

40-YEAR RECORD OF SANDBACH CLUB'S GREENKEEPER

FOR nearly 40 years, Mr Alfred Oakes has been greenkeeper at Sandbach Golf Club, writes Richard Passmore.

When he started working there soon after the club moved to its present site in 1925, he points out that there were 150 members, "many of them gentry".

Mr Oakes, surely one of the most faithful golf club servants in the Midlands, has done invaluable work for the club, as can be seen from the fine conditions of the greens and fairways.

Sandbach Golf Club was formed in 1921, and the course was first laid out on the land off the Congleton road, on the other side of the town. But the land here proved to be unsatisfactory, and in 1925 the club moved to its present site.

In 1937 further land was obtained, and with the lengthening of the second and third holes the par for the course went up to 74 for 18 holes. But after three years the land had to be given up at the request of the War Agricultural Committee. At present the club lease the course and clubhouse from Sandbach Golf Course Ltd.

(With grateful acknowledgments to Richard Passmore and the "Sentinel", Stoke-on-Trent.)

SITUATIONS VACANT

GREENKEEPER REQUIRED to take over nine-hole course. Must be experienced. Good wages plus side benefits. Full details from the Secretary, Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club, Ley Hill, Bucks.

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED for 18-hole golf course in first-class condition, fully mechanised with good assistant staff. Modern house provided rent free. Pension scheme after trial period. High wage offered. All applications in strict confidence to be in writing to the Secretary, Leamington and County Golf Club, Whitnash, Leamington Spa.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM MOORE

It is with deep regret we record the passing of William Moore, one of the leading turf research experts in this country.

Bill Moore was educated at the Blue Coat School and joined Suttons, the Reading seed firm, as a trainee in 1914. He subsequently saw active service in the First World War and on his return to business was attached to Suttons reorganised Grass Advisory service, and became personal technical assistant to the late Martin Sutton, the director in charge.

Bill Moore found grass research work completely absorbing and eventually became Suttons Turf Research Officer.

His services in a grass advisory capacity were keenly sought. He travelled extensively all over the British Isles advising on golf courses and sports grounds and innumerable private lawns. He was also in demand abroad, especially in Italy, where he visited probably every golf course, and many establishments where thoroughbred horses were reared in that country, and turf for them was so important.

Bill Moore's knowledge of grass was extremely wide, and in the compilation of grass seed mixtures he was a supreme expert. He retired from active work at Suttons in 1967 but even then demands for his services in advisory work continued and kept him very busy.

A prolific writer on grass matters and fluent lecturer, Bill Moore was always keenly interested in the work of such bodies as the National Association of Groundsmen and the Golf Greenkeepers Association. He was highly respected by numerous greenkeepers and groundsmen in this country and abroad, and many have reason to feel gratitude to him for a quiet word of advice in a difficult turf problem.

HERE AND THERE

There was a conference on the Theory and Practice of Turfculture at Llandaff Technical College, Cardiff, on 23rd and 24th April.

Speakers included Dr V. I. Stewart, B.Sc., Ph.D., and Dr W. A. Adams, B.Sc., Ph.D., of the Soil Science Unit Aberystwyth. Mr A. Harrison introduced practical demonstrations of SISIS Equipment. The Chairman was Dr J. Bradley-Jones, B.Sc., Ph.D., Plant Pathologist, N.A.A.S., Cardiff.

* * * *

Objectors may be wasting their time in last-minute attempts, including a petition organised in Woodley, to kill the scheme for a municipal golf course at Old Oak Farm, Easthampstead.

There appears to be only one obstacle to be overcome before the three local authorities can proceed with the scheme as a joint venture.

* * * *

Mr & Mrs Cyril Peake, of Honey Tye Farms, Leavenheath, have put forward plans which have been submitted to Melford Rural Plans Committee for an 18-hole golf course on 130 acres of land between Leavenheath and Stoke by Nayland. Mrs Peake said they were first waiting for planning permission before deciding how the course would be developed.

* * * *

Messrs Carters have now sent out their spring 1969 price list giving details of their wide range of standard grass and fertiliser mixture. Weed and worm-killers, fungicide and maintenance equipment are also covered.

* * * *

Flymo has introduced a Leasing Service available for one machine or several. As an example £2,360 of equipment would cost £923 7s. 0d. a year for the first three years and £45 4s. 0d. in the fourth year.

The new 21" Flymo Contractor with built-in three-position undercarriage looks as if it will reduce operation fatigue, especially in awkward corners, and be easier to transport from place to place.



HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

1969 Tournament

Please note that the entry form for the Annual Tournament is on page 7. Do not delay in returning it to me if you are coming to Porthcawl.

