



**Minutes of the AGM held at Percy & Founders at 6.30pm on  
7th February 2019**

**Present**

Committee

Darrell Lewis- Captain  
Neil Blundy – Vice Captain / Networking  
Nick Archer – Treasurer  
Neil Meixner – Secretary  
Ken Adams – President / Deputy Secretary  
Malcolm Marshall – Committee / Past Captain / Deputy Treasurer  
Iain Stevenson – Committee  
Ben Hurworth - Committee

In attendance

Iain Stevenson, Julian Bunting, Neil Blundy, Ian Abley, Malcolm Marshall, Neil Meixner, Nick Archer, Bill Merry, Michael Foster, Steven Barker, Barry Jenkins, Graham Howe, Ken Adams, Jason Wood, Ben Hurworth, Steve Davies, Digby Hebbard, Darrell Lewis, Martyn Rowlands, Joel Evans & David Wannerton.

Apologies were received from Tony Venn, David Bennett, David Jenkins, John Marsh, Jim Woolcott, John Bush, Chris Anderson, Jeff Lewis, John Biscoe, Charles Gjertsen and Aidan Mahoney

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 were unanimously agreed, having been proposed by Malcolm Marshall and seconded by Steven Barker.

**Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

**Captain's Report**

The Captain said "Good evening Gentlemen..... and Mr Blundy. I'm pleased to welcome to you all to the EPIC Golfing Society 2019 AGM, held for the first time at Percy & Founders.

My Captain's year really has flown, and I truly enjoyed the honour of being at the helm of this great Society. This is largely due to all the support from the members, plus all the usual banter that forms the backbone of being 'EPIC'.

My special thanks go to our Secretary, Neil Meixner, who without his tireless work none of this would happen..... Thanks Neil. We can't mention one without the so another huge thanks to our Treasurer, Nick Archer who continues to count the beans .... Thanks Nick

A final thanks to my mate, our President, Mr Ken Adams who first introduced me to the Society. Ken, I wish you all the best for your remaining tenure as President and hope that everyone continues to dig deep for your remarkable chosen charity, 'Rosie's Trust'.

Over recent years many societies have been struggling, but as testament to our great society 10 new members that have joined our ranks this year, 2 of them in their 20's so virtually children!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm therefore confident that with such positive ongoing support from the membership that we will continue to thrive.

Moving onto a brief summary of the year's events.

### **Moor Park 26<sup>th</sup> April – The Spring Cup**

My home course provided a fantastic opening venue for the season. The high course had undergone a 9-month refurbishment and we were extremely lucky to be the first society to test out all the challenges of the newly opened 18 holes.

John Biscoe won The Spring Cup, narrowly beating Steve Davis on count back. Well done John

### **Turnberry - The 2018 Tour**

16 of us made it over Hadrian's Wall and I can honestly say that this trip was 1 of the highlights of my golfing season, thanks mainly to such a great bunch of tourists..... and I still keep thinking of better answers for Mr Barker's after dinner games!!!!

Unfortunately, the weather was traditionally very Scottish. Although we do have the inclement weather to thank for one of the funniest sights, ever seen on a golf course, Mr Blundy's seal impression. The subsequent light-hearted banter at the half way 'Lighthouse' resulted in Neil dispatching the ranger on an emergency 2-mile round trip to the pro shop for a pair of 'Extra Short' waterproof trousers and new socks ....

After 3 wonderful days I'm pleased to announce that the Captains team came out as resounding winners (10.5 to 4.5). Special thanks go to Mr Trump for his amazing foresight, by closing the Hotel Bar at 1pm, as I'm sure that my team would have continued heading into the sun and potentially throwing away a very healthy lead .....

The coveted Green Jacket and Claret Jug was won by Jason Wood. Unfortunately, the Jacket was not quite a snug fit on its new owner as it was on last year's winner. Well done Jase and don't forget to blow the dust off before this years' tour!!!

### **Ashridge 4<sup>th</sup> July - The Finlinson Cup**

The turnout for our Flagship event was a little below par this year. However, Ashridge served up it' usual dependable mix of great golf and food. I therefore urge you all to get this year's date firmly in the diary, so that we all continue to enjoy this little gem.

Martyn Rowlands won with a magnificent 43 points, with a hole in one thrown in for good measure. Great golf Martyn!!!!

