

# Altos

Nº 165 . JANUARY 2018



PINHEIROS ALTOS  
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS



# Introduction from the Captain - Mr David Ford

Hi everyone

Welcome to the January Newsletter and a belated happy new year to those I didn't see over the festive period.

Before commenting on the December activities, I'm delighted to announce that Alan Bentley has agreed to become the nominated Vice Captain by the Committee for 2017/18. Alan is a well-known, popular and respected member of the Club. After enjoying a highly successful corporate career, he settled in Portugal, quickly becoming integral and active in Pinheiros Altos. Alan is loyal and supportive member to all things PA. I know that he'll be a tremendous help to Michael Collins post Easter and will go on to be a terrific Captain.

The Christmas events at the Club kicked off with the Social Golf on the 10th December, where a plethora of dodgy Christmas jumpers were matched by a crescendo of dodgy Christmas Carol singing. This was soon followed by the Turkey Flutter, where Graham Lee emerged victorious. I mention this because, yet again, the Ford family had to make do with an undernourished Guinea Fowl, split five ways. After much arm twisting, I managed to persuade Christophe that the Boxing Day American Foursomes would be greatly enhanced by starting at 10.00 not 9.00 am. Playing with my youngest son, Hywel, this did not prove to be particularly beneficial and I soon realised that there were, in fact, a significant number of areas of the golf course that I'd never visited before. Perhaps the villa owners on the first three holes of Pines, who became recipients of three "Fordy" balls could give them back.

Over fifty people enjoyed New Year's Eve in the Clubhouse, where the food was outstanding. Anyone without commitments this year should give it a try. The New Year's Day Scramble was, as always, wonderfully well supported with 140 players; a great example of why Pinheiros Altos deserves its reputation for its participative membership.

The winners of all the events over Christmas/New Year are outlined further in the newsletter and my congratulations to all

of them, as well as my thanks to all taking part during a busy, family time.

Most golfers would agree that slow play is a curse of the modern game. In the UK, many clubs have introduced "ready golf" to all competitions with the exception of matchplay events. The outcome is that rounds are quicker by an average of between 20 to 30 minutes. As a result, many clubs are implementing the approach for formal competitions and asking members to do likewise in their informal roll-ups and swindles. We have decided to back this initiative at PA and details will be available to all presently.

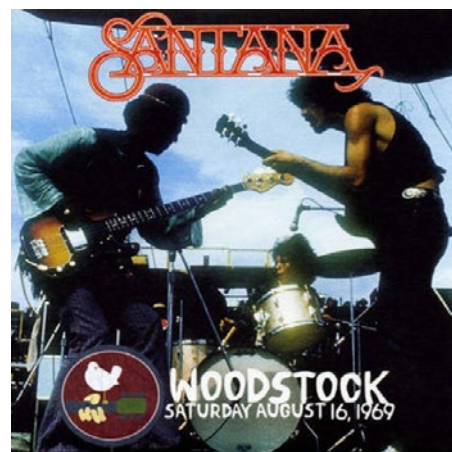
Details of the St. Valentine's Competition will be posted shortly, as will the St. David's Day celebration. As this will be my last major event as Captain, please organise your teams as soon as possible.

## POP QUIZ

Last month we had a new winner in Iain Callaghan, who rightly identified that the band in question was Procol Harum and their follow up hit to Whiter Shade of Pale was Homberg

This month, I'd like you to identify the drummer for Santana during the late 60's and early 70's and also the name of the band that Neil Schon and Gregg Rolie left Santana to form. The first correct TWO answers will earn the winner a sleeve of highly desirable "Fordy" balls.

Happy golfing  
in 2018!!







