The History of Hollinwell and Notts. Golf Club

This book is dedicated to the members and staff of Notts. Golf Club, past and present, who have contributed to the wonderful place that is known as Hollinwell.

Nick Jones

“After driving through an avenue of pine trees you turn the corner and are suddenly greeted with a distant view of the white clubhouse; it is like entering into another world. You have discovered one of the best heathland courses in Britain.”

Ken Brown

Golf Commentator and former Ryder Cup Player

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The Course

Hollinwell is a heathland course set within a mosaic of woodland. Each hole is framed by heather and every year in June and July its character is transformed by the arrival of a tall fescue grass, the ‘pink’, which borders many of its holes. The pink readily captures a wayward shot and, although the ball can be found, the wise player resists the temptation of an overambitious recovery as it wraps around the hosel. Hollinwell’s turf plays well as four inches of humus overlie sand, so the course drains readily and provides running fairways with firm, true greens. Every hole poses a fair and distinct challenge; no two are the same as they wind through 400 acres of the undulating Kirkby Hills to one of the highest points in Nottinghamshire.

The 13th hole, voted one of the top 100 holes in the World by Golf World and Today's Golfer

The second hole doglegs left around a rock known as Robin Hood's Chair.

Hollinwell poses a stern challenge for the low handicap player, but it is a fair test for golfers of all abilities. With a Course Rating of 76.4 and a slope rating of 138 off the championship tees, it is 7250 yards long, but players can choose between five different tees so that they can enjoy their game.

Hollinwell is unusual as an inland course because of its varied layout, with fine grasses and heather, and being based on sand it allows play all year round even in the wettest conditions. It was initially designed by Willie Park Jr. who also designed Sunningdale Old, Maidstone (Long Island) and Olympia Fields (Chicago).

Willie Park Junior's design was refined by the bunkering of JH Taylor and alterations were made by Tom Williamson to deal with changes in ball technology. Donal Steel, Ken Moodie and Ken Brown and more recently Martin Ebert have adjusted the course.

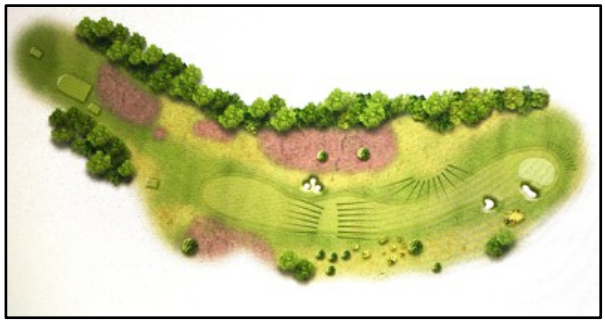
Typical heathland bunkering on the 16th hole

Hollinwell lies in an area of outstanding natural beauty designated as a Site of Importance to Nature Conservation with only ten percent of its area being given over to golf. It is surrounded by Kirkby Forest and Robin Hood Hills to its north with extrusions of Triassic Sandstone that form natural features around the second, third, fifteenth and sixteenth holes.

There are many outstanding holes, one example is the second, cited as an example of grade 'A' architecture (1). *" A stout uphill dog-leg 2nd hole. Playing 462 yards from the championship tees the hole requires a high-quality tee shot marrying sufficient length and wherewithal to shape the shot accordingly. The hole features a reverse camber. A series of bunkers on the left side must be avoided."*

2nd hole

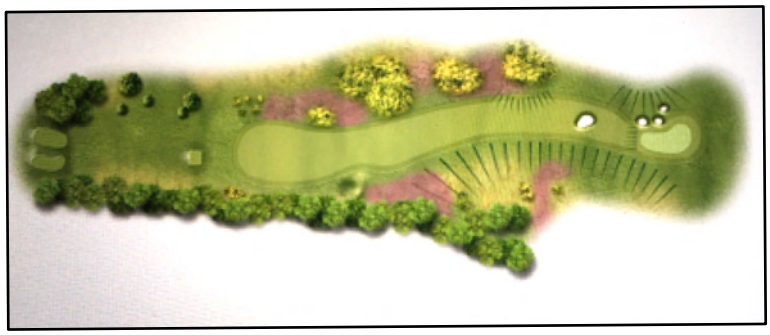
462 yards par 4



Those who possess superior length can play a more daring shot off the tee, but that line of attack mandates an even higher level of execution.
The view for your second shot is dominated by views of 'Robin Hood's Chair' which guards the left side of the hole and the green sits below large banks and towering pine trees. The second shot needs to favour the left side as it falls from left to right and a large bunker catches anything straying to the right. You will never be disappointed with a par 4 on this hole, especially coming so early on in the round."

The 11th hole has appeared as one of the 18 'Eclectic' holes in the UK (2): *"The hole chases up a narrow valley, shimmying between bulging landforms. The heather- and gorse- clad slopes snare tee shots of poorly executed line and length. Offset from the fairway and following the valley to the right, the green can be seen best after a drive that has gone bravely long and left."*

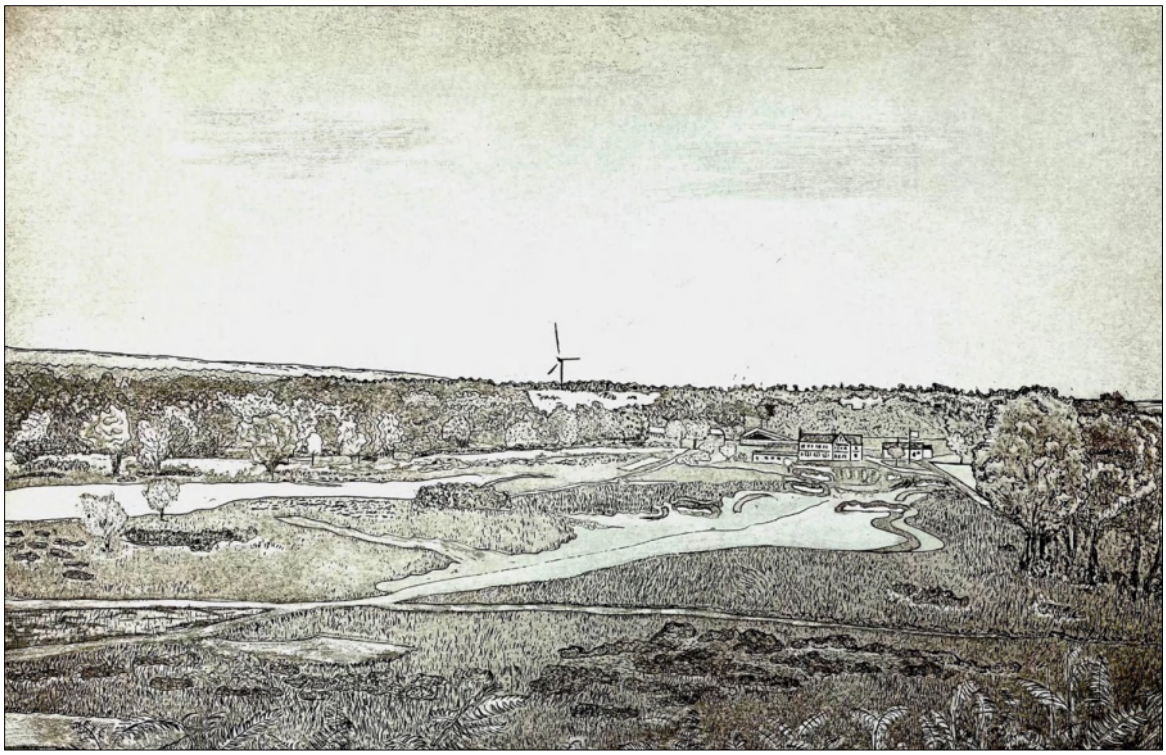
11th hole
360 yards uphill
Par 4



"However, as three deep bunkers push against the left side of the green you might prefer the semi-blind approach from the right. The fairway remains skinny throughout, though, so I suspect anywhere on the springy short turf will suffice. For those pressing from a bad lie, a central pot short of the green will come into play. But beyond its strategic virtues, the 11th is just pretty, particularly when the hillsides are in bloom."

The 15th hole (below) is a 439 yards par 4 and a stern test as after a dip it plays to a raised green.

The 18th hole is one of the finest and most challenging finishing holes in golf. At 460 yards this par four often plays into a wind.



Etching of the Eighteenth Hole

Hollinwell, the natural spring after which the course is named

The course contains nine ponds and several springs, one which is responsible for the name Hollinwell. It is thought to be derived from the holy well located near the 8th tee. It was thought to have been visited by monks from Newstead Priory, once the home of Lord Byron. It is also one of the sources of the river Leen (therefore the derivation possibly being *Holy-Leen-Well*). The Club has an ethos of promoting conservation and sustainability being awarded the Golf Environment Organisation certification.

TOURNAMENTS

Hollinwell has held many tournaments, both amateur and professional, and in 2024 it was the only club to have hosted the Brabazon Trophy on six occasions. It has twice held a competition with the biggest prize money in the world at that time, in 1906 the News of the World Tournament and the John Player Classic in 1970.
Most recently it has been the Open Championship Final Qualifying venue between 2017 and 2022.

COMPETITION	WINNER
1906 News of the World Championship	Alex Herd
1913 Ladies Open English Championship	Mrs. FW Brown
1925 Daily Mail Golf Tournament	Charles Johns
1935 English Amateur Championship	J Woollam
1947 Lotus Championship	Norman Von Nida
1953 England vs Canada Ladies Internat'l	Eng 51/2 - 41/2
1957 Dunlop Masters	Eric Brown
1959 Brabazon Trophy	Doug Sewell
1961 Dunlop Golf Tournament	Kel Nagle
1964 English Amateur Championship	David Marsh
1968 Sumrie Golf Tournament	Brian Huggett
1970 John Player Classic	Christy O'Connor
1975 Brabazon Trophy	Sandy Lyle
1976 English Ladies Amateur Championship	Lynne Harrold

COMPETITION	WINNER
1977 PGA Club Professional Championship	David Huish
1978 Ladies British Open Amateur Champ'p	Edwina Kennedy
1982 Haig (Tournament Players Champ'p)	Nick Faldo
1983 Brabazon Trophy	Charles Banks
1987 British Youth Amateur Champ'p	James Cook
1989 English Ladies Strokeplay Champ'p	Sara Robinson
1992 Brabazon Trophy	Ignacio Garrido
1994 Ladies British Senior Championship	Diane Williams
1996 English Amateur Championship	Shaun Webster
2000 European Mid-Amateur	Francois Illoux
2002 Midland Open	Gary Wolstenholme
2004 English Amateur Championship	James Heath
2007 Jacques Leglise Trophy	GB&I
2012 R&A Boys Amateur Championship	Matthew Fitzpatrick
2015 Brabazon Trophy won by	Cormac Sharvin
2017 Open Championship Final Qualifying	Mark Foster
2018 Open Championship Final Qualifying	Ashton Turner
2019 Open Championship Final Qualifying	Andrew Wilson
2021 Open Championship Final Qualifying	Daniel Hillier
2022 Open Championship Final Qualifying	Barclay Brown
2024 Brabazon Trophy	Gregor Graham

History of Hollinwell and Notts. Golf Club

Golf started in Nottingham in 1864 when John Doleman, a tailor from Musselburgh, and one of a family of renowned golfers, took his clubs for the “then apparently daft-like amusement of knocking a small ball about” at the Meadows.

Nearby was the Wilford Ferry before the 'Halfpenny Bridge', a toll bridge, was built and where Wilford Bridge now stands taking trams and pedestrians. This comprised the rough, flat, nondescript piece of land of Queens Walk recreation ground in the Meadows (below) which has since largely been built on. See appendix for more on John Doleman.

John Doleman

The Meadows

by

Linda Beckett

1820

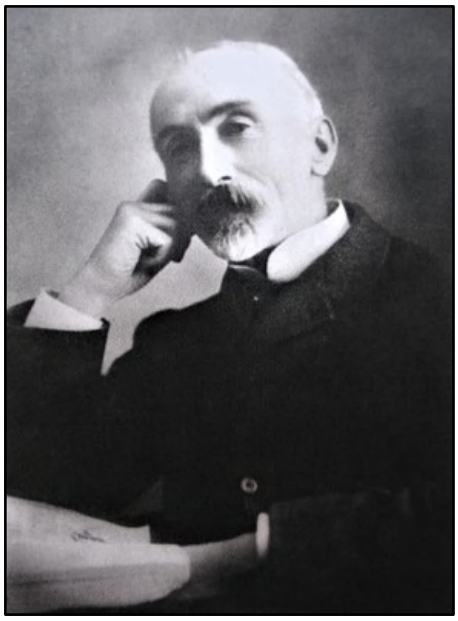
‘Golf’ reported on John Doleman in 1892 (3): “He came to Nottingham in 1864, bringing with him a good supply of balls. As he feared, the game was unknown in Nottingham, but nothing daunted, he sought for a ground, and found a three-cornered course on the Queen’s Walk, by the side of where the chapel now stood. There he played by himself. That being unsuitable, he had recourse to the Trent side, where at the same time there was a nice piece of turf. Every morning, he used to go down to the Trent Baths, taking with him his club and ball, and playing down from Wilford Ferry, where the bridge now stands. After having a refreshing dip in the water, he had another spell of golf. This went on for three or four years, and then as he removed from the neighbourhood, he used to go onto the Forest… between five and eight in the morning. He formed a small club, consisting of himself and another, and there they played together until they were detected by the authorities and ordered 'to desist.
Still, he was not to be denied, but every morning when the Arboretum gates opened at six o’clock, he was there with his club and had his practice between the archway and the pond – without holes, of course… He left Nottingham and returned twenty years later, and after some time, joined the present club in its infancy, and has been a member ever since”. “When I used to play down on the Queen’s Walk by myself, people used to think it a daft sort of game. Crowds of people used to come and see me play."

On one occasion one of the bystanders said, “What’s the man playing at?” I replied, “What do you think?” “Think,” replied the man, “I think you can’t be right"(3).

The arch and pond at the Arboretum today.

John Doleman returned to Aberdeen and became one of the founder members of the Bon Accord Golf Club in 1872 who now play at Murcar.

In 1885 he returned to Nottingham but in the meantime John Harris and the Rev. AH Baynes were pursuing their passion for golf, both having acquired it in St. Andrews. John Harris is quoted in the Midland Golfer as saying that after he moved to Nottingham in 1881 to work as an architect he tried to set up a golf club, but with little success. It was only when the vicar of St. James's church, the Rev. Hamilton Baynes, called on him that progress was made (4). John Harris was born and educated in St. Andrews. He helped his father, a timber merchant, supply Forgans with wood for clubs using apple wood, thorn and beech - hickory shafts were imported. He was articled to an architect and helped design the earlier club house at St. Andrews, the Union Parlour. He then moved to Kidderminster and then onto Nottingham.



John Harris 1890
He was secretary and treasurer of The Nottingham Golf Club for the first three years from its conception (later it was Notts. Golf Club).

See appendix for more on John Harris

Reverend Baynes had some experience in golf. In 1875 he matriculated at St. Andrews to study, and he then entered Oriel College, Oxford, to be ordained in 1881 and receiving a MA in 1882. He was the first secretary of Oxford University Golf Club and helped manage its first match versus Cambridge University (5). He moved to Nottingham and became vicar at St. James and chaplain to the General Hospital in 1884-8. In 1887 he was elected the first captain of The Nottingham Golf Club (later Notts Golf Club). An account by him reprinted in 'Golfing' magazine (6) says, "...I was at St. Andrews...I entered the shop of Forgan, the golf clubmaker. In the course of conversation with him I deplored the fact that we had no golf, nor golfers in Nottingham." "But, replied Forgan, there ought to be golf in Nottingham. There's another St. Andrews man living there - a Mr. Harris, who knows the game". "So, when I returned home, I sought Mr. Harris... and found that, like myself, he was devoted to the pastime."

Rev. AH Baynes
Notts Golf Club's First Captain in 1887 (later Bishop and Doctor of Divinity)

Courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery

See appendix for more information

Reverend Bayne's continued, "Thereafter we went together in quest of a suitable place for practice. Aspley Hall was the best course (*land*) we were able to find; there we played for several weeks. Aspley Hall was where Richard Birkin, JP, lived a couple of miles west of the city."
Aspley Hall (below) had been built in the late 16th century for monks after the dissolution of the monasteries. There was no golf course, and they must have made their own tees and holes.

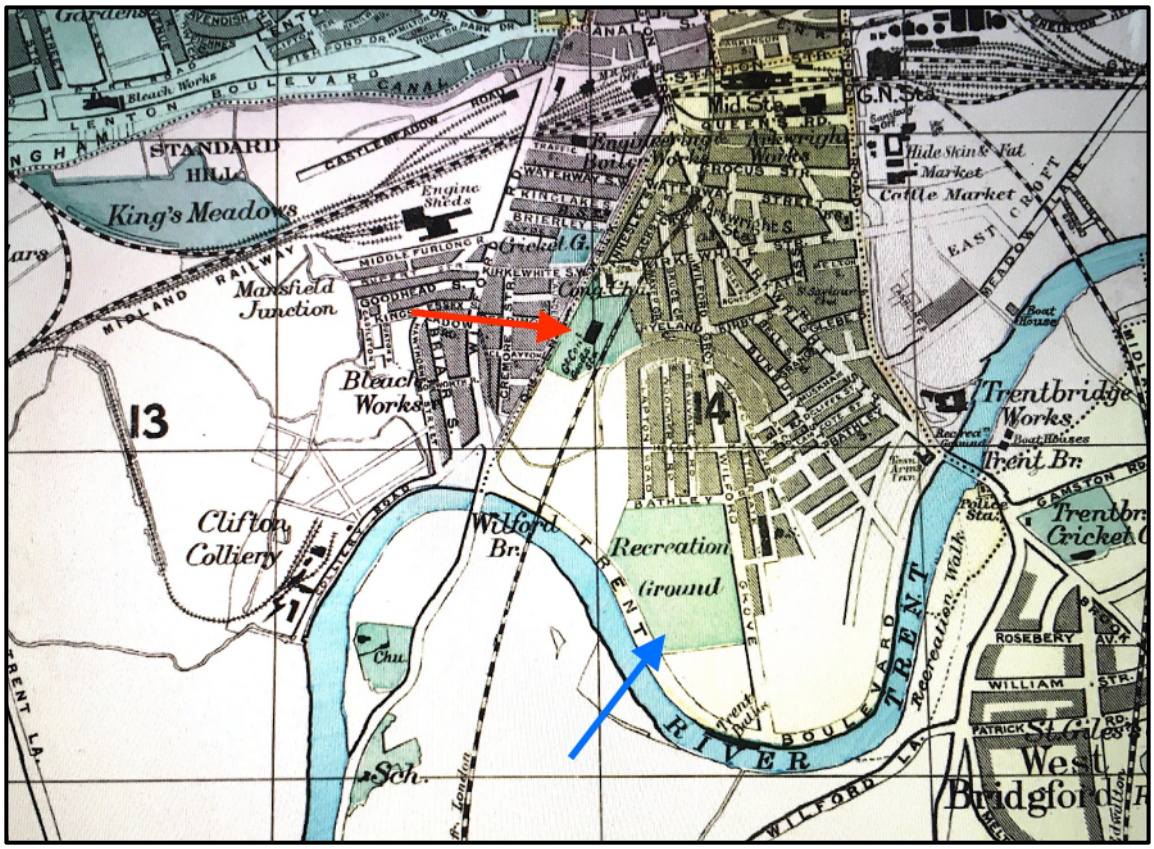
The picture is one of itinerant golfers looking for good grass and permission to play.

They also tried the Forest Recreation ground, a mile to the north of the city centre. Horse racing and cricket took place there as well as football. Nottingham Forest football club first played at the Forest in 1865, and hence the club's name.

Forest Recreation Ground in the early 1900s

The term forest in those days didn't mean dense areas of woodland. It meant woods *but* with large open spaces of scrub and heathland which were used for hunting (not just for Royalty, although some were Royal Forests). It was from 1919, when the Forestry Commission was set up to replenish lost areas of woodland, that the term forest started to become synonymous with thickly wooded land (7). The Forest Recreation ground was not a suitable site as it was used by the public for a wide range of activities. The Goose Fair, the largest fair in Europe, has been held there from 1928 having previously been held in the market square since 1541.

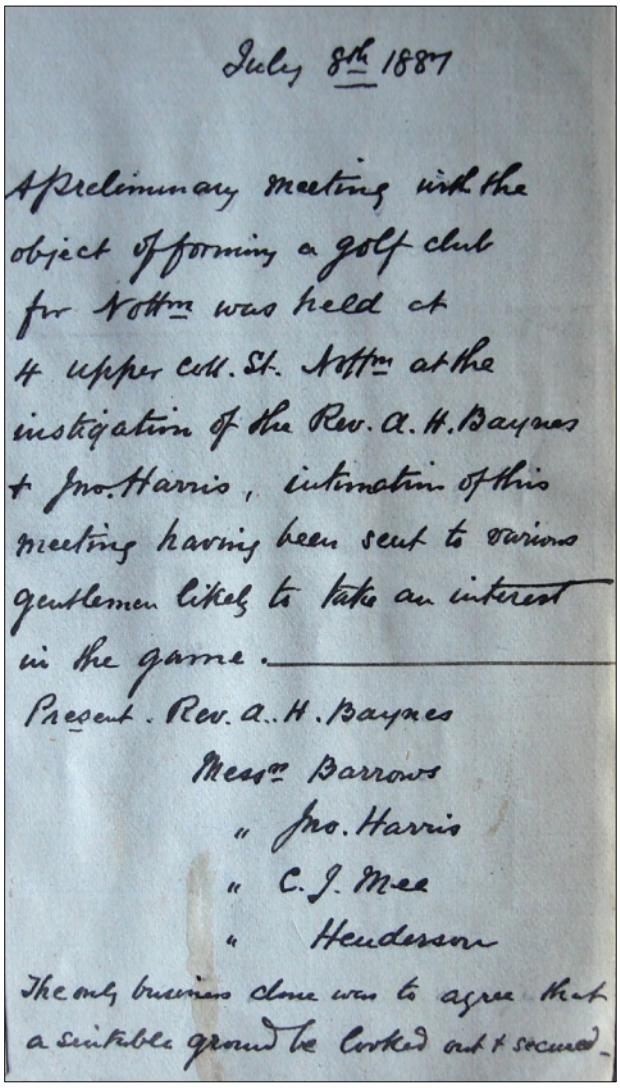
The Rev. Baynes and John Harris then played at 'The Meadows' where the Great Central Railway Company's goods depot was subsequently erected (4), not far from where John Doleman had played on his own two decades before. There were only six holes, and the ground was flat and unremarkable.



Bacon's 1902 map showing two sites where play was said to have taken place before 1887. The red arrow points to the area that became a railway depot, and the recreation ground (blue arrow) remains as such today.

John Harris describes the playing area being where the Great Central Railway later erected their depot (red arrow above). This is further north than the recreation ground (blue arrow), but perhaps he was giving a rough idea or they played on both, depending on whether other sport was being played.

Reverend Baynes and John Harris were both dynamic individuals and set about forming a golf club. On 8th July 1887 a preliminary meeting took place to form what was to become 'The Nottingham Golf Club' at Rev. Baynes' house, 4, Upper College Street.



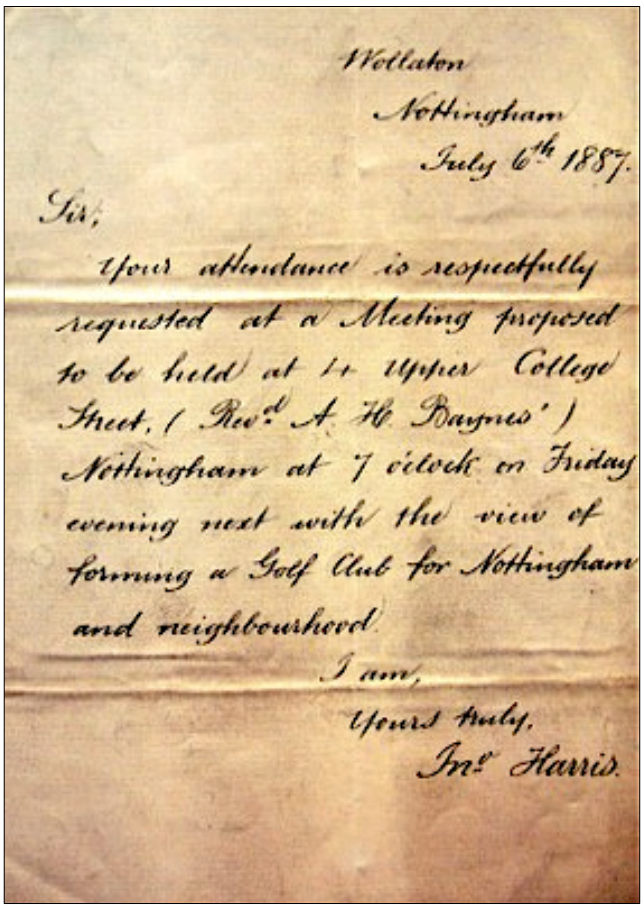
July 8th 1887

A preliminary meeting with the object of forming a golf club for Nottm was held at 4 upper coll. St. Nottm at the instigation of the Rev. A. H. Baynes & Jno. Harris, intimation of this meeting having been sent to various gentlemen likely to take an interest in the game.

Present. Rev. A. H. Baynes
Messrs Barrows
" Jno. Harris
" C. J. Mee
" Henderson

The only business done was to agree that a suitable ground be looked out & secured.

Minutes of 1887 Preliminary Meeting



Wollaton
Nottingham
July 6th 1887.

Sir,

Your attendance is respectfully requested at a Meeting proposed to be held at 4 Upper College Street, (Revd A. H. Baynes') Nottingham at 7 o'clock on Friday evening next with the view of forming a Golf Club for Nottingham and neighbourhood.

I am,
Yours truly,
Jno Harris.

John Doleman was not present at either of the inaugural meetings of 'The Nottingham Golf Club' but in the press articles that followed he was often referred to as 'our veteran golfer'.

On November 9th 1887, they met at Mr. R Daft's house, a famous cricketer (left), who lived at St. Peter's Square and formally formed the Nottingham Golf Club which would play at Queen's Walk recreation ground.

Excerpt from the Nottingham Guardian (8)

The Nottingham Golf Club is *un fait accompli.* (A few French words look charming—give a piquant variety to one's choice of language.) A meeting was held at Mr. R. Daft's on Wednesday, when there was a good attendance, and officers were elected. Mr. W. Wright, of Wollaton, was chosen president, Rev. A. H. Baynes capt., Mr. J. Harris, secretary, and a committee was appointed. The first match of the new club will take place on Wednesday next, on the Queen's walk Recreation Ground, the kind permission of the Parks Committee having been given. Three o'clock is the time fixed.

Notts Guardian Dec. 3rd 1887.

The recreation ground off Queen's-walk was the scene on Wednesday of the first competition of the recently formed Nottingham Golf Club. One could hardly expect that the play throughout would be of a brilliant character, seeing that over two-thirds of the players were almost novices, but the progress made in some cases was marvellous, and it was very obvious from the exhibitions of Wednesday that the motto "Far and Sure," so dear to golfers, will at no distant date be a correct description of the play of some of those who for the first time tried their prowess in this invigorating pastime. The competition was for a medal given by the club to be played for monthly, and retained by the most frequent winner at the end of the year. The successful player was Mr. J. Doleman, sen., with the creditable scores of 73 strokes for the 14 holes, being twice round the course. The following couples started in the order given:—Messrs. R. Daft and Harris, R. F. Smith and H. B. Daft, F. C. Smith and Rev. A. H. Baynes, J. Doleman and I. McMeaking, Geo. Mackenzie and R. F. Brown, I. C. Mee and Jas. Henderson, Ross and Doleman, jun., Durran and E. Coleman, J. G. Harris and W. A. Harris, M. Doubleday (a bye).

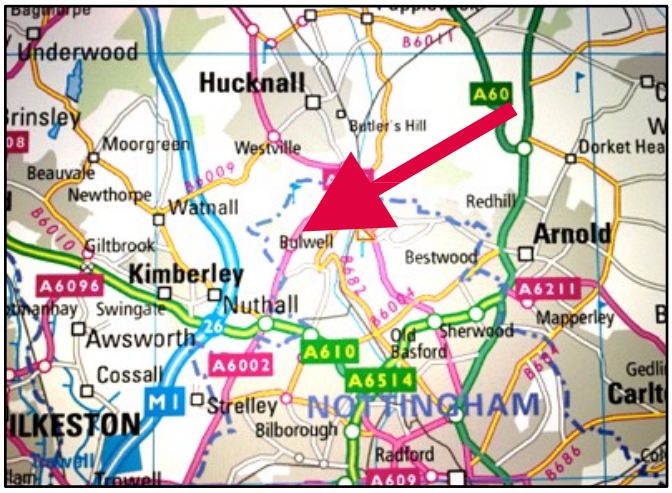
1887 First competition (9)

John Doleman took 73 strokes over 14 holes (2X7) at Queen's Walk

The Club was not content with a dull, flat town ground for their green. In December 1887 we find them on Bulwell Common, a breezy upland on the confines of the town and its varied surface, sandy soil, beautiful turf and terrifying hazards of gorse..." (10).

In the same year the red flag act allowed mechanical vehicles to travel no faster than 4mph if they were preceded by a man walking with a red flag. Within a year there were 43 members.

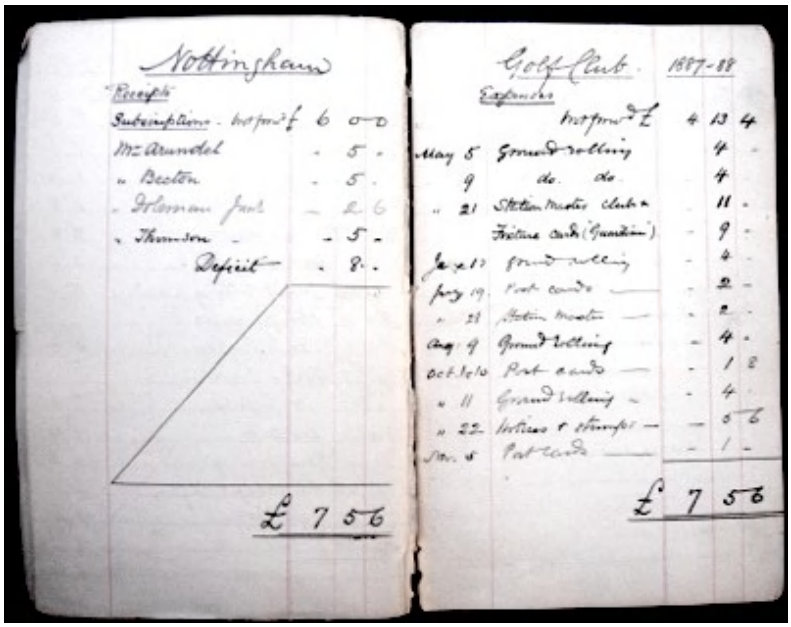
Mid 19th Century. Bulwell Forest by B Shipman It hangs above the mantlepiece in the dining room.



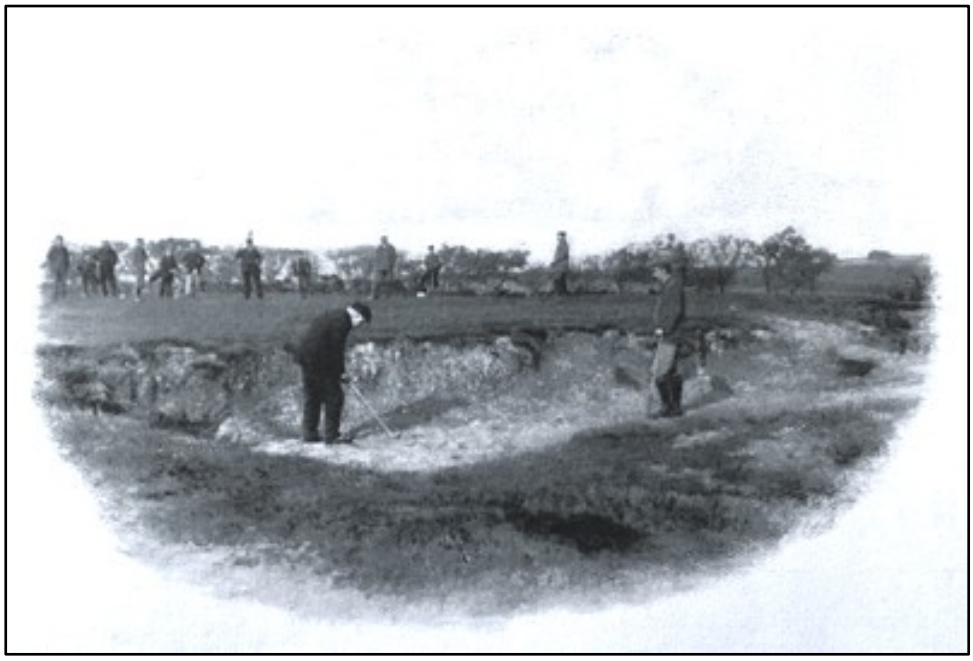
Bulwell Forest on today's map. There were 36 golf clubs in England at that time.

1887 John Doleman at Bulwell Forest.

On 1st November 1887 ‘The Nottingham Golf Club’ was formed (In January 1893 it was shortened to Notts. Golf Club).



1887 First accounts!



1890 Bulwell Plateau green and bunker
Horace Hutchinson 1897 (11).

They initially played over seven holes going round twice. Most of the members of the then ‘Nottingham Golf Club’ arrived by train.

Edmund Williamson was the Bulwell Forest railway station master. He allowed members to keep their clubs under the stairs of the family house and change in one of the rooms because initially there was no clubhouse. Bulwell Forest was where people played cricket, football, walked their dog or had a picnic. Golfers were a novelty and 'health and safety' had yet to arrive. The station house was positioned between the Forest and the railway line ('Forest' then meant open space set aside for hunting).
John Doleman later reminisced about first arriving at Bulwell Forest to play golf in an article, "...the porters and a lot of people gathered around them, quite curious to know what they were and what they were used for…(perhaps) they thought I was going to hit someone on the head with them" (12).

Most clubs employed 'custodians of the green', with club making, teaching and playing being of peripheral concern. In 1866 Blackheath engaged William and James Dunn to look after the course, and similarly Alnmouth employed Mungo Park (brother of Willie Park) in 1877. Royal North Devon, Blackheath and Hoylake went on to employ a series of professionals and clubmakers from 1866, 1868 and 1869 respectively, but this was unusual. In the Midlands, Whittington Heath, next to the barracks, had a few holes in 1886 but their first professional was only appointed in 1905. 'Notts. Golf Club' had not felt the need to employ a professional except on a temporary basis for lessons. In 1890 and 1891 the club engaged ‘Walker’ of St. Andrews for one-month spells to coach and paid him 1s 6d per round. In 1893 Mr. Milne of Montrose did the same and was paid 15 shillings a week, plus 1 shilling a round, plus any profit from club making. In 1895 John Herd Jr. of St. Andrews was engaged for three months, receiving 20 shillings a week.

Bulwell Forest 1887

THE

Nottingham ÷ Golf ÷ Club.

INSTITUTED 1887.

President—W. WRIGHT, ESQ.

Vice Presidents—F. C. SMITH, ESQ.
S. MACRAE, ESQ.
H. O. TAYLOR, ESQ.
C. E. M. S. PILKINGTON, ESQ.
P. COOPER, ESQ.

Captain—REV. A. H. BAYNES.

Hon. Secretary—MR. JOHN HARRIS.

Links—BULWELL COMMON,
(By Bulwell Forest Station).

FIXTURES.

For
Mr. COOPER'S GOLD MEDAL
AND
Mr. DAFT'S SILVER MEDAL
} 2nd Thursday of each Month.

CLUB'S SILVER MEDAL ... } Last Thursday of each Month.

These Medals to become the property of the most frequent winners during the year.

Meetings at 2.0 p.m. from Oct. 1st to April 1st, and at 4.0 p.m. from April 1st to Oct. 1st.

Members may play on preceding Saturday to these dates if more convenient.

The Rules of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club (St. Andrews) to be adhered to.

Copies of the Rules may be had from Mr. R. Daft, St. Peter's Square, Nottingham.

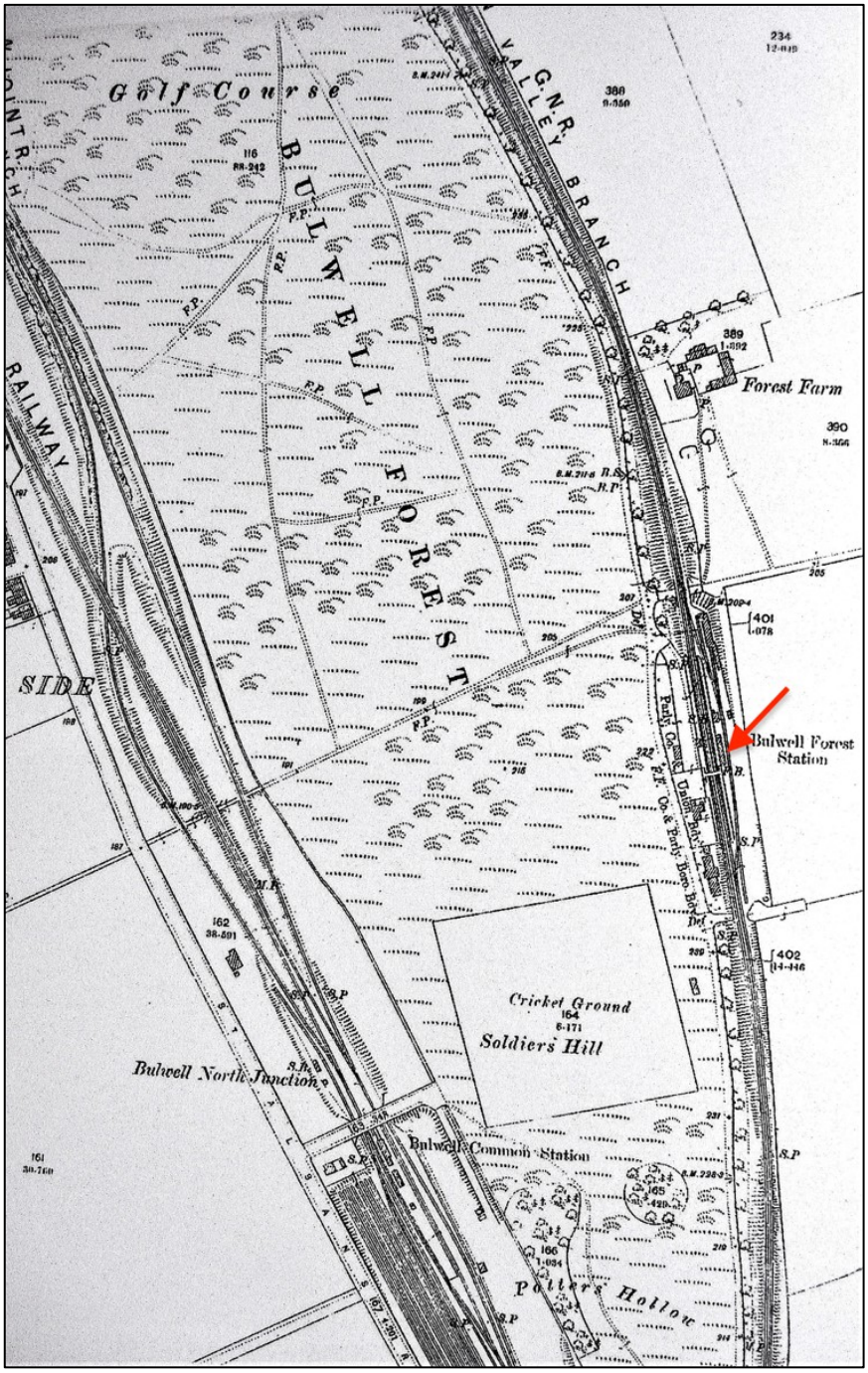
1887 'The Nottingham Golf Club' at Bulwell Forest

1889 Caddies, with the Station Master's house left.

The first tee was opposite Bulwell Forest station. Edmund Williamson was the stationmaster, and he became captain of the Artisans Club. His son Tom became Notts. Professional for 54 years and played in the Open Championship over 50 years (see chapter on Tom Williamson).

1889 The Williamson Family at Bulwell Station Left to right back row: Edmund (father), Lilian (mother), unknown, Tom. Front row: Hugh, Fanny, Edmund Jr.

1889 Bulwell Forest 6 holes played 3 times = 18
1890 Bulwell Forest nine holes
1893 Bulwell Forest fourteen holes
1894 Eighteen holes and pavilion built of wire woven paper for £500, it was heated by a few fire grates.
1891 The club jacket, red with green facings, was available from JJ Rowe for £1.3s.6d.

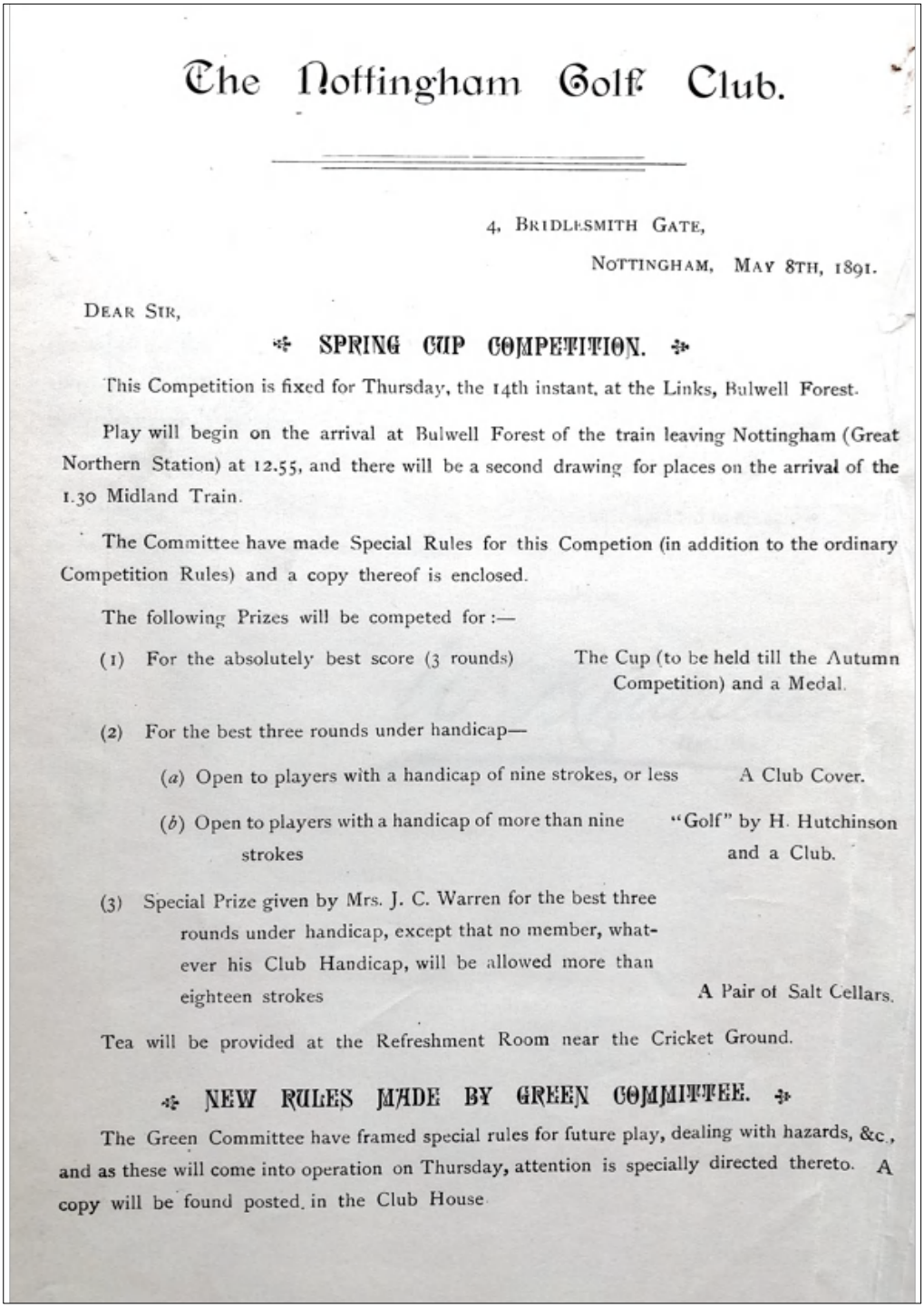


Bulwell Forest 1900 (Red arrow Railway Station)

It was on the 3rd December 1887 that the first competition was held at Bulwell Forest. Tom Williamson was 7 years old. His life was to become intricately associated with Notts. Golf Club.

1889 Nottingham GC Clubhouse at Bulwell.

1890 Frying-pan and Salter's Hill at Bulwell Forest
Horace Hutchinson 1897 (11).



The Nottingham Golf Club.

4, Bridlesmith Gate,

Nottingham, May 8th, 1891.

Dear Sir,

SPRING CUP COMPETITION.

This Competition is fixed for Thursday, the 14th instant, at the Links, Bulwell Forest.

Play will begin on the arrival at Bulwell Forest of the train leaving Nottingham (Great Northern Station) at 12.55, and there will be a second drawing for places on the arrival of the 1.30 Midland Train.

The Committee have made Special Rules for this Competion (in addition to the ordinary Competition Rules) and a copy thereof is enclosed.

The following Prizes will be competed for :—

(1) For the absolutely best score (3 rounds) — The Cup (to be held till the Autumn Competition) and a Medal.

(2) For the best three rounds under handicap—

(*a*) Open to players with a handicap of nine strokes, or less — A Club Cover.

(*b*) Open to players with a handicap of more than nine strokes — "Golf" by H. Hutchinson and a Club.

(3) Special Prize given by Mrs. J. C. Warren for the best three rounds under handicap, except that no member, whatever his Club Handicap, will be allowed more than eighteen strokes — A Pair of Salt Cellars.

Tea will be provided at the Refreshment Room near the Cricket Ground.

NEW RULES MADE BY GREEN COMMITTEE.

The Green Committee have framed special rules for future play, dealing with hazards, &c., and as these will come into operation on Thursday, attention is specially directed thereto. A copy will be found posted in the Club House.

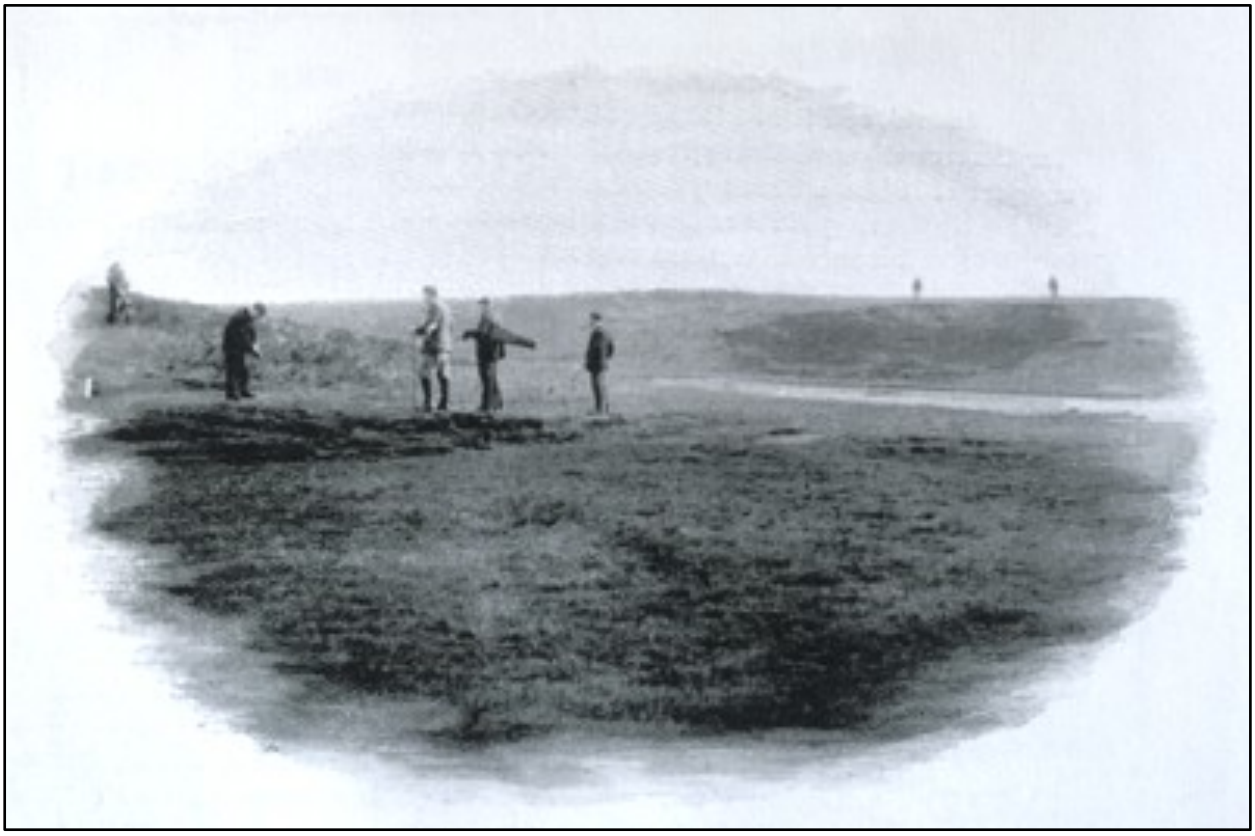
1890 Notice of Spring Cup
Note letter heading of 'The Nottingham Golf Club'.

1892 It was unanimously carried that the handicapping committee were empowered to alter handicaps *"...from time to time as they might deem proper"*.

Nottingham was a thriving manufacturing town and the club soon enlarged, with members coming from the John Player family (cigarettes), Birkens (lacemaking), Hickling and Pentecost (dyers), lawyers, as well as the clergy and an occasional member of the aristocracy.

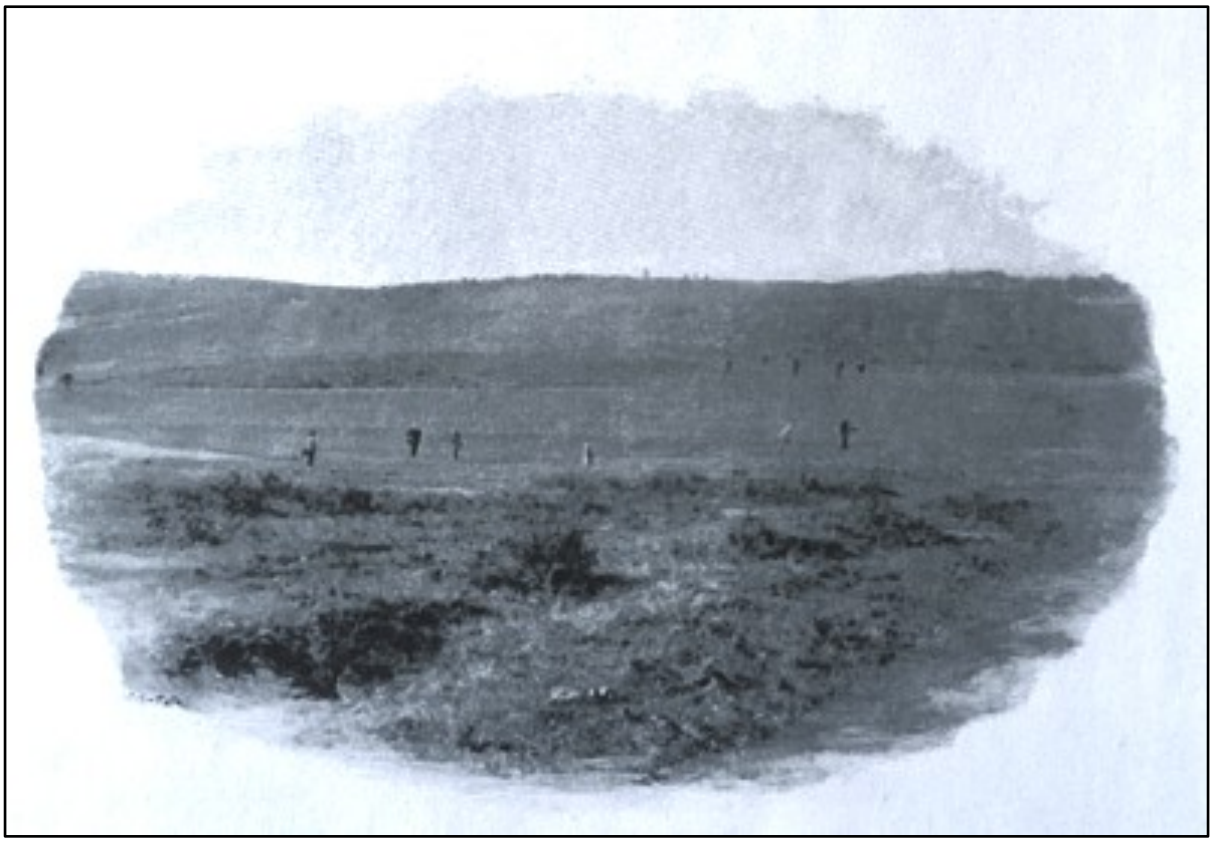
NAME.	ADDRESS.	HANDICAP.
Arundel, R. S.	64, Maple Street, Hyson Green	Scratch
Broadhurst, H. M.P.	7, Lambert Rd., Brixton Rise, London, S.W.	Allow 6 Strokes
Brown, R. F.	Stanley Common, Derby	,, 18 ,,
Beddard, F.	Park Terrace	,, 18 ,,
Beckton, A. C., Rev.	3, North Circus Street.	,, 6 ,,
Barlow, Albert.	Larkdale Street	,, 27 ,,
Carey, W. H.	Bulwell	,, 21 ,,
Durran, J.	4, Clyde Street	,, 12 ,,
Doubleday, M.	Carrington Street	,, 24 ,,
Daft, R.	St. Peter's Square	,, 21 ,,
Daft, H. B.	St. Peter's Square	,, 21 ,,
Doleman, J.	108, Goldsmith Street	Add 3 ,,
Dowson, H. A.	Clumber Road, The Park	Allow 21 ,,
Davidson, S.	12, Winchester Street, Sherwood	,, 18 ,,
Evans, R. Junr.	South Road, The Park	,, 18 ,,
Fisher, H.	Duke William Mount, The Park	,, 24 ,,
Field, E. W.	Aspley Hall, Notts	,, 36 ,,
Goode, G.	31, Guthrie Street, Radford	,, 36 ,,
Groves, S.	Weekday Cross	,, 15 ,,
Goudie, G. M.	Victoria Street	,, 18 ,,
Henderson, J.	Chapel Bar	,, 15 ,,
Harris, J.	Wollaton	Add 3 ,,
Hamilton, W. R.	4, Bridlesmith Gate	Allow 27 ,,
Hutton, W. H.	Hamilton Drive, The Park	,, 21 ,,
Hine, G. C.	5, Holborn Villas, The Park	,, 18 ,,
Hutchinson, J. S.	Woodhouse Place, Mansfield	,, 24 ,,
Howitt, A. G.	42, Hampden Street	,, 30 ,,
Johnstone, J.	St. Peter's Gate	,, 18 ,,
Jordan, G. F.	Wollaton	,, 27 ,,
Lambert, T.	7, Third Avenue, Sherwood Rise	,, 18 ,,
McMeeking, J.	39, Lower Talbot Street	,, 3 ,,
McCulloch, T.	Bulwell	,, 15 ,,
Macrae, S.	Newark	,, 9 ,,
Mackenzie, G.	Newark	,, 18 ,,
Mee, C. J.	Wollaton	,, 21 ,,
Oswald, R. D.	25, Tennyson Street.	Scratch
Ogden,		Allow 30 Strokes
Ross, A.	6, Upper Talbot Street	,, 24 ,,
Scott, James.	Wollaton	,, 21 ,,
Smith, R. F.	Bramcote	,, 6 ,,
Smith, H. F.	Bramcote	,, 6 ,,
Seals, G.	Beeston.	,, 15 ,,
Wright, H. S., M.P.	4, Chelsea Embankment, London	,, 24 ,,
Wright, W.	Wollaton	,, 24 ,,
Williamson, J.	Bulwell Forest Station	,, 12 ,,
Warren, J. C.	47, Lenton Road, The Park.	Scratch
Wardle, C. S.	Magdala House, Lucknow Road	Allow 15 Strokes
Webster, F.	Wollaton	,, 21 ,,

1890 members



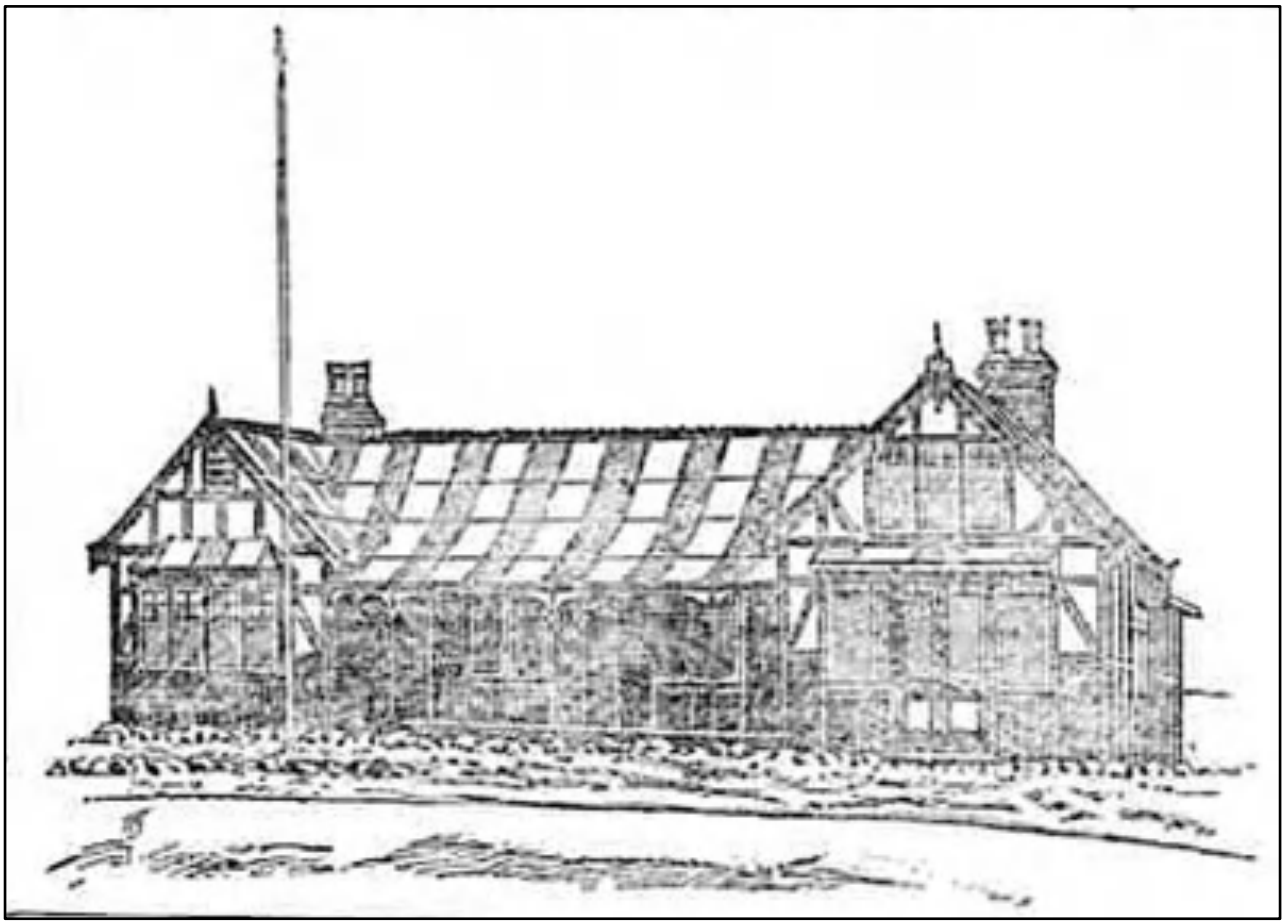
1890 Bulwell 15th tee and Nic's Dale
Horace Hutchinson 1897 (11).

1893 Medal. Note 'Nottinghamshire Golf Club'. The club started as the Nottingham Golf Club then became the Nottinghamshire Golf Club before Notts. Golf Club in 1893. This medal was derived from the city's coat of arms, and the 1986 logo became based on it.



1890 Bulwell 1st green & Plateau hole in distance. Horace Hutchinson 1897 (11).

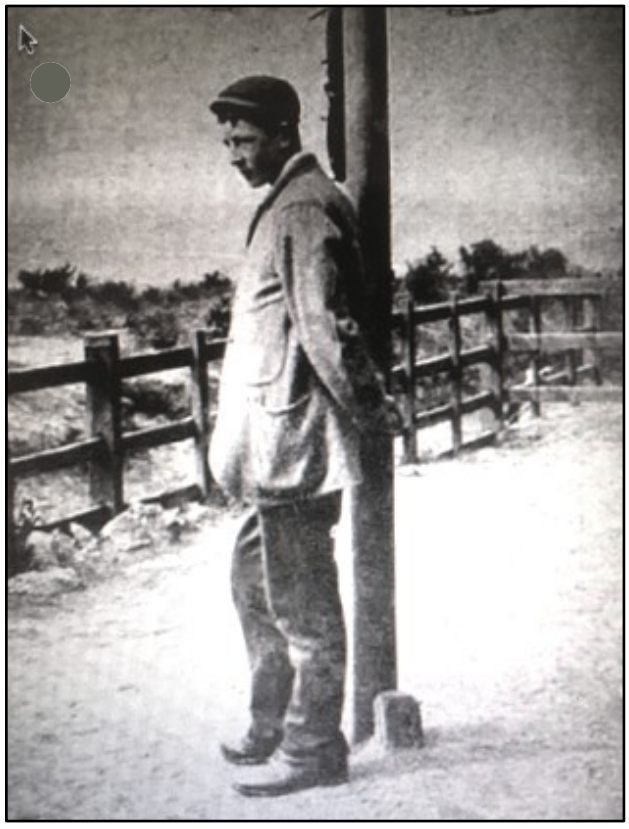
1897 Bulwell Forest 9th tee, note the box holding sand with which to make tees.



The pavilion with its extension (13).

Boys playing outside the pavilion - a member of the green staff on the right looks in danger!

1891 Notts. Ladies Golf Club was formed.
1893 First match against Cambridge University.
1895 A motion to have alcoholic beverages was defeated. Ten days later the motion was carried! In 1985 at the age of fifteen Tom Williamson was sent to learn club-making with JH Hutchison in North Berwick. There he received a broad training which included green keeping and golf tuition which were to stand him in good stead. Hutchison had a great influence on Tom, not only in teaching him his trade, but also in being an innovator working on the development of new clubs such as a hammer headed club.



Tom Williamson aged 16

In 1896 Tom Williamson, at the age of 16, was engaged ‘temporarily’ on 5 shillings a week. He was *never* formally asked to stay.

His letter of instruction included:

1. He should be at the service of any member to play with them at a charge of 1s 6d a round.
2. He should take charge of the clubhouse and be responsible for its safety.
3. He should manage the caddies and the caddie shelter.
4. He should conduct the medal days.
5. He should assist in keeping the course and greens in order giving your services upon them for 8 hours a week.
6. You should take profits from making, mending and selling clubs and balls.
7. I want to make it quite clear that the engagement is temporary.

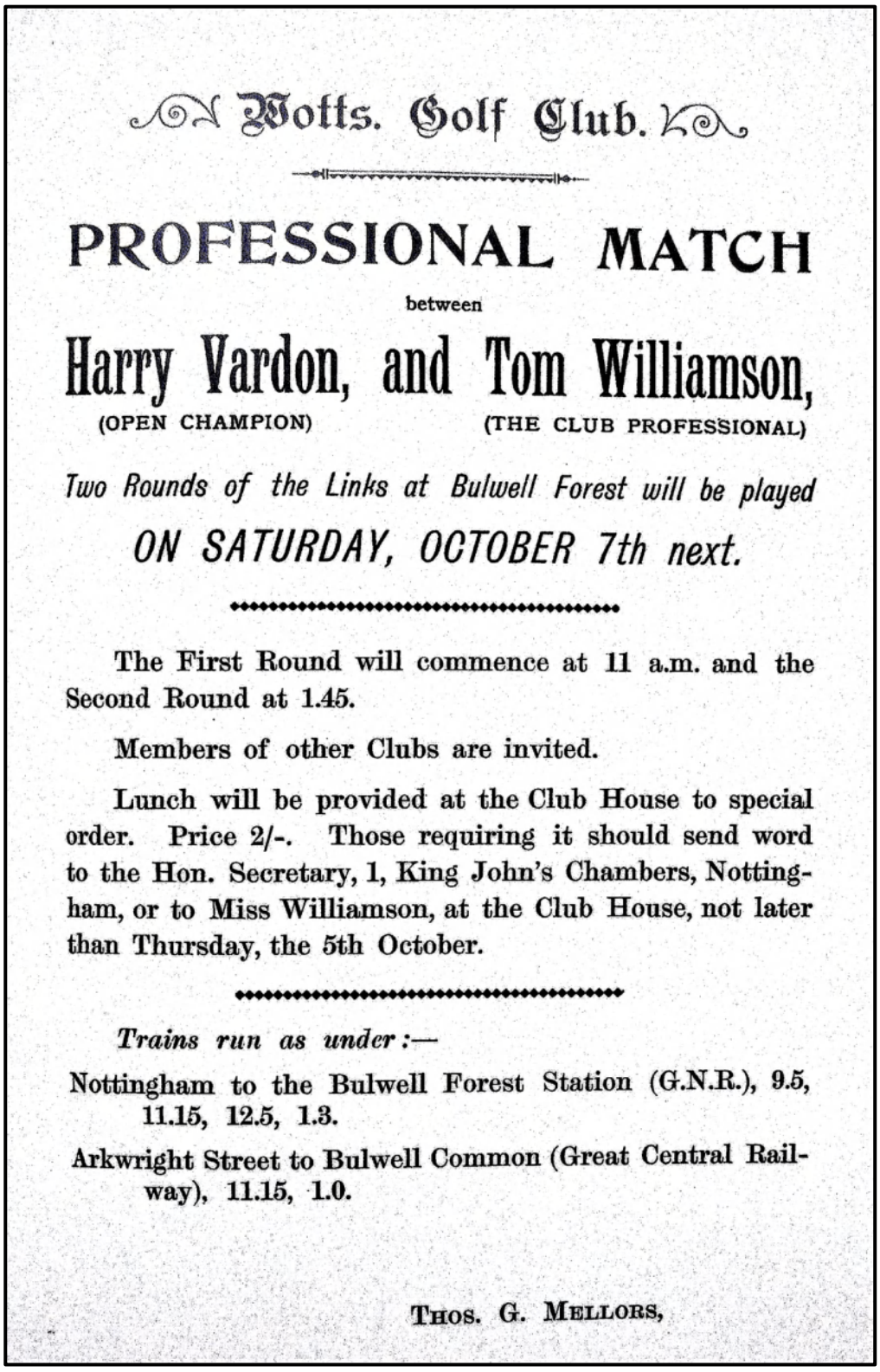
1897 Midland Professionals' Golf Meeting held at Sutton Club (Tom - red arrow).

1897 Nottingham Town Council wanted to use much of Bulwell Common as a cemetery but after lobbying this was withdrawn. The club felt they had no security of tenure and non-golfers also used the common. It was not uncommon to find a tea party on a green! They set about looking for an alternative site.

One of the members of the 'Nottingham Golf Club' offered £10 toward the expenses for a match between the Open Champion, Harry Vardon, and Ben Sayers of North Berwick. Another member offered to help financially as well, and it took place on 12th November 1896. The tournament resulted in a tie, and after subscriptions amounting to £23.4s.0d had been received, Vardon was given £9.2s.6d and Sayers £10.7s.6d as his travelling expenses were more. Tom caddied for Ben Sayers.

1896 Harry Vardon vs Ben Sayers
Tom Williamson right.

In 1899 Just three years later it was Tom Williamson who was playing Harry Vardon (the Open Champion) over 36 holes. *Tom was only 19 years old.*



Wotts. Golf Club.

PROFESSIONAL MATCH

between

Harry Vardon, and Tom Williamson,

(OPEN CHAMPION) (THE CLUB PROFESSIONAL)

Two Rounds of the Links at Bulwell Forest will be played

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7th next.

The First Round will commence at 11 a.m. and the Second Round at 1.45.

Members of other Clubs are invited.

Lunch will be provided at the Club House to special order. Price 2/-. Those requiring it should send word to the Hon. Secretary, 1, King John's Chambers, Nottingham, or to Miss Williamson, at the Club House, not later than Thursday, the 5th October.

Trains run as under:—

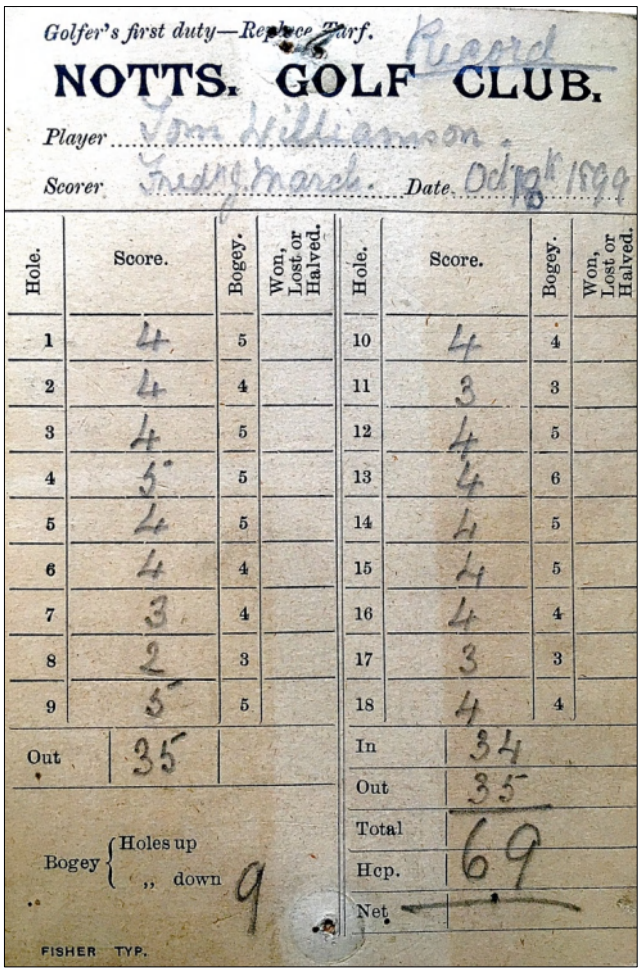
Nottingham to the Bulwell Forest Station (G.N.R.), 9.5, 11.15, 12.5, 1.3.

Arkwright Street to Bulwell Common (Great Central Railway), 11.15, 1.0.

THOS. G. MELLORS,

Miss Williamson referred to in the poster was Tom's sister.

‘Dormy’ of the 'Nottingham Guardian', an anonymous reporter who wrote regularly on golfing in and around Nottingham, wrote about the recent victory by Harry Vardon in the Open at Sandwich and went on to describe Tom Williamson’s round. *"Tom Williamson, the young Notts. Professional, merits congratulation on the fine form he exhibited at Sandwich, and on the splendid position he achieved in the list of returns. His rounds were 76, 84, 80 and 86, total 326; a performance which enabled him to tie for ninth place. His first round of 76 tied with the record for the green, established the day before by Mr. FG Tait…. With increasing years and experience – his age is but 19 – he is bound to come to the front in future championship competitions" (14).*



Golfer's first duty—Replace Turf.

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB.

Record

Player Tom Williamson.

Scorer Tedy March. Date Oct 19th 1899

Hole.	Score.	Bogey.	Won, Lost or Halved.	Hole.	Score.	Bogey.	Won, Lost or Halved.
1	4	5		10	4	4	
2	4	4		11	3	3	
3	4	5		12	4	5	
4	5	5		13	4	6	
5	4	5		14	4	5	
6	4	4		15	4	5	
7	3	4		16	4	4	
8	2	3		17	3	3	
9	5	5		18	4	4	
Out	35			In	34		
				Out	35		
				Total	69		
Bogey	Holes up / ,, down 9			Hcp.			
				Net			

FISHER TYP.

1899
Tom Williamson’s
69 course record
(par 79).

1899 Harry Vardon playing Tom Williamson.

Harry Vardon (the Open Champion) played Tom Williamson in a 36 holes match.
"The exhibition of golf reached the highest standard of excellence. ...the approach play of both men was wonderfully accurate, the Notts. professional more than holding his own in this respect.... It was heavily contested from start to finish; the players never being separated by no more than two holes. Vardon won by two shots" (15).

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB
COMMISSARIAT.

TARIFF OF CHARGES FOR REFRESHMENTS.

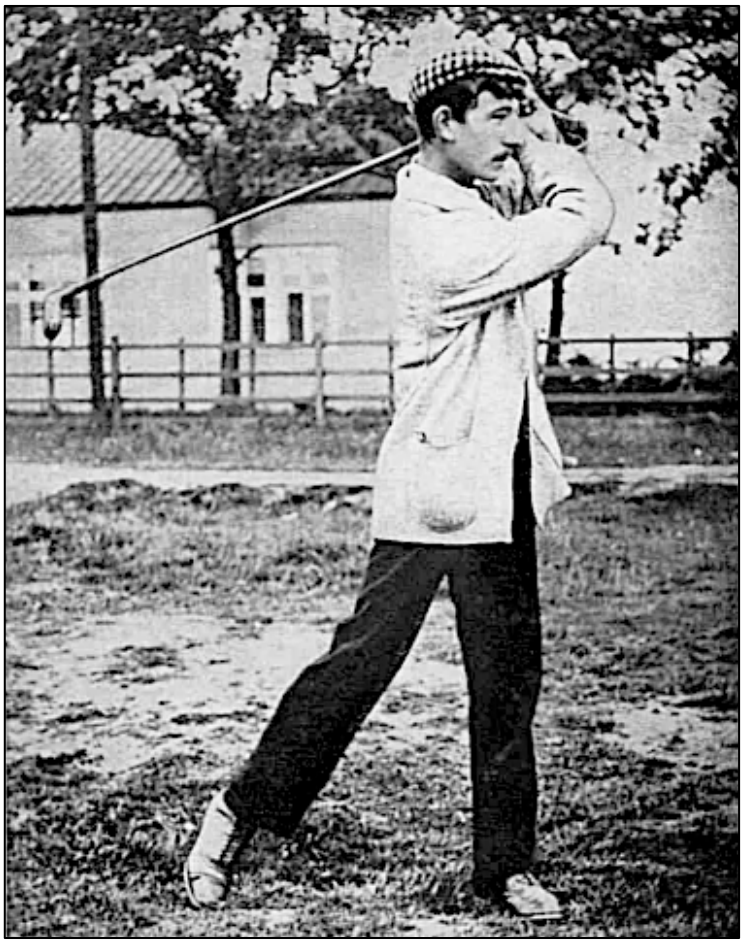
Cold Joint with Bread and Potatoes -	1/3
Hot Joint with ditto - - - - - -	1/6
Chop or Steak with ditto - - - -	1/3
Bread and Cheese with Butter (to follow)	-/3
Do. do. do. (only) -	-/6
Cup of Tea - - - - - - - - -	-/3
Pot of Tea with Bread and Butter - -	-/6
Ditto and cold Meat - - - - - -	1/3
Ditto and two Eggs - - - - - -	-/9
Ditto and Bacon and Eggs - - - -	1/-
Ditto and Sardines - - - - - -	1/-
Jam, Biscuits or Cake - - - - -	-/2

Large Whisky -	6d.	Small Brandy -	6d.
Small ditto -	4d.	Small Beer or Stout - -	3d.
Large Soda -	4d.	Large Gin - -	8d.
Small Soda -	2d.	Small Gin -	4d.
Stone Ginger -	3d.	Sloe Gin - -	3d.
Large Seltzer -	4d.	Cherry Brandy -	3d.
Lemonade -	4d.	Lime Juice and Apollinaris -	6d.
Large Brandy -	8d.		

