

# **RHGS Annual General Meeting**

4<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
10:30 am  
Railway Hotel, Cheam

## **Opening**

Howard Tonge, the Society Secretary, opened the meeting and said that with 25 people, this was the largest attendance we had ever had at an AGM.

## **Members Present**

Adrian Blows, Alan Bradbrook, Alan Pooley, Bob Tisdall, Brian Williams, Charlie Foster, David Caddy, David Glennie, David Hiscocks, David Horwill, Dick Ivory, Glen Locke, Graham Powell, Howard Tonge, Jo Blows, Josh Tonge, Ken Gardiner, Len Singh, Mandy Hiscocks, Mike Pilfold, Roy George, Steve Bradley, Steve Chasty, Steve Holland and Terry Freeman.

## **Apologies for Absence**

Alan Rodwell, Andy Cane, Andy Finbow, Bob Livingston, Brian Holden, Brian Joy, Carl Cavallo, Chris Douglas, David Hesketh, David Nurser, David Perrett, David Yadoo, Graham Hill, Graham Ridout, Ian McGraw, Jason Bird, Julian Taylor, Keith Flower, Kevin Offer, Marcus Foster, Mike Cutts, Nick Barton, Nick Blake, Norman Clarke, Pat O'Hagan, Paul Murphy, Steve Polkey, Tom Cherry, Trevor Mitchell, Zia Ahmd, Clark Spackman, David Cox, Fred Bazdar, Ian Wilkinson, Justin Sullivan, Mark Dix, Martin Cox, Mike Pilfold, Nick Barry and Pat Huggins.

## **Sam Taylor, Tony Dawe and Phil Quinlan**

Howard told the meeting of the sad loss of three RHGS members last year. The meeting was saddened by the news.

## **Minutes of Previous AGM**

The Minutes of the 2016 AGM were accepted by a show of hands. There were no questions or clarifications called for.

## **Captain's Address**

Adrian Blows, the Society Captain, gave the following address.

*Glad to see so many members here today for our AGM.*

*I would like to thank all the members for the support they have given me as Captain, and in particular the help and support of our committee. I have thoroughly enjoyed my year, selecting the courses and then hearing the positive comments of those who played them.*

*Picking the courses is always a bit of pot luck and the weather and condition of the course on the day can make a big difference. I think we were very lucky in 2017.*

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*All the events were well supported, in total over 130 players turned out across the four qualifying events.*

*The season kicked off at Farnham in April for the Spring Trophy, with an excellent turnout of 35 golfers. The cup was won by Matt Flack. Rather than staying for a meal we then adjourned to the Railway followed by a curry across the road in the Star. This format still seems popular and I would recommend it for the future.*

*We then moved on to West Surrey for the Summer trophy in June which was won by Charlie Foster. The course was great and the two-course carvery excellent.*

*The Autumn trophy won by David Nurser was played at Farleigh in August, a much cheaper course to play, which showed in its quality, but it was I think was still good value at £44 including a three-course meal. With 33 golfers we again had a great turn-out.*

*The away day had the biggest turnout for many a year with 19 golfers playing at Donnington Grove. Again, people generally liked the course and venue. Len Singh took the money.*

*Finally, the Captains day was held at Hankley Common in November. This was the first course I selected for the year as I really wanted us to play there. We took a risk with the weather given the time of year and luckily the gods were kind to us and we had a lovely day. I thought the course was super, the food excellent and the welcome we got could not have been beaten. Several people said they would like to play there every year. 42 people played and the event was won by Steve Chasty.*

*The pre-Christmas lunch at Banstead was again well supported and enjoyed by all.*

*Overall, I think the society remains very strong, unlike so many societies that are struggling and I look forward to another great year in 2018*

### **Treasurer's Report 2017**

Adrian Blows, Society Treasurer, addressed the meeting. The Society had another good year in 2017 with a strong membership base, good support for events and an active committee to oversee it.

Over 2016 the Society's funds grew by £1775 ending the year with £2399 in the bank. This growth was necessary to continue to return the Society to a sound financial position.

In 2017, it was decided that we needed to maintain a balance of around £2000 in order to provide a buffer against unforeseen costs, but we didn't want to increase our reserves further.

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Consequently in 2017 we have operated to more closely balance income with expenditure. This entailed increasing the value of raffle prizes as well as running the pre-Christmas social event at more or less breakeven.

