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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



FOUNDED 1912

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

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DECEMBER 1969

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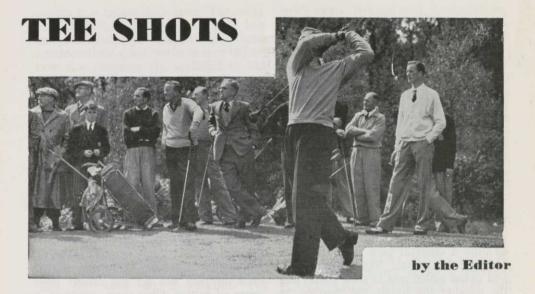
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An alternative to the M4 links road round Reading has been proposed by an engineer working for a Committee of local residents. One member of the audience, when the scheme was discussed, said he felt there would be a lot of opposition to a route across the golf course, but another said, "You seem to be dealing with unreasonable people who think more of a piece of land for knocking a little ball about on than homes for four hundred people".

The St Neots Golf Club in Huntingdonshire were about to open their second 9 holes when the Ministry of Transport stepped in. They considered that the 17th and 18th were too close to passing traffic on the A1 so the two holes were put out of play before they were in play. The Club has plans to construct two more holes in a less controversial position.

Bedford Borough Council has plans to develop 142 acres near Kimbolton Road at Cleat Hill as a golf course. Ravensdon Parish Council, in whose area the site lies, are raising no objection.

Blyth Town Council in Northumberland has taken over 120 acres of a disused pit heap for a new 18 hole golf course. The Government will give a large grant towards the estimated cost of over £100,000.

The Vicar of Wortley Parish Church is a full member of the Wortley Golf Club north of Sheffield. Evensong on Sunday, 2nd November was a special service for golfers with members of Wortley, Stocksbridge and Tankersley Park invited.

Work will soon start on a new 18 hole golf course at Westport, Co. Mayo with a length of 6,700 yards and breathtaking views over Clew Bay. This should be a great tourist attraction in that part of Ireland.



18 HOLES WITH HAWTREE

No. 8—THE ROUGH by FRED HAWTREE

When we drove over the water at Hole No. 6 we noticed that our grand-parents were either made of sterner stuff or took a cheerful view of the hazards of golf. Incidentals like walls, rocks, and dykes added zest to their round and the rougher the rough, the merrier the contest.

Features which are nowadays omitted from travel agents' invitations to 14 days golf in the sun were put forward as positive attractions. Open a Golfing Annual from the 1890's almost anywhere and you will find something like this:—

"The chief hazards are gorse bushes, large bunkers filled with whins and

water, roads, and cart ruts."

Or again:—"Last year the club took in some extra ground . . . this giving the additional hazards of two deep pits, one full of water, a running stream, a road and a quantity of rushes."

Who cut down all the rushes?

In the current ecology of golf, the player adapts his environment to the game instead of his game to the environment. If the rough *can* be cut it *will* be, at any rate within slicing and hooking

distance of the fairway.

On any course an imperceptible change also occurs daily as disciples hack hopefully about. And it is occurring more quickly as year round play increases and the natural processes of regeneration cannot keep pace. Eventually the stage is reached where grandfathers can say that the rough is not what it used to be. You will have known for some time that the fairways are not what they used to be.

Setting aside speeding play (which we

can only do for the sake of simplicity) your golfers will accept deep rough if it is an obvious part of the landscape. Ground Willow beside sea-side fairways, heather in heathland, these may bother them in play but do not offend their sense of justice. Give them, however, a foot of deep grass in smooth meadowland and the inevitable discussion will follow.

A. Unplayable only a foot from the fairway (green).

B. Teach you to play straight (short.)

A. Best shot of the day and lost the

ball.

B. Wasn't quite good enough, was it?

A. What have the ground staff been up to?

B. Rained every day for a fortnight.

A. Penalises the rabbit.B. What's his handicap for?

A. Should have thought the course was difficult enough already.

B. Too easy by half.A. Discourages visitors.

B. Don't want them. Ruin the course.

A. What are you going to have?

B. The same again.

Most people expect the tournament performer to put up with a specially roughened layout. The spectacular recovery is exciting and memorable. But he will have a great deal of help in marking and finding the ball. In a caddie-less Sunday Medal with another match hard on your heels, losing a ball is not an enticing aspect of the game if you can reflect that another turn of the gang-mowers would have left you in the clear.

