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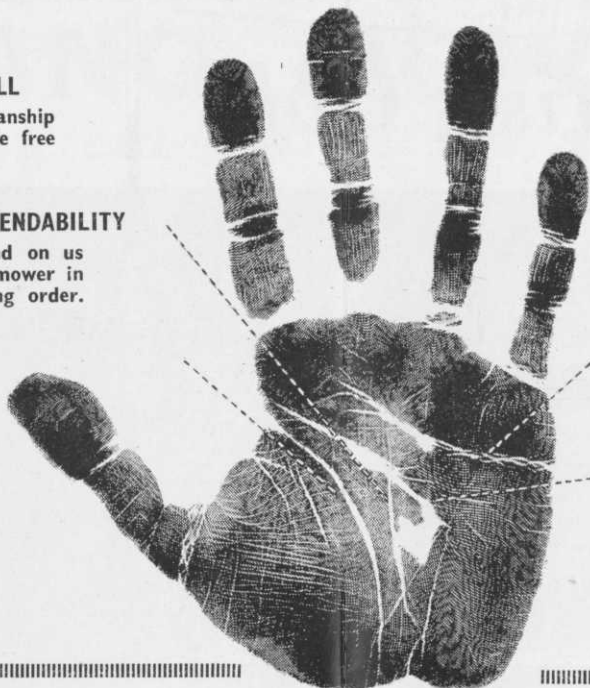
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THE BRITISH GOLF

# GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE.



FOUNDED 1912.

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OF GOLF BY THE BRITISH GOLF  
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The Association is affiliated to the  
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No. 234 New Series  
SEPTEMBER 1964

*BEACH BALL OR GOLF*  
*Oh! My little white ball,*  
*Should soon be well tanned,*  
*As it romps in the pool,*  
*And then lies in the sand.*

ROBERT D. BOLLER.

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EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICES: Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey. Telephone: SANDerstead 0281. SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 14/- for 12 issues post paid. Published during the first week of each month. LATEST COPY DATE: 8th of month prior to insertion. All rights reserved. Reproduction of original articles and photographs in whole or in part is prohibited. This Magazine shall not, without the written consent of the Publishers first given, be re-sold, lent, hired out, or otherwise disposed of. Contributions and photographs of interest are invited.

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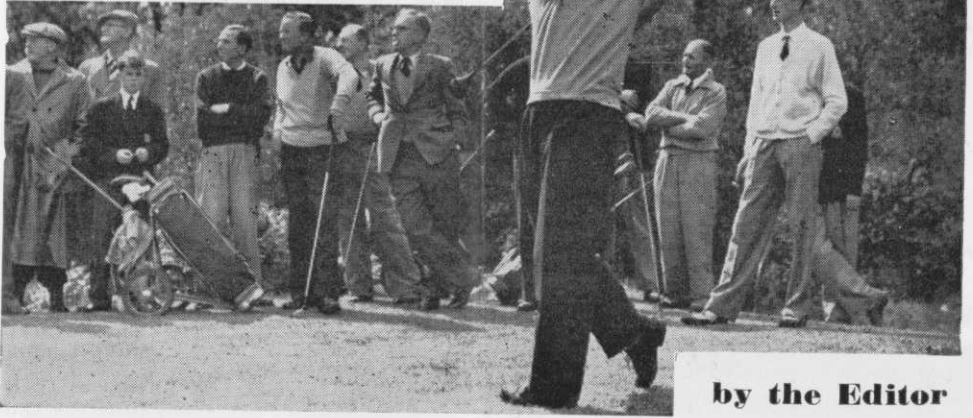
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# TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

## Faithful

Henry Shepherd took over his duties as new Chairman of the B.G.G.A. at Weston-Super-Mare last month. Henry, a young-looking 62, started work on the Weston links in May, 1919 and has been there ever since. Says he likes it.

## Keen

Jack Noakes has joined the select ranks of those greenkeepers who have been made Honorary Members of their clubs. A letter from Thorndon Park's Secretary gave him this news recently. Jack often golfs with Mr. Clement Booth, Clerk to the Brentwood U.D.C. and a prime mover in the council's decision to start the public course now under construction. He is so keen on golf that when the new Brentwood by-pass is opened, Jack expects to find a string of holes laid out down the deserted High Street.

## Tee I

New York's public course players now get a regular bulletin on the wireless detailing the 'waits' on the 1st tee at the State's public courses. For those who have forgotten their transistors, a special telephone service can be dialled for the same information.

