

February 2018

Dear Fellow Merchistonians

Thank you for giving me the honour of being your Captain for the next two years, and I look forward to taking the Club forward over that period.

I would like to thank Bill Hannay for all his hard work and keeping the Club on the straight and narrow/especially as he had to hobble his way through the last six months with a bad knee.

As you will have seen from Robert Forman's report in the Merchistonian Magazine, we have had another successful year. We had a good run in the Halford Hewitt at Deal in April reaching the semi-final and I believe we have a team that are capable of going all the way. Eight of the potential team had an outing on Gullane No 1 recently. It was a successful get together and I think it is worth a mention to say Mike Rolland shot a 66. The date of the Halford Hewitt this year is 5-8 April and we start the campaign at Sandwich (Royal St George's Golf Club). If any of you are in the area at that time please come and support us.

Last year instead of a Spring Meeting we tried a summer knock out and I am afraid to say this was very poorly subscribed to. The idea was to give you the opportunity to play other members on different courses. I hope you will support this better this year or the committee will have to have a rethink.

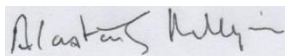
We had another successful Autumn Meeting last year at Bruntsfield but I feel we are in need of better support, especially from those (speaking as a more senior member) that I might call middle aged. Remember this is a meeting for all standards and the main thing is to meet fellow members and enjoy the day.

The costs of running the Club are forever increasing, so the only way to keep your subscriptions down is to increase the membership. So please encourage your golfing friends to join us.

For those that did not know Stuart Briggs, the team manager for many years, has gone through a major operation from which he is making a slow but steady recovery. On your behalf I would like to wish Stuart all the best and a quick return to the golf course.

Hoping you have a good golfing year.

Yours sincerely



Alastair G Milligan