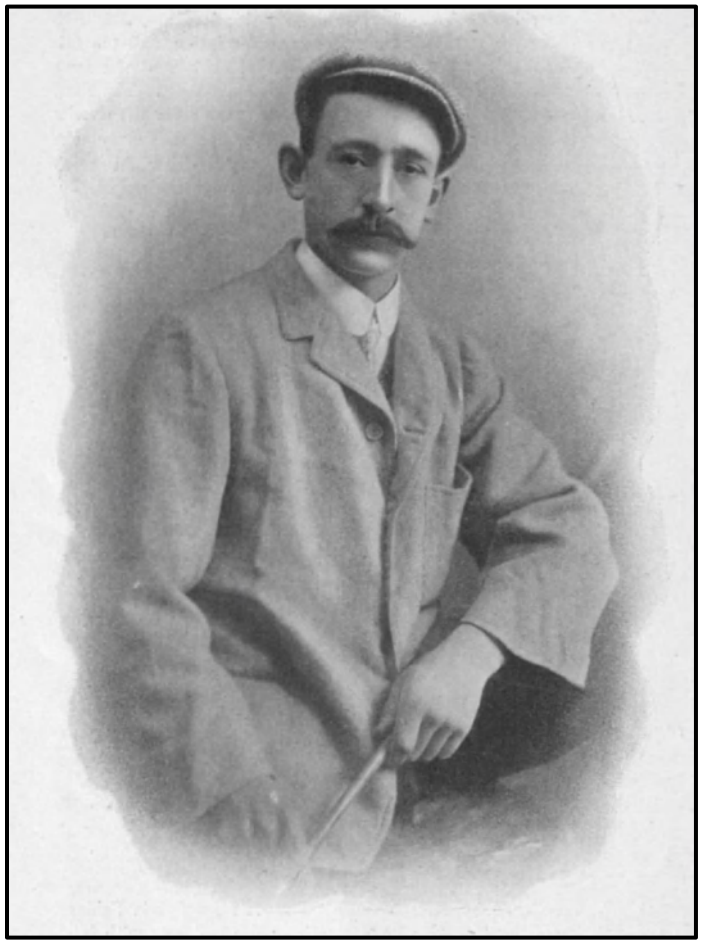
HOT AND COLD LUNCHEONS subject to order previous day.

July 1899 *House Committee.*

1899 Menu, with Cherry Brandy!



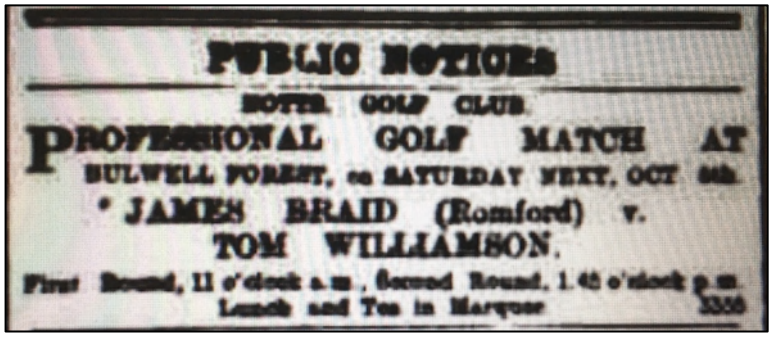
Tom Williamson
Aged 20



Tom Williamson
1903

1900 Ground staff

1900 Bulwell Forest



PUBLIC NOTICES

[illegible] GOLF CLUB.

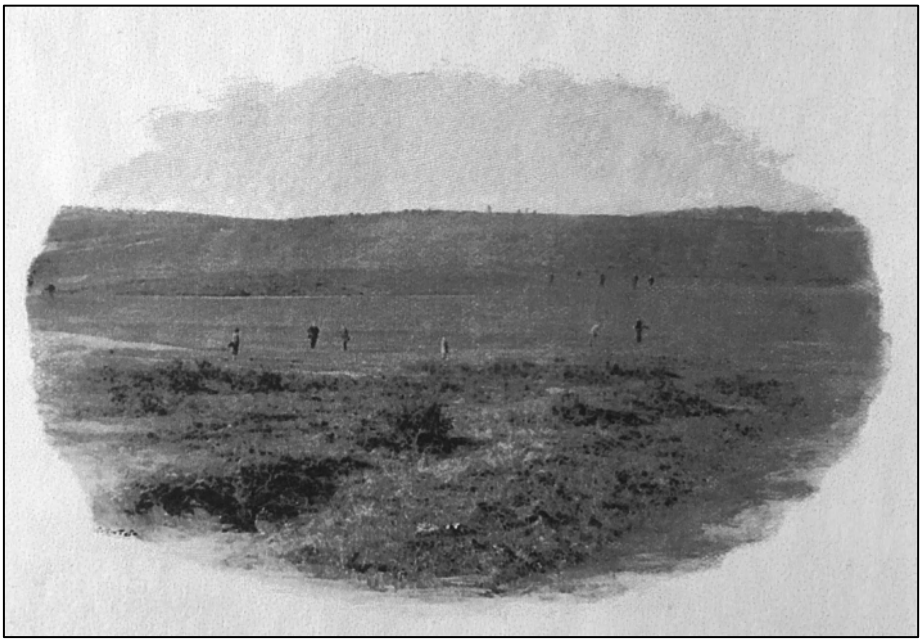
PROFESSIONAL GOLF MATCH AT BULWELL FOREST, on SATURDAY NEXT, OCT 8th.

JAMES BRAID (Romford) v. TOM WILLIAMSON.

First Round, 11 o'clock a.m., Second Round, 1.45 o'clock p.m.
Lunch and Tea in Marquee

An exhibition match took place at Bulwell Forest between Tom Williamson and James Braid. Braid hit the ball 488 yards in two shots and beat Tom by one shot in the morning and four shots in the afternoon (16).

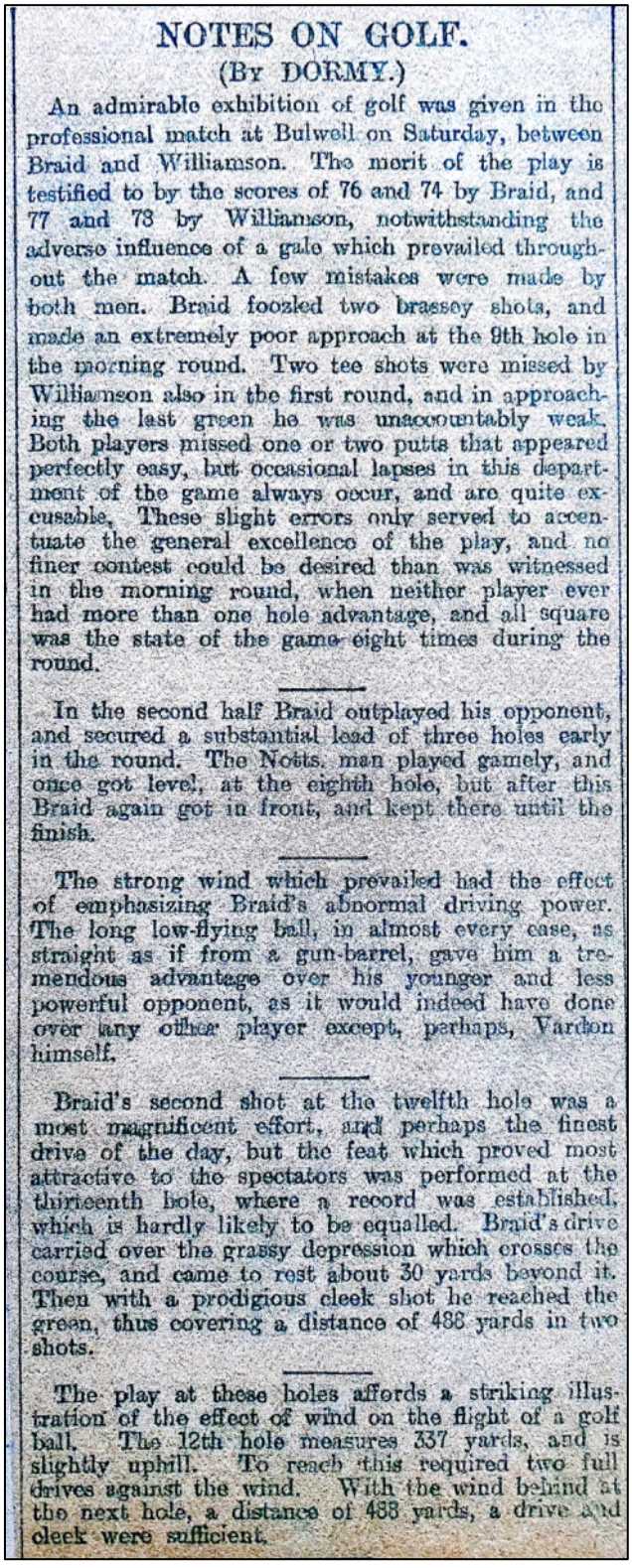
Above: Tom Williamson hits a shot; the ball can be seen as a smudge in the air.
Below: First green with plateau hole in the distance.



Bulwell Forest
1900

C Pilkington
He was deaf and could not speak, a scratch golfer, and he worked for Tom Williamson for 40 years as well as caddying for William Holmes of Viyella.

1900
Bulwell Forest pavilion is on the right with the station master's house is past that.



NOTES ON GOLF.

(By DORMY.)

An admirable exhibition of golf was given in the professional match at Bulwell on Saturday, between Braid and Williamson. The merit of the play is testified to by the scores of 76 and 74 by Braid, and 77 and 78 by Williamson, notwithstanding the adverse influence of a gale which prevailed throughout the match. A few mistakes were made by both men. Braid foozled two brassey shots, and made an extremely poor approach at the 9th hole in the morning round. Two tee shots were missed by Williamson also in the first round, and in approaching the last green he was unaccountably weak. Both players missed one or two putts that appeared perfectly easy, but occasional lapses in this department of the game always occur, and are quite excusable. These slight errors only served to accentuate the general excellence of the play, and no finer contest could be desired than was witnessed in the morning round, when neither player ever had more than one hole advantage, and all square was the state of the game eight times during the round.

In the second half Braid outplayed his opponent, and secured a substantial lead of three holes early in the round. The Notts. man played gamely, and once got level, at the eighth hole, but after this Braid again got in front, and kept there until the finish.

The strong wind which prevailed had the effect of emphasizing Braid's abnormal driving power. The long low-flying ball, in almost every case, as straight as if from a gun-barrel, gave him a tremendous advantage over his younger and less powerful opponent, as it would indeed have done over any other player except, perhaps, Vardon himself.

Braid's second shot at the twelfth hole was a most magnificent effort, and perhaps the finest drive of the day, but the feat which proved most attractive to the spectators was performed at the thirteenth hole, where a record was established, which is hardly likely to be equalled. Braid's drive carried over the grassy depression which crosses the course, and came to rest about 30 yards beyond it. Then with a prodigious cleek shot he reached the green, thus covering a distance of 488 yards in two shots.

The play at these holes affords a striking illustration of the effect of wind on the flight of a golf ball. The 12th hole measures 337 yards, and is slightly uphill. To reach this required two full drives against the wind. With the wind behind at the next hole, a distance of 488 yards, a drive and cleek were sufficient.

Braid vs Williamson

Braid 76 and 74, Williamson 77 and 78 "The strong wind which prevailed had the effect of emphasising Braid's abnormal driving power. The long low-flying ball, in almost every case, as straight as if from a gun barrel" (17).

1900 James Braid vs Tom Williamson Braid hitting his shot and Tom next with his back to the viewer.

1900 Bulwell Forest Clubhouse, Tom on the right.

James Braid (left) and Tom Williamson prior to their 36-hole match at Bulwell Forest in Nottinghamshire on 6th October 1900.

"Williamson has an important engagement for Friday next, when he opposes Bernard Sayers at North Berwick. The ultimate knowledge that Sayers possesses of North Berwick green ought to stand him in good stead, but Williamson has youth on his side, and a well contested game is anticipated" (17).

*"...several fine villas will overlook the course (*in North Berwick) *that never did so before. But few golfers will count these as improvements, and many who used to enjoy the privacy of the links in old days will consign them mentally to the bottom of the Forth".* No record of the result can be found.

Tom Williamson 1900

1886 Map of Kirkby Forest

1899 CR Hemingway was contracting for a tunnel on behalf of the railway when he noticed Kirkby Forest and the "...*bleak and barren hills of Annesley, admirably varied in character*" (in the Ordnance Survey map above).

This is the seed of the idea that became Hollinwell. It was in an isolated area not served by road and in any case, there were not many cars then. The problem was how to arrange transport there. There were two train lines in the area, but they did not stop in the vicinity.

In his autobiography Nelson Bromley, written at the age of 84 and possibly with some poetic license, wrote that he and Mr. Ransom, a solicitor, coming from Mansfield by train pointed out of the train, spotted the area and said, *"There you are!"* He also wrote that whilst staying in Newquay on holiday he met the chairman of LNER in the same hotel (it was the Great Northern at the time and only later did it become the LNER). He commented that he broached the question of providing a station if a golf course was made and claims these initiated discussions led to a service to Hollinwell. However, it was the Manchester, Sheffield and Leicester railway (soon to be the Great Central Railway) that was then built and stopped at Hollinwell so it seems improbable that this contact would have encouraged a competitor to build an adjacent line!?

It is more likely that the award of Life Membership in 1900 (before the course had even opened) to the Vice-Chairman of The Great Central Railway Company, Mr. J Johnstone, in recognition of his help in providing the service to Hollinwell, is how the wheels were oiled!

June 1900 Pilkington accompanied Tom Williamson as his caddie for the Open at St. Andrews (18).

September 1900 A report on the prospect of a course at Kirkby Forest, “The land slopes from the plateau lying between Annesley and Kirkby, towards the woods of Newstead, and is situated amid surroundings of great natural beauty. The soil is of the right sort, light and sandy, and the site generally is eminently well adapted to the formation of an excellent golf links” (19).

At a General Meeting on 23rd October 1900 members met to consider the proposals, *“…in regard to new Golf Links at Kirkby Forest.”* The committee advised that Notts. Golf Club became incorporated as a company limited by guarantee. The annual subscription was set at £2 2s. 0d and for anyone joining the following year £3 3s. 0d. The lease from the Ecclesiastical Commission was for 50 years with a rental of £30 for the first year and £60 per year after that… "*The great difficulty about the land is the risk of damage thereto through the working of minerals… It is only right to point out that if there were no such risks as above stated, it is certain that so low a rental could not have been arranged. In order to erect and fit up a club house and make a first-class course, it is proposed to raise a sum not exceeding £3,500 by an issue of 4% debenture stock in amounts of £5 and multiples thereof…*"

October 1900 'Nottingham Guardian' reported by 'Dormy': Willie Park had carefully surveyed the ground, staked out a course, and reported in terms of the highest praise on its suitability for golfing purposes. The Great Central Railway have undertaken to provide a station within minutes' walk of the course, conditional on the guarantee of receipts amounting £200 a year (20). In 1900 at the George Hotel 86 members met with 32 for and 31 voting against a move to Hollinwell.

The name Hollinwell was based on the spring near the 8th tee from which the monks from nearby Newstead Priory are thought to have drunk (below).

Hollinwell was developed from money that its members loaned. Subsequently many of these members relinquished the right to their loan.

KIRKBY FOREST GOLF COURSE.

Scheme to be submitted to the General Meeting of the Notts. Golf Club, on Tuesday, October 23rd, 1900.

Arrangements have been effected with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for obtaining a Lease of about 250 acres, at Kirkby Forest, upon the following terms :—

TERM OF LEASE, 50 years, from 11th October, 1900, terminable by Lessors or Lessees at the end of 25 years, or at any subsequent 5th year.

RENT, for 25 years, £60 per annum, with a £10 rise each subsequent 5 years.

Lease is to determine in case surface is so irretrievably damaged by working of the Minerals as to prevent the land being used for a Golf Course, and if such determination occurs during the first 25 years of the term, Lessees to have the option of taking a Building Lease for 99 years of 16 acres (which are specified), at £5 per acre per annum, by which it is expected that the money expended in the Course, or the greater part thereof, may be recouped.

The Course has been staked out under the advise of Willie Park, Junr., and the work of clearing the ground and forming the Greens and Tees has commenced.

Arrangements have been made with the Great Central Railway Company for a Station to be erected within 500 yards of the proposed Club House, and negotiations are in progress for a convenient service of trains, upon a guarantee being given to make up (if necessary) their receipts at the Station during the first five years to £200 per annum.

It is anticipated that a sum of £3,500 will be required to erect and fit up a Club House and make a First-class Course ready for use, and it is proposed to raise the necessary sum by an issue of £3,500 of 4 %. Debentures.

It is suggested that the Notts. Golf Club should remove from Bulwell and take over the Course, under the following Scheme :—

The Notts. Golf Club to become incorporated as a Company, limited by Guarantee, by which each Member would undertake to contribute to the Assets of the Company in the event of the same being wound up during his Membership, or within one year thereafter, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a Member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £5.

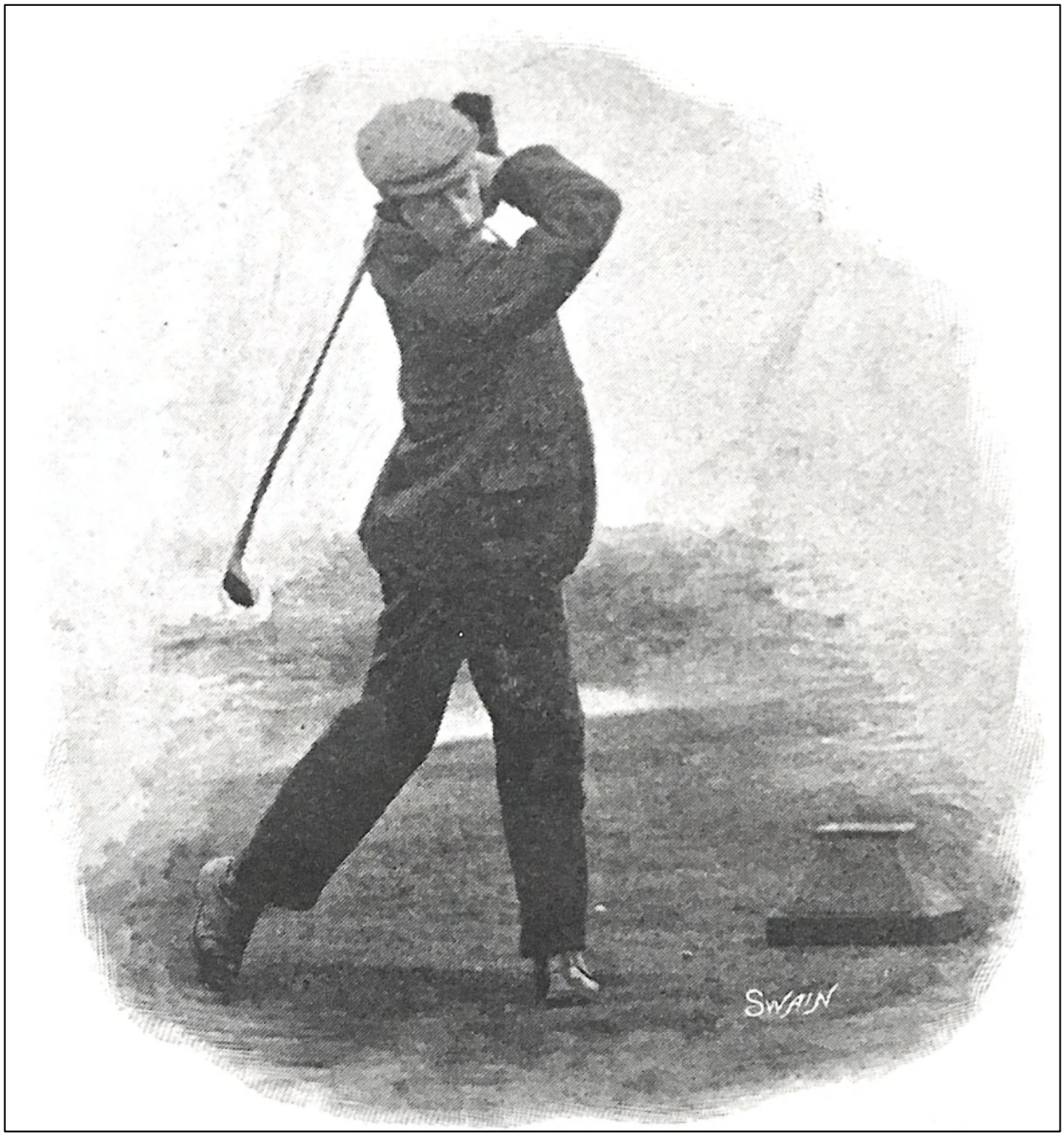
Lease to be taken on behalf of the Notts. Golf Club.

An issue of £3,500 of 4 %. Debentures, in amounts of £10, to be made, to which the Members will be entitled to subscribe. Such Debentures to confer voting powers upon the Holders proportionate to their value.

£100 per annum to be placed to a Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Debentures.

Subscription to present Members to be £3 3s. od. per annum, without further increase to present Members. New Members to pay such Entrance Fee and such increased Annual Subscription as may be decided upon.

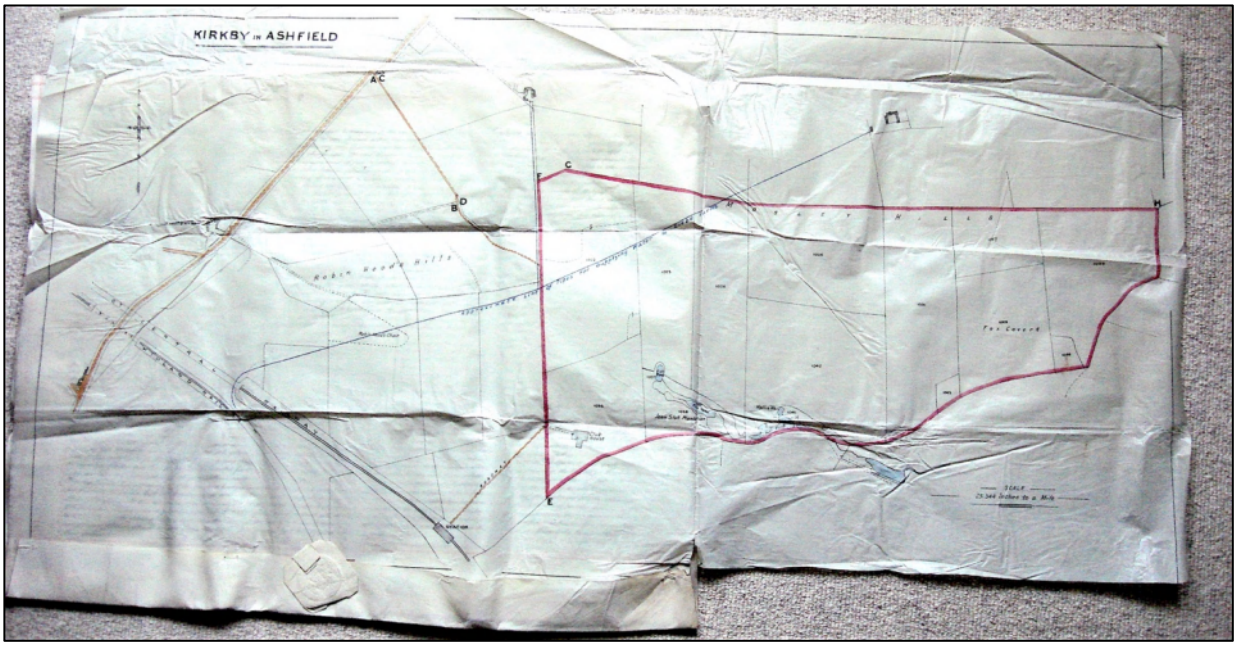
The effect of this Scheme would be to give the Club and its Members a proprietary interest in the property and security of tenure.



Tom Williamson 1900
Quite a follow-through!

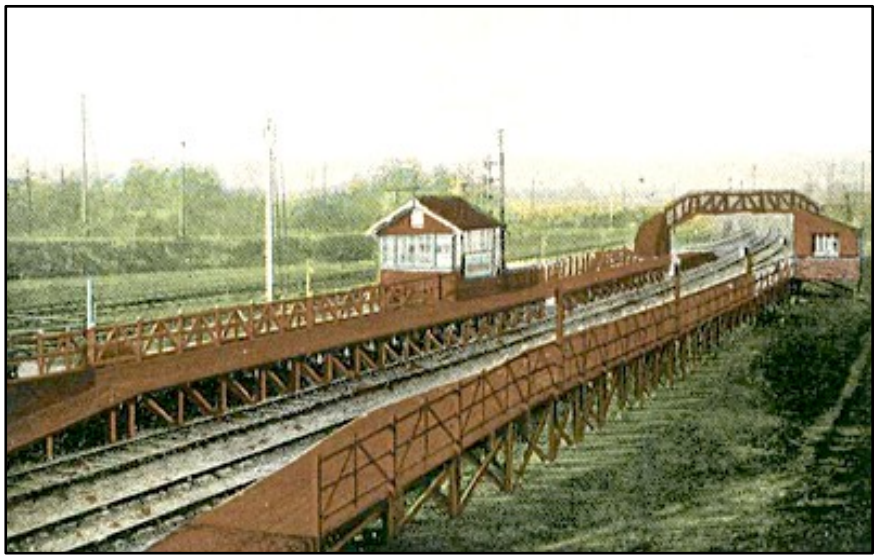
Leasing the land that is Hollinwell

Initially 217 acres were leased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Debentures amounting to £3,450 were raised from 210 members. The subscription was 2 guineas, and 3 guineas for those who joined after the move. Willie Park Jr. was asked to design the course. The land was rented from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for £30 for the first year and then £60 a year for 25 years. The cost was low because the shaft of Newstead Colliery was nearby. A trial bore hole showed there to be sandstone five feet below a surface that was largely composed of sand.

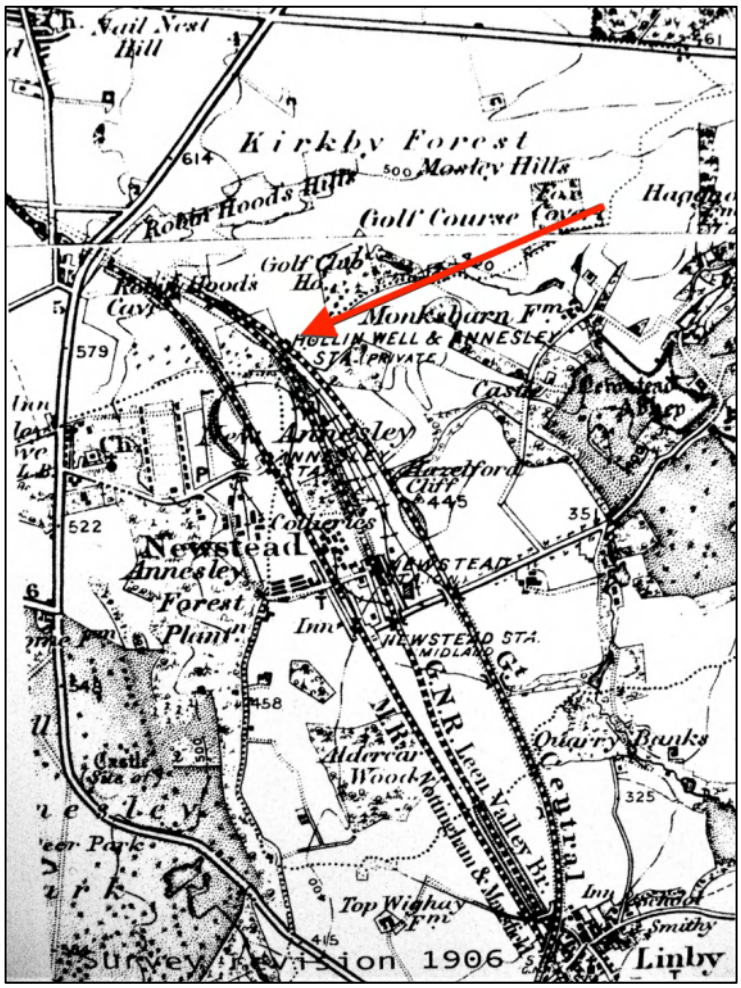


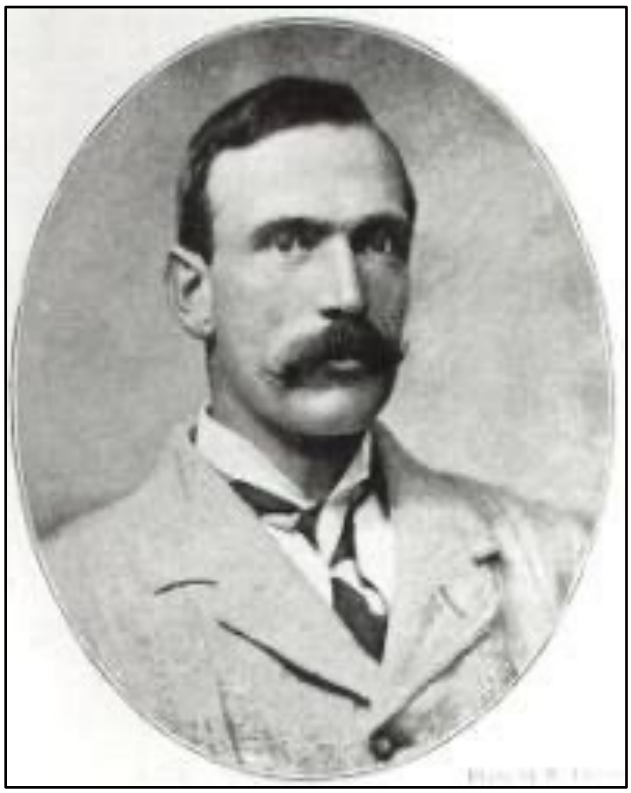
1901 Lease from the Ecclesiastical Commission. The Great Central Railway Company agreed to provide a service from Victoria Station, Nottingham (see section on railways).

In 1901 the new course at Kirkby Forest, called Hollinwell, was opened on 3rd November. Events revolved around the train timetable and without a train service the course would not have been viable.

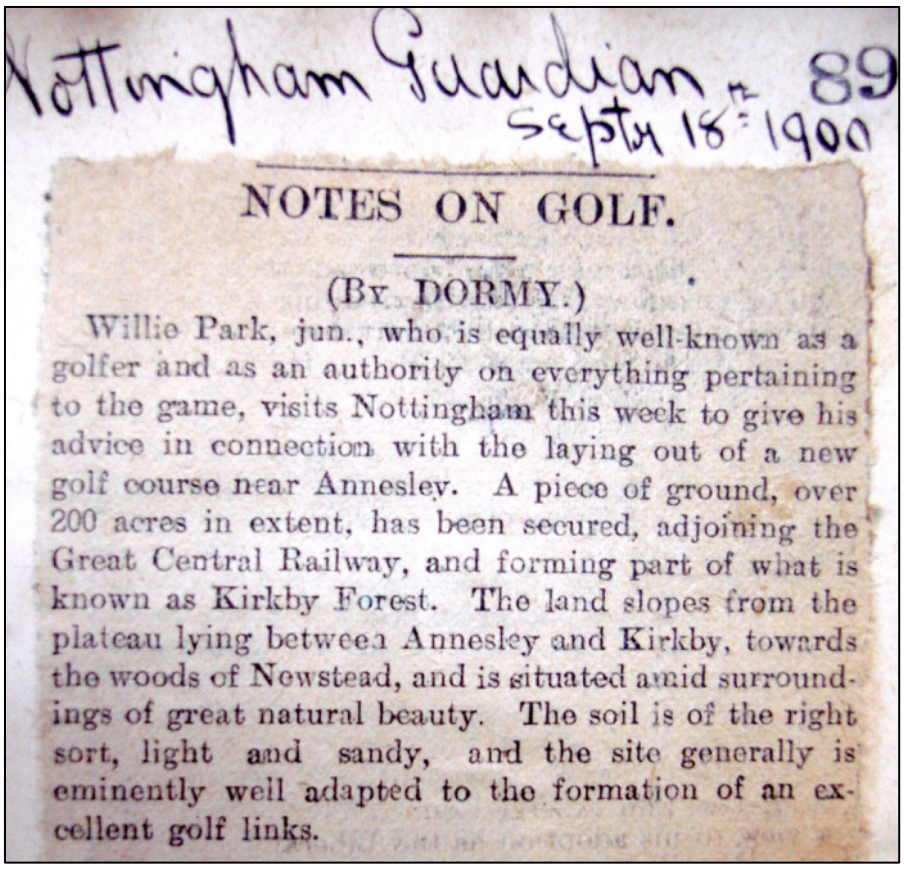


1903 Hollinwell & Annesley Station





Willie Park Jr
Hollinwell Course Designer.



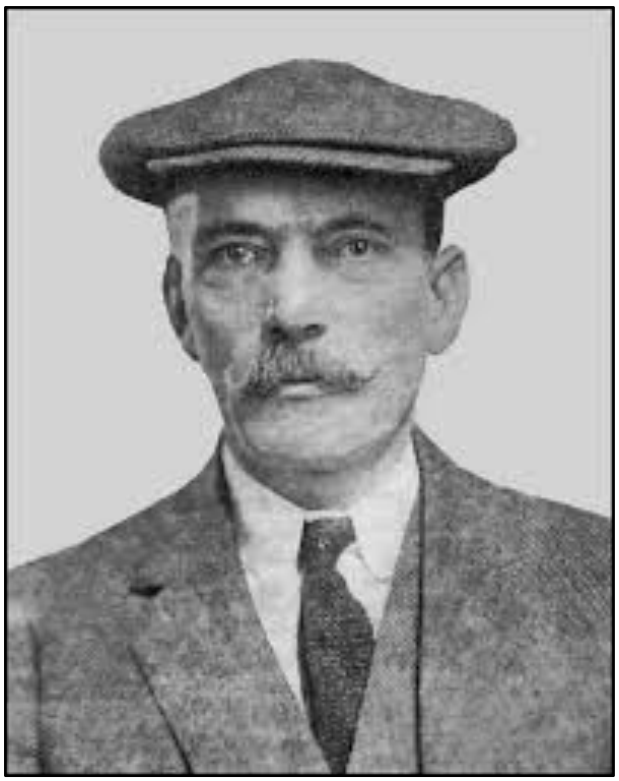
Nottingham Guardian 89
Septr 18th 1900

NOTES ON GOLF.

(By DORMY.)

Willie Park, jun., who is equally well-known as a golfer and as an authority on everything pertaining to the game, visits Nottingham this week to give his advice in connection with the laying out of a new golf course near Annesley. A piece of ground, over 200 acres in extent, has been secured, adjoining the Great Central Railway, and forming part of what is known as Kirkby Forest. The land slopes from the plateau lying between Annesley and Kirkby, towards the woods of Newstead, and is situated amid surroundings of great natural beauty. The soil is of the right sort, light and sandy, and the site generally is eminently well adapted to the formation of an excellent golf links.

Willie Park Jr. …to lay out course at Hollinwell (19).



WILLIE PARK

Golf Course Architect

Grounds Surveyed and Reports made
Courses Laid out and Made by Contract
ESTIMATES GIVEN

A few of the Courses made, planned, or re-arranged :—

Sunningdale, planned and made by contract
Huntercombe, planned and made by contract
Worplesdon, bunkers and putting greens designed
La Boulie (French Championship Course), planned
Montrose (Scotch Championship Course), re-arranged

Formby, Knebworth, Southampton, Nieuport-Bains, Ostend, Bexhill, Aldeburgh, Burhill, Totteridge, Gravesend, Parkstone, Hendon, Dieppe, Raberton, Sheerness, Seaford, Canon's Park, Alnmouth, Costebelle Golf Links, Costebelle, Hyeres, Monte Carlo, etc., etc.

W. PARK & SON

Champion Golfers, 1860, 1863, 1866, 1875, 1887, 1889

155 CANNON STREET, LONDON

Only exclusive Golf Warehouse in London. Wholesale and Retail.

This Establishment under the personal supervision of WILLIE PARK Telephone : 4331 Central

28a So. Frederick St. Edinburgh, Musselburgh, N.B.

Willie Park Jr (1864-1925) won the Open in 1887 and 1889 and was in the top ten on twelve occasions, but he is best known as one of the first and best full time golf architects. For his first course design, Innerleithen in 1886, he made no charge but had an agreement to supply members with clubs from his family business. He went on to design 170 courses including Sunningdale old, Maidstone in Long Island, Olympia Fields near Chicago, Huntercombe, Aldeburgh, Evian, Formby, Glasgow Gailes, Goswick, Gullane, Peterhead, Parkstone, Silloth on Solway, Shiskine and not least of all Hollinwell.

He wrote 'The Game of Golf', the first book on golf and 'The Art of Putting'. He said, *"A man who can putt is a match for anyone"* (21).

There have effectively been **three** layouts of the course at Hollinwell. The first in November 1901 was the 'Original' course by Willie Park Jr. However, almost immediately alterations took place because of the introduction of the Haskell ball. From 1902 until 1905 JH Taylor and Tom Williamson modified the original layout. This resulted in the 'Old' course that lasted until 1912. Then more land to the west was obtained and three new starting holes and several alterations to the rest produced the 'New' course in 1913. **Detail of the 'Original' course was only rediscovered in 2019 after a search through the archives of the British Library.** The name 'Original' has been adopted for the 1901 course because until recently it was thought that there had only been the 'Old' (pre-1912) and 'New' (post 1913) courses and these have been referred to using those terms.

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB: NEW LINKS AT HOLLINWELL.

The removal by the members of the Notts. Golf Club to Hollinwell marks an epoch in the history of the oldest local organisation devoted to the pursuit of the "Royal and ancient" game. The club have for some 13 years been located on Bulwell Forest, and during the time the interests of the game have been advanced in Nottingham and the district beyond computation. In view of the remarkable

with the first for 320 yards to a green placed in a nicely shaded corner, with a plantation as a back ground. The next is a fine length hole of 570 yards, with a putting green lying in a natural valley, over which the drive for the fourth hole—300 yards—is played. The fourth green is also by the plantation side, and close to Hollin Well, from which an unlimited supply of fresh, pure water is obtained and which gives its

1901 'Nottingham Evening Post' (22)

Description of the 'Original' Course

(rediscovered in 2019)

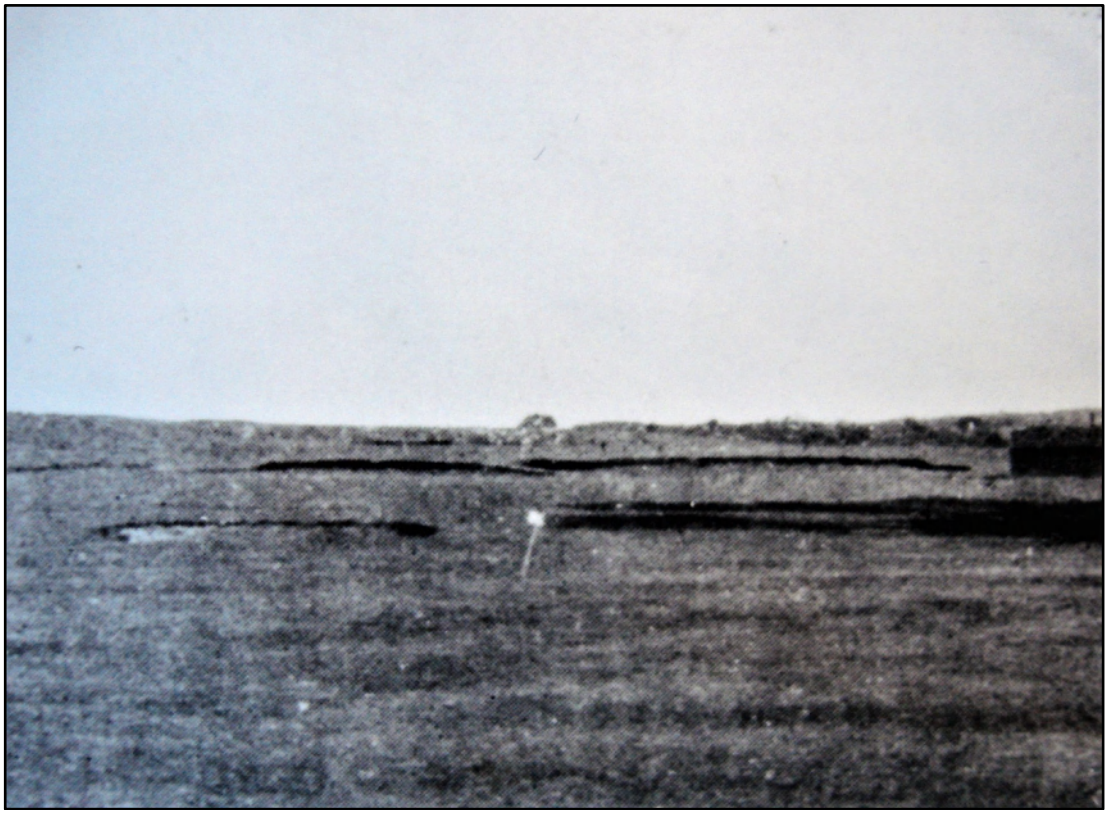
1901 'Nottingham Evening Post' (22)

‘Notts. Golf Club: New Links at Hollinwell’

This article describes the new clubhouse with 200 lockers and a radial drying closet built by M Gilbert & Sons with J Harris (member) & HG Watkins as architects.

The article describes the course in detail.

The first hole (*now the 4th*) measures 450 yards in length and extends from the front of the clubhouse to a delightfully situated green under the shelter of the plateau (see diagram of the ‘Original’ course). The line of the second hole runs parallel with the first 320 yards to a green placed in a nicely shaded corner (*now the 5th, it was a par four with the tee nearer the current 17th fairway)*.



Above: view from the original second green looking down the third hole (*now the fifth green looking down the sixth fairway*). The shed on the right is near where the seventh green is now and where tools were stored. Its foundation still exists. This seems unbelievable today as trees obscure the between the current 6th and 7th holes. Look through the trees today and you will see that the seventh hole cuts back toward the fifth green more than you might have imagined.

The next (*original third hole*) is a fine length hole of 370 yards, with a putting green lying in a natural valley over which the drive for the fourth hole - 300 yards - is played. The fourth green is also by the plantation side and close to the Hollin Well, from which an unlimited supply of fresh, pure water is obtained, and which gives its name to the course.

The fifth hole (360 yards) will require two long drives over undulating ground, and the tee shot must be kept clear of the plantation on the right (*current 8th hole)*. Two well-placed hazards must be negotiated in advancing to the sixth green, a broad patch of sand for the drive and a stretch of rushes for the second shot (*current 15th hole, but shorter)*. The green is judiciously placed in a valley between two spurs which project from the boundary plateau, and the length of the hole is 360 yards.

A good cleek shot will carry the 7th green, 160 yards from the elevated tee and fringed on the distant left by a luxuriant growth of rushes (the *tee was high up and to the right of the current 15th green, it now has an oak tree growing on it!)*.

The eight is a plane hole 230 yards long. To reach the 9th green, over 450 yards, three exceptionally good and straight shots will be required as the second and third must be played up the hill. Here a rush grown valley forms a natural hazard.

A stiff climb is necessary to reach the tee for the tenth, a shot hole of about 160 yards, with a green surrounded by a luxurious growth of bracken (*the tee left of what is now the 13th red tee down to a green in the direction and well short of the current 9th green – there are trees there now)*. Then follows a downhill drive to the eleventh 220 yards or thereabouts (*from a tee now in the midst of woods towards the current ninth green*).

To make the next hole (*12th*) an enormous amount of clearing of bracken, brush and brake had to be done. In time it will be a fine sporting hole and is 320 yards in length.

The thirteenth, almost identical in length with the last, is played up a deep valley, after which the ascent of the plateau is made to the fourteenth green something like 360 yards distant from the tee (*current 12th with a tee just to the left of the current 11th green)*.

The fifteenth and sixteenth holes, extending along the plateau described in the ordnance map as the Mosley hills, are similar in character, but vary as to length, the former being 500 yards and the latter 330 yards (*the fifteenth tee was near the current 13th back tee and play was along the top to a green positioned behind where the current 15th green is and high up just short of the transport path, the sixteenth continued parallel to the boundary and left of the service path*).

The seventeenth is perched on a giddy height and the drive there from onto the green 260 yards is a particularly attractive shot. The eighteenth hole (460 yards long) will, when completed, be one of the best in the round, both in regard to length and general character.

KIRKBY GOLF COURSE.

Report of meeting of Green Committee of the Notts. Golf Club Ltd. held at the office of Mr. J. C. Warren, Weekday Cross, Nottingham, on the 19th. of March 1901.

Present:- C. R. Hemingway Esq.
J. C. Warren Esq.
F. J. March Esq.
Members of Committee.

J. A. Hemingway Esq in attendance.

Mr. March submitted an estimate of the cost of completing the course at Hollinwell, exclusive of the 18th green and ground in its vicinity. This amounted to £435.0.0., details of which are given below:-

Cost of seed and sowing	...	...	£110 - -
Brush Harrowing	...	...	30 - -
Chain Harrowing	...	...	10 - -
Hand raking and picking	...	...	65 - -
Rolling for seeds	...	...	20 - -
Rolling 12 & 13 courses	...	...	10 - -
Rolling after seeds were up..	...	...	90 - -
Work on course, rabbit holes &c. and clearing up.	...	...	100 - -
			£435 - -

This estimate was approved, with the exception that the item of £90.0.0 for rolling &c. after the seeds were up, as it was thought by the Committee that this was fairly chargeable to revenue.

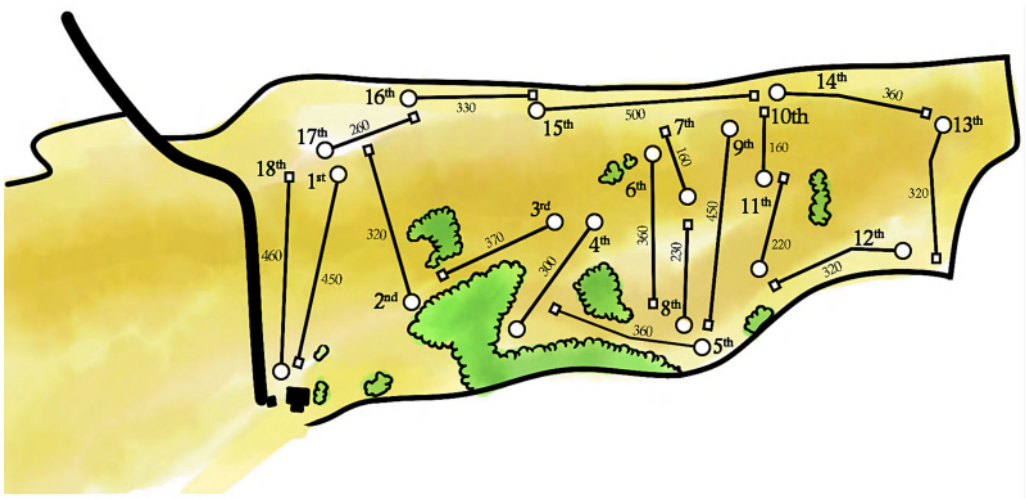
It was decided that the seeds required should be ordered from Messrs. Pearson of Lowdham, and that when ordering we should ask them to send an experienced man to sow the seeds. It was also decided to procure from them the artificial manure required for the greens.

It was further resolved to procure another heavy roller - a water roller was the one thought most suitable, somewhat similar to the one now in use on the Aslockton Cricket Ground.

The formation of bunkers to be left over till the green is completed, as it was considered that a better idea could then be formed as to the proper positions for same.

It was decided that the new roller was to be charged to revenue.

Some costs relating to setting up the course



Plan of 1901 'Original' course compiled based on the 'Nottingham Evening Post' article (22), photographs and course walks. Thanks go to James Boon, architect, for his help in compiling this plan.

In 1901 Hollinwell and the pavilion cost £4,850 to install. The clubhouse had a low red tiled roof, red brickwork, white and painted woodwork, a dining room, ladies' room, gentlemen's club room, dressing room, accommodation for the steward, large dressing room with 200 lockers, and a drying closet.

6.11.1901 Steps to be taken to stop members using workmen's trains on Sunday.

4.12.1901 Horse purchased.

1901 Pavilion, Professionals hut right & 18th green.

1901 Tom Williamson possibly using a Haskell ball?

6.8.1902 Request to ban the Haskell ball in club competitions.

1.10.1902 The Haskell ball became widely available, so in club competitions the prohibition was rescinded. The Haskell ball was used by the scratch cup winner on a course of 5,500 yards. Sandy Herd won the Open Championship with one in 1902.

In 1901 the Haskell Golf Ball Company was established in Ohio. The Haskell's ball consisted of rubber thread wrapped around a solid rubber core.

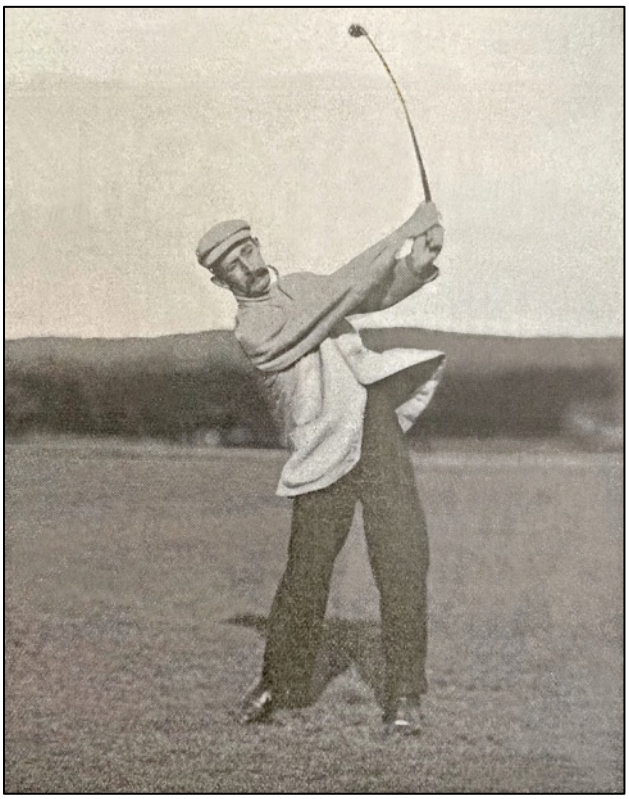
From 1902 until 1905 the 4th to 7th holes were revamped to extend the course to nearly 6,300 yards, equal to any championship course at the time. The holes running along the northern border of the course were also altered. Eleven new bunkers were constructed as directed by JH Taylor and two more were expanded.

1902 JH Taylor (above) and Tom Williamson were asked to lengthen the course and JH Taylor specifically advised on bunkering. Boys picked up stones on the course.

1902 Original 1st or New 4th tee.

1902
Original 11th green
or New 9th green.

In an article about Tom Williamson it said, “There is no better club maker than Williamson. He is held in great esteem by his club, having sole charge of their new links at Hollinwell. He is quite an expert at green-keeping, and his services are frequently in demand for laying out and improving links” (23).



Tom Williamson at Hollinwell.

In 1903 there were 7,449 return journeys made by train to and from Hollinwell. As late as 1911 there was no satisfactory road access.

1904 The secretary arranged for the Nottingham Victoria station master at the Victoria station to place a telegram outside the booking office if the course was unplayable.

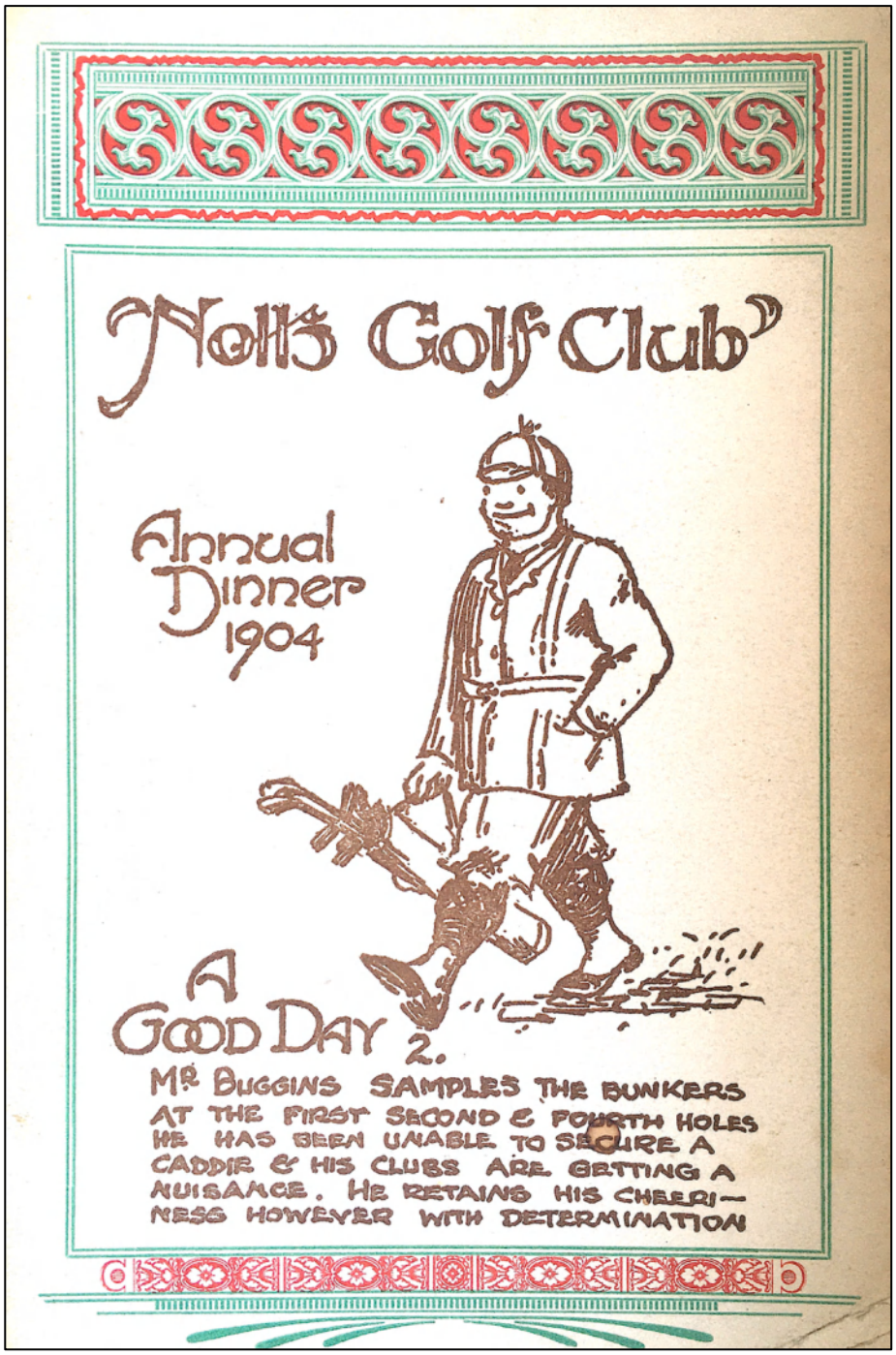
The pavilion was enlarged at a cost of £500 and a brick building for caddies was built (HG Watkins, a member, was the architect).

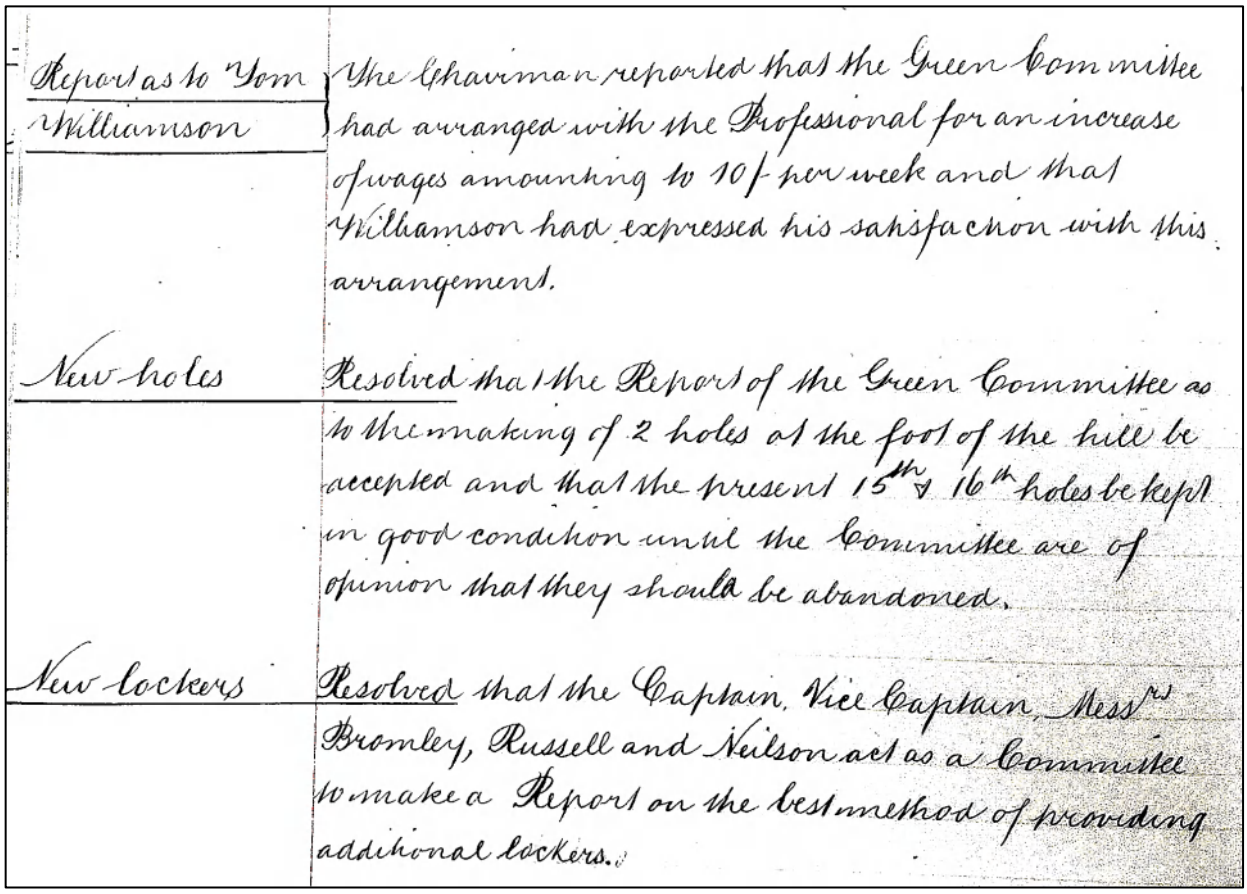
Building for caddies after refurbishment in 1987.

Minutes from 12.10.1904 show that the club explored the possibility of extending the course and whether additional land could be obtained and on what terms. No progress was made.

At the Annual Dinner in 1904, Councilor Alfred Page said, *"Whilst a member of the Club I am not a golfer, but I have ridden over the Hollinwell Hills and found delight in unearthing foxes, but I certainly think that the land is better occupied now than if simply used for fox-hunting purposes."*

The area surrounded by the 10th,11th and 12th holes is known as 'Fox Covert'.





Report as to Tom Williamson	The Chairman reported that the Green Committee had arranged with the Professional for an increase of wages amounting to 10/- per week and that Williamson had expressed his satisfaction with this arrangement.
New holes	Resolved that the Report of the Green Committee as to the making of 2 holes at the foot of the hill be accepted and that the present 15th & 16th holes be kept in good condition until the Committee are of opinion that they should be abandoned.
New lockers	Resolved that the Captain, Vice Captain, Messrs Bromley, Russell and Neilson act as a Committee to make a Report on the best method of providing additional lockers.

9.3.1904 ...two new holes at the foot of the hill ... and the present 15th and 16th holes be kept in good condition... (quoted in the original description of the course as the *"The fifteenth and sixteenth holes, extending along the plateau described in the ordnance map as the Mosley hills"*). A difficult task as the 15th and 16th holes ran along the plateau and would become excessively dry in summer.

1905 There was a professional match between James Braid and Harry Vardon vs JH Taylor and Tom Williamson to mark the changes to the course.

A telephone was installed in the clubhouse to the outside world.

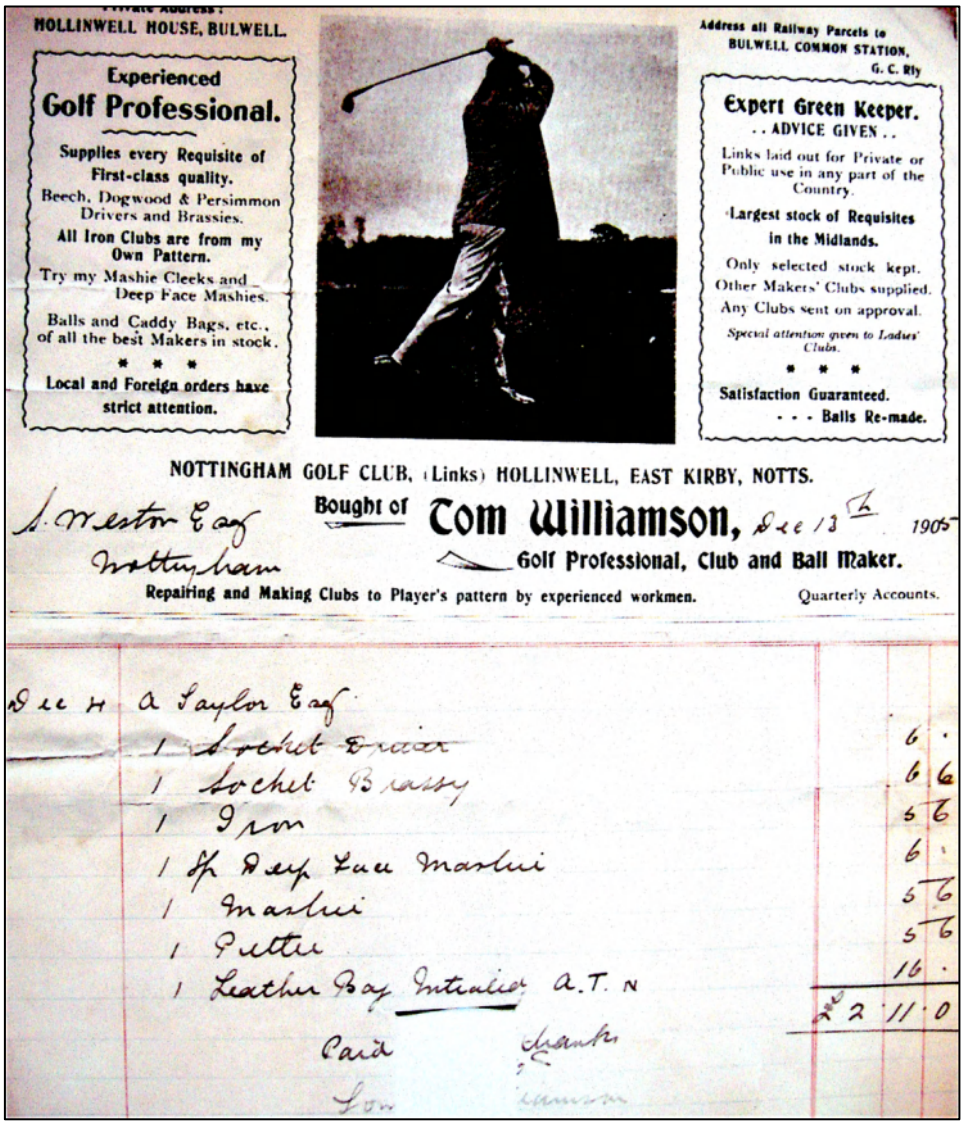
27.10.1905 The 'Original' 15th and 16th greens were to be patched and repaired and kept in reserve.

Hollinwell was to hold a competition with the largest purse at the time in 1906, the News of the World Tournament (Matchplay Championship). This was quite an accomplishment for a new course.

1905 Permission for curling to be played on one of the ponds was given (now to the right of the current 9a fairway).

Tom Williamson

1905 Caddies' tea mugs should be kept in the shop and only handed to them in return for their 'ticket' and if it was not returned, they would be fined. "*…it was decided that under no circumstance must a caddie be bespoken or reserved for any player*". A complaint from a member, Mr. Turpin, that the allotment of caddies contravened regulations (was done with favouritism) was found to have no foundation.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Experienced
Golf Professional.

Supplies every Requisite of First-class quality.
Beech, Dogwood & Persimmon Drivers and Brassies.
All Iron Clubs are from my Own Pattern.
Try my Mashie Cleeks and Deep Face Mashies.
Balls and Caddy Bags, etc., of all the best Makers in stock.
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Local and Foreign orders have strict attention.

Address all Railway Parcels to BULWELL COMMON STATION, G. C. Rly

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.. ADVICE GIVEN ..
Links laid out for Private or Public use in any part of the Country.
Largest stock of Requisites in the Midlands.
Only selected stock kept.
Other Makers' Clubs supplied.
Any Clubs sent on approval.
Special attention given to Ladies' Clubs.
* * *
Satisfaction Guaranteed.
- - - Balls Re-made.

NOTTINGHAM GOLF CLUB, (Links) HOLLINWELL, EAST KIRBY, NOTTS.

J. Weston Esq
Nottingham

Bought of **Tom Williamson,** Dec 13 1905
Golf Professional, Club and Ball Maker.
Repairing and Making Clubs to Player's pattern by experienced workmen. Quarterly Accounts.

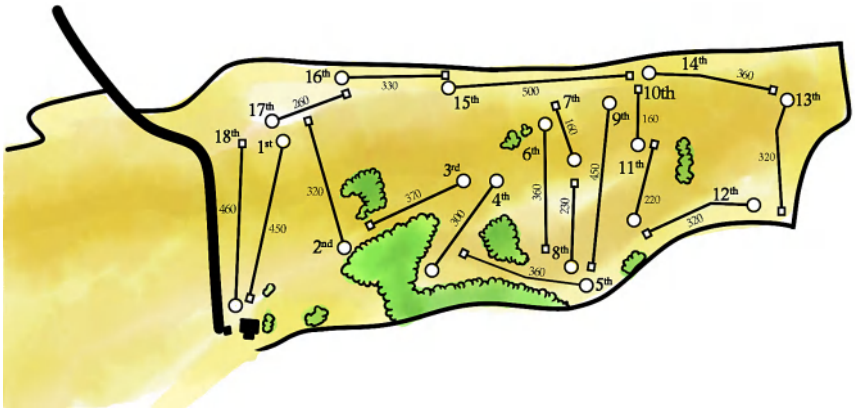
Dec 14 A Taylor Esq

1 ~~Driver~~		6 ·
1 Socket Brassy		6 6
1 Iron		5 6
1 Sp Deep Face Mashie		6 ·
1 Mashie		5 6
1 Putter		5 6
1 Leather Bag Initials A.T.N		16 ·
	£	2 11 0

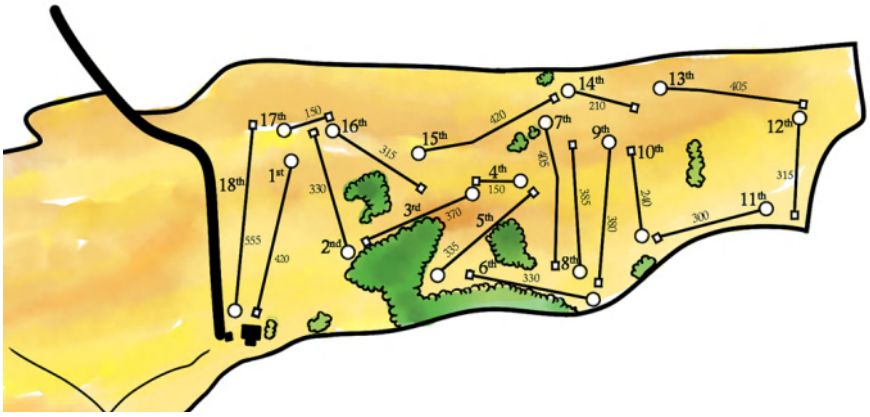
Paid Thanks
Tom

1905 Invoice from Tom Williamson
(his clubs were not always numbered; he started doing this pre-1901 but inconsistently)

Report in the 'Nottingham Guardian' (24) of the Annual General Meeting held at the George Hotel.… The two new greens (*this refers to the 'Old' course below*) – Nos. 4 (*additional par 3)* and 9 (*placed back from its previous position*) – would be kept and maintained in better condition than the greens which were to be abandoned – the old (*'Original'*) 7th, 8th and 9th. In addition, the 11th, 12th and 13th greens were entirely reconstructed and enlarged at considerable cost. The work had been thoroughly done, and it was felt these greens would now give general satisfaction.



1901 Plan of the 'Original' course



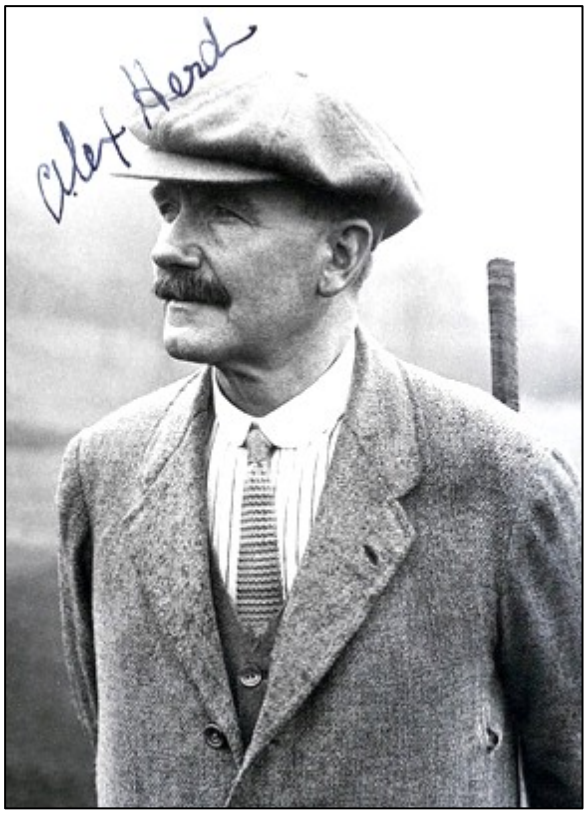
1905 Plan of the 'Old' course

Continuing from the 'Nottingham Guardian' article: The *'Original'* 15th and 16th greens suffered severely during the summer owing to there being in such a position that the rain gets away from them too quickly, and therefore they lack the necessary supply of moisture. A certain amount of patching has already been done to them, but it would be necessary to remake the greater part of both greens to put them in a satisfactory state (24).

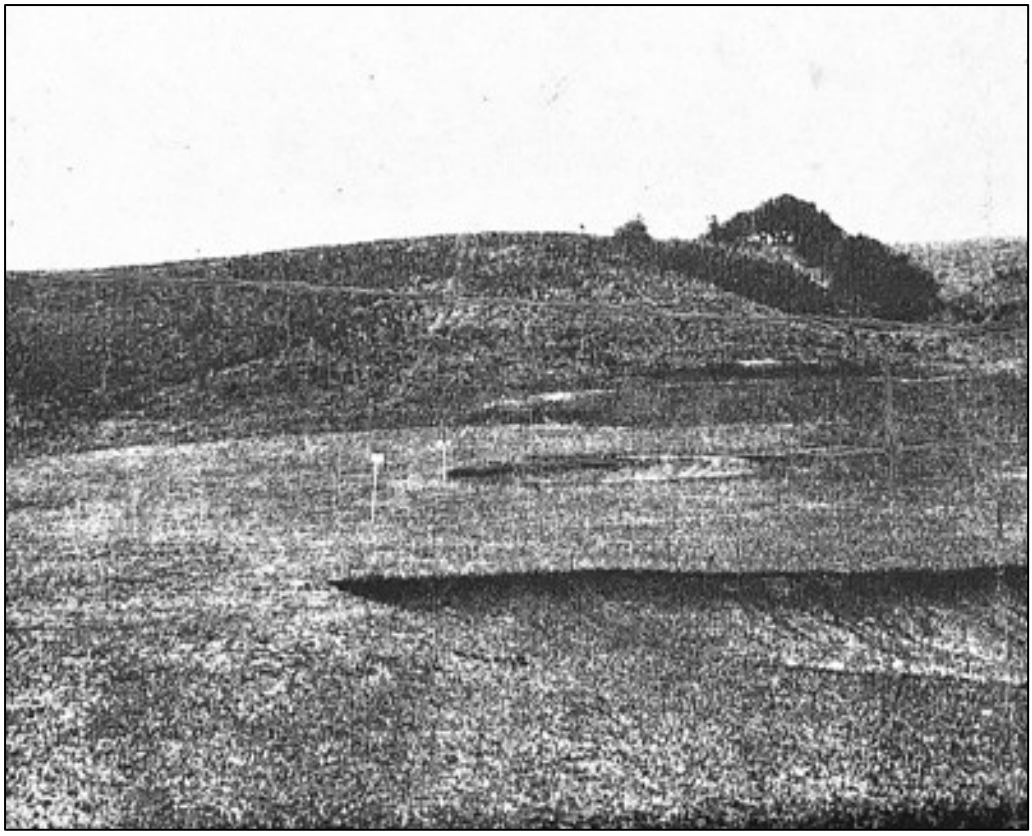
1906 News of the World Tournament (Matchplay Championship), the largest purse at the time. Prize fund of £240. Alex 'Sandy' Herd won, receiving £100.

News of the World tournament Duncan vs Herd on old 1st green at Hollinwell. 'Illustrated 'Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News' (25).

Old 9th green
Herd playing Duncan at Hollinwell (25).



1906 Alex 'Sandy' Herd won the News of the World.



1906 Looking North up the 1st and to the 17th green (New 4th green and towards New 18th tee).

Old 6th or New 8th hole.

