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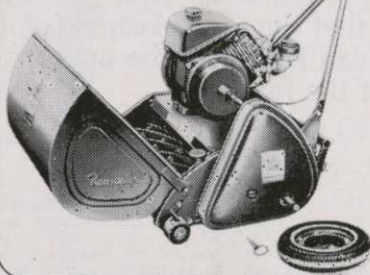
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF GREENKEEPERS, GREENKEEPING AND THE GAME OF GOLF BY THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

No. 292 New Series

AUGUST 1969

AUGUST

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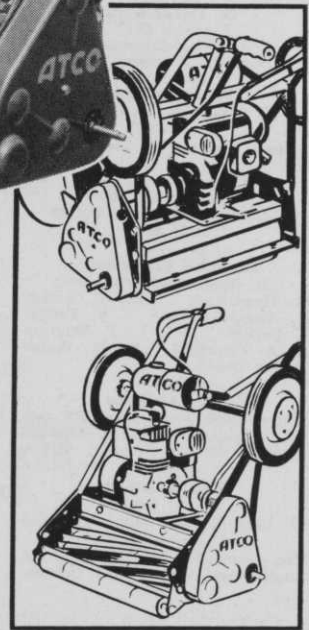
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TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Civic Sunday at Bury St Edmunds had to be held without the Mayor. Alderman Stephen Davies had a recurrence of back trouble after driving the first ball on Bury's two new holes the day before. Changes have had to be made because the new A45 carriageway cuts through the second hole. Four new holes come into play next spring. The Club Secretary, Major R. G. Dove, says that in spite of the changes a full 18 holes has been maintained thanks especially to the excellent work of the green staff.

* * * *

Ten thousand people were able to watch play in the Open Championship at Lytham St Annes from stands erected on the course.

* * * *

An outbuilding at Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club was destroyed in a blaze last month. While firemen tackled the fire, the bar was closed.

* * * *

Councillors of Dinnington Parish, near Rotherham, received anonymous phone calls after a site meeting to discuss building a golf course in the village. Councillor Mrs Freda Shirt said some of them were "far from pleasant".

* * * *

Hooligans ran riot on the Elderslie golf course near Paisley last month, devastated the 7th green and damaged others. Boulders and bottles littered the turf. Mr Bob Smith, the greenkeeper, said that he had never seen anything as bad in his whole career.

* * * *

Work has started on an additional 9 holes at Ferndown in Dorset.



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COURSE BLIGHT — THE MEMBERS

by JIM MURRAY

West Coast Sportswriter

If you think "Poa annua" is a small South American python, or that "blue fescue" is a period in Picasso's development as a painter, you have never been exposed to that forlorn community of men who have to go out and try to par a golf course with a collection of rakes, hoes, tractors, aerators, blowers, tubs of manure, hose, sprinkler heads and tears.

The golf course superintendent's natural enemies are winds, sun, rain, ferrets, moles, skunks, crows, seagulls, deer, salt, drought, flood, weeds, rocks, and locusts, but his really implacable foe is that all season insect, the full-sweated, red-eyed MEMBER who may be further identified by the froth around his mouth, the mud in his hand and the triple-figure score in his pocket.

"Call that a golf course?" he will scream. "Goats wouldn't graze on it!"

In every tournament of 200 players, there is one winner—and 199 critics of the golf course. "Unfair test of golf!" screams the guy who put it behind a tree with his built-in slice. "Who's the course superintendent around here, Dracula?" "Who cut these greens—sheep?"

In California, there are more than 660 golf courses. In Southern California alone, the golf superintendents' chapter numbers 168. For all of them, this time of the year is their moment of truth. The big boys, the big tournaments, come through, from the Southern California Open at Los Coyotes to the L. A. Open, the Crosby, and the Andy Williams and the Bob Hope.

Golf superintendency is part agronomy, part aggravation. A member comes howling in to have a barranca,

which has been there since the glaciers, filled in so his topped shot will keep rolling and won't cost him a stroke. It would cost the course owner a real stroke to fill, as the soil cost for such a mammoth fill would run into hundreds of thousands.

