

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 die . . .

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.

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