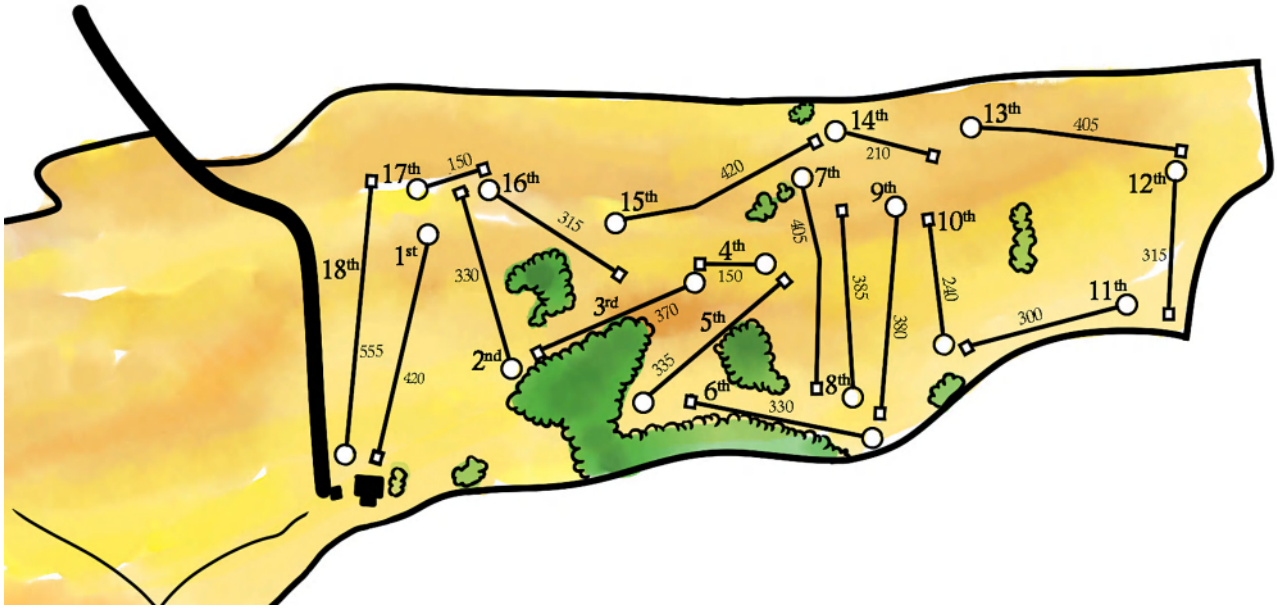
1906 Report in the 'Nottingham Guardian' of the Annual General Meeting held at the George Hotel.

It was gratifying to note that the new greens partially made during 1905 – viz., the 4th, 9th, 11th, 12th, and 13th – had stood the dry weather remarkably well… The old 15th and 16th greens has suffered severely during the drought… it was felt that to patch them… was simply a waste of money.

Members limited to 300 not counting juniors or honorary members.

1906 Old 10th green (New 9th)
looking North.

1906 Old 10th green (New 9th)
Sand scrapes were a natural
feature on the course.



1905 Plan of the 'Old' course.

1906 Tom Williamson on the Old second hole (New 5th).

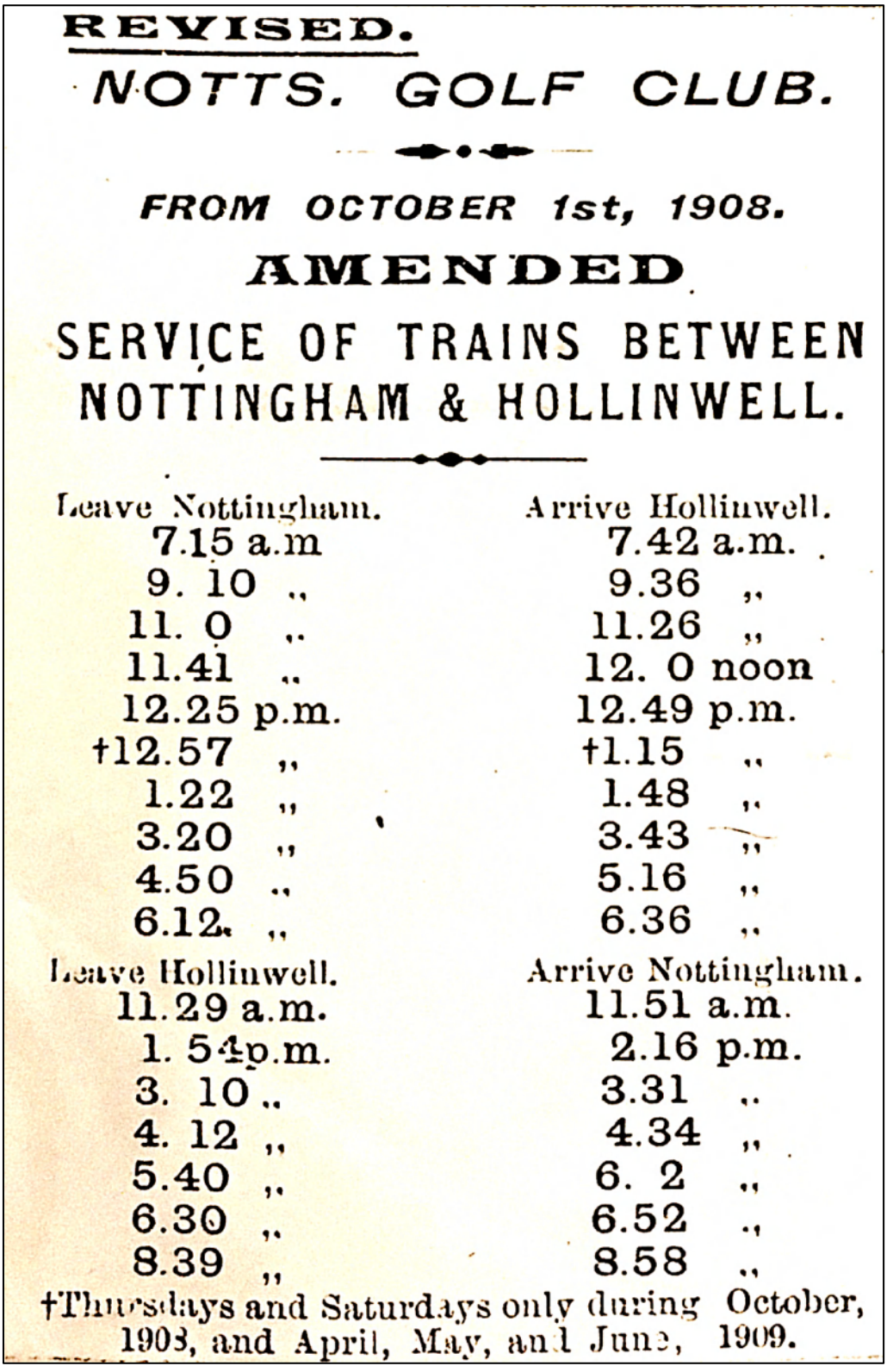
Player T. Williamson SIGNATURE OF SCORER W. Hollins

Handicap Date Sept 25th '07

Hole	Bogey	Length	Score	Strokes allowed	W=Won L=Lost H=Halved	Hole	Bogey	Length	Score	Strokes allowed	W=Won L=Lost H=Halved
1	5	425	4			10	4	240	2		
2	4	330	3			11	4	300	4		
3	5	375	5			12	4	315	4		
4	3	150	2			13	5	405	4		
5	5	385	4			14	4	210	3		
6	5	350	4			15	5	420	5		
7	5	405	3			16	5	315	4		
8	5	385	4			17	3	160	4		
9	5	380	3			18	5	500	5		
42		Out	32			29		In	35		v. Bogey.
								Out	32		Holes won
Countersigned—								Total	67		Holes lost
								Hcp.			Result—
								Net			

1907 Tom Williamson 69 & 67 record (Bogey 81).

1907 Non-stop trains on Thursdays and Saturdays.



REVISED.

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB.

FROM OCTOBER 1st, 1908.

AMENDED

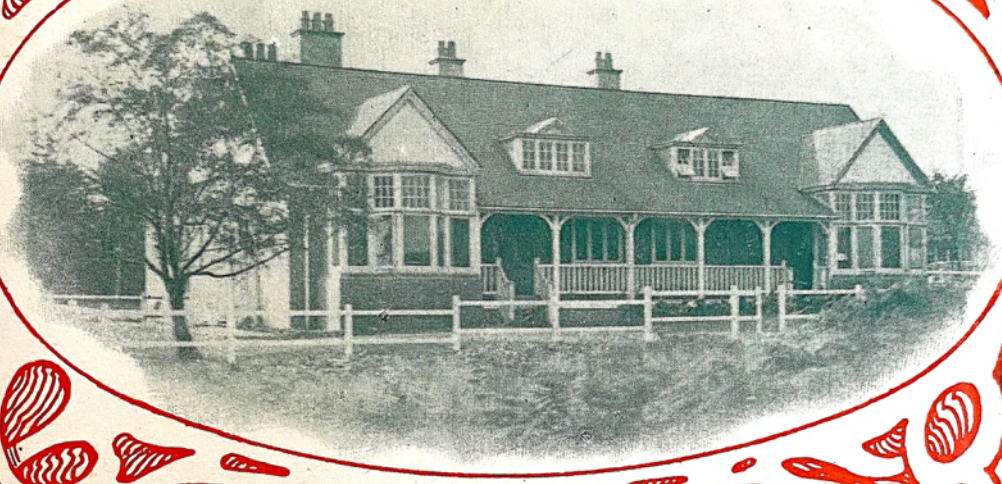
SERVICE OF TRAINS BETWEEN NOTTINGHAM & HOLLINWELL.

Leave Nottingham.	Arrive Hollinwell.
7.15 a.m	7.42 a.m.
9. 10 ,,	9.36 ,,
11. 0 ,,	11.26 ,,
11.41 ,,	12. 0 noon
12.25 p.m.	12.49 p.m.
†12.57 ,,	†1.15 ,,
1.22 ,,	1.48 ,,
3.20 ,,	3.43 ,,
4.50 ,,	5.16 ,,
6.12. ,,	6.36 ,,
Leave Hollinwell.	**Arrive Nottingham.**
11.29 a.m.	11.51 a.m.
1. 54p.m.	2.16 p.m.
3. 10 ,,	3.31 ,,
4. 12 ,,	4.34 ,,
5.40 ,,	6. 2 ,,
6.30 ,,	6.52 ,,
8.39 ,,	8.58 ,,

†Thursdays and Saturdays only during October, 1908, and April, May, and June, 1909.

1908 Train timetable. The Hollinwell & Annesley Station only appeared in Bradshaw's guide once in 1901, after that they were pinned to the board at Victoria Station.

NOTTS GOLF CLUB



ANNUAL DINNER

1907

Pond right of the Old 6th hole, with no shot over water!

"That so long as there are 300 members entitled to play (excluding from such members life members and junior members) no further playing members shall be elected."

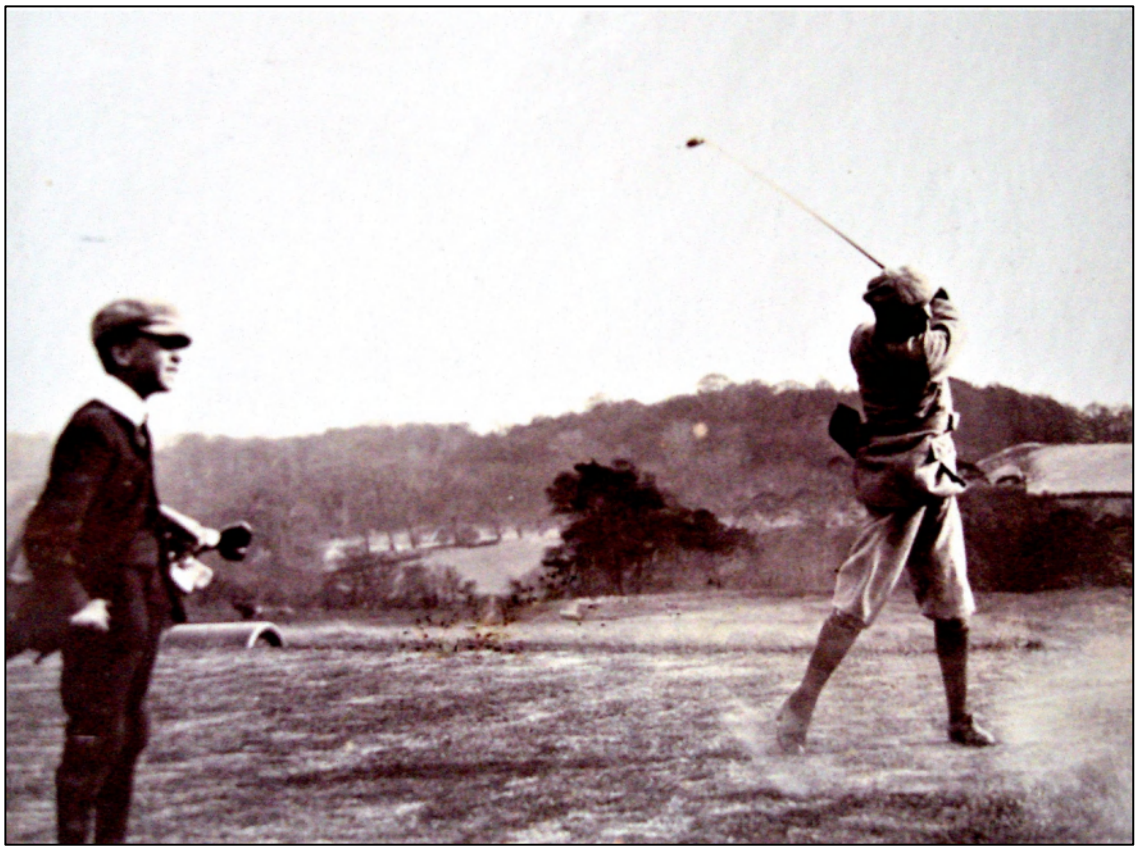
1909 *"Order 25 tons of Best Bright and 3 tons of Slack from Newstead Colliery and 3 truckloads of Breeze from New Hucknall Colliery."*

26. No Member shall reprimand, give instructions to, or in any way interfere with the Professional or any Servant of the Club in respect of his or their duties on the course or in the Club-house. Any complaint must be brought before the Committee.

1907 'Sheffield Daily Telegraph' “Visit to Hollinwell” by Herbert Fowler (First class cricketer and golf architect who designed Walton Heath):
"…at Hollinwell a piece of ground which in all respects lends itself to the making of a championship green… Williamson is not only a fine player, but he has sound ideas of where bunkers ought to be, and is far above most professionals in this respect… The course at Hollinwell is laid out on a grand bit of golfing country… There is a large amount of this sandy golfing ground untouched, and I cannot help think that the club would be wise to take it all and make some more holes on it…. … without some of it which lies to the west of the present course Hollinwell will not be made as good as it might be" (26).

1908 Clubhouse and Old 1st or New 4th hole.

1908 Old 1st green (New 4th).



1908 Old 5th (New 7th).

Old 6th (New 8th).

1908 Old 5th New 7th green.

1908 High faced bunkers were coming into fashion.

1908 Old 7th green (towards New 15th).

1908 Old 8th New 14th.

1908 Old 10th tee (New left of 13th hole).

1908 Looking south to Original 11th
Old 10th or New 9th green.

1908 View of Old 11th tee (New 10th).

1908 Old 11th New 10th green.

View across the Old 9th or New 14th and 15th.

1908 Old 15th green (New 16th).

Tom Williamson

1909 England beat Scotland

Standing L-R: R Jones, E Ray, T Ball, JH Taylor, Unknown, J Sherrie

Seated L-R: H Vardon, F Robson, T Williamson (Captain), PJ Gaudin, T Vardon

Tom Williamson played 8 times for England

ENGLAND'S GREAT GOLF VICTORY.

Scotch Professionals Swamped.

England's international golf team swamped th Scottish professionals in the annual encounter, whic took place on Saturday at Deal, where the ope championship tournament opens to-day. England wo the singles by the big margin of 9 matches to 2, an the foursomes were divided. Details:—

SINGLES.

ENGLAND.		SCOTLAND.	
J. H. Taylor (Mid-Sur'y)	0	J. Braid (Walton H'th)	0
H. Vardon (S. Herts) (5 and 4)	1	A. Herd (Huddersfield)	0
T. Vardon (Sandwich)	0	G. Duncan (Hanger Hill) (capt.) (1 hole)	1
E. Ray (Ganton) (4 and 2)	1	R. Thomson (North Berwick)	0
R. Jones (Wimbledon Park (3 and 1)	1	J. White (Sunningdale)	0
T. Ball (W. Lancs.) (6 and 5)	1	F. Coltart (Birstall)	0
T. Williamson (Notts) (capt.) (5 and 4)	1	Ben Sayers (N. Berw'k)	0
J. G. Sherlock (Stoke Poges (3 and 1)	1	A. Kirkaldy (St. And'ws)	0
F. Robson (Bromboro') (3 and 2)	1	B. Sayers, jun. (Royal Wimbledon)	0
P. J. Gaudin (Fulwell)	0	C. R. Smith (W. Middlesex (3 and 2)	1
C. H. Mayo (Burhill (2 and 1)	1	W. Hunter (Richmond)	0
W. E. Reid (Banstead Downs (2 and 1)	1	J. Park (Musselburgh)	0
Total	9	Total	2

FOURSOMES.

Taylor and H Vardon	0	Braid and Herd	0
T. Vardon and Ray	0	Duncan and Thomson	0
Jones and Ball (1 hole)	1	White and Coltart	0
Williamson & Sherlock	0	Sayers and Kirkaldy (2 and 1)	1
Robson and Gaudin	0	Sayers, jun., and Smith (1 hole)	1
Mayo and Reid (5 and 3)	1	Hunter and Park	0
Total	2	Total	2

1909
England beat
Scotland

SUMMARY.

Ordinary Members	280
Life Members	6
Country Members	20
Junior Members	9
Non-Playing Members ..	15
Total	330

1909
Membership

1910 From Bernard Darwin 'The Golf Courses of the British Isles' (27): *"The ball starts its career from the first tee a snowy white soon passing through a series of greys until it is coal black unless its complexion is renewed by the use of a sponge"* (Due to the coal dust on the course from nearby mines).

NOTTS. AMATEURS.

Left to right: Top row, H. Mackie, C. R. Hemingway, Sir J. Bright, C. A. Rastall, M. G. Bradley, E. A. Coutts, and T. G. Mellors. Bottom row, F. J. March, A. S. Bright, H. D. Snook, F. H. Radford, and W. Hollins.

From 1909 a team of leading amateurs from Nottinghamshire played a team of professionals who had learnt their golf at Bulwell Forest. The professionals invariably won!
Top row: H Mackie, CR Hemmingway (Found the Hollinwell site while contracting for the Great Central Railway. Captain 1898). Sir **J** Bright, CA Rastall (Match Secretary 1908-12) MG Bradley, EA Coutts, TG Mellors (Captain 1900)
Bottom row: FJ March, AS Bright (Honorary Secretary for 33 years, 1913-18 match secretary, 1927 Captain and remained on committee until 1957. Also known for his replies in the suggestion book! Elected President of the English Golf Union in 1939, life member 1947). HD Snook (Capt'n 1905), FH Radford, W Hollins

The Golf Courses of the British Isles by Bernard Darwin 1910 Publ. Duckworth & Co. Covent Garden (27):

"Hollinwell is a wonderfully sandy course, and when there is a strong wind, one may see great clouds of sand blowing down the course after the most approved seaside fashion. Sometimes we play down the valley, and sometimes we play across it, tacking this way and that, so that we are never hitting monotonously either with or against the wind….
This last hole lives in my memory from the fact that it gave to my companion a temporarily undeserved reputation among the golfers of Nottingham. Having played a round of almost unbroken sixes, he placed the ball close to the hole with a long iron shot for his third, and holed the putt before an awestruck assembly in the club house window with an air and manner suggesting that four was the highest rather than the lowest score that he had accomplished during the round. What is more, he only just failed to do the same thing in the afternoon, although the hole is 555 yards long. Such is the inveterate habit that some people have of playing to the gallery."

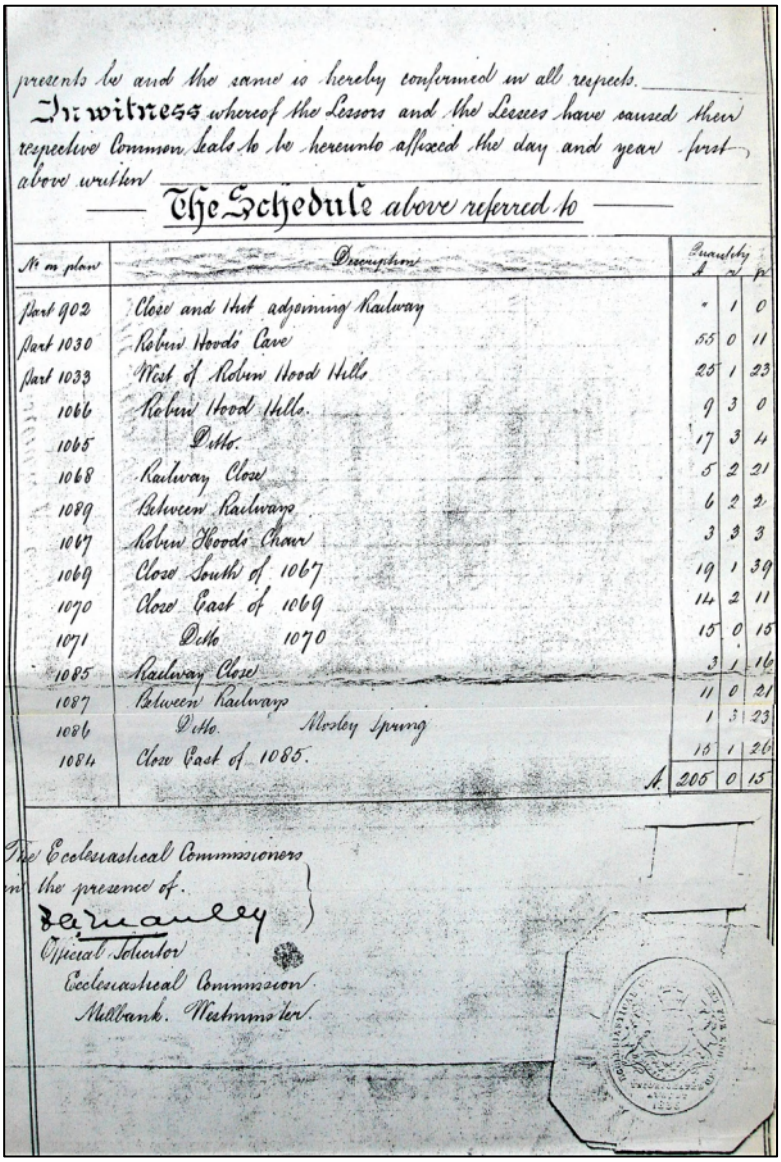
The last members playing on Saturdays were asked to collect the flags as they returned and the first members to play on Monday were asked to place them. There was no play on Sundays.

1910 Sir Joseph Bright suggested approaching the Ecclesiastical Commission to acquire more land to the West. The committee did not support this suggestion. The middle pond was used for curling.

1911 Passenger numbers increased to 9,578 return trips by train. There was no road access to the railway station.
Later that year Mr. SA Derbyshire arranged a lease for 15 acres from the Ecclesiastical Commission for 80 years just West of the course to build a bungalow. Tom Williamson was asked his opinion about the course at that time, and he said that the course lacked length, particularly in its second half, with a poor 17th hole. The area leased by Mr. Derbyshire would not be enough to extend the course. It was resolved to lease a further two hundred acres to the West and to ask Mr. Derbyshire not to develop his land. Torrid negotiations ended in the club leasing the land, including that leased by Mr. Derbyshire, from the Ecclesiastical Commission for £29 1s per annum thanks to the services of an intermediary, Mr. TC Leman. It is ironic that Mr. Derbyshire's action, seen by members of the club as underhand, ended up achieving the result that Sir Joseph Bright had suggested several months beforehand, and this led to the footprint of the present course.

Tom Williamson (Nottingham)

The Sphere 1911 (28)



presents be and the same is hereby confirmed in all respects.
In witness whereof the Lessors and the Lessees have caused their respective Common Seals to be hereunto affixed the day and year first above written

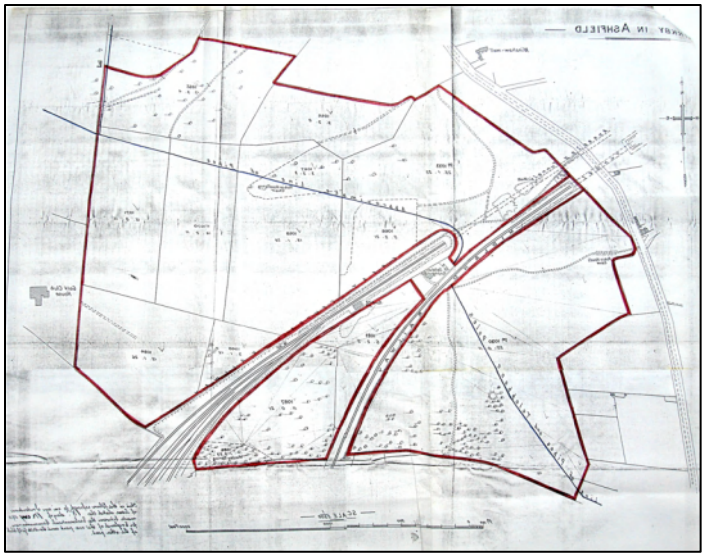
The Schedule above referred to

No on plan	Description	Quantity A	R	P
part 902	Close and Hut adjoining Railway	-	1	0
part 1030	Robin Hoods Cave	55	0	11
part 1033	West of Robin Hood Hills	25	1	23
1066	Robin Hood Hills	9	3	0
1065	Ditto	17	3	4
1068	Railway Close	5	2	21
1089	Between Railways	6	2	2
1067	Robin Hoods Chair	3	3	3
1069	Close South of 1067	19	1	39
1070	Close East of 1069	14	2	11
1071	Ditto 1070	15	0	15
1085	Railway Close	3	1	16
1087	Between Railways	11	0	21
1086	Ditto Mosley Spring	1	3	23
1084	Close East of 1085.	15	1	26
		A. 205	0	15

The Ecclesiastical Commissioners
in the presence of.
Official Solicitor
Ecclesiastical Commission
Millbank. Westminster.

1911 Lease for land to the West of the road

1912
Harold Larwood (later of 'bodyline' bowling) was dismissed as a caddie by Tom Williamson for bad behaviour.



Tom Williamson designed 3 new starting holes and revamped the rest at a cost of £321

How the course changed 1912-1913 from 'Old' to 'New'

The first three holes were completely new

Old first hole became fourth hole (Old tee left of new 4th tee)

New fifth hole replaced the Old second (Old second was 330 yds long and a par four)

New sixth comprised Old third (375yds) and fourth (150yds)

New seventh was the Old fifth hole (385yds)

New eighth was the Old sixth hole (330yds)

New ninth similar tee but onto Old tenth green and par 3

New tenth is the Old eleventh (300yds)

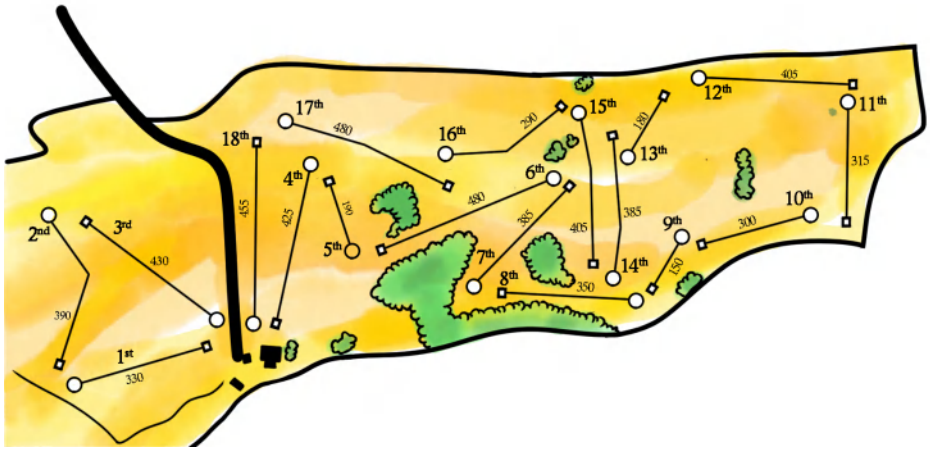
New eleventh is the Old twelfth (315yds)

New twelfth is the Old thirteenth (405yds)

New thirteenth new played to beyond the Old ninth green

New fourteenth is the Old eighth shortened (385yds)

New fifteenth is the Old seventh (405yds)

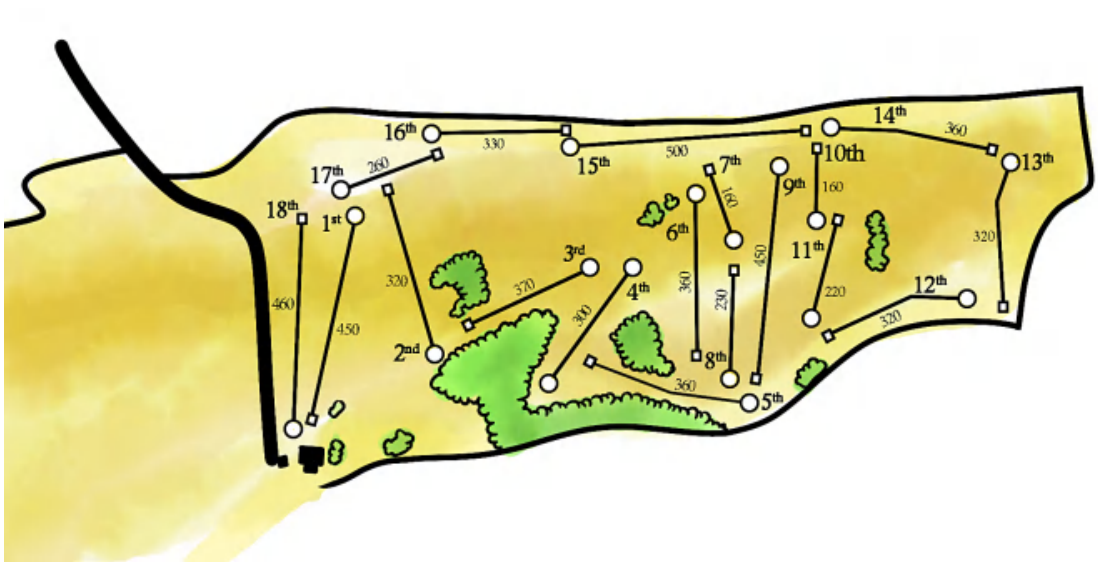


New sixteenth played to the Old fifteenth green (420yds)

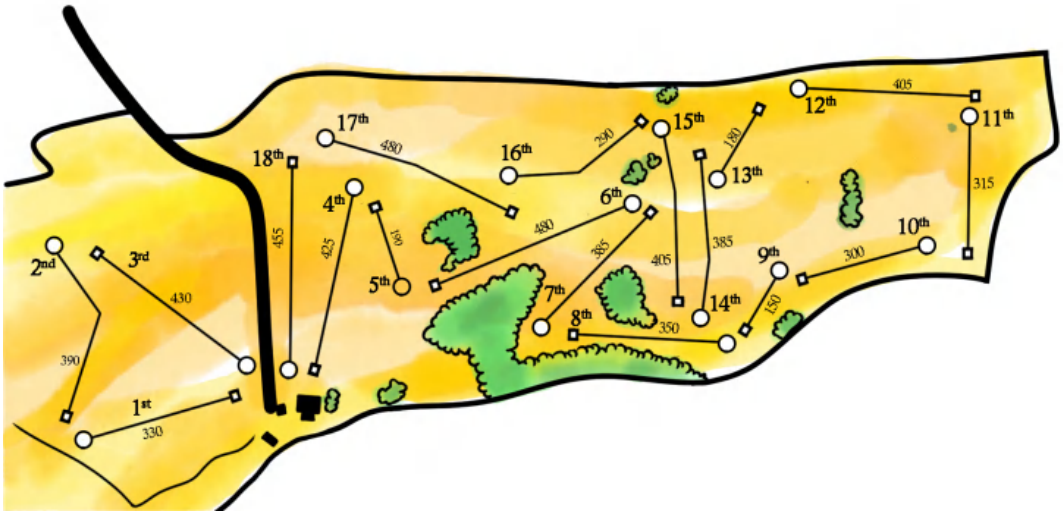
New seventeenth now covers the Old sixteenth (315yds) and Old seventeenth (160yds)

New eighteenth shorter from Old eighteenth was 553yds

The Original and New course for comparison



1901 The Original course



1913 The New course

1913 'Birmingham Golfer' (29)

Williamson claims that the course would be rendered less fatiguing by lessening the amount of climbing, now generally admitted to be an undesirable feature at Hollinwell. The re-arrangement would also cause the playing holes which run parallel, and are in too close proximity to each other, to be discontinued; the distance on the outward and inward halves respectively would be more equal than as at present, and two separate starting points, both close to the clubhouse would be formed. A fifteen-hole game could therefore be arranged when time was limited. All blind drives are practically eliminated, and the length of the course would be increased by about 150 yards, the bogey being, 39 and 40, instead of 40 and 38 now in operation.

1913 Ladies Open English Championship was inaugurated at Hollinwell. Won by Mrs. FW Brown.

1913 New 1st tee.

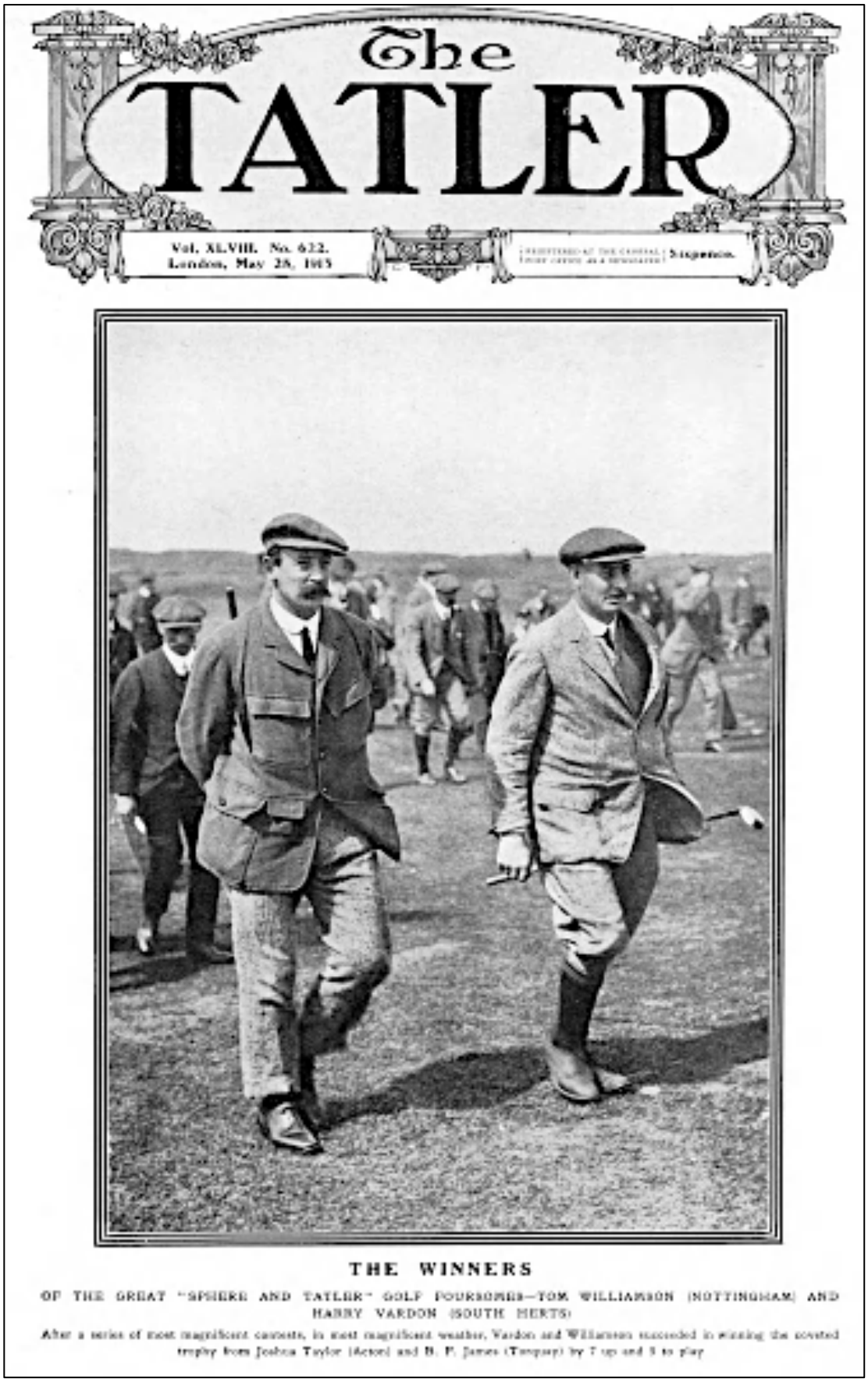
1913 Fewer golfers came by train because of the coal strike. The green staff were grateful as they could proceed with little encumbrance and consolidate the changes that had been made to the course.

1913 Letter to Great Central Railway Company: *"Can you arrange that on Thursday 25th September the express train due to arrive at the Victoria station, Nottingham at 5.56pm and depart to Marylebone at 5.59 stop and picks up 3 of the professionals JH Taylor, J Braid and G Duncan* (from Hollinwell) *so that they can go to London on the train (see next page for these players and others celebrating the opening of the New course)."*

To mark the opening of Hollinwell's New Course. Back row from left: JD Player of Player's cigarettes, later captain and donor, 6th HD Snook a great amateur golfer and started the 'Nottingham Alliance' between professionals and amateurs with Tom Williamson.

Middle row from left: Tom Williamson, George Duncan, 4th JH Taylor, 5th James Braid.

Bottom far right: AS Bright Honorary Secretary for 33 years, 1913-18 match secretary, 1927 Captain, was on committee to 1957 and he was also known for his acerbic replies in the suggestion book!



1913 Tom Williamson and Harry Vardon, winners of the Sphere and Tatler foursomes at Deal.

1913 Tom Williamson playing to the third hole (above) and Harry Vardon (below left), winners of the Sphere and Tatler foursomes Deal (30).

1. *H. Vardon bunkered before the 4th green.* 2. *H. Vardon driving from the 7th tee.*
H. Vardon (on left) and Tom Williamson, winners. 4. *R. G. Wilson playing from the rough to the 17th hole.* 5. *B. F. James (on left) and Josh Taylor, the runners-up.*

THE £350 PROFESSIONAL FOURSOME TOURNAMENT AT DEAL.—SUCCESS OF H. VARDON AND TOM WILLIAMSON.

This highly successful tournament for "The Sphere" and "Tatler" prizes had a conclusion which was tame after the exciting struggles of the earlier stages.

1913 Cartoon from The Midland Golfer about the Sphere and Tatler Foursomes at Deal.

Tom's Cup won 1913 with Harry Vardon.

THE GOLFING WOMAN of the PRESENT DAY.

MISS HITCHCOCK OF LEICESTER
Driving in the English Ladies' Golf Championship at Hollinwell

A GROUP OF CRACK PLAYERS WAITING THEIR TURN AT HOLLINWELL
Reading from left to right we see Miss Neville, Mrs. F. W. Brown, Miss Temple, Miss B. Thompson, Miss Ravenscroft, and Miss L. Moore

MRS. F. W. BROWN DRIVING
Winner of the English Ladies' Golf Championship at Hollinwell

A BUDDING YOUNG GOLFER
Miss Antoinette de Bogas, daughter of Countess du Bourg-de-Bogas

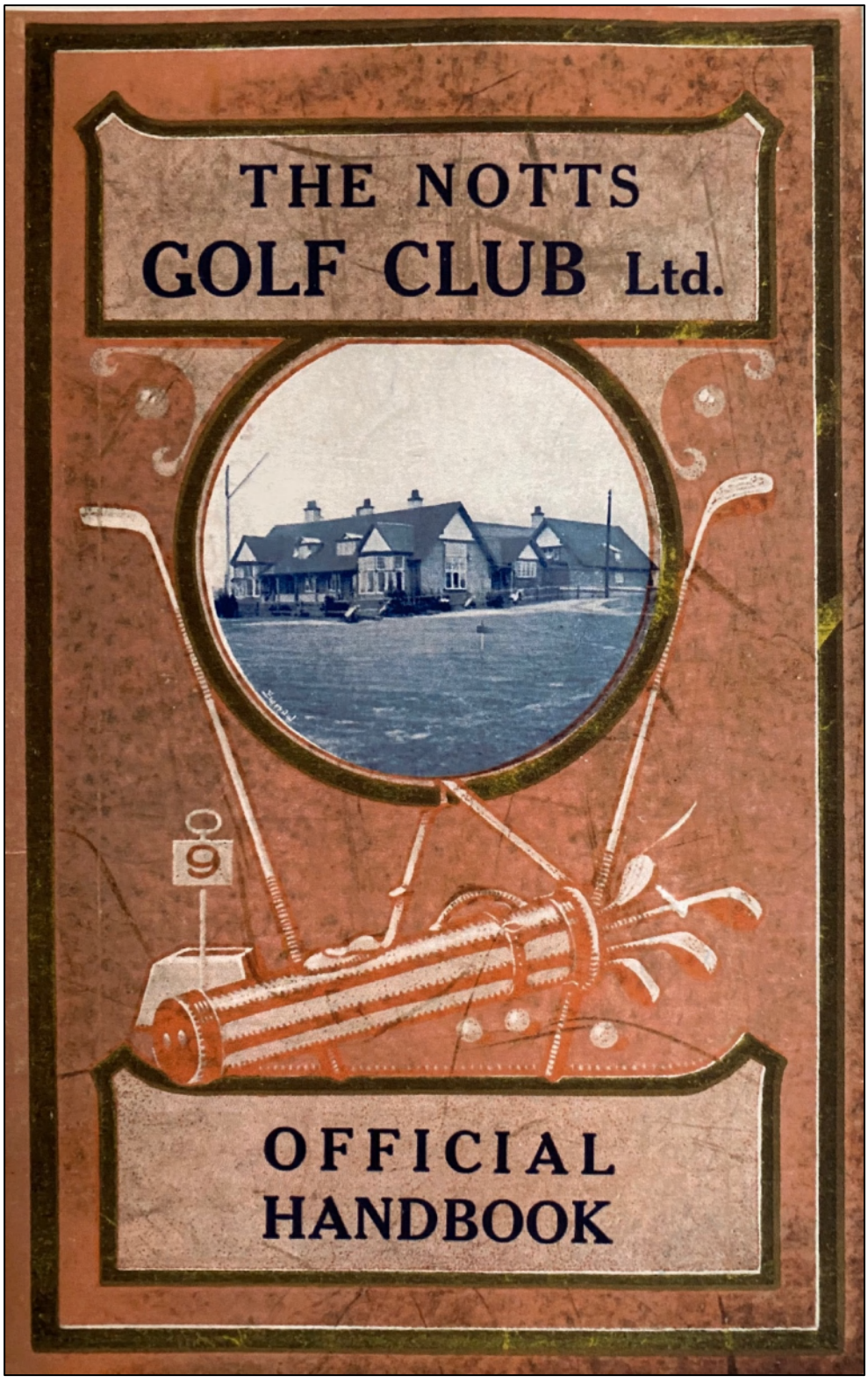
MISS ANTOINETTE DE BOGAS
About to make a shot on the golf links at Cannes

ENGLISH SOCIETY ON THE GOLF LINKS AT CANNES—WATCHING THE PLAY

Reading from left to right, omitting the first figure, are: Lady Juliet Duff, Lady Alistair Innes-Ker, Mr. Anthony Drexel, Lord Alistair Innes-Ker, and Captain Hibbert. In the centre view are the winners of the Irish Ladies' Challenge Trophy at Leinster. The names are: Miss Lauder, Miss F. E. Kavanagh (captain), Miss E. S. Lauder, Miss G. Lauder, Miss M. Harrison (Irish lady champion), and Miss Marron

Image © Illustrated London News Group

'The Sphere' (31) Top right Mrs. FW Brown winner of the English Ladies' Golf Championship at Hollinwell.



DUNLOP 'V' (Vacuum)
still maintaining its reputation.

L. B. Ayton, who tied for the MIDLAND CUP at Walmley, and Tom Williamson, who headed the qualifying round for 'Sphere and Tatler' tournament, both used DUNLOP 'V' (Bramble pattern).

The longest driving ball obtainable; and as it keeps perfect shape is true on the green. It is as good as new after several rounds.

Made in two sizes and two weights:—
SMALL SIZE HEAVY—DUNLOP 'V'
LARGE SIZE FLOATER—DUNLOP 'V' FLOATER
Bramble or Recessed Marking.

Price 2/6 each.

THE DUNLOP RUBBER CO. LTD., MANOR MILLS, ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

Manchester Courier

Note endorsement by Tom Williamson (32).

JH Taylor helped Tom Williamson with course and bunker design in 1902, 1905 and in 1912.

He is regarded as one of the finest bunker designers of his day.

1913 The Bogey for the new course was fixed at 78 (note more par 5s - different balls and equipment)
Out: 4-5-5-5-3-5-5-4-3=39
Home: 4-4-5-3-4-5-4-5-5=39

1914 JH Taylor *"The members of Notts. GC ought to be exceedingly proud of having such a links. I know of no other inland course that could possibly compare with Hollinwell."*

Tom Williamson tied for 4th place in the Open at Prestwick.

1914-1918 Sixty-one members served and twelve died in the first World War.

A memorial plaque of those killed in the first world war. Poignantly it was the only item that survived the clubhouse fire of 1924.

1915 WL Rockley. Awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during the Gallipoli campaign

https://secure.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/RollOfHonour/People/Details/25933

Looking across the New 3rd green.

1915: 2nd and 3rd West Riding Brigade had courtesy of the green. Sheep escaped and ate marigolds at Lady Marlan's Monksbarns Farm.

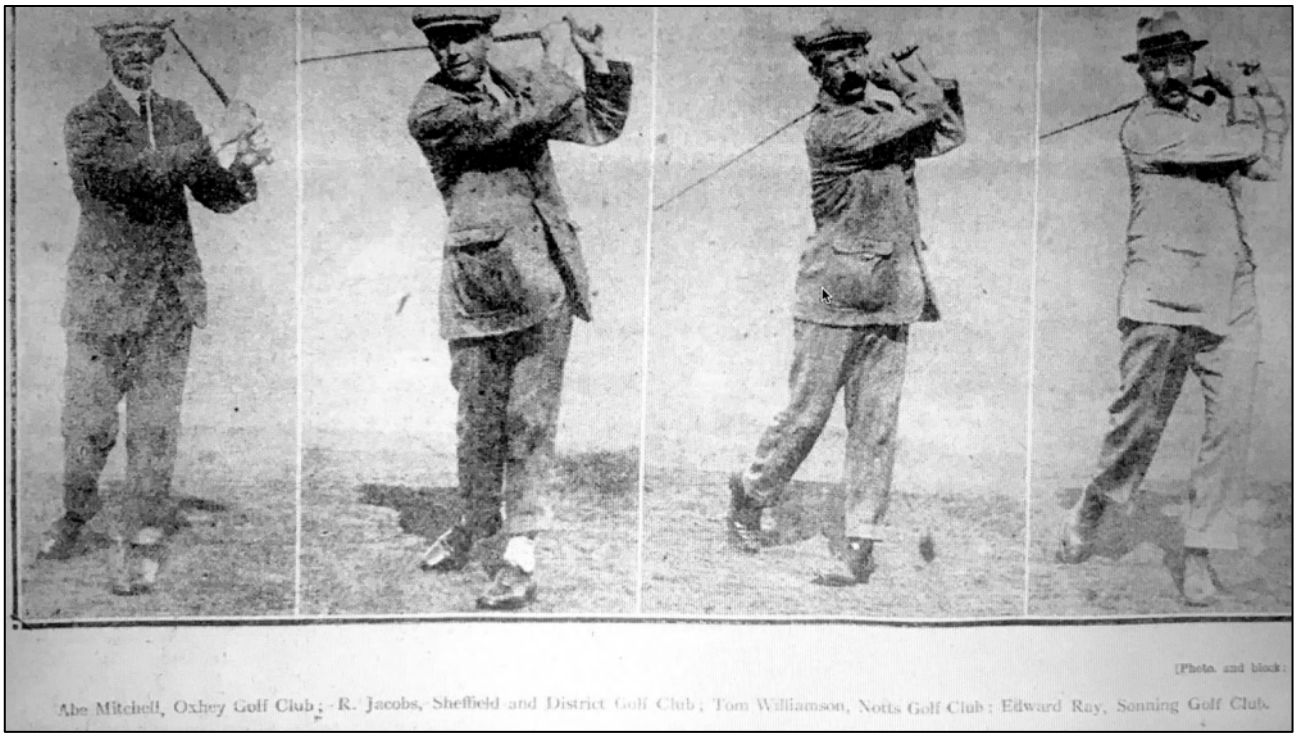
'Nottingham Guardian' (33)

"A Youthful Veteran"

Tom Williamson's 25 years with Notts. Golf Club

In 1897 Tom Williamson's first important match was at Gourlay, of Lincoln, in a 36-hole home and away contest and he won by 18 up and 16 to play. He was 17. At 18 he won the Midland Championship at Streetley and that year he also beet Sandy Herd at Huddersfield, the only person to do so.
Williamson considers his best round to be 66 at Kilmacolm in an invitation tournament 20 years ago, and his record around Holinwell is 67.
He has always been regarded as an exceptionally steady golfer rather than a brilliant player, but of late his golf has been characterised by more enterprise and dash.
One of his greatest successes was accomplished at the Walmley Tournament in the summer of 1918, when he finished first in the qualifying round in a field which included such formidable exponents as Duncan, Mitchell, Ritchie, Wilson and Mayo, and then won the knock-out tournament, beating L Holland (Northampton) in the final.
Last year he won the Midland Championship at Moseley, and in September beat Duncan and Mitchell in an invitation exhibition match at Rauceby, breaking the record for the course with a brilliant 71.

The most remarkable shot he ever played was in the Midland Professional Tournament at Robin Hood in 1907. At the last hole he sliced his drive, and the ball lay behind the clubhouse with a huge tree also in a line for the green. Williamson wanted a 4 to finish first, and taking his courage in both hands, he pitched out his mashie, pitched over the clubhouse, missed the tree by inches, and landed on the edge of the green. He secured the 4 and won the tournament. Members of the club have attempted the shot many times since but have never succeeded in accomplishing it yet.



Swings 'Sheffield Daily Telegraph' (34)
From left to right: Abe Mitchell, R Jacobs, Tom Williamson, Ted Ray.

1920 Putting green prepared. It was paid for by JD Player Captain and benefactor.

Captain and Chairman of John Player & Sons the tobacco company.

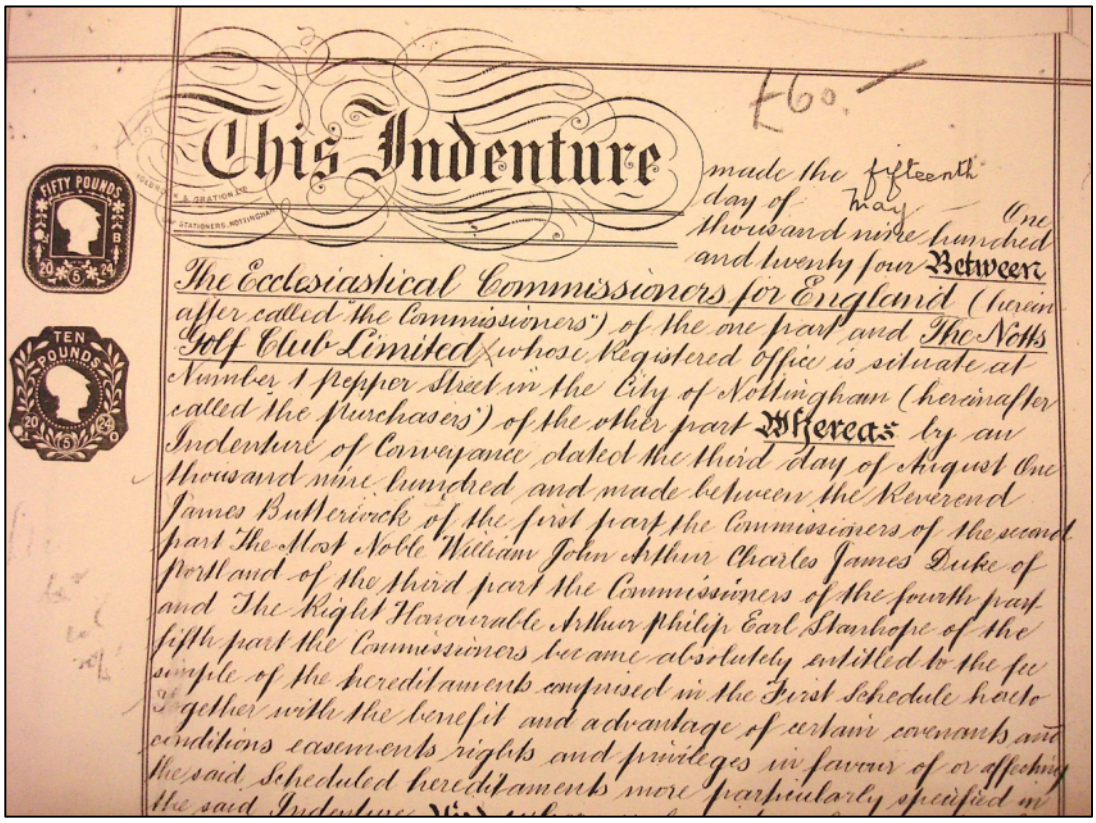
1920 The Sheffield Daily Telegraph reported that local farmers had alleged that...Hollinwell was a fruitful breeding ground for rabbits! (35)

1921 Tom Williamson's Shop.

1923 New 2nd green.

1923 No caddie boys to be employed during the smallpox outbreak in Kirkby.

Debentures were raised to purchase the course from the Ecclesiastical Commission (£6,000). Sunday golf was started. Below is the original 'Indenture' outlining the terms and area purchased.



This Indenture made the fifteenth day of May One thousand nine hundred and twenty four Between The Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England (herein after called "the Commissioners") of the one part and The Notts Golf Club Limited (whose Registered office is situate at Number 1 Pepper Street in the City of Nottingham (hereinafter called the Purchasers") of the other part Whereas by an Indenture of Conveyance dated the third day of August One thousand nine hundred and made between the Reverend James Butterwick of the first part the Commissioners of the second part The Most Noble William John Arthur Charles James Duke of Portland of the third part the Commissioners of the fourth part and The Right Honourable Arthur Philip Earl Stanhope of the fifth part the Commissioners became absolutely entitled to the fee simple of the hereditaments comprised in the First Schedule hereto Together with the benefit and advantage of certain covenants and conditions easements rights and privileges in favour of or affecting the said Scheduled hereditaments more particularly specified in

1924 Clubhouse gas lighting inserted.

1924 'Daily Mail' by Endersby Howard (36)

"Daily Mail £1,000 Tournament"

Hollinwell chosen for the Finals.

During recent times the course has been greatly altered and improved, until now it ranks among the greatest inland greens in the scheme of golf. Indeed, widely travelled champions have declared it to be without an equal. It has the bold sweeping undulations of Sunningdale, and the same capacity as Sunningdale for bringing out all the character and individuality of the accomplished player in critical situations.

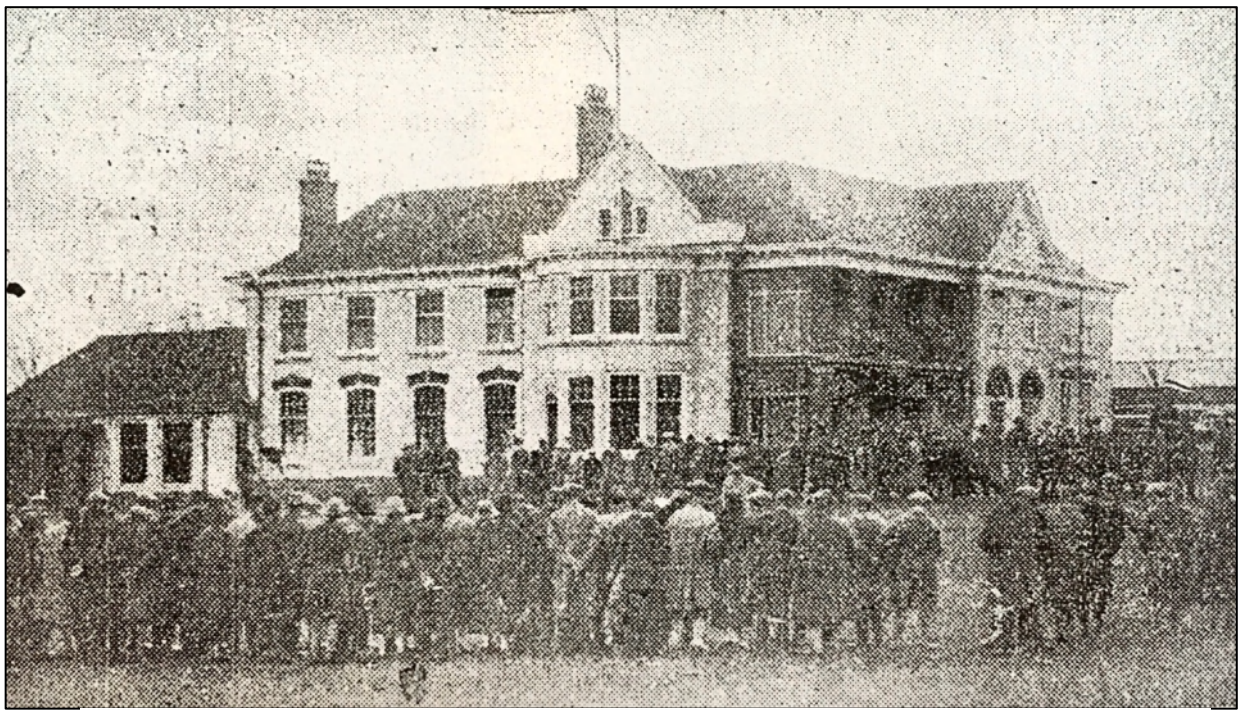
Gone are most of the holes that existed on the hills of the far side when Duncan made his name there. The one that remains is the pick of them all – a long drive over the brow of a hill and a full second shot across a wise, deep valley…

Nottingham is one of the hotbeds and nurseries of golf in England. It has seven courses belonging to members, with Hollinwell as their king…

This was a prestigious tournament, and the club was ready to hold it but then...

The clubhouse burnt down. The competition was postponed a year. A new clubhouse was built for £11,200 in part through insurance and a mortgage on favourable terms from John Player.

11.1.1924 Burnt out clubhouse.



April 1925 Opening the new clubhouse (37).

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB'S NEW "HOME."

The Duke of Portland yesterday opened the new Club House of the Notts. Club at Hollinwell. Our photograph, taken after the ceremony, shows the Mayor of Mansfield in the centre, supported on his left by Mr. J. Clarkson, the Mayor of Nottingham, the Duke of Portland and Mr. H. Hanson; while on his right are Mr. H. D. Snook and Mr. J. C. Warren.

The Duke of Portland opens the new clubhouse (38).

1925 New 1st tee. Exhibition match for new clubhouse. JH Taylor, Arthur Havers, Ernest Whitcombe and Tom Williamson.

THE BIG GOLF TOURNAMENT.—The winner, C. Johns, Purley Downs, whose grand aggregate was 293.

TOM WILLIAMSON—(Notts.), who tied with G. R. Buckle and J. Adwick for second place with 294, holing out at the 18th.

Notts. Guardian Mon. May 18th 1925

A. J. Wesson, a member of the Notts. Club, did the ninth hole at Hollinwell on Saturday in one and paid the usual penalty. This was the third time within a week a hole in one had been done on the course.

WILLIAMSON'S ADVENTURES.

Tom Williamson, the Notts. professional, has rarely, if ever, played finer golf than he did in the *Daily Mail* £1,200 Tournament at Hollinwell, and will probably never have a better chance of winning an event of such importance, but he is to be heartily congratulated upon his notable achievement in tieing for second place in a field representing the cream of professional golfing talent in the British Isles. The gorse bushes at the eighth hole, the scene of his adventures in both rounds on the last day—his drives practically landing in the same unplayable spot each time—will not be exactly a pleasant memory, but the Notts. professional took it all very philosophically when some of his friends commiserated with him, and modestly observed that he might have done a lot worse. They would have loved to have seen him win all the same.

The success of R. E. Ballantyne, the Sherwood Forest professional, who finished only four strokes behind Charles Johns, the winner, was also very gratifying to local golfers, and it should act as a real tonic to Ballantyne, who gives every promise of developing into a distinguished player. Only a few weeks ago it was rumoured that he had been offered an appointment with a Derbyshire club, but Sherwood Forest persuaded him to stay. J. Sibson (Rushcliffe), the third Notts. professional to reach the

(1) E. Ray (Oxhey) with his pipe, as usual. His grand aggregate was 295. (2) G. R. Buckle (Edgbaston), and (3) J. Adwick (Olton), who tied with Tom Williamson for second place with 294.

The £1,200 Daily Mail Tournament at Hollinwell (39).

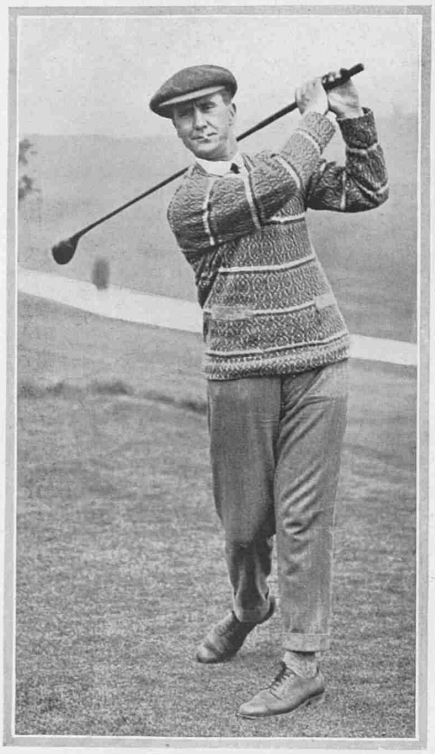
Top left: C Johns the winner
Right: Tom Williamson joint second

2,000 attended the first day
4,000 in the closing stage

THE GOLFER

By "Follow Through."

IT is rather sad, but nevertheless a sign of the times, that the competition for the St. George's Vase is now regarded as very little more important than the rest of the mass of tournaments which have recently cropped up. The entry last Saturday was illustrative of the fact that with so many other competitions offered on courses more accessible from London than Sandwich, many players of reputation do not regard it as a duty to play in the St. George's Vase. There were, however, a sufficiency of good players to make the day most exciting, and as the weather was absolutely perfect, the high sand hills, which provide so many free grand stands at St. George's, were crowded with people. Mr. Harris, of course, started favourite, as he must always do in this particular competition, which he has won outright twice, tied for once, and in which he has been second on six other occasions. His most serious rivals were regarded to be Mr. Douglas Grant, who knows the course very intimately, Mr. Tolley, and Mr. Michael Scott. At the end of the first round things were working out much as they were expected to do. Mr. Harris and Mr. Tolley led with 75's, and Mr. Douglas Grant and Mr. Scott were each two strokes behind. In the afternoon, however, the whole state of affairs altered, for Mr. Grant, starting out early, returned a magnificent score of 72, and so now it was Mr. Tolley and Mr. Harris who had to do the chasing. They neither of them played well up to the turn, and Mr. Tolley then went from bad to worse, so that he was well out of the running. Mr. Harris, on the other hand, kept nobly to his work, and he required only a 3, 5, 4, at the last three holes to tie. He took three putts on the 16th green, and then hooked his tee-shot at the 17th into a bunker and so he, too, killed his chances. There was still Mr. Scott, but he was never quite within sight of catching his man. I saw very little of Mr. Grant's rounds—one never does watch the man who eventually wins—but I was told that if anything he played better golf in the morning, when he took 77, than he did in the afternoon, when he went round in 72, the lower figure being accounted for by a series of wonderful chip-shots from off the green. Be that as it may, he must have played extremely well, which is not unusual for him. Mr. Tolley began the day in the most promising fashion, but half-way through the morning began to play his iron shots loosely, and in the afternoon he obviously felt the heat. Mr. Harris never quite got on to his game all day, and it is a wonderful tribute to his knowledge of the game that he was able to return cards of 75 and 76. Some of the scoring was ferociously high, and it seemed a pity that Mr. Tolley did not return his card in the afternoon, for some of the more humble competitors might for once have been flattered by beating him, which could not have done him any harm and which must have done them good. The St. George's course has altered very much since the war. The turf there used to be as fine an example of what is generally known as the "real seaside stuff," as you could find, but they lost much of their grass in hot summers soon after the war, and the course did unquestionably become very bare. Now the grass is springing up in abundance, and even if it is not quite the same lovely texture as we knew there before, it does at least make a generous covering to the ground. Once off the fairways and you are lucky to find your ball, let alone play it back on to the course. Some say that is as it should be, others say it most decidedly is not. Which to believe I cannot say, but I heard the case from the modern American point of view—that is extreme penalty for driving crooked—put very well by one of our last year's Walker Cup team. He was most insistent that a straight player should be given adequate reward for his virtue, and he deplored the construction of courses which allows a player who is merely long without ever attempting to be straight, to reach the green in the same number of strokes as the more accurate player. I must say that he put the matter from the point of view of the sinner rather than the sufferer, admitting that he had benefited sufficiently often himself from transgressions at the expense of those who had played the hole better than he had. The whole matter would appear to boil down to the particular point of view from which you regard the game. Is a course to be laid out to suit reasonable golfers playing the recognised old-fashioned type of game, or is it to be constructed for the purposes of providing a first-class test in an international match? And can it be assumed that because a ball is hit crooked on links such as St. Andrews that nothing matters, so long as sufficient distance is covered? Possibly chalk lines laid down each side of the fairway, after the manner evolved by Scotland Yard to direct the traffic in Whitehall, would encourage some of our more powerful hitters to play a trifle more straight. Whether we all want to be set the same test which is set to international champions at Pine Valley is another matter. I, for one, object to being examined in the game when I go out with no more serious object than to enjoy myself, but I can quite see that some of the more accurate strikers of the ball have got a legitimate cause of complaint.



WINNER OF THE *DAILY MAIL* TOURNAMENT AT HOLLINWELL: C. JOHNS, OF PURLEY DOWNS.

The final stages of the *Daily Mail* tournament were played off last week over the Nottinghamshire Golf Club's course at Hollinwell, when C. Johns, the Purley Downs professional, won the valuable prize by a single stroke with a score of 293 for the 72 holes. In his third round he returned a 69, which equalled the record for the course put up by E. Ray on the previous day. Johns, strangely enough, only succeeded in passing through the qualifying round after playing off twice after two ties for the last place.

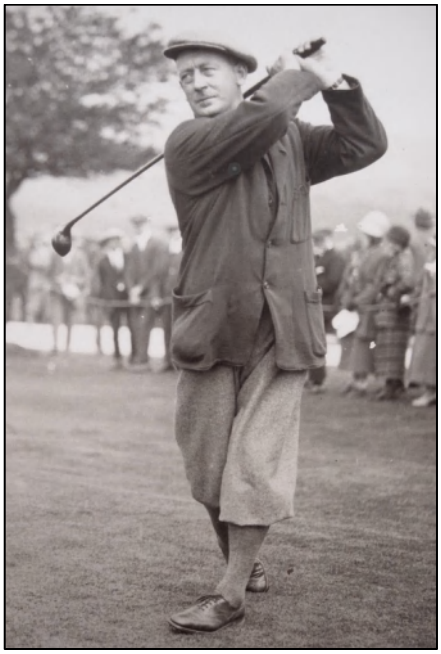
THE HOLLINWELL RECORD TWICE BROKEN DURING THE £1,200 TOURNAMENT: E. RAY.

In his first round for the competition proper of the *Daily Mail* tournament, E. Ray, of Oxhey, returned a 69, which broke the record—72, set up by J. H. Taylor—for the course. This remarkable score, however, was equalled by Johns, the winner, on his third round. Ray finished with a total of 295, tieing for third place with A. G. Havers, C. A. Whitcombe, and Abe Mitchell. Ray was unlucky on one occasion to suffer the penalty of a stroke on account of his caddie kicking his ball—almost sending it into a bunker. This turned a hole which might possibly have been a 3 into a 5.

Image © Illustrated London News Group

1925 C Johns left Ted Ray right
'The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News' (40).

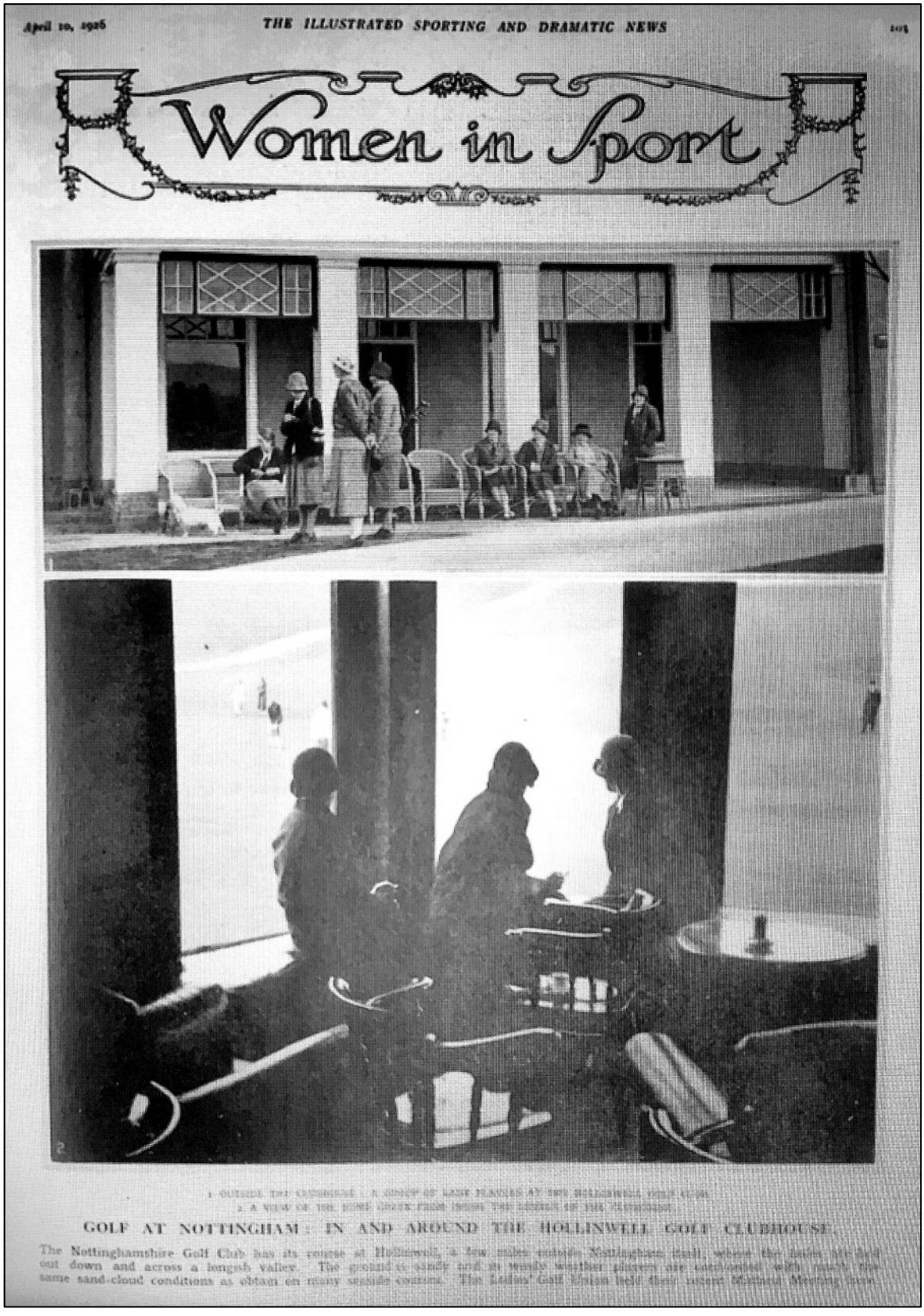
'The Athletic News' comment on the Tournament. Touts were asked to leave the course! (41)



Tom Williamson on the 1st tee in the Daily Mail Tournament. He came second. The night before the last two rounds he dreamt broom on the 8th would be his demise, and it was.

1925 Mr. Mellors gave a painting of Newstead Lodge done from the 16th green!

1926 Members gave Tom Williamson a silver cigarette case to mark his silver wedding anniversary. There is no record of what Mrs. Williams received!



April 10, 1926 THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS

Women in Sport

GOLF AT NOTTINGHAM: IN AND AROUND THE HOLLINWELL GOLF CLUBHOUSE

The Nottinghamshire Golf Club has its course at Hollinwell, a few miles outside Nottingham itself, where the holes are laid out down and across a longish valley. The ground is sandy and in windy weather players are confronted with much the same sand-cloud conditions as obtain on many seaside courses. The Ladies' Golf Union held their recent Midland Meeting here.

View from inside the new clubhouse lounge (43).

1927 Tom Williamson

1928 A practice ground was built by the 3rd hole.

1928 Jock Ballantyne (won on 66th hole) Tom Williamson (referee), Henry Cotton (left to right).

The Newest Golf Card.

Idea Worth Adopting.

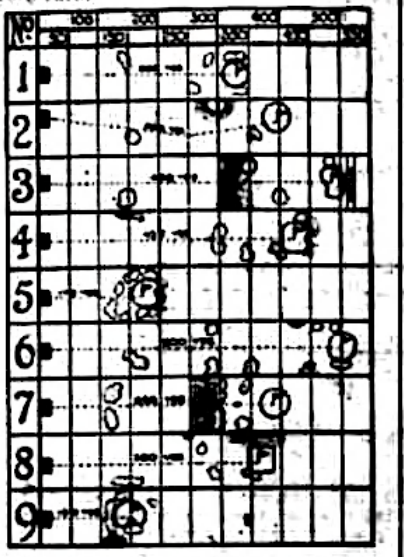
(*By "The Dormy Man."*)

NEW ideas are being applied to nearly every phase of golf in these go-ahead days, whether it be course construction, green-keeping, club making and ball manufacture, ball cleaners on the course, teeing pegs, special attire, and all manner of other things, including even our scoring cards.

It is not so long ago that I described a new type of card to which an additional column had been added to enable and encourage the golfer to set down hole by hole the number of putts he had taken. Now from the Nottingham Golf Club at Hollinwell comes another interesting new idea in scoring cards, consisting of a plan of every hole on the course.

Although this new card is somewhat elaborate, and perhaps, too costly to print for every-day issue, it is particularly attractive, and when other clubs see it they are likely to have one prepared for visitors and special club occasions.

The Hollinwell card, part of which is reproduced in the accompanying sketch, consists of a piece of strong art paper about ten inches broad and four inches deep, and it folds to the size of the average score card.



A reproduction of part of the Hollinwell card.

The whole of each side of the card is utilised. On one are the local rules and the usual spaces for scoring, and of the three sections on the other side two are occupied with the plans of the 18 holes, while a photograph of the clubhouse fills the third. The sketch shows better than I can explain how the card illustrates the lay-out of each hole as well as its length. It is easy to recognise the bunkers and greens, and a dotted line shows the course which shots ought to follow at each hole.

It seems to me that much the same card could be produced in smaller and more compact form, and one would be popular with golfers making the acquaintance of any course.

How Many Bunkers?

A Yorkshire golfer, who writes under the nom de plume of "Scratchman," in "The Sports Post," discusses, in an article to appear in that paper this afternoon, the bunkers of the Huddersfield Golf Club's course, at Fixby. Referring to the remodelling of Fixby, two or three years ago, he says: "Apart from Hopwood Park, no North country course is as efficiently bunkered with as few bunkers, which, after all, is the art of bunkering. The secretary of Hoylake, Major H. C. Forbes Bell, once commented to me that one bunker on their course did the work of three at Lytham and St. Annes, and this is so. And two bunkers at St. Andrew's do the work of three at Hoylake, so there you are."

This is all very interesting, and it makes me wonder if the average member of a golf club ever realises how many bunkers there are on his home course. I heard a Yorkshire amateur, given to a little hyperbole, declare recently that he had been in every bunker on the course during a 36 hole medal competition, and that unless his golf improved, he would need a water-cooled niblick next time he played there. If he had been in two bunkers at every hole in each round, he would not have encountered a quarter of the total number.