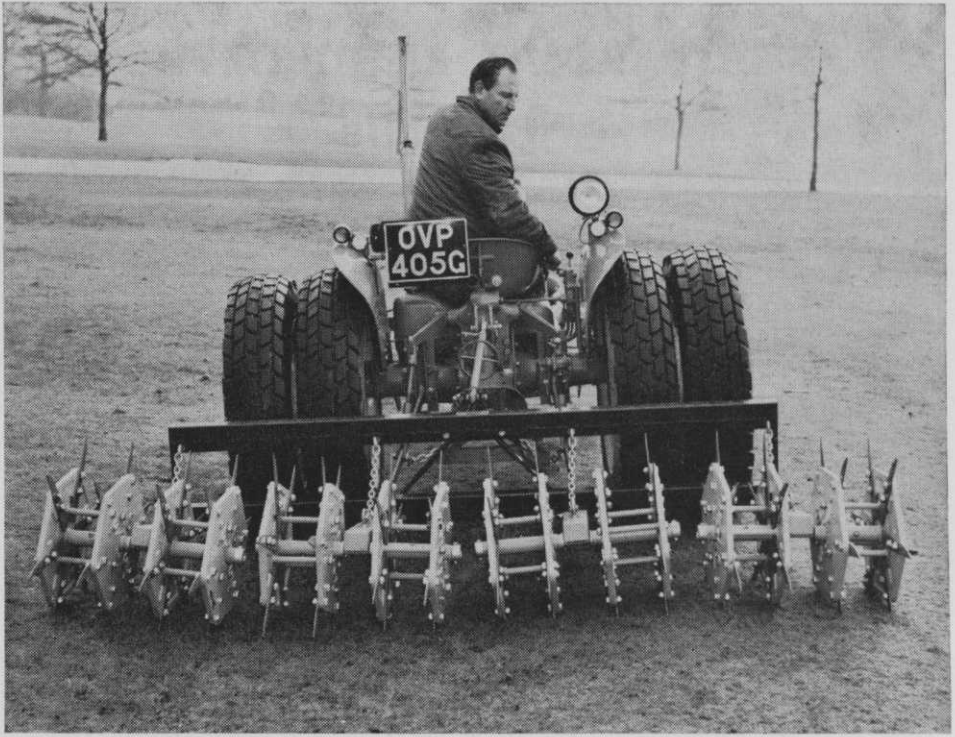
At this time of the year, Santa Ana winds can dehydrate a course overnight. Sudden rains can make it playable only by canoe. On the golf course here, a neighbouring oil tank buckled, and put 500,000 barrels of high-gravity crude on to the fairways. The oil company re-sodded the course. Trouble was, the soil had so much saline content that the players referred to one hole as "Lot's Wife"—pillar of salt.

At Los Coyotes, the superintendent sprayed a green with a chemical to kill devil grass. Unfortunately, it had a foreign substance in it which killed everything. The members wanted to fire the superintendent, the superintendent sued the chemical company, the chemical company sued the outfit that sold them the preparation, and, when last seen, the buck had been passed clear down to a Chilean nitrate company.

Mrs Suzy Frederickson, who is married to one of them, reports that you can always tell a golf superintendent's home lawn. It's the worst one on the block. She is thinking of forming a greens committee.

One course superintendent, fed up with the members' complaints, which were as inaccurate as their tee shots, finally posted this notice. "As you are aware, the undersigned is only the

(contd. on p. 8.)



NEW 8 FT. TRACTOR MOUNTED AERATOR BY SISIS

Sisis equipment (Macclesfield) Limited have introduced an 8 ft. wide general purpose tractor mounted aerator to their range of equipment for sports ground management.

Developed from the Sisis 6 ft. general purpose aerator LA/6 for tractor mounting, the new 8 ft. wide version is to be known as the LA/8.

