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GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



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DECEMBER 1971

DECEMBER

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Jimmy Dunn, Head Greenkeeper at Welwyn Garden City Golf Course, has been doing a great job in maintaining nine new holes extra this year in addition to his normal eighteen due to a large slice of the course being removed for improvements to the A.1. His new layout will be over 6,000 yards and he hopes to have it ready by next June.

Paul Cook, one of the early recruits to the Apprenticeship Scheme, has now done four years at Addington Court Golf Course since he finished his apprenticeship. He was first under Cyril Chamberlain until he retired, when Bill Machin took over. Now at the age of 22, he has been selected as Head Greenkeeper for the new championship golf course at Westport, Co. Mayo. It will be a great pleasure to the greenkeepers who started the Scheme to see young men already getting some of the top jobs.

The new Tonbridge Municipal Course is now under construction. Although on the short side, it will be a particularly pretty layout, part of it having been cut out of woodland. Thirty-two acres of trees have been cleared and all the greens have already been formed after a start at the end of June. Messrs Spearman Construction Limited of Epping, Essex, are the contractors.

The new municipal course at Rotherham is approaching completion. Nine holes will be in play next year and the second nine in 1973. This job was undertaken by the Parks Department by direct labour. A new clubhouse has been built which would grace any private course and some hundreds of golfers have already formed a Club and will be practising during the winter ready for the "Off" next summer.



NO RECORDS

by PATRICK SMARTT

It is almost habitual with many people to write to the papers, describing some incident or feat and ending with the query: "Is this a record?" It is seldom so, but it is popular with editors, leading as it does to correspondence from others claiming to have done better.

Thinking on this, I started to reflect on the best part of 50 years playing at golf. No records, save on some small colonial courses, but over that space of time one experienced some unusual

happenings.

I once ran a professional's shop. For the benefit of students of the Rules of Golf, let it be known that I received no remuneration. It was an act of friendship to a good friend, a professional at a small club on the south coast of Natal in South Africa. His wife had to go into Durban for a serious operation. It was a most interesting two weeks, enhanced by his entrusting me to continue his lessons. Perhaps he was rather overwrought. He has since made his name as a coach, and we still correspond—usually disagreeing on some technical point!

Thus I have been at the buying and the selling ends of golfing equipment.

A hole in one, in addition to being a fortuitous combination of skill and luck, has contradictory rewards. It costs the amateur an outlay in drinks to members. His professioial counterpart, at a nominated hole, can collect a considerable sum. That I have never been in the position of dispenser, I prefer to attribute to luck rather than a smear on my ability. It has, anyway, prolonged the lives of several bank managers. Unless I have been playing on the course at the time, I have made it a rule to refuse adding to the expense of the poor man who has holed in one.

I believe that some mathematical boffin has calculated, presumably for his own amusement — it is of little interest — the odds against such a piece of luck. I have witnessed four "aces", as

modern language has it. One of these was through the medium of television, and the perpetrator Tony Jacklin. Since writing the first draft of this piece, the "Box" has produced another, at Royal Birkdale in the Open of 1971. And that means that I have seen five. The odds against that would surely drive our boffin into a mental home.

I have one better for him. A course holed in one. From the first tee on the Crowborough Beacon G.C. a member sliced his drive over a hedge and into the cup on the 18th green. Is this?—well no—I seem to have read of a similar peculiarity somewhere. Pro-

bably in the Golfer's Handbook.

Luck is predominant. I was present when someone playing a short hole across a valley bisected by a stream, saw his ball strike the narrow planks forming a bridge, bounce, trundle up the slope to drop into the hole. It has a semblance to another, when the ball never left the ground and finished in the hole. Golf it was not. Or was it? Once the element of luck is expunged we no longer have A GAME, and there is little point in playing.

Is it not curious that the holing of long second shots, requiring a more difficult club. receives no acclamation nor celebration. I have holed a full brassie (No. 2 wood), and my opponent contented himself with: "Silly blighters for luck." And luck of course it was. In Jersey (I have told this one before in a book) a full No. 2 iron found the bottom of the cup. I was playing solo, young and enthusiastic, and on my return to the Club House I told the steward of this with some pride. He came from Scotland. His reaction was: "Ooh, Aye." He did not say "Och".

I have told elsewhere of a green on which, in the last century a competitor took 156 putts. It is an authenticated event, it occurred on a course in Sussex, an instance of which it is superfluous to enquire: "Is this a record?"