\* \* \*

We were glad to see Mr. Vic Southgate, Messrs. Ransomes' South West Representative, restored to good health after his recent operation. He says that he is eating carefully at the moment, not more than four meals a day, and feels so much better that he is thinking of retiring before long.

An apology is due to W. Morris who last month was wrongly quoted here as Head Greenkeeper at Berkhamsted instead of Ashridge. Mr. Morris lives in Berkhamsted and has been a member of the Association since 1923.

## AUTUMN MAINTENANCE ON THE GOLF COURSE

by

G. C. Macadam, S.D.H.

Advisory Officer,  
THE SPORTS TURF RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE, BINGLEY

ONCE again the time approaches when greenkeepers will be at their busiest with the thousand and one jobs that arise after the final competition of the summer. Autumn with its relatively high temperatures and expected rainfall usually provides suitable conditions for most of the major tasks like aeration, top dressing, renovation and turfing.

The increasing popularity of golf recently has demonstrated the inadequacies of teeing space on many courses which have perhaps several tees of 70—100 sq. yds. each. Many clubs have commenced a reconstruction programme whereby such small tees are absorbed into one long, large tee, which is easier to maintain and, with regular movement of markers, withstands wear and tear better.

Available good top soil need not be wasted in the building up of foundations which can consist of sub-soil, but the surface should have a minimum depth of 6 in. good top soil. Terracing of tees should be avoided unless absolutely necessary as this wastes space and can create difficulties in maintenance. Turfing is most popular for establishing new tees. A tee laid in the autumn should be fit for play in the following spring. Suitable turf can often be found at the side of a fairway.

### Truing-up

On established tees, the surfaces should be level and true. Sometimes sinkage occurs and autumn is the best time for surface restoration. The turf is stripped off, more soil added and perhaps a little fertiliser raked into the surface and the turf, if suitable, relaid. The tee should then be liberally top-dressed with sandy compost to help seal the cracks.

Hollows on fairways should also be rectified during the autumn. These are usually caused by the decay of a tree stump or root or general settlement. Such irregularities can be corrected by cutting parallel slits across the hollows, arising up the strips of turf and packing new soil underneath with shovels.

Many failures in wormkilling are due to materials being applied at the wrong time of year. During the summer when conditions are fairly dry the worms are less active near the surface and consequently less easy to kill. Also such materials as lead arsenate and chlordane adhere to the foliage of the grass for some time and if mowing is being carried out frequently a high proportion of the wormkiller can be removed with the cuttings. October or November is therefore about the most suitable time for this job.

### Precaution

Unfortunately the autumn weather usually brings with it the likelihood of disease attack, especially Fusarium patch disease. It is well known that prevention is better than cure and a wise greenkeeper gives preventive fungicidal

*Continued on page 6*

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#### NOTE:

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treatment during the autumn, especially on courses where disease attacks are a regular autumn occurrence.

Many clubs allow infection to get out of hand before taking any action whereupon it may require several applications of fungicide every 10 or 14 days to bring about any control. It is far better to be constantly on the lookout for symptoms and treat affected greens immediately the disease is spotted. In this way one application of fungicide will probably be sufficient to check the disease.

### Giving air

The aeration of turf is a job which should really be done all year round, except, of course, when the course is under frost or snow. However, this is not always practicable and very often ground conditions are such that tines would hardly penetrate the surface. The main aeration programme is usually therefore confined to the autumn and in some cases to the early spring. Aeration can be done either mechanically or by hand and the actual method by which it is carried out depends largely on the condition of the turf and the labour

available. Fibrous and compacted turf will require hollow tine forking whereas on turf which is not so hard and compacted, solid tining would suffice.

Top dressing on greens should be considered an integral part of the maintenance of a golf course. A good, friable compost and sand mixture or, if compost is not available, soil, sand and peat make a suitable top dressing. There are several reasons for applying top dressings, the main one being to create a true and even surface. Good top soil becomes more scarce year by year and one should always be on the lookout for the occasional load which may become available. Sand is usually incorporated to maintain an open and free draining surface and without its inclusion it would be very difficult to work in the top dressing. Heavy dressings of sand alone should be avoided since heavy sand dressings are liable to form a "root-break". Peat should be a finely granulated material. It adds extra organic matter to a dressing of sand and soil. Wood charcoal is sometimes used in top dressings, especially where damp or stagnant conditions prevail.  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. gauge charcoal is usually the most suitable for greens.

