

ESCC

The 2018 season was a period of consolidation for the club. At a time when club cricket is facing many challenges in terms of player availability and commitment ESCC is fortunate to have a group of members who work hard to try to ensure a bright future for the club.

Our captains have continued to lead the teams in fine style.

Stephen Lewis, our Saturday side captain, has recruited a number of new members who have made a real difference to the club both on and off the field. This is partly because their regular availability has meant a full eleven for all the Two Counties fixtures this season, making the captain's job far more straightforward, but also because fewer changes mean a stronger team bond. It was also pleasing that the Saturday side, who play at a good level of club cricket, ensured that they retained their place in Division 5 of the Marshall Hatchick Two Counties Cricket Championship well before the end of the season.

Luke Edgar captained the Sunday XI to their second successive promotion and in 2019 the side will be playing in Division 2 of the Hunts County Bats Suffolk Cricket League. This was a good achievement by the team which brings a greater challenge for them.

It was good to see the younger element beginning to make their mark on the pitch. We look forward to the continuing development of those young players over the coming seasons.

The pavilion continues to show its worth and has transformed the way matches are conducted at Earl Stonham. It is clear that everyone gets greater enjoyment from playing cricket at Stonham because of the greatly improved facilities.

Over the next few years there are improvements which need to be made to the ground. The sightscreens need replacing, as does the scoreboard, and in the pavilion we are planning to have photographs from across the years on display to add interest and talking points for players and visitors alike.

The ground has earned many appreciative comments from visiting players and spectators and we are indebted to Simon Edgar, with assistance from Luke and others, for all the work he does to ensure that it is immaculately prepared for match days.

The President's Game was, again, an enjoyable occasion, despite the weather which curtailed events. This was unusual as we have generally been blessed with pleasant conditions for this event. Despite this foreshortening there was good attendance on the day, including ex-players, Vice-Presidents and friends.

There was also a good attendance at the annual Dinner and Presentation Evening, held at The Stowupland Crown, with the seasonal awards being presented to many deserving recipients.

The Annual General Meeting, held at the beginning of December, concluded the club's activities for the year.. The club's officers were re-elected for another year.