News from the Sections

SHEFFIELD

Chairman: G. HERRINGTON
By H. Gillespie
(Lindrick)

Annual Tournament

AFTER A BRIGHT AND SUNNY start the weather turned its usual dismal self for our Section Annual Tournament on the 18th July at Lees Hall Golf Club, but the hospitality extended to us by the club Captain, Mr A. R. Evans, and Chairman of Greens, Mr H. F. Yeomans, more than made up for the dampness of the weather. Our thanks are due to Mr G. Vaughan of Ransomes, Mr W. Pender of Stewart's of Edinburgh, and Mr E. Goddard of Fearncro Ltd. who carried out all the computer work on the score cards, etc., and finally produced a winner and section champion in J. WALKER of Wheatley Park, with a final nett of 136, to bring him the best 36-hole nett and best 18-hole nett Cups. This is his third successive competition win this season. Congratulations Johnnie.

Congratulations, also, to D. BARKER, who, playing over his own course, returned a nett 137 to finish second; third on 139, J. BAXBY; and fourth on 140 and winner of the best 36 gross Cup, A. SPENCER. Out of the 27 members who played only 11 failed to take home a prize, so you will see that the list is too lengthy for this column but to the non-prize winners I hope you will not let your disappointment stop you from taking part next year.

Whilst on the subject of prizes, I wish to thank all the trade firms, clubs and individuals who contributed to the prize list, a very impressive sight to see them all laid out prior to the presentation.

A final thanks to Mr A. R. Evans, the Lees Hall Captain, for very expertly presenting the prizes and for providing the liquid for filling the cups.

President

During the day of the tournament I was handed a letter, the contents of which came as a shock to the section, in that it contained the resignation of our President, Mr J. F. Crofts, who, having taken an appointment in the West Country finds he will not be able to carry out his duties as efficiently as he would wish. So after only three months as President we have had to say good luck and best wishes to you in your new appointment, Mr Crofts, and we hope that you and Mrs Crofts will find life in Shrewsbury very much to your liking. We thank you for the support you have given us, both as a Vice-President and then as President, our loss is sure to be another section's gain.

Mr Shardlow

Following Mr Crofts' resignation, Mr Shardlow has very kindly offered to take on the Presidency, once again, of the section, (what would we do without Mr Shardlow), but he says only until the A.G.M. One cannot thank Mr Shardlow enough for all the support he has given over the years.

Match v. Northern Section

The match for the “Slater Trophy” will be played at Otley Golf Club on Thursday, 21st September 1967. Closing date for the acceptance of the invitation to play is 10th September.

Mr J. Marshall

I hear that “Jock” met with a motoring accident whilst on holiday and required hospital treatment, Mrs Marshall coming off the worst. Hope you are both feeling better.

Raffle

Whilst at Lees Hall you may have bought raffle tickets from the Lady Captain. I am informed that YELLOW ticket No. 154 has not been claimed; if you have it there are a dozen golf balls waiting for you as it is the 1st prize. Contact me if you are the lucky one.

NORTH-WEST

Chairman: F. HALSTEAD
Hon. Secretary: 78 Hadfield Street, Oldham, Lancs.
(Bury Golf Club)

Autumn Tournament

AS NOTIFIED IN THE JULY JOURNAL the Autumn Tournament will take place on the Haydock Park Golf Club's course on
Wednesday, 4th October, and will consist of a 27-hole competition, 9 holes in the morning and 18 holes in the afternoon. Visitors’ competition will be over 18 holes in the afternoon; this does not prevent them playing a friendly game in the morning. It is essential that all those who intend to take part notify me as early as possible so that I can make catering arrangements, etc. Also please arrive as soon as possible, a nine o’clock start will help to get things moving smoothly.

Autumn Trip

The annual autumn trip will take place on Wednesday, 25th October, and will be to tour the works of Slazenger’s “International Sports Co. Ltd.” at Horbury, Wakefield, Yorkshire. As the company have asked that the number of members be limited to 30, it will have to be a case of the first 30 names I receive will be accommodated. A coach will be laid on to make the trip; the picking up point will be either in Manchester or Oldham, but this will be confirmed in the October journal, so please let me have your names as soon as possible.

Winter Lectures

The first of our series of winter lectures will take place on Tuesday, 17th October, at the Garrick Hotel, Fountain Street, Manchester, at 7.30 p.m. The speaker will be Bill Sowerbutts of the firm of W. E. Sowerbutts & Co. Ltd., Nurserymen, Seedsmen, so please let us make this series as successful as last winter’s by having a good attendance.

Congratulations

On behalf of all members I would like to offer to the following members of the section our sincere congratulations: to E. Macavoy of Hillside Golf Club on completion of 21 years at the club, and on being thanked by his club by being made an honorary member of the club; to L. Partridge of Formby Golf Club on his appointment as head at the Wentworth Golf Club; to E. Brooks of the Ashton-under-Lyne Golf Club who retires on the 30th September after completing 38 years at Ashton and previously at Moortown for 16 years; to R. Janovskis of Grange over Sands Golf Club on his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Cotswold Hills Golf Club, Cleeve Hill, Cheltenham, congratulations and every success in the future.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with the section is a long and happy one.


B.G.G.A. President Honoured in Birmingham

AT AN OFFICIAL LUNCHEON, following the inspection of parks, Councillor Silk, the Parks Committee chairman, presented an inscribed putter to Mr Carl Bretherton, who for 36 years has been the city’s honorary golf adviser.