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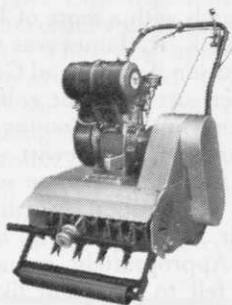
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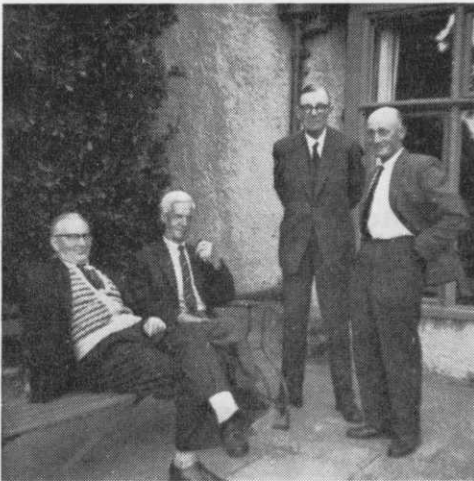
# B.G.G.A. IN SOMERSET

The Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club was once again a very happy choice by the South-West Section for this year's Tournament. It is eleven years since last we were there, the club officials remembered the last occasion with pleasure and we hope that they will remember this occasion with as much pleasure as all those who attended. Apart from the 50-odd greenkeepers who came down for the competitive side of the event, there must have been 30 camp-followers who swelled the attendance most agreeably.

Already on Sunday most of the players made acquaintance with the course in the practice round and the greetings of old comrades were pleasant to hear.



*Mr. Jack Lee, D. M. Craig, Jack Noakes and George Barnfield. Mrs. Williams, Miss Rocker and Mrs. O. P. Jones.*



*Messrs. Drewitt, Cashmore and Benbow with the President.*

As to the golf, we will let the record of the winners speak for itself. On Monday it was D. Jones of the Welsh Section who romped away with the Stableford competition with his 46 points. Two birdies at the 5th and 6th holes, nominally 5-bogeys although only 419 and 420 yards, laid the foundation of his

excellent score. On Tuesday, it was no surprise when J. W. Kirkpatrick, of Dulwich & Sydenham Golf Club took back the News of the World Challenge Cup, which he had kindly brought down to let us see for a short time after his victory last year, while in the Senior Division, B. Reeves took the Ransomes Cup and Gold Watch with a score of 135 and in the Juniors, E. R. James was the winner of the Patisson Trophy and Gold Watch. The other sort of senior golfers were also competing in the "Coming of Age" Cup and here H. J. Drewitt was winner after the problems of those who could select the competition in which they wished their scores to count had been resolved. Appropriately enough, the Jubilee Cup fell to the team likely to have the most local knowledge, namely South West.

At the Annual General Meeting we heard that next year's competition will be at Whitley Bay in the North East and it will be interesting to see if that section pull of the same feat.

The Prize-giving was, as always, a cheerful occasion. Mr. George Irlam, the Captain of Weston-Super-Mare Golf Club and a Somerset County player,



*Mrs. Pugh and Miss Brenda Rocker practising in front of the clubhouse.*

gave away the prizes and he was supported by Mr. Bill Woodman, the Chairman of the Green Committee, and Mr. Donald Hood Wright, the Hon. Secretary. Our President and our Hon. Secretary expressed the best thanks of the Association to the Club for all its kindness, to the indoor and outdoor staffs for all their help, to all those who had so generously donated prizes and to Mr. W. F. Payne and Mr. F. V. Southgate of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies Ltd. who had sat patiently at the recorder's table throughout the three days. They also appreciated the company of Mr. D. M. Craig, who assisted with the starting and Mr. J. N. K. Le Fleming Shepherd, M.B.E., of Messrs. Pattison. All too soon another tournament was over, but it will still seem like yesterday when we all meet again next year in the opposite corner of England.

**NATIONAL EXHIBITION**  
at  
**THE HURLINGHAM CLUB**  
**GROUNDS**  
**RANELAGH GARDENS**  
**FULHAM, S.W.6**

on  
**WEDNESDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER,**  
**1964 from 10-30 a.m. to 6-0 p.m.**  
and  
**THURSDAY, 1st OCTOBER, 1964**  
**from 10-0 a.m. to 4-30 p.m.**

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**Wolverhampton Branch Groundsman's Field**  
**Day**

at  
**WOLVERHAMPTON CRICKET**  
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on  
**THURSDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER, 1964**

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**MR. JOHN O'GORMAN**

We have heard with much sorrow of the death of Mr. John O'Gorman, who was Secretary of the Welsh Section for many years and Head Greenkeeper at Penarth Golf Club, Glamorganshire. Mr. O'Gorman was a widower and we offer our deep sympathy to his family. He was a most popular figure in the Greenkeepers Association and will be sadly missed by many friends.