On the other hand the roughless golf

course is a tremendous bore. The unity of each hole is destroyed, its scale lost and the landscape emasculated. These considerations apart, we have seen before how few elements are available to the designer of courses in extracting interest from a dull piece of ground. Do away with the rough and you have only got contour, sand, water and trees left. On a flat site with no water, you are left with sand and trees. And if the trees

So keep a reasonably hairy fringe as a framework if only to preserve the lark's nests. Beyond that do everything possible to encourage the local flora even if you do not go as far as the golfer who telephoned his local newspaper correspondent to say that while playing 18 holes he had counted 140 Ladies Tresses. (If he was counting his strokes as well, he must have been an awkward man to have in the match ahead). "Our greens are botanical deserts", said the Manchester Guardian Weekly Country Diary. " But the rough, the lovely rough, is full of treasures.

Do you still want to cut it all down?

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MISCELLANEOUS

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\$1.95 87.1990 (paper). \$3.95 81.1991 (cloth). 128 pages. $6\frac{3}{8}$ " x 9".

Note: American Garden Guild's selection for May 1969. Published by Rand McNally & Co. First Golf Superintendent ever to write a book for the home owner.

SCOTTISH GRENKEEPEERS' COMPETITION

KIRRIEMUIR GREENKEEPER WINS

The winner of the £100 First Prize in the 1969 Scotland's Greenkeeper of the Year Competition sponsored by S.A.I Horticulture Ltd., in conjunction with the Scottish Golf Greenkeepers' Association, is Mr William Ritchie of Kirriemuir Golf Club.

The judges reported on Kirriemuir as "Outstanding among a very high class entry". Mr Ritchie will receive his £100 and the S.A.I. Perpetual Challenge Trophy at a lunch to be given by S.A.I. Horticulture Ltd. in Edinburgh on 20th November. The six runners-up, who will each receive £10 and a copper plaque, are as follows:—

James King, Luffness New Golf Club. Arthur Duncan, Blairgowrie Golf Club. William McKelvie, Dumfries & County

Golf Club (1968 winner). Alex. K. Pirie, Hazlehead Golf Club. Gordon Elliott, Inverness Golf Club. L. F. Millar, Erskine Golf Club.

Preliminary judging on the 81 entries was carried out by members of the S.G.G.A. and final judging of the short list of 12 courses (two from each S.G.U. area) by four independent experts on golf course maintenance.

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YOUR ETIQUETTE IS SLIPPING

Peter Hefford

The slackening in attention to golf etiquette is getting so bad the Royal and Ancient and the P.G.A. are becoming worried. Clubs are being asked to bring more forcibly to players' attention those simple but sound pointers on course behaviour which precede the

rules of golf.

Many of us are lucky enough to belong to good clubs and to play with civilised friends who respect golf and its manners. It comes as a rude shock to learn about thoughtless behaviour in other places. It has even been reported that players have been seen dragging trolleys through bunkers!

Of course, established golfers who should know better sometimes have lapses from grace. This past weekend playing in a club medal competition, one of my fellow-competitors managed to walk on the line of my putt four times during the round! But I think he is just getting old and absent-minded.

The new generation of golfers must rightly be blamed for the drop in standards of course behaviour. I do not mean young people, but those people who are now, for the first time, finding golf within their expanding social orbit.

In the past golf has often been accused of representing the worst in middle-class snobbery. Certainly, in prewar days people in trade and other nonprofessional occupations were firmly excluded. Those of us with fairly liberal views are pleased to see the game nowadays opening its frontiers and offering its pleasures to a wider public.

Unfashionable though it may be to say so, there is a tremendous amount of good in middle-class standards nowhere is this more evident than on the golf course. Respect for the rules, for other people's pleasure, and a gentle love for this most fascinating of games are middle-class attitudes which have held the game together.

As with most games golf is delicately and artificially structured. Remove any part of this structure and the whole thing loses pleasure and point. This must surely be self-evident to even the

most unfeeling of people.

The more musty aspects of clubhouse etiquette may be open to question these days. Social behaviour has changed since the early part of the century. Some clubs are way out-of-date with their lists of domestic taboos.

But this criticism cannot be levelled at the rules and etiquette of the golf course itself. Each one is vitally necessary for the well-being of the game even those which may seem pedantic at first glance. They have been evolved through centuries of trials and tribulations on the links.



NOV. 12th Northern Section Lecture—Horsforth G.C.