Christmas Turkey Flutter prize winners





*Boxing Day Winners Nigel and Diana Collins with Golf Professional Kenny Fairbairn and Club Captain David Ford*



*Boxing Day Runners up Leigh Anderson and Iain Cater*



*Boxing Day 3rd Place Stewart Harper and Pat Barrett*



*Boxing Day Nearest the pin men winner Justin Ryan*



*Boxing Day Nearest the pin ladies winner Susan Russell*





New Year's Eve Celebrations





New Year's Eve Celebrations





New Year's Eve Celebrations





New Year's Eve Celebrations



# Director of Golf - Monthly Report

December 2017 was as usually a busy month in the Members calendar with many Christmas competitions. I would like to thank Ross & Kenny for running the Turkey Flutter, the Boxing day and Cristina for running the office to allow me to take some time off with the Family over Christmas.

The Turkey Flutter was won by Graham Lee who had a score of 37 points and he will be under the radar at our Handicap revision this month.

Boxing Day was won by Nigel & Diana Collins with a fantastic score of 40 points followed by Leigh Anderson & Iain Cater with 38 points. Leigh never seem to miss the Turkey for her Christmas lunch.

The Eclectic competition sponsored by the Pinheiros Altos Academy Shop won once again for the men by Tim Russell with a score of 62 having and for the ladies Sally Evans won with a score of 68. The nett prizes for the Eclectic for the men was Graham Lee with a score of 55 and Adrienne Buth for the ladies with a score 54 tied with Stella Jeffrey & Sue Georges but better back 9 holes. I am pleased to announce that the Pinheiros Altos Academy Shop will sponsor this competition through 2018 and that all the Monthly medals will count for the eclectic and the winners will win a Titleist golf sets & Titleist woods.

New Year's Day Scramble this year with 140 players on the day. The "Brian Evans New Year Scramble Trophy" was presented to the winning team Duncan & Wendy Evans, Geoff Stott, Iain Landsburgh & Philip Schofield with a score of -13.

Handicap revision will take place this month so all the bandits out there should be prepared to receive their new handicap for this golfing year!

In February our main event is of course the St Valentine Trophy and I look forward to see as many of you signing in for this event played over 2 days, both rounds at Pinheiros Altos to allow a new format to be played as an eclectic 2 days tournament. The sign up is already on the board.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the maintenance staff on the progress made on the Golf course especially on the greens and that a new maintenance program



*Club Captain David Ford, Men's Eclectic Best Gross 2017 Winner Tim Russell, Lady Captain Zoë Pirret and Director of Golf Christophe Rindlisbacher*



*Ladies Eclectic Best Gross 2017 Winner Sally Evans*



*Ladies Eclectic Best Nett 2017 Adrienne Buth*

is being implanted on the Golf course following various reports from our consultants and we are looking to see improvements in the short term for some of the easier issues but also taking into consideration longer terms issues. This goes without saying that at some times of the year some disturbance may take place in order to follow these new directive. Our greens committee will be closely informed of the progress and will communicate to the membership all the progress through the year.



Many of you may already be aware but on payment of your annual Subscription the principal Member will receive a credit of €200 to be used in food & beverage in the Clubhouse during 2018.

I together with all the staff at Pinheiros Altos would like to wish all of you and families a very Happy New Year and a great golfing year!

## AGM

The A.G.M. of the Pinheiros Altos Golf Club will take place on Thursday 29th March 2018 at 10 a.m. in the Clubhouse.

Questions for the Director of Golf at the A.G.M. should be made in writing and presented at the Golf Office on or before Thursday 15th March 2018.

Only questions made in writing and presented by the due date will be answered by the Director of Golf at the A.G.M.

If any principal member would like to stand for election as Incoming Vice-Captain they should notify the Golf Office, proposed and seconded by four principal members in writing on or before Thursday 15th March 2018.

It is my pleasure to present a photo gallery of the present Captains and incoming Captains, Lady Vice-Captain and proposed Incoming Club Vice-Captain.

### Agenda

1. 10:00 a.m. Meeting is opened by the Chairman of the AGM
2. The Chairman will introduce the outgoing Captain Mr. David Ford
3. Mr. David Ford summarizes his year and introduces the Captain for the coming year Mr. Michael Collins.
4. The Captains acceptance speech.
5. Report from the Director of Golf including the response to written questions.
6. The Chairman closes the meeting.