**B.G.G.A. Annual Tournament, 1964  
Prize Winners**

- The S.T.R.I. Cup. 18 Holes Stableford.  
1st Prize (S.T.R.I. Cup and Clock), D. Jones, 46 points.  
2nd Prize (Hargreaves Cup and Table Lamp), E. H. Benbow, 40 points.  
3rd Prize (Shaving Mirror), I. Scoones, 40 points.  
4th Prize (Set of Kitchen Knives), R. Plain, 37 points.

- "News of the World" Cup. 36 Holes Scratch.  
1st Prize (Canteen of Cutlery), J. W. Kirkpatrick, 144.

- The Artisan Medal. 18 Holes Medal.  
B. Reeves, 69.

- Jubilee Cup Inter-Section. 36 Holes Medal.  
(3 Tankards), South West.

- "Coming of Age" Cup. 18 Holes Medal  
(60 years and over).

- 1st Prize (Travelling Rug), H. J. Drewitt, 72.  
2nd Prize (Get-away-Case), E. F. Butler, 73.  
Senior Division. 36 Holes Medal. ('plus' to 11).  
1st Prize (Ransomes Cup and Gold Watch), B. Reeves, 135.  
2nd Prize ("Golf Illustrated" Cup, Heat-master Tea Set and Vouchers), G. Payne, 140.  
3rd Prize ("Universal" Cup, Replica and Transistor Radio), E. H. Benbow, 142.  
4th Prize (Suit Case), E. R. West, 145.  
5th Prize (Fruit Bowl), D. Jones, 146.  
6th Prize (Travelling Clock), D. G. Lord, 147.

- 7th Prize (Casserole), V. Crabtree, 147.

- 8th Prize (Towels), J. Ness, 148.

- 9th Prize (Table Cloth and Napkins), G. Woodward, 148.

- 10th Prize (Wallet), G. Hitchcock, 152.  
Junior Division (12 to 24).

- 1st Prize ("Pattisson" Trophy and Gold Watch), E. R. James, 142.

- 2nd Prize (President's Cup and Canteen of Cutlery), O. P. Jones, 146.

- 3rd Prize ("May's" Cup and Barometer), F. W. Ford, 147.

- 4th Prize (Fish Servers), G. L. Sharp, 149.

- 5th Prize (Golf Bag), W. Machin, 154.

- 6th Prize (Steak Knives), S. Baber, 154.

- 7th Prize (Towels), I. Scoones, 156.

- 8th Prize (Sprinkler), S. Morton, 156.

- The "Allan Taylor" Cup. 18 Holes Medal.

- 1st Prize (Allan Taylor Cup and Tea Set), H. J. Drewitt, 69.

- 2nd Prize (Verdone Cup and Linen), W. J. Kingston, 71.

- 3rd Prize (Garden Chair), W. Handy, 72.

- 4th Prize (Sandwich Set), W. Machin, 72.

**HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES**



I have received a letter from Mrs. Bretherton which I am sure all members would like to read:

"Dear Mr. Dix,

Once again I wish to thank the Greenkeepers for my lovely flowers. I can't tell you what a joy they are to me. They arrived home so fresh, they might have been picked the last half-hour before.

Yours sincerely,

Joan Bretherton".

*We are indebted to the following who have kindly contributed to our Prize Fund:—*

*C. Bretherton, Esq.; D. G. Hood-Wright, Esq.; I. G. Nicholls, Esq.; The "News of the World"; The Sports Turf Research Institute; The Professional Golfers' Association; The Artisan Golfers' Association; The Golf Ball Manufacturers' Conference; "Golf Illustrated"; Messrs. British Overhead Irrigation Ltd.; Messrs. Carter's Tested Seeds Ltd.; Messrs. R. C. Craig & Co. Ltd.; Messrs. Fisons Horticulture Ltd.; Messrs. W. Hargreaves & Co. Ltd.; Messrs. Frank Keep, Ltd.; Messrs. Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co. Ltd.; Messrs. Lunevale Products Ltd.; Messrs. Mays Chemical Manure Co. Ltd.; Messrs. May & Baker Ltd.; Messrs. T. Parker & Sons; Messrs. H. Pattison & Co. Ltd.; Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, Ltd.; Messrs. Relf & Kendall; Messrs. Stewart & Co., Seedsmen Ltd.; Messrs. Sutton & Sons, Ltd.; Messrs. Allan Taylor (Engineers) Ltd.; Messrs. Universal Mat Co. Ltd.*