Birds being killed in the air by a golf ball are commonplace. In a rather unusual colony, British Honduras, in the 1920s my ball holed out after rebounding from a domestic duck. The bird, after a period of shock, recovered.

There is a touch of "Dad's Army" about the following incident. During the last war, a unit of the Kings African Rifles known as the Independent Companies had moved up to a camp beyond Nairobi. Each company was destined for a different post in the Northern Frontier District. I commanded one of the companies and, the night before we were to move to our respective destinations, a signal arrived from G.H.O. recalling me for some other duty. The colonel of the battalion which had been host to our motley during our brief stay drove me to the station the next day. He was an old peacetime friend, younger than I, and had by 1940 become accustomed, more in sorrow than in anger, to the eccentricities of

we amateurs. We were, I suppose, pretty "Independent".

Nevertheless, his face was a picture when he saw among my baggage six bags of golf clubs (one of them mine). The remaining five, the property of other officers, were to be dropped off at various stations in Kenya. There were no "Whitehall Damn it, sirs" about. It was probably a record. It was most certainly typical of the British; an example of the wide attraction of the game, and close to the sentiments of Bud Flannagan's: "Who do you think you are kidding, Mr Hitler?"

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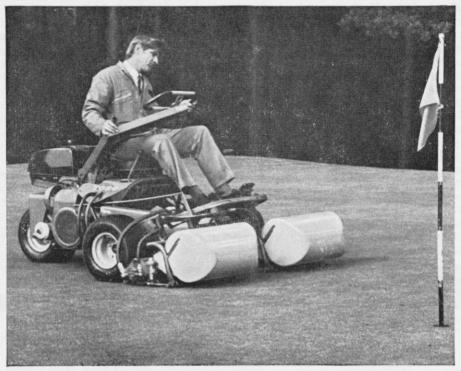
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ARE YOU A GOOD GREENKEEPER?

This quiz is designed to find out whether you match up to your responsibilities. For example, can you seriously say you know your job? Are you fully aware of what is expected from you?

Technically, do you understand why seasonal ground work is performed, and indeed, why daily routine work is carried out? It is not only for the money at the end of the week. Do you read, and keep abreast of all the latest developments appertaining to good golf course maintenance? For instance: knowing the correct method for doing a specific job? There are two ways of doing a job. Do you need constant supervision, or less? Are you familiar with the tools for the job? All these questions, and many like them, can be answered below.

To find out your relative position in "operation know-how" and management skills, do the "quiz"; don't be tempted to cheat, even though your conscience may prick.

- 1. Do you consider yourself to be a good greenkeeper?
 - A As good as allowed to be.
 - B No complaints from golfers, club secretaries.
 - C Within budgetry limits, yes!
- 2. Is your greens chairman a knowledgeable person in turf culture?
 - A Stands by you in all circumstances.
 - B Blames you.
 - C Believes in constructive criticism, suggests alternative remedies.
 - D Understands your problems.
- Do you keep an up-to-date diary. Work progress. Time taken, use of chemicals and results. Climatic conditions, etc?
 - A Yes.
 - B Not necessary.
 - C Good greenkeepers are guided by events.
- 4. Why do you think the three "Phases of soil state" are so very important?

- A Do not know.
- B Interdependent.
- C Better if ignored.
- D Essential for good turf-culture.
- 5. Do you know why some plants are more resistant to disease than others?
 - A Micro-organisms in the soil contain antibiotics.
 - B Some plants contain antibiotic substances.
 - C Because of seed sown in sterilised soil.
- 6. Annual Meadow Grass is the commonest of British grasses; Why is it so difficult to eradicate from intensively used sports areas?
 - A Likes close mowing.
 - B Produce large amounts of seed.
 - C Elimination would create cultural problems.
 - D Arsenic compounds (weedkillers) interfere with plant absorption of phosphorous.
- 7. In the event of a "break-in" at your equipment sheds, do you first
 - A Repair and make good.
 - B Inform the police.
 - C Check stock and list items missing.
- 8. A Xerophyte is?
 - A Plant growth regulator.
 - B Bi-generic hybrid.
 - C Drought-loving plant.
- 9. Synthetic growth regulators are used for?
 - A To regulate grass and weed growth.
 - B Weed control on lawns and sports turf.
 - C For applying to newly sown grass areas.
- 10. Hole trimmers are used for?
 - A Replacing divots.
 - B To cover Fairy Ring disease.
 - C Finish off hole after cutting.