25th North West Section Lecture—Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester.

27th Sheffield Section Lecture—Brunswick Hotel, Haymarket.

DEC. 3rd Southern Section Lecture—Stirling Castle.

> 9th Midland Section Lecture—Old Crown Hotel.

10th Northern Section Lecture.

16th Northern Section Christmas Social.

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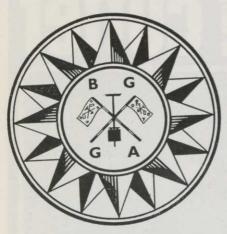
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News



from the Sections

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Chairman: (Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary: Burton Old Road, Streethay, Lichfield, Staffs.

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament took place at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, on Wednesday 24th September.

Alf Hastilow and the groundstaff had the course in perfect condition, while Mr Lanham and Mrs Oldham did a first-class job of supplying our needs in the Clubhouse.

Our thanks also go to the Captain and Committee of the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course and clubhouse and for the generous donation towards the cost of the Greenkeepers' meals.

We also thank the professional for the use of caddie-carts and our good friends Mr Eric Ballinger, Mr Peter Wyatt and Mr Glyn Vaughan for helping throughout the day with score-cards etc.

Mr Timpson, Chairman of the Green Committee, apologised for the Club Captain who could not be with us, and said how pleased he was to see such a good entry for this event.

Mr Timpson went on to say that Greenkeepers would always find a warm welcome at Sutton Coldfield and hoped that it would not be long before this event took place again at this Club. He then presented the prizes to the following players:

PRIZE WINNERS-27 Holes.

Best Gross: R. Goodwin 119-Stainless

Steel Tea Set.
Best Nett: T. Morris 102—Clayton Cup and Tea Service.

2nd nett: J. Bevan 104-Lotus Golf Shoes.

3rd nett: R. Hughes $104\frac{1}{2}$ —Voucher. 4th nett: E. Leeson 105—Putter.

5th nett: R. J. Pugh 106—Bathroom scales. 6th nett: A. Boraston 107—1 doz. golf balls. 7th nett: D. Brazier 108—Cigarette Lighter. 8th nett: G. Hart 108—Pullover.

9th nett: G. Smith 109-Pullover.

10th nett: E. H. Benbow 1101 doz. golf balls

11th nett: R. Smith 1111 Bottle of Sherry and sprayer.

12th nett: R. Pullen 112—Wallet.
13th nett: H. Drewitt 112½—Sprinkler.
14th nett: G. Bunting 113—Beer Mug.
15th nett: V. Smith 114½—3 Golf Balls.
Coming of Age Prize: J. Bevan—Bottle of

Sherry and Sprayer. Visitors Invitation: Mr F. D. Brown 69— 6 Golf Balls; Mr H. Crump 71—3 Golf

Balls. Players with 2s: A. Boffy, E. Benbow, E. Leeson, R. Hughes, A. Cutler-1 Golf Ball each.

Prize Donors

We are indebted to the following for their kind and generous donations to our Prize

Thomas Clayton Ltd.; Lotus Shoes Ltd.; British Steel Shafts Ltd.; Parker & Ballinger Ltd.; Flymo Ltd.; Pattison & Company Ltd.; Ltd.; Flymo Ltd.; Pattison & Company Ltd.; ATCO Ltd.; May & Baker Ltd.; British Overhead Irrigation Ltd.; Cannock Agriculture Ltd.; Rigby Taylor Ltd.; J. P. Harvey Ltd.; Taylor's Ironmongers Ltd.; Mr E. Barber, Walmley Golf Club; Mr J. R. Greenhalgh, Walmley Golf Club; Mr F. D. Brown, Walmley Golf Club; Mr J. Johnson, Whittington Barracks Golf Club; Mr J. W. R. Pachinson: Mr Carl Bretherton Robinson; Mr Carl Bretherton.

| Midlands | | Association of Golf | |
|--------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Greenkeepers | v | Club Secretaries | |
| G. Hart | | R. Rowlands | |
| R. Smith | 0 | S. Allen | 1 |
| V. Smith | | H. Timmings | |
| G. Bunting | 0 | A. Greetham | 1 |
| F. Benbow | | N. H. Russell | |
| J. Bevan | 1 | G. Dring | 0 |
| A. Boraston | | J. H. McCarthy | |
| T. Jones | 1 | T. Fowke | 0 |
| H. Drewitt | | R. Wynne, Woollry | |
| A. Hastilow | 1 | R. S. Parsons | 0 |
| | | A. V. Backson | |
| D. Haynes | 0 | A. B. Ashworth | 1 |

We had some lovely weather for this match; the Little Aston course was in perfect condition. Our Chairman G. Hart thanked Mr Russell and the Little Aston Golf Club for their hospitality and the Secretaries for coming and giving us an enjoyable afternoon.

