



EGC Newsletter - November 2025

This month's newsletter is being edited by Ian Holder.

Welcome all to the EGC Newsletter.

This will be our last newsletter as Captains. Kevin and I would like to thank you for allowing us to lead the club on the club's 50th Anniversary year. We have raised over £3500 for our chosen charity, Mind. Thank you all for your donations.



Next Events Coming Up in 2025/2026

Thurs 20th Nov – AGM & Presentation Evening, 7.30pm start.

Sat 22nd Nov – Ray Winter League 2 Stableford Competition.

Sat 6th Dec – Ray Winter League 3 Stableford Competition.



Sat 13th Dec – Turkey Trot.

Annual Christmas Competition, sign-up is now open on Master Scoreboard, pick your own tee time and playing partners.

To bring an end to the 50th Anniversary Year, there will be a Christmas Party immediately following the Turkey Trot presentation.

Sat 27th Dec – Christmas Texas Scramble Competition.

Thurs 1st Jan 2026 – New Years Day Stagger Competition.

Annual competition with 2 clubs and a putter.

New Club Shirts

For those that paid their membership renewal before 1st April and have not yet received your new club shirt (free of charge), or you are not sure if you are eligible, please contact Ian Holder (captain@easthampsteadgolfclub.co.uk) to arrange to meet up at the club.



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Turkey Trot Competition

This year the Turkey Trot competition is being held on Saturday 13th December.

Entry is open on Master Scoreboard, just select your preferred tee time and add your name to the start sheet. Please note this is a 2-tee start (from the 1st and 10th tees) to allow everyone to finish before darkness.

Immediately following the presentation, there will be an end of year Christmas Party, for details see the flyer below.



**Party until the early hours with music
courtesy of Jason Lewis (DJ).**

Food available to purchase from the Bar.



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2026 Captains Message

From Mark Pearson, our Vice Captain for this year (Club Captain for 2026).

I have 2 things to mention. Firstly, the sign-up for the Club Tour for 2026 to Majorca is open on Master Scoreboard. See the Tour Flyer below and then go to the very end of the list on Master Scoreboard to sign up.



EGC Club Tour 2026

Majorca, here we come!

1st to 8th October 2026

7 nights all inclusive

5 rounds of golf

Transfers

Flights

Buggies

Estimated cost £1649 per golfer, £979 per non-golfer
(£100 non-refundable deposit secures your place)

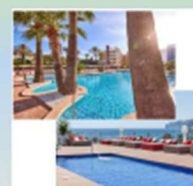


The Hotel

Staying at Zafiro Rey Don Jaime in Santa Ponça, Majorca

<https://www.zafirohotels.com/en/zafiro-rey-don-jaime/>

Onsite there is a spa, restaurant, bar/lounge area and three pools, including the impressive 18+ sky pool on the roof of the hotel. Nearby, the seafront promenade is full of bars and restaurants.



The Golf

We will be playing 5 courses, with Tee times all around 10 – 11am

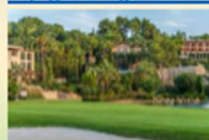
Son Gual <https://son-gual.com/golf-course-mallorca/>



Challenging layout, with water hazards and strategically placed bunkers. Dramatic landscape, lush fairways and stunning views, ensure a memorable day of golf.

Golf Son Vida

<https://arabellagolfmallorca.com/campos-de-golf/golf-son-vida/>



Hosted the European Tour twice, in 1990 and 1994. The technical layout requires precise game strategy.

Golf Son Quint

<https://arabellagolfmallorca.com/en/golf-courses/golf-son-quint/>

The wide and accessible design. An ideal choice for golfers who enjoy an aggressive game. Long drives and tactical approaches are rewarded.



T Golf Calvia <https://t-golf.club/calvia/>

Varied layout, with two lakes featured on the 7th, 8th, 15th, and 16th holes. Rated in the Top 10 best golf courses in Spain.



Golf Son Muntaner

<https://arabellagolfmallorca.com/en/golf-courses/golf-son-muntaner/>



Son Muntaner features technical greens and wide fairways that reward smart strategy.

iHola! Mallorca - Sign up on Master Scoreboard



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Secondly, I have the pleasure to announce I have chosen Martyn Osment to be my Vice Captain for 2026.

Complex Meetings

Ian, Kevin & Mark are having regular meetings with Simon Cottey, the Downshire Complex Manager. Below are the notes from the last meeting.

- Q – What is the plan for all the leaves coming down.
A – The leaves are still being collected every weekday and then being blown into the rough. They are then being cut up to as mulch. At the moment, and until the majority of the leaves are off the trees, this will be a continual process.
- Q – There have been a few comments on the state of the greens after the last couple of competitions, what is your response.
A – The disease is called ‘Dollar Spot’ that hasn’t been seen before at Downshire. Has been treated, cost £1000 for 10litres of treatment. Greens being sanded & over-seeded to promote growth while weather still good. They are recovering, but this is a slow process. We are seeding with a mix of different types of hardy grasses.
- Q – What has happened to the sprinklers on the greens, have they been removed.
- A – None of the sprinklers have been removed. They have been replaced for a couple of different types that are less obtrusive.
- Other Items
 - All grass tees are out of use as of 03/11/2025. Work will be carried out to get them over-sanded and seeded to promote growth while weather still good ahead of next year, this will pay dividends going forward.
 - We are looking at changing all the balls on the driving range, hopefully to be completed by March 2026. Some of them are to be replaced with the current type, but then they will all be replaced. We currently have approx. 35,000 balls and the new type will be approx. 75% distance of normal balls. This can be easily converted to normal via Trackman adjustment.
 - New score cards are being looked at, with possible changes to remove internal out-of-bounds on 6th (9th out-of-bounds) and 11th (16th out-of-bounds). These were done after the course was opened to prevent short cutting those holes. Now the trees have matured between holes, these have become obsolete. For safety reasons, the 12th will stay the same (11th out-of-bounds).
 - **Pitch & Putt** – Closed at the end of October. There needs to be an archaeological survey done to make sure there are no Bronze Age or Roman artifacts due to nearby sites (Caesars Camp, Bill Hill Bronze Age Barrow etc) before any work to convert it for the crematorium.





