

Altos

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PLUS





Introduction from the Captain - Mr Knut Pedersen

Happy New Year to everyone!

Another month has passed quickly. I feel like I just sat down and wrote a newsletter a week ago. There is something about age and time - the older you are, the quicker it passes.

The last month of 2016 has been and gone... and the New Year will hopefully bring new possibilities.

When I started my Captain's Year, my handicap was 17,8, now its 19,2. I am probably the only Captain that has gone up in handicap during the year. So for me I hope that this New Year will bring me down to 18 shots again.

2016 was a year of laughter and tears, new friendship and social gatherings.

The loss of our friends this year has proved that we have a very strong friendship in the club. Even if we have different groups that we belong to, we all have a heart for everyone in the club. I would like to thank everyone for that. It means a lot to many.

The social life in PA has been great. Good attendance at the events and a lot of fun.

The New Year party had 69 people in attendance, and we had a great evening together.

We had two competitions in December. Turkey Flutter on the 22nd, with Andy Wheeler as the winner on 39 points, and Boxing Day on the 26th, with Kay and Rhys Ford as winners with 37 points. Meanwhile, Ross and Robert Moss won the Pro Prize with 38 Points. Congratulations to you all.

The course has improved a lot in the last few months, and hopefully this will continue into 2017. We have more machinery coming in and the new buggies will arrive in the first few months of 2017.

I would also like to thank Christophe and his staff for all the support they gave me last year. Thanks to you all.

So remember in 2017, when you are out on the course, stop and think at least once – “we are privileged to be able to be down in the Algarve and live the life that we do”, even if the golf is not at its best - that's golf.

So again – wishing you a Happy New Year and see you all in 2017.



Christmas Turkey Flutter



Golf Professional Ross Sutherland, Boxing Day Winners Rhys and Kay Ford, Club Captain Knut Pedersen and Golf Professional Kenny Fairbairn



Boxing Day Runners Up Leigh and Stuart Anderson



Boxing Day 3rd Place Thom and Sally Evans



Ross Sutherland and Robert Moss Boxing Day Pro Team Winners with Knut Pedersen and Kenny Fairbairn



Boxing Day Nearest the Pin Ladies Winner Chie Crowdey



Boxing Day Nearest the Pin Mens Winner Iain Cater



New Year's Eve Celebrations



New Year's Eve Celebrations

Director of Golf - Monthly Report

December 2016 was, as usual, a busy month in the calendar with many Christmas competitions. I would like to thank Ross, Kenny and Roger for running the Turkey Flutter, the Boxing Day and the Roll Ups... and Cristina for running the office, which allowed me to take some time off with the family over Christmas.

The Turkey Flutter was won by our new member Andy Wheeler, who had a score of 39 points - his handicap is now in our hands and he has already been cut to 14,3 exact. Welcome to Pinheiros Altos Andy!

Boxing Day was won by Kay and Rhys Ford with a score of 37 points (BB9), followed by Stuart and Leigh Anderson. Ross Sutherland and Robert Moss won the Pro Prize with a great score of 38 points. Ross still managed to play great golf even while organizing the tournament!

The Eclectic Competition sponsored by Florida Golf (thanks to Chris Hales) was won once again for the men by Tim Russell with a score of 66; having only played three medals. It was won for the ladies by Sally Evans with a score of 67. The nett prize for the Eclectic for the men was won by Alberto Nicoletti with a score of 55, playing only three times (his handicap will be reviewed). Stella Jeffrey won for the ladies with a score of 57 tied with Sue Georges, but better back two holes. I am pleased to announce that the Pinheiros Altos Academy shop will sponsor this competition in 2017 and that all the monthly medals will count for the Eclectic, with the prizes for winners being Titleist golf sets and Drivers.

This year's New Year's Day Scramble had 145 players on the day. The "Brian Evans New Year Scramble Trophy" was presented to the winning team of Andy Wheeler, Lorraine Dunabin, João Brito Baltazar, Per Anton Kleppa and Marian Jenkins with a score of -11.5.

