OWED TO HIS LORDSHIP— ONE ROSE ON MIDSUMMER'S DAY

A Rose on Midsummer's Day for Lord and Lady Pilkington.

That is the ground rent with a gracious, old-world touch about it that Grange Park Golf Club, St Helens, will be paying.

The club has purchased the 116 acres of their course at Prescot Road, on a lease of 999 years.

This required an arrangement for the payment of ground rent. In the hard-headed world of business it is usually a cash sum. But it can be a " peppercorn " rent—a gesture rather than a business transaction.

The courtly gesture of a rose came when Lord Pilkington and the Grange Park captain, Mr Bertie Fairclough, a well-known solicitor in St Helens, were discussing details of the sale of the golf course land.

As they looked out on the clubhouse gardens, they saw the head greenkeeper, Mr Walter Sumner, carrying a bunch of roses.

So Mr Fairclough nominated his ground rent—a rose on Midsummer's Day.

Lord Pilkington was delighted with the suggestion for one of the abiding interests of himself and Lady Pilkington at Windle Hall is rose growing.

On the more prosaic details of the purchase of the golf course land, Mr Fairclough reported to the annual club dinner that members had agreed to contribute £32,000. The remaining £8,000 will be raised by means of a loan.

It means that Grange Park members have now a " home of their own " through the marked generosity of the Pilkington glass group.

They offered the land at modest agricultural value instead of the very high price it could have commanded as development land for house building.

With grateful acknowledgements to the " Wigan Evening Post and Chronicle ".

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B.G.G.A. ANNUAL TOURNAMENT **1969**

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