**The story of The Old Briggensians Golf Society & the Briggensians Golf Society**

The Old Briggensians Golf Society (hereafter referred to as OBGS for brevity's sake) came in to being when “A meeting of all Old Briggensians interested in Golf” was called for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25th 1950 at the Angel Hotel, Brigg.

*(There may well have been an Old Boys' Golf Society before the Second World War, as it was reported on the death of Ted Dodd in 1999 that he had been a founder member in 1935. Unfortunately, this is the only mention or evidence of this society that we have.)*

It is not clear how 'Old Briggensians interested in Golf' were notified of the meeting but it was probably in the 'Briggensian' newsletter and ten members attended the meeting – Messrs. A I Morris, E Urry, S G Jarvis, A J Kettrick, A Lyon, E Dodd, R Taylor, H Lings, J C Deebank and R F Davy. Most of those present were well-known local people but older Old Briggensians will recognise three members of the teaching staff at Brigg Grammar School; A I Morris, better known as 'Chips”, who taught French, S G Jarvis, who taught Geography, and A J 'Jock' Kettrick, who taught Chemistry. E Dodd, the editor of The Lincolnshire Times, known to all as 'Ted', was the father of our Vice President, Peterjon Dodd, and former member Richard Dodd, and was himself President of the Association for many years. R Taylor was elected to the Chair for the evening and the following officers were elected for the coming year:-

 Chairman and Captain: R Taylor

 Committee: A I Morris, A Lyon, J C Deebank and the Secretary of the Old Briggensians' Association for the year – 1950 – E Urry

 Secretary and Treasurer R Davy

As would probably be expected of those more formal days, the minutes are succinct, with no discussion recorded. Those present decided that there should be eight rules, namely,

1. The name of the Society shall be:- The Old Briggensians' Golfing Society
2. Membership shall be open to members of the Old Briggensians' Association only.
3. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee of six. Such a Committee to comprise:- The Captain, The Secretary of the Old Briggensians' Association, Three members of the Society and the Secretary.
4. The Committee so elected to serve for one year.
5. The Society's year to run from October 1st to September 30th.
6. Election of Officers to take place at the Annual General Meeting.
7. The subscription to be fixed annually at the Annual General Meeting.
8. In all matters not referred to in these Rules, the decision shall be final and binding on all members.

It was decided that the subscription for 1950 should be fixed at 2/6 (12.5p in new money but sufficient in those days to buy 11/2 pints of Sergeant's Best Bitter, the beer on sale in The Angel, and still leave some change). It makes the £1 we now ask for seem very good value.

Flushed with enthusiasm, those present decided that they would try to organise an Open Day and a match if at all possible. Mr Morris was tasked with making the arrangements with Elsham Golf Club and details would be sent out with the current issue of the 'Briggensian'.

I mentioned that the secretary did not waste any words in recording the minutes. The minutes were recorded in one of the smaller Grammar School exercise books (as opposed to the larger versions used in subjects such as Physics and Chemistry) and this book lasted for all of 25 years, until 26th October 1975. Some sets of minutes were recorded on less than one page and, rarely, up to three pages. As will be seen, the lack of detail in the minutes caused problems for the committee in later years.

A second meeting was held on Tuesday, 2 May, 1950, at 40 Bigby Street, Brigg, with R Taylor, A I Morris, A Lyon and E Urry present at which Mr Morris gave details of the Open Day to be held at Elsham Golf Club on June 25th, for which the Elsham Committee had reduced the green fees to 3/6 (17.5p). There were to be two competitions: in the morning there would be a Bogey(\*) competition over 18 holes, followed in the afternoon by an 18-hole match between sides picked on the day. Catering arrangements were left to Mr Morris and the Secretary. (\* A Bogey competition was a match-play-type competition played against the Bogey score for the holes on the course, as opposed to the par score. The Bogey score was decided by the club and could be a shot greater than par. Some clubs still have Bogey scores as well as par scores.)

I assume the Open Day went ahead and was a success because the minutes of the next meeting on October 2nd make no mention of what happened nor who won. However, the committee seemed enthusiastic and a second Open Day was planned for October 15th, the day's programme to include a Flag competition(\*) in the morning and a match in the afternoon. The possibility of holding a social evening was raised. (\*A Flag competition is a stroke-play competition in which each player adds the SSS for the course (e.g. 68) to their playing handicap to calculate the number of strokes they will receive. The score card should be marked as for medal competition until the respective number of strokes has been played. It should then be recorded on the card how far the player has progressed round the course (i.e. holed out on the 17th, 50 yards from the 18th hole, etc.)