NOW ADD UP YOUR SCORE

- 1. B-3, A-1, C-1.
- 2. A-3, B-0, C-1, D-3.
- 3. A—score 3 for Yes, B—deduct 1 from score for Not Necessary.

4. A—0, B—3, plus bonus 1, C—0, D—3.

5. A—3, B—2, plus 1, C—0.

6. A—3, B—0, C—3, D—3.

7. A—0, B—3, bonus 3, C—1.

8. A-0, B-0, C-3.

9. A—0, B—3, bonus 2, C—0.

10. A-0, B-0, C-3.

SO HOW DID YOU SCORE?

A total of 36 is good. Above 36 and under 45 is very good. Over 45 or more, excellent. You are doing well and keeping abreast of new methods and developments in greenkeeping.

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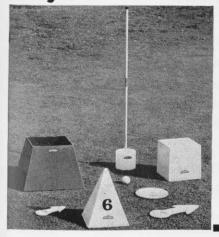
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9th North-West Section Annual Trip.

Dec. 1st Southern Section Lecture — The Ship Tavern.

6th North-West Section Lecture.

1972

Jan. 5th Southern Section Lecture — Ship Tavern.

10th North-West Section Lecture — Brunswick Hotel.

ANNUAL DRAW 1971

Receipts

12,869 Tickets @ £0.025 £321.725

Expenditure

 Prize Money
 ...
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News



from the Sections

By H. M. Walsh Chairman: J. GILLETT

Hon. Secretary: Horrobin Cottage, Old Links Golf Club, (St Anne's Old Links) Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

Autumn Tournament

Our thanks to the captain and council of the Childwell Golf Club for their kindness in granting us the courtesy of their course for the playing of our autumn tournament on the 7th October and also the facilities of the clubhouse. Our thanks also to the ground staff, E. Walsh and his men, for the excellent condition of the course, to the stewardess and the kitchen staff for the two splendid meals, to Messrs Vaughan and Whyatt for the valuable help with the scorecards and moneys and to our friends in the trade who donated prizes and to all other prize donors. Thank you all.

Prize Winners (over 27 holes)

Scratch prize, E. Walsh, 107; 1st nett, J. Gillett, 106; 2nd, E. Walsh, 107; 3rd, W. Summers, 107-1/9 (C.P.); 4th, M. Owen, 107½ Summers, 107-1/9 (C.P.); 4th, M. Owell, 1072 (C.P.); 5th, J. Robinson, 1072 (C.P.); 6th, D. Pate, 109; 7th, R. Vickers, 111 (C.P.); 8th, E. Macavoy, 111 (C.P.); 9th, J. Macdonald, 112 (C.P.); 10th, A. Leonard, 112 (C.P.); 11th, D. Robinson, 114 (C.P.); 12th, J. Rhodes, 114 (C.P.); 13th, H. McAddy, 1142; 14th, E. Drage, 115; 15th, R. Janovski, 116: 16th A. Evides, 1164: 17th S. Conlon. 116; 16th, A. Fyldes, 1161; 17th, S. Conlon, 117. Over-50s Prize, J. Gillett, 106½. Visitors' Prize (18 holes), J. S. Fawcett, 70 nett

Season's Greetings

I would like on behalf of the members of the North-West Section to wish a Very Happy Christmas and a Good New Year to our president, the editor, secretary, and greenkeepers everywhere at home and abroad.

The January talk will be given by G. Smythe, Esq., of May & Baker. Date, 10th January; venue, Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, at 7.30 p.m.

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with us will be long and happy: N. Greenwood (Crompton and Royton G.C., Oldham),
A. Ebden (Crompton and Royton G.C.,
Oldham), B. Roberts (Royal Birkdale G.C., Southport), S. Conlon (Lee Park G.C., Gateacre, Liverpool).

EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter Hon. Secretary: 4 Queens Drive Leicester Forest East, Leicester.

Chairman: J. CARRICK

Autumn Golf Tournament

The annual Autumn Golf Tournament was held at Erewash Valley Golf Club on Wednesday, 6th October 1971. It was a lovely day, the weather was glorious, the course was very good, also a very good turnout by the greenkeepers. Our thanks to the captain and committee for allowing us the courtesy of the course, also the inside and outside staff. Our thanks to Mr A. Thornton, Mrs Mott, Mr K. Buckledee for the starting, the raffle and the cards. Also our thanks to Mr D. Whitehead for the buying of the prizes. Our thanks also to Mr M. Young, Messrs Pattinson & Co., May & Baker, Superturf, Cannock Fertiliser.

