

Nº 116 . DECEMBER 2013

Altos 'S



PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

Introduction from the Captain - Mr. Graeme Thomson

Dear Members,

Despite one or two short blips, the month of November has proved a beautiful example of an Algarvian autumn. As a result we have seen perfect golfing weather and good participation in our club competitions.

The Foursomes Championship proved to be a very exciting weekend, particularly for one couple, and there was a most unexpected result!

Having had a rather average first day in the company of two past captains - Mike Hassid and John Linley, my wife Fiona and I produced the round of our lives on Sunday playing with, and encouraged by, John Barker and P J O'Regan.

We ultimately finished one point ahead of Philip and Nancy Schofield to lift our first ever silverware at PA, and to say that we are delighted would be an understatement.

Our day was complete as the membership shared in our success with an enjoyable lunch that was organised by Jorge and his staff and was set in a horseshoe table on the balcony.

Sunday 24th November saw our Autumn Reciprocal Social with Quinta do Lago. I'm pleased to report that these spring and autumn get-togethers with our neighbouring club are proving very popular, and also that the Quinta members were very complimentary of the condition of our course and the quality of hospitality shown to them.

The final Club Social of 2013 will be played on Sunday 8th December, and I think this is an appropriate time to acknowledge the success of this monthly activity, and to thank Molly Wainwright and her committee for their excellent organisation throughout the year.

The St. Andrew's Day Challenge on Saturday 30th November pitched the Celts (Scotland, Ireland and Wales) against an English and 'Rest of the World' team. 80 golfers and additional diners enjoyed a fun filled day in glorious sunshine.

There were many highlights but I think my favourite was the Lone Piper inspiring the Celts to a 12.5 v 7.5 victory with his 'Porridge Guns' (aka bagpipes) at various locations around the course. I'm indebted to several people who helped to make the day a memorable one: Stuart and Leigh Anderson for accommodating the band; Lennie and Laura McGeogh for funding their local transport in the Algarve; and finally, Christophe, Cristina and the entire club staff for their considerable support and for entering into the spirit of the day. I must also make mention of the terrific effort made by members and guests in support of the tartan theme.



Christophe, the bagpipe player, and Graeme Thomson



The Captain



*Barbara Fletcher, Christine Soden, Denise Reed,
Margo Fletcher and Lubna Cater*



Graeme Thomson, Hugh Campbell and David Markey



Sandra Little, Jim Cranwell and Mai Markey



Guess who?!



Jim Cranwell, Sylvia Mullins and Martin Walsh



The staff



Graeme and Fiona Thomson, Denise Reed and Remo Cherubini



The Captain teeing off



Leigh and Stuart Anderson

The tone for the evenings 'ongauns' was set by Jorge and his staff who, complete with their Jimmy Hats, delivered an excellent meal, and helped clear the additional space required for the ceilidh dancing which followed.

We then enjoyed modern and traditional music from 'Ceilidhdonia' which lasted until the wee hours. Rarely in Pinheiros history have we seen so many kilts in full swing! Thank you one and all!



David Markey and Gordon Davidson



Mai Markey, Anne Davidson and Janet Leffler



The Captain and the Markeys dressed in their Irish Kilts



Jan and Alex Kirk



Hugh Campbell, Sally Evans and John Linley

The Band 'Ceilidhdonia'



Linda Bentley, Paula Burke Hickey and Lisa Burns



Shirley Griffiths and Simon Hurd



The Captain of the Celts receives the trophy

The Clubhouse has now been decorated in preparation for the end of year festivities and sign-up sheets for the various functions are available at reception.

As this will be the last newsletter for 2013, I would like to thank you, the members, for your support during this past year and would like to convey my best wishes to you and your families for the forthcoming festive season.

Director of Golf – Monthly Report

Congratulations to our Club Captain Mr. Graeme Thomson and his wife Fiona (who I'm sure was the secret weapon) for winning the 2013 Foursomes Championship. They managed a fantastic 2nd round of nett 68 which was good enough to have them climb 12 spots in the standings and to win it by one shot. The Tournament was followed by a wonderful lunch on the terrace and I would like to thank all of the members present for their support.

The Social Day and St Andrew's Day were both very successful and I would like to congratulate our Captain not only for his win on St Andrew's Day but also for all of his input on the details that make those days so enjoyable for everyone involved.