Committee Vacancies

We have filled the vacancies for Welfare Officer and Externals Organiser but are still looking for someone for the clubs Strategy Role.

Seniors Organiser – Les Smith will be handing over responsibility to Alisdhair Beckingham. Thank you Les for all the work you have done over the last 5 years.

Handicap Secretary – Sean Wheatley will be handing over responsibility to Ketan Bharania. Thank you Sean for all the work you have done over the last 5 years.

Knockouts Organiser – Kevin Lee will be returning to the role.

Externals Organiser – Ian Holder will be returning to the role.

Are You Interested in Contributing as a Committee Member? Contact anyone of the committee named on our website to register your interest, new ideas and new people are always welcomed.

Competitions Report – October and November 2025

Competition Winners:

24th October – Away Day at Winter Hill

Winner - Mark Pearson, 36 Points (C/Back).

Second – Tim Grover, 36 Points.

Third – Riaan Matthysen, 34 Points (C/Back playing off 1 hcp)

Fourth – Richard Langley, 34 Points

Fifth – Harjinder Chana, 34 Points

Nearest Pins – 3rd & 8th Harjinder Chana, 11th – Mark Pearson, 15th – Chris Hartney

2025 Away Day Champion (best 3 of 4 competitions)

Winner – Martyn Osment, 100 Points

Second – Steve Hambley, 99 Points

Third – Richard Langley, 98 points

Fourth – George Friedman, 97 Points

26th October – Colin Parratt, Alan Humble, 36 Points

30th October – Midweek Stableford, Tony Newson, 36 Points (C/Back)

6th November – Midweek Seniors Stableford, Simon Harrison, 33 Points (C/Back)

9th November – Ray Winter League 1, Sean Wheatley, 36 Points (C/Back)



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Away Weekend 2026: 36 currently signed up for weekend of 26th March. Venue now confirmed as The Cotswold GC, Oxfordshire (Tudor Park venue unavailable). Thorpeness Booked for March 2027.

Away Days 2026: Wycombe Heights booked for 23rd February. Hurtmore GC booked for the Captains Away Day on the 25th June, and Woldingham GC booked for the 23rd October.

Competition Entries

Just a quick note on how to enter any competition.

You should sign up on Master Scoreboard. Competitions will open approximately 6 weeks prior to each competition, 10 weeks for the majors, and will remain open until approximately 10 days prior to the date of the competition.

Once the entry has been closed and you want to be added to the start sheet, you will be added to a reserve list. You will only be added if someone else has dropped out of the competition.

This has been in place throughout this year and was bought in due to the 600+ changes made to start

Treasurer – Update from Steve Cross

Treasurer Notes

I'm happy to confirm that there is an option to pay towards the cost of the France weekend or the Tour by instalments. If you should choose this method, please advise me so I can expect to receive these payments and ensure the reference is 'NAME-Tour or France'. Any questions please ask me.

Please keep an eye on your purse balances as failure to have sufficient funds will result in you being excluded from all prizes (including nearest the pin) for that competition.

Steve Cross, Hon Treasurer, 10th November 2025



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Membership – Update from Stephen Eddy

We have had several new members join us recently, please welcome them and show them why our club is the friendliest in Berkshire.

Welcome to –

Dave Green

Nathan Lake

Knockouts – Update from Steve Hambly

Results

Winter Knockout draw completed on Monday 13th October (see KO Draws on Master Scoreboard)

Please read the Knockout Rules and play your matches before the cut-off dates.

Seniors Section – Update from Alisdhair Beckingham

M4 winter league – We have won 2 and drawn 1 and lost 1 in the league so far -

Studley Wood	Away	Won 3-1
Tylney Park	Home	Drew 2-2
Hadden Hill	Home	Won 4-0
Tylney Park	Away	Lost 1-3

Alisdhair Beckingham 06/11/25

Webmaster – Chris Corbett's tip of the month

Tip of the Month

Tip 49: A new WHS handicap calculator version is available on the website. It provides more options for holes / tees played and corrects some bugs. A full description of the differences can be found by going to the calculator page, then selecting 'See what has changed' at the top of the page.



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www.mind.org.uk

How do we make a difference?

We change minds across England and Wales by making mental health an everyday priority. By standing up to the injustices – in healthcare, in work, in law – which make life harder for those of us with mental health problems.

We support minds – by offering help whenever you might need it through our information, advice and local services.

And we connect minds. Bringing together an unstoppable network of individuals and communities – people who care about mental health to make a difference.

Get information and support

When you're experiencing a mental health problem, supportive and reliable information can change your life.

We empower people to understand their mental health and the choices available to them through:

- Our [Infoline](#), which offers confidential help for the price of a local call
- Our [Legal Line](#), which offers information on mental health law
- Our [award-winning information](#), available online and in print



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