Designed for the American market, where many tractors are fitted with high-flotation "balloon" tyres thus increasing the overall width, the LA/8 is almost identical to the 6 ft. version, having precisely the same hexagon units which carry the same types of tines. Due to the extra width and weight, however, a wider more robust mounting frame is incorporated.

The LA/8 can now be offered to authorities and club users and offers obvious savings in time and labour.

The price ex works is £209 10s. complete with reversible double-ended tines, type CLD.

Additionally, for existing LA/8 users who may require to extend their present unit, a conversion set of new main frame and 2 ft. unit including tines, complete with drawbar and lifting chain, can be offered at £70 ex works. It is not thought completely satisfactory to mix new and old tines in the same machine and users are recommended to purchase a new complete set of tines with the conversion unit.

Wire mesh guards for safety in transport between sites are available as an optional extra.

43 YEARS AT KNEBORTH GOLF CLUB

When Bert Race joined Knebworth Golf Club, 43 years ago as a groundsman, the ground staff used three horses pulling mowers to cut the grass.

It took five days and even then most of the "rough" grass was so high that you could search for a lost ball for hours and still not find it. Now Bert is head groundsman.

The horses are gone and in their place are the mechanical mowers. They do the job in a few hours and the "rough" is kept almost as short as the greens.

Bert is proud of the course and has looked after it for a good part of his life.

Ask him the secret of his well-kept greens and he'll smile, tap his head and say: "It's all up here".

Knebworth Golf Course opened on 6th June 1908. Bert remembers the date well, although he didn't take up his job as groundsman until 1926. Since then the welfare of the course has been his main concern.

"Jack of All Trades."

"I look after everything. I'm a jack of all trades. I've seen every secretary

the club has had come and go and I'm still here."

After so many years, Bert is looked on as something of a character. His greens are his pride and joy and woe betide anyone who damages them. He once made a woman who was walking about on the course in high-heeled shoes, finish her round in bare feet. He took the same attitude with two members playing a round of golf in football boots.

He is helped in his job by three groundsmen who work from eight in the morning to five in the evening and longer during the light summer evenings.

Bert used to have a handicap of four, but he doesn't play very often now. He thinks that all-metal golf clubs have made the game easier for golfers than when he used to play a round with hickory shafted clubs.

He loves the fresh air and the exercise you get from playing golf. To him, "there's no game like it".

With grateful acknowledgements to the "Stevenage News."

Those of you who take your holidays on the Costa Brava or nearby will be glad to know that golf course construction is active in that part of the world. The Sitges Golf Club to the south of Barcelona is planning an extension from 9 to 18; a new site just north of Barcelona is also under examination for a new 18-hole golf course and farther north still the Pals Golf Club, near Gerona, is extending from 9 to 18. The Son Vida course in Majorca is also extending to 18, the first full golf course in the Balearic Islands. Work should also start soon on a new 9-holes in Ibiza and there is even talk of a course in Minorca.



TURF SPECIALISTS

Dr Joseph Troll, Assistant Professor, Plant and Soil Science Department, University of Massachusetts, is a turf specialist. He is spending six months in this country studying the problems of turf disease and a considerable part of his time will be spent at Fisons. When he visited Nacton Works, Ipswich, as guest of Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, he was in the company of other turf specialists. In the photograph, left to right are: John Wilson, Ransomes Grass Machinery Sales Manager; Bob Morris, Fisons Turf Specialist; Professor Troll; and John Shaw, Grass Machinery Demonstrator.

SITUATIONS VACANT

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY
PARKS DEPARTMENT

HEAD GREENKEEPER, HIGH ELMS AND BROMLEY COMMON GOLF COURSES

Applications are invited for the above appointment on Miscellaneous Salary Scale 9 — £1,370-£1,480 (including London Weighting) (approval pending).

Housing accommodation will be available if required.

Applicants should be thoroughly trained, and must have an extensive and practical experience of the construction and maintenance of golf courses, and the control and supervision of staff.