The question of providing a trophy to be competed for annually was brought up at the July 1951 meeting and it was decided to write to the committee of the Old Briggensians' Association asking if they would provide the trophy. This was obviously agreed to because at the July 1952 meeting it was reported that the trophy had cost £9.15.0 (£9.75) more than the £20 granted by the Old Briggensians' Association. The extra cost had been shared by the Secretary and Mr R Taylor and it was decided to increase the yearly subscription by 100%, from 2/6 to 5/-, until the loan was re-paid, which it was by the Autumn Meeting in 1955, after which the subscription went back to 2/6. It seems strange that, having gone to the trouble of buying a trophy with a plinth, no names were inscribed on it until 1961 when S G Jarvis won. Yet again, there is no mention in the minutes of who won the competitions, but it was decided to play two competitions, the first being at Holme Hall Golf Club in September. This would be followed by a competition on the afternoon of the Old Briggensians' Dinner.

There is no mention of what happened at Holme Hall, nor even if the match was played, in the minutes of the October 1953 meeting but presumably it was as it was proposed to repeat the competition on the afternoon of the Old Boy's Dinner. It was also proposed that participants should play for a small tankard engraved with OBGS 1954, the cost to be shared by those playing in the competition. I don't know how long that arrangement lasted or if the tankard ever materialised because, surprise-surprise, there is no mention of it in the next set of minutes. As current members know, we still play for an engraved tankard at the Spring meeting, but now the Captain has the 'honour' of providing it.

Up to now, the Annual General Meeting had been held in the late Spring or Summer but it was now decided that it should be held after the Autumn meeting, which was presumably at Elsham. The pattern of meetings now began to take the pattern similar to today, with a Spring meeting to be held at Holme Hall, which was sometimes referred to as 'the Scunthorpe club', and Elsham in the Autumn.

At the time of these happenings I was a young pupil at BGS, having started there in September 1952 and the people mentioned in the minute book were among those who I regarded with respect, if not a little fear. Several were teachers and others were business men who I was used to seeing around Brigg as they went to and from their offices, looking very important and, well, business-like. I certainly wouldn't have taken any liberties with the teachers by handing in my homework late or not handing it in at all. It seems a little strange then, that there are no minutes for 1954 and that in 1955 the committee were still trying to find out who had won the trophy in previous years, even though it had only been played for three times by then – somebody should have been given detention for that! Nonetheless, members were obviously determined to to keep playing for the trophy as the secretary was asked to write to the secretaries of Grimsby, Cleethorpes, Holme Hall, Scunthorpe, Woodhall Spa and Market Rasen Golf Clubs requesting them to display notices saying that the trophy was to be played for on October 21st 1956. And then all goes quiet until March 1958 when the 1955 minutes were read and signed, so who knows what happened in the intervening years? Obviously the matches continued as the Secretary was thanked for keeping the fixtures going. It was at this meeting that it was decided that the matches would be Stableford Competitions and that the Captain would now provide the tankard that was played for. Notice of matches would be published in the school magazine as well as the results of the matches played - a good idea, as they still were not recorded in the minutes. A match against the Elsham club was to be arranged for an evening in July.

1959 seems to have disappeared into the ether in the same way as 1956 and 1957 but normal service was resumed in 1960. It is obvious, however, that there were some committee members quietly beavering away in the background. The Secretary was thanked in several minutes for his efforts and in 1962 'Chips' Morris was made the first (only?) Life President of the Society in view of his valuable services to the Society. The minutes of 1963 are memorable because they record the first attendance of Mr P J Dodd, our Vice President, who is still a very regular participant, along with his father and brother Richard.

Members seemingly were keen to compete against other clubs and societies. There is no record of the result of the proposed match against Elsham Golf Club in 1958 but in 1964 John Baggott, a local solicitor, suggested that a match be played against the Police. He and the Captain were to arrange this but there is no record of it taking place. Three years later, a Mr Thompson suggested that matches might be played against other Old Boys Associations. Some did take place: in 1970, OBGS played against Old De Astonians, losing 21/2 to 31/2 , and this must have proved a popular event as it was decided to try to arrange home and away matches with Old De Astonians and Lincoln Old Boys.

