



Society of Hertfordshire Golf Captains

Captain: Nick Brookes 2025-2026

Hon Secretary: Eric Diment

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Triangular Fixture - Herve Cup

Maybe it is something about this fixture but 3 years ago we played at St. Neots in the rain and thunder and this year as we arrived at Ramsey GC it was raining heavily again. However, we were a little more fortunate because we started the match at 1pm and by 1.30pm the rain had stopped, and it became a pleasant day for golf, the sun did come out but there was a very tricky wind and I am not sure if it helped on any of the holes. The course was interesting for those that had never played it before with a couple of blind holes, including a 90-degree dog leg on the 18th but the fairways were excellent, and the greens ran true. Congratulations to Brian Macdonald and Doug Stokoe for winning the par 3's on the 7th and 13th holes respectively.

This is always a very enjoyable fixture as we battle alongside Cambridgeshire and Essex for The Herve Cup and almost as important, to avoid the dreaded wooden spoon. Many familiar faces were present and a few new members from across all 3 counties played in 3 balls, led out by the professionals from the captains' home club. So, my thanks to Neil McLauchlan from Letchworth for playing and I hope he enjoyed the day out.

This is a great team event, playing a Stableford format with all 16 scores counting so there is a little pressure to beat or equal your opponents you play alongside. After the game there was plenty of banter in the clubhouse and as the 2 non-playing secretaries from Cambridgeshire and Essex checked the scores, everyone waited in anticipation to hear the results. Well, for once it was good news for Hertfordshire, we avoided the wooden spoon, picked up by Essex with 434 points, then the news got even better, Cambridgeshire as host could only manage 458 points which meant we won the event with 482 points and regained The Herve Cup. Congratulations to everyone who played and now all we need to do is ensure we retain it next season when we are scheduled to host the event at Bishops Stortford on Thursday 4th June when once again, we will meet up with some old friends.



Match v Vice Captains Club

Thursday 26th June saw the society play at Welwyn Garden City Golf Club in the traditional fixture of playing against the Vice Captains Club.

So we were led by Doug Barson against his home club, Nick Brookes took a back seat for once, and of course Doug was a winner whichever way the result went! It was great to see 12 Past Captains from WGC GC play in the fixture, alongside this years Captain Norman Wiggins.

There is obviously something about this club as when we played here last time we had a torrential thunderstorm towards the end of the round and the course flooded. Well this year despite it being late June the weather hit us again with all the matches caught out by a heavy downpour just after we started. I am delighted to report though that the rain ceased, the sun came out and we quickly dried off. The aftermath of the rain was a strong wind which certainly made the round tricky and interesting for the members and guests alike.

Given, the dry period we are all experiencing the course played well although there were a few moans about the pace of the greens but they were in excellent condition and running true. The conversation before an excellent meal was how close some of the matches were but as is almost a tradition now the host club won again, this time 5 1/2 to 1 1/2. Congratulations to Captain Norman on his win but the real winner was the enjoyment of the day, old friendships renewed and new friends made. ‘



Nearest the Pin Winners

Mixed Away Meeting

In early July, 7 couples enjoyed an overnight trip to
The Warwickshire.

Playing both the Earls and Kings courses. Despite all driving through
a rainstorm to get there, by the time we had lunch and tee'd off, this
had abated, and we enjoyed fine weather throughout.

The Hanchet competition for drawn mixed partners, 4 ball better ball,
was won by Nick Verney and Mary Vyse, with runners up,
John Annison and Sue Barnes.

The winners of the Monday singles were John Annison and
Chris Verney, respectively, with runners up Nick Verney and Karen
Annison.

It was good to welcome the Verneys for the first time, and they clearly
enjoyed their successes.



Presidents Day

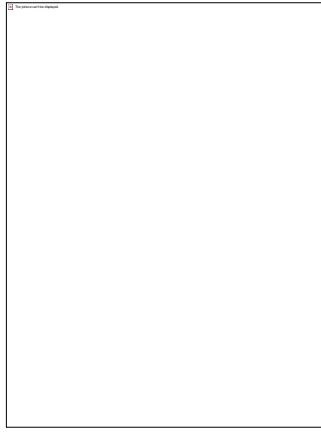
As the golfing season moves along at pace the members arrived at Aldenham Golf and Country Club to support our President, Melvyn Rose, at his home club.