### **Moor Park 20<sup>th</sup> July – BAGS Match**

Despite handpicking our finest 12, we were unfortunately soundly thrashed by the Old Foe.

Enough said, and it's obviously back to the drawing board this year Mr Blundy.

### **Walton Heath 12<sup>th</sup> September - The Captain's Cup**

The poor weather did not deter what was a fantastic day and in fact our largest field of the year (47). Hopefully we can play the occasional blue-chip course over coming years which will continue to draw in the numbers. David Jenkins won the Captains Cup with 34 points.

A small mention to my Guest and playing partner Jeff Lewis (No relation!!!) comfortably who won the guest prize. Jeff enjoyed the day so much that he joined the society, so welcome Jeff.

### **Sandy Lodge 18<sup>th</sup> October - The Autumn Cup**

Fantastic weather, fantastic day, although we struggled with numbers again (18), which is surprising for such a great venue. Your committee has therefore decided to bring this event forward by 1 month this year, so please all get this into your 2019 diaries as it really is a great track

Joel Evans, one of our new 'young bloods' won with 34 points. Well done Joel and I hope that you enjoy many happy years in the Society.

### **East Herts 8<sup>th</sup> November - The Presidents Cup**

Following a very brief cup of coffee my playing partner 'Gavalar' and I rushed out onto the first Tee. This maybe a first in the society's history as El Seco's exceptional organisational skills momentarily deserted him, when he realised that the start times were 30 Minutes earlier than published. He is human!!!

Despite the sprint start and searching for several my golf balls, Gavin Tuck won the Presidents Cup with 34 points. Well done Gav.

### **West Herts 28<sup>th</sup> December - Recessional Bowl (Family & Friends)**

This was the first time that I played in this event as I am a firm believer in the Golfing 10-degree rule. However, the weather was kind and the turnout great (31 Players).

I had a fantastic day with my 15-year-old son Harvey as a playing partner and despite his continual barracking 'I thought you were good at this game Dad', I managed 35 points. Special thanks to Joel who beat me on countback ensuring that I retain my full shot allowance for the coming season.....

The day was finally won day by Neil Mexiner with 38 Points. In another amazing gesture of his ongoing commitment to the society he has agreed to be cut a further 2 shots for the 2019 season to give the rest of us chance..... Well done Neil!!!

Gents it has been an absolute pleasure and a privilege being your Captain this year, but unfortunately my time is up. So, without any further ado I welcome your new Captain Mr. Neil Blundy and please all join me in wishing him the very best for the forthcoming year..... Neil”

## **Secretary’s Report**

The Secretary offered his report as read, highlighting a few pertinent issues.

The Secretary welcomed the new members during the year, Chris Anderson, Richard Blue, Julian Bunting, Joel Evans, Keith Everett, Digby Hebbard, Michael Hodson, Jeff Lewis, Lewis O’Donoghue and Michael Salmon. Since the turn of the year we have had 4 further members Michael Trott, George Skinner, Geoff Taylor and the return of Mark Beer. The Secretary thanked Darrell Lewis and Nick Archer for their support throughout the year.

**The Secretary’s message this year is get the event dates in the diary and please try to attend as many events as possible.** The Secretary noted that the event dates would be specified later in the meeting.

The statistics this year are disappointing. We had 84 (cf 2017 – 93, 2016 – 94 & 2015 - 96) member’s attendances at the 5 events (excluding the Recessional Bowl) with 23 (cf 2017, 2016 & 2015 - 29) members attending more than one event. We had disappointing turnouts at Sandy Lodge (13 Members) and surprisingly Ashridge (16 Members).

## **Treasurer’s Report & Accounts**

The treasure outlined the following key messages

- Turnover was up by £11,790 as Ashridge is included this year (last year was the Charity event booked under separate accounts).
- Walton Heath was particularly well attended.
- The Profit on the year was £3,014.49.
- Darrell Lewis contributed all prizes during his year as Captain. The treasurer thanked the Captain.
- Memberships – 36 paid-up members, 5 honorary members. New members, who joined part way through the year, will be allocated into 2019.
- 2018 AGM was subsided to a lesser degree than previous years.
- Transactions for the tour did not go through the EPIC bank account.
- Website – No charges raised by Jim Harvey.
- Charity donation to Rosie’s Rainbow £1506.00 from Ball Sweep

- Bank balance at 31.12.2017 - £6366.08
- Bank balance at 31.12.2018 - £2213.39
- Bank balance at 28.01.2019 - £4983.39
- 17 Members have paid for 2019.
- 12 Members have paid for the AGM.
- Deposits have been paid for Moor Park, Buckinghamshire, Ashridge, Sandy Lodge.