In March 1968 the Association suffered a great loss when G A Robinson died. He had been secretary and treasurer since November 1955 and, reading between the lines, was undoubtedly the person who kept the matches going. A special meeting held a minute's silence in his honour and J Kemp was elected secretary/treasurer in his place. The funds of the Association stood at £19 12s 1d ands at the next meeting in October 1968 it was decided to make a donation of 10 guineas (£10 10s 0d/£10.50) to the school's Tercentenary Appeal. It was also at the meeting that Mr Jarvis said that a number of boys at school were taking up golf. To encourage them, it was decided that they should be invited to the Spring meeting and E Naylor agreed to present a prize for them. There is no record of the boys playing in the Spring 1969 meeting but they did play in the Autumn when I Bruce won the boy's competition on count-back from K Miles with 31 points. So good was the turn-out at this meeting that members had to start at more than one tee “in order to expedite play.” The following year, October 1970, P Britcliff won the boy's competition and the secretary said he would contact the 'Golf World' magazine who would provide a trophy for the boys in exchange for list of members' addresses. Mr Jarvis said the School Sports Committee had two spare trophies and the Association might apply for the loan of one of those. The secretary said the experiment of letting members know their tee-off times had been a success (Is nothing new?) but that increased postage meant that subscriptions would have to rise, which they did, from 2s 6d to 5s (12½p to 25p): this being the first increase since the Association was formed.

In 1971 the secretary was still not able to find the names of winners to inscribe on the trophy, although the secretary, J Kemp, had started including names in the minutes when he took over the previous year. Nothing more was heard from 'Golf World' and Mr Jarvis offered to borrow a cup from the school for the boys. However, he had not arranged the boys' match that year to avoid congestion on the course: he intended to arrange a Saturday morning meeting later. Unfortunately, there is no further mention of the boys' match in the minutes so presumably it faded away.

Attendances at OBGS meetings in those days were much better than they are now and it is easy to see why the committee were worried about causing congestion on the course – the Spring 1972 meeting at Holme Hall attracted 27 players and 31 played at Elsham in the Autumn. There was also a further match with Old De Astonians, which was halved 2½ each. Mention was also made of the excellent lunch provided by Elsham Golf Club.

J Kemp, the secretary/treasurer, died in tragic circumstances shortly before the Spring meeting in 1974 and Stuart Cranidge was elected to replace him. Many tributes were paid to Mr Kemp from shocked and stunned members. The death of another stalwart of the Association, Mr Morris, is mentioned in the 1976 minutes. It is also noted in those minutes that the school was now a comprehensive school and “that we might expect female competitors at future Meetings.”

Meetings during the 1970s and 1980s involved a meal as well as a golf match and the captains of Elsham and Holme hall Golf Clubs were invited to play, which they invariably did. At the start of the 1980s the tone of the minutes became more lighthearted, while still giving the important details, and gave a better idea of the enjoyment that members obviously got from their twice-yearly meetings. Whether this was due to to the secretary, Stuart Cranidge, or his father Stan, who stood in for him several times while he was away pursuing other sporting interests, is not clear. Members were still keen to spread the word of the existence of the Association (we still are) and considered writing to all local golf clubs again, asking if they had any Old Briggensians in their memberships who might like to join OBGS. The question of handicaps gave some cause for thought and it was decided in 1985 that no-one should play off a handicap higher than 18. There was no mention now of trying to find the names of winners and, in fact, winners' names had been inscribed on the trophy for some years.

The minutes of October 1987 give the first hint of problems with the Spring fixture at Holme Hall. For the first time the Holme Hall committee felt that they were unable to grant the Society reserved tee times and competitors had to filter in with Holme Hall members, with no one starting before 9 a.m. This meant rounds were much longer, there was some congestion and two Old Briggensians at the back of the field were only able to complete nine holes. There were several suggestions as to how to overcome the situation – could they be played in the evening or later in the day at weekends?

