

London Stationers visit to Nevill Golf Club.

Do you realise that during my two terms as Captain we have not had one rainy day in fourteen outings (including our trips across the water) and they have all been played in glorious sunshine? This by no means entitles any of you to think I will do the job again because you can obviously push your luck to far. In any event there must be plenty of other candidates itching to take on the roll after Judith.?

So, to our last outing.

Another outing to a club very few of us had ever heard of let alone played, and thanks must go to my brother in law John Astrop for recommending what turned out to be a superb golf course, supported by friendly, efficient staff who couldn't do enough for us. Cakes at the half way house certainly went down well with our four ball and obviously gave me the sugar shot needed to add points to our card. This was not a difficult task as my partner Mr. Knights had virtually played on his own for the first nine holes (21 points off 12!) In fact, the only hole I could have contributed on (the first, a par) he birdied so still took the honour!

A match played on well manicured fairways, greens that were so fast they increased speed going up hill as well as down (12.5 on the stimp meter) which I certainly have never encountered before and certainly drove many to think that maybe it might be an idea to take up bowls!

However, at the end of the day Peter Jones and his guest Richard West took the honours with 41 points, closely followed by two guests of David Cox (David Forge and Peter Clark) who managed 40 points. It needs two to win this wonderful trophy as it takes two to lift it. Certainly, we will all remember Peter Tilley in years to come and our never-ending thanks must go to Chris Lee for donating it. Seriously it is truly magnificent (No I mean it. It really is)

The consolation team winners were David Cox, Bob Smith, Linda de Koning and Nigel de Koning on 71 points.

I must apologise to the team as I couldn't read Richards sheet due to the fact that I had forgotten my glasses, and even if I could have read the names I have no idea how Richard worked out the winners! In any event if any were left without a prize let me know and I will get one to them.

Nearest the pin got our four ball both excited and extremely anxious when our secretary landed his ball pin high and only six feet from the pin. Regrettably it was also about an inch off the green.

Excited as it was so close, but anxious as we didn't want him to have another nose bleed!!!!

The eventual nearest the pin winner was Alan Hebditch.

Memories of nearest the pin set by the Pro at East hearts came to mind when we were confronted by nearest the pin in two, (again set by the pro) which was, for us mere mortals

almost impossible. A straight drive of maybe 220 yards, obviously straight was a major problem for most, followed by a straight second about 160 yards to a pin set on a slope at the back of the green. Needless to say, we saved on a prize!

Despite the challenges of the day I think all our guests enjoyed the day and hopefully it may encourage a few to play again?

Finally, I would like to thank Hugh Sear for kindly sponsoring the final event and also say what a pleasure it was to see both Linda and Nigel back with us (mainly Linda!) and Geoff who has had to endure a lot of unpleasant surgery over the last eighteen months.

And so, it just leaves me to thank my sponsors and all those who supported the events during my term.

Until next year.

David