

News



from the Sections

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

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

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

November Meeting

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WINTER session was held on Tuesday, 9th November at the Queen's Head, Bingley. Twenty-five members attended. The Speaker was Mr B. M. Wood, F.C.I.S., Hon Secretary of the Joint Council for the Apprenticeship Scheme. The speaker went through the aims and objects of the scheme in full detail. Following the talk there were many questions from members and Mr Wood was able to make clear points raised. A vote of thanks was proposed by our Chairman, Mr D. Roberts.

December Meeting

An early taste of winter, I am sure, kept the attendance down to twenty for this meeting held on Thursday, 2nd December in the club house of the West Bowling Golf Club, Bradford. The speaker was Mr G. F. Caine, of the Sports Turf Research Institute, who took for his subject "Drainage and Construction". The speaker dealt with the broad aspects of these problems and then threw the meeting open to questions and discussion. This proved to be a very lively and interesting session with many members airing their views. A vote of thanks was proposed and seconded by Mr D. Roberts (Chairman) and Mr A. Robertshaw (Vice-Chairman). Our thanks are due to the committee of the West Bowling Club for kindly allowing us the use of a most comfortable and cosy room.

Mr Tom Bridges

The death of Tom Bridges last month broke another link in the long history of the Association. His 85 years spanned the years from its foundation to the present day. His own talents and character contributed much to its development along the way. He was Head Greenkeeper at Addington and Croham Hurst, near Croydon, before he went to Hoylake in 1926 and the special burden of a championship course sat lightly on his broad and capable shoulders. The true running Hoylake greens became famous throughout British golf and he succeeded in presenting his course for great occasions in superb condition yet with remarkable economy of means.

He had been Chairman both of the Association and of the North-Western section and a captain of the West Hoyle Club. After his retirement in 1961 he still visited our annual events and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him. We send our deep sympathy to his family

New Member

We welcome to the section the following new member Mr J. Smith of South Leeds Golf Club.

Christmas Supper

A Christmas supper and social was held on Thursday, 9th December in the clubhouse of the West Bowling Club. Thirty-seven members sat down and enjoyed a most tasty and filling meal, for which we thank the Stewardess of the club. This was followed by a short Bingo session, snooker and cards and a certain amount of elbow bending.

In a short speech our President, Mr W. Mountain, extended Seasonal Greetings to all members present and absent. Our Chairman, Mr D. Roberts, thanked the President for his generosity on making the evening a happy occasion. Our thanks are also due to the anonymous donors who helped to swell the raffle money.

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

Chairman: W. E. MOORE
(Romford)

Hon Secretary: 18 Albert Road, Hendon, N.W.4.
Tel.: SUNnyhill 0245

Meetings

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE NOW BEEN made for us to hold our meetings at Messrs Whitbread's. At very short notice we were able to get Mr Harrall from Messrs Eastern Tractors to come along and give us a lecture on Wednesday, 24th November, the subject being the "Maintenance of tractors and various machines". Quite a number of members attended for this very interesting evening.

Our next lecture will be given by Mr F. W. H.

Pyne from Messrs Suttons. This will be held on Wednesday, 12th January, at Whitbreads, time 6.30 p.m. Wednesday, 16th February Mr William Finch from Messrs Maxicrop Ltd. will come along same time and place. There will be a Quiz on Wednesday, 16th March.

Annual Dinner

By kind permission of the directors of North Middlesex Golf Club we have made arrangements to have our Annual section dinner there on Friday, 25th March. They have also kindly consented to a request from the committee that members and their guests who are attending for the dinner may play a friendly 18 hole stableford tournament earlier that day. Further details will be given in the February journal. In the meantime please let me know if you wish to attend and bring a guest.

New Members

We welcome to the section G. E. Steggall of Cannons Brook Golf Club and R. F. Simmonds of Uppinster Golf Club.

NORTH-EAST

Chairman:
J SIMPSON
(Ponteland G.C.)

