

SPORT

Altogether, there are 20 courses and 5,762 club members in the Netherlands. Dutch golfers would dearly love to have more courses but this is made difficult by the acute shortage of land in the overcrowded Netherlands. Apart from the shortage of courses Dutch golfers also have to face high membership fees and considerable social sifting, for the game has its class barriers. That may just add to its desirability, of course. Then again, golf was introduced to the Low Countries from a lofty height. It was first played in 1893, by foreign residents in the Hague — probably British diplomats. Golf isn't without status in Britain. Neither are diplomats.

(From the "Holland Herald")

Now there is the almost equally remarkable phenomenon of a 28-year-old Irish woman, Mrs Gwen Brandom, once a motor-racing driver and badminton international who took up golf purely by chance. She was caddying for an older woman, picked up a club at the end of the day and hit the ball such a prodigious distance she decided she'd take up the game seriously, and within three years had come down to scratch.

Mrs Brandom stands 5 ft 4 in, weighs 12 stone, drinks Guinness, smokes cigars and can crush a beer can in one small hand.

(Brian Glanville writing on Girls in Sport in "Town")

THE MEAT IN THE SANDWICH

Golf

Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews—Sec: Brig E Brickman, DSO; Deputy Sec: Mr W N B Loudon, The Royal and Ancient Golf Club, St Andrews, Fife (St Andrews 12).

British Golf Greenkeepers' Association—Sec: Mr C H Dix, Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey (Sanderstead 0281).

English Golf Union—Sec: Lt-Col K A Nash, 35 Broad Street, Wokingham, Berks (Wokingham 1952).

(From A Directory of Sports and Pastimes published in "The Field", Vol 228, No 5946).



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