Stuart Cranidge's role as secretary came to an end, after 14 years, in October 1988 and Derek Stones took over, holding the position until he stepped down in 2012, having achieved a magnificent and much appreciated 24 years of service to the Society. The Society was still offered tee times at Holme Hall for the Spring meeting, but on a Saturday morning. Their offer was accepted and a date in May, instead of the usual February or early March, was preferred. It is not clear when the Spring meeting in 1989 took place but the rounds took so long to complete that the bar was closed by the time the last groups returned to the club. It was realised that it was unlikely that the Society was going to able to play at Holme Hall on weekends and the secretary was asked to try to arrange a date on a Friday evening in May. (This Spring meeting at Holme Hall in 1989 seems to have been the last time when the captain of the host club was invited to play with the Society.) Unfortunately, the Friday meeting did not take place as there was not sufficient interest among members and so there would be only one meeting a year, at Elsham. To compensate for this, Gerry Longden said he would try to arrange matches against other school's Old Boys Associations; regrettably, this did not prove possible. There were also hints of disquiet among some Elsham members in 1991 because of the congestion on the course on Sunday mornings when OBGS matches were being played and it was decided to play OBGS matches on Sunday afternoons when the course was less busy.

For some reason the 1992 meeting was particularly well attended, with 31 members playing and all staying for the annual general meeting. Ted Dodd, now in his 85th year and starting his 11th year as President, suggested this was the best attended meeting ever.

OBGS members were constantly looking for opportunities to play and re-instate the Spring meeting. In 1993 it was realised that the new Bridlington Links course had opened and that the Course Director and part-owner, and the Hotel manager were Old Boys. Andy Longden, who knew them both well, offered to try to arrange a Spring meeting there. This he did and a small but select group played there in May 1994 in a competition won by Gerry Longden. It was at this meeting that the old dark and light blue striped blazer was presented for the first time, as it still is. The blazer was donated by Vaughan Lindley. Sadly, this was the only time the Society played at Bridlington, our connection with the course having been severed when the Old Boys who worked there were replaced at short notice. Undaunted by this setback, members suggested possible venues at Hurst Priory Park, Crowle, or the soon-to-be-opened Forest Pines Golf Course. The meeting was arranged to take place at Crowle the following Spring but did not take place due to problems with the administration of the golf course.

In 1996, John Hastings provided another striped blazer and it was decided that the Competition winner should have one to hold for a year, while the Captain had the other. Gerry Longden said he would try to negotiate terms for the Society to play at the Forest Pines Golf Course, where he was to be thew first captain. It was suggested that there should be an OBGS tie and this was favourably received until the cost of £15 was mentioned; it was decided to discuss the matter at the Spring meeting – nothing further was heard of this.

Forest Pines became the venu for the Spring Meeting in 1997, arranged by Gerry Longden – it did help somewhat that Gerry was the first captain of the new golf club and was also the father-in-law of one the owners. The winner was Alan Powell with 31 points and everyone enjoyed the experience. This score was eclipsed by the winner of the Autumn Meeting, Dave Brittain, who won with 43 points. It was some time during this year that Ted Dodd borrowed all the minute books to carry out research. Whether this was with a view to writing the history of the society, or purely for personal interest, is not known – perhaps he thought he thought there wasn't sufficient of interest in the minutes to justify the energy needed to carry on.

1998 might be termed 'The Year of Gerry Longden' as Gerry won both the Spring Meeting at Forest Pines and the Autumn Meeting. It was also the first time the finances of the society exceeded £100, with the accounts standing at £101.48. Sadly, the society lost its longest surviving member with death of Ted Dodd, who had been President for the last 17 years, and had also been a founding member in 1935. Gerry Longden was installed as President in Ted's place. The following year Gerry Longden was again the winner of the Autumn Meeting and chose the occasion to pay tribute to Ted Dodd for his great contribution to the Society and the friendship he had showed to him personally in introducing him to Elsham Golf Club.

In 2000, the captain, John Hastings, commented on the fact that, for the first time in many years, approximately 50 he thought, there had not been a member of the Dodd family present at the meeting. The Autumn Meeting was won by Dominic Jeffrey with the very good score of 41 points, just beating into second place Derek Stones, the Secretary, who had 40 points. Derek went one better the following year when he won on count-back from Alan Powell, both have recorded 37 points. Derek commented that this was the first time he had won despite having played in the competition for 25 years.

2002 saw another first-time-winner when Dave Howson prevailed with 38 points, having, remarkably, achieved ten of them on two holes. The Spring Meeting that year, played at Forest Pines Golf Club, was won by Craig Holmes with 35 points. Scoring the next year was very similar – Nick Golland won the Spring Meeting with 38 points while Dave Brittain won the Autumn Meeting on count-back from Craig Holmes with 37 points. Seemingly, Nick Golland was on a winning streak because he also won the next Autumn Meeting.

