

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE 2020 AGM

2019 was a great year for EPIC. Many thanks to all the active members for their continued support. The perennial cry of "the society needs more members" to play regularly and bring guests has reaped some reward this year with 8 new members being signed up. A very warm welcome to Matthew Bowen, Luke Croll, Gary Dann (returning), Matthew Jones, Martyn Howie, Steven Hurworth, George Skinner and Fiona Watson. Thanks also to the members who introduced them. We therefore have 55 members on the books compared with 57 this time last year. This change reflects your Treasurer and Secretary removing some inactive honorary members from the list as well as the usual retirees. Please keep trying to encourage new and particularly younger members as we aspire to grow to around 80.

The message this year is as always get the event dates in the diary and please try to attend as many events as possible. The statistics for 2019 were encouraging with 97 member's attendances (cf 2018 - 84, 2017 - 93, 2016 - 94 & 2015 - 96) at the 5 events (excluding the Recessional Bowl) with 24 (cf 2018 - 23, 2017, 2016 & 2015 - 29) members attending more than one event. We had disappointing turnouts at both Buckinghamshire events with 16 and 14 members respectively making it to this magnificent course. The Yuletide Letchworth event also attracted only 7 members!

Neil Blundy, your excellent Captain for 2019 has given you a rundown of the events as they unfolded so I don't need to add anything here!!!

The 2020 programme is fixed. Some prices may vary by +£10/-£0 as I fix the costs with the courses and provide some headroom for reserve creation, but the dates are all firm now. We continue to make adjustments to the programme to bring more events into the summer period. There are the usual stalwarts - Moor Park and of course Ashridge with a second visit to the superb Abridge and this with the addition of Burhill and The Addington provide consistent and excellent golf throughout the hopefully warm summer. Your 2020 Captain Iain Stevenson has arranged a magnificent tour to La Baule in France and I know he still has a few places available so contact him if you'd like to come.

I would like to thank fellow committee members for their support and particularly Nick Archer (ably assisted by Jane Chaston) for keeping tabs on the finances throughout the year. I remind members that prompt and clear payments from members is essential for the smooth running of the society.

Neil, you were a great Captain to work with, and I congratulate you on a super year. Neil's banter was a constant delight to all!!!

Finally, I would like to wish Iain Stevenson all the best for his year as Captain and thank you all in anticipation for your continued support.



Neil Meixner - Secretary