*David Ford – Club Captain*



*Michael Collins – Incoming Club Captain*



*Alan Bentley – Proposed Incoming Club Vice-Captain*



*Zoë Pirret – Lady Captain*



*Lisa Burns – Incoming Lady Captain*



*Debbie Madgett – Incoming Lady Vice-Captain*



# Competition Results for December

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 3rd	December Stableford	Steven Crowdey	38 Pts	Peter Mills	35 Pts
Wed 6th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	<b>1st Division</b> Sally Evans	71 Nett	<b>1st Division</b> Helen Mills	76 Nett
		<b>2nd Division</b> Lorraine Dunabin	73 Nett		
Wed 13th	Ladies Christmas Event "Who stole the Par 4's"	Helen Mills Lubna Cater Wendy Evans Bretta H Green	95 Pts	Chie Crowdey Kay Ford Shirley Griffiths Yvonne White	93 Pts <i>c/b</i>
Sun 17th	December Medal	Chie Crowdey	72 Nett	Tim Russell	74 Nett ( <i>bb9</i> )
Wed 20th	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	<b>1st Division</b> Amanda Stretton	30 Pts	<b>1st Division</b> Chie Crowdey	28 Pts
		<b>2nd Division</b> Majida Lester	34 Pts	<b>2nd Division</b> Molly Wainwright	28 Pts
Fri 22nd	Christmas Turkey Flutter	Graham Lee	37 Pts	Amanda Stretton	36 Pts
Tues 26th	Boxing Day	Nigel Collins Diana Collins	40 Pts	Iain Cater Leigh Anderson	38 Pts
Wed 27th	Ladies Day	No official competition			
Mon 1st January	New Year's Day Scramble	Duncan Evans Wendy Evans Geoff Stott Iain Landsburgh Philip Schofield	-13	Neil Moye Charlie Moye Callum McKenzie Bernard Dempsie Jamie O'Doherty	-12,5 ( <i>bb9</i> )

## Ladies Section - by Zoë Pirret

I can't believe it is the final month of 2017 – where did the year go?

The Ladies had their usual medal at the beginning of the month and then we had our fun Christmas competition. We played 'Who Stole the Par 4's' again and this has proved a popular format with the ladies, well what competition wouldn't be fun when you can achieve a score of 95 stableford points! Festive dress was the order of the day and the ladies certainly turned out in style. This was then followed by bubbles, nibbles, prizes and a Secret Santa – what better way to start the festive season!











Well done to the Prize Winners (I was a stand in for Yvonne White!)

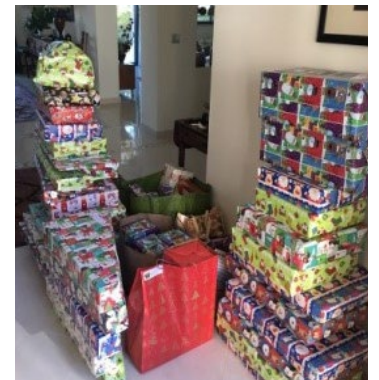
Then came the big moment – I am delighted to announce the committee's proposal for incoming Ladies' Vice Captain is to be Debbie Madgett, she will be a great support to Lisa when she takes over at Easter and will do a great job.



I soon put Debbie to work and she ran the Stableford competition on the 20th as I was off to have Christmas with my family.

Whilst I was away we had the Turkey Flutter and Boxing Day American Foursomes, which I am sure has already been covered by the Captain and Christophe.

ACCA Angels – here are a sample of some of the presents I was able to deliver so that a child would receive a present at Christmas – once again thank you for your generosity and support.



Having celebrated many New Years at the Clubhouse, I thought this year's meal was superb. The catering staff did a great job, we had good music and saw the New Year in with style. I would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2018!



## Report from the Greens Committee

The committee has not been able to meet since our last report so this will be one of our shorter commentaries on the course condition.