Les Greenow

Members will be sorry to hear that Les Greenow has had quite a long spell in Kidderminster Hospital with a leg infection. We trust you are getting fit again by now Les, and look forward to seeing you in the near future at our forthcoming events.

Annual Subscriptions

Frank Cashmore, the Treasurer tells me that most subscriptions are now in but would



Southern Section party visiting ATCO works in Birmingham, 25th September 1969. Taken at the Robin Hood Golf Club, Solihull.



like to remind those who have not yet paid that the Financial Year is already half-over, and would be pleased to receive the outstanding fees.

New Address

Will members please note that my new address is: —4 Burton Old Road, Streethay,

Lichfield, Staffs.

After the prize-giving at our Tournament at Sutton Coldfield our Chairman, G. Hart, on behalf of the Midland Section made a presentation to our hard working Secretary. Bob Goodwin, for his wedding on 4th October and wished him and his wife all our goodwill and happiness for their future.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

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

Autumn Tournament

The Annual Autumn Tournament was played over the course of Huddersfield Golf Club, Fixby, on Wednesday, 17th September, by courtesy of the Club Committee. Thirty-six members took part. Competitors found the newly opened reconstructed course difficult to overcome but nevertheless the usual enjoyable outing spirit prevailed.

Results

Scratch Prize, D. Roberts (West Bowling) 82; First Division, 1st. D. Spurden (Ilkley) 73; 2nd. A. Robertshaw (Ilkley) 78; 3rd. E. Puley (Stand) 80; Second Division, 1st A. Burge (West Bowling) 72; 2nd. C. Garnett (West Bradford) 73; 3rd. K. Barton (Wetherby) 00; Veterans Prize, G. L. Sharp 82; Vice-Presidents, 1st J. Rotherae (Ogden) 73.

Prizes were presented by Mr Teddy Foulds, Vice-President, who took the opportunity of thanking the club officials and staff for their help in making the afternoon's pleasure.

Our thanks are also due to the local Golf Clubs who kindly contributed to the Prize Fund.

Lectures

The first lecture of the winter session will be held on Wednesday, 12th November in the clubhouse of the Horsforth Golf Club at 7.15 p.m. The speaker will be a representative of Flymo Ltd. Another lecture will be given on 10th December and this will be followed by the Christmas Social on Tuesday, 16th December.

NORTH-WEST

Chairman: T. Brennan By H. M. Walsh

Hon. Secretary:
Horrobin Cottage,
Old Links Golf Club,
Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

Autumn Tournament

May I, on behalf of the members of the section, say " thank you" most sincerely to

the Captain and Council of the Lostock Park Golf Club, Bolton, for their kindness in granting us the courtesy of the course and the facilities of the clubhouse on the occasion of our Autumn Tournament on Thursday, 16th October, to Mr Balshaw who gave us a very warm welcome, and who presented the prizes in the evening owing to the unavoidable absence of the Captain. To the Stewardess Mrs Stapford, for the two excellent meals which she provided and also the staff for looking after us so well. To Mr Rhodes and the ground staff for the very excellent condi-tion of the course, to Mr Vaughan and Mr Holden for the marking of cards and taking of monies etc., and any others who helped to make this a great day which was made all the better by the wonderful weather we had. Our grateful thanks to the prize donors, friends and our friends in the trade.

Prize Donors

C. O. Hisford, Esq., J. A. Bishop, Esq., J. Rhodes, Esq., Messrs Ransomes Sims & Jefferies, H. Pattison & Co., Messrs En-Tout-Cas, May & Baker Ltd., Stewart of Edinburgh, Cameron Irrigation Co., Supaturf Ltd., W. Wilcocks Ltd., W. Burrows Ltd., T. Ockleshaw & Son, Joseph Metcalf Ltd., ATCO, Charles H. Pugh Ltd., Longton, Hargreaves "SISIS" Ltd., Northern Professional Golfer Association. Thank you once again.