## **2019 Subscription**

It was agreed that the annual subscription should remain at £50.

**Members were reminded to send their payments to Nick Archer as soon as possible**

## **Membership**

Tony Venn, David Torrance, Richard O’Rawe, Gamma Basra and John Sestak have tendered their resignation.

**Again this year each member is to endeavour to introduce at least one new member, and preferably a younger (& potentially female ones), to the Society**

## **Appointment of Officers and Committee**

The following nominations were made

- Neil Blundy – Captain
- Iain Stevenson – Vice-Captain
- Nick Archer – Treasurer
- Neil Meixner – Secretary
- Ken Adams – President / Deputy Secretary
- Malcolm Marshall – Committee / Deputy Treasurer
- Ben Hurworth - Committee
- Darrell Lewis – Committee / Past Captain
- Jason Wood - Committee

The appointment of the Officers and Committee were unanimously approved, having been proposed by Ian Abley and seconded by Michael Foster. Neil Blundy was congratulated on becoming Captain and Iain Stevenson on becoming Vice Captain.

## **New Captain's Welcome**

The new Captain, Neil Blundy thanked EPIC for asking him to be the next captain and thanked the outgoing Captain, Darrell Lewis for a great year.

Neil explained that the Tour was organised and full at 16 participants but now that David Jenkins had asked to come Neil was asking the organisers for another 4 ball so there are potentially 3 spaces to fill.

The Captain explained that there had been some difficulty getting the BAGS match into the calendar, but it has now been confirmed (see later).

The Captain said he was looking forward to a great year.

## **2019 Programme**

The Secretary outlined the 2019 programme as follows

- **Wed 1<sup>st</sup> May - Moor Park Golf Club**
- **Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> May - The Buckinghamshire**
- **Wed 26<sup>th</sup> June - Ashridge Golf Club**
- **Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> July - Sandy Lodge Golf Club**
- **Thurs-Sun 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September - Tour – La Cala, Spain**
- **Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> September - Abridge**
- **Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> October? - Thorndon Park - EPIC v BAGS**
- **Mon 30<sup>th</sup> December - West Herts or Letchworth**

**Please get these dates in your diaries.**

## **President's Comments**

**Rosie's Rainbow Fund.** The President outlined that they do amazing work supporting sick and disabled children in hospital, schools and in the community. For further details see <http://www.rosiesrainbowfund.co.uk/>. Please help us to help them keep doing the great work they do. The Society unanimously agreed to double the Charitable contribution raised by the "Ball Sweep". Therefore a cheque for £3000 would be presented by the President to Rosie's Rainbow Fund, hopefully with a photo to add to their and our websites.

Looking forward The President also suggested that at the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary Charity event (to be held in June 2022) we should invite Darren (the young boy who inspired the President to nominate Rosie's Fund) to come and take part in the day.

On a sad note The President informed the meeting that Leslie Jenkins (wife of David) had sadly died recently after a battle with Motor Neuron Disease and that the funeral is on 18<sup>th</sup> February. Details have been passed to all members. The President said he intended to be present.

## **AOB**

A short discussion was had regarding the qualifying events for player of the year and the handicap reduction system. It was agreed to leave as it is – so all events will have a handicap adjustment of 2 shots for the winner and one shot for second for 1 year but only the 5 majors will count towards the player of the year. Players on tour play off unadjusted handicaps and although on tour adjustments will be made they only apply on that tour.

**There being no further business, the formal part of the meeting was closed at 19.39 and the prize giving took place prior to a great dinner being enjoyed by all.**

Iain Stevenson was presented with the Player of the Year Trophy (with a score of 102 for the best 3 events from Chris Anderson on 101 and Steve Davies and Jason Wood on 100) and the Bush Trophy was awarded by Ken Adams to Ben Hurworth in acknowledgement of his contribution to the Society over many years.

Replica golfing trophies were presented to Martyn Rowlands, Joel Evans, Jason Wood & Neil Meixner.

Gavin Tuck, John Biscoe & Steve Haley were also winner but were not present so their replicas will be presented during the season.

Congratulations to all this year's winners.