As I look at last year's December newsletter I am delighted to see that three of the projects by Brian are on the way to being completed. For one, we are due to finish the Green on 7th Olives by the 1st January 2014. In additional, looking at last year's December newsletter reminds me of how blessed we have been this year with the weather, as last year there were a number of storms in November.



Sergey Naumov and Viktoria Shevchuk receive their prize for the best 1st round



Nancy and Phil Schofield Runners Up



Tony Hickey and Iain Cater Best Gross Team

Director of Golf – Monthly Report

We are now entering the festive season so please sign-up in the Golf Office for the New Year's Eve Pink & Black Tie event which is limited to 80 people and is already filling up.

The Christmas board is also up by the Golf Shop with various competitions of the season for you to enter including Social Golf on 8th December, December Medal on 15th December, Turkey Flutter on 22nd December, Boxing Day on 26th December and, of course, the New Year's Day Scramble on 1st January 2014.

Also - look out for the sign-up board for the St. Valentine's Day weekend tournament which is now open to members. The weekend will include three rounds of golf (1 facultative practice round and 2 competitive rounds) on Pinheiros Altos & San Lorenzo, a welcome cocktail on the opening day of the tournament and a prize -presentation dinner at the five-star Dona Filipa Hotel.

I would like to wish all of the members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing many of you entering the various functions during the festive season.



New Year's Eve

Parity

at

PINHEIROS ALTOS

Ring in the New Year with us in Portugal

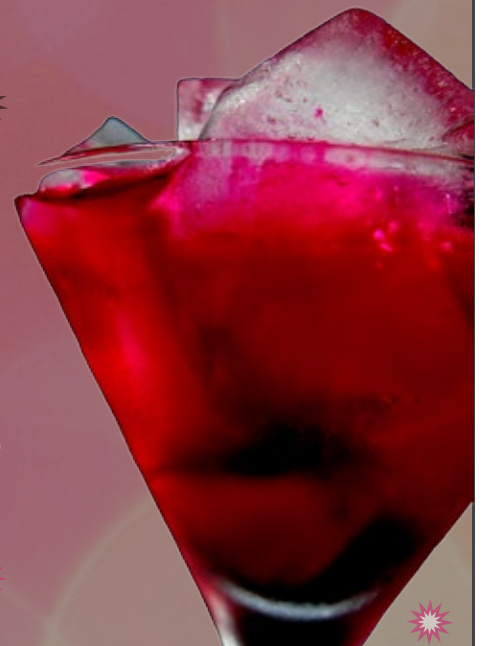
Dinner and Live music from

MARIANI

120 € per person

Theme:

Black and Pink Tie



Competition Results for October

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 3rd	November Medal	Stella Jeffrey	72 Nett (BB9)	Christian Holst	72 Nett
Wed 6th	Ladies' Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Mai Markey	74 Nett (bb9)	1st Division Denise Reed	74 Nett
		2nd Division Eva Lamaison	75 Nett	2nd Division Maried Kooijmans	76 Nett
Sat 9th Sun 10th	Foursomes Championship	Graeme Thomson Fiona Thomson	150 Nett	Phil Schofield Nancy Schofield	151 Nett
Wed 13th	Ladies' Day 2 Best scores on par 4's and 5's, all 3 on par 3's	Pines to Corks Rie Cherubini Yvonne White Kathy Grimm	81 Pts	Pines to Corks Thérèse v Doorn Pat Galloway Adrienne Buth	73 Pts
		Olives to Pines Helen Mills Marian Jenkins Josie Waddington	79 Pts	Olives to Pines Paula Burke Anne Copestake Stella Jeffrey	78 Pts
Wed 20th	Ladies' Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Rie Cherubini	35 Pts	1st Division Zoe Pirret	33 Pts (BB9)
		2nd Division Josie Waddington	36 Pts	2nd Division Diana Collins	30 Pts (BB9)
Sun 24th	November Stableford	Knut Ellingsen	38 Pts	Barbara Kyne	36 Pts
Wed 27th	Ladies' Day Stableford 3 Ball Scramble	Pines to Corks Rie Cherubini Liz Carver Stella Jeffrey	41 Pts	Pines to Corks Zoe Pirret Sandra Little Kathy Grimm	40 Pts
		Olives to Pines Paula Burke Jenny Harrison Janet Leffler	43 Pts	Olives to Pines Thérèse v Doorn Shirley Griffiths Vera Watkins	39 Pts
Sat 30th	St Andrew's Stableford	Celts	12 ½	English and the Rest of the World	7 ½

Ladies' Section by Rie Cherubini

The Ladies' activities in November started with the Medal on the 6th with 11 players from the first division and 5 from the second division taking part.