Prize Winners

Winners as follows over 27 holes—Scratch Prize: J. Catlow 119—Barometer. Best nett: R. Fielding 106—Watch. 2nd nett: F. Halstead 107—Electric Blanket. 3rd nett: K. Holmes 108—Clock. 4th nett: R. Hayhurst 110—Lighter. 5th nett: D. Macavoy 113—Holdall. 6th nett: J. Catlow 114½—Umbrella. 7th nett: J. Rhodes 115—Lighter. 8th nett: A. Fyles 116½—Tankard.

9th nett: E. Macavoy 118—Weatherproof. 10th nett: J. Macdonald 119—Pen and Pencil Set.

11th nett: R. Vickers 120—Golf Balls. 12th nett: J. Robinson 120½—Bottle Gin. 13th nett: J. Metcalf 120½—Wallet. 14th nett: J. Gillett 120½—Tray.

15th nett: J. A. Hall 121—Table Mats. 16th nett: W. Sumner 121½—Brush Set. 17th nett: O. P. Jones 124—Table Thermo-

meter.
18th nett. R. Janouski 124—Cigarettes.
Visitors Prize won by:—
S. Hacking Esq., Nett 73—18 holes.

Lectures

The November talk will be given by A. H. Fairhurst on "Wild Life on Golf Courses". Date Tuesday, 25th November at the Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, time 7.30 p.m. Please let us have another good attendance.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association will be a long and happy one. G. A. Hall, Ashton & Lea Golf Club, Preston, K. Dott, Royal Lytham & St. Annes Golf Club, and W. K. Fisher, Royal Lytham & St. Annes Golf Club.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter

Chairman: P. McCarron

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

Our Annual Autumn Golf Tournament was held at Chilwell Manor Golf Club on Wednesday, 1st October 1969. The entry was a record, together with a lovely sunny day. Our thanks to the Captain, committee, inside and outside staff, for helping to make it such a lovely day, also our thanks to the pro-fessional for allowing us the use of the trolleys.

The prize winners were as follows:—
1st (9) B. Mott, 2 down, Kettering Golf Club.
2nd C. Hardy, 3 down, Wollaton Park Golf Club.

Bagshaw, 3 down, Stanton on the 3rd D.

Wolds Golf Club. 4th W. Woods, 4 down, Stanton on the

Wolds Golf Club. 5th I. Toone, 4 down, Kirby Muxloe Golf

Club. 6th R. O'Hara, 4 down, Stanton on the Wolds

Golf Club. 7th J. Carrick, 5 down, Northampton County

Golf Club. 8th S. Fretter, 5 down, Unattached.

Vice Presidents

1st J. Holmes, 2 down.

Visitors

1st A. Wagg, 1 up.

2nd D. Baum, square.
Our thanks to H. Pattison & Co. Ltd.,
May & Baker Ltd., B. Booth Esq., M. Young Esq., and Mr Blackburn for prizes. Also our thanks to Mr Buckledee for helping with the cards.

New Members

We wish to welcome to this section two new Vice Presidents, Mr J. Bunny, 50 Stoughton Lane, Leicester, and Mr Jackson, 58 Linden Drive, Evington, Leicester.

NORTH-EA

By G. Jeffries

Chairman: J. SIMPSON

Hon. Secretary: 55 Brackenfield Road, Framwell Gate Moor, Durham.

Autumn Competition

Our Autumn Golf Competition was held on Thursday, 25th September, at the Morpeth Golf Club, by kind permission of the Captain and Committee. The weather was in our favour, being dry and sunny.

Results: Best Scratch score over 27 holes: J. Smith (Morpeth) 121-Joseph Miller Salver

and a chair.

The Ransomes Cup and Ransomes Watch was won by R. Bird (unattached) for the best net score 104.

2nd C. Moseby (Blyth) 112-Relaxation

Blanket.

3rd H. Somerville (Alnmouth) 112-Travelling Clock and the Jack Wroath Trophy for over the age of 50.

4th R. Hinson (Tynemouth) 112. 5th S. Farrington (Warkworth) 112½.

6th J. Huish (Wearside) 113½. 7th R. Clark (Blyth) 114.

8th G. Gainford (City of Newcastle) 114.

9th C. Baxter (Whitburn)

10th G. Thompson (Goswick) 114½ 11th A. Lowes (Chester-le-Street) 115. 12th J. Carss (Dunstanbro Castle) 115. 13th T. Nutman (Tynemouth) 115½. 14th N. Snailman (South Moor) 117.