The tone for the day was set by an excellent buffet lunch which was probably more conducive to a sleep rather than 18 holes of golf such was its content. As we set off for a 2 tee start it was noticeable that like all courses right now Aldenham needed some rain for the fairways, but the greens were fine, and the ball rolled true. After a convivial stop at Melvyn's halfway house for light refreshments the field completed the 18 holes. The weather threatened at one point but only a brief sharp shower around 3 pm was the only real blemish before we all finished.

At least we were spared the intense heat of recent days, so over a drink before we sat down to another great meal and a few glasses of wine the discussions followed about how tough the course played with chipping from bare lies an issue for the average club golfer, coupled with the wind, it meant that everyone was predicting a lowish winning score.

Well after the meal we found out that it was tough with only 3 members managing to score in excess of 36 points and the R & A Quaich, being the combined total of stableford points over Captains and Presidents Day being won on 70 points. So, congratulations to John Aldridge from East Herts for winning the Quaich for a second time since its inception in 2016. The nearest the pin prizes were shared by Peter Davey, Arkley on the 6th and 14th holes, Duncan Mutton of Whipsnade Park on the 8th and then home members Dave Bowers on the 12th and Kris Babb on the 17th, well played to all four of them. Onto the main event and in third place was David Ross from Arkley with 38, second was Paul Martins, Brickendon Grange on 39 and the winner of The Clive Harkett Claret Jug was Martin Pyrke, Mid Herts with an excellent 40 points. A fine day was had by all, the president enjoyed himself and we kept his speech down to sensible length and wish him well for the remainder of his tenure'





Fixtures 2025

Thursday	6 th March	Annual Dinner	Aldwickbury Park	AL5 1AB
Wednesday	26 th March	With Herts Lady Captains	Mill Green	AL7 4TY
Thursday	10 th April	Past Captains Dinner	West Herts	WD3 3RL
Tuesday	22 nd April	Captains Day & AGM	West Herts	WD3 3RL
Saturday	3 rd May	Herts Salver	Letchworth	SG6 3NQ
Tuesday	6 th May	Inter – Club L/Officers	Moor Park	WD3 1QN
Wednesday	14 th May	London Captain	Old Fold Manor	EN5 4QN
Tuesday	20 th May	v's Buckinghamshire	Harleyford	SL7 2SP
Tuesday	27 th May	Mixed v Norfolk	Royal Norwich	NR9 5JE
Tuesday	3 rd June	Triangular	Ramsey	PE26 1DD
Monday	9 th June	v's Suffolk Captains	Brett Vale	IP7 5LR
Thursday	26 th June	Match v Vice Captains Club	Welwyn Garden City	AL8 7BP
Sunday-Monday	6-7 th July	Mixed Away	The Warwickshire	CV35 7QT
Tuesday	15 th July	Presidents Day	Aldenham	WD25 8NN
Tuesday	5 th August	Four Counties	Thetford	IP24 3NE
Tuesday	26 th August	v's Essex	Harpenden Common	AL5 1BL
Wednesday	27 th August	Mixed Invitation Mtg	Brookmans Park	AL9 7AT
Thursday	4 th Sept	v's Northants	Kingsthorpe	NN2 7BU
Thursday	11 th Sept	v's Bedfordshire	Whipsnade Park	HP4 1RH
Monday	15 th Sept	With Herts Lady Captains	East Herts	SG9 9NB
Friday	17 th Oct	Autumn Meeting + Crameri Cup Final	Brickendon Grange	SG13 8PD
Thursday	23 rd Octo- ber	Presidents Reception	Aldenham	WD25 8NN
Thursday	30 th Octo- ber	County Boys (Under 14's)	Essendon	AL9 6HN
Monday	1 st Dec	Xmas Fayre	Letchworth	SG6 3NQ