It was at the 2005 AGM when it was pointed out that, if the Society had started in 1935, this was its 70th anniversary. Dave Brittain won the Spring Meeting. John Hasting asked if the meeting thought that the format of the annual Past v Present should be changed but the members present thought there was no need for change. Interestingly, this is the first mention of the Past v Present match in the minutes despite the fact that it had started in 2001.

Forest Pines Golf Club felt unable to host the Spring Meeting in 2006 and Derek Stones, the Secretary, arranged for members to play at Grange Park Golf Club, Messingham, next year. Keith Barnes won the Autumn Meeting on count-back from Alan Powell with 40 points.

Sadly, the Society lost one of its most loyal members, past President, Captain and multiple winner Gerry Longden in 2007. Members stood in silence to call to mind many very happy memories of a very special member. Appropriately, Gerry's son, Andrew was voted in as Captain for the following year, with Roger Holmes as his vice-captain. Matthews Holmes, playing of 7 handicap, won the Autumn Meeting with the magnificent score of 42 points. There is no mention in the 2007 minutes of the Spring Meeting at Grange Park Golf Club, which is probably just as well as, from memory, only three members played. The situation was even worse the following year when only two members turned up to play. The Secretary had had to pay the Grange Park Golf Club compensation and, after much discussion and persuasion, had negotiated compensation of £25, which he had paid himself and claimed back from the Society's funds. It was decided to approach Elsham Golf Club to see if the spring meeting could be played there. This was arranged and the fixture continues to this day. At the same meeting it was decided to appoint a Vice President and Peterjon Dodd was unanimously elected.

In 2008, the Secretary took the decision to change the name of the Society to The Briggensians Golf Society to take accout of the change of the name of the school some years earlier to the Sir John Nelthorpe School (the school became comprehensive in 1976). Unfortunately, the new name was not always used but after the error was pointed out by the first lady captain, Allyson Golland, in 2017 the new name was re-introduced.

By 2010 the original plinth of the trophy was full of names and no further names could be engraved on it. An extended plinth was bought.

Nothing of note happened in the next two years except that, at the 2011 AGM, Derek Stones said he would not be standing as secretary after the 2012 AGM, by which time he would have been secretary, or “Dogsbody” as he was affectionately called, for 25 years. Derek duly relinquished his duties in 2012 and was given the heartfelt thanks of the meeting for all his hard work. Ted Cox was elected as secretary. He thanked the meeting for their confidence in him but said that he was unlikely to reach the heights of humour in writing the minutes that Derek had. Ted had also won the autumn meeting on count-back from Jon and Alan Taylor so it was a memorable day for him. Adrian Gibbons had won the spring meeting but the Past v Present match had had to be cancelled as a sudden deluge flooded the greens.

In the event, the transfer of the duties of secretary from Derek to Ted proved anything but straightforward. Unfortunately, Derek Stones died before he and Ted Cox had the chance to get together. The problems arose when Ted Cox tried to register his signature with the bank in Scunthorpe where the account is held. There had been two signatories for the account, Derek Stones and Gerry Longden. However, Gerry Longden had died four years previously and the bank had not been informed of his death. As it happened, no-one remembered that there was a second signatory. Because of the Data Protection Act the bank would not tell us who the other signatory was but we could not proceed until we could prove who that person was. To be fair to the bank official who was dealing with the matter he tried to be as helpful as possible; he suggested that we thought in terms of seniority when trying to find the missing signatory; he also gave Ted Cox his direct line telephone number to save Ted having to go through the bank's central clearing telephone number. Eventually, Gerry Londen's name was found in an old set of minutes. It was decided that we would now have three signatories – President, Vice-President and Secretary. However, as none of these officers had accounts with National Westminster, they all had to go to a branch of National Westminster and prove who they were. This is a very much shortened account of the negotiations with the bank, which at one point included communications from their fraud department, and all for an account holding less than £100. In the end, a clerk in the bank in Cottingham, where Ted lives, sorted everything out with one phone call and ended a saga which lasted from January to August.