The 4th Algarvian Invitational will be taking place from the 10th until the 14th January 2017, and there is already a field of 94 players. Also the Algarvian Charity Pro Am will be played



Christophe Rindlisbacher, Knut Pedersen, Mai Markey, Men's Eclectic Best Gross 2016 Winner Tim Russell and Ross Sutherland



Ladies Eclectic Best Gross 2016 Winner Sally Evans



Ladies Eclectic Best Nett 2016 Stella Jeffrey

from the 15th January 2017 until the 22nd January 2017 on Pinheiros Altos, San Lorenzo and both Quinta do Lago courses and has a record field of 32 teams this year.

In February, our main event will of course be the St Valentine's Trophy. I look forward to seeing as many of you signing up for this event as possible. It will be played over two days, both rounds at Pinheiros Altos, to allow a new format to be played as an Eclectic two day tournament. The sign-up sheet is already on the board.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say that a new maintenance programme is being implemented on the Golf Course following various reports from our consultants. We are looking to see improvements in the short term for some of the easier issues, but also taking into consideration longer

term issues. It goes without saying that at some times of the year some disturbance may take place in order to follow these new directives. Our Greens Committee will be closely informed of the progress and will feed this information back to the membership throughout the year.

Many of you may already be aware but on payment of your Annual Subscription, the principal member will receive a credit of €100 to be used for food and beverages in the Clubhouse. In order to be able to use it, every member must have their membership card to show at the restaurant and bar.

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



St Andrew's Day Memorial Trophy Winners



Mens Roll Up December Winner Tony Hickey Receives his Voucher for Casa dos Pinheiros



Pinheiros Altos Staff; Always Helpful Even in Difficult Situations

Competition Results for December

Date	Competition	Winner	Score	Runner Up	Score
Sun 4th	December Stableford	Cancelled due to bad weather			
Wed 7th	Ladies Day Monthly Medal	1st Division Chie Crowdey	72 Nett	1st Division Melaura Parker	75 Nett
		2nd Division Adrienne Buth	70 Nett		
			9 HOLES – Stableford 14	Ingrid Hollier	13
Wed 14th	Ladies Day Elf Challenge	Cancelled due to rain			
Sun 18th	December Medal	James Porter	72 Nett	Stewart Harper	75 Nett
Wed 21st	Ladies Day Monthly Stableford	1st Division Chie Crowdey	30 Pts (bb9)	2nd Division Kay Ford	30 Pts
		1st Division Molly Wainwright	31 Pts	2nd Division Jill Miller-Cheevers	29 Pts
Casa da Quinta Stableford Voucher – Molly Wainwright					
Thu 22nd	Christmas Turkey Flutter	Andrew Wheeler	39 Pts	Robert Lester	35 Pts (bb9)
Mon 26th	Boxing Day	Kay Ford Rhys Ford	37 Pts (bb9)	Stuart Anderson Leigh Anderson	37 Pts
Wed 28th	Ladies Day	No official competition			

New Year's Day Scramble Results

	Team	Handicap	Score
Winners	Lorraine Dunabin Andy Wheeler João Brito Baltazar Per Anton Kleppa Marian Jenkins	8.5	-11.5
2nd	Andy Watkins Vera Watkins Stella Jeffrey Steven Crowdey Chie Crowdey	8	-10
3rd	Paul Cotterill Melody Cotterill James Cotterill Tim Russell Susan Russell	2.5	-9.5
Pro Team	Valerie Lee Graham Lee Brian Scott Shirley Griffiths Antonio Sobrinho	5	-9
4th	Duncan Evans Wendy Evans Neil Bamber Iain Landsburgh Geoff Stott	+0.5	-8.5 (bb6)
5th	Knut Pedersen Uwe Bindseil Remo Cherubini Nils Leffler Janet Leffler	8.5	-8.5 (bb9)

Ladies Section - by Mai Markey

On the first Wednesday of December, we played a combination of the Medal and the Wainwright Trophy. The first round of the Wainwright is to be played by the 8th of January, so good luck to everyone taking part in the competition.

