

THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT, 1964

Administration

We congratulate our Chairman, Mr. G. T. Geddes on a very successful year of office, and Mr. H. Sheppard of the South West Section who succeeds him.

The Annual Draw for 1963 again proved most successful. An additional 5,000 tickets were issued, and thanks to the splendid efforts of members, the financial result was again up on the previous year. Our congratulations must be extended to the Welsh Section, whose efforts in this field were once more quite remarkable.

It was gratifying to obtain a small concession for members to visit Professional Tournaments on production of their Passes, and our thanks are due to Lt.-Col. T. H. Reed for his assistance in this matter.

New subscription rates agreed at the last Annual General Meeting come into operation for the current year, and the Executive Committee are confident that Sections, Head Office and the Journal will all benefit from the increased income.

The Apprenticeship scheme is now fully operational under the administration of the Council for Golf Greenkeeper Apprenticeship, and it is sincerely hoped that this scheme will slowly bring new blood into our profession.

Membership

The latest returns from Sections show our present membership to be 615. This figure again shows a small but steady increase in our numerical strength.

Annual Tournament

The 46th Annual Tournament was held at Royal Birkdale last August, and with fine weather, a Championship Course, and a larger entry than for several years, a most successful meeting was experienced. The Executive Committee, on behalf of all concerned, would express their sincere thanks to Col. Rees and his staff for all their efforts, which made the occasion of our visit such a memorable one. Thanks must again be expressed for all the generous donations received for the prize table, which as usual, made a splendid display.

Sections

Once again our thanks are due to Section Officers for their splendid efforts within their boundaries, in arranging all the affairs so much enjoyed by their members, namely Tournaments, Lectures and Social Functions. We are also indebted to firms and organisations who so kindly co-operated with Sections for visits of interest.

The British Golf Greenkeeper

We again extend our grateful thanks to the Hon. Editor of our Journal for his continued efforts on our behalf, despite his other numerous activities. The comprehensive news items and articles submitted by Section Secretaries are also very much appreciated, local news giving so much more added interest to readers.

F. G. Hawtree Memorial Fund

Interest in the facilities offered by this Fund is still apparent, and four members were again sent to Bingley during the year, two in the Autumn and two in the Spring. The trustees would like to express their appreciation to Clubs who have assisted materially with the financial expenses of these visits.

Sports Turf Research Institute

Mr. R. B. Dawson, O.B.E., Director of the Sports Turf Research Institute retired in December, and the Executive Committee are pleased to report that a small gift of appreciation was presented to Mr. Dawson from the Association, in appreciation of all his efforts over many years in the interests of greenkeeping and greenkeepers. We wish him many years of happy retirement. Mr. J. R. Escritt, M.Sc., succeeded Mr. Dawson as Director on 1st January.

In Memoriam

We record with sorrow the death of the following members announced in the British Golf Greenkeeper since our last report. Lord Brabazon, a past President of the Association; Mr. F. Chambers, President of the Southern Section; Mr. L. Lowcock, and Mr. J. Gillan. By order of the Executive Committee.

Chairman: G. T. Geddes.
Hon. Secretary: C. H. Dix.