The committee also decided to subsidise one event, the Captain's day at Hankley to the tune of £13/member thus enabling us to play a prestigious course, with a nice meal, at the more reasonable rate of £75/player. The Committee plans to subsidise one event a year in the future, along similar lines, finances permitting.

Looking at 2017 in more detail:

Subscriptions were up due to increase in members to 60

Raffles/auctions income down due auction in 2016 PC lunch  
Social events and prizes up as explained

Trophies expenditure up due to repairs and new captains board  
Clothing not bought in 2017 – break-even item

Gives us Excess in 2017 of £219

Cash in Bank after paying £800 in deposits for 2018 events is £2545  
(up £146 vs. 2017).

The member's subscriptions were held at £20.

### **Presentations**

The Captain made the following presentations

- President's Trophy – Charlie Foster with 106 points (best 3 out of 4)
- President's Trophy Runner-Up – Matt Flack with 101 points
- Knockout – Brian Williams Runner-Up – Martin Cox
- Trier's Trophy – Brian Williams on countback from Steve Holland with an Aggregate score of 124

The winners of the four events were

- Spring Trophy, Farnham – Matt Flack 38 points
- Summer Trophy, West Surrey – Charlie Foster 40 points
- Autumn Trophy, Farleigh - David Nurser 36 points
- Captain's Day Trophy, Hankley Common – Steve Chasty 37 points

The Memorial Day at Banstead Downs was won by Len Singh with 36 points

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### Election of Committee Members

- At the previous AGM It was agreed, although not voted on, that future Committee members should be sought from regulars who frequent the Railway Hotel.
- Brian Williams as Event Manager, Steve Holland and Graham Powell have agreed to stand for Committee
- Ken Gardiner has said that he will stand-down from the Committee. The Committee thanked him for his contribution to date.
- Steve Chasty will also stand-down as the Past Captain 2017. The Committee thanked him for his contribution to date.
- Brian Joy remains President of the Society until next year

The following Members were unanimously appointed to the roles

<b>Member</b>	<b>Role</b>
Alan Pooley	Captain
Steve Holland	Vice-Captain
Adrian Blows	Treasurer and Past Captain
Howard Tonge	Society Secretary
Graham Powell	Knockout Organizer
Len Singh	Trophy Master
Josh Tonge	Handicaps Manager
Brian Williams	Event Manager
Bob Tisdall	Audit

### Events for 2018

The incoming Captain, Alan Pooley, who joined the Society in 2013 presented the courses he had selected for 2018

- Spring Trophy, Malden - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April
- Summer Trophy, Reigate Heath - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June
- Autumn Trophy, Copthorne - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August
- Away Days, Lingfield Park - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September
- Captain's Day, Effingham - Thursday 25 October
- PC Sunday Lunch, Banstead – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Past Captains' Day TBA
- Memorial Match TBA
- Red Lion Match TBA

Details of the courses will be included on the Society website [www.rhgs.net](http://www.rhgs.net)

### Any Other Business

- We are also pleased to announce that we have new members joining the Society, which includes ladies joining the RHGS for the first time. The ladies will compete for Society trophies and prizes i.e. there will not

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separate trophies or prizes. The Handicaps Manager will advise on any handicap adjustments that might be needed to accommodate men and women into one competition whilst playing from different tees and SSS.

- The Committee had decided that the CONGU handicap changes that could see a maximum playing of handicap of 54 would not be applied to the Society handicaps. This has the effect of restricting the maximum Society handicaps to 28 for men and 36 for ladies. This will be monitored throughout the year.
- We will continue to present winners with the engraved glassware as prizes
- Nearest the Pin - It was agreed to add a bottle of wine to the Nearest the Pin prize
- Wooden spoon -At the Captain's discretion on the day, it was agreed to offer a golf lesson for the winner of the Wooden Spoon
- The Red Lion Inter-Society match to be arranged by Steve Chasty for 2018. Handicap limits will need to be agreed.
- Steve Chasty has arranged for a replacement Captains' Board to be installed in the Railway by the trophy cases.
- Josh said that logoed clothes, jumpers and golf shirts, are available.
- Howard advised that an updated web site would shortly be launched.

### **Vote of Thanks:**

The outgoing Captain thanked the staff of The Railway for their hospitality, the Committee for their hard work and the members for their support.

### **Close**

The AGM closed at 11.15 am with a round of drinks bought by Alan Pooley as the incoming Captain. A second round was bought by the Society.

**Howard Tonge**  
**RHGS Secretary**