

ANNUAL TOURNAMENT and A.G.M.

ANNUAL REPORT: 1966

Administration

We congratulate our Chairman, Mr J Simpson, on a most successful year of office, and thank him for his endeavours. We all appreciate how much his efforts have helped to re-establish the North-East Section as a very valuable part of our Association.

We offer sincere congratulations to Mr F Cashmore who is nominated to succeed Mr Simpson. No member, we feel sure, could be more worthy of this office.

The Annual Draw again proved a financial success, thanks to the efforts of members who sold tickets. We congratulate the winners of prizes, and trust that all members will continue their efforts in this field, which is so important for the satisfactory running of our affairs.

Once again our thanks are due to the R. and A. for allotting 12 passes for the Open Championship, and we are sure that those who were able to attend were appreciative of this privilege.

It would appear from the number of inquiries received both from members and golf clubs, that the Wage Scale Survey, amended in March, is still supplying useful information, and we are confident that these inquiries are proving beneficial to our members.

The Apprenticeship Scheme has once again proved its value and the number of would-be greenkeepers is on the increase. The latest figures show that there are now 42 signed apprentices, and a further 28 deeds issued.

Membership

The figures as provided by the Sections at the year ended showed our membership to be a fraction lower than last year, 676 against 680, but it is gratifying to note that the increased numbers last year are still with us.

Annual Tournament

The 48th Annual Tournament was held at Whitley Bay Golf Club, and

AT THE TOURNAMENT



*Messrs Ford, Hastilow Sumner Dixon,
Smith, Walsh, Drewitt.*

whilst again the entry was on the small side, it must be understood that the venue meant a long trip for a large number of our members. Those who took part had a very enjoyable tournament, with admirable weather. Our very sincere thanks are due to the Secretary and his staff for all their efforts to make our visit such an enjoyable one and we must again emphasise our appreciation and thanks for all the generous donations and prizes presented for the tournament.

Sections

Our thanks are again due to Section Secretaries and their Committees for their continued efforts within the Sections in arranging tournaments, lectures and visits of interest, also to the firms and organisations who assist in making these arrangements possible.

It is with the greatest pleasure that we can advise members that the Irish Section has been re-formed, and are now in action for the current year

“ British Golf Greenkeeper ”

Our sincere thanks are again due to the Hon. Editor of our Journal and his staff, also to Section Secretaries for local news, and those who assisted with articles for publication. It is regretted that there have been cases where members have not been receiving their Journals, and it must be emphasised that Section Secretaries must keep the editorial staff fully advised of all new members, changes of address, and cancellations.

Benevolent Fund

There have been four calls on the Benevolent Fund during the year under review, and a total of £50 was paid out. We again received the proceeds of a special competition run by one club for this fund, and would again express our sincere thanks. Unfortunately this idea, which was mentioned last year, has not so far spread to other clubs.

F. G. Hawtree Memorial Fund

This fund again made provision for four reservations at Bingley during the year, and it is very gratifying to know that these were all taken up by members. The trustees of the fund are again very appreciative of the assistance given by clubs with the expenses of the greenkeepers who have attended these courses.

Sports Turf Research Institute

Once again we would express our sincere appreciation for all the assistance and interest shown to our members by the Sports Turf Research Institute.

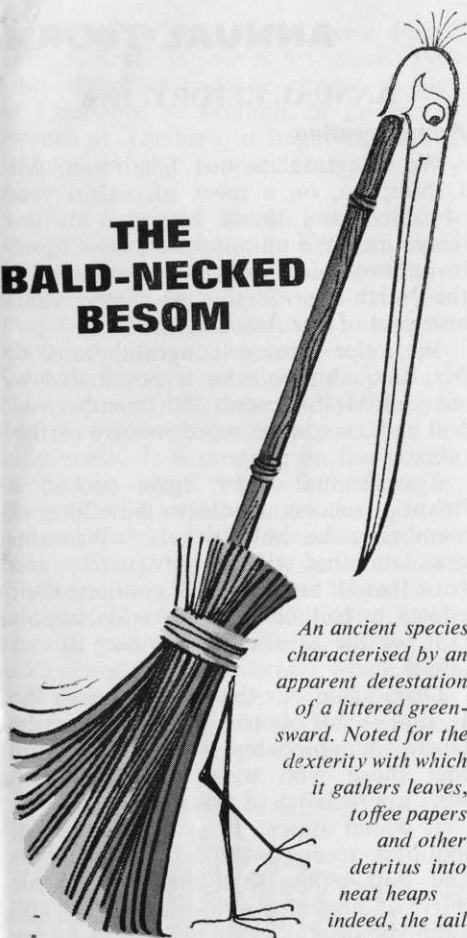
In Memoriam

We record with sorrow the death of the following members announced in the *British Golf Greenkeeper* since our last report Messrs Leslie Bakes, Bill Lawrence, H. Jackson, Fred Key, A. Thompson, T. Bridges and J. Marshall.

By order of the Executive Committee,

J Simpson, *Chairman.*
C. H. Dix, *Hon. Secretary*

THE BALD-NECKED BESOM



An ancient species characterised by an apparent detestation of a littered greensward. Noted for the dexterity with which it gathers leaves, toffee papers and other detritus into neat heaps indeed, the tail feathers seem

to be especially adapted to this purpose. Although it is doubtful whether the Besom ever had the power of flight superstition links it with the witch's broomstick, and to this day groundsmen still spit on their hands and mutter beneath their breath in an invocatory manner when approaching a Besom.

Gibbs don't service Besoms but they can give your mowing machinery a charmed life. Hand, motor or gang mowers regrind, emergency repair or complete overhaul. Gibbs specialist engineers are equipped to handle them all quickly expertly.

See us at National Association of Groundsman, Motspur Park, from Sept. 20 to Sept. 21

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