Application forms from the Establishment Officer, Town Hall, Bromley, Kent, quoting reference 12/4.

Closing date 30th July 1969.

HEAD GREENKEEPER (Working) required. Must be fully experienced in course maintenance. Salary up to £1,500 per annum. Apply stating age, experience, and references to The Secretary, Verulam Golf Club, 226 London Road, St Albans, Herts.

(contd. from p. 4.)

RESIDENT course superintendent. The course is really watered, dried, forested, leafed, sanded by an absentee superintendent who is also in charge of rodent control, silicone content of traps, the birds and bees, and sometimes even remote control over putt breaks.

“This superintendent is reachable only in one way. So, if you will all get down on your knees and address him directly—(and DON'T SHOUT, a whisper is all that is necessary)—maybe he'll heed, and will have the course in good shape for the tournament this week.”

With grateful acknowledgements to the “Golf Superintendent.”

SITUATION WANTED

MAN (22½) requires 1st Assistant's job. House or flat essential: first class references. Holds N.A.G. certificate. Write 39 Ferry Bridge Road, Castleford, Yorkshire.

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN AERATOR, £25 per week—do it yourself. For contract prices telephone Burnell, Eaglescliffe 3647.

MISCELLANEOUS

PROFESSIONALS AND GREENKEEPERS having stocks of used golf balls contact Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co., 295 Highgate Road, Stoney Lane, Birmingham, with a view to filling export orders.

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	9th	South-West Section Annual Tournament.	
	21st	Midland Section A.G.M. Midland Section Habberley Cup	} Habberley
AUGUST	11th	B.G.G.A. Annual Tournament—Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club.	}
	12th		
	13th		
SEPT.	11th	Southern Section Autumn Tournament—Crews Hill G.C.	
	16th	N.A.G. Exhibition—Motspur Park.	}
	17th		
	18th		
	24th	Welsh Section Autumn Meeting—Carmarthen Golf Club.	
	24th	Midland Section Autumn Tournament—Sutton Coldfield G.C.	
25th	Southern Section visit to ATCO.		
OCTOBER	15th	Southern Section Greenkeepers v. Secretaries.	
	16th	North-West Section Autumn Tournament—Bolton G.C.	

125th BIRTHDAY GIFT

J. Gibbs Ltd., of Bedfont, Middlesex, the Grass and Machinery Specialists, are celebrating their 125th birthday by giving away free reproductions in full colour of genuine antique maps of the following six counties: Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Hampshire and Surrey.

Readers who would like a free map should apply direct to J. Gibbs Ltd., Bedfont, Middlesex, mention this journal and state which county or counties they would like.

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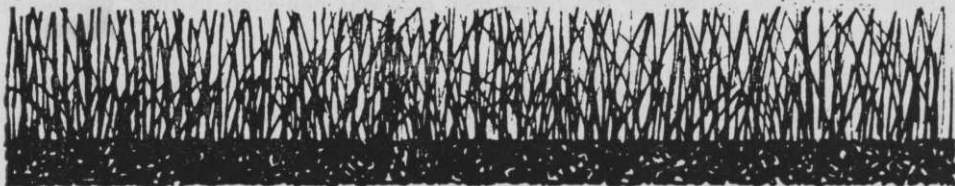
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Tel: 01-486 6688



THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PYLE & KENFIG GOLF CLUB, PORTHCAWL

Monday, 11th August 1969 at 2.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
 2. Annual Report.
 3. Financial Statement.
 4. Executive Committee Report.
 5. Election of Officers.
 6. Any Other Business, motions and resolutions of which 21 days notice has been given.
-

NEW SHIPMENT FOR VICTA (U.K.) LTD.

Distribution of Victa, the Australian made and original rotary mower, suffered badly in Britain last year. Chichester-based Victa (U.K.) Ltd. had established a commanding 40 per cent of the British market when the cut back came.