Probably not one golfer in a hundred knows even approximately how many sand traps, as the Americans term them, there are on the course with which they are most familiar. A friend who is the chairman of a green committee, avows that not another member of his club knows the total number of bunkers on the course within a round dozen.

I wonder how many golfers reading this note could count the hazards on any course? The effort would be an interesting test of power of observation and memory. Try it.

The number of bunkers on a course varies enormously. There are a few courses, usually of the moorland type, with a wealth of natural hazards, which have not a single bunker. The only sand is in the tee boxes, and the shed where the compost is mixed for top-dressing the greens.

If memory serves me well, Baildon has only two bunkers on the whole course. At the other end of the scale is a course like Muirfield, where, I believe, the bunkers number over 400.

The only Leeds course for which I have an exact figure is Sand Moor, where the total number (including three or four more now under construction), is 105. How many Sand Moor members knew that? And how many bunkers are there on other West Yorkshire courses?

The Social Side.

Many golf clubs are developing their social activities more than ever this winter, in some instances even to the extent of holding either a bridge or whist drive or a concert every week.

Perhaps the ever-growing influence of the women members of clubs is largely responsible for this development, for when a man's wife can also spend her evenings at the golf club she shares social interests which may have been formerly her pet aversion.

Among Leeds clubs, Cobble Hall, Moortown and Sand Moor have a strong social side, and the dinner dance of the last-mentioned club in Leeds this week was an indication of what can be done where there is a strong club spirit among the members and they have a live entertainment committee.

The Sand Moor dance was surprisingly successful, for an effort to bring together perhaps 60 or 80 members resulted in an attendance of fully 200. Everyone enjoyed the function immensely, and Mr. R. S. Moon, the chairman of the entertainment committee, and the two leading representatives of the ladies' section of the club, Mrs. Norman Richardson and Mrs. J. S. Hamilton, were warmly congratulated upon their arrangements.

A feature of the competitive season of the Moor Allerton club at Leeds, which ended last week-end, was the triumph of youth. Even though this is the youngest local club, I was astonished at the prize distribution to see the young players come up one after another for their prizes. In point of years, there was probably only one crammed player among them; and nine-tenths of the large number of members present were young men and women who can have been playing only three or four years.

This youthful enthusiasm for the game should be a happy augury for the future success of the club.

1929 Steel shafts legalized.

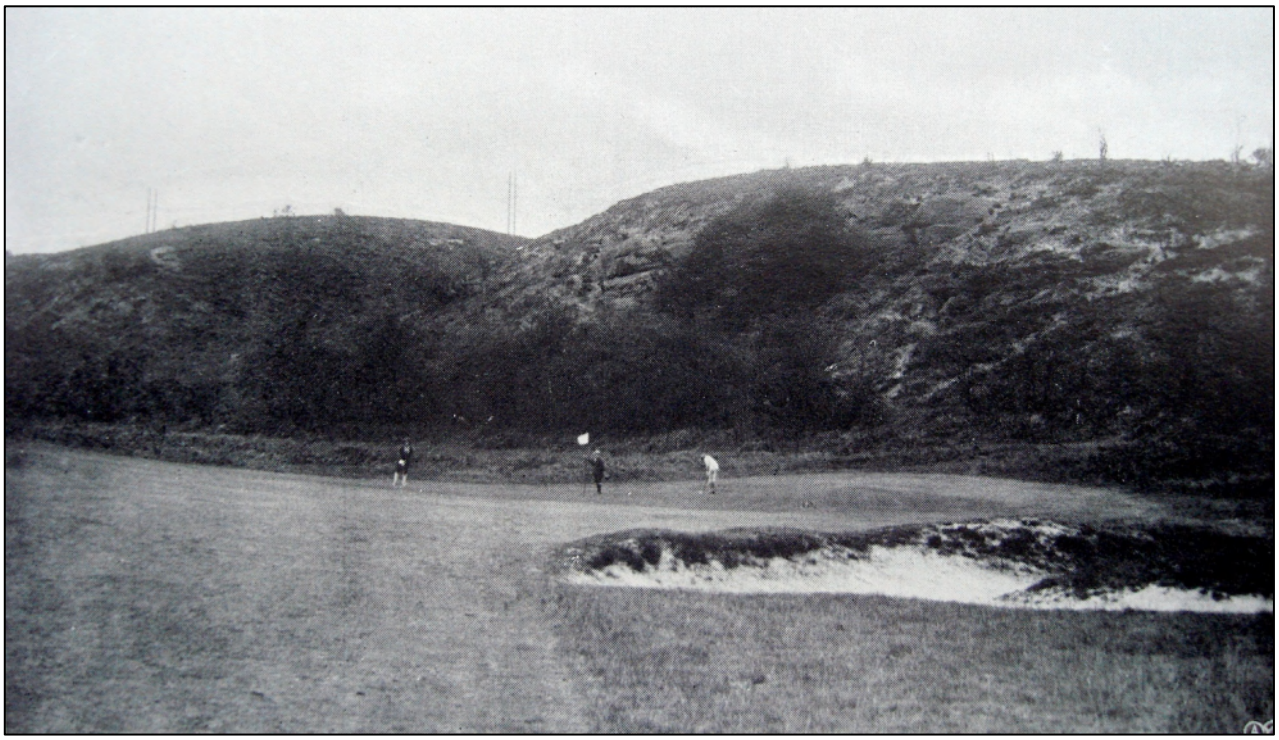
1929 First green moved 30 yards forwards to lengthen the hole. Bunker at the back of 13th hole was grassed over.

1930 Article (left) in the 'Yorkshire Post' about the novelty of Tom's Hollinwell score card that also showed the course layout on its reverse side (44).

1928-9
Tom Williamson
Captain of PGA

1931 A water diviner was employed and as a result a bore hole was made in front of the 4th tee to reduce wet areas on the 4th and 18th fairways.

1932 Dining room (downstairs until 1937).



1932 Second green.

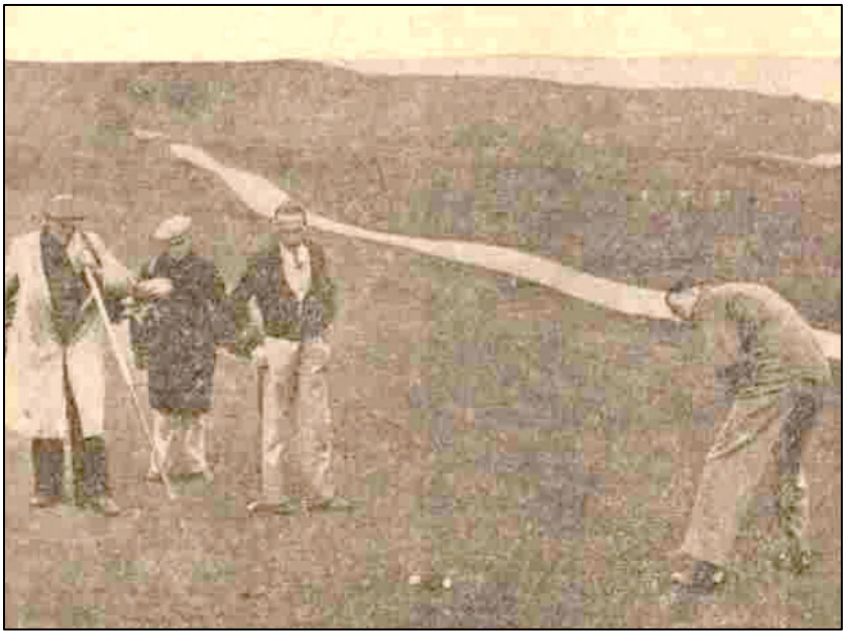
Second hole with a sand scrape on the left.

1932 Seventh green.

1932 Thirteenth green surrounded by bunkers and sand scrapes.

1932 Seventeenth green.

The Black Boy Hotel in Nottingham where some of the committee meetings were held in the 1930s.



Third green looking North in the 1930s.

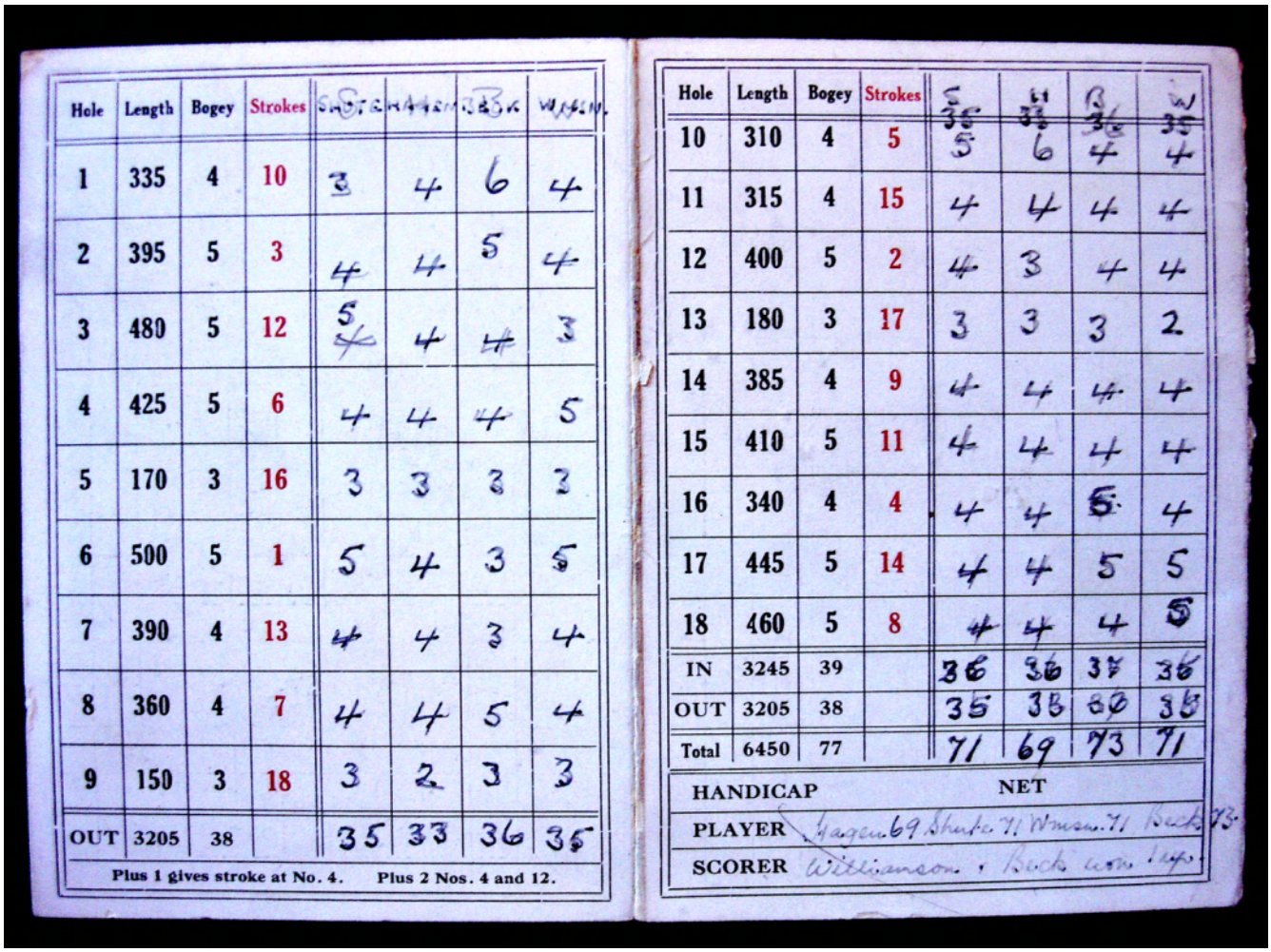
1933 (Left to Right) J Lee (Pro Chilwell), Tom Williamson, Walter Hagen (Four times Open Champion), TS Fulford (Pro Fulford), AN Lee (Capt' Notts), Densmore Shute (Open Champion), J Gibson (Pro Rushcliffe), AF Beck (Pro Sherwood), W Hancock (Ass' Pro Sherwood)

1933 Densmore Shute (Open Champion)

1933 Walter Hagen at Hollinwell. He won 11 professional majors, third behind Jack Nicklaus (18) and Tiger Woods (15). He won the US Open twice and in 1922 was the first US born golfer to win the British Open and he won it three more times. He had 45 PGA wins and captained the Ryder Cup six times. He never won the Masters as it was only established in 1934 after his prime.

Tom Williamson chipping by the 13th green, looking North.

1933 An exhibition match was held between Densmore Shute (Open Champion) and Walter Hagen (four times Open Champion) playing Tom Williamson and AG Beck of Sherwood Forest. These were the international golfing stars of the day, and this would have been a considerable coup for the club. Hagen's secretary phoned the club asking for the match if he and Shute could keep 75% of the ticket sales.



Hole	Length	Bogey	Strokes				
1	335	4	10	3	4	6	4
2	395	5	3	4	4	5	4
3	480	5	12	5	4	4	3
4	425	5	6	4	4	4	5
5	170	3	16	3	3	3	3
6	500	5	1	5	4	3	5
7	390	4	13	4	4	3	4
8	360	4	7	4	4	5	4
9	150	3	18	3	2	3	3
OUT	3205	38		35	33	36	35

Plus 1 gives stroke at No. 4. Plus 2 Nos. 4 and 12.

Hole	Length	Bogey	Strokes				
10	310	4	5	5	6	4	4
11	315	4	15	4	4	4	4
12	400	5	2	4	3	4	4
13	180	3	17	3	3	3	2
14	385	4	9	4	4	4	4
15	410	5	11	4	4	4	4
16	340	4	4	4	4	5	4
17	445	5	14	4	4	5	5
18	460	5	8	4	4	4	5
IN	3245	39		36	36	37	36
OUT	3205	38		35	35	36	35
Total	6450	77		71	69	73	71

HANDICAP NET

PLAYER Hagen 69 Shute 71 Wmson 71 Beck 73

SCORER Williamson & Beck won 1up

Hagen 69, Williamson and Shute 71and Beck 73.

1933 A club tie with red Robin Hoods on a Lincoln green background was introduced. There was no logo then.

Famous American Golf "Stars" Play Over Hollinwell Course To-morrow

'Nottingham Evening Post' article on the exhibition Match (44).

1933 Twelfth tee during the match.

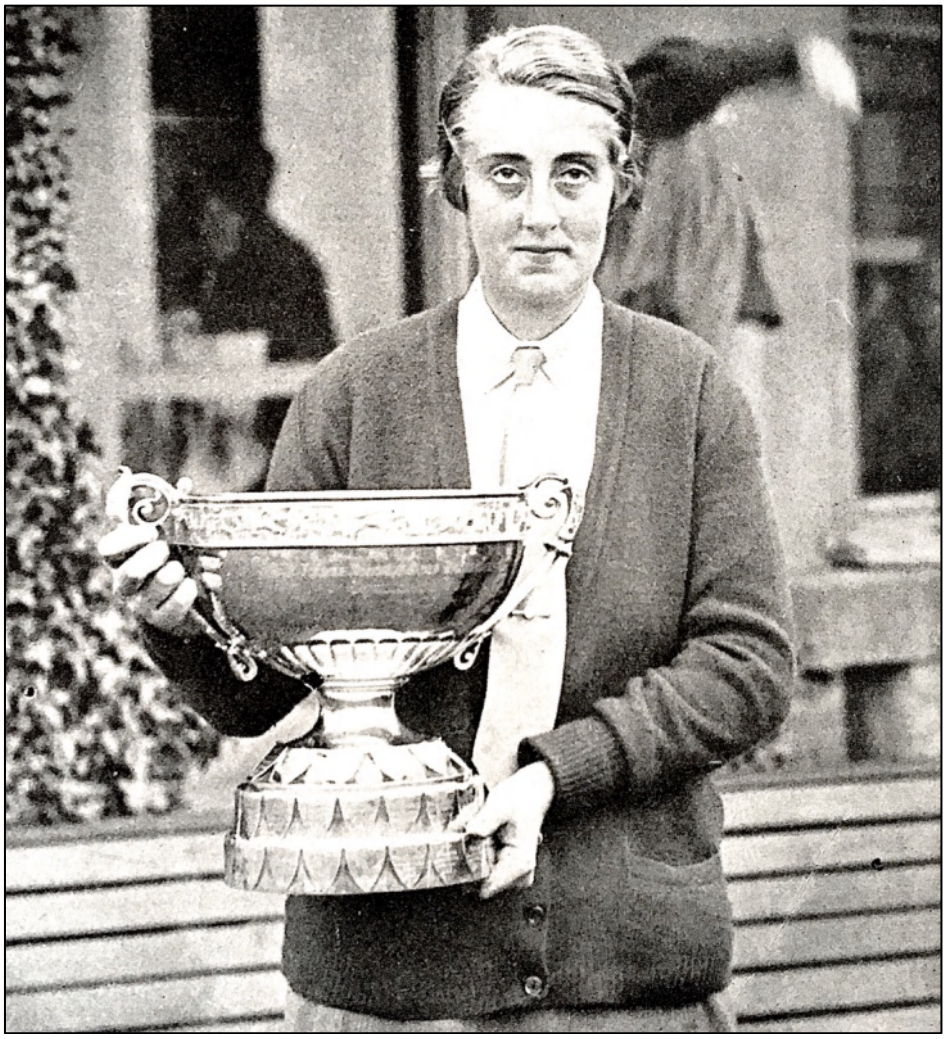
Walter Hagen putting on the 7th green.

Hagen played in an era when there was division between amateurs and professionals. Amateurs were ‘gentlemen’ and professionals were often treated as if they were ‘in service’. Professionals were not allowed into the clubhouse. In the 1920 Open at Deal Hagen hired a Daimler car (also reported as a Pierce-Arrow) to serve as his private dressing room, because he was refused entrance to the clubhouse. He hired a chauffeur and parked the car in the driveway. In Troon he refused to enter a clubhouse to claim his prize because he had earlier been denied entrance. In 1923 at the Open at Hoylake Fred Williamson caddied for his father and the professionals were not allowed into the clubhouse and used the locker room for a snack lunch. Walter Hagen, and the ultimate winner, was disconcerted to find that Sidney Roper, a Bulwell Forest Artisan, was able to have his lunch in the dining room. The first prize was £100 that Hagen gave to his caddie. It is pertinent that Notts. Golf Club made Tom Williamson an honorary member in 1921 indicating both the affection and regard he was held.

1933 Enid Wilson, a member of Notts. Ladies Golf Club, retained her title of British Ladies Amateur Champion for the third consecutive year and she beat the American Champion Helen Hicks in the Curtis Cup, who had won the US Championship in 1931 and been runner up in 1933.

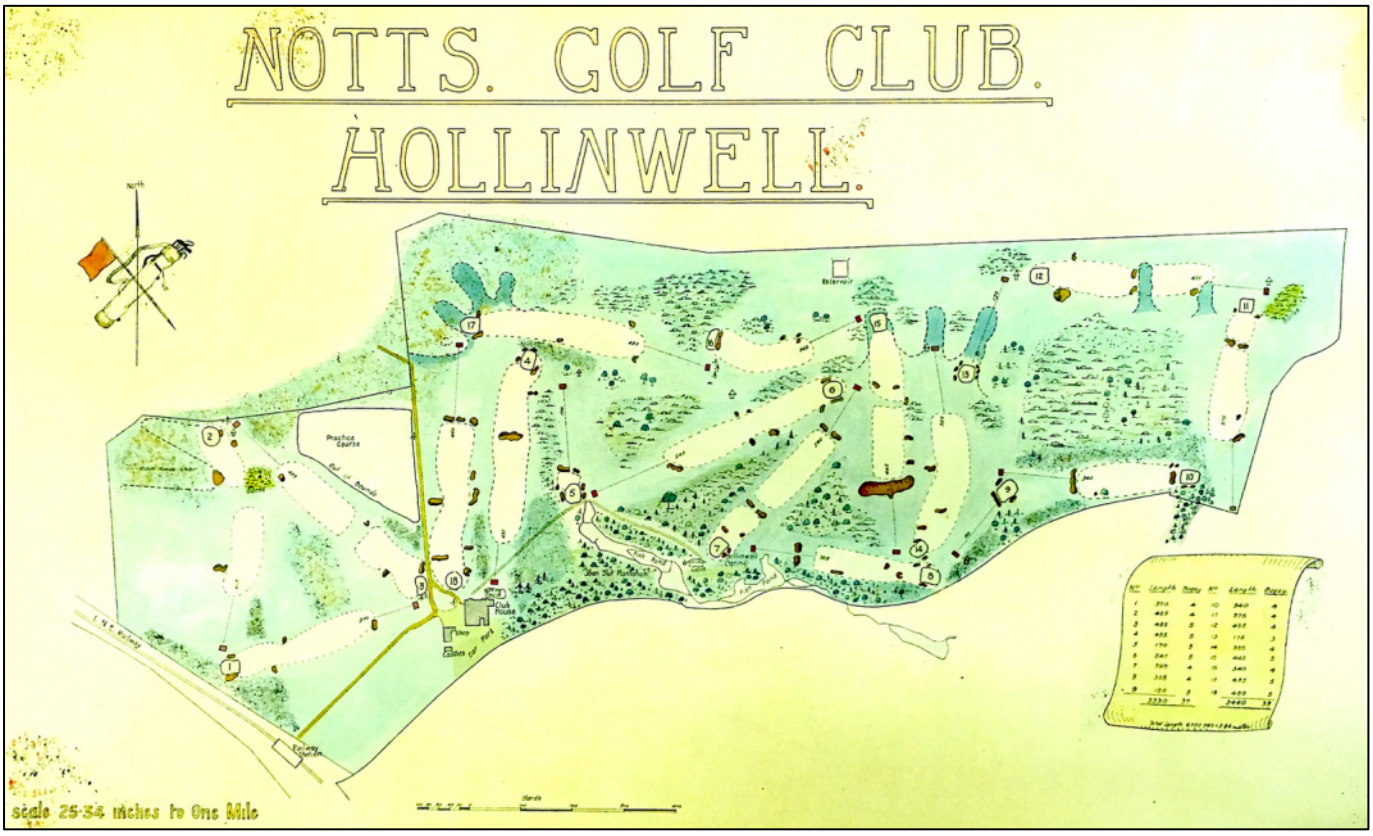
Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News (45)
Enid Wilson: Strength and power are the outstanding features, perhaps, of her game...

1933 A subcommittee was appointed to consider the question of electric lights in the clubhouse, with the ‘power to act’!

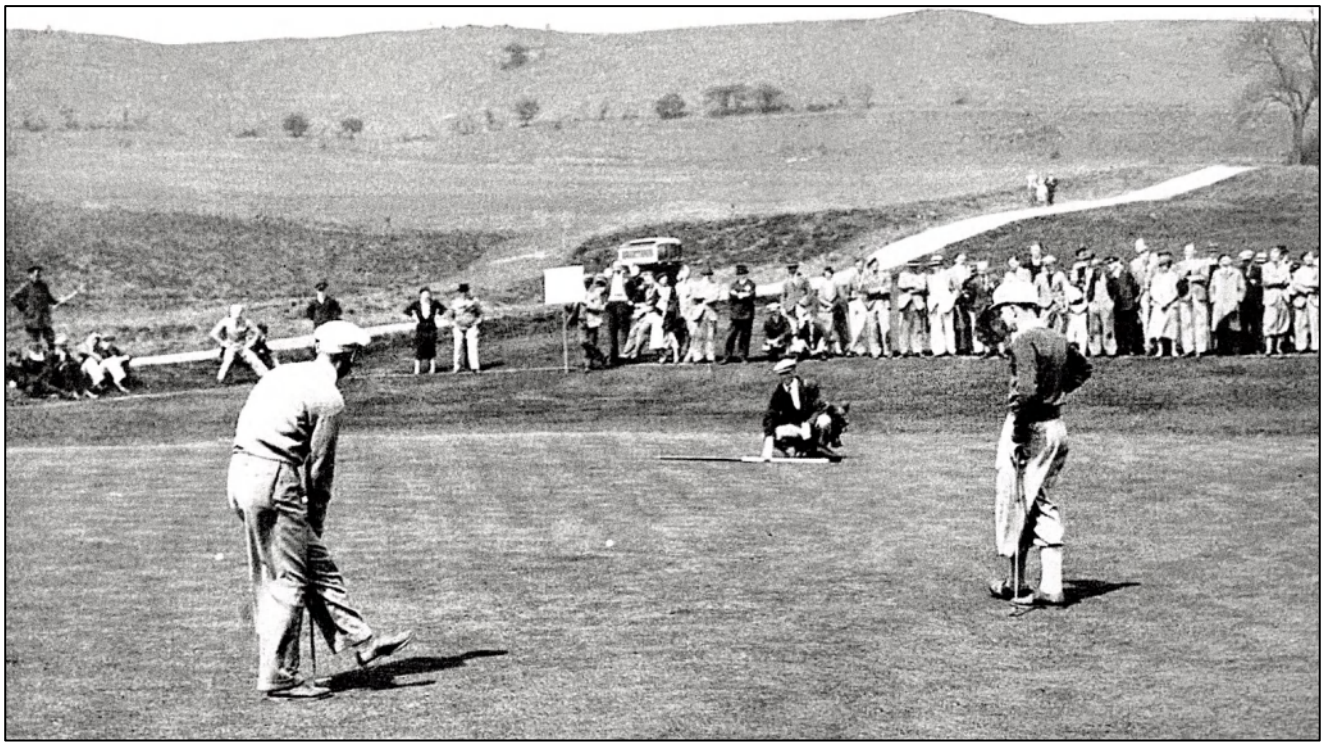


1933 Enid Wilson British Ladies Amateur Champion at Gleneagles having won for three consecutive years.

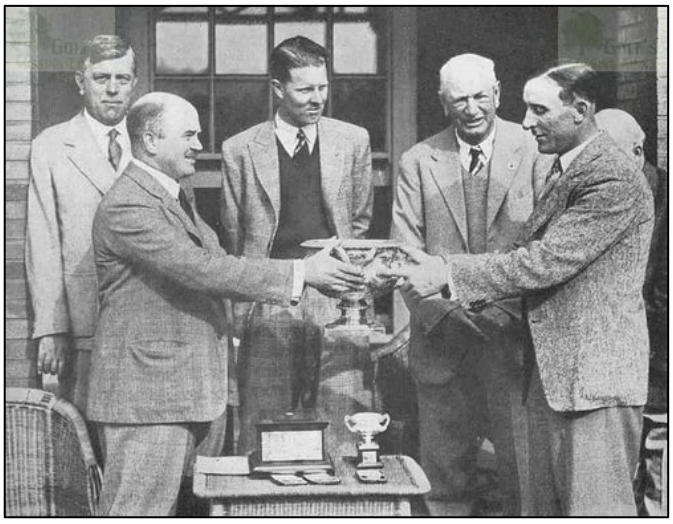
'Leeds Mercury' (46) announced that the Ladies Golf Union had refused Enid Wilson entry into the Championship giving no reason although it was thought to be due to articles written with advertisements. This was odd because the Union had just decided to suspend its ban on player-writers. The next year the Union asked Enid to apply to the R&A for reinstatement, but she declined.



1935 Map of Hollinwell to be found on the main staircase.



English Amateur 1935 won by John Woollam.
Eighteenth green at Hollinwell.



John Woolam had already won the English Amateur in 1933, the Swiss Amateur in 1933 and 1934, the Dutch Amateur in 1934 and he played for England on eight occasions.

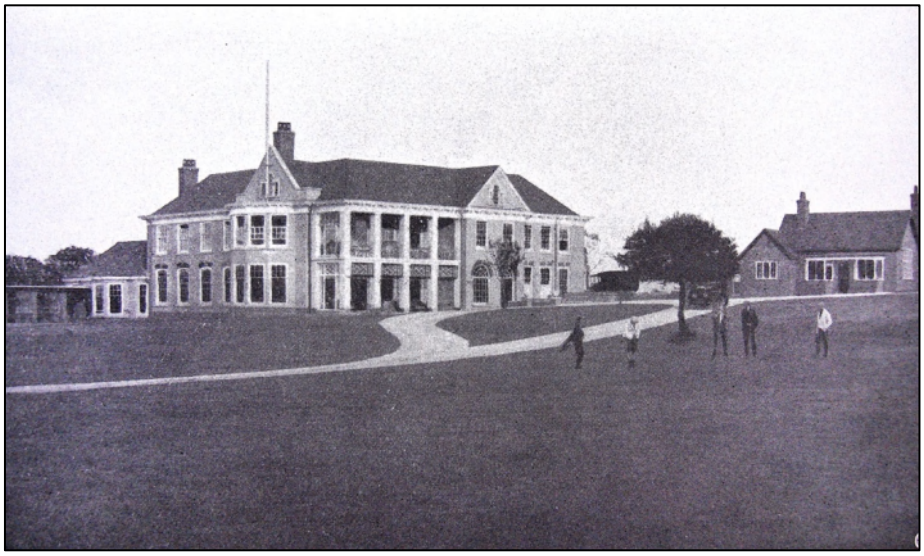
Cyril Tolley, winner of the Amateur Championship in 1920 and 1929, also just losing to Bobby Jones in 1930, playing out of an undetermined bunker looking North.

1936 A drink at the ‘Well’, doubling up as a cooler.

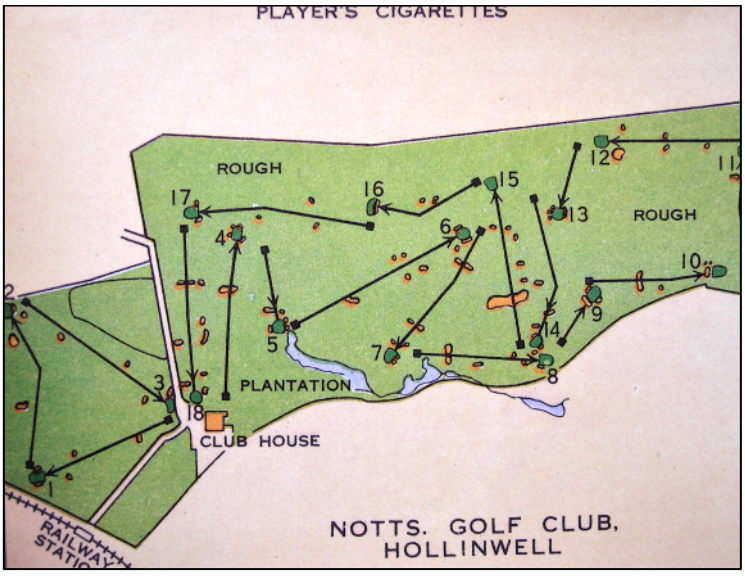
1936 Avenue from 7th green to the rear of the 5th green for those who didn't want all 18. Lined by recently planted birch trees, there was no 8a or 9a.

Curling Pond with Tom Williamson measuring.

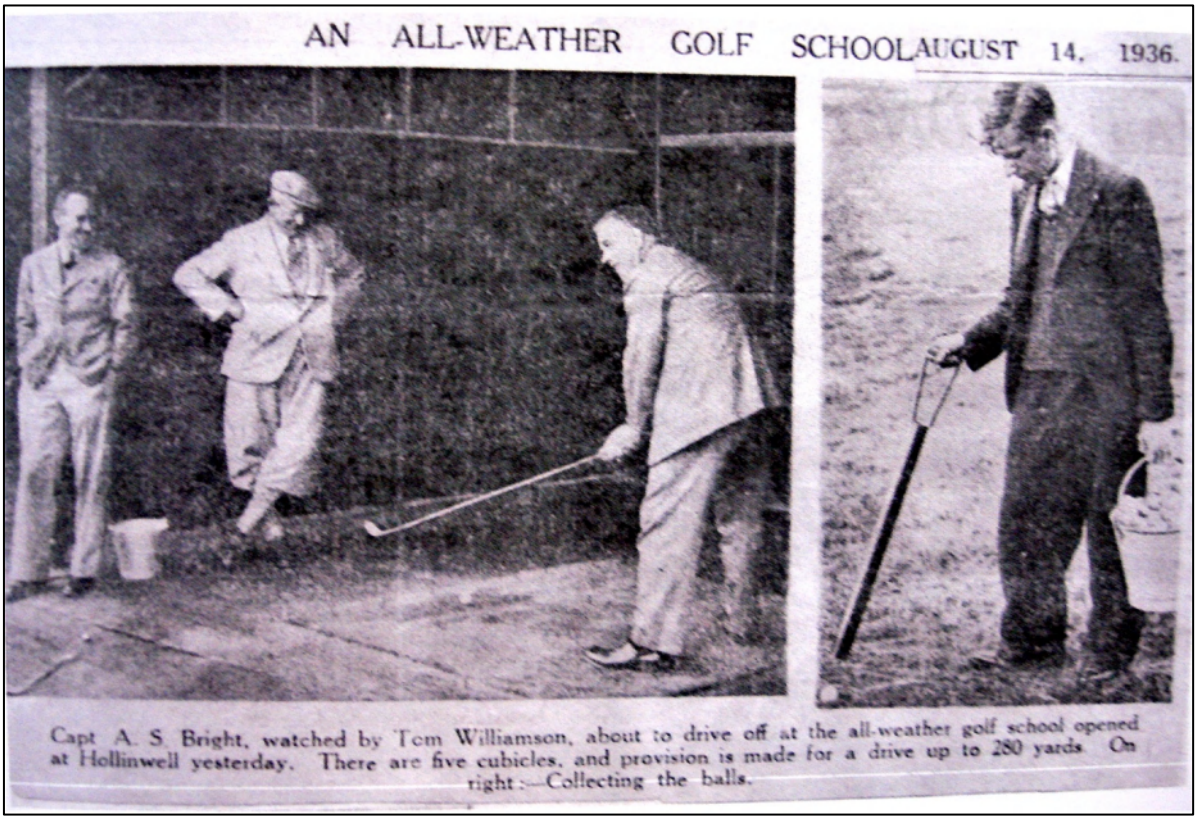
Henry Longhurst was a great friend to the club and wrote a pamphlet about it.



1936 Clubhouse.



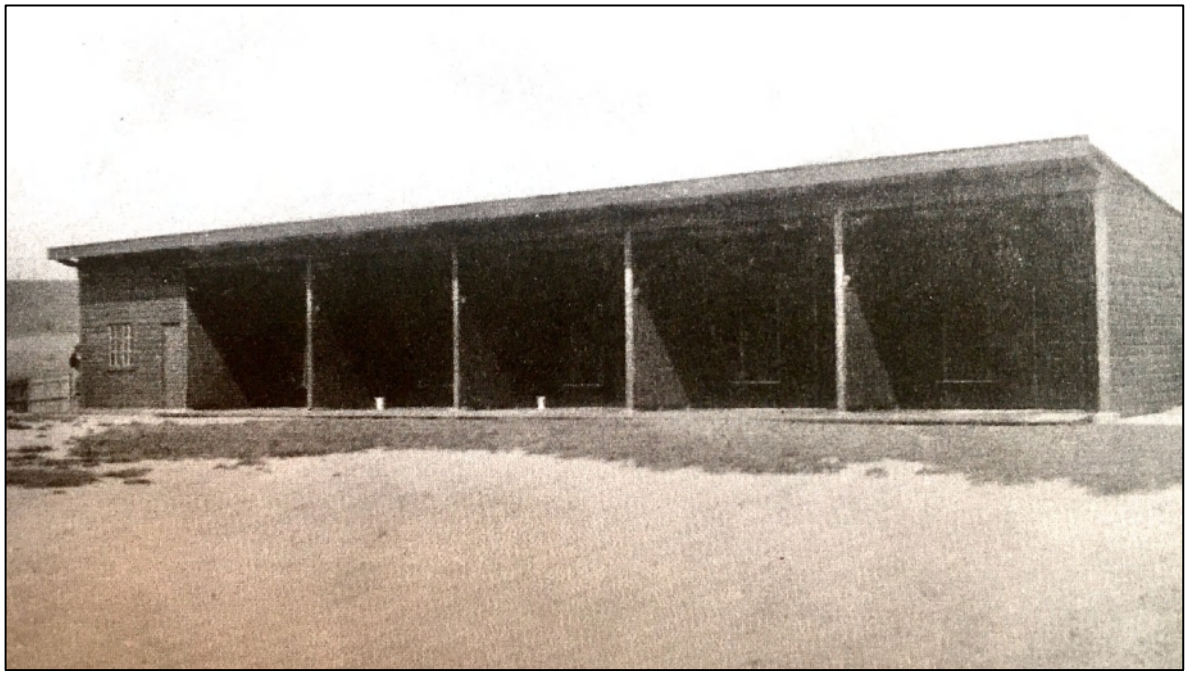
1936 Hollinwell Cigarette Card.



AN ALL-WEATHER GOLF SCHOOL AUGUST 14, 1936.

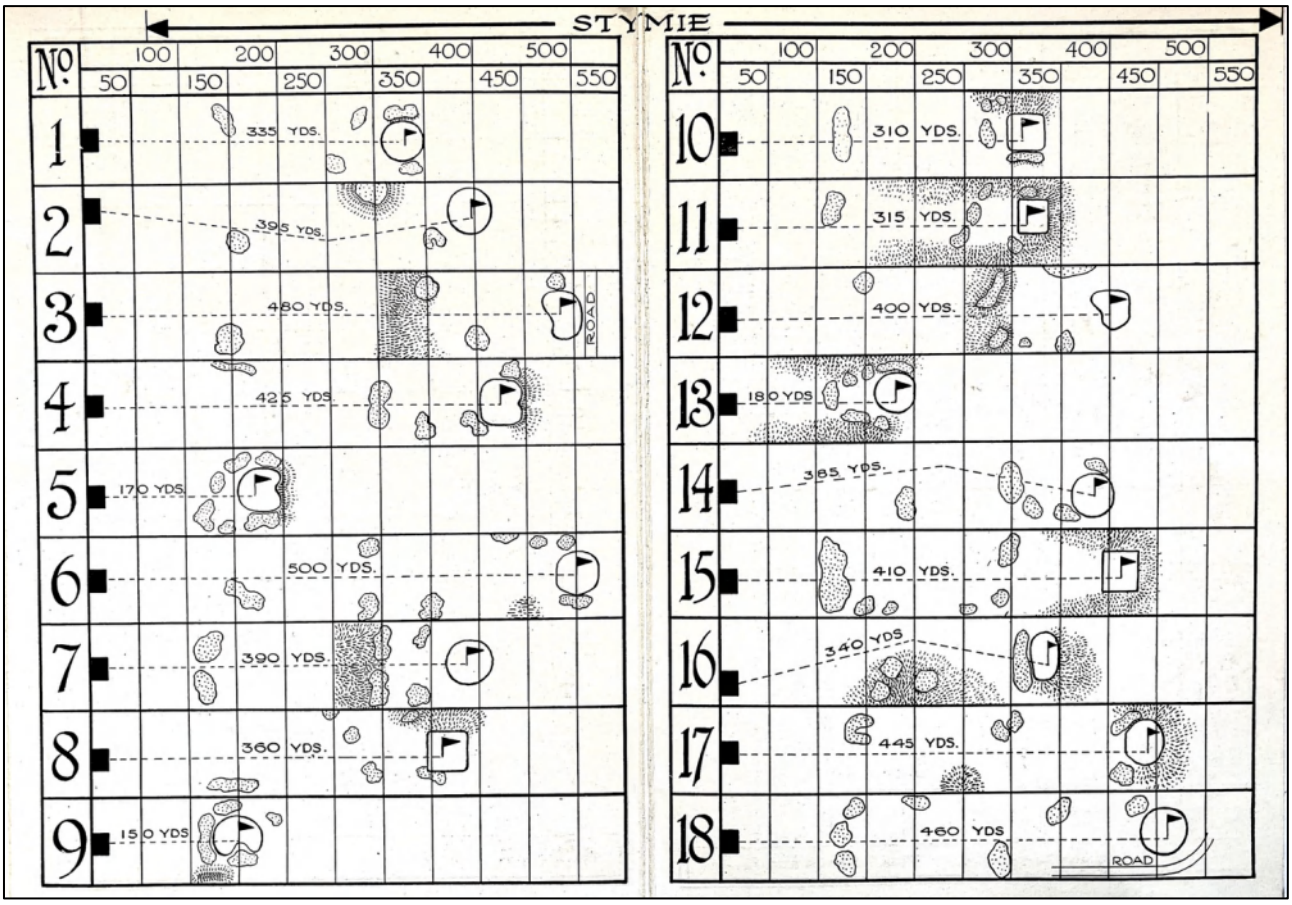
Capt A. S. Bright, watched by Tom Williamson, about to drive off at the all-weather golf school opened at Hollinwell yesterday. There are five cubicles, and provision is made for a drive up to 280 yards. On right:—Collecting the balls.

1936 JD Player gave an all-weather golf school.



1936 JD Player gave an all-weather golf school (based on the first at St. Andrews, then 3 years old).

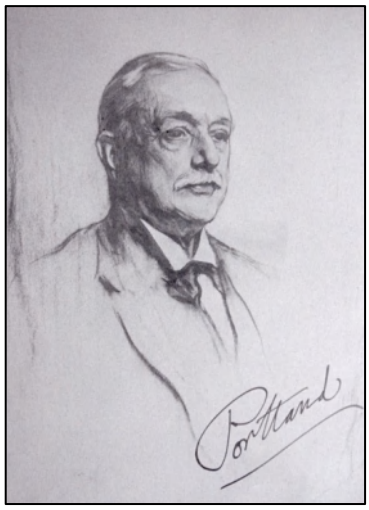
1939 *"Take out the gorse on the right of the 5th hole where practical"* (repeated for 80 years!).



Innovative reverse of scorecard acting as a stroke saver designed by Tom Williamson.

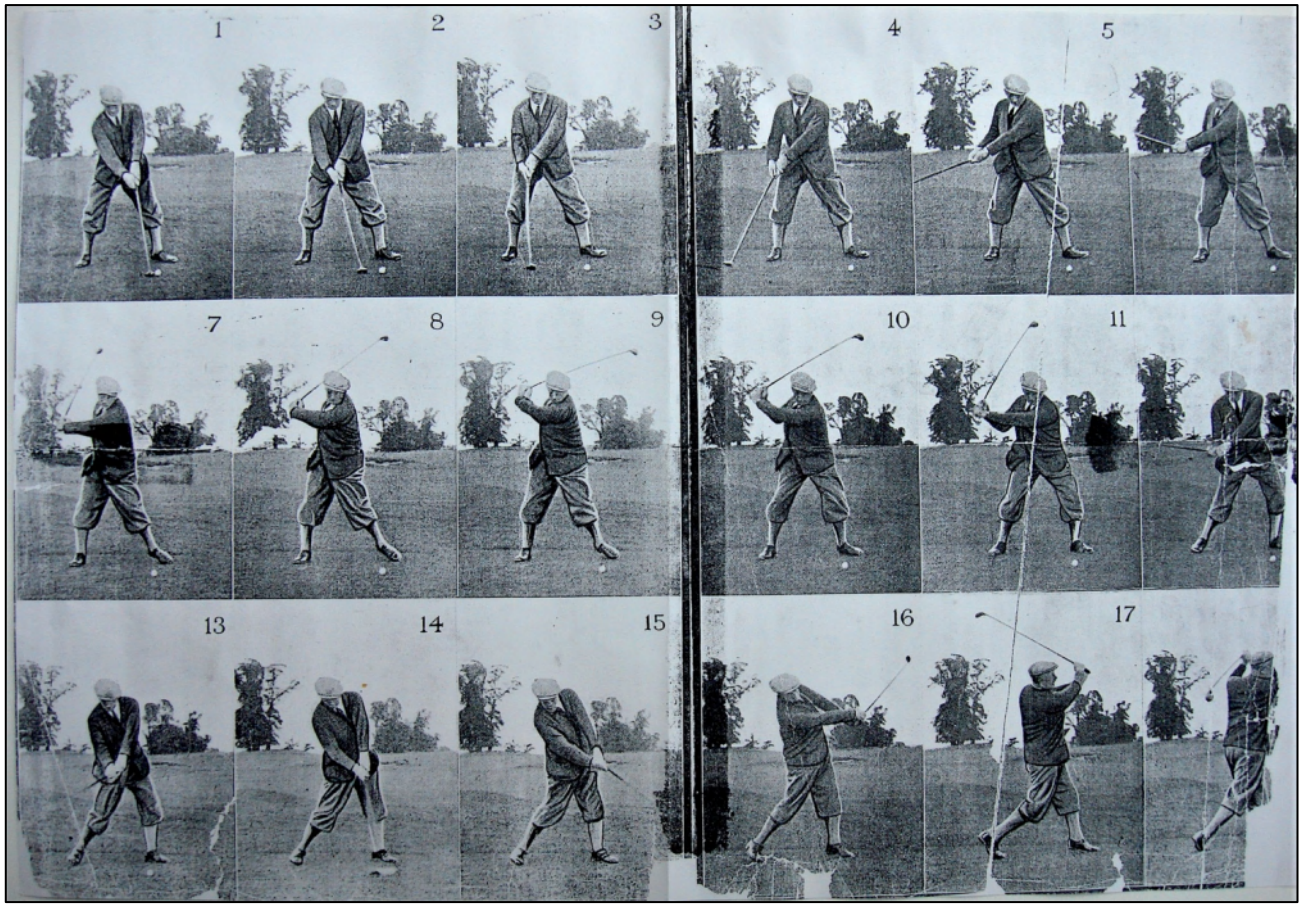
1937 Fourball matches first allowed at Hollinwell.

1937 16,000 caddy tickets were sold.



1937 Duke of Portland KG. Captain

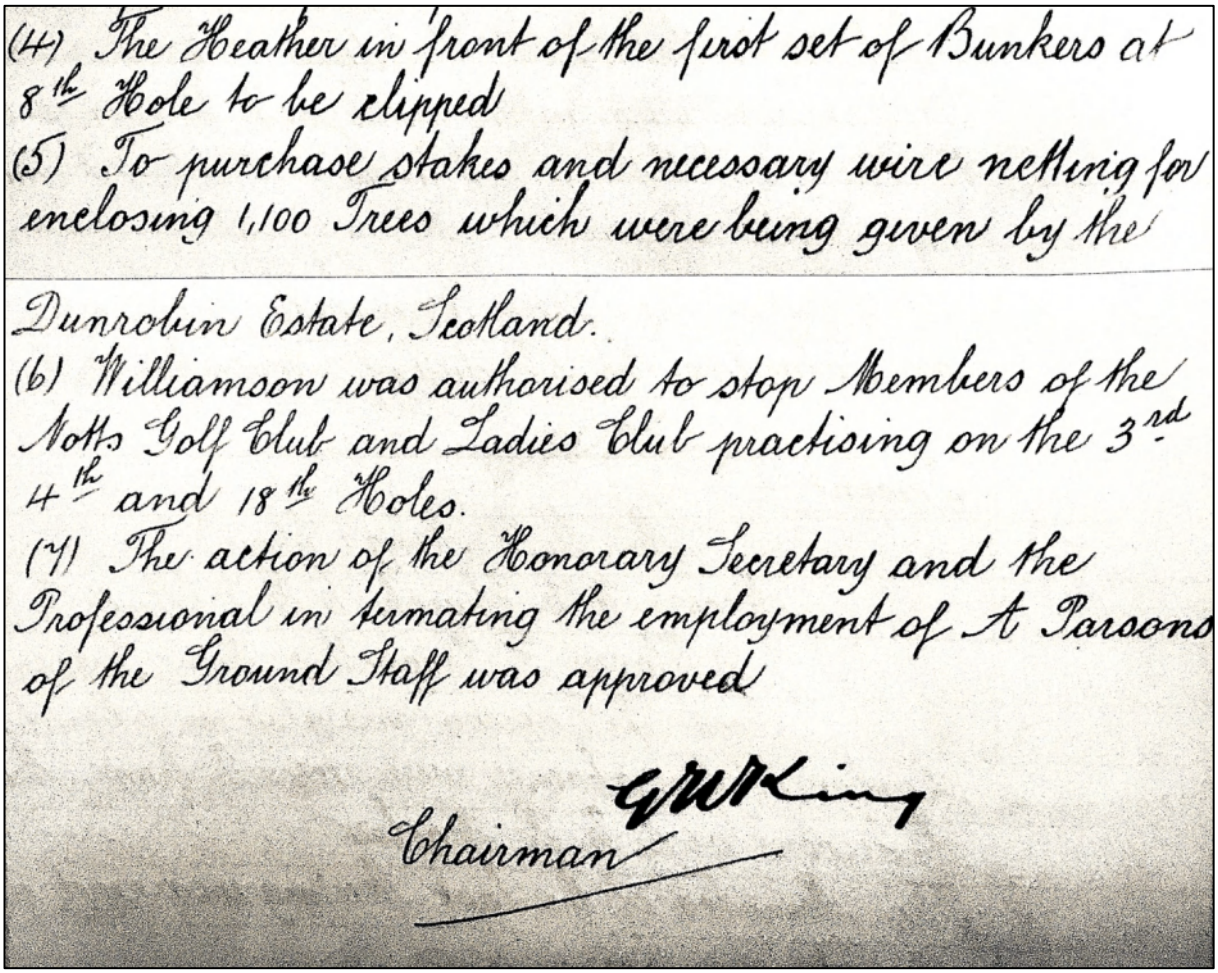
The Duke of Portland's influence on the nature of the course was to be profound. See next page and chapter on the 'Origin of Hollinwell's Trees' for more detail.



Tom Williamson's swing

Tom Williamson was the main architect for the course after it was first laid out by Willie Park Junior. So, it is surprising

to find the following item in the minutes of the Greens committee on 8th October 1938: *"To purchase stakes and necessary wire netting for enclosing 1,100 trees which were being given by the Dunrobin Estate, Scotland"* (see Figure below). There is no mention before or after this item about plans for planting trees in either the Green Committee or General Committee minutes.



(4) The Heather in front of the first set of Bunkers at 8th Hole to be clipped
(5) To purchase stakes and necessary wire netting for enclosing 1,100 Trees which were being given by the Dunrobin Estate, Scotland.
(6) Williamson was authorised to stop Members of the Notts Golf Club and Ladies Club practising on the 3rd 4th and 18th Holes.
(7) The action of the Honorary Secretary and the Professional in fixing the employment of A Parsons of the Ground Staff was approved

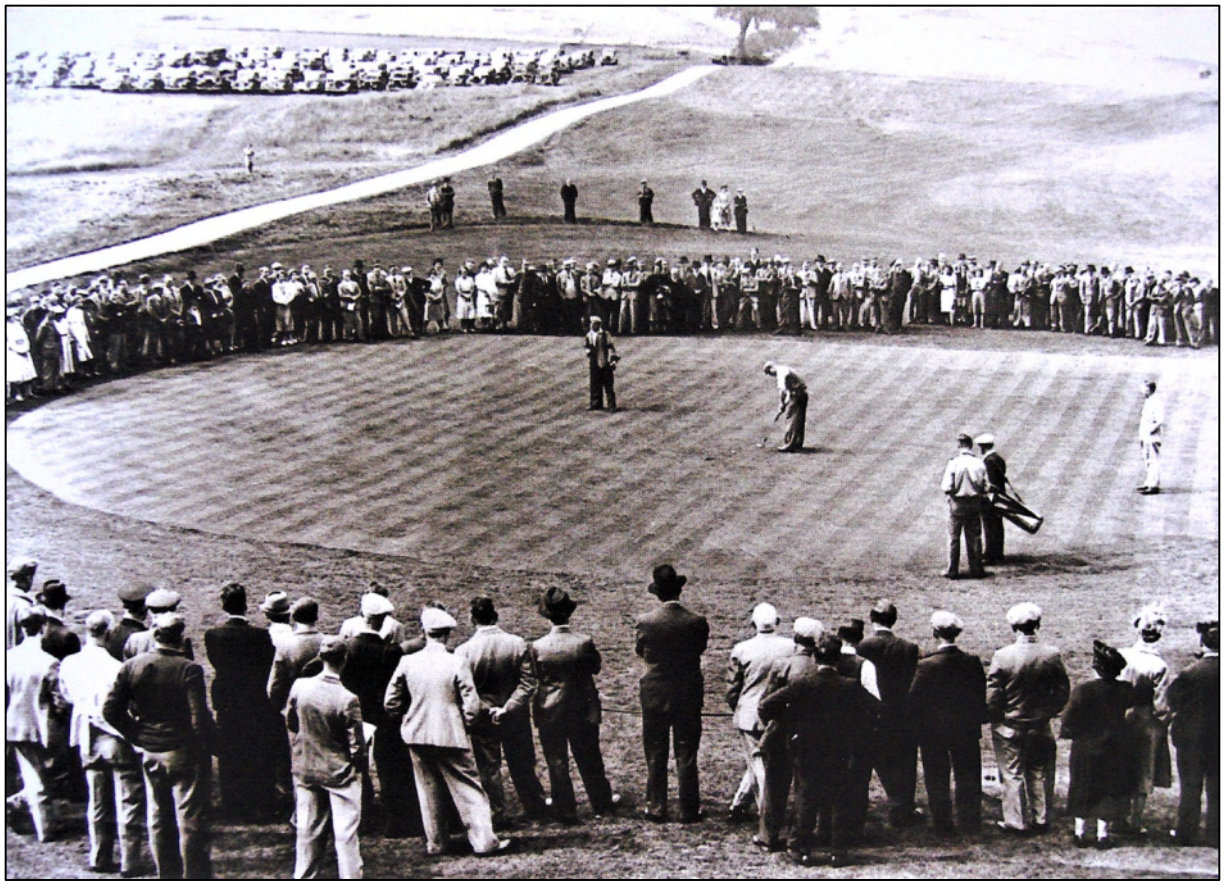
Chairman

Minutes of Green Committee 8th October 1938

It seems that these trees were given by the Dunrobin Estate, owned by the 5th Duke of Sutherland (situated near Dornoch in Scotland). So, what was the connection with Hollinwell? See 'Origin of Hollinwell's Trees' for more detail.

1938 Vacuum cleaner purchased.

1939 September, all competitions were cancelled. Green Committee minutes: The caddy master, assistant professional and four greenkeepers all left for the war leaving *"two old ones and a very young one"* but fortunately one could drive a tractor!
In 2nd World War Tom Williamson was appointed salvage secretary and handed over iron tee markers amongst other items. Competitions were suspended. RAF officers given concessions.



1939 Eighteenth green, Assistant Professional Tournament, GM White won (Notts. member).

1944 Fifth tee with Tom Williamson centre watching.

1941 *"Early on this year we purchased 24 chickens from you but during the summer we have unfortunately lost 9 through the foxes. …I shall be obliged if you will let me have a dozen 8-week-old pullets." (Carbon copy of correspondence)*

1942 Bus service started on Sundays as there was a reduced rail service. The clubhouse was offered to the Ministry of Health as a hostel for aged people who lost their homes in a raid. Iron tees taken for salvage.

1945 Fifty-eight members served and three gave their lives in the Second World War.

Lotus Championship won by Norman Von Nida (47).

Tom Williamson and members of Notts. Ladies GC.

30.5.1946 Celebrating 50 years of Tom Williamson playing at the club The Duchess of Portland observed:
“I have not played golf for six years owing to interference of three ministries – the exchequer which forced us to close our course at Welbeck, the ministry of war, who introduced tankers into the park, and the ministry of fuel and power, who prevented me getting to any other course."
Tom was a servant to the club, and he did serve, albeit willingly.

1942 'Nottingham Journal' (48)

I found Tom Williamson at home, at half-past nine on Sunday morning. *“I thought you might be playing golf,”* I said (Stanley Parker – artist and journalist). *“Not on your life,”* he replied, *“I never work on a Sunday.”* Of course, I hadn’t thought of it like that, *“I’m breaking the rule of a lifetime,”* he went on, *“even seeing you.”*
“You’d better do me with my cap on,” he said, *“People won’t know me otherwise.”* Be that as it may… That cap is one of the sights of Nottingham, and everyone is more cheerful for its appearance. It (or one like it) first hove into sight when its owner was seven years of age – the first caddy on the Bulwell Golf Course. *“My father was a stationmaster,”* he told me. *“As a matter of fact, he is still 95. I saw him only last Sunday. I wanted to follow in his footsteps, but my eyesight wasn’t good enough…"*
For there is something very attractive about Tom Williamson. I think it is the essential simplicity of a sportsman. Anyone who loves anything as wholeheartedly and unaffectedly as Tom Williamson loves golf must himself be rather lovable. And Tom, with his wicked old eyes, impertinent nose and humorous upper lip *"Don’t overlook my moustache,”* he reminded me, *“It’s neither off, nor on”* is just that.

Then too, he has travelled a great deal, and met all manner of men, not only golfers, and met them in circumstances in which the visor is down. He has that type of sophistication which often goes with extreme simplicity. *"Of all the golfers you've ever met,"* I asked him, *"who stands out in your mind as the best?"* He didn't have to think long over that one. *"Walter Hagen,"* he replied immediately, *"and in this country, Henry Cotton."* Tom Williamson has won many championships.

An internationalist for eight years in succession, he won the Midlands Professional Championship on seven occasions, and in 1909, captained the English team *"A very great honour,"* he says. But it is not just as a player or coach that Tom has made his name, but as an architect.

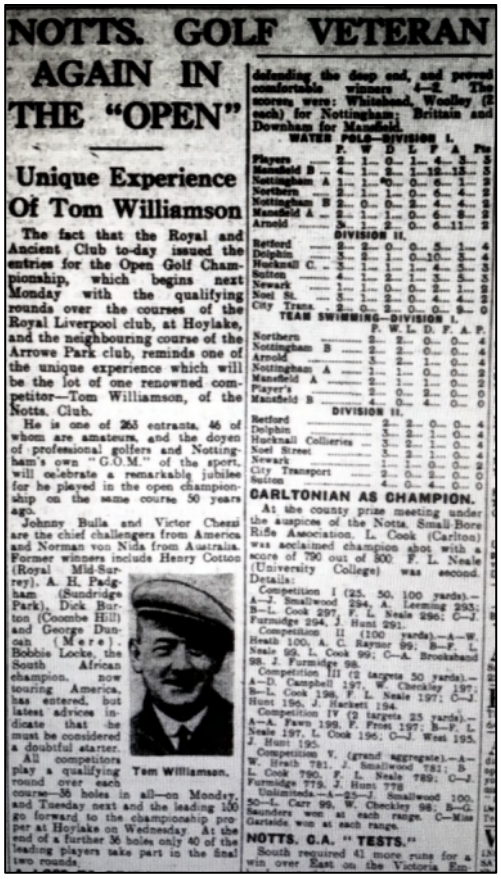
1942 Sketch of Tom Williamson by Stanley Parker (48).

1947 Aerial view.

1947 Aerial view highlighting trees present at that time.

1947 A bucket of 25 balls replaced 50 balls for the cost of 1 shilling at the golf school (name for the current driving range).

Article on 50 years of Tom Williamson playing in the Open Championship.
1947 'Nottingham Evening Post' (49).



NOTTS. GOLF VETERAN AGAIN IN THE "OPEN"

Unique Experience Of Tom Williamson

The fact that the Royal and Ancient Club to-day issued the entries for the Open Golf Championship, which begins next Monday with the qualifying rounds over the courses of the Royal Liverpool club, at Hoylake, and the neighbouring course of the Arrowe Park club, reminds one of the unique experience which will be the lot of one renowned competitor—Tom Williamson, of the Notts. Club.

He is one of 265 entrants, 46 of whom are amateurs, and the doyen of professional golfers and Nottingham's own "G.O.M." of the sport, will celebrate a remarkable jubilee for he played in the open championship on the same course 50 years ago.

Johnny Bulla and Victor Chezzi are the chief challengers from America and Norman von Nida from Australia. Former winners include Henry Cotton (Royal Mid-Surrey), A. H. Padgham (Sundridge Park), Dick Burton (Coombe Hill) and George Duncan (Mere), Bobbie Locke, the South African champion, now touring America, has entered, but latest advices indicate that he must be considered a doubtful starter.

Tom Williamson.

All competitors play a qualifying round over each course—36 holes in all—on Monday, and Tuesday next and the leading 100 go forward to the championship proper at Hoylake on Wednesday. At the end of a further 36 holes only 40 of the leading players take part in the final two rounds.

defending the deep end, and proved comfortable winners 4—2. The scorers were: Whitehead, Woolley (2 each) for Nottingham; Brittain and Downham for Mansfield.

WATER POLO—DIVISION I.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Players	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Mansfield B	4	1	2	1	12	13	2
Nottingham A	1	1	0	0	6	1	2
Northern	2	1	1	0	6	4	2
Nottingham B	2	1	1	0	8	4	2
Mansfield A	2	1	1	0	6	8	2
Arnold	3	1	2	0	6	11	2

DIVISION II.

Retford	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Dolphin	3	2	1	0	10	3	4
Hucknall C.	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
Sutton	4	1	2	1	3	5	3
Newark	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Noel St.	3	1	2	0	4	4	2
City Trans.	2	0	2	0	0	9	0

TEAM SWIMMING—DIVISION I.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	P.
Northern	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Nottingham B	2	2	0	0	5	1	4
Arnold	3	2	1	0	5	4	4
Nottingham A	1	0	1	0	2	3	0
Mansfield A	2	1	1	0	3	5	2
Player's	2	0	2	0	0	6	0
Mansfield B	4	0	4	0	0	10	0

DIVISION II.

Retford	2	2	0	0	6	0	4
Dolphin	3	2	1	0	5	1	4
Hucknall Collieries	3	2	1	0	5	1	4
Noel Street	3	2	1	0	5	1	4
Newark	1	1	0	0	3	0	2
City Transport	2	0	2	0	1	5	0
Sutton	4	0	4	0	0	10	0

CARLTONIAN AS CHAMPION.

At the county prize meeting under the auspices of the Notts. Small-Bore Rifle Association, L. Cook (Carlton) was acclaimed champion shot with a score of 790 out of 800. F. L. Neale (University College) was second. Details:

Competition I (25, 50, 100 yards).—A—J. Smallwood 294; A. Leeming 293; B—L. Cook 297; F. L. Neale 296; C—J. Furmidge 294; J. Hunt 291.

Competition II (100 yards).—A—W. Heath 100; A. C. Raynor 99; B—F. L. Neale 99; L. Cook 99; C—A. Brookshand 98; J. Furmidge 98.

Competition III (2 targets 50 yards).—A—D. Campbell 197; W. Checkley 197; B—L. Cook 198; F. L. Neale 197; C—J. Hunt 196; J. Hackett 194.

Competition IV (2 targets 25 yards).—A—A. Fearn 198; F. Frost 197; B—F. L. Neale 197; L. Cook 196; C—J. West 195; J. Hunt 195.

Competition V. (grand aggregate).—A—W. Heath 781; J. Smallwood 781; B—L. Cook 790; F. L. Neale 789; C—J. Furmidge 779; J. Hunt 778.

Unlimiteds.—A—25—J. Smallwood 100, 50—L. Carr 99; W. Checkley 98; B—G. Saunders won at each range. C—Miss Garfside won at each range.

NOTTS. C.A. "TESTS."

South required 41 more runs for a win over East on the Victoria Ground

1947 Dai Rees on 16th tee at Hoylake with Tom Williamson watching.

STARS-GAZING!—Awaiting their turn in the "Lotus" £1,500 professional golf tournament which began at Hollinwell yesterday some of the leading stars gaze through the club house window at the early starters. In the picture are: Front row, from left—D. J. Rees, Norman von Nida, C. A. Winks. Back row, from left—E. E. Whitcombe, Tom Williamson (the 62-year-old Notts. Golf Club professional and oldest player in the tournament), J. Higham and R. A. Whitcombe.

7.8.47 Lotus Tournament.

THE

LOTUS

£1,500

PROFESSIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

PROMOTED BY THE MAKERS OF LOTUS AND DELTA SHOES

MEDAL PLAY TOURNAMENT OVER 72 HOLES

ON

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, the 6th, 7th & 8th August, 1947,

AT THE

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB, HOLLINWELL, EAST KIRBY, NOTTS.

(by kind permission of the Club).

Draw for the Final 36 holes to be played on Friday, 8th August.

In the event of a tie, those competitors who tie, will divide the prizes.

Prizes will be presented at the conclusion of the Tournament by H. J. BOSTOCK, Esq., J.P., Chairman of Messrs. Lotus Ltd.

Staged under the auspices of THE PROFESSIONAL GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION.

R. McKENZIE, *Chairman.*

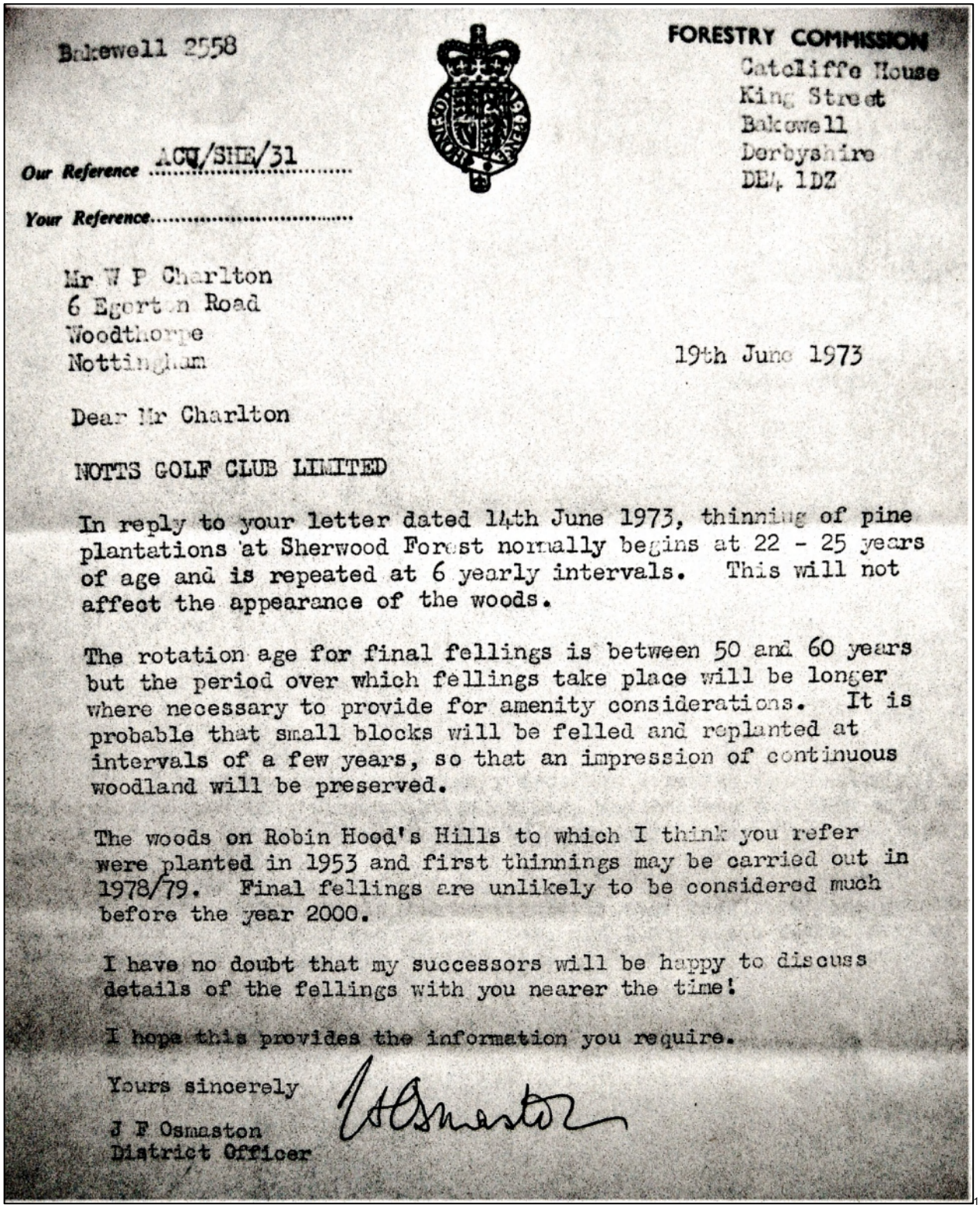
R. C. T. ROE, *Secretary.*

1947 Golf Course Architect SJ Morrison and Harry Colt were asked to visit.

1947 The Lotus Tournament
Fourth green, notice the mines in the background.

1948 Aerial photograph.

1949 84 acres were allocated for afforestation to the North, and a 150-year lease was agreed with the Forestry Commission: 1973 letter referring to 1953.



Bakewell 2558

FORESTRY COMMISSION
Cateliffe House
King Street
Bakewell
Derbyshire
DE4 1DZ

Our Reference ACW/SHE/31

Your Reference.....

Mr W P Charlton
6 Egerton Road
Woodthorpe
Nottingham

19th June 1973

Dear Mr Charlton

NOTTS GOLF CLUB LIMITED

In reply to your letter dated 14th June 1973, thinning of pine plantations at Sherwood Forest normally begins at 22 - 25 years of age and is repeated at 6 yearly intervals. This will not affect the appearance of the woods.

The rotation age for final fellings is between 50 and 60 years but the period over which fellings take place will be longer where necessary to provide for amenity considerations. It is probable that small blocks will be felled and replanted at intervals of a few years, so that an impression of continuous woodland will be preserved.

The woods on Robin Hood's Hills to which I think you refer were planted in 1953 and first thinnings may be carried out in 1978/79. Final fellings are unlikely to be considered much before the year 2000.

I have no doubt that my successors will be happy to discuss details of the fellings with you nearer the time!

I hope this provides the information you require.

Yours sincerely

J F Osmaston
District Officer

1973 Letter refers to planting trees to the north on the hills in 1953 and plans for thinning them.

THE NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST, MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1952.

NEW 36-HOLES OPEN EVENT FOR AMATEUR GOLFERS

The Hollinwell Trophy of Notts. Club

ON Saturday, May 24th, a new tournament will be introduced to the golf programme, when the open competition for the Hollinwell Trophy is decided over the course of the Notts. Golf Club.

The new trophy was presented to the club by Mr. F. W. Perry, and the competition, over 36 holes, will be for players with a handicap up to eight. The event will be limited to 80 players, and there will be four handicap and four scratch prizes.

These interesting items of information were forthcoming at the annual meeting of the Notts. Golf Club, held at the club house, Hollinwell, on Saturday.

It was reported that the use for the first time of a mechanical sweeper on the fairway during the past year had proved a greater success than was expected. The dead grass was removed far more effectively than with the chain harrow previously used.

The meeting was also informed that Mr. Stanley Bright, who had been hon. secretary for 33 years, was retiring on medical advice and that Mr. Leonard Anderson was retiring from the committee, on which he had been an active member, particularly as chairman of the greens committee.

Mr. A. E. Eberlin, the retiring captain, who presided, said that Mr. Bright's term of office must surely be a record for an hon. secretary of a golf club. They owed him a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Difficulties experienced because of rising costs were summarised by the hon. treasurer, Mr. K. A. Buxton, in his annual report, when he stated: "In common with other golf clubs we are having difficulty in making ends meet. A finance committee has been appointed and it is hoped to remedy the situation without having recourse to increased subscriptions. Members can help by making it known that the club would welcome new members and that no entrance fee will be charged."

INCREASED COSTS.

Subscriptions, which amounted to £3,105, were slightly more than the previous year, but there was a deficit of £204 compared with the £26 the preceding year. An additional contribution of £50 was received from the Ladies' Club.

The cost of upkeep of the links had increased by £168, and increased wages would cost £200 in a full year. The professional's shop had been completely refitted, and for this they were indebted to the generosity of Mr. Stanley Bright who had defrayed the whole cost.

Mr. Bright, in his report, said that 17 new members had joined. The committee decided during the year that the 18th green and the 15th tee should be improved and that had been carried out. In February the standard scratch scores of the clubs were revised and Hollinwell was placed at 75.

Green fees were reduced and the new fees were 5s. for one round or 7s 6d. a day for weekdays (Monday to Friday) and bank holidays, and 10s. per day for Saturdays and Sundays or 5s. per day if playing with a member.

Mr H. S. Johnson was congratulated on winning the county championship on the Radcliffe-on-Trent course and also on setting up a new amateur record for that course.

Mr. R. J. de C. Barber was appointed captain, and Mr. A. H. Mann vice-captain. Mr. C. H. V. Elliott was elected hon. secretary, Mr. K. A. Buxton hon. treasurer, and Mr. B. Walton hon. match secretary were re-appointed. Five members elected to the committee were Messrs. A. E. Eberlin, H. S. Bright, A. P. Burgass, K. H. Buxton and A. J. Prescod.

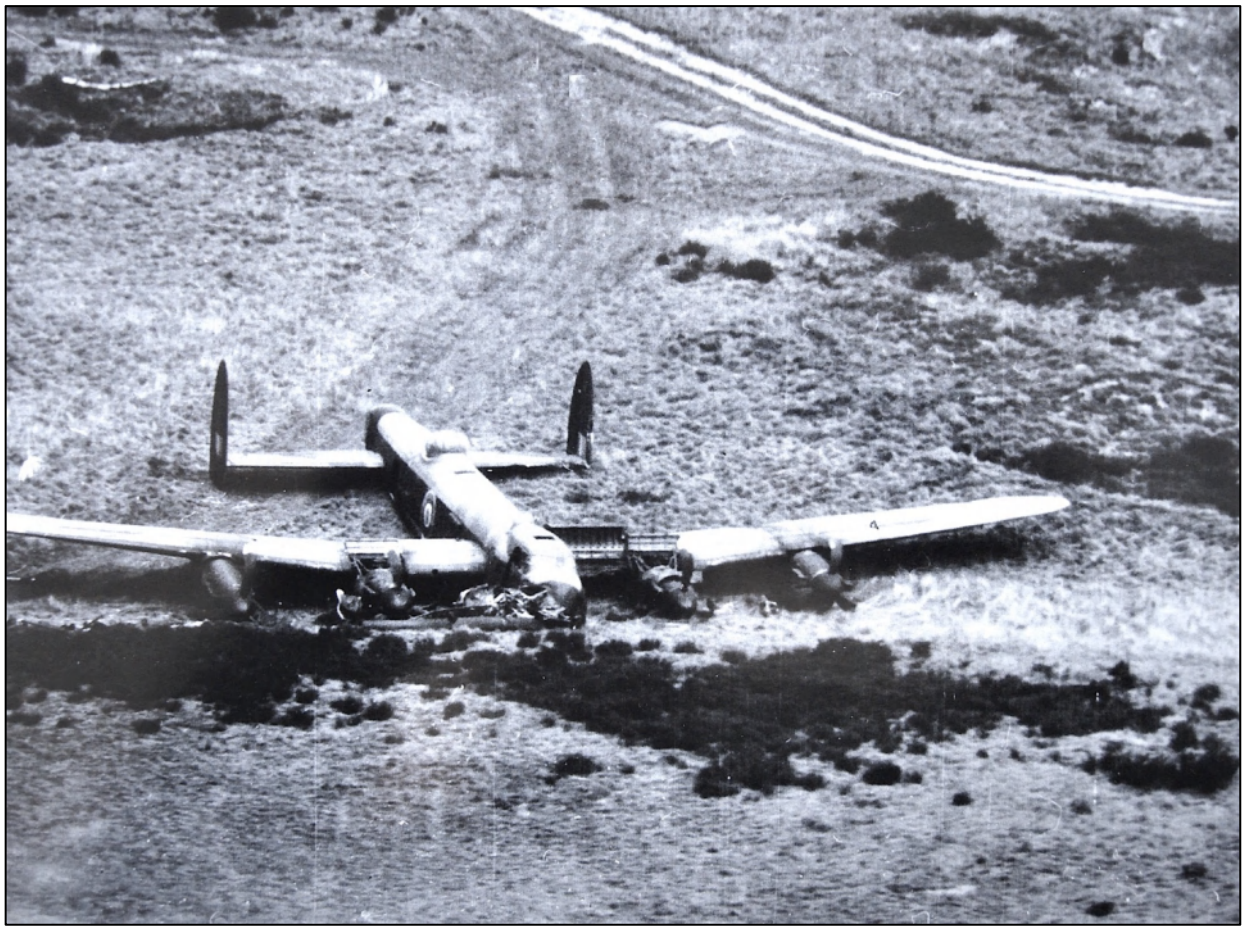
R. J. de C. Barber, the new captain of the Notts. Golf Club.