Unfortunately the rain came on the 14th, so we had to cancel our Elf Christmas Challenge... the green team (LC) against the red team (LV). We adjourned at two o'clock to Susan Russell's home for luncheon and some bubbles (Melody did a great job at the bar). As you will see from the photos, some dressed up

more than others but we all had fun. Paul Cotterill and Barbara Fletcher kindly prepared a wonderful selection of fare, followed by divine mince pies from Zoe, and Stollen from Lisa. Cathy followed up with coffees and chocolates, kindly given by Melaura. A special thanks to Santa for coming as we all know how busy he can be at that time of year...

Zoe was delighted to announce her Lady Vice for 2017 - Lisa Burns. We are all delighted that she has accepted the role and we all wish her well.







Christmas Celebrations



The club shirts are now available to order from Rosa in the shop. Costing 50 euro (royal blue for men and pink for women). Please place your orders as we want everyone in their team colours for Ben Hogan, Wooden Spoon, etc.

The Stableford and more Wainwright matches were played on the 21st December. The winner of the Casa da Quinta voucher for December was Molly Wainwright.

The fun team event... last Ladies game for 2016 was your choice/ your group, with no monies collected on the day.

As we say goodbye to 2016 and embrace the New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all health and happiness for 2017.



Lady Captain Mai Markey Presenting the Voucher for Casa da Quinta to the December Winner Molly Wainwright

Report from the Greens Committee

May we wish all members a Happy New Year!

The Golf Club Committee decided that, because there are still problems in the newsletter reaching all the members, this report will be sent direct by email.

Our Captain and Committee believe that the condition of the course is of the highest priority and members should be kept advised of the plans for the future.

We agreed to keep our comments as short as possible so bullet points will follow!

1. The STRI report (which we referred to in our December Report) has gone out for consultation to our Agronomist, the two professionals, the Head Green Keepers (of all JJW courses) and to senior management. Not all have returned to us with their comments as of yet. However, there is a general acceptance that the report is very helpful.

2. Certain sections of the report are already being enacted. These relate in the main to the greens and stopping the practice of verticutting. Sanding will continue but solid tining, brushing, grooming and rolling of the greens will become more predominant. The greens were particularly fast and true over Christmas!

3. The process of returning the greens to surfaces that are firmer, quicker and more disease resistant is a priority.

4. JJW and management have agreed to increase all staffing levels for the course. On the recommendation of STRI, this will include the appointment of a Senior Greens Keeper to work with the existing team and ensure the new changes are carried through.

5. The prevention of diseases on the course and the use of both organic and chemical fertilisers is being carefully analysed. The recommendations are not without controversy, albeit well understood.

6. We believe that the greens can be restored within a 12 month time frame but fairways will take longer. SRTI are returning to check progress in April.

7. We hope to report improved maintenance of the bunkers and the removal of the "spikes" on the rakes.

8. Maintenance, and in some cases, replacement of tees, has commenced and will continue.

Finally, we would welcome members' comments as to whether this way of communicating with them is preferred, and also whether there are specific issues that they would like the committee to deal with?

Stewart Harper Chairman, David Ford Vice Captain, Knut Pedersen Captain

Social Golf - by Paula Burke Hickey

At the end of the day, all the forethought and planning is hardly worth a toss because, for most of us, during at least half of the round, we wish we'd opted for entirely different choices of clubs! Surprisingly, however, despite all the challenges and hurdles to overcome, the prize-winning scores usually stack up very well against those achieved with a full set.

And so it was for the "Christmas" competition held on Sunday the 11th December that 42 players, mostly in teams of four (two x three balls), set off in fair weather conditions to meet the challenges. As you'll read from the results, all three prize-winning teams on both courses came in with scores under (some well under) the 72 points par.