This was as a result of the sterling devaluation which made the U.K. operation temporarily uneconomic. Now, partly as a result of reorganisation of the British company coupled with a streamlined distribution procedure, and partly due to a year's erosion of the effects of devaluation, Victa is coming back in force.

They were one of the first companies to agree to participate in the new direct container service between Australia and this country. The first consignment from the maiden voyage of the *Encounter Bay* was delivered to their warehouse in Chichester last week.

This year they will be providing once again a complete series of rotary grass cutters for domestic and professional use. Various design changes have been made and there will be additions to the range. These will be the subject of separate announcements in due course.

News



from the Sections

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Hon. Secretary:
167 Birmingham Road,
Lichfield, Staffs.

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament will take place on Wednesday, 24th September, at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, by kind permission of the Captain and Committee.

Will members wishing to play in this event please let me have their entries by Friday, 12th September.

New Appointment

Andrew Jamieson has recently been appointed Head Greenkeeper to the new Kings Norton Golf Club at Weatheroak. Our best wishes to you, Andrew, for a successful future in your new job.

New Member

We welcome to the section Robert Griffiths of the Llanymynech Golf Club.

SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Hon. Secretary:
68 Salcombe Gardens
Mill Hill, N.W.7
Tel: 01-959 2847

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Stirling Castle on Wednesday, 4th June, with our President, Mr Arthur Wallis, presiding. Among the 40 odd members

present it was good to see that some of the young ones had come along to take an interest in the running of the section affairs.

The minutes of the A.G.M. were read and the Secretary reported the balance sheet once again in a sound financial position. They were adopted on a proposal by Mr E. W. Folkes and seconded by Mr J. Rennie.

Election of Officers

The following were elected for the year:—
President, Mr J. Arthur Wallis.

Vice-Presidents en bloc, Messrs D. M. Craig, F. W. Hawtree, G. P. Simpson, G. W. Worrell, J. Field, K. J. Hemmingway, F. Britten, W. J. Holloway, P. A. Marshall, A. J. Bates, C. Diebel, E. Berry and C. J. Fowler.

Chairman, J. K. Glass.

Vice-Chairman, C. A. Moore.

Secretary and Treasurer, F. W. Ford.

Committee, H. G. Dixon, E. Folkes, J. Kirkpatrick, D. Singleton, D. Major and P. Moore.

Executive Committee, E. Folkes.

Any other business

It was decided by J. Arthur Wallis that the President's Cup should be presented to the best aggregate in the Spring and Autumn Tournaments for this year only, after which it would be competed for annually. The Secretary informed the meeting that there was a possibility of Shirely Park for the 1970 Annual Dinner. This was approved with Wanstead as a second choice. It was decided once again to have a quiz in October. Greetings and best wishes from J. Stobbs were conveyed to the meeting by D. Craig.

Handicap Revision

L. Coyte 16 to 13, F. W. Ford 16 to 14, J. Ness 9 to 10, I. Smith 9 to 7, E. W. Folkes 8 to 9, S. Kilby 24 to 20, J. Noakes 5 to 6, R. Plain 6 to 5, B. Payne 5 to 3.

Allocation to First Year Competitors

J. Battams 20, A. Finnie 10, D. S. Gould 18, H. Pearse 20, J. Smith 15, M. Claydon 12, J. Gething 15, B. Piggott 14, R. Varlow 24, A. Collis 20, G. Goodall 24, J. Newman 24, E. Sabin 24.

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament this year will be held at Crews Hill Golf Club, Enfield, Middlesex (two minutes from Crew Hill Station) on Thursday, 11th September. For the benefit of new members the competition will be a 36-hole stableford, 4-ball better ball A.M. and a Greensome P.M. and partners *MUST* be a member of their own club. Members wishing to play should write to me stating NAME, PARTNER'S NAME, CLUB and HANDICAPS in BLOCK LETTERS. Closing date Monday, 25th August.