Winners were as follows:-

GREENKEEPERS-

1st, R. A. O'Hara (18), Stanton-on-Wolds, 3 up; 2nd, A. Shaw (14), Radcliffe, 1 up; 3rd, M. J. Lake (24), Northampton C.G.C., 1 up; 4th, W. Woods (2), Stanton-on-Wolds, level; 5th, P. McCarron (24), Leicestershire, 4 down; 6th, S. Abblett (24), Northampton C.B.C., 5 down; 7th, R. Willars (14), Leicestershire, 5 down; 8th, S. Fretter (10), unattached, 6 down.

VISITORS-

E. Abbott (7), 3 down; S. James (7), 4 down.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S-

A. J. E. Cook (20), 8 down.

1ST YEAR-

B. Davis (24), Longcliffe, total 94, nett 70.

New Members

I would like to welcome the following greenkeepers to this section: Mr T. J. Stone, 6 Manor Road, Burton-on-Trent (Burton Golf Club); Mr B. J. Davis, 123 Station Street, Loughborough, Leicestershire (Longcliffe Golf Club); Mr E. N. Lane, 87 Town Green Street, Rothley (Rothley Park Golf Club); Mr M. C. Davey, 3 South Street, Barrow-upon-Sear, Leicestershire (Rothley Park Golf Club).

I would also like to welcome to this section Mr P. Malia, who is now at Rothley Park Golf Club, and hope he will have a long and happy stay with us. Mr Malia has transferred to this section from the Southern area.

SOUTHERN

Chairman: C. A. Moore (Stanmore) By F. W. Ford Hon. Secretary: 68 Salcombe Gardens Mill Hill, N.W.7 Tel: 01-959 2847

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to members of the B.G.G.A. everywhere.

October Lecture

Our first get-together at the Ship Tavern was rather disappointingly attended but I feel sure that the 25 who found their way to our new meeting place benefited by the discussions which took place.

Our chairman welcomed all members present and called upon the president, Jack Wallis Arthur, to take the chair. Mr Wallis Arthur expressed the hope that he would not be expected to solve all the green-keeping problems and declared "Question Time" open.

Our worthy chairman and quizmaster, C. A. Moore, started off a lengthy discussion on automatic sprinklers. He said that he had visited several clubs who had had pop-ups for some time and that these clubs now had problems which they had not encountered before. The question is who can we find with enough automatic watering experience in this country to give advice with the ensuing problems.

The following subjects were also discussed. Tee construction, double greens, autumn rust, Yorkshire fog, and wormkilling by Chlordane and Mowrah Meal. "Using pop-ups to apply Chlordane is an interesting experiment, Hugh. We shall be pleased to hear about the result."

One member said he was using "Verdone" powder in 1946. This was disputed by a fellow greenkeeper who said that Verdone powder had been replaced by liquid by that date. Can anyone settle the argument? There is 100p at stake.

January Lecture

Our first 1972 lecture will be given by the senior horticulturist on turf from Fisons, Mr Bob Morris. It will be well worth making the trip out to hear Mr Morris who has given such fine talks in the past. He will probably talk management in general,

perhaps concentrating a little more on recent developments in the golf management world.

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to the new members whose names are listed below— J. M. Thomas, vice-president, D. Cantledge (St George's Hill), S. L. Grace (West Kent), E. A. Edwards (Romford) and Maurice Emm of Pattisson.

Southern Secretaries v. Southern Section Greenkeepers at Sany Lodge Golf Club on Wednesday, 13th October

The longed-for rain arrived 24 hours too early for our annual get-together with the Association of Golf Club Secretaries. Most of us had worn our knees out praying for it!! Needless to say, yours truly got the blame for not organising better weather!

However, it was good to see both teams drink their coffee after introductions to their opponents, don their waterproofs and go out to the first tee to do battle. The result, I am delighted to report, was a convincing win for the Greenkeepers (and a soaking) which makes us one up in the series.

Our sincere thanks to the catering staff, Mr Griffiths, secretary, and Mr I. F. M. Lucas, captain of the Secretaries, for making us so welcome at Sandy Lodge.

Accepting the Challenge Cup from Mr Lucas our chairman and captain for the day, C. A. Moore, added his thanks and con-

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gratulations to the winning team and thanked everyone who helped to make the

day so enjoyable.