1. The course has been very busy with pro Am and senior professional events. This has produced some wear particularly on the tees.

2. The greens have been praised as the best of all the courses played over the last few weeks. Marco and his team are to be congratulated on their work.

3. The tees are mixed in quality. Over dressing and fertilizing should bring them back to the condition we seek.

4. The bunkers have settled to some extent with the recent rain fall and water added by irrigation. This is an improvement but we believe that the conditions are inconsistent and some have too much sand or very hard sub sand; extra raking will solve some of these problems.

5. The fairways are a challenge! The owners have committed addition funds for both equipment and sanding and

members should see the results over the course of the year. The STRI who are advising for all the JJW courses have given clear direction to the course managers as to how the fairways need to be treated.

6. Tree pruning and removal where they give shadow and obstruction is taking place. In addition certain bunkers will be removed or changed to reflect criticism by both members and which is supported by STRI.

2018 is a challenging year for our new course team led by Marco and we expect great things from him and his team. Better financial conditions have allowed improved investment and we are as ever vigilant that the promises made to the committee are fulfilled.

Good golfing to all.

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford Club Captain, Duncan Evans.

## Social Golf - by Iain Callaghan

Christmas began here with our now customary Festive challenge of 4 Clubs plus a Putter. It's a daunting format which requires a bit of planning and it's always something of a dilemma before you set off - what courses am I playing? - Which 4 clubs best suit? .... and then, Oh sod it! what do I need for the 8th of Olives?? etc. etc. BUT as is nearly always the case the final scores belied the anguish and concern about the complexity, as you'll read below!

The long spell of good weather continued and 39 players sallied forth in A1 conditions to meet the challenge returning for, what

was for the majority, the first sampling of traditional Christmas fayre of the season, including wine subsidised from a small surplus in the social fund. We were joined by a further 5 guests at the Christmas supper for which the majority had donned Xmas Jumpers, festive hats and other items of Xmas apparel to help set the right mood.

After supper, the results were announced and the prizes awarded to the following deserving "winners":-

\*N.B. All the scores were above the par of 72 - most by quite a considerable margin! - hearty congratulations!



<i>Corks to Olives</i>			<i>Olives to Pines</i>		
1st Place	Gerry Naughton Chris Stretton Shirley Griffiths Marianne Wiren	88 Pts	1st Place	Barry Hawley-Green John Wainwright Lisa Burns Melody Cotterill	84 Pts
2nd Place	Iain Callaghan Peter Mills Sue Georges Marna Edwards	76 Pts	2nd Place	Keith Fletcher Andy Watkins Paula Burke-Hickey Bretta Hawley-Green	79 Pts
3rd Place	Bernd Gorger Nils Leffler Zoe Pirret Ingrid Hollier	73 Pts	3rd Place	Steven Crowdey Liam Edwards Shona Callaghan Amanda Stretton (floater)	76 Pts



During the latter five social golf events, I've "laundered" by way of the prizes some 30 plus bottles of wine and other assorted spirits which had been kindly donated by Alan Bentley and which I had affectionately christened "Linda's wine". Over the short period we had accumulated €330 which I was delighted to pass to the Captain, on Alan's behalf and in Linda's memory, as a donation to his charity.

We didn't include the Sao Lourenzo singers this year and instead had an informal Xmas Carol session organised by Helen Mills, Chris Stretton in charge of Sound System and Technical Support, Keith Fletcher leading the singing ably supported by Lisa, Amanda, Paula, Chris, Gerry et al. The programme was made up entirely of popular, well-known carols and everyone joined in cheerfully giving their all, including a rendition of

"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" from our Germanic friends, accompanied by Gerry Naughton (PA's own Eric Clapton) on guitar. The clamour of "encore! encore! encore!" was answered by Gerry who played on for another half-hour or so responding spontaneously to lots of requests across the pop spectrum.

A critic might have observed that the harmony was at times discernible and melodious, though for the most part the cacophony dominated but rendered with plenty of gusto and enthusiasm!