Before the prize-winners were announced, the players and six guests were joined by the Sao Lorenzo Singers to indulge in, what for most, was the first of many Christmas suppers of roast

turkey (plus trimmings), followed by Christmas Pudding. This was all accompanied by a choice of wine provided by the Social Committee, funded from a surplus accumulated during the year.

A fitting finale for the festive time of year was a taster selection of well known "songs from the shows" rounded off by a treat of Christmas carols all performed by the Sao Lorenzo Singers. Performers included our very own Helen Mills and Keith Fletcher, and were led by their Music Director, Joyce Whitelaw. We were all encouraged to join in the singing, which most did and in some cases, already mentioned in other dispatches, with gusto and enthusiasm!

The next Social Golf event will be a Waltz on Sunday the 15th January, organised by Paula Burke-Hickey and Sue Georges.

<i>Corks to Olives</i>			<i>Olives to Pines</i>		
1st Place	Ian Hepworth Knut Pedersen Chie Crowdey Shona Callaghan	78 Pts	1st Place	Stewart Harper Malcolm Hollier Mai Markey Melody Cotterill	83 Pts
2nd Place	Ken Irving Steven Crowdey Sue Georges Ingrid Hollier	75 Pts	2nd Place	Iain Callaghan Chris Stretton Helen Mills Lorraine Dunabin	79 Pts
3rd Place	David Markey Andy Wheeler Thérèse Van Doorn Cathy Harper	74 Pts	3rd Place	Joe Hardwick Andy Georges Lisa Burns Val Bayston	76 Pts



Olives to Pines Winners Stewart Harper, Melody Cotterill, Malcolm Hollier, Mai Markey with Ken Irving



Corks to Olives Winners Knut Pedersen, Shona Callaghan, Chie Crowdey and Ian Hepworth



Sao Lorenzo Singers





Interclub - by Geoff Stott

2017 Algarve InterClub Season

After gaining promotion to Division One of the Algarve InterClub League, we're preparing for the start of the 2017 round of fixtures, which kick off in March. The 2016 Champions were Levante (Quinta da Ria) with Alto runners up. The other teams we face are Palmares, Parque da Floresta, Serra da Monchique (Silves) and BoaVista.

It will be a busy spring with seven matches in the first eight weeks, the opener being against the champions at home on the 23rd March. The full fixture list is on the notice board and can also be found on the PA website.

There are over 40 members who have indicated an interest in playing in the 10 strong mixed team. That sounds like a lot, but

26 players took part in 2016 and I suspect it will be the same this year, given how so many of our membership spend time in other corners of the world. All handicap levels are welcome as we find a blend of high and low players generally gives us an advantage. Anyone who has not yet signed up can contact me on geoff.stott@hotmail.com or 911949388.

We've introduced a 'Most Valuable Player' award this year for both men and ladies, to be decided at the end of the season. Alagoas Restaurant in Santa Barbara are generously sponsoring the awards.

