the wine in celebration of his 70th Birthday (Many Happy Returns, Paul), prizes were awarded down to seventh place on each of the courses and following a token exchange of gifts between the out-going Captain David Markey and Chef Nuno, there was a spontaneous standing ovation, from all in attendance, for Nuno and the kitchen staff.

The next Social Golf Competition, the dreaded Yellow Ball, organised by Therese van Doorn and Dirk Blaesing, will be held on 14th April... and please, let's try to keep-up the attendance numbers.

Marathon

Pinheiros Altos resident Jan Goodhill will shortly be running in the London Marathon to raise money for her chosen charity, "Children with Cancer". The photo shows her completing the half marathon in a very creditable 2hrs 8min as preparation for the "Big One".

Any contribution would be gratefully accepted and please access the link below to make your donation.

uk.virginmoneygiving.com/JanisGoodhill



Interclub by Christian Holst

The season is now well underway and as I am writing this just back from our third match against Morgado at home, which we won 3 ½ - 1 ½. Our two previous matches against Carvoeiro and Tavira, both at home, were also won so that means 9 out of 9 points so far.

The weather since the beginning of March has been a bit of a challenge, and the away match against Quinta do Vale scheduled for the 19th had to be postponed. The match schedule will be updated once this has been rescheduled.

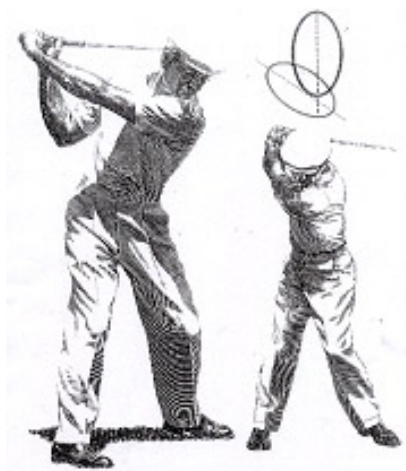
Over the next month we are playing Laranjal at home on the 25th April and Vilamoura at home on the 2nd May, also at home.

In summary, a very good start to the season, although the litmus test will be how we perform in the away matches.

Pro Tip - Brian Evans

The top of the back swing should include a 90° shoulder turn against a resisting right side, a straight left arm, a folded right arm and wrists that have set the club.

The legs, hips, shoulders, arms and hands are now poised and integrated, ready to move with power and coordination into the down swing.



Forthcoming Events April - May 2013

Tues 2nd Apr	APPA Competition
Wed 3rd Apr	Ladies Day
Sat 6th Apr	Strokeplay Championship (No Roll Up)
Sun 7th Apr	Strokeplay Championship
Wed 10th Apr	Ladies Day
Sat 13th Apr	Mens Roll Up
Sun 14th Apr	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 17th Apr	Ladies Day
Sat 20th Apr	Mens Roll Up
Sun 21st Apr	St. Georges Medal
Wed 24th Apr	Ladies day
Sat 27th Apr	Mens Roll Up
Sun 28th Apr	April Stableford
Wed 1st May	Ladies Day
Sat 4th May	Mens Roll Up
Sun 5th May	May Medal
Wed 8th May	Ladies Day
Fri 10th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy PA V QDL
Sat 11th May	The Ben Hogan Trophy PA V QDL
Wed 15th May	Ladies Day
Fri 17th May	Past Lady Captain's Day
Sat 18th May	Mens Roll Up
Sun 19th May	May Stableford
Wed 22nd May	Ladies Day
Thurs 23rd May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Fri 24th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sat 25th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sun 26th May	Mixed Pairs Matchplay
Sun 26th May	18 Holes Social Golf
Wed 29th May	Ladies Day