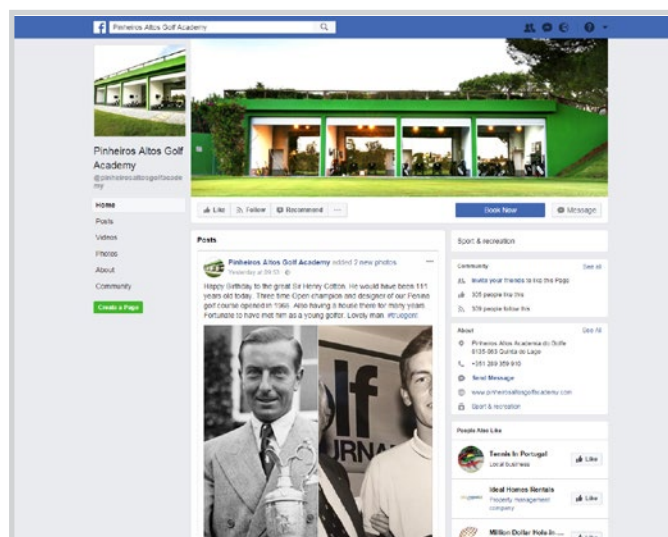
All in all, it was a really good fun event and a very enjoyable conclusion to another successful Social Golf year - on behalf of the Social Committee, thanks to everyone who has contributed, for their support and good natured participation throughout.







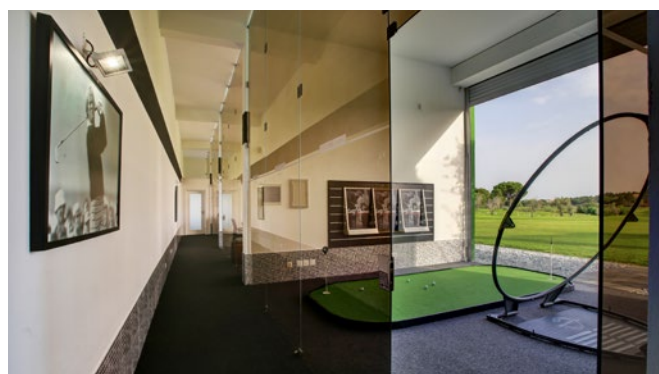
## Academy News



The new Golf Academy Facebook page is now online so please live & follow Pinheiros Altos Golf Academy.



The page will give you access to the new website [www.pinheirosaltosgolfacademy.com](http://www.pinheirosaltosgolfacademy.com) and also allow you to book your lessons online.



We look forward to seeing you in the Academy!

Kenny and Ross

## Forthcoming Events January & February

Mon 1st January	New Year's Scramble
Wed 3rd January	Ladies Day Medal
Sat 6th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 7th January	Winter Medal
Tues 9th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Wed 10th January	Ladies Day
Wed 10th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Thurs 11th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Fri 12th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Sat 13th January	Mens Roll Up
Sat 13th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Sun 14th January	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 16th January	Algarvian Pro Am (QDL South & SL)
Wed 17th January	Ladies Day Stableford
Wed 17th January	Algarvian Pro Am (QDL South & SL)
Fri 19th January	Algarvian Pro Am (QDL North & PA)
Sat 20th January	Mens Roll Up
Sat 20th January	Algarvian Pro Am (QDL North & PA)
Wed 24th January	Ladies Day
Sat 27th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 28th January	January Stableford
Wed 31st January	Ladies Day
Sat 3rd February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 4th February	18 Holes Social Golf with Quinta do Lago
Wed 7th February	Ladies Day
Fri 9th February	St Valentine's Day
Sat 10th February	St Valentine's Day (No Roll Up)
Wed 14th February	Ladies Foursomes Championship
Sat 17th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 18th February	February Medal
Wed 21st February	Ladies Day
Sat 24th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 25th February	February Stableford
Wed 28th February	Lady Captain V Lady Vice Captain