



St Stephen's Golf Society

CANTERBURY



Secretaries Annual Review, December 2016

Dear St Stephen's Golf Society member

Overall you could summarise this year with one word – 'metamorphosis'. Earlier this year we saw a few of the original members of the society stand down. Ady Gough for one has been at the forefront for the club as treasurer and general Mr Fixer, Mark Delo who did so much to keep the ship afloat in 2014 has also not played as many matches this year; and Sandra Bundock, who helps us every year with deposit payments and general banking has just told me she would like to step down.

All these people are forefathers of the club and we thank them for the hard work they put in to create and maintain the society in the past. But the society now moves on.

This year's skipper Alex McBeth is no exception as he took the society day to another level with great ideas like 'captains hole' and the 'captains shield', he also played in every match winning the 'most points' shield and taking second place in the overall club top average. What could have been had Kevin Mullin not cruelly knocked him out of the cup?

But this season has been totally dominated by one player, a man who takes his golf very seriously and plays to his handicap – Jason Robson. Jason totally dominated the cup with the destruction of Dave Gregory in the final. His best of seven average was nearly 4 points clear of his nearest rival, and of course there was the famous victory at Sene Valley GC in the Cotton Society Challenge skippered by Jason. I do not think that any previous society member has dominated a year like Jason has in 2016 – well done.

New members, the life blood of the society, have also integrated well into the society. Kevin Mullins joined myself, Alex and Jason in the winning four ball at Sene Valley GC's Cotton Challenge, Louis Dawber won the July High Elms event, Lou Demetrios took the honours at Boughton in April and Mike Barham made it look easy at Ruxley in May. Mark Vinter also came a very good second at last month's penultimate society day at The Ridge along with a third place and Captains hole win for Ian Jackson.

The future is indeed looking very good. The bank funds are healthy, next year's society day deposits have all been paid and Steve Winder has accepted the captains role for 2017.

I will be standing down as temporary treasurer and match sec (but still continuing as fixtures and club sec) with news on my replacements to be announced very soon. We also have our first weekend golf break holiday for September 2017: www.st-stephens-golf.co.uk/trips.shtml and our yearly pilgrimage to Princes GC booked. In the future, with your support, I hope to take this a stage further with overseas trips as well.

The blend of good golf, ages and states of mind makes our society one of the best in Kent. Our club sponsors have ensured financial security and helped us keep match fees static for another year. Let's repay them with good golf and more newspaper headlines!

I thank everyone who helped me last year and let's take our society to the next level in 2017 – Merry Christmas

Nigel Stevenson (Fixtures and Club Sec)