Draw Tickets

Last opportunity to be in with a chance of winning some holiday money and to help to make a success of the draw. Get your books out and send counterfoils and moneys to me by Monday, 28th July.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members: J. Helsey (Hadley Wood), C. G. Jessop (Boyce Hill), C. W. Mitchell (Maidenhead).

Anybody got a spare seat to Wales?

Bert Dixon of Crews Hill Golf Club would like a lift to Pyle and Kenfig and can be contacted either at the Club, Telephone No. ENF 0787 or 451 Baker Street, Enfield, Middlesex.

Transfer

F. G. Smith has written to say that he has now been transferred from the Northern Section. I would like to extend a warm welcome and hope that we shall see him at some of our meetings.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
A. ROBERTSHAW

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

Spring Tournament

The Annual Spring Tournament was played over the course of the Harrogate Golf Club on Wednesday, 14th May, by courtesy of the Club Committee. In the middle of a period of wet weather we were favoured by a fine day and a most enjoyable day out was the verdict on our first visit to this course. Our thanks are due to all the members of the club staff for being so helpful.

Results

Scratch Prize:—R. Barnes (Sandmoor). 1st Division—1st J. Doull (Keighley), 2nd D. Spurden (Ilkley), 3rd A. Robertshaw (Ilkley). 2nd Division—1st D. Ward (Scarcroft), 2nd C. Ramsden (Queensbury), 3rd J. Redhead (Bridlington). Veterans Prize:—L. Sharpe. Vice-Presidents:—1st G. Baxter, 2nd H. Chard.

The prizes were presented by Mr L. Mitchell, Chairman of the Club's Green Committee, and a vote of thanks proposed by Mr D. Roberts which was heartily endorsed by all members.

Our thanks are due to the following who kindly donated to our Prize Fund:—Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies, H. Pattison & Co., Stewart & Son, Rigby Taylor Ltd., S. Toulson & Son, E. G. Jepson & Son, Pressure Jet Markers Ltd., and the Committee of Harrogate Golf Club.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter

Hon. Secretary:
4 Queens Drive,
Leicester Forest East,
Leicester.

Chairman:
G. ARNOLD

Annual Spring Golf Tournament

The Annual Spring Golf Tournament was held at Kettering Golf Club on Wednesday, 14th May 1969. The attendance was very good, and also the weather. The course was in excellent condition, and our thanks to the Head Greenkeeper. Also I would like to thank the Steward and Stewardess, the inside and outside staff, also the professional for all their efforts in making it a very enjoyable day. I would also like to thank Mr K. Buckledee for helping with the cards, etc. The winners were as follows:—

Greenkeepers

	Handicap	Score
1st net—Mr I. Toone	12	70
2nd net—Mr J. Carrick	9	71
3rd net—Mr F. Frost	9	74
4th net—Mr M. Mott	11	75
5th net—Mr W. Woods	4	76
6th net—Mr A. Shaw	12	76
7th net—Mr S. T. McNiece	10	76
8th net—Mr G. Dunckley	16	77
9th net—Mr D. Bagshaw	16	78
10th net—Mr D. Whitehead	24	80
11th net—Mr S. Fretter	10	80

Vice-President

Mr J. Cook score 80 net

Visitors

1st—Mr M. D. W. Blackburn score 70 net
2nd—Mr D. Hawthorn score 73 net

I would also like to thank the following for the lovely prizes:—John Player & Sons, the Northern Fuel Co. Ltd., Leicestershire and Rutland Golf Alliance, Messrs Ransome Ltd., H. Pattinson Ltd., Rigby Taylor Ltd., A. J. E. Cook, M. Young. Also Mr D. Whitehead, for the buying of some of the prizes, Messrs G. Ruddle & Sons Ltd., Leicester Horticultural Eng. Co. Ltd.

Subscriptions

Would members please note that their subscriptions for the year 1st May 1969-30th April 1970 are now due.

New Members

I would like to welcome to this section the following new members, and hope they will have a long and happy stay with us.

