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Eddie Hayes' Valedictory

On Monday 5 November 2018 the Senior Section gathered to say farewell to Eddie Hayes, a stalwart of Herons' Reach (formerly De Vere) Golf Club (with a couple of interludes) since 1993 – he is relocating to the southern end of England with his family.



Figure 1 - Senior Capt. John Bostock presenting a Certificate of Participation to Eddie Hayes

He has been contributing to the Seniors Section since 1999 in various capacities; not least Vice Captain in 1999 and at the 3rd AGM was proposed as Captain for 2000 by Ken Martin and seconded by Roy Macauley. Also, in 2000 Eddie served on the Sub-committee responsible for picking teams for League and Friendly Games along with Bryan Brookes and Linden Davies. Subsequently, it appears that Eddie was instrumental in preparing the Team Selection Sheets and strongly requested the support of the Members to field a competitive team.

Eddie once again became a prominent contributor in 2010 and 2011 as Competition Secretary, his passion was for a Division 2 for giving the high handicappers a chance. Eddie loved to organise the historic Wednesday competitions but wasn't too keen on the finer detail of follow through expecting everyone to remember what he said the first time, this led to numerous discussions on the tee of who was playing with who and in what order. There was also a time when the roles were reversed; Peter Fletcher had organised the competition, Eddie was unsure of his handicap and rather flippantly explained his dilemma to Peter, Peter disqualified him on-the-spot!

We can say that there are numerous reflections of Eddie, not least his own cry of despair, "Oh Eddie!" after a bad shot. Here are a few others; Eddie has been Organiser-in-Chief of many successful golf tours to Spain, Portugal and Turkey. There was the time he was chastised for walking over everyone's putting lines while he continued to putt out, he was just oblivious to

his wrong doing, in his own world, a world that didn't acknowledge any recognition to the etiquette of the moment, but that's Eddie! Another reflection is that he is just a nice man who is always approachable, and always easy to talk to and a pleasure to go around the golf course with.

How could we let today go without mentioning THE FROG. Love it or loathe it, you couldn't ignore its presence. Formerly an annual competition for all Seniors, but latterly for those of a more mature age – once again something implemented to give a chance to the less rewarded. However, Eddie is so attached to the Frog he is taking it with him.



Figure 2 - Past winners with Eddie and the Frog

Good luck with your new venture Eddie, may your balls fly straight and long