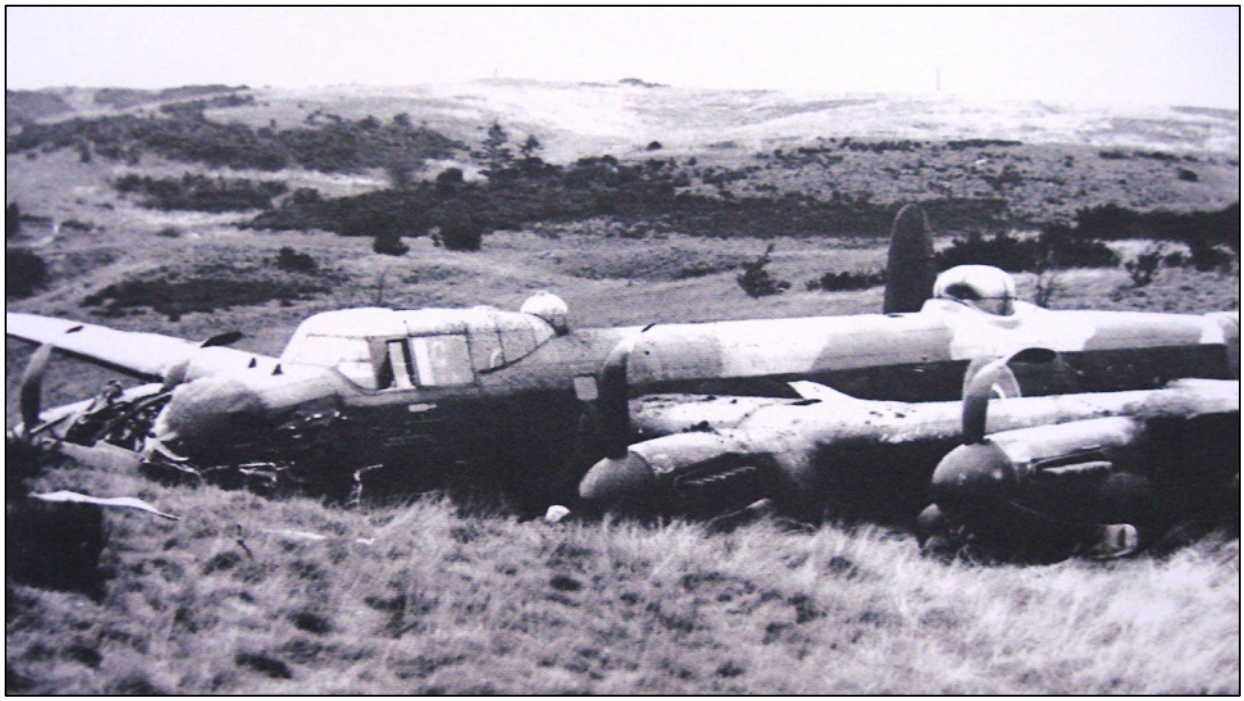
C. H. V. Elliott has succeeded A. S. Bright as secretary of the Notts. Golf Club.

1952 Nottingham Evening Post announcing the inaugural Hollinwell Trophy (50).

1953 England vs Canada Ladies International; England won 51/2 - 41/2.

1955 New electric golf cart.





1954 A Rolls Royce Lancaster bomber crashed near the 14th fairway (not in the hollow on the15th fairway that was a sand scrape).

Ron Harvey

Avro Lancaster B MK III NG 465

Crashed on Notts (Hollinwell) Golf Club 22 January 1954

Dear Secretary

I was reflecting on my service with the RAF at No. 54 Maintenance Unit (MU) RAF North Coats Lincolnshire where I was a member of the crash recovery team. On the 27 January we were sent on attachment to RAF Hucknall to recover a Rolls Royce Lancaster that had crashed on a golf course. Over the years I had forgotten the name of the golf course but after a little research I found you and saw your reference to the crash and thought you might like to hear from one of the crew that removed the aircraft from your golf course 65 years ago. The following is a brief comment on the time I spent camped near the14th hole and some technical information on the aircraft.

NG 465 was received by Rolls Royce at Hucknall in August 1946 NG 465 was modified and test flown for the first time with the nose installed Dart test engine No.5 on the 10th October 1947 totalling 47.5 hours flight time. Then Dart No.15 was installed in March 1947 flying until February 1951(226.5 hours) when it was replaced by Dart No.3 in the same month. By November 1952 the engine flew 204 hours, being succeeded by Dart No. 30 which was installed in January 1953.

On January 22nd 1954 NG 465 made an emergency landing (crashed) at Notts (Hollinwell) Golf Club and was written off.

This is where I come in. I arrived Hucknall 27 January 1954 on attachment from 54 (MU) as part of the recovery team. Our task was to dismantle the aircraft and return it to Rolls Royce Hucknall as the Dart engine was was on the restricted list, we also had to guard the crash site which meant we had to remain on site 24 hours a day living in a tent. Our task of pitching our tent was made difficult as the ground was frozen so hard it was difficult to drive the tent pegs in. However that night we had a heavy fall of snow, and as dawn broke we

saw a six inches of snow covering the site, this obviously was going to make our task a lot harder as when the aircraft was dismantled it had to be transported off the golf course. It took us almost three weeks to dismantle the aircraft and clear the site of all debris and transport to Rolls Royce Hucknall.

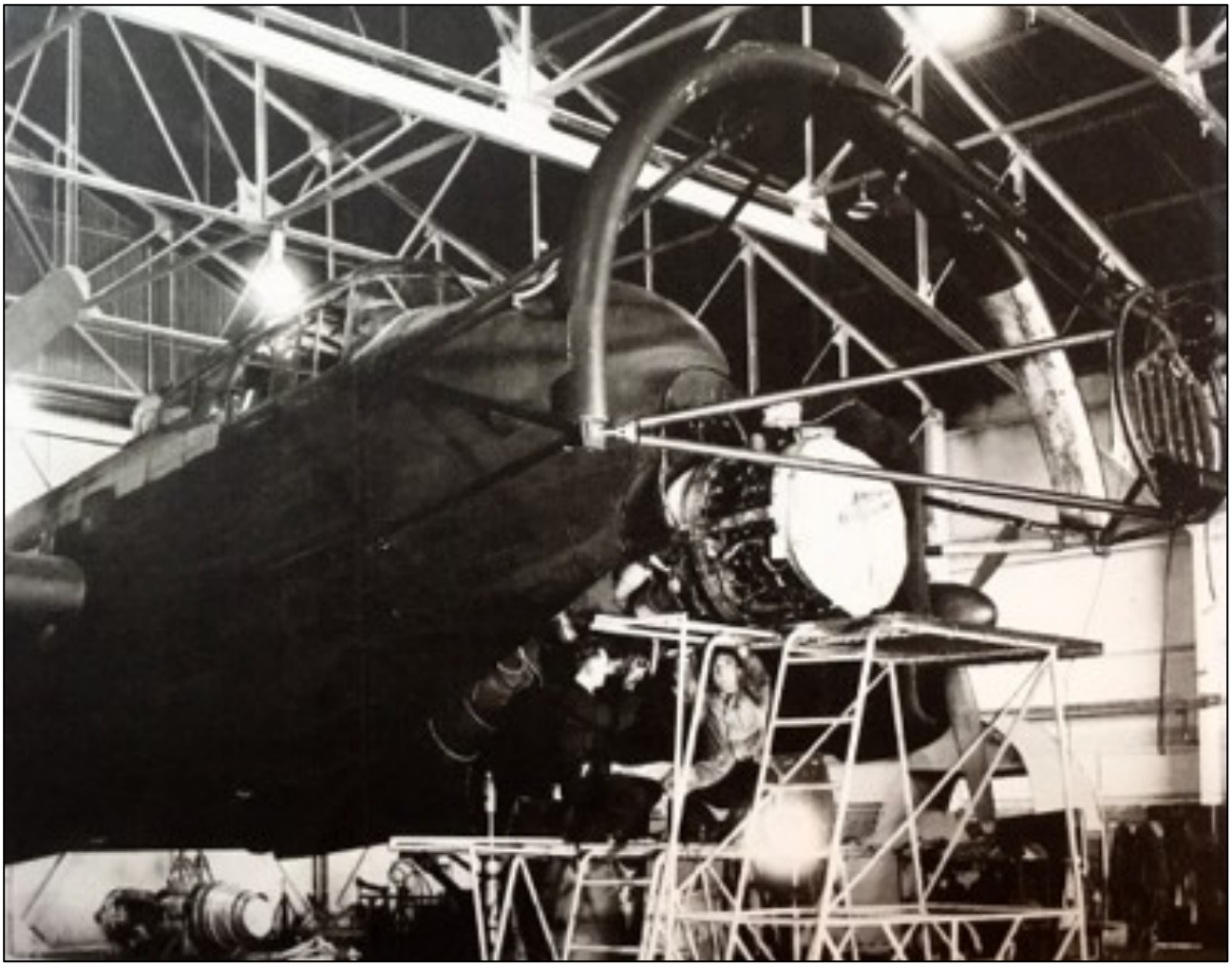
I hope you find this of interest in addition to the history you already have of this crash that happened 65 years ago.

You will see in the enclosed photograph the frame device fitted on the nose of the aircraft which is a water droplet system devised in connection with the engine manufacturers artificial icing flight program.

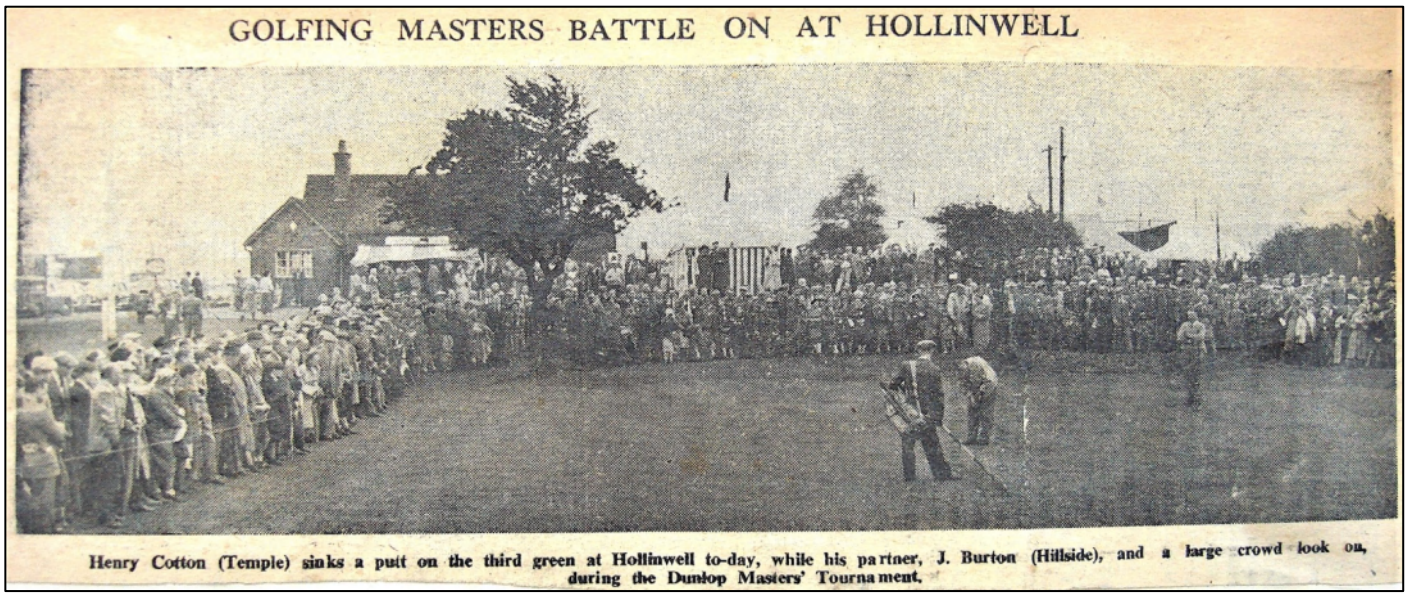
Kind regards

Ron Harvey

Ron Harvey



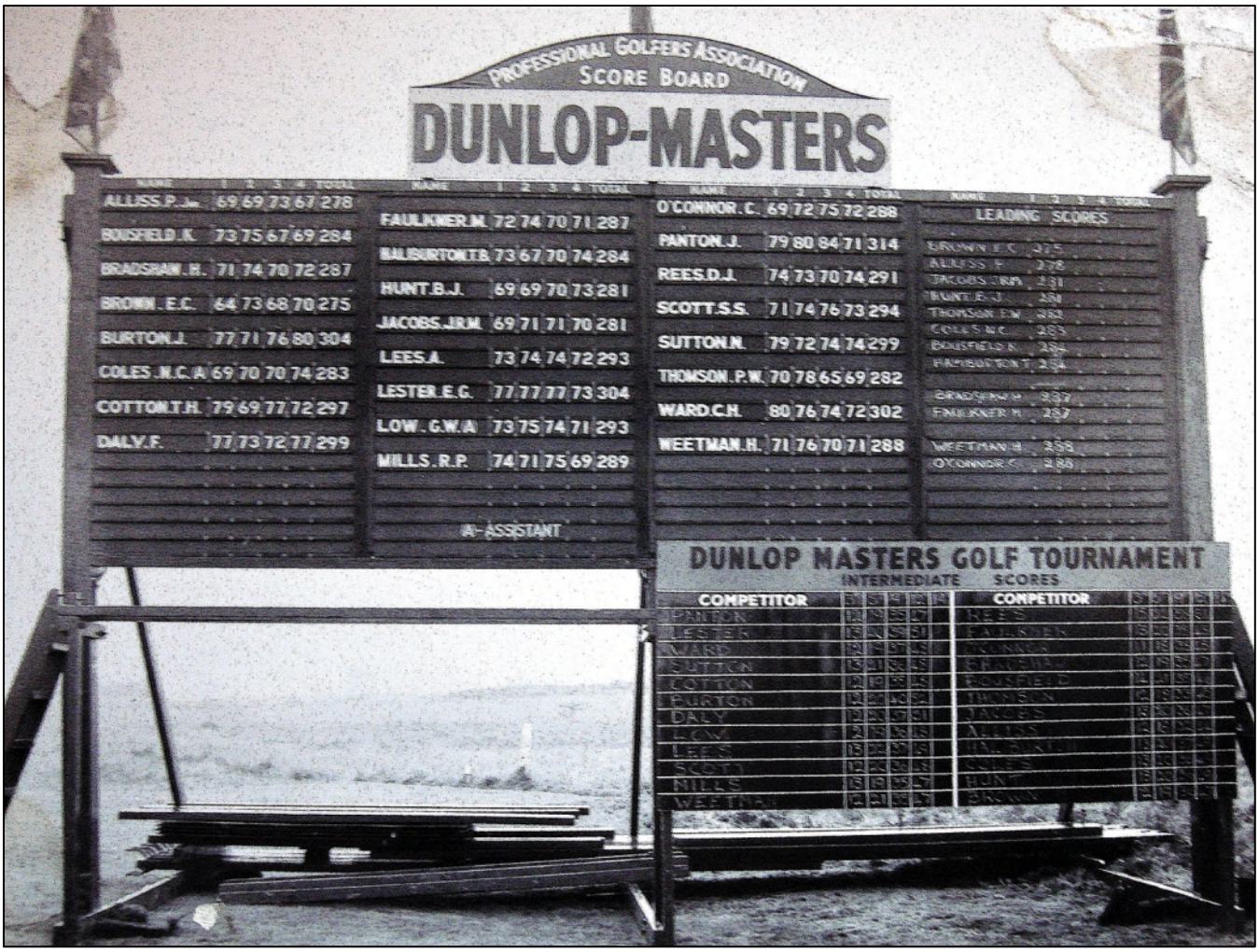
1955 Trees were planted left of the first fairway to screen off the driving range.



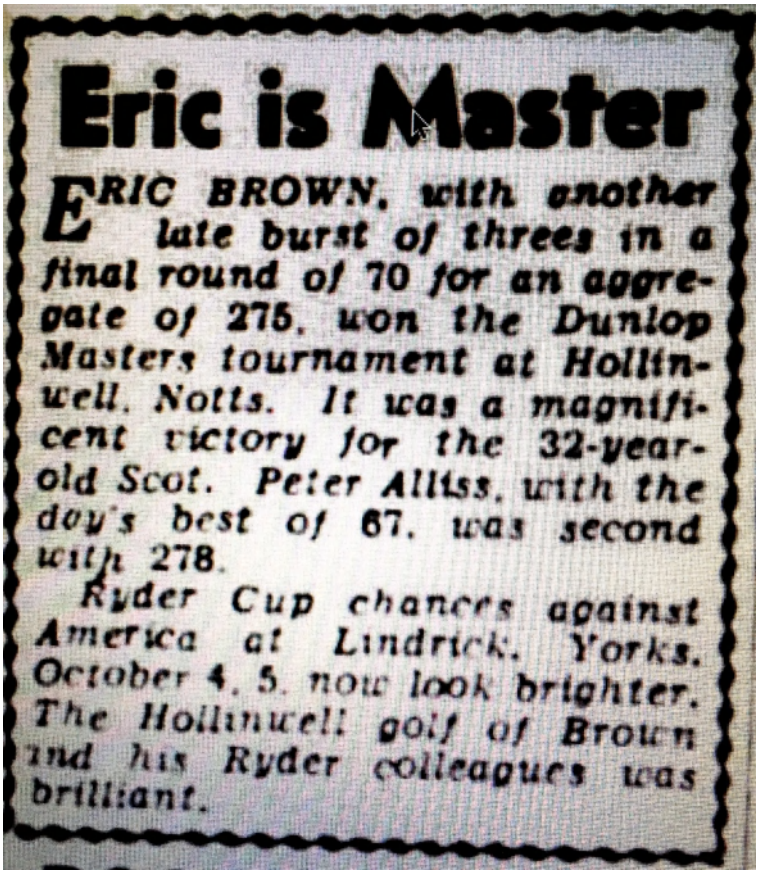
GOLFING MASTERS BATTLE ON AT HOLLINWELL

Henry Cotton (Temple) sinks a putt on the third green at Hollinwell to-day, while his partner, J. Burton (Hillside), and a large crowd look on, during the Dunlop Masters' Tournament.

1957 Dunlop Masters 3rd green.



1957 'Birmingham Gazette' Eric Brown on the 18th hole of the Dunlop Masters which he won. A crowd of 10,000 flooded to see the final round (51).



Eric is Master

ERIC BROWN, with another late burst of threes in a final round of 70 for an aggregate of 275, won the Dunlop Masters tournament at Hollinwell, Notts. It was a magnificent victory for the 32-year-old Scot. Peter Alliss, with the day's best of 67, was second with 278.

Ryder Cup chances against America at Lindrick, Yorks, October 4, 5, now look brighter. The Hollinwell golf of Brown and his Ryder colleagues was brilliant.

The People (52)

1957 Dunlop Masters Looking up 3rd green.

1957 Eric Brown as John Jacobs
looks on in Dunlop Masters.

HENRY COTTON COMMENTS

Eric Brown has come up the hard way

I HAVE always had a lot of admiration for Eric Brown, because he is one of those people who has come up the hard way and has retained the courage to call a " spade a spade " and not be a tiring sort of " yes man."

He has never had an elegant golf swing ; but he has the courage to attack the ball all out, and has learned the hard way, too, that it pays to control the ball through the green.

His win at the Masters' Tournament was well deserved and the difficult Hollinwell greens were made for his exquisite putting touch.

* * *

The Hollinwell course is tough to play and the walks to the back tees and up some of the sloping fairways found me fairly panting when I came to play my next stroke, and I consider I am still fit.

The greens were true enough, but I could not read them well ; I seemed to miss something nearly every time. Few courses are better designed for watching golf and it is only that lengthy " one lane " drive in from the main road which will prevent it from ever being a main championship course, otherwise it is good enough for any event. The local police, I thought, did a wonderful job to sort out the traffic, and the stewarding of crowds, organising of markers, etc., was first class and a credit to the club officials. The pro, Bert Rhodes, and his wife run a fine golf shop there, one of the best I know in our islands, while the battery of practice sheds and the two practice grounds really appealed to me.

The highlights of the week—hardly a breath of wind on any day ; such a relief after the incessant wind at Turnberry and the lack of sunshine. A constant haze shrouded the course, which was not surprising, I suppose, as the course is in the centre of a big industrial district. The scoring was excellent as there are only three short holes on the course, but the many elevated tees make its 6,900 yards play much shorter.

* * *

Peter Thomson complained that he had received poison pen letters re the incidents at Turnberry ; we have all had these at odd times. I think it a funny habit people have of trying to annoy, but mine go into the waste paper basket right away.

Twenty-seven-year-old George Low is a sound golfer. We played three rounds together at Hollinwell ; he is a good driver and finisher, but his " big irons " are his weakest shots. No doubt he will work on this part.

* * *

Peter Thomson, discussing the U.S. Ryder Cup team, says it is not the best team ever and not the strongest team available now, but a team qualified over two years under a special points system.

Some of the players, Knoll, Burke, Bolt and Hawkins, are not " hot " just now, but all are experienced and tournament tough and are always difficult to beat. Without Hogan, Snead and Demaret, all still great veterans, the team does lack something, but it is wrong to think these professionals cannot handle British courses ; they are real golfers and wind means nothing to them.

1957 Henry Cotton article on The Dunlop Masters "The greens were true enough, but I could not read them well".

Eric Brown and John Jacobson 1957 on 10th green.

INTRODUCING TIGER TEES AT HOLLINWELL

LOCAL GOLF
—By—
BILL WITHERS

HOLLINWELL Golf Club is to bring back some of the tiger tees which were first introduced in 1925 in its toughening-up campaign for next year's Dunlop Masters tournament.

The chairman of the green committee, Mr. Leonard Anderson, a member of Nottingham City Council, told me this week that this is part of the plans for the course, but could not disclose the whole of the committee's proposals.

This committee has in view the interests of the members and these improvements will all have the aim of being of use to the club after the event.

"The general idea is that we should make these changes which will not only be used for this tournament but also be of general use for club competitions," he said.

These tees are at the 5th (164 yards), 6th (502 yards), 10th (302 yards) and 15th (404 yards). At the club this week, ground staff were at work building the tees on the short 5th and the 15th.

The New Hole

The new tee on the 5th will make the hole nearly 200 yards and is sited near the shelter on this hole. It will add one or two club lengths to the hole.

The tee on the long 6th hole adds about 30 yards and the playing length will depend largely on the wind.

The 10th hole will prove the make-or-break hole for many cards. This back tee makes the green blind and brings the out-of-bounds fence on the right an even greater threat.

Watch out for threes and sixes in the "Masters" competition here, as the loose tee-shot can prove very expensive.

The other tee which is planned at the moment is the tough four-hole, the 15th.

The hole for the pros. will be on the line of the winter-time tee—not the pronounced dog-leg hole. The new tee is not far from the 14th green and calls for a carry of about 180 yards, making the hole about 430 yards.

Though none of us yet know what the course will be like on the day, I doubt if many of the stars will break 70 unless the course has become very dry. I put the new record at about the 68 mark.

Girls' Championship

A reference to Hollinwell's selection for the Girls' Championship in either 1957 or 1958 by Mrs. Dorothy Payne, Notts. County Ladies' Golf Association secretary, makes us realise that the club is gaining in national importance.

The event has been played a great deal in the south. From 1919 to 1938 it was always held at Stoke Poges. When it was resumed in 1949 the competition was played on different courses and local golfers will not need reminding that the 1951 winner was Wollaton Park's Miss Jane Redgate.

Glancing back through the history of the club I find that although there has been a course at Hollinwell for 56 years, there has been a club in existence since 1887.

In this year five people met the Rev. A. H. Baynes in Nottingham to form the Nottingham Golf Club and permission was granted for them to play on the recreation ground, Queen's Walk—a far cry from the present club.

This was a modest seven holes start. I learn from a handbook and in 1888 there were 38 members at the new club —then sited at Bulwell Forest.

Here history began, for the local stationmaster Williamson had a son Tom, who was to gain fame in the ranks of the professionals, serving with the club for 54 years, 1896 to 1950.

Twelve years later the club was on the move again. Mr. C. R. Hemingway was contracting for a tunnel for the Great Central Railway and noticed the bracken-covered slopes at Kirkby Forest. He gained a lease of the ground from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, arranged with the railway company to erect a station nearby and hired Willy Park junior (twice open champion) to lay out the 18 holes.

Name Derivation

In 1900 the whole scheme was adopted by the members and in those years has catered for the English Amateur championship in 1935 and the Lotus tournament in 1947.

The club derives its name from the holy well near the eighth tee, which during the English championship served to keep something a little stronger than water.

First Victim

Petrol rationing has already claimed a golf victim. The Notts. professionals golf events, which started just over a month ago, will probably have no more meetings until the rationing is over.

Players told me that with professionals coming from all parts of the country it would be practically impossible to organise these events.

This is a severe blow as the two meetings which have been organised so far have proved a great success, and the experiment of inviting amateur partners on Tuesday at Hollinwell added considerably to its popularity.

The players found some of the toughest golfing conditions possible in the county. Vice-captain Alex Booth played under quite a handicap. Some time back he fractured his left thumb while playing and for some time has had to adapt his grip—the left thumb going on the outside of the right hand. For the first time he reverted to his usual grip and was quite pleased with the results. "I had to grip quite firmly and was pleased to be hitting the ball well," he told me.

NOTTS. GC

Autumn Meeting and September Medal. Division I.—J. F. Sheehan 75-4-71, wins scratch cup, secretary's cup, scratch medal and medal. N. McGuigan 87-14-73. G. N. Wigley 83-8-75, I. G. P. Hoss 88-12-76, T. H. Whalley 78-1-77, H. S. Johnson 79-2-77, T. W. Rigley 81-4-77, W. N. Clark 88-11-77, T. Robinson 85-8-77, J. T. Lawrence 90-13-77, J. A. Rigley 87-9-78, R. H. Vartan 91-13-78, F. K. Shaw 80-2-78, H. MacIntyre 92-14-78, J. D. Toulson 83-4-79, C. H. V. Elliett 80-1-79, L. Anderson 87-8-79, A. D. Crafts 81-2-79, A. H. Mann 88-9-79, P. C. Barkla 92-12-80, D. C. Gardener 80-scr.-80, G. Stonehouse 89-9-80, W. D. Wigley 89-9-80, C. J. Ratcliffe 94-14-80, J. R. Ratcliffe 89-9-80.

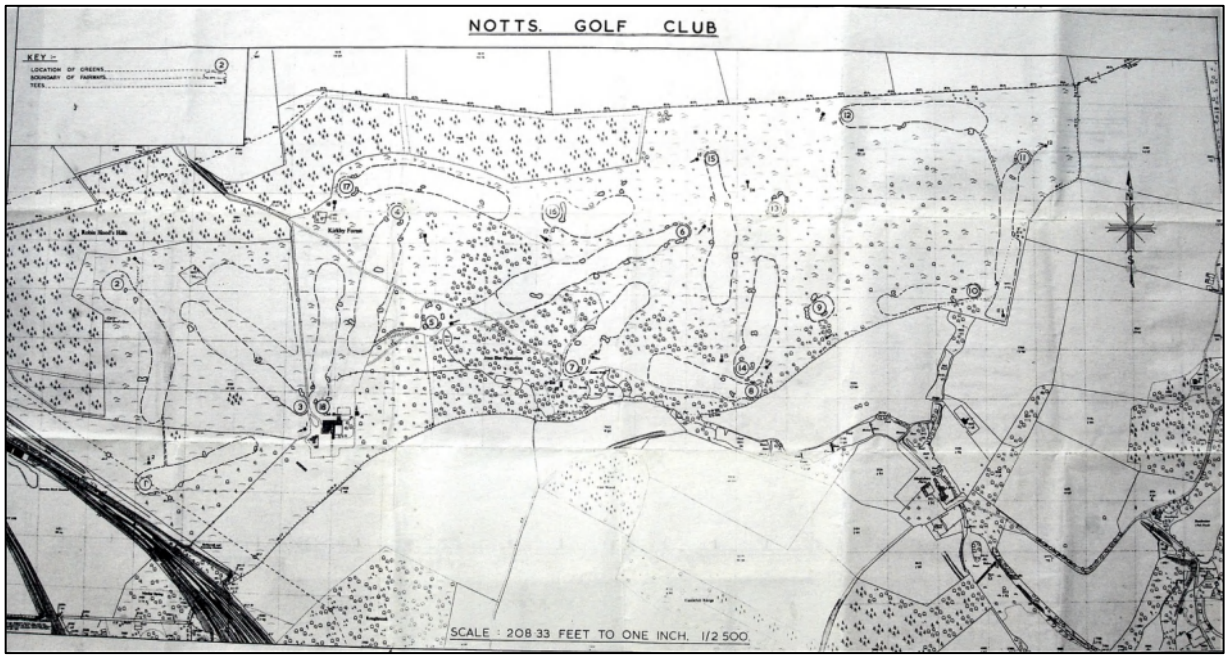
Division II.—J. E. Mellors 90-17-73, wins Sir A. Bingham's cup and medal, H. Beattie 97-16-81, F. A. Stokes 97-15-82, J. D. Fidler 99-17-82, V. P. Beard 108-24-84.

JUL 25TH 1957

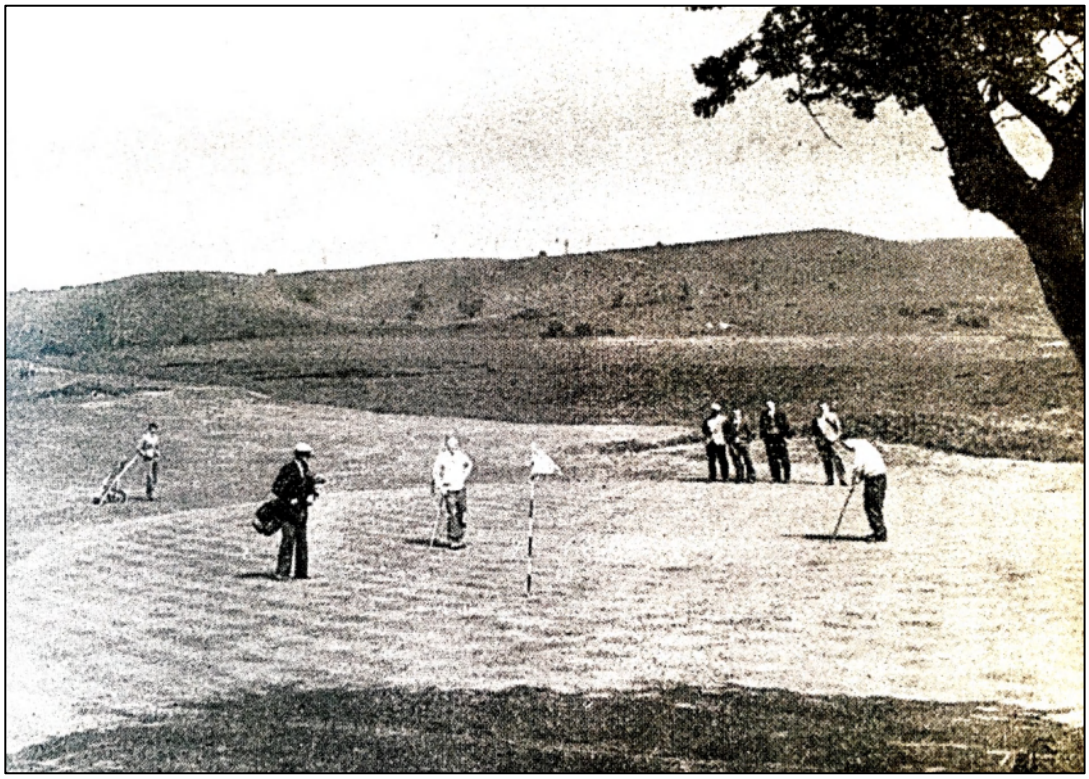
1957 Tiger tees before Tiger.

1959 *“A ball lying in a rabbit scrape on the course or putting green which cannot be touched by the shaft of a club laid across may be picked and dropped no nearer the hole without penalty.”* (Local rule)

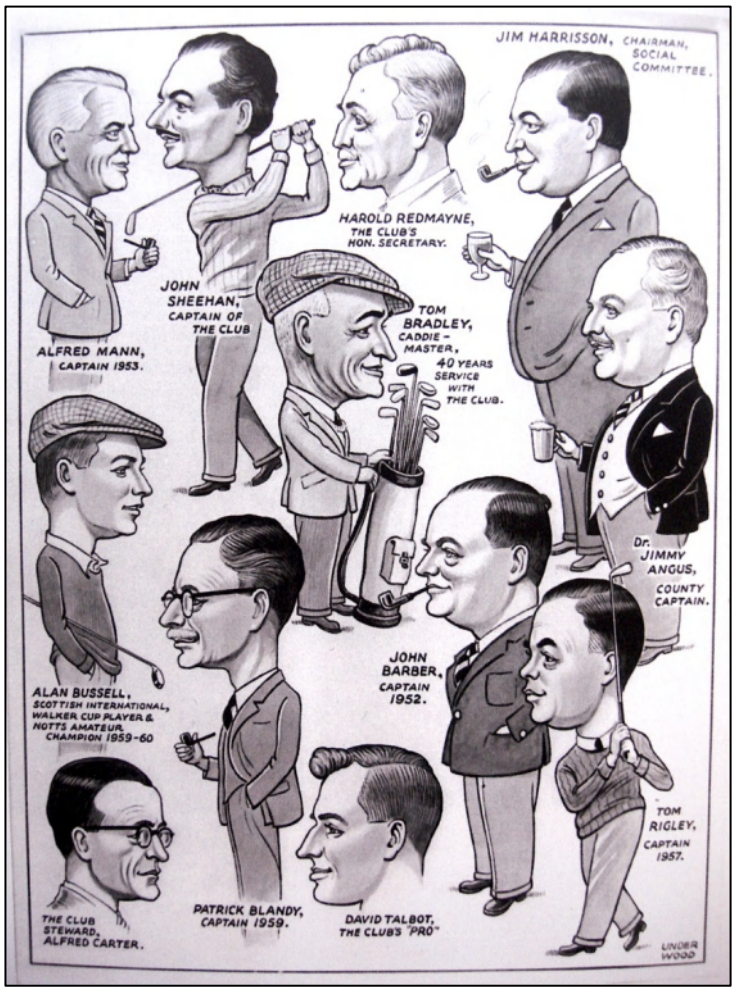
1957 Television tower for the Dunlop Masters introduced after the 1952 Daks Tournament as an ‘observation tower’.



1957 Course layout.



1959 Third green, few trees compared with today.



1960 Cartoon.

1959 Eighteenth green.

1961 Dunlop Tournament Guy Wolstenholme
Brian Bamford, Dai Rees, Max Faulkner.

1960 Postcard (ambiguity with the name of Notts. in the press and parlance was longstanding).

Rabbits had been a big problem for years, but Myxomatosis solved the problem in the early 50s.

1959 Brabazon Trophy, Doug Sewell won. Sewell played in the Walker Cup in 1957 and 1959 and succeeded Peter Alliss at Ferndown as the club professional.

1961 Dunlop Golf Tournament with a £6,000 purse was won by the Australian Kel Nagle (above). He had won the Open in 1960.

Seventh green 1962 (54).

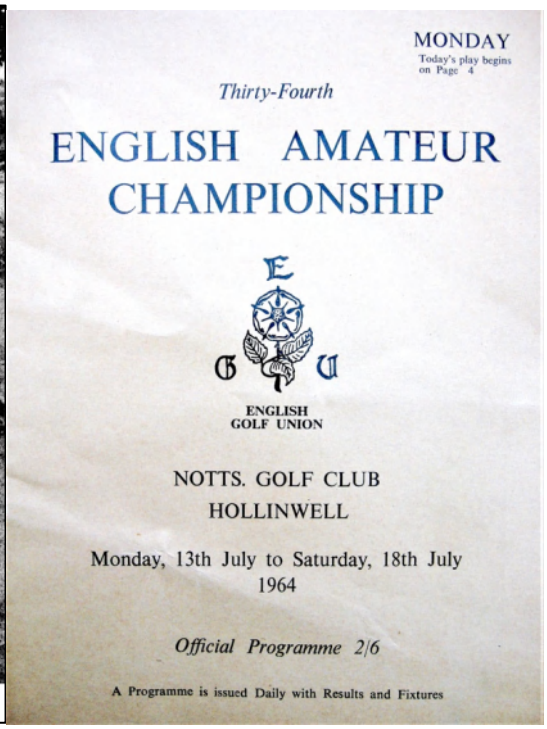
1962 It was agreed to discontinue the practice of lost balls being recovered by dogs. The minutes suggest that it was deemed unfair as a member had a particularly diligent dog!

1963 Hollinwell and Annesley railway station closed as part of the Beeching cuts.

1964 English Amateur Championship won by David Marsh (left). He was to win it again in 1970. A Walker Cup player in 1959 and 1971 and Captain of the R&A 1990.

1964 English Amateur Championship David Marsh.

J. W. Beddard (Penn) putting on the third green during the English Amateur Golf Championship at Hollinwell, Nottinghamshire, yesterday.



MONDAY
Today's play begins on Page 4

Thirty-Fourth

ENGLISH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLISH GOLF UNION

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB
HOLLINWELL

Monday, 13th July to Saturday, 18th July 1964

Official Programme 2/6

A Programme is issued Daily with Results and Fixtures

1964 Aerial view.

1964 The bunkers were redesigned with the top of the faces made of earth to prevent players leaving the bunker by way of the face.

1966 8a and 9a in use (their use subsided in 1979). Frank Pennink engaged to look at layout and course *"…. some of the very best golfing country to be found anywhere inland in this country…."*
Most of his recommendations were held in abeyance with alterations to three holes. David Talbot, the Club's Professional, was asked to comment on Pennink's plans and gave a mixed response.

1965 Second green.

1965 Fifth hole.

1965 Fourth tee with a golf cart on it!

1965 Seventh hole.

1965 Thirteenth hole.

1965 Fourteenth hole.

1967 After the breathalyzer bar takings fell 23%.

1967 New electric trolleys became available to members.

The Sumrie Golf Tournament was won by Brian Huggett (left) the Welsh golfer. This was amongst 33 other professional wins. He played in the Ryder Cup six times.

Brian Huggett, after receiving the winners cheque from Mr. Ronald Sumrie (watching on left), makes a witty speech as Hugh Lewis (PGA captain) listens with interest.

GOLF ILLUSTRATED—*6th June 1968*

DAZZLING DEBUT FOR SUMRIE TOURNAMENT

by TOM SCOTT

IT is not always that a brand new golf tournament gets off to such a good start as the Sumrie event which was played at the Notts Golf Club at Hollinwell.

A great, testing course, the best weather of the year, splendid organisation, as exciting a last afternoon's golf as anybody could ever wish to see, and at the end of it all the man in form taking the first prize of £1,000 from a fighting runner-up in the agreeable person of the young Spaniard, Angel Gallardo. The public present had indeed a fine holiday feast of golf. Those who stayed away thinking perhaps that independent TV would provide for them extensive coverage of the tournament on the Saturday afternoon, including, of course, the finish, were, I understand, liable to be disappointed. This, I hasten to add, was no fault of the commentators and others who were operating at Hollinwell.

Although there were several men in contention at the start and early in the last round it developed to all intents and purposes into a struggle between the comparatively unknown

It was then that Huggett struck the mortal blows that all but ensured victory. The par of the first four holes back at Hollinwell is 4, 4, 4, 3 and Huggett covered them in 3, 4, 3, 3, holing two long putts in the process. And so the position had changed in a flash, for understandably enough Gallardo had par figures at these holes.

Two strokes ahead, then, for Huggett and that was the way it was at the 15th, but a birdie four at the 17th, where in his morning round Huggett had holed a pitch, clinched the matter, for he finished in 68, fittingly enough the best round of a tournament where sub-seventy scores were very much the exception.

Only a succession of birdies from Gallardo, who was playing behind Huggett, would have been any good and they did not come. It would have been a near miracle if they had. But all the same it had been a great show from Gallardo and doubtless having won so many pesetas at one go he will be encouraged to brace himself for even greater efforts.

A disappointed man would be the Australian, Randall Vines, the overnight leader, who came to grief in the third round to finish way down the list of money winners. A pity, for Vines is a great trier. Then there was Neil Coles. He worked himself into a position from which he could win. He plays the big ball well and likes this type of course, but he, too, unaccountably fell away. And talking of liking courses there must be something in the Not-

This is a vexed question nowadays with several issues at stake. All I am certain of is that if the PGA play tournaments on long courses which have fast hard greens and which are not entirely smooth through every phase of a tournament the public will grow tired of watching golfers, many of whom are unable to break seventy, whilst some sponsors may well become nervous about running events which because of the big scores receive much less publicity than they would have done if the scoring had been so low as to make big headlines.

It is no good some harping on the theme of "Use of the big ball will improve the standards of British golf." Professional golf tournaments are staged for two reasons, entertainment and for the purposes of publicity. If that entertainment is not good enough to attract the public, and at the same time fails to provide sponsors with the publicity for which they crave, then such events will decrease in numbers. That would be disastrous for everybody concerned.

Final scores :

282—G. C. Huggett (Betchworth Park) 69, 75, 70, 68. 286—A. Gallardo (Spain) 71, 73, 69, 73. 289—A. G. Grubb (Coombe Hill) 74, 76, 70, 69; N. C. Coles (Coombe Hill) 71, 73, 70, 75. 293—B. J. Waites (Brough) 76, 73, 72, 72; F. Phillips (Australia) 73, 76, 73, 71; J. Hitchcock (Croydon) 72, 73, 74, 74. 294—B. W. Barnes (Burnham and Berrow) 74, 71, 72, 77; K. A. MacDonald (Hankley Common) 75, 70, 72, 77. 295—D. N. Sewell (Ferndown) 75, 76, 73, 71; D. Webster (Lundin Links) 77, 73, 69, 76; J. R. Garner (Manchester) 72, 76, 74, 73; B. J. Hunt (Hartsbourne) 72, 74, 74, 75; M. Bembridge (Little Aston) 70, 75, 76, 74. 296—P. M. Townsend (Porters Park) 74, 72, 77, 73; R. C. Vines (Australia) 73, 70, 77, 76. 297—G. Henning (South Africa) 78, 73, 72, 74; M. Faulkner 75, 74, 74, 74; S. W. Murray 73, 76, 73, 75; D. Thomas 77, 71, 75, 74; S. Peach

1966-73 Professional's shop, JW Marshall Caddie Master. DS Robinson Secretary, W Bird Assistant.

1968 Aerial view.

1970 Fifteenth green.

1968 Seventeenth hole.

1970 Brian Waites and Eric Brown.

1970 Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bell.

Club job pays off for Brian Waites

Steady income

Fixture hunt

Brian Waites . . . has chosen the safe road.

1969 Brian Waites appointed (newspaper cutting left but no detail of paper). In 1983 he played in the Ryder Cup, the last club professional to do so.
He was also the first person to play in over 100 tournaments on the European Seniors Tour (please see section on Brian Waites).

1970 The John Player Classic £25,000, the largest prize money in the history of the game was won by Christy O'Connor. Known as; 'himself' amongst his peers, he played in the Ryder Cup ten times and was in the top ten in the Open on ten occasions.

1970 Eighteenth hole.

1970 Christie O'Connor won the John Player Classic.

IT'S IN THE TOP THREE, SAYS JACKLIN

Hollinwell's great: That's the verdict of the Classic men

CHRISTY O'CONNOR, big-money Classic winner with, not unnaturally, a very high regard for the Nottingham-shire course.

RARELY can there have been a professional golf tournament with competitors from nearly all the major countries in the sport and so few grumbles as at Notts. GC, Hollinwell, during last week's £70,000 John Player's Classic tournament.

One of the most enthusiastic was Tony Jacklin, who had no hesitation in putting the course among the country's top three inland circuits—along with Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, and Wentworth, Surrey.

And when you consider this discounts such courses as Walton Heath, Sunningdale and Little Aston it is very high praise for the Nottinghamshire course.

Golf by Withers

Not unnaturally Christy O'Connor winner of the first-ever £25,000 top prize said it was his favourite — but all the players I spoke to have a high regard for its challenges and character.

Members were quietly delighted that the wind blew as it has never done in recent tournaments there and the public had a chance to see the top players finding some of the problem spots on the course.

At no hole was this more marked than the 440 yards 15th where the Classic competitors had a range of scores from an eagle to up to a four over par eight.

Challenging

The hole has a reasonably wide fairway but trouble either side. The second shot, usually a long iron and sometimes a wood is to an elevated green cradled in the hills with gorse and bushes either side.

It therefore presented some

Andrews famous road hole 17th where so many competitors played for the safety of the front of the green and a par four. In both cases the more attacking the second shot the greater the risk carried with it.

So many of the tragedies at this hole came because nearly all attacked the green. Malcolm Gregson after going out in a third round 33 saw his hopes dashed after a perfectly placed drive at this hole.

He flashed his second shot wide into the bushes and took a six — the same as Jacklin's opening round when a more defensive second shot could have brought an easy par.

Oddly enough the other holes that presented major challenges on the scores were not the par five holes — third, sixth (both downwind) or 17th — but the par four fourth holes with its demand for careful shot placing, and the very exposed 12th.

In the event I felt the critical factor for the winner was his ability to judge the changing character of these holes in the different wind conditions.

This is the game he learned so well on the Irish coast and at Hollinwell the character of the golf resembled much that is best in seaside courses.

This is why I feel that he could have won even with the addition of the American players, though I would have loved to have seen that great master Jack Nicklaus at work there.

World class

Never again will there be a chance for British golfers like that snapped by Christy O'Connor. The golfing public can be assured that the prizemoney like this breaking new records will only be offered when the field is truly world class.

The sponsoring firm are clearly making every possible effort to establish whether they

Tony Jacklin's praise for Hollinwell at The John Player Classic Tournament, the largest purse to date (£70,000) (55).

1972 Aerial view.

1970s The old 19th hole.

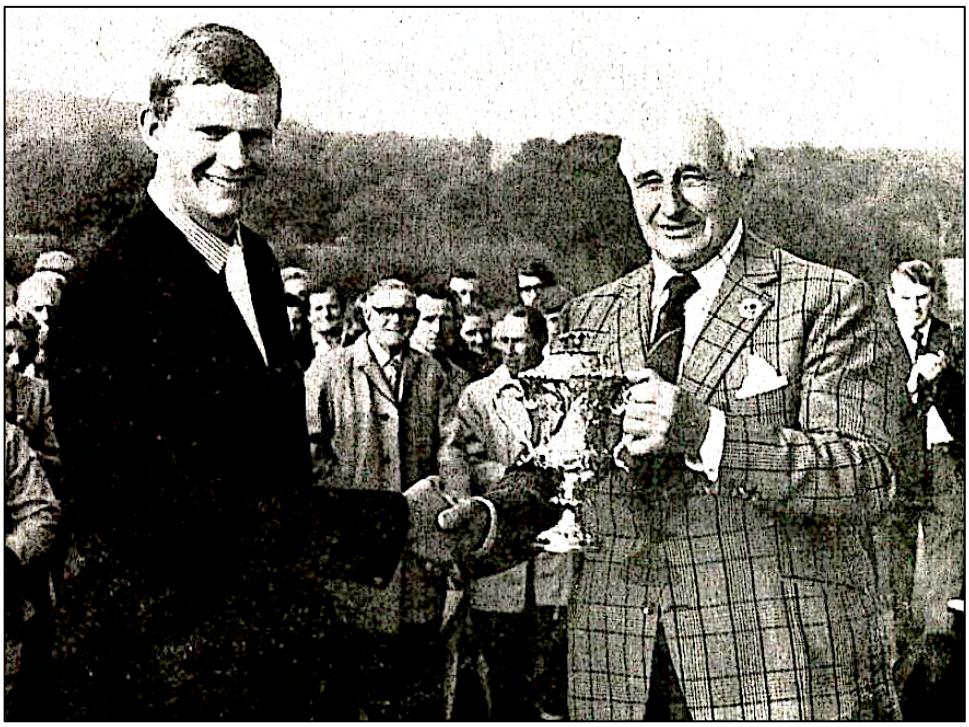
1971 Carpets were purchased for the lounge to replace colliery belting (example left). 'Manriding' to the coal face was how you got to the face one mile away from the pit top at Newstead colliery with four changes. Colliery belting was sturdy but not aesthetic!

1992 A new flagpole thanks to Michael Rowen, a great supporter of Notts. Golf Club.

1973 Frank Pennink made some suggestions including placing the 5th green to the right of the pond where the current 6th blue tee is, but it was also thought that there was nothing wrong with the current layout. A new 8th back tee was introduced with play over the pond fed by the Hollinwell.

1974 Celebrating 150
years of the RNLI.

1974 Lifeboat ProAm Peter Townsend
Brian Close, Dick Sykes, unknown.

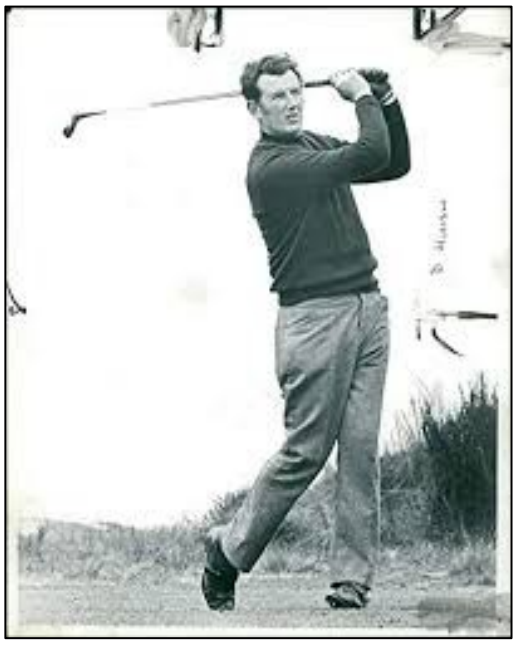


1975 Sandy Lyle Brabazon Trophy.

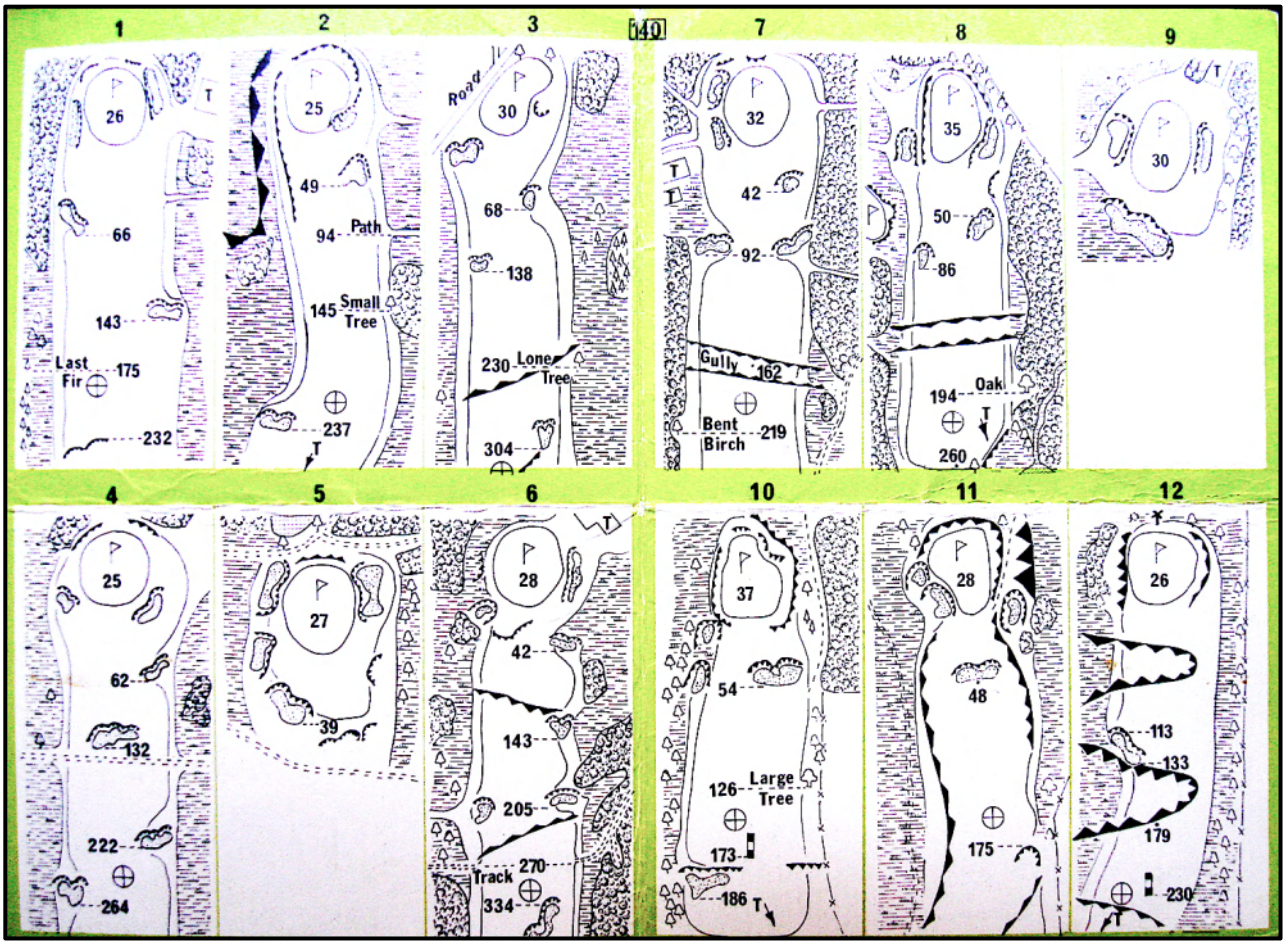
1975 Brabazon Trophy was won by Sandy Lyle. He went on to win the Open in 1985 and the Masters in 1988. Below Sandy Lyle putting on the 15th hole.

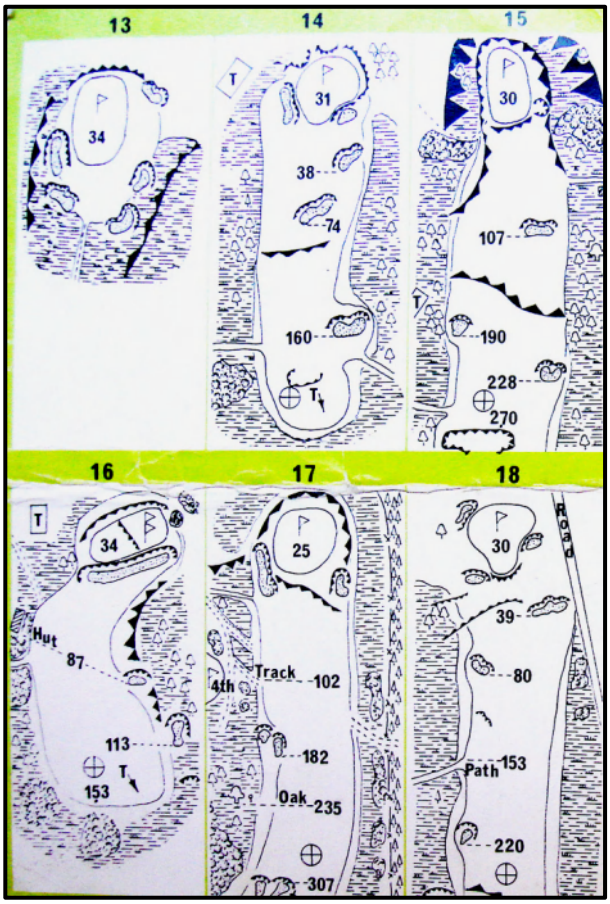
1976 English Ladies Amateur Championship won by Lynne Harrold.

1977 PGA Club Professional Championship won by David Huish (pronounced Hush) and professional at North Berwick.



1976
Fire on 10th, 11th and 12th Holes, it lasted eight days.





1979 Golf Planner.

1978 Ladies British Amateur Champion Edwina Kennedy. The first Australian to do so.

1977 Trees were planted behind the 11th green only to be removed a few years later.

1981 Diocese Champions, all Notts. members.

1982 Celebrity ProAm Brian Barnes,
Jimmy Tarbuck, Jerry Stevens, Nick Faldo.

Brian Close, Bernhard Langar,
Tony Jacklin, Henry Cooper.

1982 The Haig (Tournament Players Championship) won by Nick Faldo (now Sir). The greens were voted as being the best on the European Tour that year. He won with 69-70-67-69=270. He went on to win the Masters three times - 1989,1990,1996, and the Open 1987, 1990 and 1992.

1982 Haig trophy leaflet.

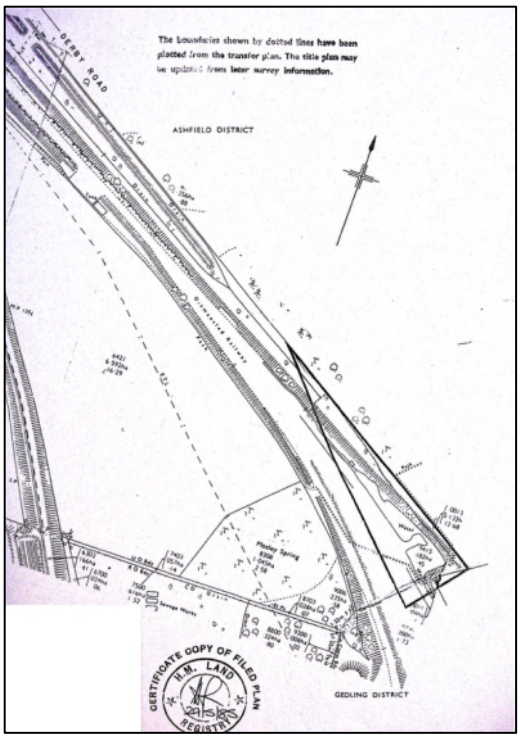
1982 Brian Barnes take on slow play during the Haig Trophy.

1983 Brabazon Trophy Charlie Banks receives the trophy from John Cheatle, President EGU.

1982 Subsidence on 8a and 9a fairways.

1982 Halfway house built.

1983 Norwegian pines planted left of 3rd fairway.



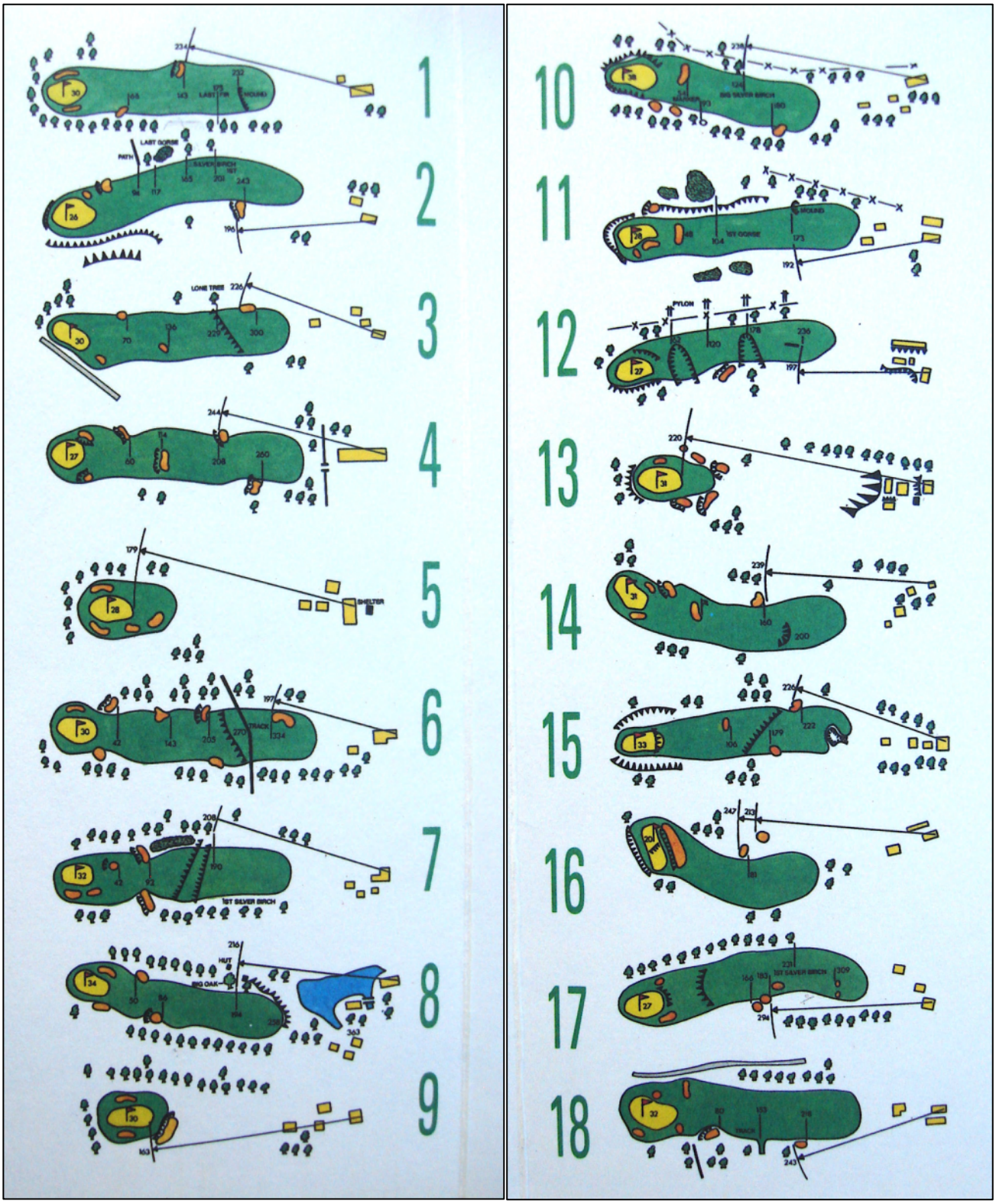
Land was purchased from the coal board to extend the driving range.

1984 Hollinwell ranked 13th in Golf World top UK courses.

Dam for the pond on 8th hole.

1986 Jim Arthur (STRI) ….danger with DIYS architecture…. I strongly advise calling in a golf architect…. Donald Steel. Jim Arthur wrote ….we must control seedling trees… remember there are still an awful lot of trees compared to the turn of the century. Gorse needs cutting back.
Donald Steel Report : …advance in the manufacturing of clubs and balls…. in the past, few players could hit the ball 200 yards…. what is palpably absurd is when, under normal conditions, good players, using the championship tees, pay no regard to any of the fairway bunkers". *"Hollinwell would be a demanding course if it didn't have any bunkers at all, but it struck me that the reason the top professionals always seem to score well (apart from playing in friendly conditions) is that many of the greens are too wide open…. Hitting the fairway may not be good enough. The correct side of the fairway may be the crucial factor". "Growth of rough and heather are vital to Hollinwell's defences…".*
Over the next few years several bunkers were inserted to make the course tighter.

1987 British Youth's Championship.



1987 Course layout.

1986 Twenty-three members over 70yrs was noted in the minutes to be a concern.

1987 The Centenary Year of the Club. British Youth Amateur Championship won by James Cook.

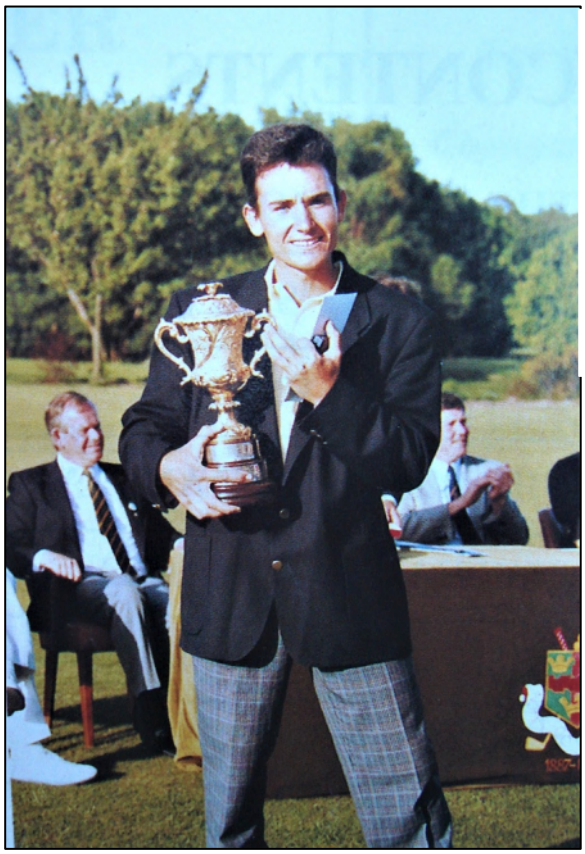
1987 Janet Collingham, a Notts. Ladies Golf Club member, won the British Amateur Ladies Championship at Royal St. David's Golf Club.

1989 English Ladies Strokeplay Championship Sara Robinson.

1992 Brabazon Trophy won by Ignacio Garrido (below). Playing with his father, Antonio, they were the second father and son to both play in the Ryder Cup team, the first were Percy and Peter Alliss.

1987 Fourth hole, behind slag heaps being contoured.

1992 Brabazon Trophy 18th hole.



1992 Ignacio Garrido
Brabazon Trophy.

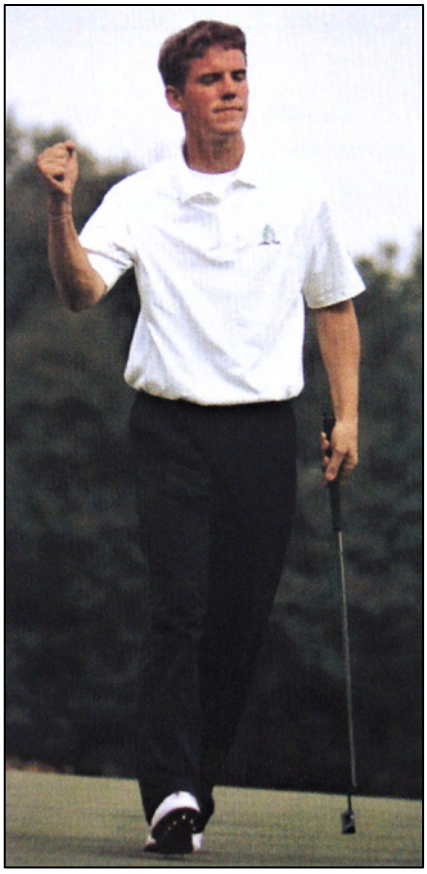
1992 'Golf World Magazine'

Hollinwell ranked 18th in the British Isles.

Top Five Inland Courses

1. Ganton
2. Woodhall Spa
3. Sunningdale Old
4. Wentworth (West)
5. Notts. (Hollinwell)

1994 Ladies British Senior Championship won by Diane Williams, an accomplished Canadian golfer.



1996 English Amateur Championship won by Shaun Webster. He was still taking part in the Final Open Qualifier at Hollinwell in 2019.

1997 Dress code relaxed (smart casual dress until 8pm).

1998 Computer linked Secretary to the Professional's shop.

2001 Reservoir by 8a/9a (main flow diverted from it).

Drainage system to take water to the river Leen.

2000 European Mid-Amateur won by Francis Illoux.

2000 Drive to restore heathland started.

2002 Midland Open won by Gary Wolstenholme who had defeated Tiger Woods in the Walker Cup in 1995 at Porthcawl.

2002 Ken Moodie and Ken Brown were asked to make proposals for course improvement. Many of their recommendations took place.

2004 English Amateur Championship was won by James Heath.

2005 A fairway ‘shaping experiment’ took place cutting to a width of 25 yds at 250-270 yds from the championship tees. This proved too difficult for day-to-day play. New tees on 10th, 12th and 13th a success.

2006 8a and 9a were rebuilt to a design prepared by John Ludlow who had a background in agricultural matters and had been a member for several years. Ian Mclachlan drove the project, including raising most of the funds from members.

2007 Jacques Leglise Trophy won by Great Britain and Ireland against Europe.

2007 Jaques Legise Trophy with Tommy Fleetwood, 'Beef 'Johnston, Eddie Pepperell and others.

2008 New Blue tee on the 2nd hole.

2011 Mackenzie Ebert were asked to advise on the course setup. A short game area constructed thanks to the legacy of Jeff Leadley. A new irrigation system for greens and tees system was installed.

2012 Ken Moodie and Ken Brown were asked to update proposals for course improvement.

2013 Club's Strategy and Aims adopted.

2016 Updated the course policy document, written in 2011, that prevented any significant changes to the course without approval from a golf architect.

2017 A Green course was introduced for junior and shorter hitting players. BIGGA Environment Award for 4th consecutive year.

2012 R&A Boys Amateur Championship won by Matthew Fitzpatrick.

2015 Brabazon Trophy won by Cormac Sharvin Brabazon Trophy at Hollinwell for the fifth time.

2018 Notts. Golf Club admits women members whilst Notts. Ladies Golf Club chose to remain a woman only Club. First comprehensive survey of Notts. Golf Club members. Martin Ebert engaged as course architect.

2019 New logo. Hollinwell Fund formed to raise money for projects outside the normal running of the club.

2020 Covid-19 led to the introduction of a partial online booking system and afterwards members voted for it to remain.

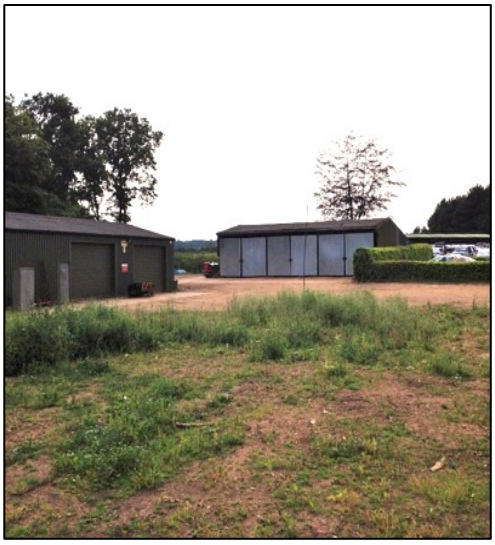
11th hole from the green.

8th hole from the tee.

Drinking cup at the well near the 8th tee.

The Heathland Classic
A competition over three courses, better ball aggregate score started in 2015.

2016 Epoxy resin path 13th hole.



2017 Area where the greens compound was built.

2018 was

2018 14th bleached fairway. The fine grasses recovered as soon as rain arrived.

fairway.

2017 The Open Final Qualifying Series.
Mark Foster (1st), Joe Dean - Open finished T70, Laurie Canter - Open finished T37.

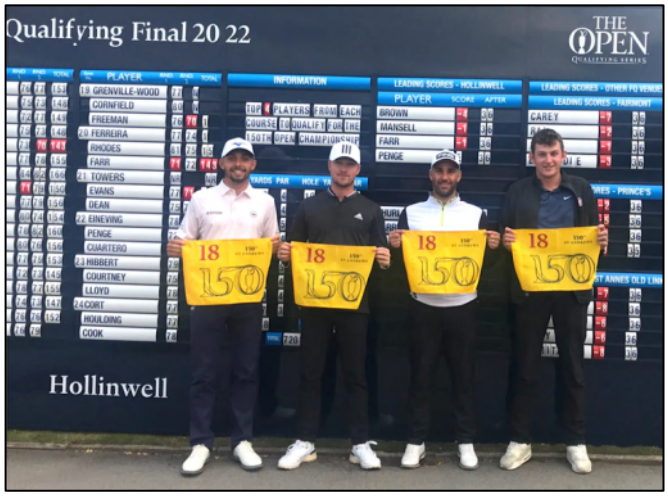
2018 The Claret Jug at Hollinwell.

2018 The Open Championship Final Qualifying Series
Ashton Turner (1st), Oliver Wilson, Rhys Enoch - Open finished T67.

2019 Final Open Qualifying.
Andrew Wilson (1st)
– Open T64,
Thomas Thurloway (a),
Ashton Turner
– Open T70.

2021 Open Championship Final Qualifying Series
Daniel Hillier (1st) Amateur,
Jonathan Thomson - Open finished T53, Ricard Mansell - Open finished T74.

2022 Open Championship Final Qualifying Series
Barclay Brown (1st) - Open finished 79, Richard Mansell (T68) Oliver Farr, Marco Penge.



2018 Martin Ebert engaged as course architect.

2020 Waste area created on 5th hole.

Herdwick sheep to control gorse and self-sets.

Phil Stain beekeeping.

Tom Williamson: A Remarkable Life

Tom Williamson served the club for 54 years. He also played in the Open over 50 years, finishing in the top ten on six occasions. He was a renowned clubmaker probably being the first to number clubs and he also designed sixty courses.

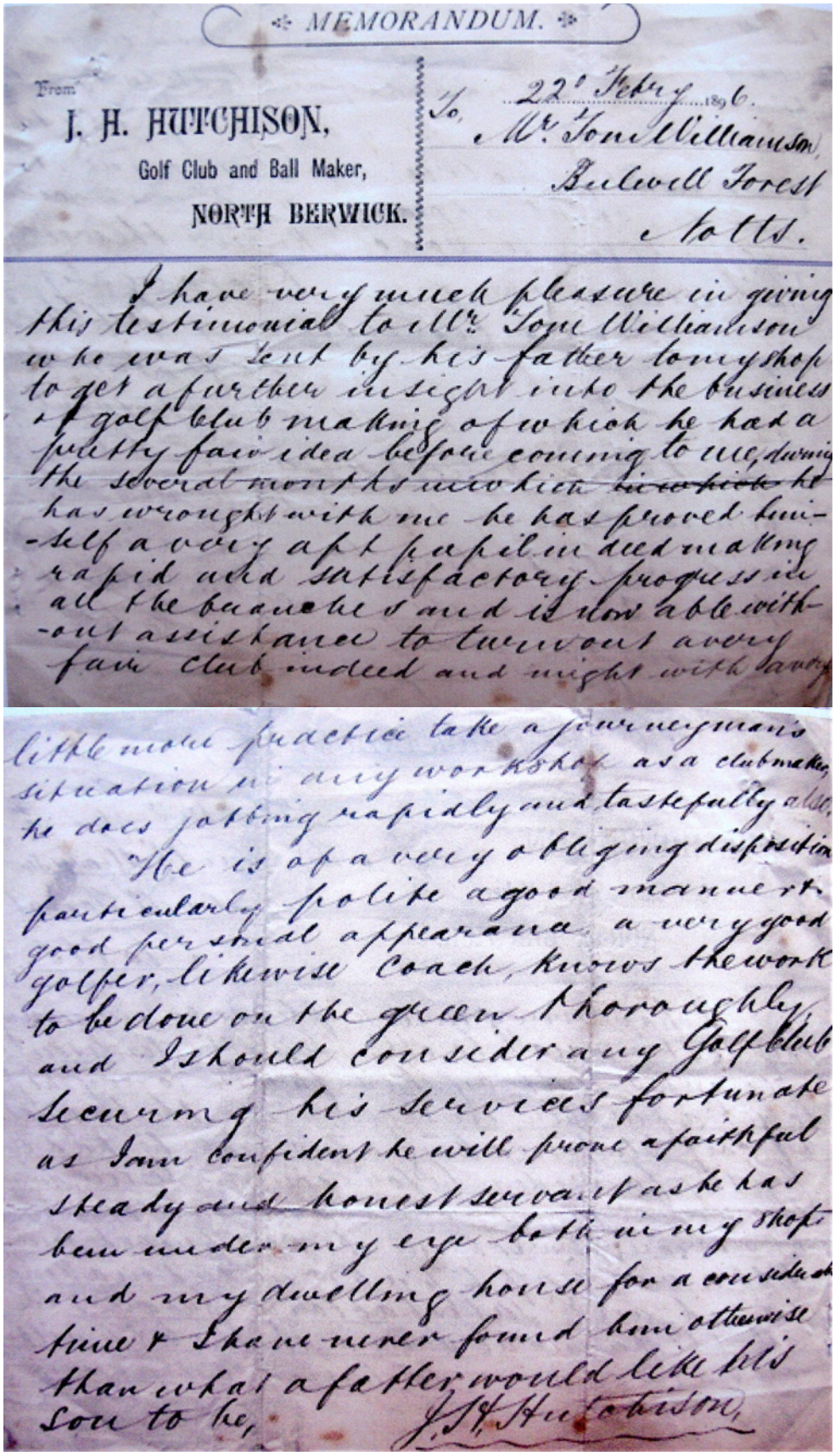
1889 The Williamson Family at Bulwell Station
Hugh, Edmund (father became Pro at Sutton-on-Sea then Matlock), Lilian, Edmund, Tom.

