

# LONDON STATIONERS GOLFING SOCIETY

## 2002 Review

David Littlechild of **Anglia Litho** generously sponsored our Spring Meeting held late in April at Knebworth. The course condition was excellent but, once again, we were unlucky with the weather - almost as bad as the previous year there. **Alan Wood** made light of the wet conditions to retain The Jack Ryman Cup with 33 points. Graham Clark's reign as Captain concluded when he handed over to Chris Phillips at the A.G.M. in the evening. The attendance was 33.

We moved on in May to Sand Martins for the President's Trophy meeting, sponsored as always, by Peter Mines and **Jet UK Ltd.** We did at least experience some sunshine on this excellent and interesting course (also some quite heavy downpours.) Sand Martins has many civilised features especially the telephone provided on the 9th tee so you can order your requirements at the half-way house near the 10th tee. **Charles Anderson** took the President's Trophy with 34 pts. Martin Parker won the Concord Trophy with 20 pts over nine holes. 24 attended and this course is definitely marked down for a return in the near future.

Geoffrey Betts of **Stewart Superior Europe** sponsored the Summer Meeting which was held at Frilford Heath. This magnificent complex boasts three courses and we enjoyed the new Blue course for the morning Greensomes. This proved a tough induction to the famous, and even tougher, Red course. There was a 3-way tie for The John Bond Cup on 32 points: Peter Heath, Chris Phillips and **Nigel Tollit** scoring 32 points with Nigel winning on the count back. For a change the weather was very pleasant with long sunny periods. Only 22 managed to make it (the fee was admittedly higher than we are now used to) but all who came said they would come back and when our membership recovers I hope we will.

The Captain's Outing was a great success which benefited from excellent weather and two contrasting courses in fine condition. Stratford upon Avon was a pretty tree-lined mainly flat course which yielded some excellent scoring - the first five's aggregate was 193 points with **Paul Shawcross** taking the Captain's Salver with a score of 42 points (off 4 handicap). The captain had arranged sponsorship for prizes that covered just about every golfing exploit imaginable and by the end of 2 days nearly everyone who competed won a prize. Day two was an AM-AM Team event played at the Captain's home course, Droitwich - best described as an elevated, tree lined and scenic links course. A total of 35 attended and we congratulate Chris on a well organised outing. Thanks to all the sponsors: **Esselte/Zebra/Despac/Tollit & Harvey/3M/Antalis/John Dickinson/ Anglia Litho** and the main sponsor: **Osborne Office Stationers.**

We also congratulate the 2002 Aggregate Trophy winners who receive their awards at the Spring Meeting: Spicer Trophy - **Paul Shawcross.** Liberty & Watkins Trophies - **Chris Phillips.** Guildford and Reg. Conlon Trophies - **David Morgan.**

As usual the Society owes thanks to our Treasurer, David Morgan for his hard work and I would also like to thank all members who contribute at the meetings with things like card checking and ball-sweeps, etc.

Some of you may be wondering what has happened to our web-site. Geoff reports he is experiencing a lot of technical problems following the transfer of the site to a different host. This coupled with busy and uncertain times at his place of work (you'll know what I mean if you know who employs him!) has meant he hasn't been able to find enough time to recover the site. However, matters are in hand and he hopes to have it up and running again as soon as possible.

Although we've had several new members join last year we do need more - a lot more! So I ask all members to spread the word and recruit to boost our numbers. Our 'membership' stands at 80 but many of this number are inactive or have retired and forgotten to cancel their Standing Orders !

We welcome our incoming captain, Peter Heath, who has decided because of our reduced numbers to have only 3 meetings for this coming season. To re-cap, these are: **Knebworth April 24** (entry form enclosed) / **West Byfleet July 22** / **Woodhall Spa September 27/28.** Peter's decision to have the outing over a weekend is an interesting break from tradition. It answers the point that many find it difficult to spare 2 days out of their holiday allowance. Against this, there may be some long standing home club events which members may find difficult to miss. If you would like to come (guests are very welcome) and have not already done so, please reserve your place with Peter on 01604 702196.

Finally, our President (and twice Society Captain), Lionel Scott, who hasn't been able to attend events for some years has suggested he would like to retire from this position as he feels it would be appropriate for a more active member to hold it. I've had some informal discussion with other Committee Members and as a result the Treasurer and myself will propose the following motion at the coming Annual General Meeting:

'The Society wishes to express it's thanks to Lionel Scott for serving the Society for so many years and, in deference to his wishes, propose that he be succeeded as President of the Society by Mr. Peter Mines'

Peter is our longest serving sponsor (of the President's Trophy meeting continuously since 1985), our Captain in 1989 (remember Gleneagles ?) and I can't think of a more deserving person to hold this (honorary) title. I do hope he will accept.

In the meantime may I wish all members an enjoyable season and let's keep fingers crossed for some good weather - especially at Knebworth where surely it will be 'third time lucky' there.