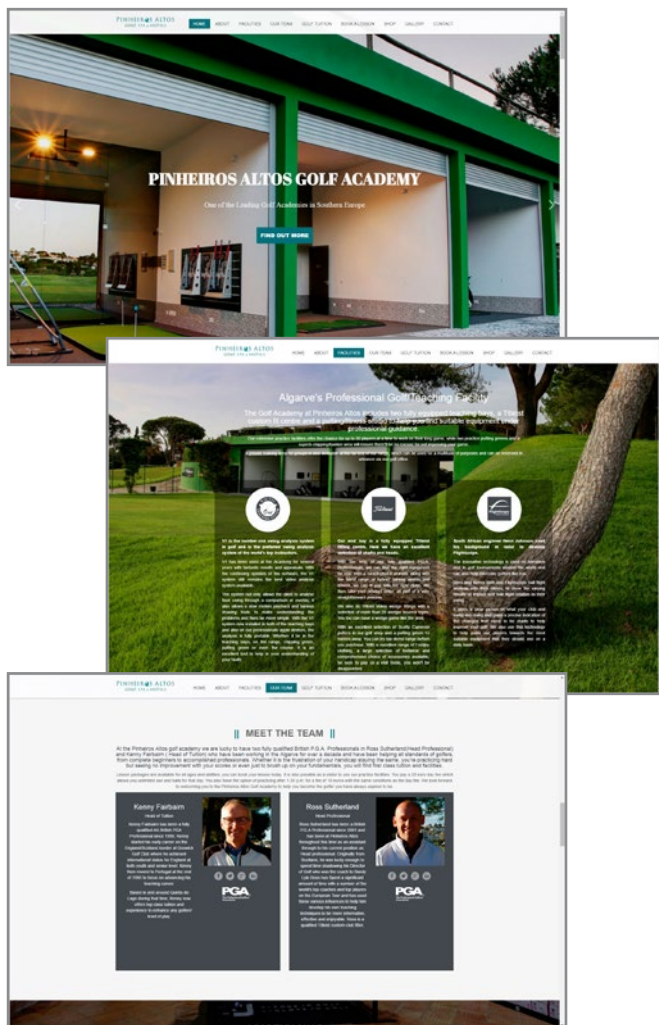
The formation of the three division league system in 2015 has introduced a strong competitive edge to our matches, but there is still a very sociable aspect to the games with a convivial late lunch afterwards.

Academy News

Within the next two weeks, our new website will be up and running and will offer you the option of being able to book your lessons online. We hope you find it clear and simple to navigate. Although you will not be able to book just yet you can have a sneak preview at www.pinheirosaltosgolfacademy.com.

We are also making a small 5 euro increase to our golf lessons on the launch of our site. This is the first increase since 2008 and is in keeping with our substantial investment to bring our Academy facilities up to a more professional level. We continue to offer you the best professional service that we can and look forward to a successful 2017.

Kenny and Ross



Forthcoming Events

January & February 2017

Sun 1st January	New Year's Scramble
Tues 3rd January	Club Roll Up
Wed 4th January	Ladies Day
Sat 7th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 8th January	Winter Medal
Tues 10th January	Club Roll Up and Algarve Invitational Seniors
Wed 11th January	Ladies Day and Algarve Invitational Seniors
Thurs 12th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Fri 13th January	Algarve Invitational Seniors
Sat 14th January	Mens Roll Up and Algarve Invitational Seniors
Sun 15th January	18 Holes Social Golf
Tues 17th January	Club Roll Up and Algarvian Pro Am (QDL South & SL)
Wed 18th January	Ladies Day and Algarvian Pro Am (QDL South & SL)
Fri 20th January	Algarvian Pro Am (QDL North & PA)
Sat 21st – January	Mens Roll Up and Algarvian Pro Am (QDL North & PA)
Tues 24th January	Club Roll Up
Wed 25th January	Ladies Day
Sat 28th January	Mens Roll Up
Sun 29th January	January Stableford
Tues 31st January	Club Roll Up
Wed 1st February	Ladies Day Medal
Sat 4th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 5th February	18 Social Golf with QDL at Quinta do Lago
Tues 7th February	Club Roll Up
Wed 8th February	Ladies Foursomes Championship
Fri 10th February	St Valentine's Day at PA
Sat 11th February	St Valentine's Day at PA 2 days Eclectic Format - NO ROLL UP
Tues 14th February	Club Roll Up
Wed 15th February	Ladies Day Stableford
Sat 18th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 19th February	February Medal
Tues 21st February	Club Roll Up
Wed 22nd February	Ladies Day
Sat 25th February	Mens Roll Up
Sun 26th February	St David's Day Stableford
Tues 28th February	Club Roll Up



PINHEIROS ALTOS GOLF COURSE

Valentines Golf Tournament

Guarantee your presence on the 10th and 11th February 2017,
at Pinheiros Altos Golf Course.

Accommodation packages available for
Dona Filipa Hotel and Formosa Park Apartment Hotel

PINHEIROS ALTOS
GOLF, SPA & HOTELS

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