

News



from the Sections

NORTH-EAST

By D. Earsman

Chairman:
J. SIMPSON
(Ponteland G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
1 Chesterhill,
Cramlington,
Northumberland.

Spring Tournament

OUR SPRING COMPETITION WILL BE held on Thursday, 24th April, at the Ravensworth Golf Club, with the kind permission of the captain and committee.

This will be an 18-hole Medal event, commencing at 12.30 p.m.

Here is a letter which I received from the wife of our old friend, Tom Auld, who was chairman of our section for many years. Tom does not get out much now and is unable to come to our meetings, but we never forget the work he has done for the section.

Dear Mr Earsman,

On behalf of Tom and myself, I would like to thank you and all the members of the North-East Section of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association for the kind gift which we received. Tom wishes to be remembered to all, and he asked me to convey his gratitude and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

L. AULD.

New Member

We would like to welcome to this section Mr Henry Brown, Class A, of Newbiggin Golf Club.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
A. ROBERTSHAW

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

February Lecture

THIS WAS HELD IN THE CLUBHOUSE of the Horsforth Golf Club on Wednesday, 26th February, when 35 members attended. The speaker was Mr D. J. Joss, of the Sports Turf Research Institute, who took for his subject "Construction Work" which was illustrated with slides. He went through the whole processes done to various areas in the making of a new course and the many snags that have to be overcome. Members found this most interesting and ably put over. Many questions were fired at the speaker who capably replied. A vote of thanks was proposed by our chairman, Mr G. Robertshaw, and heartily endorsed by members for a most interesting talk.

Mr G. Farmery

After 43 years' service on the staff of Bessacarr Golf Club, Doncaster, George Farmery recently retired. I am sure all members will join me in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

Handicaps

The following adjustments of handicaps have been made:—

E. Paley 14 to 12, A. Robertshaw 11 to 9, G. Bennison 11 to 9, M. Barrett 10 to 9, D. Spurden 16 to 14, W. Wilkinson 17 to 15, K. Young 16 to 14 and F. Cox 18 to 20.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members: B. Richardson, 42 Morrison Drive, Rossington, Doncaster (Bessacarr Golf Club); and J. Woodford, 118 Halifax Road, Odsal, Bradford (West Bowling Golf Club).

Mrs W. Paley

It is with deep regret that I inform members of the death of Mrs Walter Paley, wife of one of our oldest members. I have written to Walter expressing our condolences at his sad loss.

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.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter

Hon. Secretary:

4 Queens Drive,
Leicester Forest East,
Leicester.

Chairman:
G. ARNOLD

Annual Spring Tournament

THE ANNUAL SPRING TOURNAMENT is being held at the Kettering Golf Club on Wednesday, 14th May 1969. First tee 12.45 p.m. Will members wishing to play and have a meal please let me know by the 7th May 1969.

New Members

We wish to welcome to this section R. F. Kempster and F. A. Kempster of Glen Gorse Golf Club.

Will all head greenkeepers please notify me when any of their staff leave, as this will be a great help to myself and Head Office.

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Hon. Secretary:

167 Birmingham Road,
Lichfield, Staffs.

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Spring Tournament

WILL ALL MEMBERS WISHING TO play in the Spring Tournament at the Coventry Golf Club, Finham Park, on Wednesday, 7th May, please send me their names by Friday, 25th April.

President's Match

The annual match at Handsworth Golf Club, against the President's Team, will be on the 26th June 1969.

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)

March Lecture

THE SOUTHERN SECTION SHOWED their appreciation of W. H. Bartle's last visit by turning up in larger numbers than ever to hear him talk on "Greenkeeping in General". Over 60 members managed to squeeze into the Stirling

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Castle, a considerable number of them being from the younger end, which is always most encouraging. Directed mainly at the younger members Mr Bartle's talk began with a good head greenkeeper's requirements and then he proceeded on subjects generally from tee to green. Referring to the problem of winter play on golf greens and tees he said that he believed the day would come when there would be a course within a course. Another point he made regarding tees was that they should have an area of at least 300 sq. yds. and that by doubling the width the usable surface could be almost trebled. During question time a certain writer in *Golf Illustrated* came under the hammer; too much solid tines spiking of greens cannot be done, soil samples should be sent to the Research Station every third year and automatic sprinklers can encourage over-watering. Several members had to leave to catch trains but Mr Bartle kindly consented to continue answering questions. The meeting finally closed at 8.30 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the speaker.