Tom Williamson was born on 9th February 1880 the son of a station master (see above).

“My first introduction to golf was not the pleasantest, and one which I will never forget, for it occurred at a time when I first saw a golf ball struck. I was coming home from school, across the common, before the golf course was made. "I saw two gentlemen, Mr. John Doleman and Mr. John Harris, both Scotsmen and pioneers of golf in this country, knocking a ball over some clear ground, and after the latter had struck the ball, I ran after it and brought it back with great glee. Much to my surprise, instead of receiving thanks he took me by the ear and made me place the ball at the spot at which I had picked it up.

To make matters worse, after receiving a scolding from him, a little later in the day John Harris saw me with my father, and, recognising me he told my father of the foolish things I had done, and I received a further reprimand of a much more painful character from my father. I have never picked up another ball since! A few days later I caddied for Mr. Harris and we became lifelong friends".

Tom initially played golf with parts of gorse branches shaped like a club. At 14 years old he had collected a few old clubs, and he joined the Artisan's club which was founded by his father. He caddied from an early age carrying three or four clubs' underarm for 2 pence per round. He did not anticipate a life in golf himself, but his poor eyesight precluded him from following the railway and poor health interrupted his training in the lace trade which were the main local employers. He said that he never saw a ball but knew instinctively where to find it. Having said that he didn't expect to become a professional golfer.
He was sent to North Berwick in 1895 to learn club-making at the late JH Hutchison's shop. He received a good reference when he applied to Notts. Golf Club (see next two pages).



MEMORANDUM.

From
J. H. HUTCHISON,
Golf Club and Ball Maker,
NORTH BERWICK.

To, 22nd Febry 1896.
Mr Tom Williamson,
Bulwell Forest
Notts.

I have very much pleasure in giving this testimonial to Mr Tom Williamson who he was sent by his father to my shop to get a further insight into the business of golf club making of which he had a pretty fair idea before coming to me, during the several months which he has wrought with me he has proved himself a very apt hand in and making rapid and satisfactory progress in all the branches and is now able without assistance to turn out a very fair club indeed and might with a little more practice take a journeyman's situation in any workshop as a clubmaker, he does jobbing rapidly and tastefully also.

He is of a very obliging disposition particularly polite a good manner & good personal appearance a very good golfer, likewise Coach, knows the work to be done on the green thoroughly and I should consider any Golf club securing his services fortunate as I am confident he will prove a faithful steady and honest servant as he has been under my eye both in my shop and my dwelling house for a considerable time & I have never found him otherwise than what a father would like his son to be,

J. H. Hutchison,

1896 Reference for Tom Williamson by JH Hutchison, clubmaker.

"I have very much pleasure in giving this testimonial to Mr. Tom Williamson who was sent by his father to my shop to get a further insight into the business of golf club making of which he had a pretty fair idea before coming to me, during the several months which he has wrought with me he has proved himself a very apt pupil indeed making rapid and satisfactory progress in all the branches and is now able without assistance to turn out a very fair club indeed and might with any little more practice take a journeyman's situation in any workshop as a clubmaker he does jobbing rapidly and tastefully also he is of a very obliging disposition particularly polite a good manner good personal appearance a very good golfer, likewise coach, knows the work to be done on the green thoroughly and I should consider his services fortunate as I am confident he will prove a faithful steady and honest servant as he has been under my eye both in my shop and my dwelling house for a considerable time and I have never found him otherwise than what a father would like his son to be."

JH Hutchison 22nd February 1896

In February 1896 it was suggested at a committee meeting that Tom Williamson should be engaged as the professional at 10 shillings a week, but this was rejected.
At the end of the month, he wrote to ask if he could be clubmaker with his wages to be decided by the committee.

His letter of instruction included:
1. He should be at the service of any member to play with them at a charge of 1s 6d a round.
2. He should take charge of the clubhouse and be responsible for its safety.
3. He should manage the caddies and the caddie shelter.
4. He should conduct the medal days.
5. He should assist in keeping the course and greens in order giving your services upon them for 8 hours a week.
6. You should take profits from making, mending and selling clubs and balls.
7. I want to make it quite clear that the engagement is temporary.

He was appointed on 5 shillings a week (below the equivalent minimum working age at the time) and he was never formally asked to stay.

In 1897 he played in the Open Championship at Hoylake when first prize was £5 and he then played in the Open over the next 50 years except during the war years when it was not held. He finished in the top ten on six occasions.

1898 He broke the course record at Bulwell Forest with 74.

In 1899 he broke the course record at Bulwell Forest with 69 shots when the course had a Bogey of 79.
The same year he played Harry Vardon, the Open Champion, over 36 holes. Vardon won by 2 holes.

Tom Williamson with staff.
Tom forged clubheads imprinting them with his cleek mark as well as assembling them and placing a maker's mark.

“Presented by The Notts. Golf Club as a mark of our appreciation of the high place taken by him in The Open Golf Championship Sandwich 1899”.

1899 'Golf Illustrated' (56)

"*Tom Williamson, Professional to the Notts Golf Club, is regarded by many competent judges as one of the most promising of the younger school of English golfers...*

His outstanding public performance is the tying for ninth place this year in the Open Championship at Sandwich in which he finished in front of players such as Mr. Hilton, Sandy Herd, Willie Park, and Sayers, and played a round of 76, then the record of the green."

October 1900 James Braid v Tom Williamson
At Bulwell Forest James Braid hit the ball 488 yards in two shots, and he won by one shot in the first round and four in the second round.

In 1901 Tom married Charlotte Brooksby and the club moved to Hollinwell.

NOTTINGHAM.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE GOLF CLUB, INSTITUTED NOVEMBER 9TH, 1887.

Entrance Fee, 5*l.* 5*s.*; *Annual Subscription*, 3*l.* 3*s.*; *Number of Members*, 250. *Captain*—A. N. Bromley. *Hon. Secretary*—J. A. Simpson, South Parade Chambers, Nottingham. *Professional*—T. Williamson.

Club Prizes.—Scratch, Club Cup, April and October; Hemingway Cup (holes), Autumn Handicap, New Cup (holes), Spring; Secretaries' Cup, April and October; Ladies' Cup, June; Monthly Medals (scratch and handicap).

Prize Winners in 1902.—Club Cup: A. N. Bromley and J. Hind. Hemingway Cup: H. D. Snook. Secretaries' Cup: H. G. Watkins and C. S. Wardle. New Cup: A. H. Pearson. Monthly Medals: T. G. Mellors, A. N. Lee, and J. L. Lewis. Foursomes: J. Hall and F. Mason. Coronation Cup (open): H. B. McCarthy.

Entry in 1902 Golfing Annual.

Initially Tom forged his own club heads with his own cleek mark (a rifle, see below).

Tom's rifle cleek mark

Tom's son, Fred, wrote that his father was the first golf professional to number iron clubs. There is some evidence to support this including numbered clubs that predate any others (see below).

A 'numbered' club marked 'Williamson Bulwell Nottingham', made before 1901 and his move to Hollinwell. From the archives of Peter Georgiady. SW are the owner's initials.

Tom gained a reputation for making excellent clubs with hickory shafts, calf grips and Stewart iron heads amongst others. He received favourable comments in ‘Golfing’ about his club making and the club has several fine specimens. An article that goes into more detail about numbering clubs can be found in the journal of The British Golf Collectors Society, 'Through the Green' (December 2022, 'Was it Tom Williamson of Hollinwell?' p44-50).

DAILY SKETCH

ENGLAND'S GREAT GOLF VICTORY.

Scotch Professionals Swamped.

England's international golf team swamped th Scottish professionals in the annual encounter, whic took place on Saturday at Deal, where the ope championship tournament opens to-day. England wo the singles by the big margin of 9 matches to 2, an the foursomes were divided. Details:—

SINGLES.

ENGLAND.		SCOTLAND.	
J. H. Taylor (Mid-Sur'y)	0	J. Braid (Walton H'th)	0
H. Vardon (S. Herts) (5 and 4)	1	A. Herd (Huddersfield)	0
T. Vardon (Sandwich)	0	G. Duncan (Hanger Hill) (capt.) (1 hole)	1
E. Ray (Ganton) (4 and 2)	1	R. Thomson (North Berwick)	0
R. Jones (Wimbledon Park (3 and 1)	1	J. White (Sunningdale)	0
T. Ball (W. Lancs.) (6 and 5)	1	P. Coltart (Birstall)	0
T. Williamson (Notts) (capt.) (5 and 4)	1	Ben Sayers (N. Berw'k)	0
J. G. Sherlock (Stoke Poges (3 and 1)	1	A. Kirkaldy (St. And'ws)	0
F. Robson (Bromboro') (3 and 2)	1	B. Sayers, jun. (Royal Wimbledon)	0
P. J. Gaudin (Falwell)	0	C. R. Smith (W. Middlesex (3 and 2)	1
C. H. Mayo (Burhill (2 and 1)	1	W. Hunter (Richmond)	0
W. E. Reid (Banstead Downs (2 and 1)	1	J. Park (Musselburgh)	0
Total	9	Total	2

FOURSOMES.

Taylor and H Vardon	0	Braid and Herd	0
T. Vardon and Ray	0	Duncan and Thomson	0
Jones and Ball (1 hole)	1	White and Coltart	0
		Sayers and Kirkaldy (2 and 1)	1
Williamson & Sherlock	0	Sayers, jun., and Smith (1 hole)	1
Robson and Gaudin	0	Hunter and Park	0
Mayo and Reid (5 and 3)	1		
Total	2	Total	2

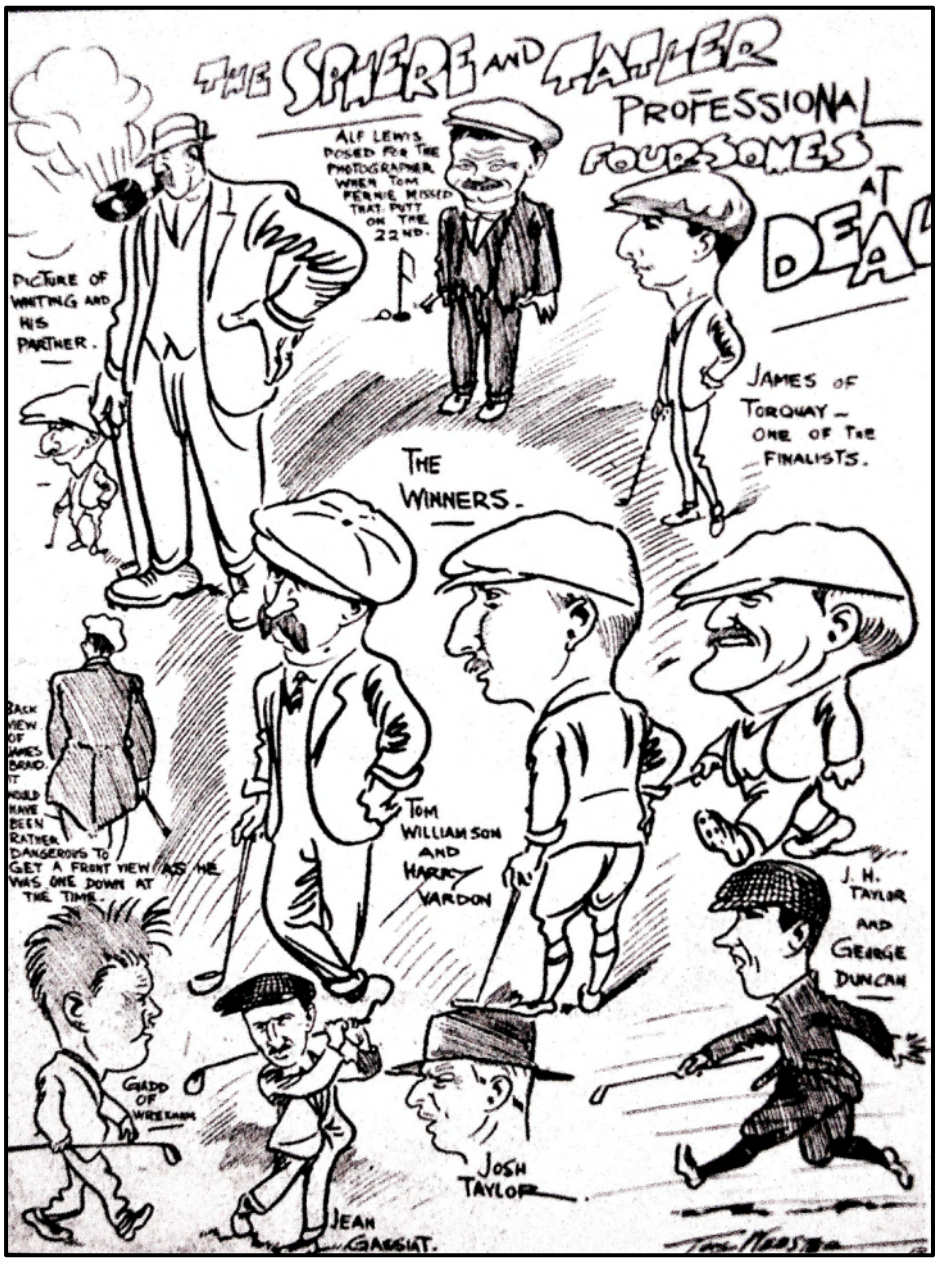
Tom played for England versus Scotland in 1904, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 13 and was Captain in 1909 when 1909 England team beat Scotland 11-4. He was selected in 1908, but the match was abandoned. This was the most prestigious team match of its time until the Ryder Cup started in 1927.

In 1912 he went round the then 'New' Hollinwell course in 67, it had a Bogey of 79 (Nottingham Guardian 15th April 1912).

NOTTS. GOLFER'S NEW RECOR

TOM WILLIAMSON,

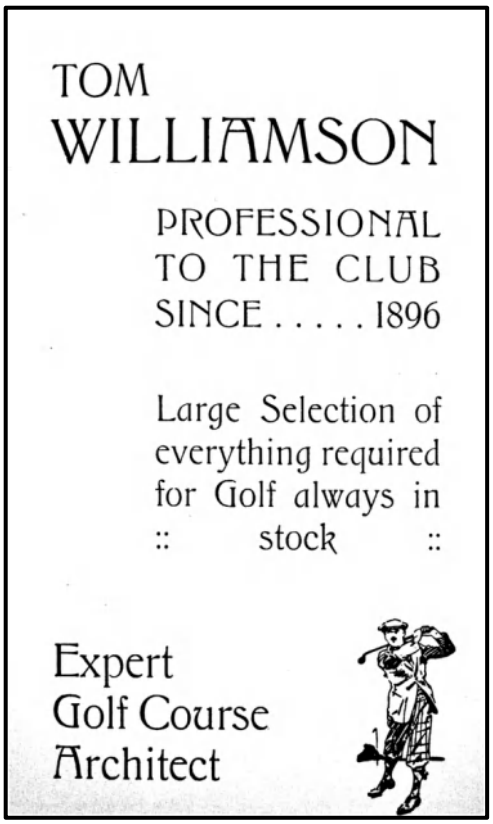
the Notts. Club professional, who yesterday set up a record, 67, for the Hollinwell course. He equalled the score on a previous occasion, but the course was much shorter then.



1913 Tom Williamson and Harry Vardon, winners of the Sphere and Tatler foursomes Deal.

Tom Williamson on the 2nd tee (New 5th).

In the first world war Tom worked 44 hours a week for 6d an hour in Hyson munitions factory and attended the course on Thursday afternoons and Saturdays (he promised his mother that he would never play on Sundays, so he had some long working days).



The Midland Professional Stroke-Play Championship is the oldest championship in professional golf having first been contested in 1897 and run by the Midland Counties Professional Golf Club.

The Midland Professional Stroke-Play Championship was the forerunner of the PGA Matchplay Championship that started in 1903.

Tom Williamson was the first to win the Midland Professional Stroke-Play Championship in 1897 and he went on to win it in 1898, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1920, and 1922. For several years, until at least 1924, the Midland Professional Stroke-Play Championship winner also received the Chance Challenge Cup and qualified them for the News of the World Match Play Tournament. In 1911 the Chance Challenge Cup was played separately in a Midland section qualifying event and Tom won it. Tom was Captain of the PGA in 1928-9.

Tom won the Midland Challenge Cup, a foursomes event in 1903, 1905, 1914, 1919, 1925, 1926 and 1927. He played with various partners.

CHAMPION FOR SIXTH TIME.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR TOM WILLIAMSON.

BIG GOLF "DOUBLE" AT HOLLINWELL.

For the third year in succession, Tom Williamson won the Midland Professional Championship on his home course at Hollinwell yesterday, making his sixth success in the competition since its inauguration in 1903. He also headed the list of qualifiers from the Midland section for the "Daily Mail" £1,000 tournament to be played at Wentworth, Virginia Water, on 11 May.

The weather was fine, but a strong westerly wind made it difficult for the players, particularly on the home journey, and the big crowd did not see any very brilliant golf.

T. WILLIAMSON.

E. K. Ballantine, of Sherwood Forest, led the field at the end of the first round with a fine return of 75, which was the best round of the day, his only mistakes occurring at the last three holes, at each of which he required three putts. Ballantine's card was as follows:—

Out ... 5 5 4 5 3 4 5 4 5—40
Home... 4 5 4 3 4 5 5 6 3—41 total 75.

BALLANTINE'S BAD PUTTING.

His driving and approaching was quite as good in the afternoon, but he continued to putt badly, and took 34. He required three putts on no fewer than four greens in the afternoon.

Tom Barber, of the Cavendish Club, Buxton, who figured so prominently in the Open Championship last year, was round in 76. There was nothing brilliant about his golf, the features of his play being the excellence of his approach shots. He played well up to the pin and rarely left himself much to do on the greens. He had one slice of luck at the 14th, where his ball struck the bank of a bunker and rebounded there to enable him to chip down dead on to the pin. His figures were:—

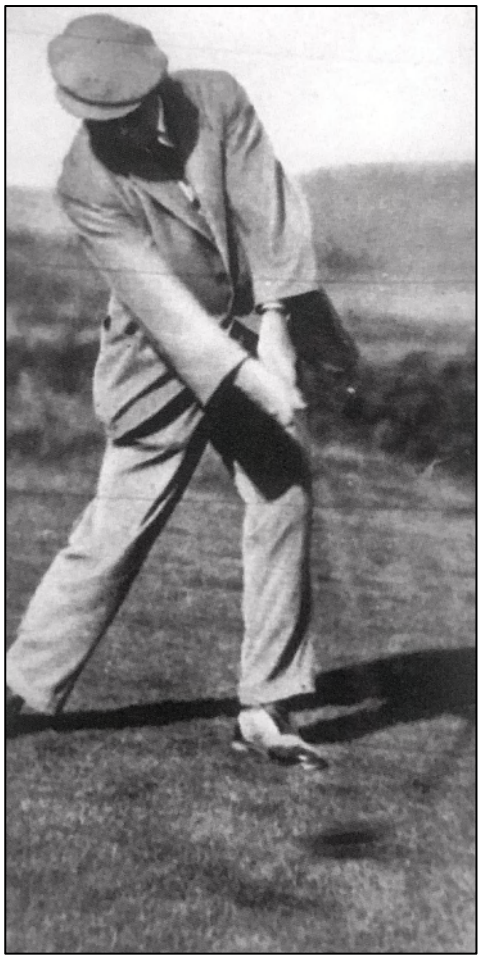
Out: 5 4 5 3 5 5 5 3 4—39

In 1921 Tom was made an honorary member of Notts. Golf Club, and a testimonial raised £200.

Few would have thought that he would serve the Club for a further 29 years.

Nottingham Guardian 1927 (57)

1925 The Daily Mail £1,200 Tournament. Tom Williamson on the 1st tee at Hollinwell.



Tom's swing

1926 Tom was given a Silver cigarette case by members to commemorate his silver wedding anniversary. There is no mention what Mrs. Williamson received!

The Amateur & Professional Golfers' Alliance

Before 1910 there was an annual match between the Amateurs and Professionals and on 9th December 1921 Tom Williamson and HD Snook founded the Nottinghamshire Amateur and Professional Golfer's Alliance. Mr. H D Snook, the first President, kindly consented to give a cup to be competed for annually. That Presidents Cup is still played for today. Tom Williamson was its first captain.

The primary object of the pioneers of the 'Alliance' was to provide competitive golf over the winter months at an inter-club level. It was one of the aims of the promoters to encourage a closer association between the Amateur and Professional ranks.

1924 Western Daily Press (58) Tom Williamson beat the course record at Bulwell Hall with a Bogey of scoring 67 in an Alliance match.

1930 Nottingham Evening Post (59) Tom Williamson's 50th birthday. He was presented with a chiming clock by the Alliance.

1931 Nottingham Evening Post (60) Notts Amateurs and Professionals Alliance at Wollaton. Tom Williamson with 67 won first prize and Edward Williamson was second with 77.

1935 The Nottingham Journal (61) Professionals led by Tom Williamson gained a victory over amateurs. Hollinwell fully maintained its reputation as a difficult course to master.

Tom was a PGA founder member in 1902, and he would go on to become Captain of the Professional Golfers Association in 1928-29.

1928-9 Tom Williamson
Captain of the PGA.

The Ladies Open Golf Championship at Portmarnock 1931

He taught Enid Wilson, who won the British Ladies Open on three occasions (1931-33) wrote, *"I would like also to pay tribute to my mentor Tom Williamson – any success I had in the game I attribute to his unfailing patience, and exceptional skill in coaching the game"*.

Tom won the Midland Professional and Amateur Championship at Olton in 1931. In this cartoon he has an eagle on his cap. Birmingham Gazette (62)

In 1947 Tom played in the Open Championship at Hoylake where he had first played in it fifty years previously.

To add to his duties, Tom was also the head greenkeeper at Hollinwell and oversaw the green staff and reported to the greens committee.

He designed over 60 courses including Worksop, Wollaton, Willesey Park, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Beeston Fields, Rushcliffe, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, Kedleston Park, Coxmoor, Newark, Retford, Belton Park, Golf & Country Club Zurich. He used plasticine models of greens and bunkers on his kitchen table as a design aid.

Open Championship Record

1897-1947

Year	Venue	TW's score	Place	Winner	Winner's score
1897	Hoylake	349	37	H Hilton	314
1898	Prestwick	328	21	H Vardon	307
1899	St George's	326	**9**	H Vardon	310
1900	St Andrews	MC		JH Taylor	309
1901	Muirfield	MC		J Braid	309
1902	Hoylake	333	30	A Herd	307
1903	Prestwick	317	11	H Vardon	300
1904	St George's	MC		J White	296
1905	St Andrews	331	13	J Braid	318
1906	Muirfield	317	19	J Braid	300
1907	Hoylake	319	**7**	A Massey	312
1908	Prestwick	320	35	J Braid	291
1909	Cinque Ports	NP quinsy		JH Taylor	295
1910	St Andrews	314	19	J Braid	299
1911	St George's	MC		H Vardon	303
1912	Muirfield	315	17	E Ray	295
1913	Hoylake	317	**7**	JH Taylor	304
1914	Prestwick	312	**4**	H Vardon	306
War					
1920	Cinque Ports	322	26	G Duncan	303
1921	St Andrews	302	**6**	J Hutchison	296

MC missed the cut
NP not play

1922 - 1947 next page

The rest of Tom Williamson's Open Appearances

Year	Venue	TW's score	Placing	Winner	Winner's score
1922	St George's	316	28	W Hagen	300
1923	Troon	304	12	AG Havers	295
1924	Hoylake	310	13	W Hagen	301
1925	Prestwick	MC		J Barnes	300
1926	Royal Lytham	306	14	RT Jones	291
1927	St Andrews	300	**10**	RT Jones	285
1928	St George's	311	21	W Hagen	292
1929	Muirfield	313	25	W Hagen	292
1930	Hoylake	MC		RT Jones	291
1931	Carnoustie	303	12	T Armour	296
1932	Princes	MC		G Sarazen	283
1933	St Andrews	308	44	D Shute	292
1934	St George's	308	42	H Cotton	283
1935	Muirfield	MC		A Perry	283
1936	Hoylake	MC		A Padgam	287
1937	Carnoustie	MC		H Cotton	290
1938	St George's	MC		R Whitcombe	295
1939	St Andrews	MC		R Burton	290
War					
1946	St Andrews	MC		S Snead	290
1947	Hoylake	MC		F Daly	293

MC missed the cut

Tom was methodical and adapted the course to react to length with equipment changes. He also softened some of the original sharper features to produce slopes that could be maintained and would spread wear (extracts taken from SG Marnoch, Golf Course Architect, thesis on Tom Williamson).

In 1950 he retired after 54 consecutive years of service.

What was Tom's legacy? The professionals he nurtured, courses he designed, numbering clubs, his playing record, and his jewel is Hollinwell, a club where the principal interest is in playing golf.

A book on Tom Williamson, 'Tom Williamson - The Complete Golf professional' by Nick Jones can be purchased at the professional's shop or https://www.finegolfbooks.com/pages/books/11218/nick-jones/tom-williamson-the-complete-golf-professional

On the 27th February 1946 you completed fifty years as professional to the Notts Golf Club. The members take this opportunity of expressing their very great appreciation of your half-century of faithful & untiring work for the welfare of the club. They are proud of your record as a golfer, proud of their course to which you have contributed so much, & proud to have you as an honorary member. The Notts Golf Club has known no other professional & you have had no other club. You originally engaged for six months' on probation: no further agreement has ever been made but no agreement could be more binding than the bonds of esteem & affection which link you to the club.

At Hollinwell without your wholehearted care for the course, your own stately, solid golf, & your genial personality in the clubhouse is difficult to conceive.
Time inevitably takes its toll of length but it has done nothing to divert that straight unwavering accuracy so typical of your whole character, & the members rejoice to see how little the passing years have left their mark upon you.
Many are the members past & present who remember with pleasure & profit your wise counsel. Your cheery smile at the end of a round has comforted the crestfallen.

Your zeal through difficult years has contributed in no small measure to the comfort & happiness of members & made Hollinwell the course it is today.
Wherever golfers amateur or professional meet, you are loved & respected. You have played for & captained England & you are one of the great figures in British Golf.
For all these things you are justly esteemed throughout the golfing world but it is Tom, the friend, to whom the members of the Notts Golf Club offer this token of their very real affection.

Brian Waites

The Last Ryder Cup Club Professional

Brian Waites was the professional at Hollinwell between 1969 and 1998. He is best known for being the last club professional to play in the Ryder Cup. This was in 1983 and at 43 years old. He turned professional in 1957 and played on the European Tour through most of the 1970s and 1980s. He was in his prime between 1978 and 1984, ranking between 10th and 22nd on the Order of Merit in each of those seven years. He won the Nottinghamshire Championship seven times, the Notts Professional Strokeplay Championship seven times and the Notts Professional Matchplay Championship five times.

In his last round of the John Player Classic at Hollinwell in October 1970 he equaled the course record with a round of 68. In 1978 he won the Tournament Players Championship. He made the cut in nine Open Championships and represented England in the World Cup in 1980, 1982 and 1983. In 1990 he became a Senior and in 1990 and 1991 he won the PGA Senior Championship. In 1992 he joined the European Seniors Tour and had a successful career at that level, winning four tournaments and making the top ten on the Order of Merit four times. He was the first man to play 100 tournaments on the European Seniors Tour. All together he had 32 professional wins.

For his achievements the Club made him an Honorary Life Member.

1983 Brian Waites with Jack Nicklaus before the Ryder Cup.

The 1983 Ryder Cup Team (European)

(Top row)

Nick Faldo, Sam Torrance, Sandy Lyle, Tony Jacklin (Capt)

Bernard Gallacher, Severiano Ballesteros, Jose-Maria Canizares

(Bottom row)

Gordon Brand, Ken Brown, Ian Woosnam, Bernhard Langer, Paul Way, Brian Waites

Paul Way and Brian Waites
1983 PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach.

Brian Waites and Corey Pavin B&H at Fulford.

Calvin Peete and Brian Waites
1983 PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach.

HONORED GUESTS

BRITISH-EUROPEAN TEAM	AMERICAN TEAM
TONY JACKLIN, CAPTAIN	JACK NICKLAUS, CAPTAIN
NICK FALDO	LANNY WADKINS
SEVERIANO BALLESTEROS	RAY FLOYD
BERNHARD LANGER	TOM KITE
SANDY LYLE	FUZZY ZOELLER
KEN BROWN	CRAIG STADLER
JOSE-MARIA CAÑIZARES	JAY HAAS
BRIAN WAITES	GIL MORGAN
SAM TORRANCE	CALVIN PEETE
IAN WOOSNAM	CURTIS STRANGE
BERNARD GALLACHER	BEN CRENSHAW
PAUL WAY	BOB GILDER
GORDON BRAND	TOM WATSON

WAITES IN FLORIDA

NOTTS GOLF Club professional Brian Waites made an unexpected winning Ryder Cup debut — at the age of 43.

He said from his Palm Beach Gardens hotel early today: "Ken Brown and I had gone out for a practice round as we had been told by Tony Jacklin we would not be required for the first day's action.

"We had reached the eighth when Jacklin burst on the scene in his buggy and literally dragged us off the course.

"He said Gallacher and Lyle were not playing well and we were needed for the afternoon fourball session."

And what a combination he and 26-year-old Brown turned out to be!

FINE BURST

With Europe halving the morning foursomes, they were pitched into the fray against flamboyant Fuzzy Zoeller, second in the 1983 U.S. money list, and Gil Morgan.

Brown reeled off four birdies on the outward half and this fine burst of scoring put he and Waites one-up at the turn.

Waites birdied the tenth for a half and they went two-up when he reduced the 577-yard 11th to a drive, three-wood, wedge and 18ft. birdie putt.

'Tony dragged us off the course'

And it was Waites who produced the killer punch at the tricky, dog-legged 13th. He was the only one of the four to find the well-guarded green with his second and two safe putts for par put the Euro pair three-up.

The Americans bounced back with a winning birdie at the 15th but halves at the next two holes gave Waites and Brown a well-earned 2 and 1 victory.

Said Our Man from Hollinwell: "We were called on at the last minute and we did the job."

Waites invite to US Open

Eamonn Gavigan on Golf

BRIAN WAITES is the only European to receive an invitation to play in the United States Seniors Open at Pinehurst in July.

"I'm obviously delighted and take it as huge complement," says Waites. "It's a great honour as the only European who's exempt and invited to play. I've already played there in the Ryder Cup, so I know my way round."

The Notts man, who has also been invited to play in the United States PGA Seniors Championship at West Palm Beach in April, added: "I'll spend as much time as possible playing and on the practice ground between now and April.

"I'd like to do well. I played in the US PGA Championship in 1990 and '91 but missed 1992 because of the accident. I thought they may have forgotten me so I was delighted when the invitation arrived."

Waites is no stranger to Pinehurst as he represented Great Britain in the 1973 PGA match against the Americans on the course.

Even though he didn't finish in the money Waites was delighted with his recent excursion to Arizona to play in the Ping Pro-Am.

"I didn't score particularly well but I hit the ball well," he said. "I was disappointed with the results but not with the way I actually played."

He has gradually been getting back to fitness after his accident a couple of years ago and was delighted with the way he stood up the rigours of the trip.

"I played ten round in as many days, so from that point of view, it was a worthwhile exercise. I'm getting fit but there is still some way to go."

Waites is looking forward to another successful campaign on the European Seniors Tour. "The Seniors Tour has been improved tremendously this year. I will play most of the events in Europe."

He also hopes to play as many events as possible on the Nottinghamshire and Midlands circuit. "I'm hoping to play in the Notts PGA Championship at the beginning of April. I'd like to keep as busy as possible."

BRIAN WAITES . . "Forget history, the Yanks are only human. We can beat them."

DAD'S BARMY!

He's throwing away £1,000 to take on the Yanks

BRIAN WAITES was a dark-haired lad of 17 the last time our golfers licked America in the Ryder Cup.

That was in 1957—the year Waites started his first golf job as a sweeping, scrubbing dogsbody assistant pro at Southport.

Now, 36 years later, he climbs aboard Concorde tomorrow as the silver-thatched, 43-year-old daddy of the 12-man European team who take on the Yanks again in Florida, on Friday.

By KARL KERSHAW

Lucrative

He's not only the oldest "debut" boy in the 56-year-old history of the contest. He is also the only player who has to take time off from his "real job" to go.

Waites is the "Mr Moonlight" of the golf tour—the club pro who times his lucrative tournament raids between flogging tee-pegs, giving lessons and generally minding the shop at Hollinwell, near Mansfield.

"It's not a bad part-time job, though," he grins. It has been worth £42,825 to him this year on the European circuit. Not bad, either, for a golfer who turned his back on the tournament scene 16 years ago because he decided he'd never make a go of it.

Now he's quids in at an age when most pros are has-beens with only memories to count, not big cheques.

Gossip on the pro tour makes Waites out to be a Scrooge.

That's because he spends so much time hanging round scoreboards to work out where he'll finish and how much he'll win.

A tightwad? "No," he says. "It may surprise certain people to know that I turned down £1,000 so I will be ready for the Ryder Cup.

Easy

"After I got back from the Lancome tournament in France last weekend, I was asked to play in four pro-ams. That's easy money and I could have picked up £1,000 or more.

"But I said 'no' to them all because the Ryder Cup is the pinnacle of my life in golf and I was determined to go out there fresh. Who wants to be rich and tired?

"Tournament golf is a bit of an ego trip for me. Do well and the money comes in but, really, all I ever wanted to do was test myself against the best. I had to know how good I was."

But me Waites and the rest of non-playing captain Tony Jacklin's squad good enough to achieve what no team from this side of the Atlantic has done before—beat the Americans in their own backyard?

Strength

Waites has already played against America six times in the PGA Cup—a kind of mini-Ryder contest for club pros—and says: "Yanks didn't frighten me then and they don't now.

"Forget history they've only human. They've got great strength in depth but that's only because there are so many of them out there.

"I believe our best can match their best. For a start, we've got Sevvy Ballesteros and he's the best of the lot.

"Also I don't think the Americans are at their strongest this time because they haven't players like Tom Watson, Lee Trevino, Hall Sutton and Larry Nelson in their side. Why should we be frightened?"

But just being there is the big thing for Waites, who has a daughter only a year younger than Paul Way, one of his team-mates.

He says: "When I took this job at Hollinwell in 1968, I decided my tournament days were over. I'd given it a go, playing about half the events each year, but I wasn't getting anywhere. So I said 'That's it—finished'."

Thrashed

But four quiet years later he was picked for the first PGA cup match against America and says: "We were thrashed so badly I decided I'd better get in some match practice in case I was chosen next time.

"That's the only reason I started playing in the odd tournament again. Almost by accident, really.

"My results improved, invitations started to come in and the whole thing just snowballed. I never planned it—I was happy enough in my shop.

"When I was a kid playing in Bolton, my home town, I didn't do a thing. My amateur career was a zero.

"Now here I am at my age in the Ryder Cup for the first time. I must be what they mean when they talk about late developers.

While Waites is away in the States this week, it will be business as usual back in his shop—with wife Margaret in charge.

"I owe a lot of it to her," he says.

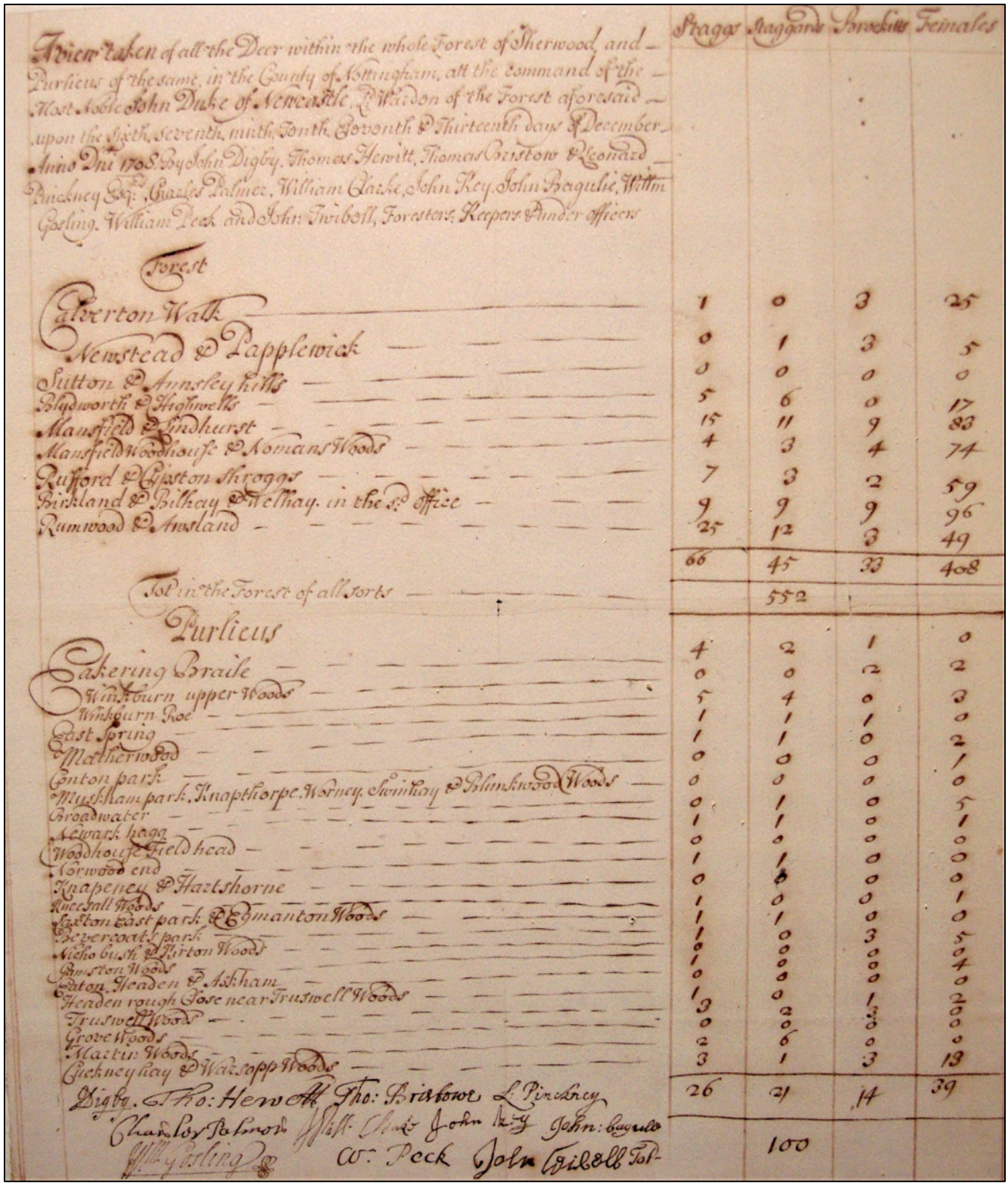
'I've won £42,825 . . . not a bad part-time job'

TONY JACKLIN . . . the non-playing captain

Hollinwell

The name Hollinwell is probably an abbreviation of 'Holy Leen well' which comes from the monks of Newstead Priory stopping there when they walked to and from Newstead Priory to Kirkby (it wasn't an Abbey then as it is named now having been founded by Henry II in 1170 as penance for the murder of Thomas Becket). It is the source of the River Leen.

1600 Sherwood Forest including the area of Hollinwell where there were few trees. The term Forest included large areas of scrub heath and heathland.



A View taken of all the Deer within the whole Forest of Sherwood and Purlieus of the same, in the County of Nottingham, att the Command of the Most Noble John Duke of Newcastle, Warden of the Forest aforesaid upon the Sixth, Seventh, ninth, Tenth, Eleventh & Thirteenth days of December Anno Dni 1708. By John Digby, Thomas Hewitt, Thomas Bristow & Leonard Pinckney Esqr: Charles Palmer, William Clarke, John Key, John Beaulie, Willm Gosling, William Peck and John Thribell, Foresters, Keepers & Under officers

Forest	Stragr	Staggard	Sorrells	Females
Calverton Walk	1	0	3	25
Newstead & Papplewick	0	1	3	5
Sutton & Annesley hills	0	0	0	0
Blidworth & Highwells	5	6	0	17
Mansfield & Lindhurst	15	11	9	83
Mansfield Woodhouse & Nomans Woods	4	3	4	74
Rufford & Gaston Shrogs	7	3	2	59
Birkland & Bilhay & Welhay. in the s.d office	9	9	9	96
Rumwood & Ansland	25	12	3	49
	66	45	33	408
Tot in the Forest of all sorts		552		
Purlieus				
Sakering Braile	4	2	1	0
Winkburn upper Woods	0	0	2	2
Winkburn Roe	5	4	0	3
East Spring	1	1	1	0
Matherwood	1	1	0	2
Linton park	0	0	0	1
Muskham park, Knapthorpe, Worney, Shimhay & Plumkwood Woods	0	0	0	0
Broadwater	0	1	0	5
Newark haga	1	1	0	1
Woodhouse Field head	1	0	0	0
Norwood end	1	1	0	0
Knapeney & Hartshorne	0	0	0	0
Kneesall Woods	1	0	0	1
Euston East park & Egmanton Woods	1	1	0	0
Bezercoat park	1	0	3	5
Nicho bush & Girton Woods	1	0	0	0
Gamston Woods	1	0	0	4
Eaton, Headen & Askham	0	0	0	0
Headen rough Close near Truswell Woods	1	0	1	2
Truswell Wood	3	2	3	2
Grove Woods	0	0	0	0
Martin Woods	2	6	0	0
Cuckney hay & Warsopp Woods	3	1	3	13
	26	21	14	39
		100		

Digby. Tho: Hewitt Tho: Bristowe L. Pinckney
Charles Palmer Wm. Clarke John Key John: Beaulie
Wm. Gosling Wm: Peck John Thribell Fost-

1708 Inventory of Deer in Sherwood Forest. Note none in Sutton & Annesley Hills and few in Newstead & Papplewick.

John Speed 1610 'Countie of Nottingham'

Note how few trees there were around Hollinwell.

1724 Map by Herman Moll.

The first record of the spring may be in 1445-6 where there is mention of '…. in waste lands of Kygill and Ravenshead…. beneath Kyrkeby Clyffs…. the felling of trees…. fully of said 40 acres, for the salvation of the spryng' (63).

The maps of the land that Newstead Priory owned from 1170 onwards have never included the area that includes Hollinwell, and its parish boundary lies South of Hollinwell. The maps of Robert Morden 1650-1703, and Moll H. 1724, show no evidence of a spring in the area. A map by Bankes R. (64), shows a pond at the origin of the river Leen but it is unnamed.

In 1774 John Chapman printed a map that named Mosley Spring & Leen Head (above) as did one by John Carey in 1793. It was only in 1836 and the first ordnance survey map that the name Hollinwell appears, and it is separate from Mosley Spring & Leen Head which is marked and named. Another map in the same year by George Sanderson clearly names it as ‘Hollin well’.

1836 Map of 'Hollin well'
(white arrow) by Geo Sanderson.

The freshwater spring of Hollinwell emanates from a crack in the sandstone and it is now framed by blocks of the same stone. Springs also exist around the 8th tee extruding through sand. It is not known who placed the uncemented sandstone blocks around the well, but it is likely that they were placed in the 18th century (personal correspondence: RB Parish's author of "Holy Wells and healing springs of Nottinghamshire" as in the Victorian period it was popular to use pulhamite, rather than sandstone).

The sandstone blocks were present in the late 1800s when it was overgrown.

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HOLLINWELL

Caddies

This précis offers a social history over the years, touching on class division with a smattering of benevolence.

The word Caddie derives from the French word 'le cadet', meaning 'the boy' or the youngest of the family. The word 'cadet' appears in English from 1610 and the word 'caddie' or 'cadie' shortly after that in 1634. A Cady, Caddy, Cadie or Caddie became used for a general-purpose porter or errand boy in Scottish towns in the 18th Century, particularly used for delivering water in the days before modern utilities. They were formed into a society in Edinburgh in 1711, with self-imposed rules and published fees. Caddies are often mentioned in texts as carrying golf clubs, but it was not until 1857 that the Dictionary ascribes its use to those carrying golf clubs. In the early days there were no bags until the early 1890s, and the clubs were carried in a bundle.

1896 Harry Vardon at Bulwell Forest.
Tom Williamson caddying for Ben Sayers.

1883 Registered caddies 1st class paid 4p/round

Tom Williamson was the first caddie at Bulwell Forest in 1887 at seven years of age (65). “In those days there were no such things as sand boxes, hole tins, caddie bags, etc. and caddies had to carry wet sand in their pockets. Those players without caddies had to take a pinch (of sand) out of the hole on the putting green, and sometimes the holes became quite a foot deep.”

Caddies at Hollinwell

1890 Proposed that the committee be authorised to give good conduct badges to caddies who may be recommended by members. A letter was received from J Spyor, Coventry Road Board School, listing the names of boys who were truant on Thursdays. It was agreed to register caddies who could produce evidence that they were not obliged to go to school.

Some Caddies and how some of their careers developed:

Fred White. He lost a leg working in a lace factory and became Tom Williamson's first assistant. He took off his false leg and put it in his locker and go to the first tee on his crutches. He was a single figure golfer and became managing director of a large clay pot manufacturer, Sankey's of Bulwell.

Jimmy Cantrell was a scratch golfer and centre forward for Notts. County and England.

C Pilkington, a deaf and dumb man who worked for 40 years for Tom taking the train from Bulwell common. He caddied for Mr. William Hollins of Pleasley Hall and 'Viyella'. He was off scratch.

Wilfrid Reid was born in Bulwell in 1884, he was scratch at 15, became the professional at 17 at La Boulie GC, Versailles then moved to Banstead Downes. He came 4th in the 1916 US Open, and he won the Michigan PGA Championship in 1926.

Wilfrid Reid
1904.

Wilfid Reid's mentors were Tom Williamson and Harry Vardon and in 1913 he went with Vardon and Ted Ray to play in several tournaments. He became professional at Seaview GC, New Jersey then the Country Club, Detroit, then Grosse Point Farms, Michigan, then Beverley Country Club, Chicago then Broadmoor GC, Colorado, then Semilone, North Palm Beach, then Atlantic City GC, New York, then Wilmington Country Club, Delaware.

Wilfrid Reid
1926.

1891 *“Members are requested to engage caddies only at the clubhouse, and to see that those engaged hold the ticket issued by the club."*

1893 Registered caddies. A first-class caddie charged 4d a round, the same as a decade earlier, whereas they could earn 1s 10d in a coal mine per day.

1895 A caddie shelter was built for £25.

1897 Insufficient number of caddies to employ a caddie master but they need to be registered and have a number - Tom Williamson's duty.

1898 The caddies were in open revolt about their remuneration. They tore up flags and refused to carry when Tom Williamson was away in Scotland. Punishment was agreed by the committee that varied from dismissal to being degraded to 2nd class. After this, caddies were engaged through the professional.

1899 The first full-time caddie master was appointed. Twenty shillings was allocated by the committee to Dr. Neilson to pay for medical expenses when one of the caddies was ill.

1890 Caddies were looked after by the club with sports days, a library, allotments and they were encouraged to attend evening classes.

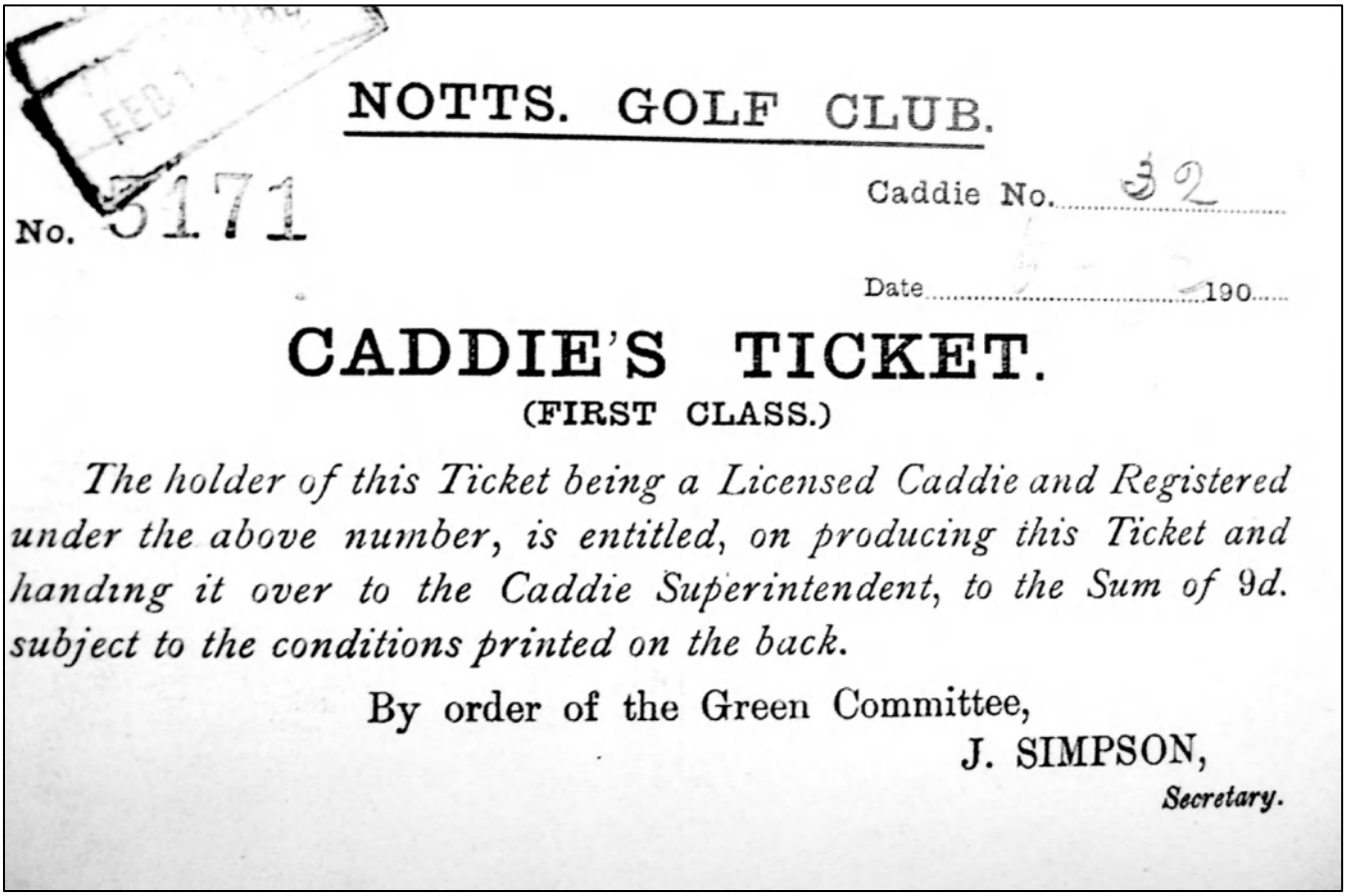
4.12.1901 Caddies 9p/round. 1p was the caddie master's commission. 2nd round 1/2p per hole. Given a 3p lunch check if more than one round.

Photos taken around this time show most players with a caddie.

18.3.1903 Letter to the Station Master, Bulwell
Dear Sir, My committee are about to introduce regulations as to the lads who carry clubs for members and are going to keep a register of competent lads, issue badges to them.
We are endeavouring to get members to engage caddies at the pavilion only and thus do away with the crowd of lads at your station. I should be glad to know whether we might be permitted to affix a noticeboard near the gate at the level-crossing in your station requesting members who alight at Bulwell to refrain from engaging caddies at any place but the pavilion?

1905 Caddies' tea mugs should be kept in the shop and only handed to them in return for their 'ticket' and if it was not returned, they would be fined. "…it was decided that under no circumstance must a caddie be bespoken or reserved for any player". A complaint from a member, Mr. Turpin, that the allotment of caddies contravened regulations (was done with favouritism) was found to have no foundation.

1904 The pavilion was enlarged at a cost of £500 and a building for the caddies, a further £300.



NOTTS. GOLF CLUB.

No. 5171

Caddie No. 32

Date ..... 190....

CADDIE'S TICKET.

(FIRST CLASS.)

The holder of this Ticket being a Licensed Caddie and Registered under the above number, is entitled, on producing this Ticket and handing it over to the Caddie Superintendent, to the Sum of 9d. subject to the conditions printed on the back.

By order of the Green Committee,

J. SIMPSON,

Secretary.

Caddie's ticket issued by JA Simpson (1903-7 Honorary Secretary).

Caddies were expected to know the names of the clubs and make a tee from moist sand kept in the tee boxes or their pocket.

1907 Thirty-three caddies on the register. A prize fund of £7 for their competition…had a substantial tea and there was a scramble for silver and coppers in the bracken. Tom Williamson wrote to the committee asking for them to be paid 1 shilling a round. This was adopted with 1d to the caddie-master, but their free tea was abolished.

1908 'Nottingham Guardian' (66)

Caddies Sport at Hollinwell

Yesterday the caddies at Hollinwell had their annual sports, prizes for which are subscribed for by the members of Notts Golf Club. The boys look forward to the day with considerable pleasure, for the general run of things is reversed, and they are for the time masters of the situation, various members of the club attending to their wants….

C Pilkington

He worked in Tom Williamson's workshop and caddied for forty years. He was deaf and unable to speak. He played off scratch.

12.8.1908 During the interval between competitions tea was served in the club house and on the verandah, and here again the members of the club who were present were assiduous in attending to the wants of the caddies.

1910 Over the year £770 17s 6d was paid to caddies. 10,592 players had caddies that year. At the annual dinner the Captain, James Foreman said *"The life of a caddie in some cases was undisciplined, owing to the long spells of idleness, and it was desirable to consider whether anything could be done to improve the prospects of a class who were useful and necessary. The Notts. Club did not engage them after attaining the age of sixteen….might the club make a point of ascertaining from the caddie master information about boys anxious to learn a trade and assist them in that direction"*.
In an extract from The Golf Courses of Great Britain by Bernard Darwin (27) *The southern caddie's simple and natural method of cleaning a ball is not here to be recommended (cleaning them with their mouth because there was so much soot)"*. At one point the caddies were insubordinate and Tom Williamson was commended by the committee as to how he dealt with them. A caddie's room 25ft x 17 ft was erected out of brick with a granolithic floor adjoining the professional's shop (it was felt that it would be set on fire if made of wood!) Seats were fixed to the walls. Adjoining it was an earth closet, all together at a cost of £719.

1911 A new caddie master, Sgt. W Wells, was appointed and operated from his own hut.
New rules for caddies: All caddies specially engaged for club matches, and who are in attendance all day, will be guaranteed two rounds. That is the caddie master will pay them for a second round, or part of it, on behalf of the club, even if the player does not require them for more than one round. Caddies carrying for more than one person: He is entitled to be paid one and a half times the usual fee, 1/6d per round. The caddies must be discharged within 30 minutes of the completion of the round or be paid at the rate of 3d per half hour, or part of same, unless a second round or part of it followed. When a caddie ticket is taken and paid for to the caddie master, no money can be refunded in the event of a caddie not being taken out on account of bad weather or similar causes. A caddie round consists of 18 holes and must be continuous. If broken by an interval or lunch, tea etc… a new round must be started on resuming play. This rule does not apply to sheltering on the course.

Mrs. Hollins of Berry Hill presented 24 books for the caddies' library. The committee received a request from the Newstead Estate that stiles be placed in the fences adjoining 6th, 11th and 12th (current 8th 10th and 11th) to help them retrieve balls. The assistant caddie-master Mr. Stubbs had been absent for some time with no knowledge of the date of his return. The committee decreed that *“birds and their eggs and nests must not be destroyed, taken or molested”*.

1911 'Nottingham Guardian' (67)

Caddies Sports at Hollinwell

A substantial tea was provided on the lawn in front of the pavilion, and subsequently the caddies scrambled for three penny pieces which Tom Williamson had hidden in the grass. Driving competition, putting competition, flat race, wheelbarrow race, ball and spoon race, three-legged race, sack race, leap-frog race, marathon race (¾ mile).

1912 'Nottingham Guardian' (68)

Notts Club Dinner

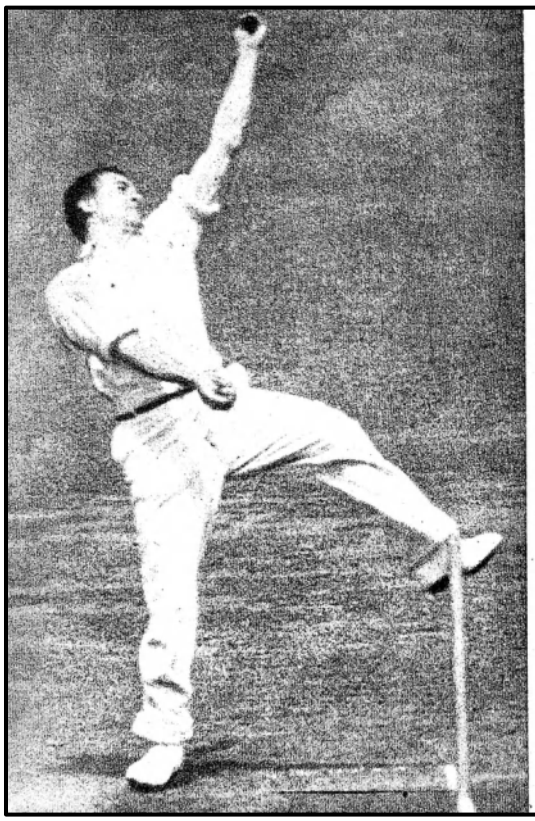
"Professional Caddies ought to be abolished" Mr. Trevor Jones (Loughborough) proposed the toast and after some humour said with some earnestness that professional caddies should be abolished as they usually developed into a wastrel.

Mr. H Russell, the captain replied saying that three new holes were to be completed to make a 6,295-yard course.

1912 The caddies' aid association asked for support and were given ground between the professional’s shop and the railway line along with 5 shillings raised for tools.

With the National Insurance Act, caddies over 16 were only engaged if they showed an insurance card showing payment had already been made during that week.

1912 Harold Larwood of ‘bodyline’ was dismissed as a caddie by Tom Williamson for bad behaviour.



1933 Fuss over Larwood's Leg-Theory

JANUARY 17, 1933

By HOWARD MARSHALL

The latest development in the series of incidents which has marred the third Test match at Adelaide is the news that members of the Australian Board of Control have been officially asked their opinion of the leg-theory tactics by the English bowlers.

There is nothing new in the leg-theory, as we know it, and F. R. Foster exploited it many years ago in Australia. It simply means bowling at the leg stumps with a ring of fielders close in on the leg-side, a familiar method of attack to which no reasonable exception can be taken. It is true that when a bowler adopts it, a certain proportion of his deliveries must be directed at the batsman, who naturally moves across his wicket in playing strokes on the leg side.

The Australian critics, however, place a new interpretation on English leg-theory tactics. They maintain apparently that the English bowlers, and Larwood in particular, are deliberately aiming, not at the leg-stump, but at the batsman's body.

We may argue, though we do not complain about it, that when Gregory and Macdonald were over here with the Australians they bumped the ball alarmingly, but there is a distinction. Gregory and Macdonald were bowling to four slips, whereas Larwood has four short legs, and there is no denying the fact that Larwood, who does not bump the ball, but causes it to rise breast high, must be a dangerous bowler when he employs these tactics.

An unfortunate incident marred today's play. Oldfield was accidentally hit on the temple by a fast ball from Larwood, and had to retire. X-ray examination of the injury shows a linear fracture of the right frontal bone involving the outer table only.

Harold Larwood, the Nottinghamshire fast bowler, in action.

1912 10,435 tickets sold for a total of £737.7s. The new caddie master was Sergeant Major JH Herrod. The Notts Education Authority suggests that boys who leave school at 13 by means of a total exemption certificate, should only be allowed to caddie if they attended evening school. The caddies used to catch the crows, and on Saturdays and they would leave the dead crows outside the clubhouse so that members could take them home. Their white breast meat was tender and slightly sweet.

1913 £5 raised to encourage caddies to attend evening classes (later reported 16 had attended over 85% of classes). 10,635 players were supplied with caddies that year.

19.3.1914 No member or visitor is to engage a caddie except through the caddie master, and payment must be made at the time, both caddies' fee and the booking fee.

Terms of engagement of Caddie Master on the links:
From 9 until the last caddie is off the premises, every weekday, with reasonable time for meals.
The caddie master is under the control and direction of Tom Williamson, and subject to the discharge of his duties above referred to, is to assist Tom Williamson. This applies more particularly when, owing to the links being closed to play, there are no caddies to look after. The books are to be balanced up at the end of every week, and the balance, (being the amount of the booking fee for the week), is to be paid over to Tom Williamson.
The caddie master is responsible for the boys' shelter and conveniences being kept in good order and condition; they should be inspected at the commencement and close of each day. From time to time the caddie master should walk around amongst the boys not employed and see they are not trespassing or damaging fences.
To instruct the boys in their duties, see they know the names of different clubs, how to make tees, etc…The caddie master is expected to live in Kirkby and do what he can to secure attendance from time to time of a sufficient number of suitable boys to act as caddie.

19.3.1914 ...Boys under obligation to attend school must not be employed when they ought to be at school.
The caddie master is expected to secure orderly conduct and good behaviour on the part of the boys, both at the links and in coming and going, and to manage this in such a way as not to discourage boys from coming to act as a caddie.
The caddie master keeps a register of the boys, issues tickets for their employment, receives the money thereof, and pays the boys. Payment must be made to the boys every day, of the amount due for the day.

1914 Colour Sergeant F Simpson appointed new caddie master (The secretary had asked the Sherwood Foresters for someone with a rank not less than Sergeant Major but there was nobody available). He was then called up in September (his job was left open for him on his return). Provision was made for payment of some compensation to regular caddies when employment was not obtained …. if present and available for engagement on any day by the 11am or 12.15 train and not getting work… be paid 6d.

1915 A dearth of caddies because of the first World War, caddies were allocated by 'lot'.

1.10.1915 Classes for caddies at Kirkby Woodhouse Evening School.

1918 A shortage of caddies meant a four-ball match was not entitled to more than two caddies.

1919 Renewed the custom of entertaining the caddies and 62 sat down to tea, administered by John Player, Stanley Bright and Tom Williamson.

1921 All clubs had to be checked by the caddie master at the end of the round. Fred Williamson, Tom's son aged 12, said that it was his ambition to caddie for Mr. John Player, which he did. He caddied for two rounds most Saturdays and in the week during school holidays for 1 shilling per round, but he was given 4 shillings and saved up for a gold watch.

Fred Williamson recalls that caddies tossed a coin to see who would hold the pin on the 7th hole as the unlucky one would not have time to take a drink from the spring. Fred went to work at a hosiery factory of Cooper & Roe at Eagle works.

1922 £852 paid to caddies with nearly 12,000 tickets issued.

1923 No caddies employed during the smallpox outbreak in Kirkby.

1923 Fred Williamson caddied for his father at Hoylake. The first prize was £100 which Walter Hagen won and gave to his caddie.

1925 Golf allowed on Sundays and caddies over 18 could be employed or personal servants.

1925 'Nottingham Guardian' (69)
Annual General Meeting held at the Nottingham Exchange …moved a resolution in favour of caddies of 16 years of age and over not being engaged… The motion was defeated by a large majority. …the vocation of a caddie was somewhat of a loafing life, and it was argued that in these days of extreme opinions the best means of countering pernicious influences was through the Sunday Schools and various similar institutions. He appealed to the members to make some sacrifice, in the interest of the lads and to the club as the premier golf club in the district, to set a good example by not employing caddies on a Sunday… in the end it was agreed to extend the age limit to 18, and the resolution was finally approved by a large majority.

1926 Twenty-four capes provided for caddies.

1927 Six caddies were engaged to weed dandelions on the course.

1928 The Hon Sec was requested to warn the Caddie Master about his insobriety whilst on duty.

1932 Suggestion book *“There should be a minimum age for caddies. My boy today was 12 years of age and nothing more or less than a nuisance."*
Answer: *"Such a suggestion will not be entertained.”*

1933 14,500 tickets £1,238.1s.0p
A second caddie master appointed to cover Sundays to help Mr. White.

1935 New car park. Many caddies helped in the work. 16,000 tickets issued. Brazier purchased for caddies.

1936 …arrange with a local farmer to cut down a partition of rough ground left of No. 2 fairway with a reaper machine and to erect football posts for the use of caddies. There were no trees there then!

1937 If a caddie carried two bags, he would only give 4d not 8d of his earnings (1s 10d per round) to the caddie-master. A caddie brazier was purchased.

1938 Tom Williamson to oversee the caddies. Under the National Health & Employment Act they decided to continue to insure boys over 16.

1939 Tom Williamson took over the role when the caddie master joined up. Caddies employed to weed fairways.

1940 There were two classes of caddies, first class charged 5s and second class 3s 6d. Caddies were allowed to play on Sunday afternoons if there were practically no players out (only on the first four holes and then either on the 4th or 18th).

1942 Two caddies who were caught fighting were suspended.

1948 *"The caddies should form their own handicapping committee."* Mr. Morley, who had been a caddie for 25 years, wrote and asked if he could catch rabbits (granted as they were a problem).

1950 Tom Williamson died. Tom Bradley appointed as caddie master. Twelve mechanical caddies bought.

1960 Tom Bradley, a long-serving caddie master retired. See letter about being a caddie in the 1950s at the end of this section.

1962 1st class caddie 12s 6d, 2nd class 10s, third 6s per round.

1964 Caddies' competitions still running.

1968 The assistant professional took over the task as the number of caddies had reduced.

1969 Succession of caddie masters and Tom Bradley came out of retirement until 1978.

1972 Suggestion book: *"Now that fewer caddies are available, I suggest electric caddie cars are permitted by members who are not necessarily crippled but suffering from old age."*
Reply: *"The committee does not support that suggestion. Special cases will always be considered individually."*

Mr. JW Marshall appointed as caddie-master.

1973 The supply of sandwiches to the caddies was stopped.

1975 Agreed that caddies can play for 25p, but they must have carried once in the previous 7 days.

1978 Mr. JW Marshall died. Brian Waites, the professional took over responsibility for caddies. Various schemes were tried, a set of rules for caddies was drawn up by the secretary.

1981 *“Decline in standards and control of caddies”.*

1985 The caddy shed and toilet to the rear of the professional’s shop were in an appalling state.

1986 *“The standard of play amongst caddies is of concern”.*

1987 Caddies were described as an unorganised group hanging around the professional’s shop.

1989 £7 for a skilled caddie and £4 for juniors.

1995 Official caddy badges to be reintroduced.

The captain had received a letter about a caddy who had been in prison and was he a fit person to be a caddy. The secretary stated that his lack of personal hygiene and dress standards were more of a problem. It was the general view of the committee that if a debt to society had been paid by a prison sentence, the matter was ended.

1996 £10 for 18 holes (noted in minutes it had been so for four years).

Tom Williamson Putter.

The Tom Williamson putter was given to me by Mr. Derek Wigley a Hollinwell member in the summer of 1955 when after suffering a period of poor putting he purchased a new Golden Goose putter.
My brother Eric and I served as caddies during the 1950's.It was a most formative period of our young lives, as well as an insight into the social attitudes required.

I went on to a career as a professional Aerospace Engineer with Rolls Royce which took me to many parts of the world, whilst my brother graduated in Pharmacy and had a career in the pharmaceutical Industry.

There were a number of boys there who similarly went on to successful careers. One of our contemporaries was Dave Musgrave who went on to caddy for Sandy Lyle and Seve Ballesteros during their successful Major trophy winning years.

Life as a caddy was quite hard then. We had to get there early for when Tom Bradley, the caddy master, opened up the window to take down names. Often we had to wait 3-4hours, before we got a job, if at all, which was particularly hard in winter. In order to sustain ourselves, I recall, we used to queue up at the clubhouse kitchen door for a slice of bread and dripping for one penny(old money) and a mug of tea for tuppence halfpenny!

Caddying rates at the time were graded six shilling, eight shilling and ten shilling a round depending on experience and ability. In order to while away the time between jobs we caddies would often practice our own golf on the rough ground behind the clubhouse. It was this that led my brother to further develop his game which he maintains was the foundation of a fulfilling sporting as well as social life. Each year we both played in the Caddies Competition with some degree of success but never actually achieving a podium position!!

Life as a caddy improved for us when around 1955 we became regular caddies for Derek Wigley and Jim Harrison who were regular partners and always played at the same time, which was very convenient for us. We so enjoyed our rounds with them and their partners, some of whose photographs adorn the walls of the bar as former Captains. We were also fortunate in that whenever they played at other courses they often took us with them. I vividly remember trips to numerous other clubs in Derek Wigley's Jaguar and then his Jensen 541s sports coupe. My brother also has great memories of his time as a temporary groundsman during the 1957 Dunlop Masters, played at Hollinwell, when he was able to "rub shoulders" with the Golfing Greats of that time--Henry Cotton, Dai Rees, Peter Allis Christy O'Connor to name but a few. I was a caddie when Herbert Rhodes was the club Professional and I remember his shop window set out with Ben Hogan Club Sets with irons at around 67 shillings and sixpence each and woods at 4 pounds 12 shillings and sixpence each !! Those were the days when a driver was called a Driver a two wood was a Brassie and a three wood was a Spoon. Irons were named Jiggers, Mashies and Niblicks.

From the above ,you can see that Hollinwell played a significant part in my brother and my lives, something we will always be grateful for, and for that reason we are happy to return Tom Williamson's putter to a fitting and rightful resting place.

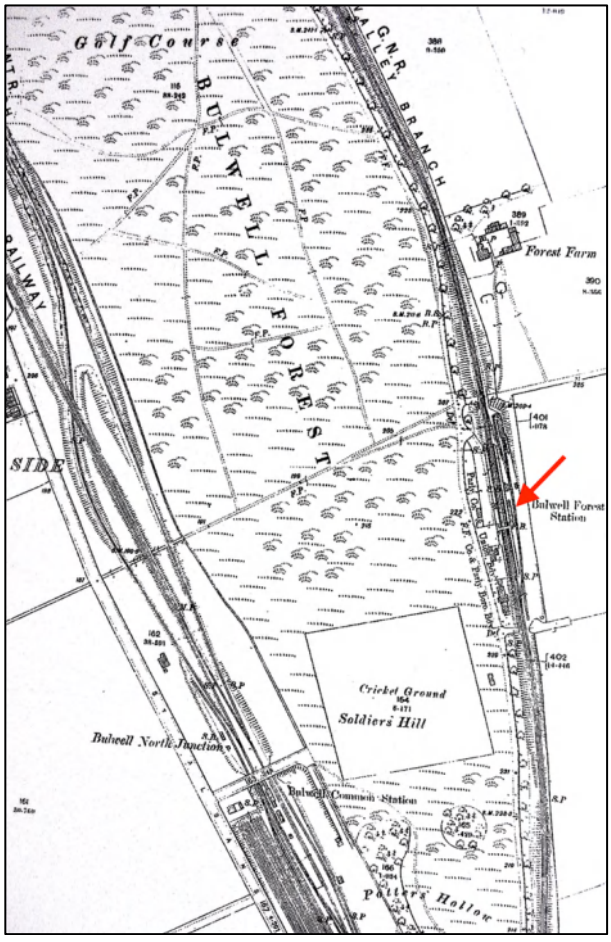
Two Hollinwell Caddies of yesteryear.

Ron and Eric Smith.

Ron & Eric Smith

The Railway and Notts. Golf Club

Notts. Golf Club has a long association with the railways starting from its beginning at Bulwell Forest where, Edmund Williamson, the stationmaster, allowed his house to be used for members to change their clothes and store clubs. Mrs. Williamson and their daughter provided teas and light refreshments. Their son, Tom Williamson, would become the club's professional for 54 years. The Bulwell course was surrounded by railway lines. Bulwell Forest Station (red arrow below) was on the Great Northern Railway line.

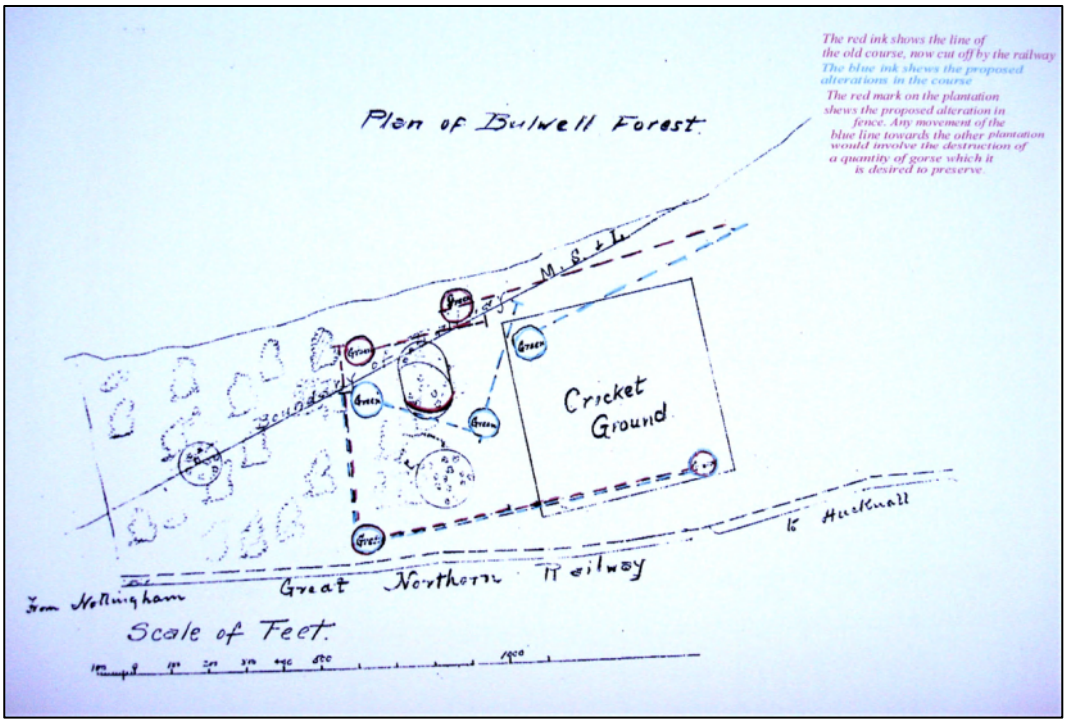


Bulwell Forest Station Master's House.