15th R. Derham (South Shields) 117.

The Chairman, Mr Simpson, thanked the Captain and Committee for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse. He introduced the Captain of the Morpeth Golf Club who had kindly consented to present the prizes and say a few words on our behalf. Our Chairman then thanked the Steward

and Stewardess, and staff for two most enjoyable meals, and Mr Jack Smith and his staff for the splendid condition of the course. This was heartily endorsed by all.

Our thanks are due to the following members of the trade and golf clubs for kindly contributing to our prize list.

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Thanks also to Mr P. Donald of Gosforth Golf Club who kindly presented a cheque for £5. Thanks to Mr N. Fraser for set of pens. To Mr Duncan Blair for socks sent from Holme Hall Golf Club, Scunthorpe. Thanks also went to Mr Les Lowery for his splendid work with the cards and money, assisted by Mr N. Fraser. Thanks to Mr Tom Oliver for selling raffle tickets, and he played his 27 holes of golf, that's not bad for 74 years young! We hope to have him around for a lot of years to come.

We were sorry our President, Mr C. N. Storey, could not attend, he was on holiday at the time. Unfortunately our retired Secretary and Treasurer Mr Dave Earsman could

not attend either.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their stay will be a long and happy one. S. L. Farrington, Warkworth Golf Club, Northumberland, H. Brown of Newbiggin Golf Club, J. W. Toomey of Wearside Golf Club, and P. Blackburn of Tynemouth Golf Club.



By S. A. Tucker

Chairman: M. GEDDES, 23 Fenton Place, Porthcawl, Glamorgan. Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: 36 Close Road, Morriston, Swansea, Glamorgan.

With all the 1969 meetings over I would like to thank my Committee and all who helped to make our year a very pleasant one. Thank you all.

Our Autumn meeting was played at Carmarthen Golf Club on 24th September. I thank the Captain and Committee of the Club and Mr Buckley Howells and Mr Tom Davies for the financial help they gave me for my prize fund.

The Course was in wonderful condition thanks to Arthur Price and his staff, and a word of thanks to the Steward and Stewardess for the meals they put up for us and the excellent service—many thanks again.

The President's Shield was played for and won by H. Fry with a net 104½ over 27 hole aggregate. Henry received ½ Tea Service, Bone China. The second prize was won by D. H. Jones net 105, ½ doz. wine glasses; 3rd P. Hughes net 108, Lighter given by Pattisson and Co; 4th A. Price net 109, vegetable dishes won on last 6 from J. Rees.

With 109 net Rees received ½ doz. golf balls; the first, 2nd and 4th prizes were bought with the gift from the Club and members. The 19 to 24 Handicap was won by J. Fahy, pair of socks.

There was a special prize given by Cannock of Staffs, the prize being a table lighter which was won by H. Fry. This prize will be played for every year; it is an aggregate of the Spring, Summer and Autumn meeting with a net aggregate for 27 hole Spring meeting 18 hole Summer meeting and 27 hole Autumn meeting. H. Fry's total was 299 and all who play in the three meetings are entitled to qualify.

Subscriptions

There are still a couple of members who have not yet paid their subscriptions. Will they please do so otherwise I will have to stop their journals etc. Please forward your subscription to M. Geddes Esq., 23 Fenton Place, Porthcawl, Glam.

SOUTHERN

Chairman: J. K. GLASS (Thorpe Hall) By F. W. Ford Hon. Secretary: 68 Salcombe Gardens Mill Hill, N.W.7 Tel: 01-959 2847

Visit to ATCO

Through an assortment of reasons 11 members failed to present themselves at Charing Cross Underground station for the trip to Birmingham and a 45 capacity coach left 15 minutes late with 19 passengers.

left 15 minutes late with 19 passengers.

This was sad because ACTOs had gone to great lengths to plan a very well organised

day for us.

Despite the reduction in our numbers the reception committee greeted us very warmly and following the introductions and the signing of the visitors book by each member, proceeded to entertain us with a vast assortment of food and drinks.

After this get together we were split into parties and escorted round the works and this tour of the assembly lines, with explanatory remarks by our escorts, with questions and suggestions by our members, made time

pass all too quickly.