Following a tough weekend at the Foursomes Championship, 24 of us enjoyed a fun competition in teams of three with the best two scores to count on par 4s and 5s and all three on par 3s, even with a bonus of preferred lies.

The Qualifying Stableford was played on the 20th by 15 ladies from the first division and 11 from the second division.

On the 27th, the Ladies' Vice Captain Adrienne and I decided to try something we had never had before: a Stableford 3 Ball Scramble where each team received 20% of the combined handicaps. We both thought that it might be a tough format to score well with however were pleasantly surprised by some good scores and by very positive feedback from all 24 ladies.

During the round we received a surprise gift from Alex Kirk who was celebrating his birthday...a glass of beautiful Porto! Thank you, Alex, for the lovely treat and a happy 70th birthday!

As you all know, many of the ladies at Pinheiros Altos have been active for various charities. I would like to take this opportunity to mention some of them. On the evening of Wednesday the 13th, there was a charity curry night at Maria's Restaurant. Lubna cooked appetisers, four different curries and rice for 160 people and rased 6,000 Euros for ACCA and the Algarve Oncology Association. Thank you, Lubna, for your hard work and for the delicious meal. I must not forget to thank Iain for peeling tons of onions all day!

Throughout October the Ladies' Section collected old clothes, bed linens and toys to donate to needy families all over in the Algarve through the Salvation Army. The Captain, Luis, collected all of the goods on the 14th and was extremely happy to see the van filled with kind donations. On behalf of the Salvation Army and those who have received your donation, I would like to thank you all.

On the 26th, Denise, Helen, Margo and Paula challenged themselves by walking a half marathon on the Ria Formosa to raise money for those struggling in Philippines after the disaster caused by Typhoon Haiyan. Helen, Margo and Paula walked 13 miles in less than 3.5 hours. Unfortunately, Denise had to stop after the first 6.5 miles due to an injury, but passed the baton on to Vera, Lisa and Mai who walked the last 6.5 miles. Susan and her dog Truffle also walked with them. They raised over 1,500 Euros and will donate all of the money to the Disaster Emergency Committee. They thank everyone who has contributed to this worthwhile cause. Well done, Girls and Truffle! If you would like to contribute, please contact Denise, Helen or Paula.



The Ladies' Section has been, as they do every year, fully supporting ACCA's Angels Project to give Christmas gifts to needy children in the Algarve. And, thanks to Captain Graeme's initiative this year, the whole club have been backing up this project.

Many of you might be feeling overwhelmed by all these charitable activities going on at this time of the year. However, I would like to ask you to think of a child who will not receive a present this Christmas and to imagine his smile to find a present on his bedside when he awakes on Christmas Day. Many hundreds of children in the Algarve would spend this year's Christmas without a present were it not for this Angels Project. These children are the future of the world and Christmas should be a magical day for each and every one of them.

This will be my last report in 2013. Once again thank you, everyone, for your support. I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2014.



Vera Watkins, Lisa Burns and Mai Markey

Paula Burke Hickey, Helen Mills, Denise Reed and Margo Fletcher



Social Golf by Molly Wainwright

We had an excellent competition and supper with our friends from Quinta do Lago. There were 71 golfers and 79 for supper. Thankfully, the golfing gods were kind to us and we had a lovely sunny day.

We played in groups of four with one score counting on par 3s, two scores on par 4s and three on par 5s. As ever there were some really good scores.

1st Place	Helen Mills, Ken Irving, Derek and Aileen Hickey	79 Points
2nd Place	Alan Bentley, Dee Hirst, Colin Reed and Stella	78 Points (bb9)
3rd Place	Anne Copestake, Graeme Thomson, Joe Sippetts and Jane Reason	78 Points

Our next competition is a festive one on December 8th – just bring four clubs, your putter and your singing voice!

All are welcome to join in – teams will be of four with two scores to count on each hole, so come along and get into the Christmas spirit.

As I will be in much cooler climes soon I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Interclub by Christian Holst

As reported last month we finished 2rd in our division. The final between Laranjal and Alto was won by Laranjal in what I understand was two very tight matches.