Spring Tournament

A new cup has been presented to the section by our president, J. Wallis-Arthur. He will present the President's Cup each year for the best combined score of the spring and autumn tournaments. Please note that the closing date for the spring tournament will be Monday, 21st April, and also that no entries will be accepted from members who are in arrears with their subscriptions (Rule 7 (c)).

Visit to Atcos

A coach will be laid on for members wishing to visit the Atcos Works at Birmingham on Thursday, 25th September. On arrival there will be a tour of the works followed by lunch. If weather permits this will be followed by a field demonstration of machines in the afternoon, leaving plenty of time for discussion. These trips in the past have proved most interesting and enjoyable so please let me know those wishing to take advantage of the opportunity. This will enable me to get cracking with the final arrangements.

Match in October

The Southern Section Greenkeepers versus Southern Section Secretaries 12-a-side match will be on Wednesday, 15th October, at Beaconsfield Golf Club. Members wishing to be included in the team please let me know together with the name of club and handicap.

New Member

We welcome Brian Piggott of Henley Golf Club to the section.

Subscriptions

May I remind members that subscriptions for 1969-70 are due on 1st May, and I would appreciate your cheques or postal orders at your earliest convenience.

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Annual Draw

The Annual Draw tickets will soon be in my hands again and I hope you will all help to ensure the financial success of the draw by selling the four books which I will be sending to each member and returning the counterfoils to me. I would also appreciate the return of the books if you cannot sell to enable me to send to members who require more.

Thank you.

Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner at Finchley Golf Club was once again a great success with 84 members and guests sitting down to an excellent meal. The seating room was a little on the tight side but the cheerfulness, helpfulness and friendliness of all the staff more than made up for this. Our president, Mr J. Wallis-Arthur, read out apologies for absence from Mr Carl Bretherton, president of the B.G.G.A. and Mr F. W. Hawtree, editor of the B.G.G. Journal, and then presented the prizes for the afternoon's golf. Despite the weather and a misunderstanding with some of the would-be golfers, there was an entry of 30 competitors. First prize was won by Tony Moore (Finchley) and David Page (South Herts) with 47 points. The runners-up with 40 points were Mr R. H. Davies and Stan Kilby (South Herts). A very grateful thanks to John Field for collecting and organising the sweep money

etc. Mr M. Abbey, captain of the Finchley Golf Club, proposed the toast to the Association and told some very amusing stories to get everyone in the right mood and in this he succeeded admirably. The reply came from Mr G. Herrington, chairman of the B.G.G.A. who, after apologising for being late due to the bad weather conditions and the dimness of the local inhabitants of Finchley, talked about the apprenticeship scheme. "The Guests" this year was proposed by David Craig who welcomed them and mentioned some by name by way of introduction to the assembly. The captain and secretary of the London Golf Captains, Mr McGregor and Mr John Fisher, captain of the Essex Golf Captains Mr Benton, the captain and chairman of the Finchley Golf Club, Mr M. Abbey and Mr Cranshaw, the secretary of the B.G.G.A. Mr Dix, Dai Rees, Tony Moore, Bill and Tom Mason. On behalf of the guests Dai Rees replied saying how much he had enjoyed the day and being among the Southern Section at their Annual Dinner and hoped it would be a forerunner to many more such invitations. In concluding the dinner Mr J Wallis-Arthur said he hoped we would all meet again in the bar and thanked everyone who had helped to make the event such a success.

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:
O. P. JONES

Hon. Secretary:
78 Hadfield Street,
Oldham, Lancs.

Lectures

OUR THANKS TO MR WHYATT OF Messrs Patisson & Co. Ltd. for the very interesting talk which he gave on "Equipment and Requisites for Golf Courses", also for the refreshments provided by the company. This talk was the last in the present series of winter lectures and it was perhaps fitting that we should have had a very good attendance — in fact the best turnout of the series. Thank you, gentlemen. I would like to thank, on behalf of the members, all the speakers who gave their valuable time etc to come and speak to us, in some cases in really vile weather.

Spring Meeting

This as stated in previous journals will take place on Tuesday, 13th May at the Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club, teeing off from 9 a.m. All members are allowed to bring one visitor. Visitors competition will be over 18 holes in the afternoon. Members competition will be 27 holes, 9 in the morning and 18 in the afternoon, followed by the A.G.M. I must stress over again that it is important that you inform me if you are intending to be present so that the catering arrangements can be made before the event.

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