Mr Bretherton, who played county golf for Warwickshire as long ago as 1911, has been responsible for advising on the management of the Birmingham municipal courses.

HAVE YOU ANY GREENKEEPING problems? If so bring them along to the Stirling Castle, Moorgate, where we are holding our first winter lecture on Wednesday, 11th October, at 6 p.m. This will be a quiz and could be a very interesting evening, especially for the younger members, providing a lot of questions are asked. So bring plenty along and let our chairman, Jock Glass, sort them out for you. If he cannot answer them himself he will throw them open to the meeting.

Make a note of the date as we are going to make a presentation to Bill Mason for his long and faithful service to the B.G.G.A.

The following is an extract from one of the many letters I have received regarding Bill’s retirement:

“Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of July 5th, sorry to hear of Bill Mason’s retirement but I wish him well and also a happy retirement. Although I have never met Bill Mason in all the years I have been a member of the Association I claim him as a very good friend. I have been in touch with him through the post on a number of things and at all times I have received good advice and satisfaction. I am enclosing . . . . for Bill’s retirement presentation, it is only a little but will help. . . .

New Appointments

I have received a letter from Bob Plain to say that one of his lads, R. V. Anderson, at Beaconsfield, who is only 22, has been appointed head greenkeeper at Home Park Golf Club. Congratulations and best wishes from us all.
New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members:—A. J. Williams of Effingham G.C.; D. G. Cassie of Home Park G.C.; J. A. C. Smith of Henley G.C.; Donald Fraser of Wyke Green G.C.; and Keith Myhill of Swanton Morley.

Transfer

We welcome Vincent Crabtree from the N.W. Section and hope he will be happy with us.

A Request

Any reference or correspondence concerning the B.G.G.A. to me please. Thank you.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
D. ROBERTS
(West Bowling G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
8 Goli Stock Terr., Harden, Bingley, Yorks.

Sheffield Match

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT the closing date for acceptance of the invitation to play in the annual match against the Sheffield Section over the course of the Otley Golf Club on Thursday, 21st September, is Thursday, 14th September.

Replies should be sent to Mr A. Roberts, 10 Norwood Terrace, Burley-in-Wharfedale.

New Members

We welcome to the section Mr D. C. Hannan who has joined the staff of Bradford Golf Club under his father.

SOUTH-WEST

By A. Cockfield

Chairman:
H. SHEPPARD
(Warminster G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
(Shamcastle G.C.)

IN GLORIOUS SUMMER WEATHER the section’s Annual Tournament was held at Long Ashton Golf Club on 12th July. With a continual slight breeze to keep temperatures down, a course in excellent condition, first-class catering in the clubhouse, these were all the ingredients for an enjoyable day’s golf. Offer these conditions to a golfer of L. Miller’s class—our new member and Green-keeper at the Burnham and Berrow Club and he will accept them with outstretched arms. Playing from 1 handicap his 72 and 74 gross from the medal Tees and his first visit to the course was a very fine achievement. We

Ask John Campbell how pop-up sprinklers will help keep your greens in championship condition like those on the Old Course at St. Andrews

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welcome him to the section and trust his stay will be a long and happy one. In the handicap section the best Senior net prize went to Ivor Scoones of Long Ashton with a 71 and 69. This called for some comments about handicaps but perhaps local knowledge was the deciding factor. In the Junior section, C. Cameron of Knowle had two very good rounds of 67 and 69. This being only his second attempt, to say the least, progress is being made. But unfortunately quite a number of our young long-handicap members either failed or lacked the experience to take advantage of hard-running fairways and excellent greens. Or perhaps it was just those “MARTINI” tees which proved disastrous.

Eighteen members in all took part, but regrettably there were one or two notable absentees. The results were as follows: Greenkeepers: 1st net—I. Scoones (Long Ashton) 140—Ransomes’ Trophy and golf watch. 1st gross—L. Miller (Burnham and Berrow), 146; 2nd net—A. Cockfield (Bath), 145; 3rd net—L. Croad (Enmore Park), 147; 4th net—W. Light (Knowle), 153. Assistant—C. Cameron Knowle, 136 net—Lady Lester Cup and coffee set. 2nd—R. Parr (Bath), 139 net; 3rd—T. Moore (Bath), 148 net; 4th—R. King (Long Ashton), 151 net.

Veteran’s Prize—H. Burge (Long Ashton), 151 net.

We are once again grateful to our President, Mr Ireland, for coming along to present the prizes, also for providing the Veteran’s Prize, to Mrs Snell and Mr Payne for always being around when there is work to be done. Their very presence is an enormous relief.

Finally, it is my pleasure to thank Mrs Snell, all local golf clubs and members of the trade who so generously support our prize fund each year. The trade members being Messrs Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, W. Hargreaves & Co. Ltd., Fisons Ltd., Lunevale Products Ltd., Cannock Agricultural Co. Ltd., F. A. Smith Horticultural Works, S. Veal & Son Ltd., Maxwell Hart Ltd., Rigby Taylor Ltd., Killands (Bristol) Ltd., W. D. & H. O. Wills, British Overhead Irrigation Ltd., Atco Service Branch Chelstow, May & Baker Ltd., and Harwood Romford Ltd.


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