As is traditional, the finals day was hosted by last year's winners Vilamoura at the O'Connor Jr. Course. The league winner and runner-up were then duly presented with their prizes. In addition, there was a Better Ball Stableford competition where each team was represented by three pairs. PA was represented by Knut Ellingsen and Martin Jessup; David and Zoe Pirret; and finally Rie Cherubini and yours truly. We were not mentioned in dispatches but it was otherwise a good day.

The AGM will be held in the middle of January and shortly afterwards the fixture list for 2013 should be ready.

My next report will therefore be in February.

Finally, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy (golfing) New Year!

Forthcoming Events

December and January 2014

Wed 4th December – Ladies' Day

Sat 7th December – Men's Roll Up

Sun 8th December – 18 Holes Social Golf

Wed 11th December – Ladies' Day

Sat 14th December – Men's Roll Up

Sun 15th December – December Medal

Wed 18th December – Ladies' Day

Sat 21st December – Men's Roll Up

Sun 22nd December – Christmas Turkey Flutter

Thurs 26th December – Boxing Day American Foursomes

Sat 28th December – Men's Roll Up

Wed 1st January – New Year's Scramble (No Ladies Day)

Sat 4th January – Men's Roll Up

Sun 5th January – Winter Medal

Wed 8th January – Ladies' Day

Sat 11th January – Men's Roll Up

Sun 12th January – 18 Holes Social Golf

Wed 15th January – Ladies' Day

Thu 16th January – Algarve Invitational Seniors

Fri 17th January – Algarve Invitational Seniors

Sat 18th January – Algarve Invitational Seniors

Sun 19th January – Algarve Invitational Seniors

Wed 22nd January – Ladies' Day

Sat 25th January – Men's Roll Up

Sun 26th January – January Stableford

Wed 29th January – Ladies' Captain V Ladies' Vice Captain

PRO TIP by Kenny Fairbarin

Fast Greens (Downhill Putts)

As we approach Christmas and the Pinheiros greens quicken, here is a little tip that may help on those downhill putts that scare the life out of you.

I simply address and strike the putt off the toe of the blade. This has the effect of deadening the contact between the club and the ball. There is no need for me to alter my stroke or to decelerate into the putt.

I can, in effect, stroke the ball normally with only a small amount of pace taken out of the putt.



The Inaugural St. Valentine's Day Mixed Golf Tournament

Friday 14th & Saturday 15th February 2014



3 nights at the Dona Filipa Hotel

3 rounds of golf (Pinheiros Altos and San Lorenzo)

Cocktails

Gala Dinner

and many prizes



Entry Form

The Inaugural St. Valentine's Day Mixed Golf Tournament

Friday 14th & Saturday 15th February 2014

Name	
E-mail	
Club	h'cp

Name	
E-mail	
Club	h'cp

Itinerary

Thurs - 13th February :

8.00am– 1.00pm
Reserved tee-times, practice round at Pinheiros Altos
'Check-in' from 2pm at the Dona Filipa Hotel
7:30pm – 8:30pm :
Cocktail reception & registration in the Dona Filipa hotel.

Fri - 14th February :

1st Round St. Valentine's Tournament Pinheiros Altos or San Lorenzo,
details provided at registration Evening at your leisure

Sat - 15th February :

2nd round St. Valentine's Tournament
Your alternate round at either San Lorenzo or Pinheiros Altos
7:30pm Reception for 8:00pm Gala Dinner & Dance, and prize presentation at
The Dona Filipa Hotel

Sun - 16th February :

Check-out by noon from the hotel

Accommodation at The Dona Filipa Hotel – Vale do Lobo

'Classic Room' Package: 2 pax sharing Double/Twin room **€560 (Total per couple)**
Single room **€390**

'Deluxe Room' Package: 2 pax sharing Double/Twin room **€599 (Total per couple)**
Single room **€445**

Each Package Includes: 3 nights accommodation, 3 rounds of golf, daily prizes,
and also the Cocktail reception & Gala Dinner.

Additional: Extra nights and/or golf can be requested and quoted separately.

Maximum of 80 non-members allowed. Early reservation is encouraged

Closing date for entries: Friday 17th January, 2014

SIGN UP FOR MEMBERS WILL BE POSTED ON THE MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD

Entries should be sent by email to
Christophe Rindlisbacher on crindlisbacher@jjwhotels.com or to Cristina Fernandes on cfernandes@jjwhotels.com