C. J. Flint, Esq., 31 Larch Crescent, Chilwell, Notts. Club, Chilwell Manor Golf Club.
M. A. G. Osborne, Esq., 62 Felcutt Way, Boughton Green Road, Kingsthorpe, Northants. Club, Northamptonshire Golf Club.

K. J. Wood, Esq., 128 Stonesby Avenue,
Leicester. Club, Kirby Muxloe Golf Club.
W. H. Cole, Esq., 117 Kings Avenue, Lough-
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Autumn Tournament

The venue for our Autumn Tournament will be held, due to the kindness of the Captain and Council of the Bolton Golf Club, Lostock Park, Bolton, on their course on the 16th October; further details nearer the time.

Annual Draw

Will all members please return all monies and counterfoils to me by Monday, 28th July.

Annual Draw Tickets

By the time you read these notes you will have received your Annual Draw Tickets so please do your best to sell all I have sent you and return all counterfoils, unsold books and money to me by the 28th July. There is quite a bit of work to get them off to headquarters, so please do your best lads, and thanks for your help.

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Own Corner

with Ann Mawson

We don't make the most of the common dandelion; the young leaves can be used as a vegetable, but never use large older leaves as they are unpleasantly bitter.

To Boil

About 2 lb. of young dandelion leaves, pepper, salt, 2 oz. of butter, 1 tablespoonful of lemon juice.

Wash the leaves well, then put them in a bowl, cover with water, add the lemon juice, then leave for an hour. Drain well, put them into a saucepan with 2 tablespoonfuls of boiling water, add a little salt, cook until very tender (about 20 mins.), press them very dry, then chop them up finely, put the butter in a saucepan add a little pepper and dandelion puree, make very hot, serve as you would cabbage, or you can also serve it with poached eggs, as a meal on its own.

Dandelion Salad

A bunch of very young dandelion leaves, 6 small pickled onions, 1 bunch of water cress, pepper, 2 tablespoonfuls of salad oil, salt, juice of a lemon, 1 tablespoonful of sugar.

Wash and drain the young dandelion leaves, also the water cress. Arrange

these round a glass bowl, mix together oil, lemon juice, sugar, and the seasonings. Mix well and sprinkle this dressing over the salad. Chop the pickled onions up, very finely, and scatter them over all.

Dandelion Wine

1 gallon of boiling water, 1 orange, 1 lemon, 2 quarts of dandelion flowers, 3 lb. of granulated sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of yeast.

Pick the dandelions on a fine dry day. Pick the heads off and measure 2 quart jugs full.

Wash the flowers very well, and put them in a large bowl. Slice the orange and lemon thinly and add to the flower-heads.

Pour over them a gallon of boiling water, stir well. Cover the bowl and leave for 10 days, but no longer.

Now strain the liquid off into another bowl, and stir in the 3 lb. of granulated sugar. On a piece of toast spread the $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of yeast, and float on top. Cover the bowl and leave for another 4 days.

Remove the toast and strain again, then bottle. Be sure to cork very loosely at first.

It will be ready in 6 months, but better if left longer.

—Until September . . .

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ENQUIRY BUREAU.—The Editor desires to point out that he will be pleased to answer enquiries from our readers, and forward to them the name and address of the manufacturer or supplier of any particular proprietary article or product used in the construction, maintenance and upkeep of a golf course. Enquiries are coming in from greenkeepers asking for such information. They may, for example, know the trade name of the article or product they wish to purchase, but may not be conversant with the name and address of the actual manufacturer or supplier. The Enquiry Bureau will gladly supply this information, and thus enable the greenkeeper to contact the manufacturer or supplier direct.

TO MANUFACTURERS.—In order that our information may be kept constantly up to date, manufacturers or suppliers are requested to forward their latest trade lists, catalogues, and any other confidential information regarding their products. By so doing the Bureau will be able to function to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

TRADE REVIEWS.—The Editor will be pleased to arrange to devote space in our editorial columns to a review of our advertisers' products, etc. Will advertisers please forward details for this purpose.

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