Above is where Edmund Williamson and his family lived, where members initially kept their clubs under the stairs, and changed in another room. Tom Williamson spent his childhood here from the age of four until he left home.

1950s Bulwell Forest Station looking north to the Great Northern Leen Valley line to Shirebrook.

In 1884 the railways took over much of the Ladies' part of the course.



In 1885 at the Annual General Meeting *"The formation of the line of the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincolnshire railway to London has caused the committee much anxiety…."*. Later that year the club received £65 because of the disturbance caused by the extension of the branch joining the Leen Valley Line. The Midland Great Northern Railway offered reduced fares to members travelling to play golf; First- and Third-Class tickets being issued at a quarter for the double journey from any station within a radius of 50 miles upon presenting a voucher signed by the Secretary of the Club. In 1987 The Midland Railway Company followed suit on the surrender of a voucher. This was after a lot of pestering and letter writing to the Railway Companies by the Hon. Secretary TG Mellors.

In 1899 CR Hemingway was contracting for a tunnel on behalf of the railway (Logan and Hemingway Civil Engineers) in part to extend the line from Annesley to East Leake which cost £684.451) when he noticed Kirkby Forest and the *"bleak and barren hills of Annesley admirably varied in character"*.
It could only be considered as a site for golf if a railway connection could be provided.

In his autobiography Nelson Bromley says that he and Mr. Ransom, a solicitor, coming from Mansfield by train pointed out of the train spotted the area and said, *"There you are!"* (He inferred that he discovered the site, but it is doubtful that this is the case). He also said that whilst staying in Newquay on holiday he met the chairman of LNE railway (it was the Great Northern then and later became the LNE railway) in the same hotel. He breached the question of providing a station if a golf course was made and claims these initiated discussions about the service to Hollinwell. However, it was the Great Central Railway or the Manchester, Sheffield and Leicester railway that stopped at Hollinwell and it seems improbable that this contact would have encouraged a competitor to build an adjacent line!
See next page for an explanation about the new line.

It is more likely that the award of Life Membership in 1900 (before the course had even opened) to the Vice-Chairman of The Great Central Railway Company, Mr. J Johnstone, in recognition of his help in providing the service to Hollinwell is more representative as to how the line passed nearby and the Hollinwell and Annesley station was built.

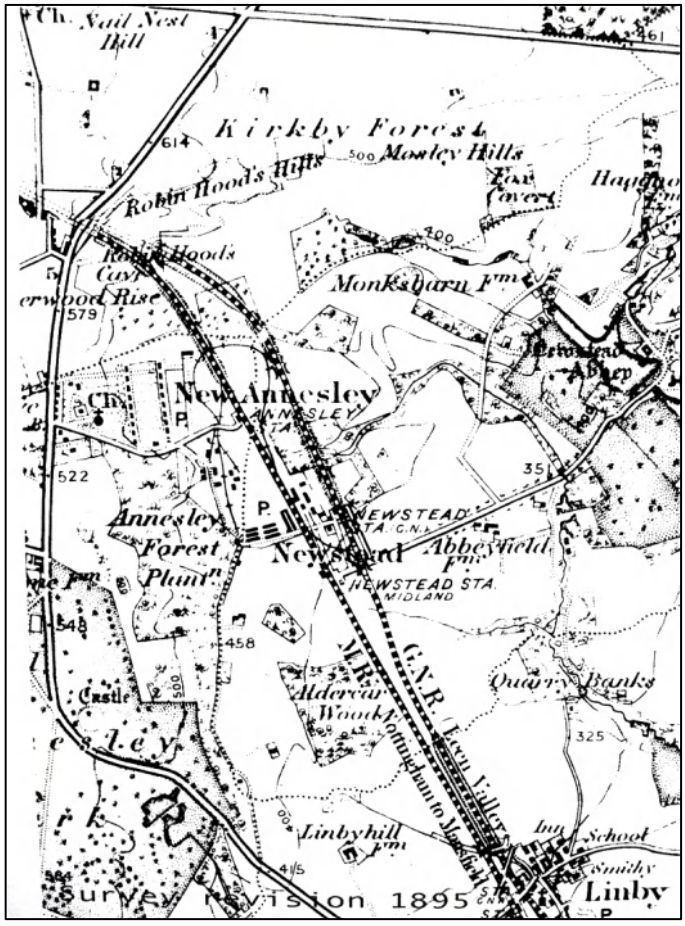
Of note Bulwell Common Station was built in 1899 possibly in part to 'pick up' Bulwell players as the train travelled from Nottingham north to Hollinwell (this was the new Great Central Railway line). The line was to be built whether Hollinwell was created or not as part of the plan by Edward Watkin to extend the line from Sheffield south.

The Bulwell Common Station after it closed.
It is now surrounded by houses.

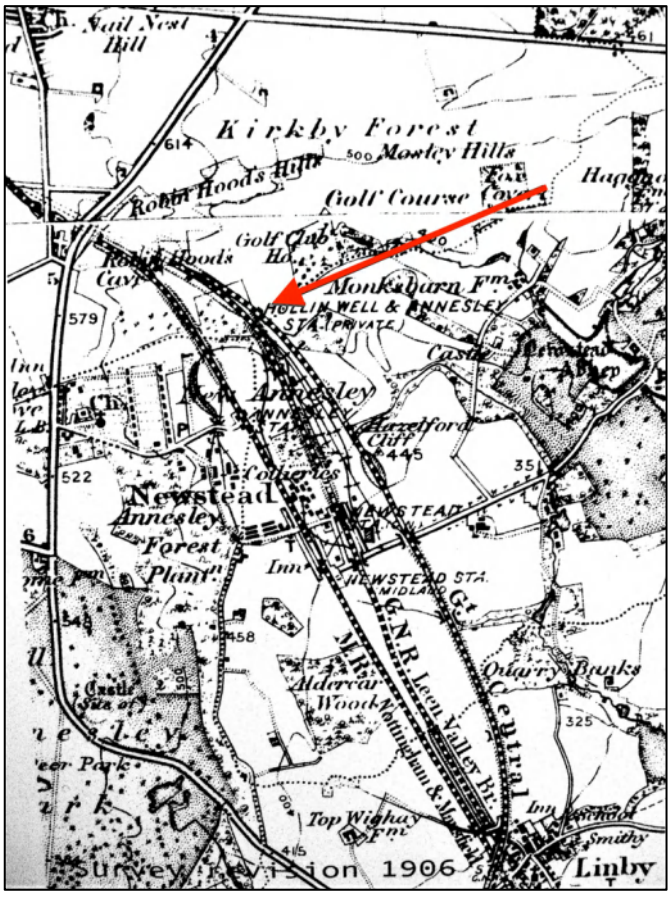
The line was an extension of what was known as the MS&L railway line until 1897 when the license for the new line was granted and the name changed to the Great Central Railway. It extended from Sheffield to Quainton Road, Buckinghamshire, and joined the Metropolitan line and onto and was planned to go through the channel tunnel (attempts at that time to build the tunnel failed). A wider loading gauge (Berne) was used as it was hoped to connect with the continent.

1900 'Nottingham Guardian' by ‘Dormy’ (70)
“Willie Park had carefully surveyed the ground, staked out a course, and reported in terms of the highest praise on its suitability for golfing purposes. The Great Central Railway have undertaken to provide a station within minutes’ walk of the course, conditional on the guarantee of receipts amounting £200 a year.”

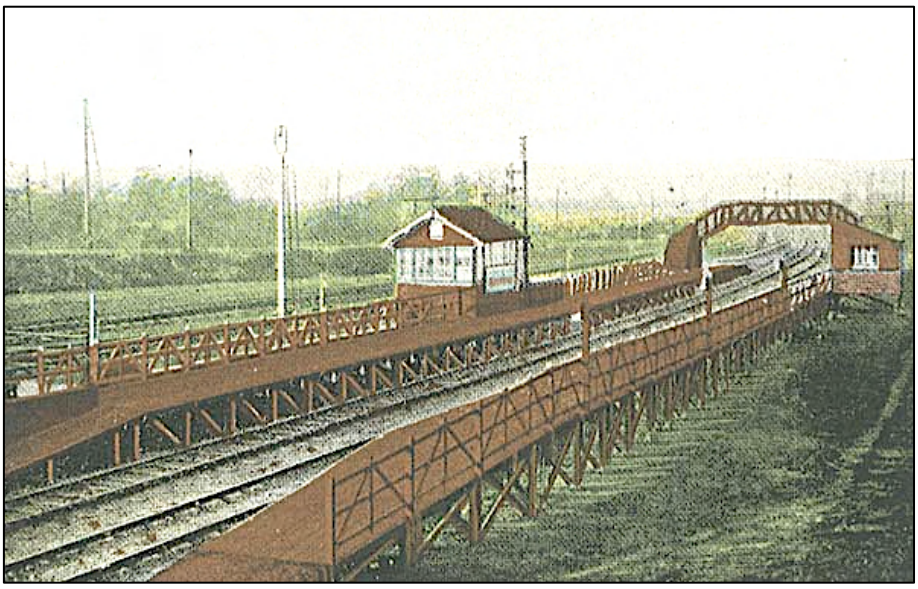
A station along with a branch line was built 500 yards from the clubhouse on condition that receipts of a minimum of £200 a year were received (see next page for 1885 and 1906 Maps of Railway lines that show the new branch and station).



1885



1906 map with the new line and station



Hollinwell & Annesley Station.

1901 The 'Herpath's Railway Journal' (71) reported that the Great Central Railway Company were to erect the ‘Hollinwell and Annesley Station’ which would open on 1st November. It would cost £900.
It was on the line between Hucknall Central (not Hucknall Town) and Kirkby & Pinxton (later renamed Kirkby Bentinck).
Hucknall Town was on the Great Northern Line of the Leen Valley.
The Hollinwell and Annesley station appeared in Bradshaw’s 1901 edition or Clinker’s Register with two trains a day in each direction and whilst it may have been intended as a public station, it was soon demoted to an un-timetabled station. It didn't have any road access for several years. The station was also known as ‘Hollinwell Golf Station’.

Hollinwell & Annesley Station.

1902 A telephone was installed between the station and the clubhouse.

18.3.1903 Letter to the Station Master, Bulwell

Dear Sir,

My committee are about to introduce regulations as to the lads who carry clubs for members and are going to keep a register of competent lads, issue badges to them.

We are endeavouring to get members to engage caddies at the pavilion only and thus do away with the crowd of lads at your station. I should be glad to know whether we might be permitted to affix a noticeboard near the gate at the level-crossing in your station requesting members who alight at Bulwell to refrain from engaging caddies at any place but the pavilion?

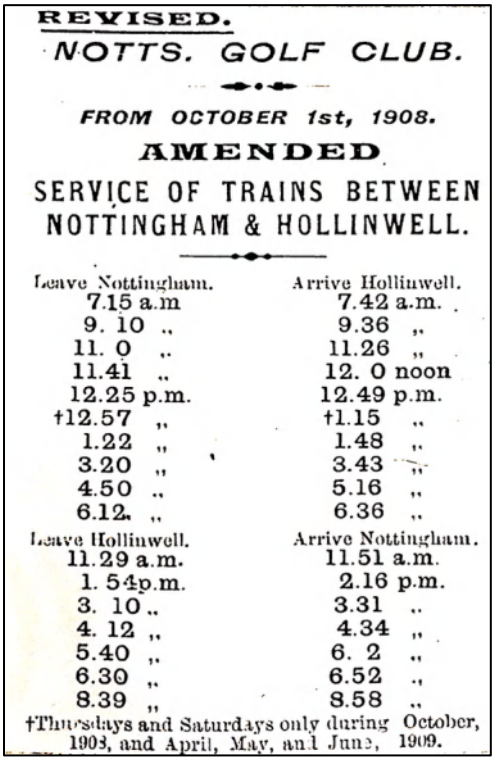
1903 The Great Central Railway Company carried 7,449 passengers to and from the course for £369.

1904 In bad weather the secretary or steward sent a telegram which was posted outside the Victoria station ticket office to say the course was closed. The Christmas box collected £2 for Railway servants at Victoria Station and £1 for the same at Hollinwell and Annesley Station, and 10 shillings for the guard on the 12.48pm train.

1905 Requested a train leave between 4.15 and 4.30 in winter months.

1906 10,730 rail journeys were made with receipts of £535.

1907 A larger shelter was provided on the platform. An electric bell was placed connecting the clubhouse and station.



REVISED.

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB.

FROM OCTOBER 1st, 1908.

AMENDED

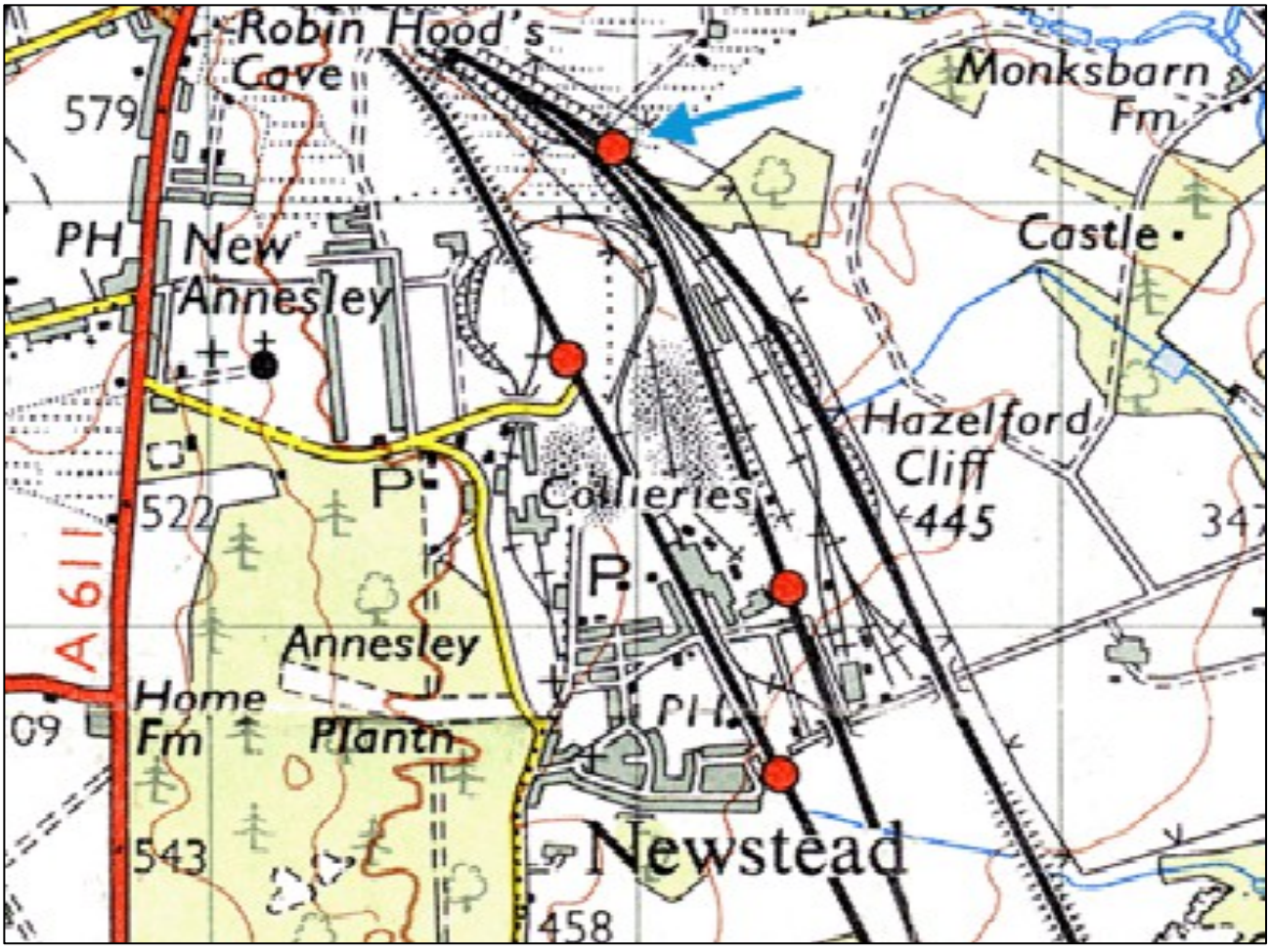
SERVICE OF TRAINS BETWEEN NOTTINGHAM & HOLLINWELL.

Leave Nottingham.	Arrive Hollinwell.
7.15 a.m	7.42 a.m.
9. 10 ,,	9.36 ,,
11. 0 ,,	11.26 ,,
11.41 ,,	12. 0 noon
12.25 p.m.	12.49 p.m.
†12.57 ,,	†1.15 ,,
1.22 ,,	1.48 ,,
3.20 ,,	3.43 ,,
4.50 ,,	5.16 ,,
6.12. ,,	6.36 ,,
Leave Hollinwell.	**Arrive Nottingham.**
11.29 a.m.	11.51 a.m.
1. 54p.m.	2.16 p.m.
3. 10 ,,	3.31 ,,
4. 12 ,,	4.34 ,,
5.40 ,,	6. 2 ,,
6.30 ,,	6.52 ,,
8.39 ,,	8.58 ,,

†Thursdays and Saturdays only during October, 1903, and April, May, and June, 1909.

1913 A letter was sent to the Great Central Railway Company asking *"Can you arrange that on Thursday 25th September the express train due to arrive at the Victoria station, Nottingham at 5.56pm and depart to Marylebone at 5.59 stops and picks up 3 of the professionals JH Taylor, J Braid and G Duncan (from Hollinwell) so that they can go to London on the train"*. There were 9,400 return journeys that year (The exhibition match was to take place in recognition of the new course).

1913 fewer golfers came by train because of the coal strike (10,393 passengers).



Blue arrow: Hollinwell & Annesley Station.

1922 There was a workman’s train that ran between Bulwell Common and Annesley Yard on Newstead G.N. that was known as ‘Dido’ standing for 'day in day out'. Dido took railway men to and from Bulwell and Hucknall daily as the area was so isolated. During the 20s on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays the train had an additional upholstered coach for golfers (times were only posted on the working timetables) and it ran to Annesley North Junction and was also used by golfers. This stopped in around 1930 when the staff were transferred to the Great Northern route.

1927 Slow passenger trains could be stopped at the station.

1931 Three passenger services up the Leen Valley were seen as being unnecessary. Those on the Great Northern were withdrawn in 1931.

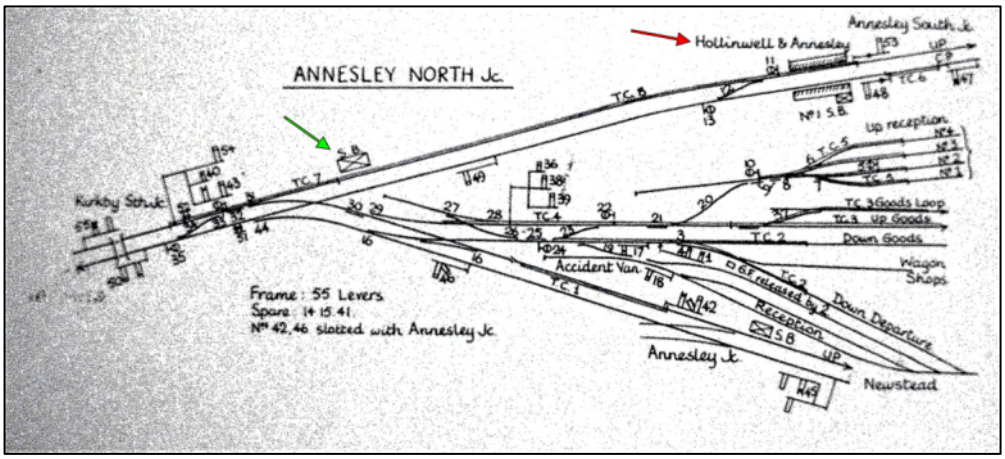
1942 During the Second World war a bus service started on Sundays because of a reduced rail service.

1947 LNER were approached to stop its trains at Hollinwell on Saturdays and Sundays because of the cessation of the basic petrol ration. Unfortunately, they offered a very limited service, so a bus was instigated by Barton’s transport.

1949 The decaying bridge at the station, through which Mr. SJ Pentecost had fallen, was repaired.

1956 Annesley North Junction signal box. See 'Railway cutting' diagram below.

Note golfers on the first green and the range shed in the background on the left by red arrows. The train is Dido (day in day out) but by now it no longer carried an extra coach for golfers.

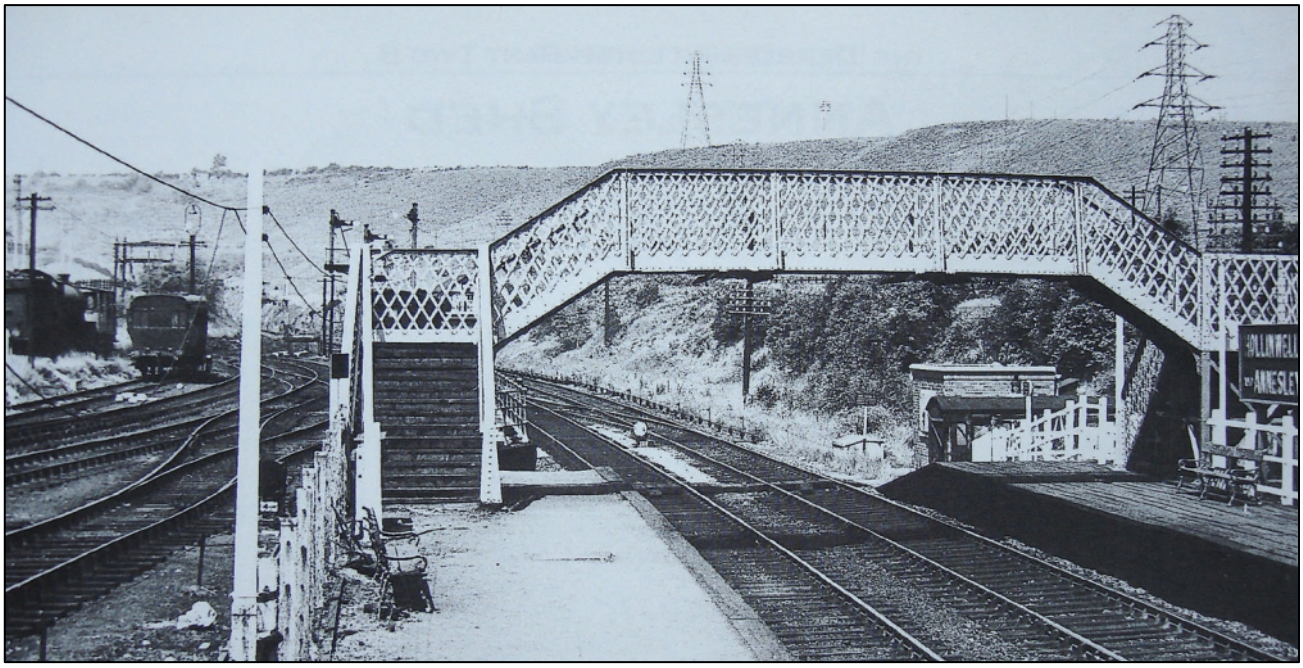


Annesley North Junction signal box in the photo above is positioned on the left (green arrow) and Hollinwell & Annesley station above right (red arrow).

1955 Hollinwell and Annesley station looking North.

1956 Annesley North junction box behind the train and Hollinwell & Annesley station and bridge in distance.

1958 Annesley tunnel just visible with Annesley North junction box on right, Robin Hood Hills in the background.

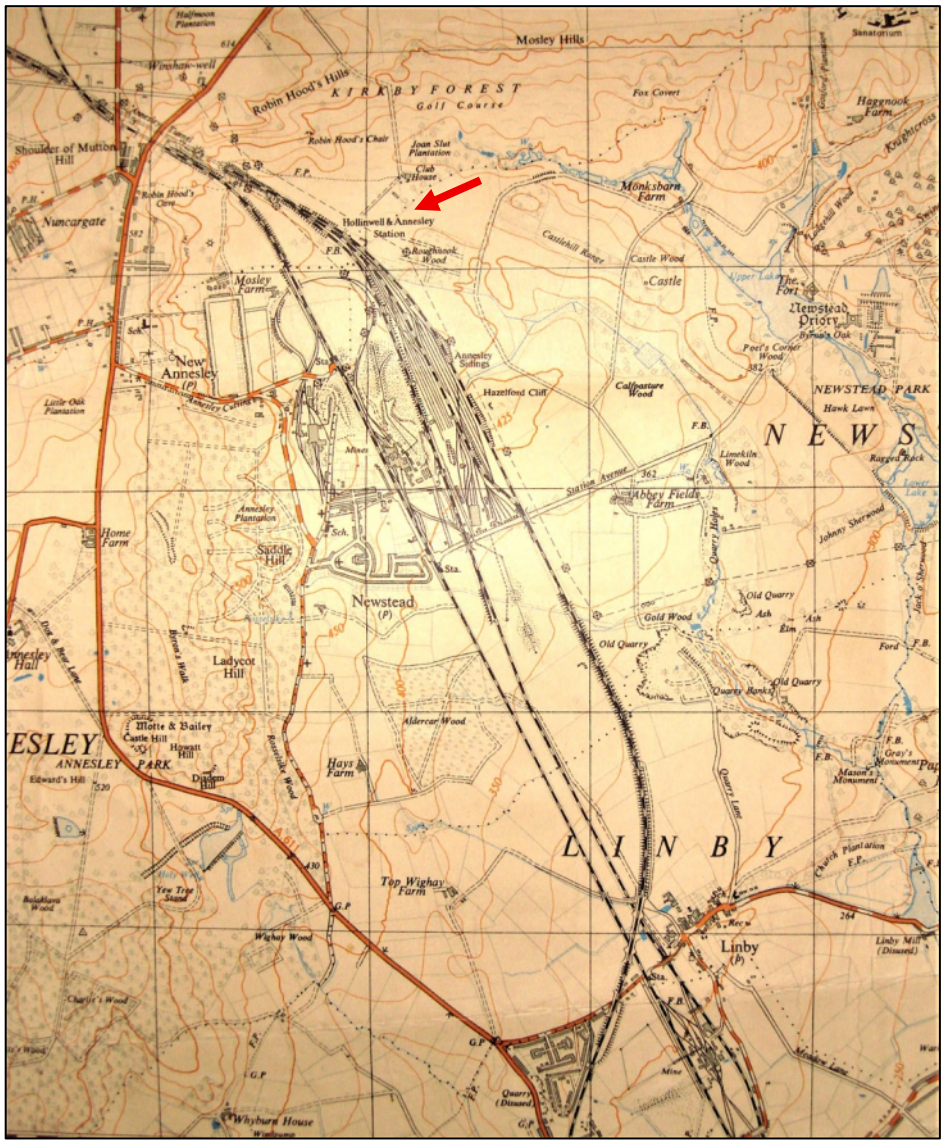


1958 Hollinwell & Annesley station with Robin Hood Hills in background.

1960 Ordinary passenger trains may be stopped at this station for enginemen or guards travelling on duty on instructions from the Nottingham District Council.

1962 Annesley and Hollinwell station closed.

1963 Two passenger services up the Leen Valley were unnecessary. Those on the Great Central were withdrawn in 1963 and the Midland in 1964. They lost out to cars because of speed. Coal traffic ceased in 1968, truncated at Annesley to save maintenance on the tunnels.



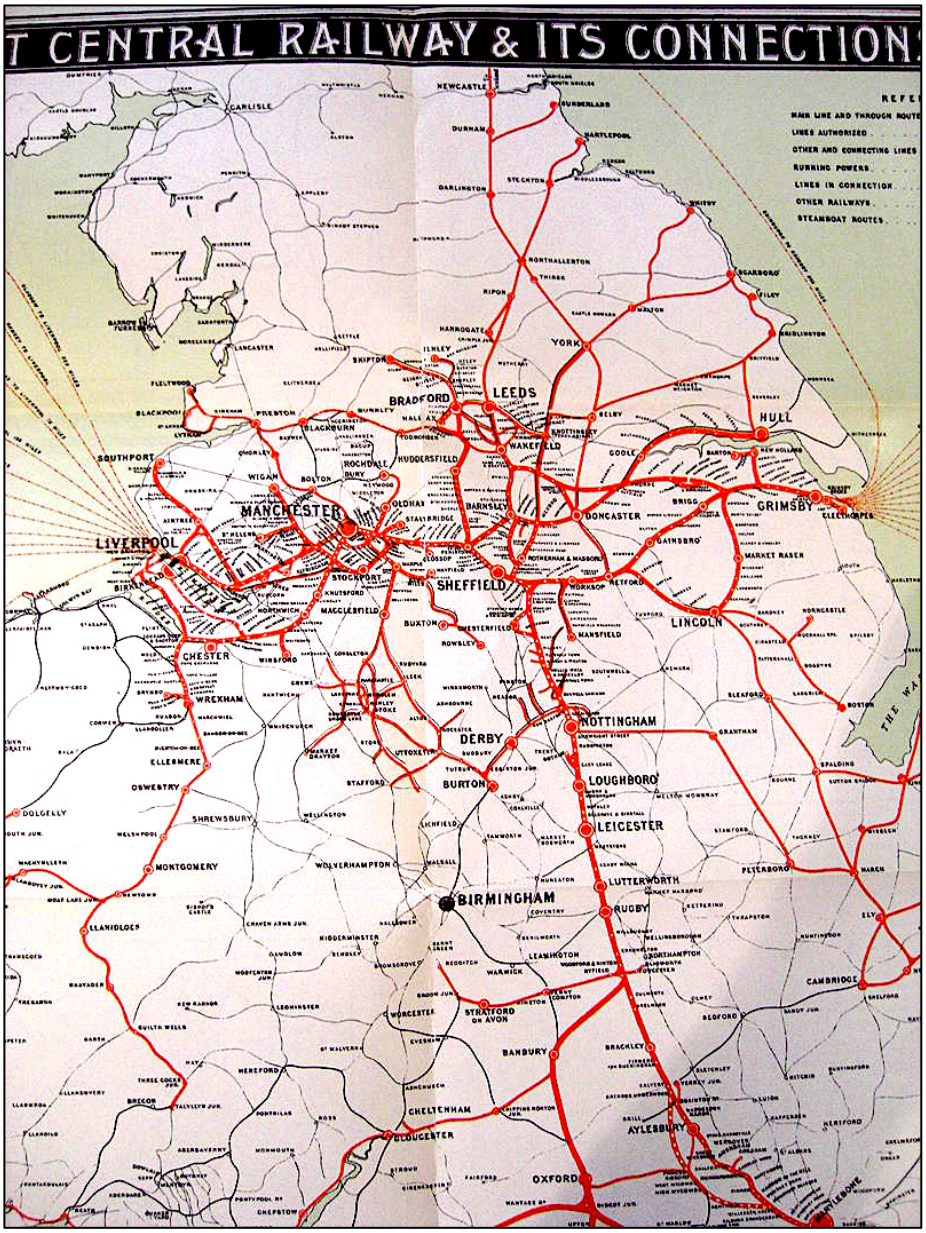
1982 A seat from the Victoria Station, Nottingham, was presented to the Club by Alistair Macdiarmid when the station was closed and now resides outside The Halt.

The Annesley Tunnel and its approach cuttings were gradually filled with spoil and refuse. On 27th October 1982, a meeting took place between the Railway Development Society and Mansfield District Council about the possibility of reinstating passenger trains to Mansfield. By 1988 prospects for the Nottinghamshire coalfield looked bleak and road traffic congestion was becoming a problem so Notts. County Council commissioned two studies. One by Leeds University concluded that there was a considerable demand for a rail service within a catchment area of 300,000 people; and the other study by British Rail concluded that the 140-year-old Kirkby Tunnel was in remarkably good condition. European money helped and in July 1990 an Act for the Newstead-Kirkby link was acquired by British Rail. The name Robin Hood Line was adopted, and a consortium of local authorities gave the final go-ahead a year later. The line was developed in stages: Nottingham-Newstead service opened on 17 May 1993 with a station at Hucknall. Bulwell station opened a year later. Passenger services were extended from Newstead to Mansfield Woodhouse on 20 November 1995 with new stations at Sutton Parkway, Mansfield and Mansfield Woodhouse.

1997 A payment of £53,000 to the Club was made for the loss of amenity because of the Robin Hood Railway line.

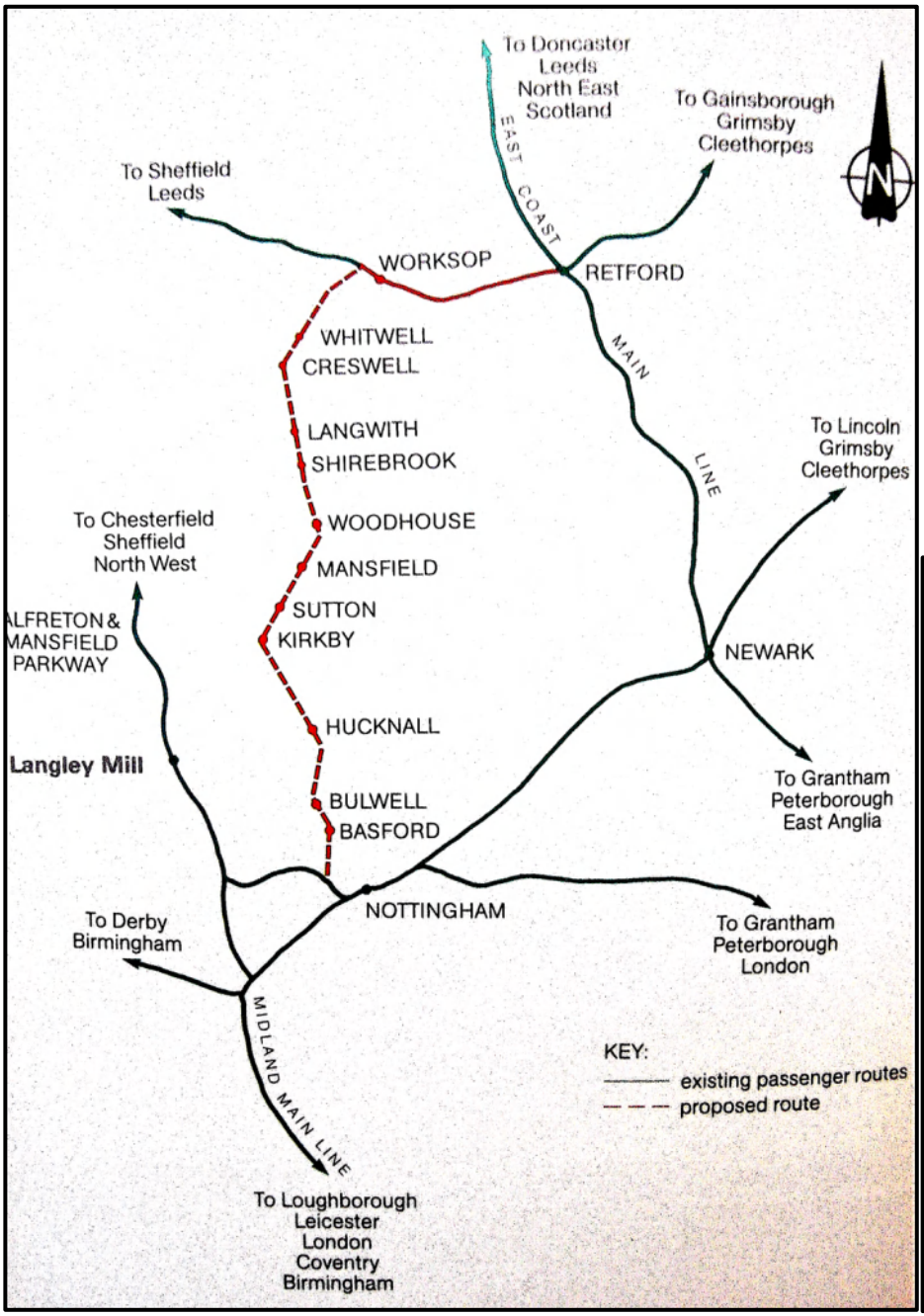
The sign ‘Hollinwell Halt’ that hangs at the halfway house by the 9th tee was used for a siding used for servicing trains near Annesley.

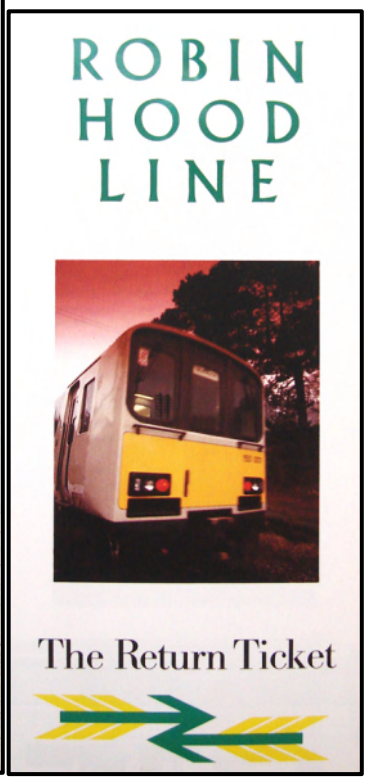
Kirkby station was added a year later. Mansfield Woodhouse to Worksop re-opened for passengers on 25 May 1998 with new stations at Shirebrook, Langwith-Whaley Thorns, Creswell and Whitwell.



Lines before the 1963 Beeching cuts.

1991 Annesley tunnel for the Robin Hood Line.





1993 Robin Hood Line.

Course Changes

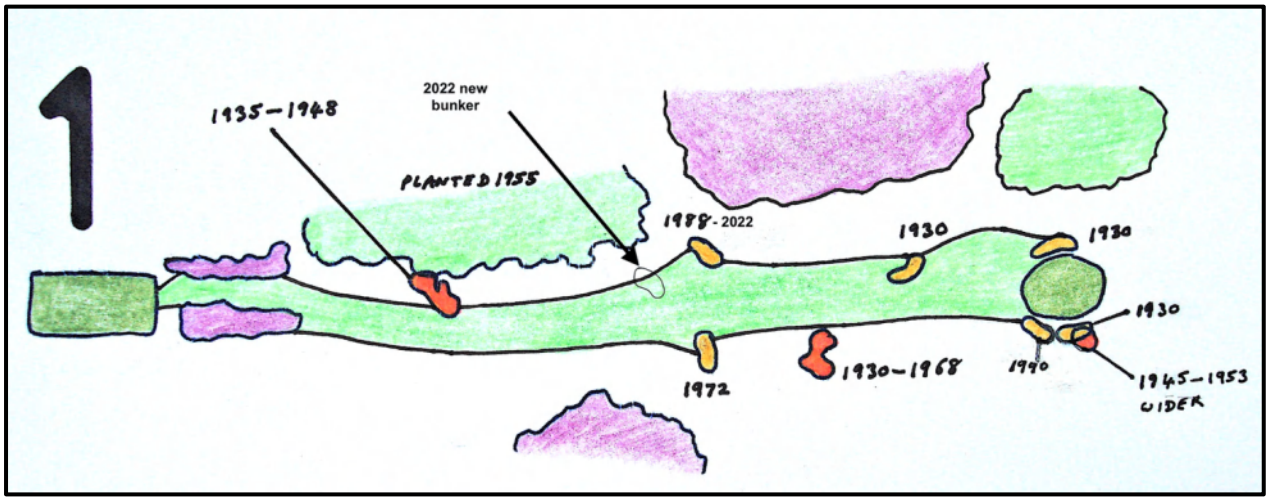
Year	Length	Bogey/SS	Points of interest
1901	5500		Original course
1902	6105	Bogey 81	Williamson and Taylor lengthen course
1905			Old course
1907		Bogey 79	
1909			
1913	6290	Bogey 78	First three holes of the New course formed
1914	6345	Bogey 78	
1931	6490	Bogey 77	FL Snook, amateur record
1932	6490	Bogey 77	
1933	6450	Bogey 75	Holes 4 and 12 made par 4s
1934	6720		News of the World Tournament
1935	6770		Course plan on main stairs
1947	6700		Lotus Professional Tournament
1957	6931	Bogey 74	Dunlop Masters
1963	6785	74	Scorecard Alan Bussell, amateur record
1965	6931	73	
1970	6931	72	John Player Classic
1974	6965	73	
1981	7020		
1982	7017	72	Haig Trophy, Tour Players Championship
1987	7020	72	72
1999	7030		
2018	7250		
2023	7300	CR 76.4	Slope rating 138

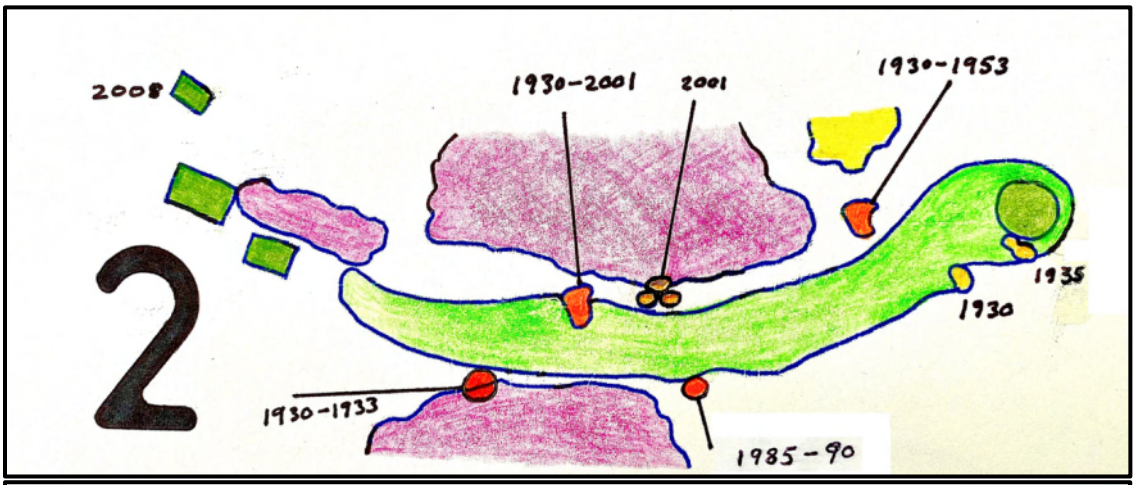
Lost Tees and Bunkers

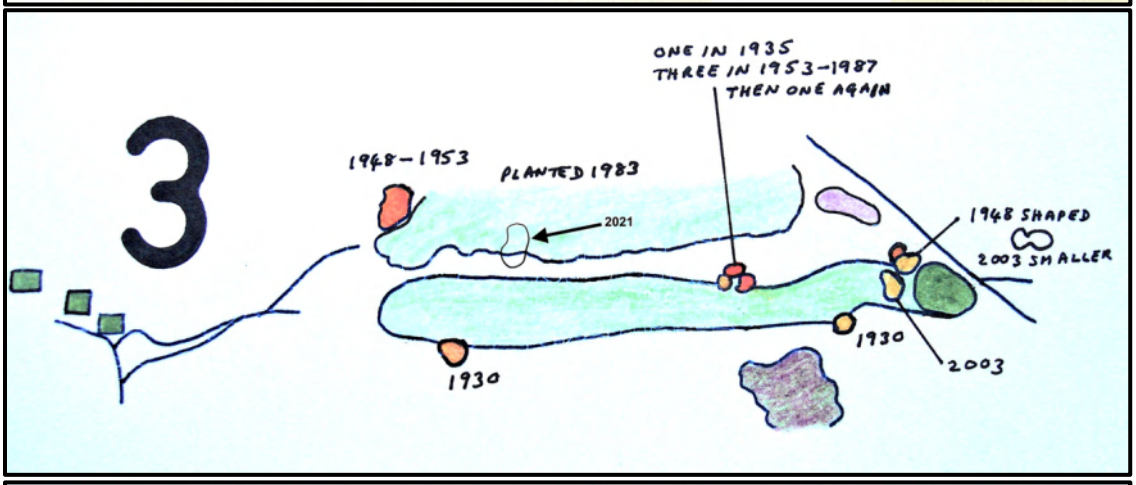
Most changes to the course occurred from 1902 to 1905 and in 1912 when Tom Williamson and JH Taylor were asked to lengthen the course to compensate for the Haskell ball. The length of the course continued to increase (see previous page) and tees were taken back and bunkers were moved forwards.

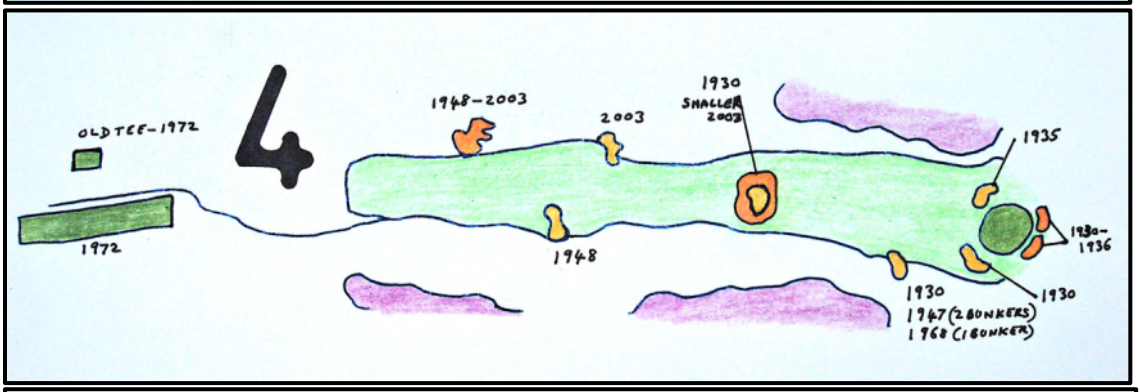
The following diagrams show where and when bunkers have been added. It also shows which bunkers have been removed (in orange so that they are easy to locate). Dates refer to where there is good evidence that a bunker was present so they may have been present at an earlier date or existed after the later date used. Where there is only one date by the bunker it is still present, and it is coloured yellow.

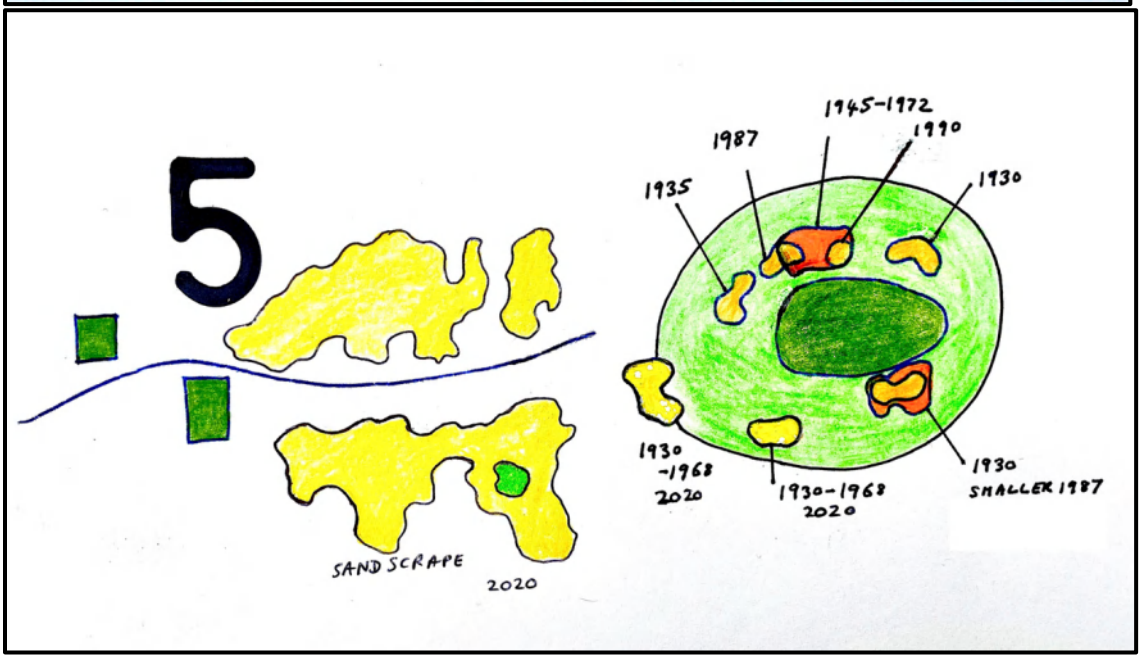
This section ends with photographs where evidence remains of past bunkers and tees that are easily missed when playing the course.

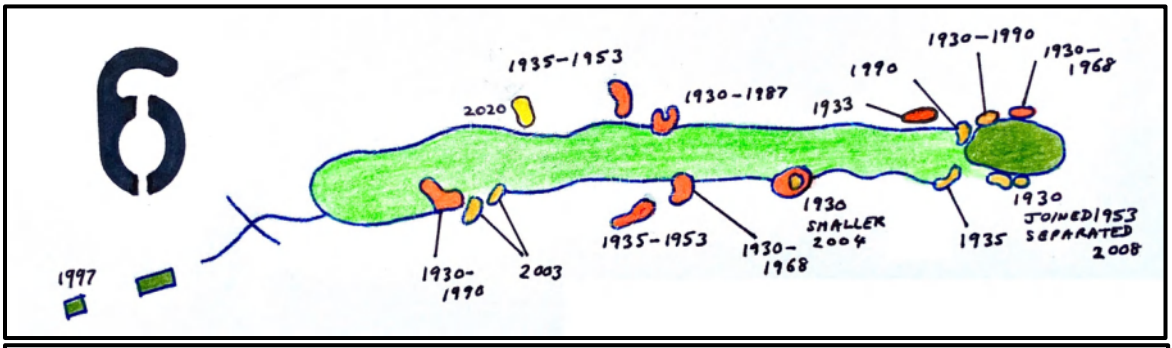


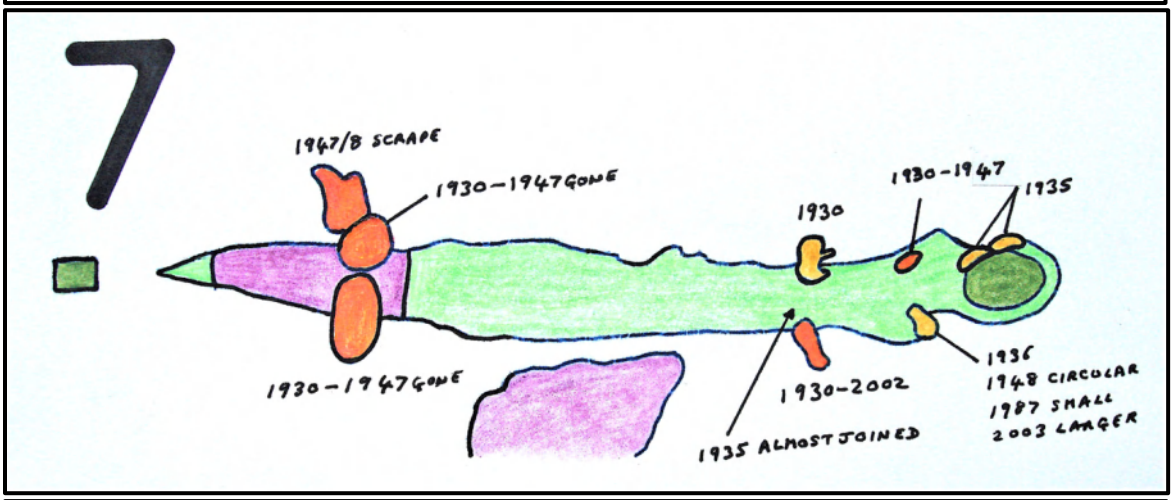

2
2008
1930-2001
2001
1930-1953
1935
1930
1930-1933
1985-90

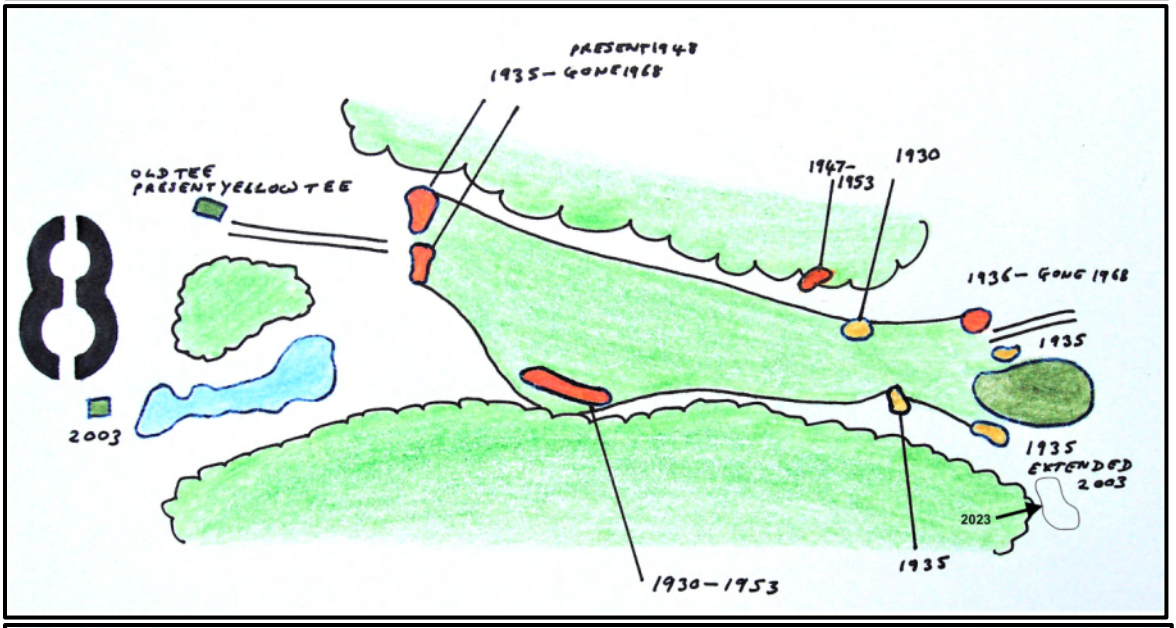

3
ONE IN 1935
THREE IN 1953-1987
THEN ONE AGAIN
1948-1953
PLANTED 1983
2021
1948 SHAPED
2003 SMALLER
1930
2003
1930

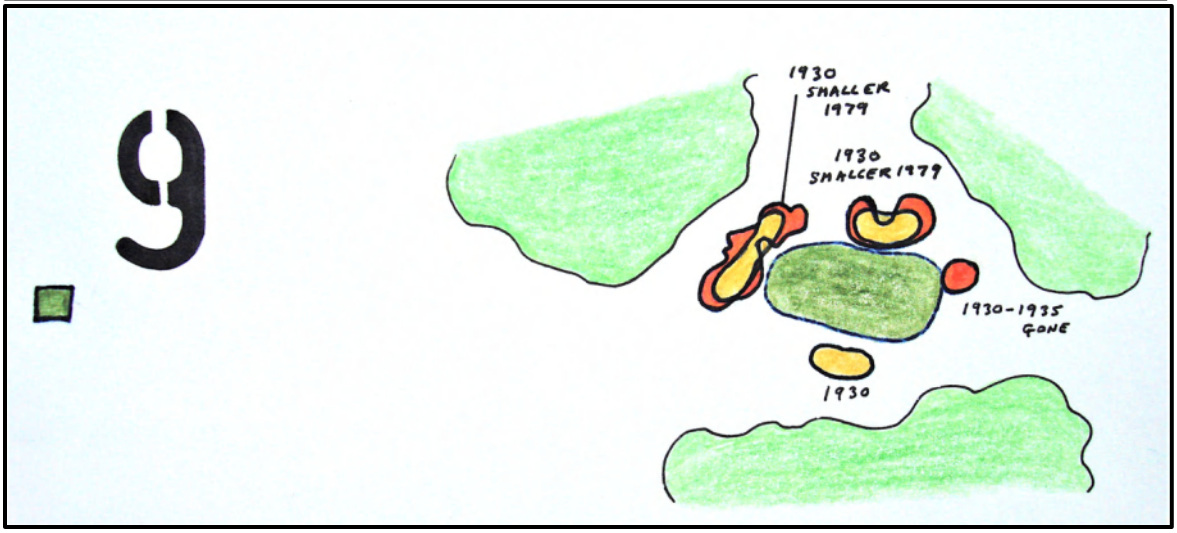

4
OLD TEE-1972
1972
1948-2003
2003
1930
SMALLER
2003
1948
1935
1930-
1936
1930
1947 (2 BUNKERS)
1968 (1 BUNKER)
1930

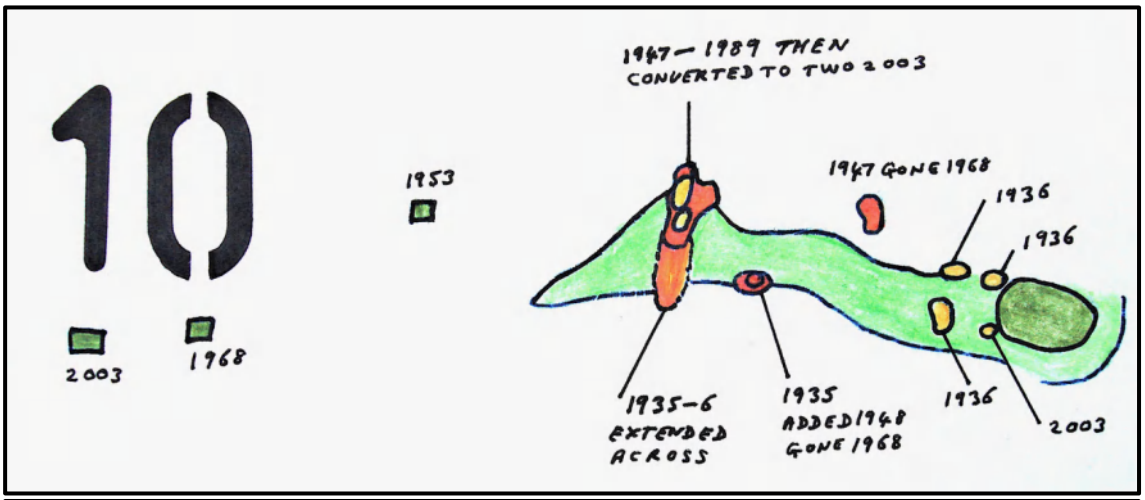

5
SAND SCRAPE
2020
1945-1972
1990
1987
1935
1930
1930
-1968
2020
1930-1968
2020
1930
SMALLER 1987

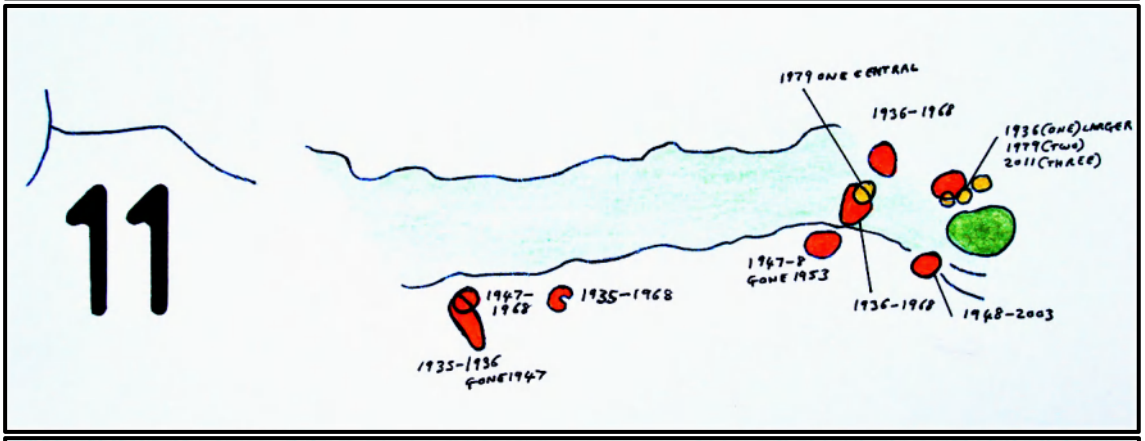

6
1935-1953
2020
1930-1987
1990
1933
1930-1990
1930-1968
1997
1930-1990
2003
1935-1953
1930-1968
1930 SMALLER 2004
1935
1930 JOINED 1953 SEPARATED 2008

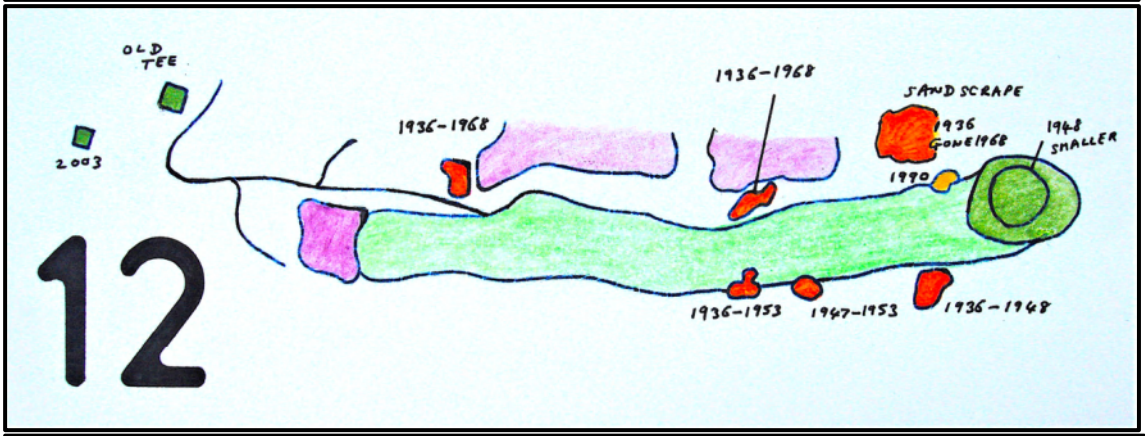

7
1947/8 SCRAPE
1930-1947 GONE
1930
1930-1947
1935
1930-1947 GONE
1936
1948 CIRCULAR
1987 SMALL
2003 LARGER
1930-2002
1935 ALMOST JOINED


PRESENT 1948
1935- GONE 1968
OLD TEE
PRESENT YELLOW TEE
8
1947-1953
1930
1936- GONE 1968
1935
2003
1935 EXTENDED 2003
2023
1935
1930-1953


9
1930 SMALLER 1979
1930 SMALLER 1979
1930-1935 GONE
1930


10
2003
1968
1953
1947–1989 THEN
CONVERTED TO TWO 2003
1947 GONE 1968
1936
1936
1935–6
EXTENDED
ACROSS
1935
ADDED 1948
GONE 1968
1936
2003


11
1979 ONE CENTRAL
1936–1968
1936(ONE) LARGER
1979(TWO)
2011(THREE)
1947–8
GONE 1953
1947–
1968
1935–1968
1935–1936
GONE 1947
1936–1968
1948–2003


12
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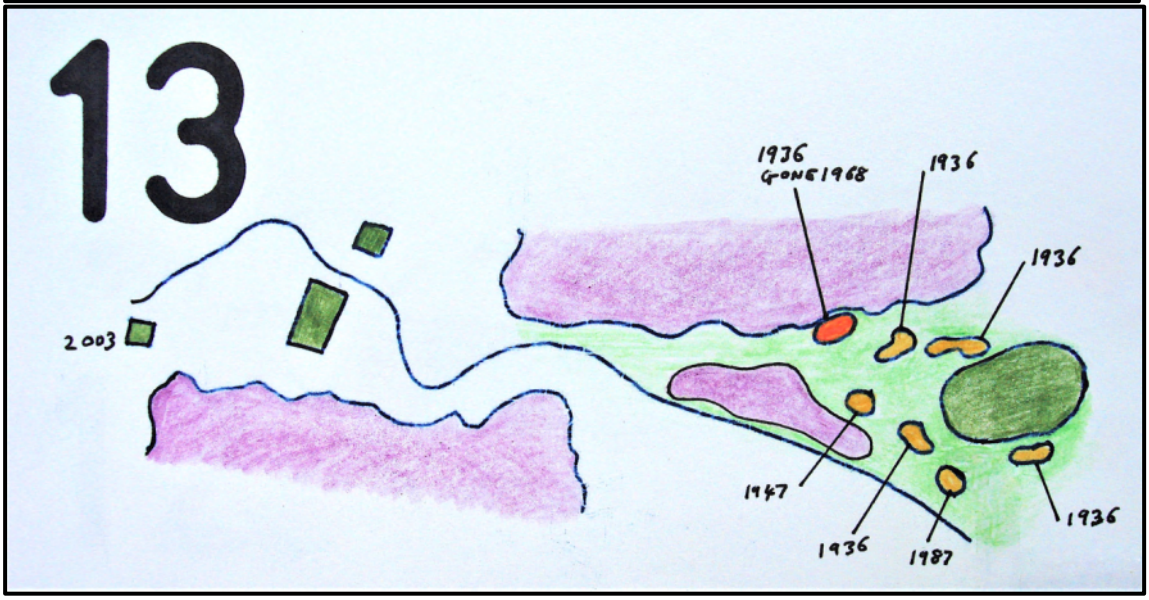
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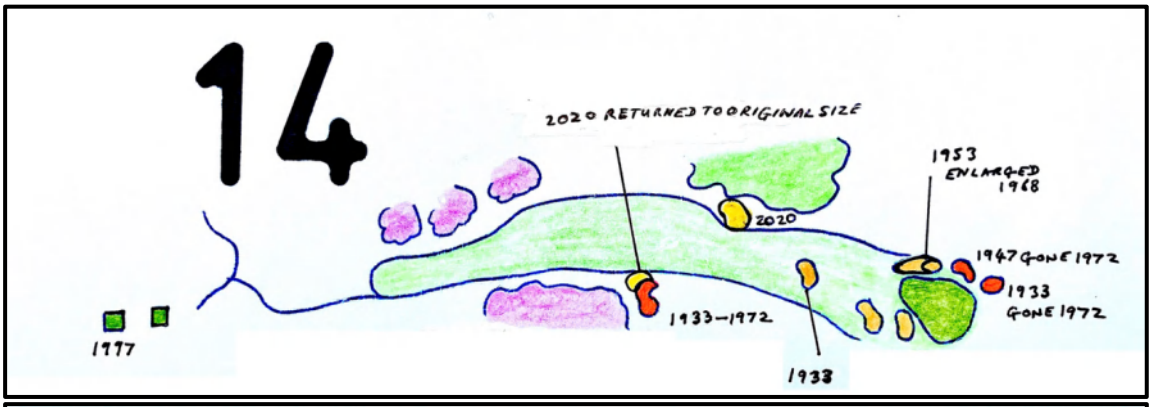
14
2020 RETURNED TO ORIGINAL SIZE
1953 ENLARGED 1968
2020
1947 GONE 1972
1933 GONE 1972
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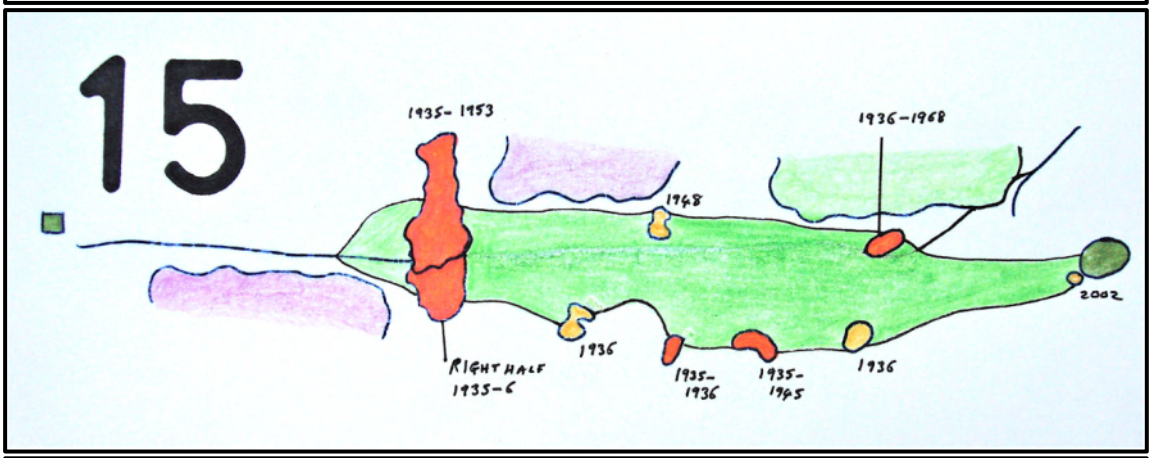
15
1935-1953
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1948
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RIGHT HALF 1935-6
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1935-1936
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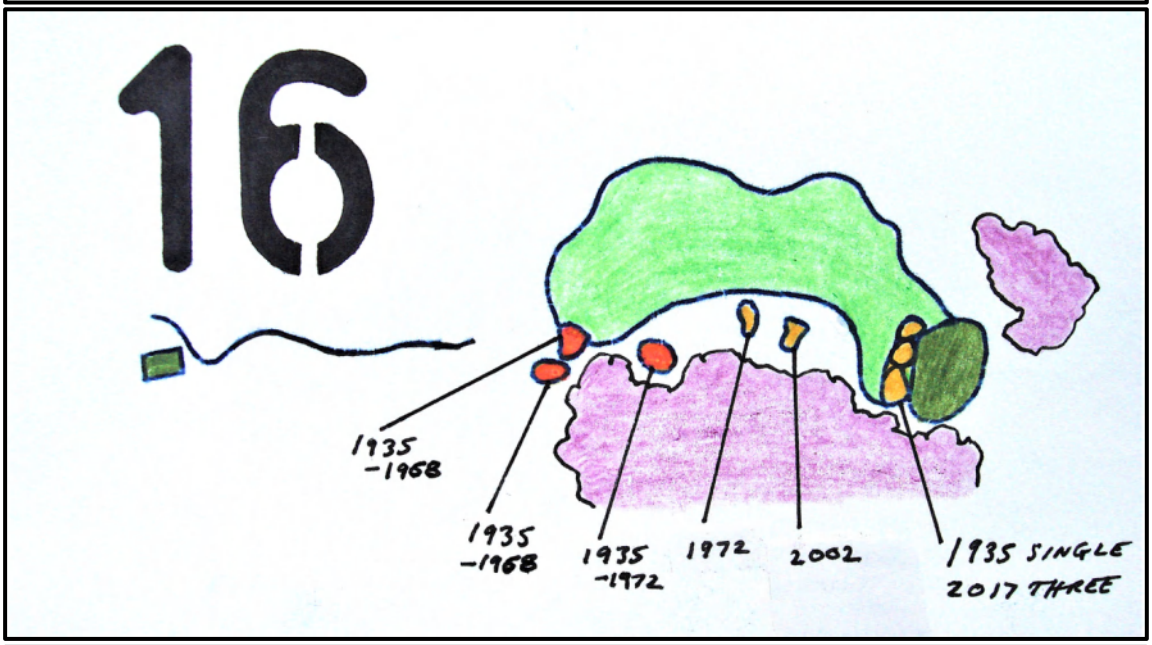
16
1935 -1968
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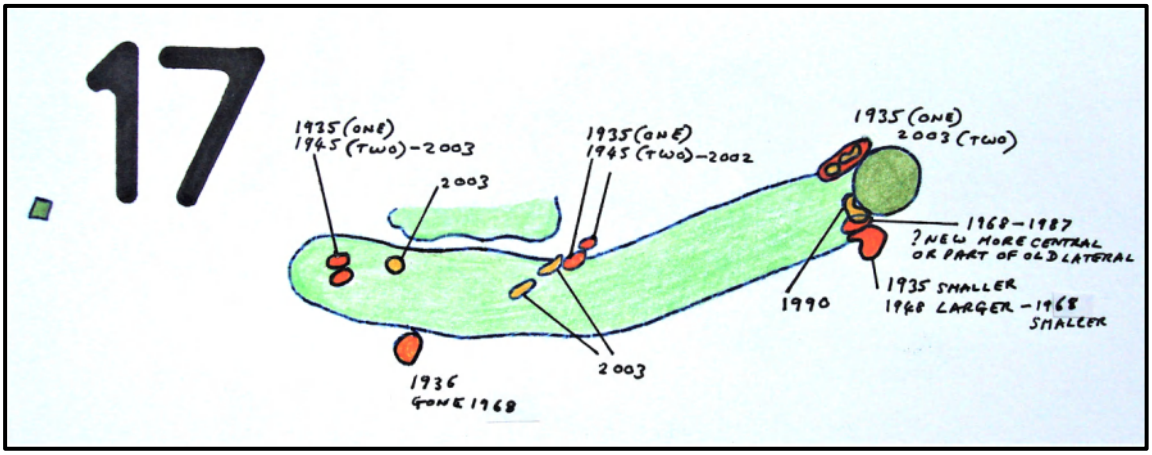
2002
1935 SINGLE
2017 THREE


17
1935 (ONE) 1945 (TWO) -2003
2003
1935 (ONE) 1945 (TWO) -2002
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1968-1987
? NEW MORE CENTRAL OR PART OF OLD LATERAL
1935 SMALLER 1968 LARGER -1968 SMALLER
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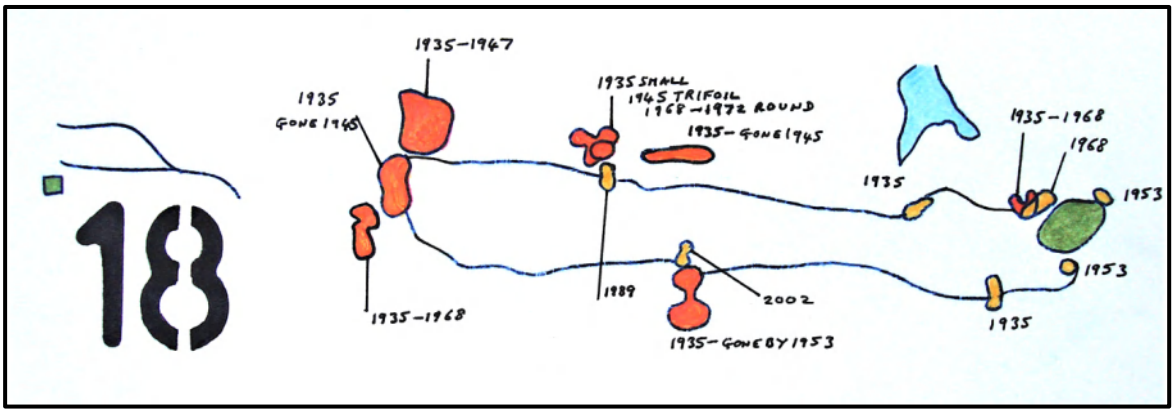
1936 GONE 1968



The archival material used comprised:

1930 Reproduction of Hollinwell scorecard in the Yorkshire Post (first 9 holes), a rough sketch.
1935 Diagram of Hollinwell hangs on the staircase in the club, 3.5 by 2.5 ft, good quality illustration. Perhaps not as accurate as an aerial photograph but historically it seems to be faithful to what was photographed a decade later.
1936 Players cigarette card, a crude diagram.
1945, 1947, 1948, 1953, 1968, 1972, 1990, 2011, 2016 aerial photographs, good quality. 1979 Golf planner, accurate.
1987 British Youth Amateur Championship Leaflet, accurate.
2002 Moody Brown report, accurate.
2011 Mackenzie Ebert setup report, aerial photographs, accurate.
Aerial photographs at an angle around the clubhouse in 1964 and 1972 that include part of the course.

1901 (above) Old 2nd tee for the 330yd par four now found back in line with current 5th tee.

1901 (above) Remnants of old bunkers next to Original 3rd green, now on right of 6th fairway.

1901 (left) 6th tee on the Original Course, now found on the left of 15th tee.

1901 (right) 7th tee of the Original Course on the flat area where an oak tree has since grown and is high right of 15th green.

(left) Remains of short lived 10th tee to the left of 9th green in 1953.

(left) Remains of water tank seen in 1935 and 1947 maps in chapter on watercourse, next to the service path along the norther boundary.