At the 2013 AGM it was noted that the manager of Elsham Golf Club, Tim Hartley, was retiring. The meeting felt that as Tim had been such a good friend to the society he should be presented with an engraved OBGS tankard. The Autumn Meeting was well attended with 18 members taking part. Jonty Alcock won with a creditable 39 points. The meeting was spoiled somewhat by slow play and the problem of how to accommodate a member who did not have a recognised club handicap. Earlier in the year, Alan Taylor won the Spring Meeting with 34 points. The Past versus Present match was played on a beautiful sunny evening. The result was a 2-all tie. The match was notable for two events; in the final match in which the secretary took on Adrian “Gibby” Gibbons and Chris Norrie on his own (unfortunately Ted's partner failed to show up), the players were joined by a muntjac deer as they approached the 12th green: in the preceding match, Dave Brittain was somewhat nonplussed when one of the School team bought a packet of crisps after completing the ninth hole and doggedly ate them all before teeing off on the tenth.

The problem of slow play was addressed during the course of the 2014 season when tee-off times were sent to members before the meeting. In future, 3-balls would play before 4-balls and if there was a 2-ball match that group would start first. In addition, any member who did not have a recognised club handicap would be able to play in the competition but would not be eligible to win the prize. This is in line with the practice at most golf clubs. Both the meetings were very close affairs with only 2 points separating the first three players. At the Spring Meeting, Richard Rivron, with 40 points, won from Ross McFarlane and Dave Brittain, while at the Autumn Meeting Ross went one better by winning with 36 popints from Alan Taylor and Geoff Sells. Both Richard Rivron and Ted Cox had difficulty raising teams from the Past v Present match and there were only 6 players on each side. The Past team defeated an inexperienced Present team 2-1. Before the results were announced at the AGM, members stood in memory of Adrian “Gibby” Gibbons who had died recently. “Gibby” was a staunch supporter of OBGS and most people present had many happy memories of him.

Elsham Golf Course was in its usual superb condition for all three matches in 2015. Nick Good won the Spring Meeting with consistent play giving him 35 points and Alan Taylor defeated Dave Howson, on count-back with 36 points each, in the Autumn Meeting. The Past v Present match was won by the Present team 2½ to 1½. The match was remarkable for some power hitting by some members of the Present team. Connor Hobbins, playing off 26, almost put his drive onto the first green and won the hole from a shell-shocked Dave Brittain and Nick Golland; then Jack Siddall almost reached the par 3 12th green with a pitching wedge while one of the other side, Peterjon Dodd, used a 3 wood to get on the green. On the same hole, Connor hit the centre of the green with a 9 iron and sank his putt for a birdie.

From a golfing point of view, 2016 was something of an anticlimax. The Past v Present match did not take place because neither Jon Taylor nor Ted Cox could summon up sufficient players; the Autumn Meeting was called off at the last possible minute – the first three-ball was on its way to the tee – when the Elsham Captain came to say that because of the heavy rain the course was being closed as several greens were already flooded and thunder and lightning were expected. The Spring Meeting, fortunately, did take place and the course was in good condition. It looked for a time as though we were to have the first lady winner of one of our competitions. Allyson Golland put on a wonderful display of consistent golf with very good ball striking and putting to amass a magnificent 22 points on the front nine. Unfortunately for Allyson, husband, Nick was also playing very well and he too recorded 22 points for the front nine. The wind freshened and the temperature dropped as the afternoon wore on and this affected everyone's scores. Nick Golland ran out the winner with 39 points from Mark Boast and Allyson Golland, both of whom finished with 38 points.

Although the Autumn Meeting did not take place the AGM was held, but the number attending was small. Dave Brittain and Peterjon Dodd were unanimously re-elected as President and Vice President respectively; Ted Cox accepted the nomination as Secretary for another year but said that it was his intention to stand down at the next AGM. It was not possible to elect a Vice Captain as everyone present had already been Captain. It was suggested that Jenny Rivron or Allyson Golland might be approached to see if they would agree to take on the role. Allyson subsequently agreed to become Vice Captain, the first lady member to take on such a position. Peterjon Dodd raised the question of the cost of playing 3 times a year for members of the Society who were not members of Elsham Golf Club. This costs them £60 a year if they play in all 3 fixtures, while members of Elsham only pay £3. Various suggestions were made as to how this situation could be solved but it was felt that there were not sufficient members present to make a firm decision.