Annual Draw

Tickets are now in the hands of Section Secretaries and it is hoped that all members will make a great effort to ensure the financial success of this draw.

No. 1 High Grade (Spring/Summer)

Fertiliser is a complex, mainly organic compound, safe and non-scorching, applied at 2 ozs. per sq. yd.

Price £56 10s. 0d. per ton

No. 2 High Grade (Autumn/Winter)

Fertiliser is the Autumn counterpart of 'No. 1 High Grade'. Also for pre-seeding. Price £54 10s. 0d. per ton

No. 3. A fertiliser for stimulating Spring growth in backward turf, with the popular analysis 10 : 5.7 : 2.5.

Price £59 0s. 0d. per ton

No. 13 A good organic fertiliser for putting body into thin, poor colour turf.

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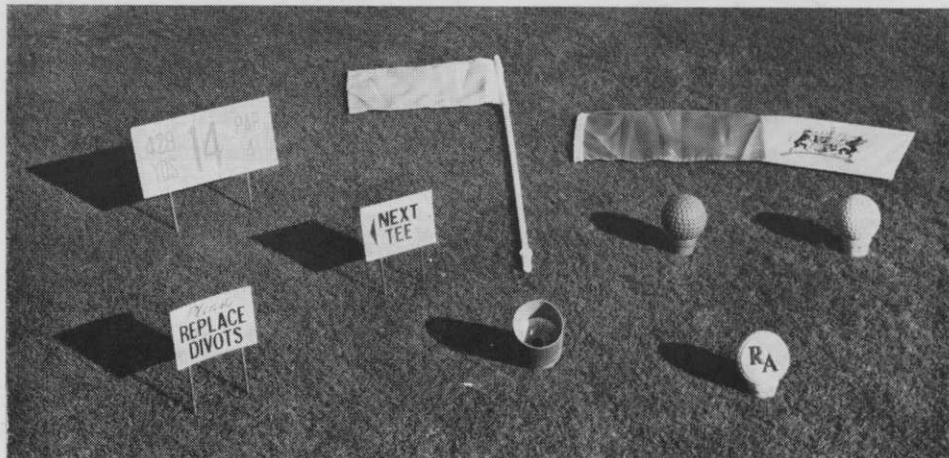
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Rising to the challenge to brighten the world's golf courses, Ransomes have produced a wide range of accessories from "quick change" flags to tee markers. They offer attractive and colourful designs, "personalised" to a club's individual requirements, and made of longer-lasting materials of contemporary styles. The prices are very competitive and manufacture is by Ransomes in Scotland—the home of golf.

Nylon flags with built-in swivel-slip plastic tubes enable flags to be changed quickly. This revolutionary idea considerably lengthens the life of the flag. Personalised flags are available to order, carrying the club's badge, insignia or other motif.

Flag poles are made of white "flexite", while tee markers are colour-impregnated replicas of teed-up golf balls made of easy-to-see, resin-based "vistolite".

Direction and rule signs, which can be "personalised" also to requirements, are in clear black lettering on a white "vistolite" background.

The range includes bogey hole cups and markers for putting greens.

Full details and illustrated colour catalogue are available on request to Ransomes.

News



from the Sections

WELSH

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

By S. A. Tucker
Hon. Secretary:
36 Clase Road,
Morrison,
Swansea, Glam.

Annual General Meeting

OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on the 24th June at the Royal Porthcawl Golf Club. Will all members who did not sign the sheet at the table at Glamorganshire Golf Club and want to come to the meeting let me know as soon as possible as I have to arrange the catering for lunch and supper very early otherwise some may be disappointed. Make a special note that subscriptions are due and bring your subs with you. This will save Mr Geddes and myself a lot of work.

We will be playing an 18-hole medal competition only with the A.G.M. being held during the rest of the time, so please come as soon as you can so that we can make a good start and then hold our meeting in the afternoon to be followed by supper with the Secretaries.

Spring Meeting

Our Spring Meeting was held at the Glamorganshire Golf Club on the 16th April. We were very lucky with the weather for it was a fine day with a strong southerly wind. We played a 27-hole aggregate medal and I am very pleased to find that my golf has improved. The prize-winners were as follows: 1st S. A. Tucker 115 net (half a dozen wine glasses), 2nd H. Fry 118½ net (candlewick bedspread), 3rd J. Martin 119½ (Ronson lighter given by Pattison &

Co.), 4th A. Price (one dozen golf balls given by Flymo & Co.). The above winners are scratch to 18 handicap. The 19-24 was won by A. E. Jeffries 124 net (half a dozen fruit spoons). First-year competitor was won by A. Sassby gross (wallet given by May & Baker). Many thanks to these trade firms who helped to make this such a happy day.

SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

Hon. Secretary:
68 Salcombe Gardens
Mill Hill, N.W.7
Tel: 01-959 2847

A.G.M.

THE SOUTHERN SECTION A.G.M. will take place at the Stirling Castle on Wednesday, 4th June.

Outing

The visit to the ATCO works in Birmingham is now fixed for Thursday, 25th September. To enable me to make final arrangements for the coach, etc., will members wishing to go please let me know as soon as possible.

New Members

The following new members are extended a warm welcome and I hope they will soon join in the section's activities.

D. T. Wishart, P. J. Creese (Hayling Island); R. Elkin (Stoneham); V. F. Brenes (Surbiton); L. Arbon (Woodbridge); and R. Tempest (Hartsbourne).

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:
167 Birmingham Road,
Lichfield, Staffs.

President's Match

THE ANNUAL MATCH AGAINST our President's Team will take place during the evening of Thursday, 26th June at the Handsworth Golf Club.

I have been rather hard pushed to field a team during the last two years, and this is most disturbing.

Mr Bretherton has a very strong team, and puts in a tremendous amount of work to ensure that this event be a continual success.

I do hope that everyone will make a determined effort to come along to this most enjoyable event, so please make a note of the date—26th JUNE.

Walmley Golf Club Appointment

Geoffrey Smith has recently been appointed Head Greenkeeper to the Walmley Golf Club, Sutton Coldfield.

I am sure that all members will join with me in wishing Geoff a long and happy association with his new club.

Albert Oakly Retires

Albert Oakley, Head Greenkeeper to the Moor Hall Golf Club, Sutton Coldfield, has recently retired after 32 years' continuous service, a fine record.

His efforts over the years can be reflected by the excellent condition of this delightful Parkland course set in the heart of the Midlands.

Our best wishes go to Albert for a long and happy retirement.

Jim Stephens, First Assistant for many years, takes over as Head Greenkeeper. Good luck to you, Jim, and all best wishes for a long and successful future in your new post.

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:
O. P. JONES

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

New Member

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING new member to the Section and hope his association will be a long and happy one.

G. H. Norburn, Sandiway Golf Club Ltd., Clubhouse, Sandiway, Cheshire.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
A. ROBERTSHAW

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

March Lecture

THE LAST LECTURE OF THE session was held in the clubhouse of the Horsforth Golf Club on Wednesday, 13th March. Thirty-five members attended to hear a talk by Mr D. Hardisty, Service Manager of Villiers Engineers Ltd. A most fascinating talk was given, well illustrated with slides and engines, and I am sure all members came away with some increased knowledge of the work going into bringing an engine into production and its workings. A vote of thanks proposed by our Chairman, Mr A. Robertshaw, was heartily endorsed.

Annual Dinner

Sixty members, wives and friends sat down for dinner on the occasion of the Annual Dinner held in the clubhouse of the Horsforth Golf Club on Friday, 21st March. As usual Ron Hartley, the club steward, provided us with a most sumptuous meal. Following the meal, we were entertained by the local Scottish Caledonian Society, who surprised us all by their agility and versatility which even members at a late hour and sustained with liquid refreshment could not match!

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Mrs Greenkeeper's



Own Corner

with Ann Mawson

As we all know grapefruit are very good for you. Here is a good tonic and pick-me-up.

Grapefruit Champagne

Cut up 7 grapefruit, place in a large bowl. Pour over a gallon cold water. Let it stand for 10 days then add 4 lb. of sugar, stir well. Let it stand another 10 days, stirring every day, strain into another bowl, and remove all scum. As it rises, let it stand a few more days. Bottle off. Ready for drinking in 4 weeks.

Grapefruit Salad

Mustard and cress, 2 large grapefruit, a bunch of watercress and home-made salad dressing.

Peel the grapefruit, removing all the white pith. Cut into slices across,

remove pips, if any. Cut the slices into quarters, put them in a shallow dish. Pour the home-made salad dressing over the fruit and arrange the mustard and cress and watercress attractively round the edge. This salad is delicious with cold duck.

Grapefruit and Pineapple

2 large grapefruit, about 6 oz. of diced fresh pineapple, a little sugar, a few cherries and a sprig of mint.

Cut the grapefruit into halves, remove the pulp, mix with the pineapple, add sugar to taste, pile back into the grapefruit, decorate with mint sprigs and cherries. Serves 4.

This is very good if you are watching your calories.

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