Last but not least, my thanks to Fergus Pearce for team and venue arrangements at Sandy Lodge and for accepting not being able to take the cup home so cheerfully.

Details of the match as follows.

FOURSOMES

100		OMILO	
SECRETARIES J. B. Sinnott (Stoneham), F. J. Bird (Letchworth) F. R. S. Webb (Brookmans Pk.), J. E. Miller (Beds. Co. U.) J. F. Nicol (Home Pk.), R. L. Griffith (Sandy Lodge) S. T. A. Macdonald (Beaconsfield), J. A. O'Dwyer (Ealing) F. A. Pearce (A.G.E.S.), R. F. Bateman (Swinley Forest) J. B. H. Leckie	0 0 1 2 0	GREENKEEPERS J. Kirkpatrick (Dulwich & Syd.), B. Payne (Burnham B.) M. White (Datchet), P. Ainsworth (Hadley Wood) F. W. Corner (New Barnet), R. Plain (Beaconsfield) G. Payne (Maidenhead), W. F. Machin (Addington Ct.) E. Hall (Ealing), D. S. Gould (Langley Park) C. A. Moore (Stan-	1 1 ½
(Gerrards X), I. F. M. Lucas (captain)	1	more), F. W. Ford (South Herts.)	0
	1½		41

SINGLES

SECRETARIES		GREENKEEPERS
J. B. Sinnott	0	J. Kirkpatrick
F. J. Bird	0	B. Payne
F. R. S. Webb	1	M. White
J. E. Miller	0	P. Ainsworth
J. F. Nicol	1	F. W. Corner
R. L. Griffiths	1	G. Payne
S. T. A. Macdonald	0	R. Plain
J. A. O'Dwyer	0	W. F. Machin
J. B. H. Leckie	0	D. S. Gould
F. A. Pearce	0	E. Hall
R. F. Bateman	0	F. W. Ford
I. F. M. Lucas	1	C. A. Moore
	-	
	4	

Match result: $5\frac{1}{2} - 12\frac{1}{2}$.

NORTHERN

By W. Heeles

Chairman: J. Scott, (Wetherby G.C.)

Hon. Secretary Tentergate Close, Knaresborough. Tel. 047 376 3851

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament was played at the Oakdale Golf Club, Harrogate, on Thursday, 23rd September. Fifty-two players turned up for this event and our thanks are due to the committee and members for the courtesy shown to us. We also thank the club captain for presenting the prizes.

Winners were as follows:-

1st Division—1st, D. Storey, nett 71; 2nd, J. Doull, 71; 3rd, D. Roberts, 72; 4th, C. Ramsden, 74; 5th, D. Ward, 74. Scratch prize—W. Heeles, gross 79.

2nd Division—1st, R. Elmsley, nett 66; 2nd, G. Hollingworth, 69; 3rd, E. Garlick, 70; 4th, A. Burge, 71; 5th, H. Marshall, 71. Vice-President's Prize—1st, A. Brophy,

nett 74; 2nd, G. Vaughan, 74.

Mr F. King

I am very sorry to announce the death of Mr F. King. He had only recently retired after many years as head greenkeeper at Elland Golf Club and was a life member of the section. We send to Mrs King our deepest sympathy.

NORTH-EAST

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

Sweep Tickets

SIMPSON

I congratulate all members who sold tickets for the sweep. The amount collected was a few pounds down from last year. However, a grand effort was made by all. Thank you again.

Subscriptions

There are a few more subscriptions outstanding. I would be obliged if members still owing could please pay their dues as soon as it is convenient.

New Members

We welcome to the section two new members and hope their association will be long and happy. They are: W. Rudd, head greenkeeper of Ravensworth G.C., and G. Palmer, head greenkeeper of Birtley G.C.

SITUATIONS VACANT

STANTON - ON - THE - WOLDS Golf Club, seven miles south of Nottingham, wish to appoint a Head Greenkeeper. Modern house available. Please write to H. G. Gray, F.C.A., 7 College Street, Nottingham, stating previous experience and required.

ASSISTANT HEAD GREENKEEPER required by West Herts Golf Club, Cassiobury Park, Watford, Herts. Highly mechanised with Toro Applications, in writing machinery. to The Secretary.

HEAD GREENKEEPER wanted for busy 9-hole course on country estate. Free modernised accommodation. Proceeds from pro.'s shop modest catering. Apply Hon. Secretary, Serlby Park Golf Club, Bawtry, Doncaster.

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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.