By D. Earsman
Hon. Secretary:
Arcot Hall Cottage
Dudley
Newcastle on Tyne 3

MEMBERS AND MRS GREENKEEPER are invited to our Annual Dinner some time during January, on a date not yet arranged. Anyone wishing to attend, please contact me at once.

P Malia

Who was Head Greenkeeper at Durham City Golf Club has now taken up the post of Head Greenkeeper at Littlestone, New Romney, Kent. We all wish him well in this new appointment.

G. Jefferies

Assistant at Durham City has been appointed Head Greenkeeper and we all wish him well in this new position.

NORTH-WEST

Chairman:
D. PATE
(Royal Birkdale G.C.)

By H. M. Walsh
Hon. Secretary:
78 Hadfield Street,
Oldham, Lancs.

In Memoriam

IT IS WITH REGRET THAT I HAVE to inform members that Mr Tom Bridges, of Hoylake, who was one of the founder members of the B.G.G.A., passed away on 3rd December, aged 85 years. The section was represented at the funeral by D. Pate, E. Macavoy, T. Brennan and B. Ellis all of whom knew Tom very well. On behalf of all members I send our sincere sympathy to all relatives and friends in their bereavement.

Lecture

A lecture was given by Mr Ratcliffe of Rigby Taylor Ltd., on 6th December, which was very well attended. Questions and answers flowed fast and with so much discussion an instructive and enjoyable evening was had by all.



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The next lecture will be given on 11th January by Mr H. J. Lidgate of S.T.R.I. at the usual venue, The Garrick Hotel, Mountain Street, Manchester, 7.30 p.m.

The February lecture will be given I hope by Mr Hewitt of Atco Ltd. Confirmation will be given at the January lecture. Slides and film will be shown at both lectures.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members B. Smethurst, assistant at Manchester Golf Club and A. Fielding, Head Greenkeeper at Werneth Golf Club, Oldham.

MIDLAND

By F Cashmore

Chairman:

G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:

76 Four Oaks Common Road
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire

IT IS WITH REGRET THAT I REPORT the passing of Mrs Mason. It was only in the December journal that I spoke of her great help for many years in organising our raffle at the dinner and how determined she was to do it again at the last dinner although she was under sentence of death. Her interest and help to our section was invaluable and we all mourn her passing. I attended the funeral at Lodge Hill Crematorium on Friday, 10th December, together with Mr Carl Bretherton and Mr Len Price, and from all members of the section we send Bill and his daughter our sincere sympathy.

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Four-Ball Alliance

We had a very enjoyable day and the weather was better than expected for our four-ball alliance at Little Aston Golf Club on 8th December. Two of our Vice-Presidents had to send apologies, illness prevented them from playing. I am glad to say two veterans were successful, one of seventy and the other will be seventy next year. I think Reg Pugh should be congratulated on the success which he achieved at very short notice. Harborne Golf Club have promised him that we may hold a match at their course during the third week in March, when we hope to have a larger entry.

The results were as follows: L. Price and H. Drewitt, 71, G. Woodward and R. J. Pugh, 71, F. W. G. Church and V. Smith, 74, T. Jones and E. H. Benbow, 76, C. J. Withers and A. Boraston, 77, J. F. Cooke and W. Barton, 77, L. Wheeler and R. Smith, 79, W. H. Dudley-Evans and D. Brazier, 80, G. Fox and G. Smith, 82, A. Hastilow and T. Rawbone, 82, T. A. Philips and C. Fudge, 85, L. Greenow and W. Handy, 85.

Our President, Mr Carl Bretherton, presented the prizes which were 1st, Brace of Pheasants given by Mr J. F. Cooke and golf balls given by Mr Carl Bretherton, 2nd, Vouchers for £3 3s., and 3rd, Vouchers for £2 2s. Reg Pugh thanked the Little Aston Golf Club for their kindness in allowing us the courtesy of the course, the Steward and his staff for the way they looked after us, the donors of the prizes and everyone for coming along and making the day a success.

New Member

We welcome W. J. Boyce of Ladbrook Park Golf Club and hope to see him at our many activities.