A short trip by coach to the Robin Hood Golf Club and we were testing and inspecting some of the displayed ATCO mowers. Following a discussion with questions and improvement suggestions and photograph taking our chairman, Mr J. Glass, thanked Mr Thomson for the very enjoyable day we had had as guests of Charles H. Pugh Ltd., and Mr Thomson replied by inviting us to tea at the Robin Hood Golf Club with a promise to escort us on to the Ml and home.

October Quiz

Our President, Mr J. Wallis Arthur welcomed the 32 members attending our first winter programme meeting and invited them to level their questions at our Quiz Master Jock Glass.



The new JUNIOR MOTOR TRIPLE from Ransomes with three power driven units cutting 73" wide and up to 1\frac{1}{4} acres an hour.

John Rennie started the ball rolling by asking the Secretary and Treasurer how many subscriptions were still outstanding for 1969-70 and the reluctant but truthful answer was approximately 60.

I feel I must endorse the feelings of the meeting that this is a very poor show and I am hoping this will serve as a reminder to the members who have still not paid their dues.

A very interesting selection of questions followed, taking in Fusarium, mowers, fairy rings, rabbits, measuring lengths of holes, etc., and it was good to see some of the questions coming from the younger members.

The meeting closed with a note of thanks to the chair.

December Lecture

This will be another visit from William Finch, N.D.H., who, I understand, has now joined Chase Organic Limited.

Anyone who has heard Bill Finch give one of his talks will want to hear him again on Wednesday evening, 3rd December, at 6.30 p.m., at the Stirling Castle, London Wall, Moorgate, E.C.2.

Appointments

Our congratulations and best wishes to J. Sargent who has left Hartsbourne to take up the position as manager of 3½ golf courses in Hongkong. Also to his First Assistant who has taken over as Head Greenkeeper at Hartsbourne Manor.

Mrs Greenkeeper's



Own Corner

with Ann Mawson

Ducks

Young birds should be soft and white, the feet and bills a bright yellow, the underbill of a young bird is pliable and the legs smooth. Don't pick a bird with a flabby breast, this will be too fat, and therefore lacking in flavour and a bit too rich to be digestible.

Fried Duck

4 oz. of mushroom, butter to fry, slices of breast of duck, green peppers to taste (chopped), ½ pint of white sauce. Make a good white sauce add the chopped green peppers to it. Fry the slices of duck for about 10 minutes then place them in a deep dish. Pour over the white sauce. Serve with fried mushrooms (fried in the butter).

Roast Duck with Orange

3 oranges, 1 teaspoon of cornflower, watercress, 1 tender duckling, 1 table-spoon of butter, salt, pepper, ½ pint of white wine. Clean the duckling well, put into a baking dish with a little salt, pepper and butter. Roast in a hot oven for about 45 minutes, keep basting from time to time. When done keep warm while you are preparing the sauce.

Sauce

To the juice in the baking dish, add the wine and the juice of 1 orange, stir the cornflower in well, simmer until the sauce is thick. In the meantime slice the remaining 2 oranges, put in boiling water to heat. Garnish the duckling with orange and watercress (or you could use parsley). Serve the sauce separately. The duckling can also be served carved with the orange sauce poured over it. To serve 6 people.

Duck and Olives

I duckling (about 3 lbs.), 8 oz. of butter, ½ pint of wine, salt, pepper, oil, 4 dozen olives, chopped parsley, 1 large tin of tomato puree, 2 oz. of flour, 4 onions, 6 carrots, 1 pint of stock. Melt the butter in a large casserole dish, with a spoonful of oil, put the duck in, together with sliced onions and carrots. Cook for about 30 minutes, take care not to break the skin with a fork, so the duck does not loose it's juice. When golden brown take the duck out, and put on a dish to one side. Slowly add the flour to the butter, stirring to a smooth paste, add the tomato puree and wine, stir well and replace the duck in the casserole, add parsley and season, add the stock, using your discretion not to make the sauce too thin. Simmer for 1 hour. When time to serve add the stoned olives to the sauce.

To serve 6 people.

I hope you will all have a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS, and all the best for 1970.

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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.



Every year, December to March are the peak months for mower servicing and even the nation-wide ATCO Service Organisation is fully extended. That's why we advise professional users particularly to get their machines in early and avoid the queue. It's also the ideal time to discuss your new machinery requirements with your local Atco representative. Our constant aim is to offer the finest service to all ATCO owners. It will help us to help you with a quick return of your mower in first-class order, or early delivery of new machines, if you contact your local ATCO Branch EARLY.

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