The 2017 AGM was notable for several reasons. Firstly, Allyson Golland became the first lady captain of the Society. Secondly, the question of green fees paid by visiting members was resolved by the meeting deciding that these members would be signed in by Elsham members so that they pay the guest fee, and that the total amount of the fees would be shared out between the number of members playing. Allyson raised the question of the title of the Society, saying that to refer to 'Old Briggensians' might be putting off new members, as might references to 'Old Boys' in some minutes. She did not think they ought to be used. The name had, in fact been changed by the secretary, Derek Stones, about 8 years ago, to the 'Briggensians Golf Society' but the change had not been minuted and had not been used regularly since then. The meeting agreed to Allyson's suggestions and the Society will adopt its 'new' name. Ted Cox stepped down as secretary and was replaced by Dave Harness, and Peterjon Dodd, who was about to become the Captain of Selby Golf Club also stepped down; Ted Cox was elected in his place. All 3 competitions took place this year on an Elsham course that has been in superb condition all year. In the Past v Present match, which this year had a player, David Holmes, making an appearance from America for the Past team, the Past players proved too strong for the Present team, winning 3½ to ½. Both the Spring and Autumn meetings were won by Ted Cox, with Roger Holmes coming second in both events.

*(This takes the history of the Society up to the present date, October 22nd 2017. It is perhaps something of surprise that the Society has lasted so long. Increasingly, this is due to the efforts and participation of a relatively small number of Old Briggensians and Briggensians. There are many more Old Briggensians and Briggensians who play golf than those who accept the invitation to play in our events and six of the most active members regularly travel from Scunthorpe, North, South and East Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. Some of these members are well into their 70s and are unlikely to continue much longer. I hope the Society does continue, perhaps until its 75th anniversary. Only time will tell.*

*Ted Cox, Hon Sec., BGS, 22nd October, 2017*

OBGS & BGS Secretaries

Ronald F Davy March 1950 to November 1955

G A Robinson November 1955 to March 1968

J P Kemp March 1968 to March 1974

Stuart Cranidge October 1974 to October 1988

Derek Stones October 1988 to October 2012

Ted Cox October 2012 to October 2017

D Harness October 2017

 List of Captains

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| R Taylor | 1950-51 | G A Robinson | 1951-52 |
| E Dodd | 1952-53 | J C Deebanks | 1953-54 |
| A Lyon (until 31.12.56) No meeting until 23.3.58; no captain mentioned until 16.10.60 | 1954-55 | A I Morris | 1960-61 |
| C B Usher | 1961-62 | H Eato | 1962-63 |
| J C Hill | 1963-64 | B Thompson | 1964-65 |
| J Kemp | 1965-66 | G M Burley | 1966-67 |
| E Naylor | 1967-68 | R N Coulthurst | 1968-69 |
| A M Wood | 1969-70 | E Dodd | 1970-71 |
| R Dodd | 1971-72 | W Brown | 1972-73 |
| R Day | 1973-74 | J N Fillingham | 1974-75 |
| E W Nixon | 1975-76 | S Cranidge | 1976-77 |
| R Chapman | 1977-78 | S Martin | 1978-79 |
| G Longden | 1979-80 | P Dodd | 1980-81 |
| P Hall | 1981-82 | R Mackinder | 1982-83 |
| D Stones | 1983-84 | K Rogers | 1984-85 |
| P Dibben | 1985-86 | L Collins | 1986-87 |
| A Ladlow | 1987-88 | C Dawson | 1988-89 |
| N Rogers | 1989-90 | M Shrosbree | 1990-91 |
| T Phipps | 1991-92 | I Foster | 1992-93 |
| P Sheedy | 1993-94 | V Lindley | 1994-95 |
| J Greenbeck | 1995-96 | J E Cox | 1996-97 |
| R Rivron | 1997-98 | N Golland | 1998-99 |
| J Hastings | 1999-00 | C Holmes | 2000-01 |
| A Ladlow | 2001-02 | D Brittain | 2002-03 |
| J Monteith | 2003-04 | N Good | 2004-05 |
| D Howson | 2005-06 | A Gibbons | 2006-07 |
| A Longden | 2007-08 | R Holmes | 2008-09 |
| A Taylor | 2009-10 | T Vessey | 2010-11 |
| S Cranidge | 2011-12 | T Phipps | 2012-13 |
| J Alcock | 2013-14 | R McFarlane | 2014-15 |
| D Harness | 2015-16 | J Taylor | 2016-17 |
| A Golland | 2017-18 |  |  |