

## JIM BRIDGES HONOURED

Malone Golf Club,  
Dunmurry,  
Belfast.  
22nd April, 1963.

Dear Sir,

I have been instructed to inform you that at the last Annual General Meeting of this Club, the Head Greenkeeper, Mr. Jim Bridges, was unanimously elected as an Honorary Member, for very long and valued services to the Club in general, and for the construction of the new Course in particular.

Yours faithfully,

W. J. DUNKERLEY,  
*Secretary.*

Jim Bridges has been 17 years with Malone. He is the man who has whipped the club's new course of 250 sprawling acres into shape in just over two years.

"In another two years this will be one of the finest inland courses in the British Isles," he stated, "that's not boasting—that's fact. I've seen them all and this course is about the best."

Converting the rolling farmland into golfing country has not been an easy job—but it has been a satisfactory one. "It's been backbreaking work and it's not finished yet," he said. "I had a team of 24 men with me at the start—that's cut down to 11 now. But I'll get a lot of satisfaction out of just looking at it when the job's completed."

He comes from a long line of scratch golfers. And his father, the famous Tom Bridges, has been greenkeeper at Hoylake for 35 years.

Jim's big ambition at one stage was to be a professional golfer. "I was a scratch golfer when I was only 18. And if I had my life to live over again I'd still want to be a golfer," he said.

With plenty of work still to be put in on the course Jim rarely gets a chance to play much golf nowadays. But he has already picked out his favourite hole—the 11th. "It's a short hole, picturesque—and a real golfer's hole. One day you might play it with a two iron, the next day it would take a seven. I think it's the one I like best."

The 11th is one of two holes on the course to have been aced since the course was opened just over two years ago.

ALEX TONER.

*Reprinted from "The Northern Whig & Belfast Post", 12th April, 1963.*

## Sutton's Spring News

The Spring Number of Messrs. Sutton's "Turf for Sport" has reached us with their 1963 list of turf dressings and equipment. The magazine has a useful article "Coarse Grasses" by William Moore, one of the firm's well-known grass specialists, and frequent illustrations add to its interest. The Editor, Mr. Martin A. F. Sutton, F.L.S., F.R.S.A., contributes an article on the use of the brush on turf and there are snippets about Lichen and some of Sutton's many activities abroad and at home.

We learnt only a week or two back that Mr. Martin Sutton had been in hospital and all readers will join us in wishing him an early return to good health and full activity.

## S.T.R.I. Board Meets

The twelfth Annual General Meeting of The Sports Turf Research Institute was held at the St. Ives Research Station, Bingley, on Monday, 8th April, under the chairmanship of Mr. Alan Sowden.

In the annual report—which was adopted—reference was made to the research programme of the past year. This included a continuation of top dressing experiments, long range fertilizer trials and the effects of controlled liming of turf. Experiments with herbicides were started, variety trials (seeds) were continued and new fungicides were explored. Of particular interest was the laying down of a number of trial strips of porous materials as used for running tracks and all-weather pitches. Further investigations will be conducted into the physical properties of these materials.

## New Catalogue

Messrs. T. Parker & Sons' new catalogue has just reached us and will form a useful addition to any greenkeeper's reference library. Photographs and prices of standard mowers, sprayers, tractors, and all kinds of useful equipment and accessories make it a comprehensive review of tools for the greenkeeper's job.

We suggest readers write to Messrs. Parkers at Worcester Park to obtain their own copy of this sixty-eight page book.

## Apology

We regret that in last month's article about the demonstration of Ransomes Mowers, it was not made clear that the demonstration at Park Royal and also one at Motspur Park were, in fact, at the express request of and sponsored by the four London Main Distributors of Ransomes.

We ask Messrs. Relf & Kendall of Croydon, Messrs. J. Gibbs of Bedford, Messrs. T. Parker & Sons Ltd. of Worcester Park and Messrs. Huxleys Agricultural Machinery Co. Ltd. to accept our apologies.