1901 (left) Original 12th tee now high left of the 11th green.

1901 (left) Original 15th tee now to right of 13th tee, but then the tee shot was to the right over the hill to a green on the top of Mosely hills.

1913 (right) New course 7th hole right fairway bunker (now a grass bunker almost within the tree line).

1935 or before: bunker on left of 12th fairway next to the first rise. The tee was back left and faced towards this bunker.

1935 or before: 11th hole right drive bunker just short of 150-yard post.

1935 or before: 12th bunker on right before green.

1935 or before: Bunker behind 14th green.

1968 Bunkers on the right of 16th fairway.

Old 18th tee to the right of current 17th green it was a 555-yard par five.

1930 Bunker to the left of the 6th green.

Old 17th tee now right of the 17th fairway.

Another perspective: 13th hole above, 16th below.

Then and Now

1908 Old 10th green looking backwards up the hill to the 14th! It is now the 9th green.

2019 View over 9th green towards 14th hole. The view on the left was taken from high up behind the tree on the right of this photo.

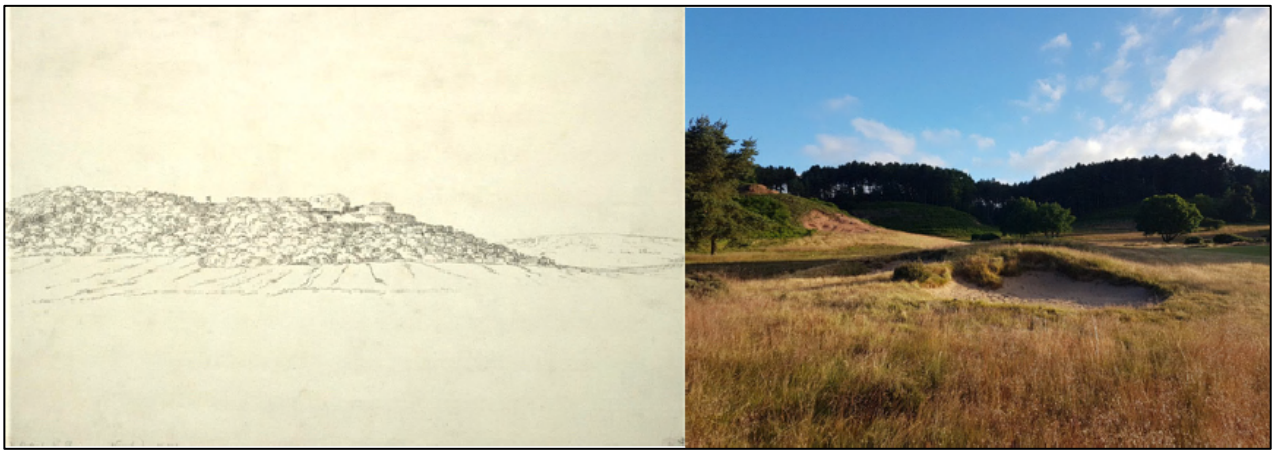
1912 Old 6th New 8th.

2020 Approach to 8th.

Robin Hood's Chair

The rock to the left of the second hole is known as Robin Hood's Chair and it appeared in John Chapman's map of 1774 and a drawing by Samuel Grimm at the same time. It is said that Robin Hood sat on this rock and from there, he could see over Kirkby Forrest and Linby. The rocks behind the second green form part of Robin Hood's Hills.

John Chapman's map 1774.



Drawing Samuel Grimm (1773), the second hole today.

Hollinwell's Greenkeepers

1893 Mr. Milne of Montrose, the club's first professional, also had the task of being head greenkeeper and was prohibited from coaching before midday until the course work was finished. This was common practice as most clubs wanted a keeper of the green more than a teaching professional or clubmaker.

1896 Tom Williamson was appointed professional and in charge of greens.

1901 No. 1 greenkeeper Mr. Steeden (under Tom Williamson as all greenkeepers were until 1950).

1902 Mr. W Button and 6 greenkeepers.

1902 JH Taylor was invited to inspect the course.

1903 Mr. W Button discharged; two old greens staff re-engaged.

1906 A fourth permanent green keeper was engaged.

1907 No. 1 greenkeeper Mr. Edward Coldbeck.

1914 Poole aged 48, King 58 and Billy 60. They were made available for the hay and corn harvests during the 1st World War.

1928 The committee authorised Tom Williamson to employ an extra four men for two weeks to remove dandelions.

1937 Mr. Poole given notice after long periods of absence and given a pension of £1 a week. Mr. Hill appointed in his place.

1938 Green staff given one week's paid holiday plus bank holidays each year!

1945 At the end of the second World War manpower was a problem. Mr. Moss had been off, and it was unlikely he would return. Little Billy had been off sick for ten weeks and Jimmy Smith was getting tired and was sent home in the afternoons. Mr. GH Needham, a discharged soldier, was recruited on a three-month trial at £3 a week to join Mr. W Huffen. Wages were increased and more staff were needed to return the course to its pre-war condition. Mr. L Hill returned and became foreman.

1950 Tom Williamson dies after 54 years overseeing greens. Mr. Len Hill appointed.

1951 Five Ground Staff: Len Hill, Bradley, James Smith, Scoteham and T Brown. The green budget was limited because of the club’s finances. Money was said to be wasted on training men and wages were insufficient to retain staff.

1965 Fire destroyed the greenkeepers hut by the 7th green (insured). Mr. P Rose joined staff. New hut in brickwork 1,200 sq ft next to the car park.

1969 An extra member of staff, Alf Warren, was employed to cover others leave.

1970 Len Hill retired.

1971 Walter Woods appointed head greenkeeper (he then moved to St. Andrews in 1974). At St. Andrews he named his house Hollinwell.

1974 Mr. K Beck.

1975 Peter Armson started as an apprentice aged 16.

1977 Mr. Hector Muir appointed; only three other greenkeepers and a trainee.

Walter Woods moved to St. Andrews and was in charge there for over 20 years. He called his house Hollinwell. He was awarded the Tom Morris Award, the most prestigious in greenkeeping.

1979 Mr. Graham Armson appointed.

1984 Phil Stain started after a year with the Youth Training Scheme.

1987 Peter Armson with a young Phil Stain in the doorway.

1996 Philip Stain was upgraded with the title of Course Manager in 2000 to reflect that he manages the green budget.

2019 Phil Stain (right) awarded Conservation Greenkeeper of the Year.

2025 Phil stain retired.

2026 Shaun Bullin appointed.

Agronomy

In course reports by visiting experts the weather conditions were often described as “difficult” or “the worst for many years” - whether it was too dry, wet or cold. The altitude of the terrain extends the winter weather. In years gone by some important decisions were taken by members of the committee without recourse to any professional advice (for example on tree planting or spreading manure on the course). This has changed in recent years with expert advice complemented by objective measurements of performance, soil humidity and chemistry. Machinery, nutrients and therapeutic agents have become more complex and expensive, but still a great deal depends on scrutiny by the greenkeeping staff and how well they manage their craft from day to day.

The following is a summary of the trials and tribulations faced by greenkeepers and the Greens Committee over the years. It will probably make insipid reading and only be of interest to the few.

1902 The ‘Green men’ worked 54 hours a week. A turf nursery was started. Rabbits were a huge problem. One hundred and twenty sheep were placed on the course (2d received per sheep). Members were requested to remove stones from the course. After a year of discussion, a horse was purchased to help pull heavy machinery and rollers.

9.3.1904 …the making of 2 holes at the foot of the hill to be accepted and that the present 15th and 16th holes be kept in good condition until the committee are of the opinion they should be abandoned.

1904 Only 60 sheep had been available over the winter, not enough to deal with all the long grass. There was a lot of discussion about whether some grass should be burnt but it was decided not. Later a local farmer was engaged to help. Two tons of dissolved bones were placed throughout the course along with 'good farm manure'.

1905 "….lift the earth with a fork to allow moisture to permeate quicker". A curling pond was created. Fifty-six tons of 'street sweepings' or manure were placed on the course on a bed of loamy soil.

1907 Charcoal was tried on a green as a worm killer (repeated in 1909 – no report on whether it was effective or not). Bamboo was purchased for brushing the greens. Sand was applied to the 'heaviest' greens with 'care and moderation'.

1908 The course was dressed using 100 tons of manure and loam as well as two applications of leaf mould (repeated for many years).

At least sixty but preferably about one hundred sheep grazed the course in summer to keep the grass down. Leaf mould from the woods was mixed with loam for the greens. The term 'course' was

used for what we call ‘fairways’ today.

1913 Miners’ strike without members playing allowed staff to proceed quickly with changes to course.

1919 The sheep escaped and ate the Marigolds at Lady Marlas's Monksbarns Farm.

1919 Moss was a problem on greens. Messrs. Carter & Co were asked to inspect. Mr. Wilkin, their expert, came along and it was decided to take the greens out of play and treat them with manure. JD Player donated 20 lorry loads of excellent turf for the greens (no mention of type of grass).

1923 The fairways were treated with a spike roller and brush harrowing; by July the course was in ‘very fine order’. Buxton lime and manure were applied to the course. Worms were a problem on the greens and sea sand was purchased to dress the greens.

1926 The Research Station at Bingley was approached to advise on the greens. Explored the possibility of a tractor instead of a horse.

1928 A practice ground was made to the left of the 3rd hole.

1930 Ruts in the motor park were filled with ashes.

1931 A water diviner was employed and as a result a bore hole was made in front of the 4th tee to

reduce wet areas on the 4th and 18th fairways.

1932 Water collected near the 3rd green and a sump was dug.

1934 Over several years, gorse bushes had been removed but this year there was an effort to remove them on holes 4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,15 and 16. Forking of greens and tees in winter and into spring.

1936 The Greens Research Board: ‘Brush harrow fairways, spike roll and feed with compost and grass seed’.

1938 Bingley Research Station suggested bone flour and sulphate of potash for fairways and hummol and fertilizer to dress the greens. Sulphate of ammonia to kill dandelions.

1,100 trees were donated from the Dunrobin Estate, Aberdeenshire and were planted. The mystery behind this is explained in the next chapter.

1939 ‘Gorse on the right of the 5th hole to be removed where practical’ (to be repeated over the next 80 years!). Tom Williamson was asked to look out for gorse encroaching on fairways.

1943 Burnt the gorse bushes on the right of 5th (unfortunately this germinates seeds in the ground).

27.7.46 ...approach the forestry commission so the fence is mended at their expense… farmer

complaining that the boundary has gone and allowed his stock onto the course.

1949 The committee agreed to lease 84 acres to the Forestry Commission for 150 years to provide two crops of timber (expected to last 60 years). They also contributed to a badly needed fence and road repairs. There was a fire on the 13th which burnt the fence. Buying a bulldozer to make a trench and prevent any fire spreading was considered (this might have helped contain the 1976 fire).

Lime was used for dressing to eradicate moss. Greens were treated with lead-arsenate to kill worms. Machines kept in shed by 7th green.

1950 The Research Station at Bingley continued to advise for many years. They became the Turf Research Institute and then the Sports Turf Research Institute.

1952 Triple mowers mentioned for the first time.

1955 Agreed that trees should be planted on the left of the first fairway.

1959 Still putting manure on fairways (provided by a member Mr. ELC Pentecost, a farmer). Reports from the Turf Research Institute were good.

1960s STRI *"The fairways ….are getting so acid (pH 4.4-4.7)"*. [In retrospect it is possible that the rain was more acidic then with the huge amount of

coal being burnt and pollution with acid rainfall]. The Greens Committee seemed more preoccupied with parking than the course!

1963 The National Coal Board was asked why the water level had dropped, perhaps it was due to subsidence? (see section on Annesley & Newstead Collieries).

1964 STRI *“Aeration and scarification should be increased… proper and adequate top dressing…"*

1966 8a and 9a in use. Water meter installed.

New watering system based on gravity but some problems… (these problems continued and were put down to filtration).

1969 pH of greens 5.0-5.6. ….no carbonate of lime should be applied…. Intensive aeration and scarification….

1971 The right-hand side of the 11th fairway was all heather.

1972 Ransomes-Hahn mower purchased…cut a green perfectly in less than five minutes.

1974 More trees on left of the 1st placed to screen the new colliery tip.

1976 Fire burnt holes 10, 11 and 12 for 8 days (National Coal Board supplied equipment to make a fire break).

1977 The National Coal Board accepted liability for subsidence near the third green. Jim Arthur's first visit for STRI. Advised seven-inch vibratory ploughing, hollow-tine forking, slitting. Approaches needed earthworm control. Watering system needed further attention.

1978 Jim Arthur produced a detailed eleven-page report. Must eliminate phosphates and cut down all autumn fertilizers. The voluntary reduction in trolley use has given some improvement.

1979 *Jim Arthur "...heading in the right direction ...need to apply spring fertilizer to all greens at the same time...appreciate how absolutely vital aeration is..""*

1980 Jim Arthur *"Greenkeepers and farmers have very few things in common save that the weather is never to their satisfaction." "...abnormally wet winter, very late and dry spring..."*Mr. Armson, the new head greenkeeper, and his staff were congratulated for so effectively implementing his recommendations. A Cushman with a heavy-duty aerator was purchased.

1980 The Hut by the 9th tee was built although its roof had to be replaced and it was re-clad later.

1981 In January Jim Arthur noted how well the greens drained in torrential rain and said that any thatch had gone. *"The grass type has almost completely swung round to Agrostis….*

The biggest lesson in greenkeeping is to achieve continuity, to avoid fresh blood recreating the disasters of yesteryear. Possibly complacence by those who had successfully corrected the errors of their predecessors triggered off the invasion of new ideas".

1982 Jim Arthur in May *"…. after an abnormally severe winter and with late spring and no real growth (descriptions that are recorded more years than not!) ….could host the Haig Tournament Players Championship tomorrow …. annual meadow grass dropped to 10-20%."* Praise for Green Staff and for the Green Committee because they weren't changing the policies that had been set up. In the PGA European Tour Guidelines, it recommended that the greens were kept dry and cut to 3/16 inch = 4.7mm. The greens were voted as the best on tour by the players on the European Tour.

1983 Land acquired from the Coal Board to extend the practice ground. Subsidence on 8a and 9a fairways. Pines planted left of 3rd fairway.

1984 Jim Arthur in May (yet another late spring): Since we are not yet into under soil heating in golf *"…. we must wait for the weather – and there has been little growth until a few days before my visit."* He mentions 18 aeration treatments that had been done to greens and 6 to the fairways.

1985 Jim Arthur *"….very difficult weather…. cold and dry with no growth until the end of May."* The Chair of Green produced a well-constructed and informative twelve-page report. He restated the case for tight and fast fine bladed indigenous perennial grasses in a heathland setting.

Jim Arthur advised verti-drain fairways and to place 100 tons of peat applied with a drag mat and seed the course at a cost of nearly £6,000 (the Chairman of Greens warned that this would change the nature of the fairways, although in local folklore he is blamed for applying the peat!).

Another Jim Arthur comment *"Rope is the best fertilizer for grass! Put a length of rope around grass in an area of traffic and watch it grow".* An analysis of the top dressing showed that it had an excessive proportion of fine particles and sand were infiltrating spaces and hindering fine grass roots at depth. The Forestry Commission started thinning out trees.

1985 Letter from Walter Woods, previous Hollinwell Head Greenkeeper, now in St. Andrews, to Graham Armson:

1. Feed spraying - Farmura spring and early autumn. When dew is on the ground, not evening.
2. Damaged pitching areas – August to first 2 weeks in September (April can be dry and cold) Hollow tine bad areas, spread with peat fen, drag mat peat and soil mixture to fill in holes. Problems are those of thin layers of peaty topsoil overlying sand or gravel. These areas never recover in the normal way of

thick turf on seaside or parkland courses.
3. Reseeding: Bad fairways every four years…. seed both ways in bad areas creeping red fescue and bent mixtures. Essential in autumn. Vertidraining of fairways is questionable …. Unless one can get in peat before the lifted turf falls back in place. (Vertidraining on panned greens is a different problem).
4. Greens: Hollinwell greens do not need a lot of water. We got rid of Poa and thatch by careful watering (a little as necessary).

1986 Jim Arthur in August *"…another very difficult year weather-wise, a severe late spring. Greens slit 23 times in the previous year.…no significant thatch ….we must control seedling trees…. remember there are still an awful lot of trees compared to the turn of the century. Gorse needs cutting back…."* Only two buggies were available for use on the course.

1987 Jim Arthur remained concerned about annual meadow grass. *"I do not believe that the present programme so faithfully implemented by Graham (Armson) can be contributory."* Greens had 9 staff, STRI suggested 10.

1988 Turf Research Institute in Bingley advised that the greens were firm with no excess of thatch but there was soil compaction at 6-9 inches. *"…I do recommend verti-draining with a gentle heave. "*

1991 One hundred trailer loads of branches were removed after a storm.
STRI reported before the Brabazon in 1992:
“The course is in excellent condition, little to say except needs a little tidying up”.
In the September Minutes: *“Unfortunately the heavy program of visitors has made it impossible to top dress the greens”* (a problem that was later corrected when the maintenance program took priority). Trees were planted on the left of the 17th fairway level with the bunkers, but these were removed some years later.

1992 The lake at the 8th disappeared in the 1980s and thousands of gallons went down towards Newstead Abbey.
The Club claimed this had happened through subsidence. The Coal Board denied this, and it went to Arbitration. The arbitrator found in the Club’s favour and the Coal Board paid for the lake to be restored with a new dam wall and tons of puddle clay in the base of the lake. There were some hiccups with the repair in that the detour site leaked when the dam was reinstalled, but this was fixed.

1993 It was recognised by the Green Committee and Stuart Ormondroyd (STRI) that Rhododendrons were an alien species and should be removed from behind the 11th green (a past Captain, unaware of their detrimental ecological effect, had raised funds and planted some in the past.

Unfortunately, several such goodwill gestures seem to have fallen foul with time. The majority involve the introduction of foreign species).

Yorkshire fog was an ongoing problem and was treated with a herbicide. *"…a great deal of conservation work needs to be done here beyond the management of heather".*

1994 Health and Safety came to the fore. A letter was received advising that water was no longer being pumped out of Annesley Colliery and this could affect the water table (Before the 1960s Newstead and Annesley collieries didn't need to pump much water out as they were relatively dry but as surrounding mines closed this changed).

In the 1980s there were 25 mines in the area but as these closed, water became a problem. The water they pumped out went to four lagoons on top of the tips to the south of the course and down the 'Dumbles' towards the River Leen. Partly because of its acidity the water damaged wildlife, it was then diverted to staging ponds and lime was added to make it less acidic-however this didn't work. Pipes were then made to take two or more million gallons a day along the mineral railway line – now the Robin Hood Line - 17.5km into the river Trent. Thankfully, none spilled into Hollinwell's water system. See the section on Annesley and Newstead Collieries and the Watercourse for more detail.

It was agreed that the bunkers be contoured as recommended by Stuart Ormondroyd, even if this meant that the bunkers were not easily visible! 1,000 square yards of turf was used to adjust bunkers. Gorse was a problem in many areas.

1995 Martin Hawtree produced a report on bunker design. A large drainage operation was done on the 2nd, 3rd and 18th holes. Corrugated iron shed built.
1995 Martin Hawtree produced a report on bunker design. A large drainage operation was done on the 2nd, 3rd and 18th holes. Corrugated iron shed built.

1996 Phil Stain was appointed Head Greenkeeper. Brackenhurst College students worked on thinning the trees either side of 7th, 10th and 12th. The irrigation system was replaced at great cost but unfortunately it ceased to function properly in 1998. Bunker sand was tested, and options considered, Mansil 35 was found to be the best compromise given the indigenous sand underlying the bunkers. The pine trees bought by a member and planted behind the 11th green were removed. *“Over a number of years, the gorse has been allowed to run wild”.*

1998 Spraying of bracken phased out and replaced by crushing (later cutting was re-introduced to avoid crushing reptiles). No course maintenance March to October as delayed by visitors... (later this was corrected when it was decided that in future the maintenance program was to be given priority).

1999 Donald Steel provided an updated report from 1987 *"…there are signs that the landscape is becoming too enclosed… plenty of woodland courses but only one Hollinwell".* Heather seed was placed on the left of 2nd. Sherwood Forest Trust Report produced. Topdressing found to be too alkaline (pH 7.6). Gorse a problem, particularly on the left of 10. The Heathland restoration plan was started. Willows were planted around the lakes (later many were removed as they are so prolific and continue to be so!).

2000 The Country stewardship scheme was started. Agreement was made with Sherwood Forest Trust to maintain and expand the heathland nature of the course by removing self-set tress, limiting the growth of gorse and helping heather regenerate.

2002 Drainage work was done to the 2nd fairway. The Forestry Commission decided that the trees would remain on the skyline indefinitely.

Ian Mclachlan (left) played a central role in promoting heathland restoration and obtaining grants. He deserves recognition for appreciating the environment that comprises much of the jewel that is Hollinwell.

2004 STRI recommended maintenance in April and August in future years. Pines on the right of 13th removed. A greens roller was purchased. Trees were felled around the 2nd and 17th holes.

2005 A fairway 'shaping experiment' took place cutting to a width of 25 yds at 250-270yds from the championship tees. This proved too difficult for day-to-day play. Sycamore trees around the 8th green were removed. The area between 4th and 5th was prepared for heather. Machines leased.

2006 STRI: The 1st green was a problem, and tree removal of nearby trees was necessary to help. Heather beds were created left of 3rd and 4th.

2007 STRI: Greens composition continues to improve ...a very successful year. Emphasis on more top dressing.

2009 The 25-year Conifer Plantation Management Plan was to be reviewed every 5 years. "Today Kirkby Forest is one of many pine plantations.… is very visible being located on a ridge and shows poor unity within the surrounding agricultural and amenity landscape…. lacks diversity…. Short term vision: pine heavily thinned to encourage natural regeneration of native species… A network of open areas interlinked with a broad ridge will be created through clear felling, scalloping of edges and heavy thinning. The long-term vision is reversion ….to oak birch woodland…

The open spaces will be encouraged to develop as lowland heath/acid grassland, with scrub managed on rotation. Thinning cycle: 25% of native pine to be removed from site every 5 years…. All work will be covered by a felling license…. (thinning did not happen because of the low value of wood).

Yorkshire fog outcompetes fine grasses in areas where gorse has enriched the soil by binding nitrogen.

2010 Gordon Irvine, Master Greenkeeper, was asked to advise. He produced a detailed program of work for the green staff as well as advocating a rigorous regime of aeration, monitoring humidity, more and a different topdressing along with overseeding that resulted in a steady improvement in the course.
Gordon Irvine and Alistair Beggs from STRI oversaw an intense program to promote fine grasses that focused on aeration, frequent topdressing with minimal slow-release fertilizer, careful monitoring of humidity and oversee ding all monitored with objective measurements of performance and soil chemistry. Following their advice led to a progressive increase in the percentage of fine grasses in the greens. They advised that a new irrigation system was badly needed.

2011 A Course Policy Document was compiled, essentially to stop committees tampering with the course. A short game area was constructed with the legacy of Jeff Leadley. A new irrigation system was installed.

2014 Phil Stain started to standardise the construction of bunkers to have a heathland character. This process continued over the next few years to much acclaim.

2016 GEO certification was granted. A policy for the phased removal of rhododendrons was adopted.

2017 A Green course was introduced for junior and shorter hitting players. Robin Hood's Chair, the rock to the left of the second, was uncovered and the expanse of gorse behind the 15th green was removed to expose islands of sandstone. A new green compound and shed was built.

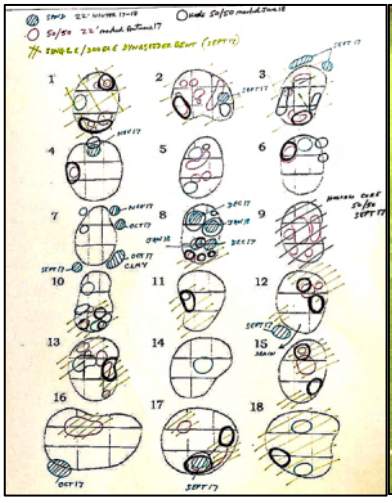
2018 The driving range was updated with all-weather turf. Sandstone ridges on the 2nd, 15th and 16th were exposed.
Bob Taylor (STRI Ecological assessment on behalf of R&A) *"From an ecological perspective Notts. Golf Club is every bit as much a nature reserve as it is a Golf Course. The quality of the habitat management provided by the green staff, and indeed the Club is excellent, and the Course Manager does have a very strong understanding of ecological functioning and management".*

Peter Armson culling gorse on the 7th. Control of gorse and self-sets is a major undertaking.

2019 Phil Stain awarded Conservation Greenkeeper of the Year.

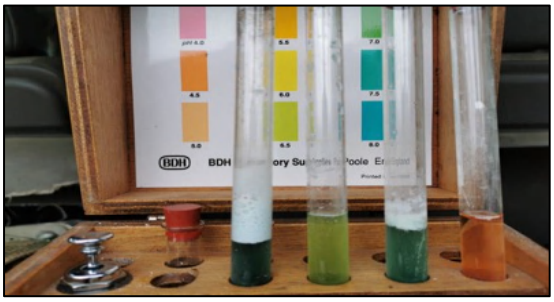
Martin Ebert produced a report advising several new bunkers with eight old ones reinstated the return of several sand scrapes and four new tees to take the course to 7,300 yards.

Contact antifungal agents were removed from the market making the club's move toward fine grass even more relevant as they tend to be more resistant to fusarium than meadow grass.



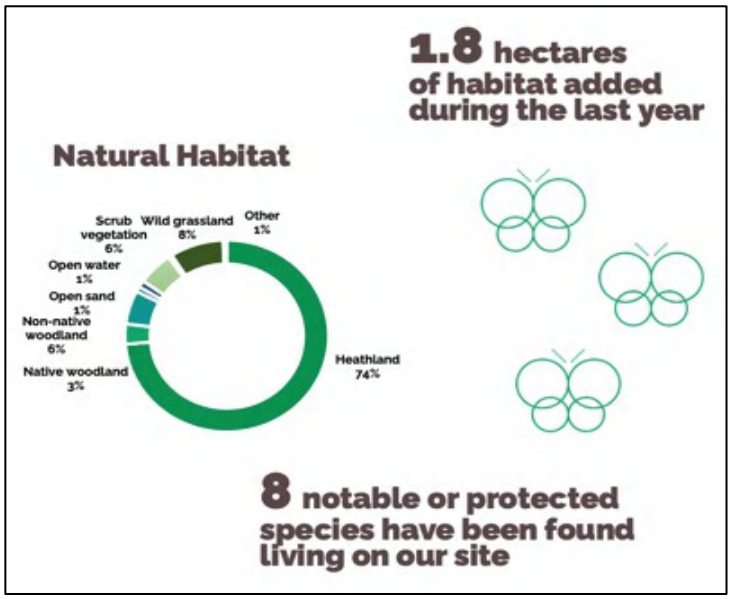
'Local" treatment of greens, 22-inch cores filled with kiln dried sand where there was thatch but not to areas that drained well.

The pH of water in the reservoir was found to be alkaline (8.5) when there had been little rain and when it was used it set back the greens. A filter system was introduced to neutralise the water.



pH testing: On the left reservoir water, next treated reservoir water, then tap water, far right distilled.

April 2020 Covid-19 meant there could be an increase in the height of cut and along with the new water system led to an improvement in root growth.



2020 Part of the Sustainability review.

2021 'Lockdown' reduced play but allowed heathland restoration to gain momentum.

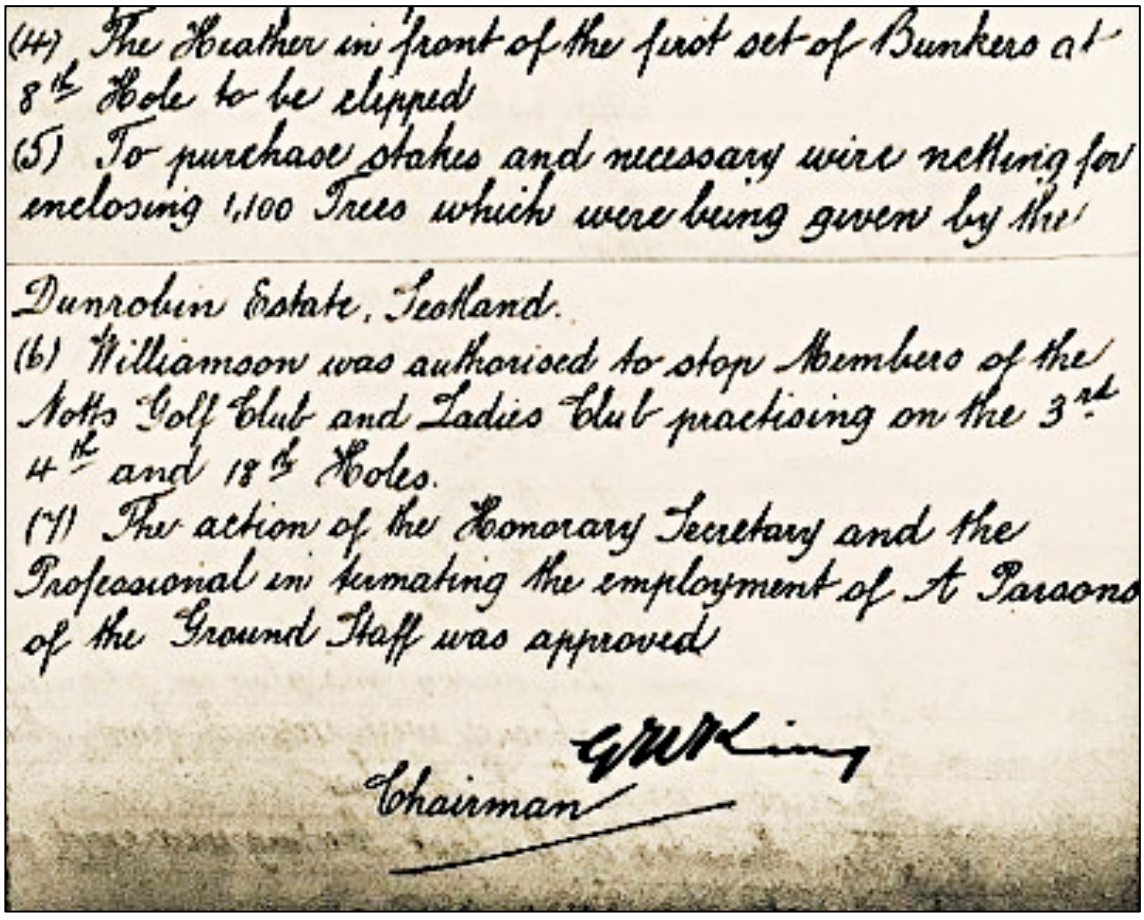
2022 Sherwood Forest Trust recommended heathland restoration and planting birch on the field

to the right of the 10th hole in lieu of every tree taken out on the course.

Meadow of orchids alongside 9a.

The Origin of Hollinwell's Trees

Tom Williamson was the main architect for the course after it was first laid out by Willie Park Junior. It is surprising to find the following item in the minutes of the Greens committee on 8th October 1938: *"To purchase stakes and necessary wire netting for enclosing 1,100 trees which were being given by the Dunrobin estate, Scotland"* (see Figure below). There was no mention before this about planting trees from Tom Williamson, in the Green Committee or General Committee minutes.



(4) The Heather in front of the first set of Bunkers at 8th Hole to be clipped
(5) To purchase stakes and necessary wire netting for enclosing 1,100 Trees which were being given by the Dunrobin Estate, Scotland.
(6) Williamson was authorised to stop Members of the Notts Golf Club and Ladies Club practising on the 3rd 4th and 18th Holes.
(7) The action of the Honorary Secretary and the Professional in fixating the employment of A Parsons of the Ground Staff was approved

Chairman

Minutes of Green Committee 8th October 1938.

It seems that these trees were given by the Dunrobin estate, owned by the 5th Duke of Sutherland (situated near Dornoch in Scotland).

So, what was the connection between the 5th Duke of Sutherland and Hollinwell?

Tom Williamson was not only the club professional at Hollinwell, but he also oversaw the management of the greens and greens staff from 1901 until 1946, as well as at Bulwell Forest before that.

He submitted detailed carbon copied reports to the Green Committee, which were invariably accepted. He wrote about changes to the layout of the course as well as problems with the incursion of gorse but never made a request for any trees to be planted.

Photographs of the course during the early twentieth century show the area to be heathland with very few trees. Maps from Herman Moll in 1724, John Chapman 1774, John Carey 1793, Geo Sanderson 1836 and the Ordnance Survey of 1836 show that the area of Hollinwell was heathland, and any woodland was further east or north. Photographs taken when the course opened in the early 1900s confirm that Hollinwell was heathland with very few trees except for copses around the ponds and to the right of the current 4thtee, 9th and 10th greens.

The oaks, copper beech and sweet chestnut trees that are now found at Hollinwell can be aged using a formula that looks at their circumference at 4ft height. Many are about 85 years old and the rest are younger. This would fit in with the photographic evidence we have. For example, in 1932 there is no sign of an oak tree behind the 13th green (Figure below) that was removed in 2021. In 1925 Mr.

Mellors gave the club a painting of Newstead Lodge from the 16th green!!

The 13th green in 1932.

The 7th Duke of Portland was the club captain in 1937, and it is possible that his connection with the 5th Duke of Sutherland, the owner of the Dunrobin estate, might have been responsible for this gift. The 7th Duke of Portland and the 5th Duke of Sutherland were Conservative politicians both serving under Stanley Baldwin. The 7th Duke worked in the treasury and later for the Joint Intelligence Committee. The 5th Duke was Under-secretary of State for Air and then Under-secretary of State for War. Welbeck is the seat of the Duke of Portland and lies 14 miles north of Hollinwell and he also owned 118,000 acres in Caithness around Braemore and Langwell, close to the 5th Duke of Sutherland's estate. They were two of

a kind, both Dukes, Conservatives and landowners with neighbouring estates. So, did the late 5th Duke of Sutherland give the trees to his friend, the 7th Duke of Portland? That seems likely. Ivy Gordon-Lennox, Duchess of Portland and the wife of the 7th Duke of Portland had a maternal aunt who was Millicent Leveson-Gower, the Duchess of Sutherland. The Welbeck estate has several photograph albums which show Ivy visiting them at Dunrobin Castle. Ivy's children, Anne and Victoria, were encouraged to play golf and there are several photographs in the Welbeck collection of them as children practising their golf swings. In any event, it seems likely that either the 5th Duke of Sutherland or the Duchess, were responsible for donating the trees. In the early 1800s, Sir Charles Barry remodeled Dunrobin castle and its gardens.

There is a formal garden surrounded by woodland made up mostly of oak with some horse and sweet chestnut, and a few copper beech trees, amongst others - and very few, if any, Scots pine. There are also many broad-leaved trees also around Langwell House, part of the 7th Duke of Portland's estate in Scotland. The 5th Duke of Sutherland was one of the wealthiest people in the country (not that the 7th Duke of Portland was poor - he owned 43,000 acres at Welbeck, London property, three collieries, one nine-hole golf course, the Caithness estate and paintings).

Dunrobin Castle and some of the estate today.

It is conjecture, but it seems likely, that the two Dukes thought that planting trees at Hollinwell, bare heathland, would enhance its appearance unaware of the importance and rarity of its heathland nature. This is remembering that the Sutherland estate and the Welbeck estate had been landscaped with broad leaved trees. It was a gift that could hardly have been refused by Notts. Golf Club or Tom Williamson. There is no record that the idea was ever discussed at committee or by Tom Williamson. The only mention in the club records is the request for posts and fencing to deal with the trees already referred to. It wouldn't have been the first time that a major decision affecting the club never reached the committee for debate!

Phil Stain, the course manager, says: *"This is very interesting, everyone just assumes they (the trees) arrived naturally - to think that the majority were planted is fascinating. I suppose at the time the open heath may have been considered uninteresting.*

What's also interesting is the number of copper beech in the wood between 7, 8 and 15, they seem quite out of place. It may be that they were planted to create that area of woodland. The woodland has been invaded since by scrub birch.

We've also removed some significant sycamores from around the 8th well, quite unusual that they're only in that area. It all ties in with what you've found, there was a huge specimen beech to the left of the 10th, and we have a few isolated sweet chestnuts, one on the 10th and the others around the 7th. We also had a very large beech behind our new shed and another one on the track to 8a; most are single specimen trees which suggest they were planted deliberately. It looks as if most of the planting may have been done around the 7th, 8th and 15th, with individual trees planted across the rest of the course, the oaks between 14th and 15th a classic example of someone trying to separate fairways perhaps. The wood to the left of the 9th tees is also perfectly placed to block the view of the 9th as you play the 14th. You could go on - the trees behind the 6th green and 7th tees, some large oaks, perfectly separating the 7th from the 15th. Even the oak behind 13th, like a full stop, to denote the end of one hole and the start of the next, a small insight into how people were thinking at the time perhaps. It all makes perfect sense."

Neither Duke nor Duchess might have known the

repercussions of this gift, and how it would transform a heathland course towards a parkland course. This is not an isolated example, as only 2% of heathland remains in north Nottinghamshire compared with 1887. The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust estimates that since 1927 90% of heathland has been lost in Nottinghamshire. A report by Neil Glasson in 2007 “Heathland loss in Nottinghamshire since 1922” confirms this (72).

Oak leaves are slow to decompose and are ‘raked’ by the heather, causing it to die back. Alistair Beggs, agronomist for the R&A, has gone as far as to say that *"Oak trees shouldn’t be on a heathland course".* A compromise might be that oak trees are allowed to grow within woodland, such as the periphery of the course, and the woodland present in 1947, but that those that were planted in 1938 to create a parkland style of course should be removed over time. It is easy to understand how some members find it difficult to reconcile recent talk of the climate change emergency and the loss of rain forest in the Amazon with tree removal on their golf course. It is a task to explain the conservation reasons behind restoring heathland, the loss of rare species - and even then, some opinions differ. This compilation of information is an attempt to provide some facts to help discussion

and decision making in this area.

1947 aerial with woodland highlighted

Perhaps the last word here should go to Oliver

Rackham, the country's authority on trees and ancient woodland, who says: *“I fear that the popular confusion between Forests and woodland is now ineradicable…Sherwood is first heard of as a Forest in 1154. The earliest map, surveyed 1774, shows it as a vast heath encompassing a number of woods, including the famous Birkland and Bilhagh, and the great parks of the ‘Dukeries’ – Welbeck, Clumber, Thoresby, Rufford, Clipstone and Newstead. The total area was about 65,000 acres. The Sherwood Forest Book of 1251 lists about fifteen woods and groves, including 'Bilhagh and Birkelounde' and others still unidentifiable in 1774. It has much to say about the management of heath in relation to Forest Law" (7).*

The club, at present, is not planning to return to a ‘scorched earth’ look! The club wants to encourage

more heathland with copses of trees forming a mosaic. Only 2% of heathland remains in North Nottinghamshire compared to the last record of the late 1880s and a lot of insect and invertebrate species have been lost as a result. The policy is that for every tree removed another must be planted, if not more. Away from the tourist areas of Clumber Park the National Trust are doing the same in cooperation with English Heritage, the Wildlife Trust and the RSPB.

Hopefully the club can find a balance that will help both golfers and nature.

Addendum:
Another possible connection with the 5th Duke of Sutherland, found by James Boon, is that HD Bright who had been Notts. Captain in 1932 was Captain of Royal Dornoch from 1945 to 1954. HD Bright suggested that Tom Williamson would give good advice on a revised layout to the course at Dornoch. After a little to and fro, Tom declined the journey to Dornoch (he was 65 at the time). The current layout at Royal Dornoch from that time is credited to Robbie Grant who was head greenkeeper at Dornoch at the time. It might have enhanced Tom Williamson's reputation as a golf architect even more had Tom made the journey.

Club Professionals

1890 and 1891, Walker of St. Andrews was engaged for coaching (two, one-month spells) paid at 1s 6d per round.
1893 Mr. Milne of Montrose
1895 John Herd Jr of St. Andrews
1886 Tom Williamson
1933 Tom Williamson asked for an assistant because of activity on Sundays.
1946 Ernest Southcott assistant
1950 Ernest Southcott appointed having been the assistant for four years until Tom Williamson died. He bought 12 ‘mechanical caddies’ to rent.
1951 The secretary, Mr. AS Bright, paid for all fixtures and fittings in the shop which was in poor shape but still there was stock mismanagement.
1952 Herbert Rhodes
1959 David Talbot. In 1968 he won the Schweppes golf championship at Dunbar. He was encouraged and supported to play in tournaments. He moved to the Royal Mid-Surrey Club after ten years.
1969 Brian Waites
2000 Alisdair Thomas
2005 Mike Bradley

1886-1950 Tom Williamson
54 years at Notts.

1950 E Southcott.

1962 David Talbot
and H Redmayne
(secretary).

David Talbot 1959-1969.

Mike Bradley (assistant) and Brian Waites (1969 - 2000).

Alisdair Thomas
assistant 1989 then
professional 2000.

Mike Bradley
(2005 - present).

Secretaries

1887 John Harris (Honorary)
1890 William Hamilton (Honorary)
1900 TG Mellors (Honorary)
1903 JA Simpson (Honorary)
1907 W Moss (Honorary)
1919 AS Bright (Honorary, 33 years, also 1913-18 match secretary, 1927 Captain, committee to 1957 Also known for his replies in the suggestion book!
1952 TH Whalley (Honorary)
1959 H Redmayne (Honorary)
1963 Geoffrey King
1965 Don S Robinson elected as Honorary Secretary. A member since 1924, Notts. Amateur Champion 1932, a pilot in WW 1 and served in the RAF during the 2nd WW.
1974 Rev. Tom W Richardson
1977 Harold A Bone
1986 John Roscoe Walker
1994 Stuart Goldie
2000 Ian Symington
2003 Brian Noble
2009 Ellen Matthews (acting)
2010 Simon Lawrence
2011 Ellen Matthews (acting)
2012 Gary Bardill
2014 Martyn Bonner MBE (First Manager/Secretary who had executive responsibility to the Committee for the day-to-day management of the club).
2022 David Holmes
2025 Michael Teager (acting)

1994-2000
Stuart Goldie, he was also a witty Master of Ceremonies for many years.

1986-94
John or 'Johnny' Walker.

Martyn Bonner
MBE
2014-2022.

Stewards and Caterers

Few stewards stayed long. In the first years many were men who came with their spouses, and you might guess who often worked hardest! Their retainer was poor, but they were provided with accommodation and in middle years a car was provided. They were told that they could supplement their pay by washing clothes and cleaning shoes! Taking holidays was an issue and often deemed to be 'inconvenient'.

1887 Mrs. Williamson (Tom's mother) supplied tea and sandwiches initially in the stationmaster's house until the pavilion opened in 1892.

1891 Miss Williamson was asked to clean and take charge of the pavilion for 2s 6d a week. The payment for tea, served by Mrs. Williamson, would be *'sufficient at 4d on Thursdays and Saturdays, given the large demand'*.

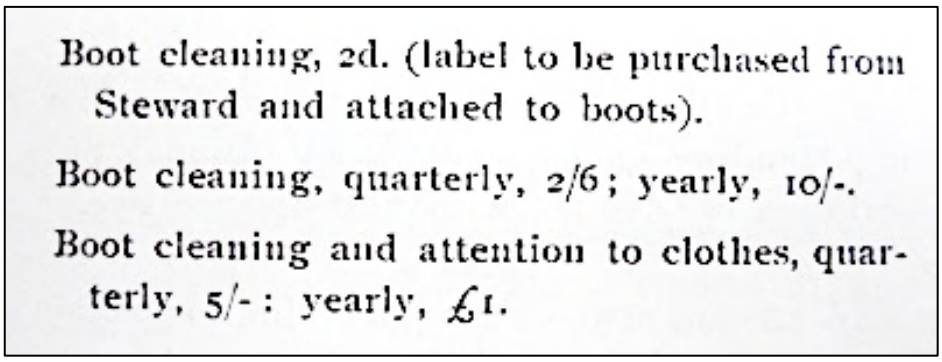
1899 Mrs. Williamson's stipend became 10s a week for cleaning the pavilion including all rooms, lighting fires, dusting and washing brushes. She charged 6d for washing a dozen towels.

1901 Sergeant Major Stacey

1902 Sergeant Major Radband

1903 …the steward be instructed to refuse to supply refreshments to members whose subscriptions are in arrears…

1905 Sergeant Major Radband resigned. New stewards, Mr. and Mrs. Linkin were engaged on £1 18s 6d to cover servants and washing per week.


Boot cleaning, 2d. (label to be purchased from Steward and attached to boots).

Boot cleaning, quarterly, 2/6; yearly, 10/-.

Boot cleaning and attention to clothes, quarterly, 5/-: yearly, £1.

1909

1909 Mrs. Linkin was on her own during the war.
1912 There was a 'waiting maid' and two kitchen maids. "…a suitable ladder be provided as a means of escape from the new servant's bedrooms".
1919 Extra bedrooms and sitting rooms built.
1921 Mr. and Mrs. W Woolett were paid £100 per annum plus payment for washing clothes and boot cleaning, guaranteeing a further £100.
1922 £10 authorised to buy a dog for the steward.
1924 Clubhouse fire. The caddie's shelter was adapted as temporary accommodation for the steward. An advertisement in the Times and Nottingham Guardian "…One or two daughters willing to assist would be an advantage…" resulted in 185 applications but this was a job specification made to measure!
1924 Mr. and Mrs. Morrell were appointed, helped by their daughters Joy and Phyllis.
1926 Mr. and Mrs. (Ivy) Roe, Peggy and two maids.
1935 Mr. & Mrs. Brown

1935 The Bystander (magazine) Tom Williamson and JE Rowe (steward) (73).

Christmas Box Fund (1935)

Mr. & Mrs. Brown	£43-0-0
Peggy	£8-0-0
Enid	£3-0-0
Hilda	£5-0-0
Gladys	£5-0-0
Gertie	£5-0-0
Hollinwell station staff	£2-0-0
Victoria station staff	£2-0-0
Guards	£1-10-0
Poole (Green staff)	£10-0-0
Parsons	£6-0-0
Hill (Green staff)	£6-0-0
Cross	£6-0-0
Milward	£5-0-0
Lowe	£5-0-0
Moss	£5-0-0
Leslie	£5-0-0
White	£5-0-0
Houseboy (Herbert)	£4-0-0
Postman	£1-0-0
Butcher Boy	10 shillings

1938 ‘Unable to obtain an assistant cook for £1 a week so we have put Albert, the handy boy, behind the scenes under Mrs. Brown to learn to cook’.
1938 Two waitresses couldn’t get out of the train and were taken to Pinxton where they were surcharged 3 1/2d for travelling there without a ticket!
1939 Mr. Brown resigned to work as an Army Rescue Officer.
1942 Mr. and Mrs. Sanders. Soon afterwards Mrs. Sanders took on all the duties of the steward who was at work of ‘National interest’.
1946 Mr. Osborn
1947 Mr. Gore proved very satisfactory as a locker room attendant.
1950 Motor car bought for the steward £350
1951 Mrs. Button
1952 Mr. and Mrs. Brownlow
1954 Mr. and Mrs. Turner. £15 for TV set.
1958 Mr. and Mrs. Holmes. 26 not 32 tots from a bottle of whisky.
1959 Mr. and Mrs. Mitchiner
1960 Mr. and Mrs. TH Whalley helped in periods when no steward was available. First Food Hygiene inspection. Mr. and Mrs. Carter helped whilst Whalley’s on holiday.
1960 Mr. and Mrs. JH Boakes. He bought the car off the club. Waitresses walked out.

1961 New steward sought. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingworth from the Royal Overseas League. Vacuum cleaner purchased and power points installed. Humber Hawk purchased for the steward. Conveyor belting placed in the men's bar. A fruit machine was installed.
The Licensing Act 1961 meant that the hours of opening needed to be submitted.
1962 Mr. and Mrs. Hartley. 'Too many sauce bottles in circulation'. More attention to cleaning in 'out-of-the-way-spots'.
1965 Mr. and Mrs. Turner
1965 Mr. and Mrs. HGW Bell. Electrification of the kitchen took place (Mrs. Bell wasn't happy!).
1967 Bad fire in the Steward's Quarters.
1970 The John Player Classic: the clubhouse was reserved for members and wives. Guests paid £2, visitors were served in a tent.
1971 Carpets were purchased for the lounge to replace colliery belting!
1972 Mr. and Mrs. Goddard
1974 Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Hubbard recruited from Wollaton Park GC.
1979 Mr. Hubbard died.
1983 Committee complained about 'car park golfers'.
1985 Tom Brown, barman, retires after 50 years.
1987 Brian Newbury, a previous caddy at the Club.

1990 Dennis Watson, locker attendant, resigned through ill health.
1992 Mr. Hubbard vacated the premises; there was no resident steward after this.
1992 June Timms
2010 Alison Jenkins left after 25 years assisting.
2011 David and Julie Flanagan ran the catering and bar as an independent business.
2015 Tracey Henderson ran the service inhouse.

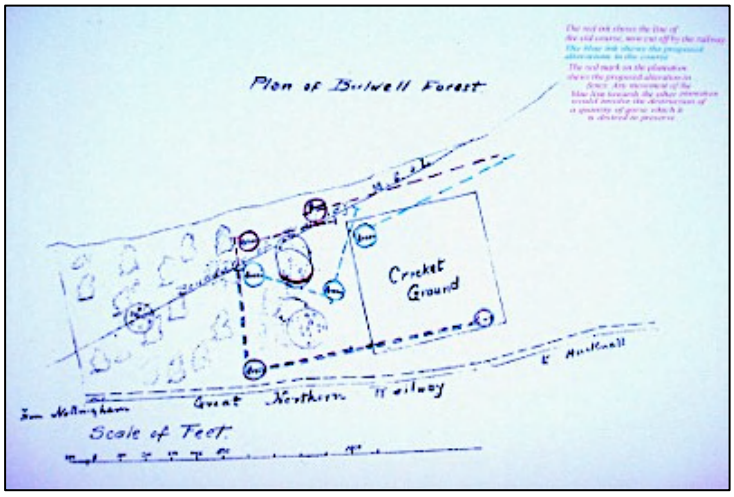
Notts. Ladie's Golf Club and Women in Notts. Golf Club

The articles of Notts. Golf Club are gender-neutral, yet Notts. Ladies Golf Club set up as an independent Club in 1891. The relationship between Notts. Ladies Golf Club and Notts. Golf Club might be described as either paternalistic or domineering; perhaps it depends on which Club the reader is a member? Today, we talk about golf played by any gender.

Notts. Golf Club now has women who are full and equal members within the club and anyone from any gender are welcome.
Notts. Ladies Golf Club has chosen to remain a separate single sex club.
1891 Mrs. Warren and Miss Evans of South Road, The Park wrote to the secretary, William Hamilton, expressing the desire to form a Ladies' Golf Club. NGC passed a resolution unanimously *“That the club welcomes the formation of a Ladies' GC and agrees to accept half of the subscriptions payable by its members to keep the greens in order of play”.*

This agreement was on condition that the Ladies' Club were not allowed to play on competition days (Saturdays and Thursdays) or on days when a match with other clubs was arranged.

1894 Ladies initially played on a separate 9-hole course.
It is pertinent that women only obtained the vote in 1918 and that was restricted to women over 30 years who also fulfilled a property criterion! 1894 Letter to the Parks Committee from the NGC secretary: *"I have been asked by Notts. Ladies Golf Club, the members of which play at Bulwell Forest, to call to your attention the following facts: The Ladies' Club (which now numbers between 70 and 80 members) has hitherto played on the old course, round the cricket ground, which was abandoned by the Notts. Club when you gave the latter permission to extend the links towards Hucknall."*



The line of the MS&L Railway had cut off a considerable portion of the Ladies' course – the railway line is shown above.

1894 continued: *"By a little planning, the members have been enabled to lay out some further holes, but they cannot go down the Valley hole…because*

of the railway and the plantation. …may they have permission to round it off on the other side…of course, they would bear all expense."

1896 NGC took over the maintenance of the Ladies' greens, the Ladies' Club agreed to pay their proportion of the expenses.

1899 The new club house of the Notts. Ladies' Golf Club was opened. In February it was resolved that the Ladies' Club paid £23 per annum (£13 greens, £5 cleaning, £5 rent of club rooms).
NLGC had access to all 18 holes with 61 playing members and 13 honorary members. Nottingham Daily Express: *"The (NLGC) committee take this opportunity to thank Notts. Golf Club for all their kindness and assistance rendered during the past season"*. NLGC played full days Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and Monday and Wednesday up to 1 o'clock. In October the Ladies' Club asked to be able to play on another afternoon a week offering to give up Monday or Wednesday mornings. They were then granted all day Monday, Tuesday and Friday if they gave 'priority' to members of Notts. Golf Club!

1900 Ladies were limited to 100 members.

1901 The Ladies' Club were charged 15 shillings a year individually (for new male members joining NGC it was 3 guineas) and this arrangement was informal until 1927.

1902 Ladies' tees were constructed.

1903 The Ladies' Club presented NGC with the ‘Ladies' Challenge Bowl’ played for by match play after a qualifying medal round.

1904 £20 received from NLGC to improve the Ladies' tees and course. Ladies were not allowed to introduce male visitors to the privileges of the club! The tradition of ladies playing in mixed foursomes golf on Bank Holidays started.

1913 Ladies’ Open Championship inaugurated at Hollinwell.

1922 Ladies permitted to play on Thursdays.

1924 New clubhouse at a cost of £11,200. Debentures offered from 22 members of NLGC for £1,240.1925 Membership permitted to increase to 125.

1926 The Scratch Committee of NGC agreed to Notts. Ladies' Golf Club's request that their SS could be 77 if holes 2,4,7,12,14 and 17 were lengthened.

1927 It was decided that the Ladies' Club should pay a fee instead of individual subscriptions.

1933 Enid Wilson retained her title of British Ladies' Amateur Champion for the third consecutive year. She beat the American Champion when she played in the Curtis Cup. 1934 a request to increase numbers of women to 160 was granted.

1938 Ladies were allowed to play on Sundays for 2s 6d per round.

1939 The system of paying fee for the NLGC went into abeyance and donations towards upkeep of the course were made.

1945 On V.E. Day the Captain entertained NGC and NLGC to tea and prizes.

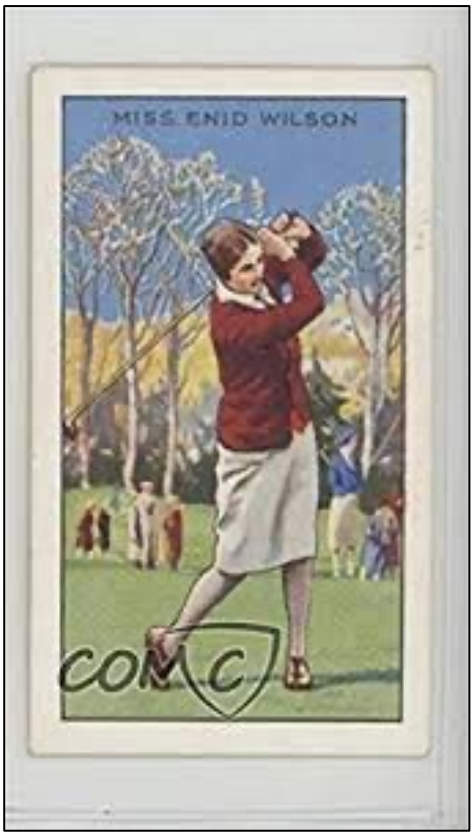
1953 England vs Canada Ladies' International; England won 51/2 - 41/2.

1954 A test airplane from Rolls Royce had an emergency landing on the 14th fairway and members of NLGC came to assist.
One of the engineers told the Nottingham Guardian *“There were a number of golfers about, including women, and they were most helpful”*.
Agreed the rent would be increased from £250 to £750 for the next 25 years.

1961 A NLGC member invited to observe House Committee meetings. NLGC requested two members attended but this was declined.

1962 NLGC members could play after 4pm on Saturdays.

1932 Enid Wilson.



1925 Won British Girl's Championship Stoke Poges.
1928 Won English Ladies' Closed Championship in
1931, 1932 and 1933 played in international matches.

1967 NLGC members voted by 25 to 19 to move their competition day to Friday and were allocated one hour tee times.

1975 NGC afforded a grant of £500 to NLGC to help them meet their rental.

1978 The Ladies' British Open Amateur Championship was won by Edwina Kennedy who still played off a handicap of one 30 years later at the Australian Golf Club, Sydney.

1981 NLGC rent increased to £1,000 which resulted in an increase in subscriptions. Resignations contributed to an increase from £45 to £75 per member as the remaining members had to share the cost. Business Ladies' Medal play was introduced on Sundays.

1986 A shameful event occurred for NGC. Cambridge University wrote to arrange a date for the next year's fixture, and they wished to include Miss Fiona MacDonald. It was decided that the match should be held on a Saturday, and they were asked to provide an all-male team!

1987 Janet Collingham won the British Amateur Ladies' Championship at Royal St. David's Golf Club.

1989 In the suggestion book.…that any Lady being selected for her university would be welcomed without any discrimination. To the discredit of the club, the committee said they felt ‘it was against the general interest of the membership’. They did however agree to play any such match on a different day.

1994 Ladies' British Senior Championship won by Diane Williams.

2006 Women gain access throughout the clubhouse.

2017 A representative from NLGC was invited onto NGC Greens Committee.

2018 Women join NGC. NLGC offered favorable terms to join NGC, but NLGC choose to remain a separate club.

2019 Emily Rowbottom, a member of Notts. Golf Club, won the monthly medal.

2021 Emily Rowbottom elected to Notts. Golf Club Committee.

The Logo

In 1887 the Nottingham Golf Club, sometimes shortened to Nottm. Golf Club was formed. Until 1990 the club's notepaper was headed 'The Nottingham Golf Club' or 'The Notts. Golf Club'.

On 20th December 1900 the Notts. Golf Club was incorporated as a limited company.

No logo was used on notepaper, leaflets, or literature until 1986 but in 1933 a club tie was devised by Colonel Lee with Robin Hood holding a bow and arrow in red on a background of Lincoln green (below left).

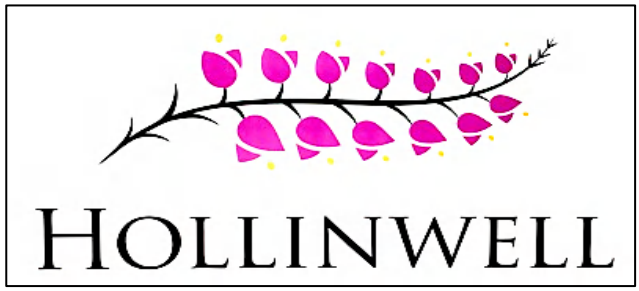
In 1983 when the stock of Robin Hood club ties ran out that it was decided to redesign the tie. It was then that Mr. B Lawley found two medals (above right) originating from 1893. No similar images have been found other than some buttons that omitted 'The Nottinghamshire'. This emblem has a shield and a ragged cross and three coronets. It derives from the City of Nottingham shield with its colours reversed.

The shield has two staves ragulee (irregular staffs in a cross) which are meant to represent 'difficulties encountered'. Two ducal coronets are either side and another around the bottom staff (enfiled). It had *Vivit post funera virtus* (Virtue survives death) underneath. Mr. B Lawley inserted Notts. G.C. Hollinwell and this logo was used from 1986 until 2019 on ties, notepaper and advertising.

Nottingham City's shield took its ragged cross and three crowns from Colchester. Colchester's coat of arms predates Nottingham's, which has no record of the latter before 1610. Colchester claims to be the birthplace, in the year 242, of the Empress Saint Helena, who was daughter of King Coel Godeberg, from whom the town of Colchester takes its name. The legend credits Saint Helena with being the discoverer of the True Cross of Christ and its nails as well as the bodies of the "Three Kings" (the Magi). The remains of these she caused to be transferred from India to Constantinople, then to Milan, and to Cologne. The chapel of the Three Kings is dedicated to them, and other remains are said to be contained in Santa Maria in Ara Coeli in Rome and Eglise Saint-Leu-Saint-Gilles in Paris.

Colchester’s coat of arms first appeared after a Royal Charter was granted by Henry V in 1413. Its red background represents the blood of Christ, the green cross the living cross of Saint Helena, the three crowns and the three Kings from the Nativity Story. In Colchester’s shield three nails hold the crowns, representing the nails which held Christ to the cross. There is speculation that to prove the antiquity of the City of Nottingham it used the ragulee and crowns to try and indicate that that Coelus or Coels, the British King, was buried in Nottingham. This assertion is unreliable.

In 2011 Cotgrave Golf Club's new owner changed its name to The Nottinghamshire Golf and Country Club. Notts. Golf Club had previously been referred to as The Nottinghamshire in magazines, articles and club medals. However, it had not registered the name in Companies House, and it was decided not to challenge the use of the. name. By 2019 the use of the names Notts. or Notts. Golf Club and The Nottinghamshire was causing confusion. A marketing subcommittee solved this by reverting to the traditional name of Hollinwell. Below is an icon of a wisp of heather, thereby connecting the name with the heathland nature of the course. A clear Hollinwell brand was established for marketing the club.



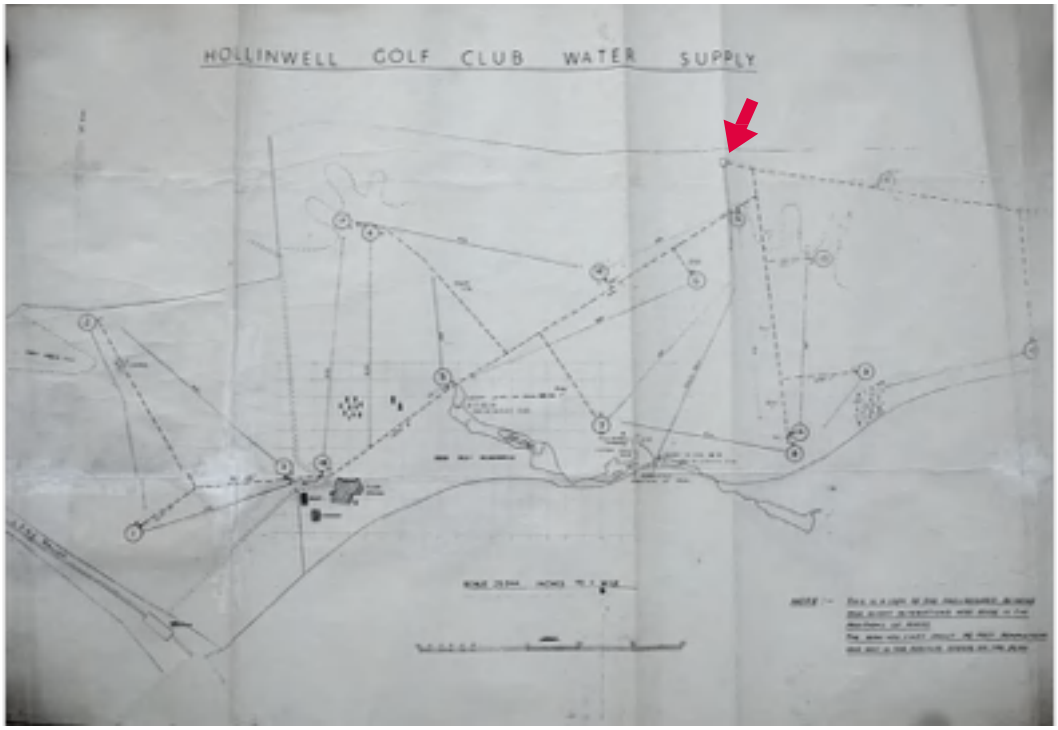
The Watercourse

John Chapman's map of 1774 shows two tributaries, one from Robin Hood's Chair through what is now Hollinwell going to Newstead Ponds and the other from Mosley Spring; both end up draining into the River Leen (see Appendix for more information on the River Leen).

Geo Sanderson's map of 1836 shows 'Hollin well' with a pond towards Monk Barns before it spills into Newstead ponds and then to the river Leen.

1836 'Hollin well' by Geo Sanderson.

In 1902 a curling pond was created by building a dam and that became known as middle pond or curling pond.

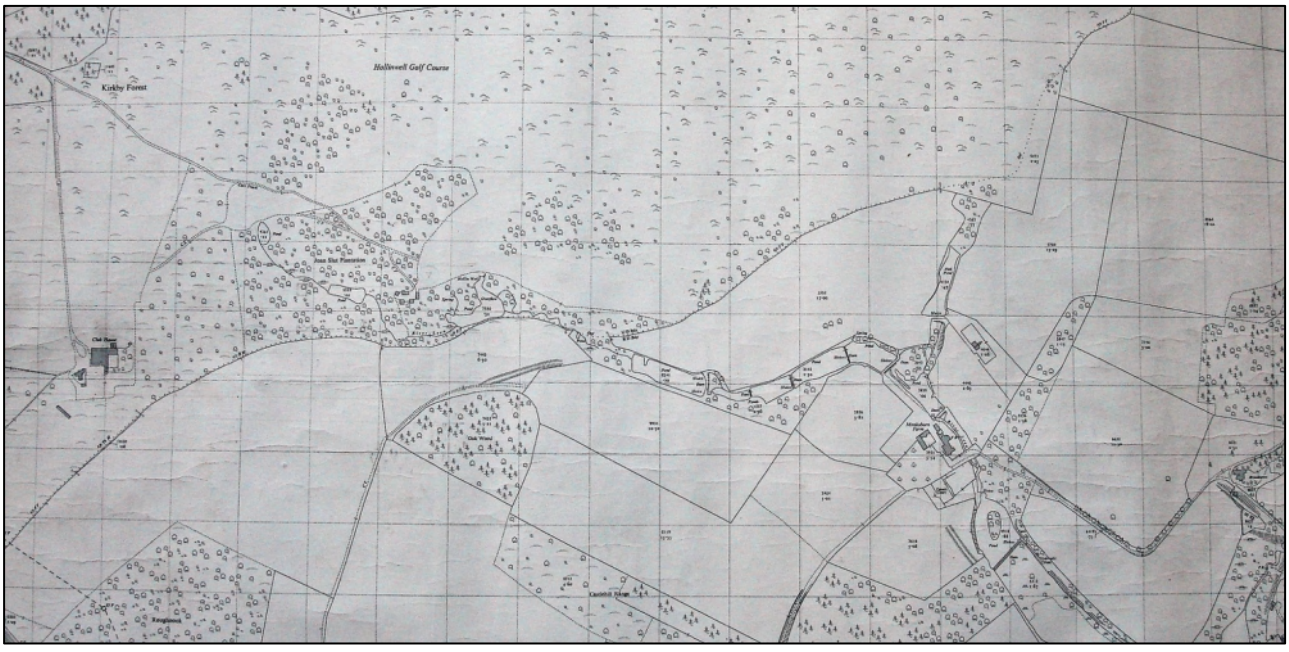


Pre-1935 Watercourse and proposed irrigation (the red arrow points to the old reservoir).

The map named ‘pre-1935 watercourse’ shows an extensive series of ponds and it doesn’t have the driving range shed that was built in 1936. It is post 1912 as it shows Tom Williamson’s first three holes. It identifies the curling pond that was used in 1905 and in the 1930s. There was no pond to carry on the fourth hole.

The maps dated 1947 and 1961 barely differ and show the pond behind the 5th green as well as a sizable pond where the current stagnant ponds are, and the pond that the ‘Well’ drains into.

1947



1961

The lake at the 8th disappeared in the 1980s and thousands of gallons emptied towards Newstead Abbey. The Club claimed this had happened through subsidence. The Coal Board denied this, and it went to Arbitration. The Club won.

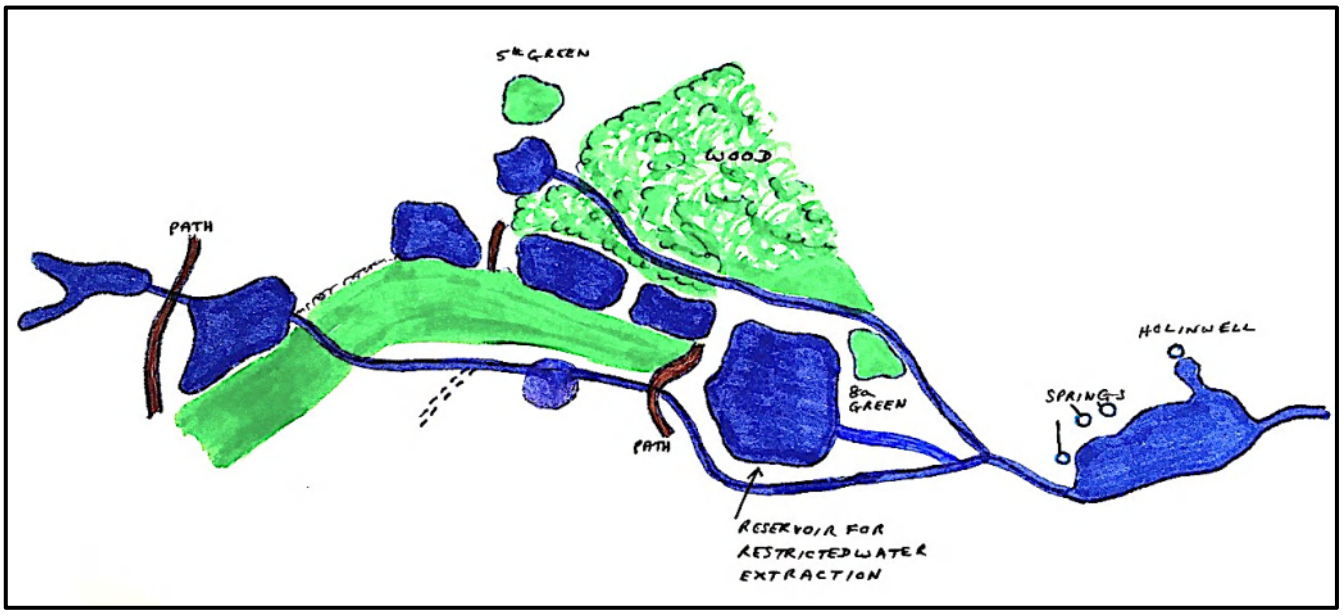
A new dam wall was built, and it was lined by tons of puddle clay. There were some hiccups with the repair in that the detour site leaked when the dam was re-installed, but this was fixed.

Phil Stain commenting on the pre-1935 map: *"If you look above the 15th the little square is the old reservoir that the lads would swim in if it was a hot summer in the 80's. As a new starter I was taken up there and thrown in, my first taste of Hollinwell water you might say. Water was pumped from the Hollinwell via the pump house on the 8th up to the reservoir. The original system was gravity fed, with the reservoir being the highest point. This is very interesting because it shows the original irrigation lines. When I started (1984) the 4th pond was just a slab-sided dyke, it was enlarged and turned into a pond with the spoil going on the area that we graze to the right of the 4th carry. This is why we decided to graze the area because it was so rich and initially just grew weeds. The pond at the side of the 4th tee and the dry pond next to it were once birch woodland. The curling ponds were just muddy holes in the 80's when I arrived, no water in them whatsoever. It wasn't until later that they were re-excavated, and dams constructed to hold water, primarily for irrigation storage. Sadly, they never held as much as was originally intended and the current irrigation pond was enlarged again relatively recently. I can clearly remember the old concrete sluice behind the 5th, the water had undermined it, so it was ineffective when I arrived."*

"The dam and stream leaving the 5th are not original, the bypass stream as we call it was installed at the same time as the dams were put into the curling ponds. A requirement of the Environment Agency at the time was to allow for winter storage, and that water was to be used for irrigation. The original water course ran through the curling ponds (muddy holes) which were full of leaves and dead trees."

*Referring to 8a and 9a Phil Stain says, "In front of the 4th was a slabbed dyke that joined a stream that ran across 9a where it is now 9in front of the green). The pond on the 4th was created in the hope that it would take water more freely, not only from the carry, but also the 18th approach. The pond to the right of the new 9a green, as I recall, was built to enhance the renovated 9a, and the dry pond as we call it (*stagnant pond on right before path to 5a blue tee*), was built for the same reason, to enhance the hole."*

"The streams from the 18th were diverted through the woods and to the side of the irrigation pond, and the stream from the 5th was diverted to the opposite side of the now full, and re-dammed curling ponds. The environment agency wouldn't allow us to leave the streams running through any storage ponds, as we wanted the water for irrigation. They wanted to ensure we couldn't interrupt the flow via our abstraction activities."



2021 Hollinwell ponds and watercourse.

(note the water runoff bypasses the reservoir as water extraction is limited under license)

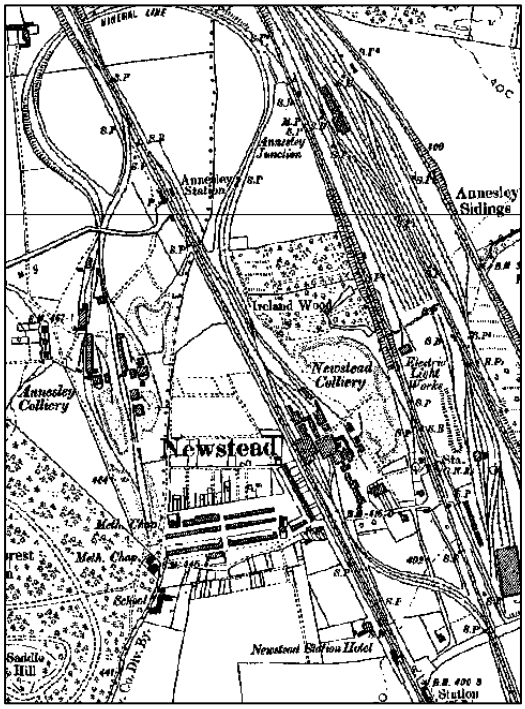
2010 Ponds behind 5th green

Ponds in 2020

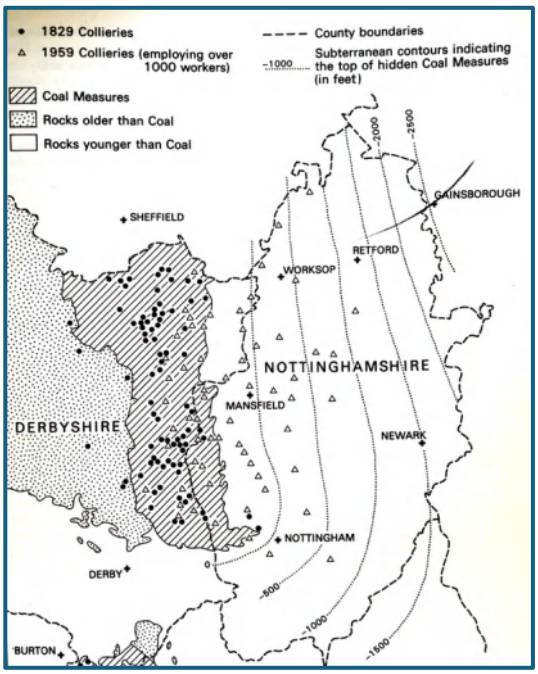
Newstead & Annesley Collieries

The Collieries are relevant to Hollinwell because of the subsidence they caused to the course and their effect on the water table. Annesley Colliery was sunk in 1865 by the Worswick family from Leicestershire. The Top Hard seam was reached in 1867 and like all other pits in the Leen Valley, this seam was then mined for the next 50 years or so. The shafts were sunk to the Deep Hard seam in 1914 and were worked until 1950 together with the Deep Soft seam. The Deep Soft seam continued until 1983. In 1924 the colliery was bought by the New Hucknall Colliery Company who invested much needed capital into the mine.

Annesley became part of the Annesley, Bentinck, Newstead Complex in 1985 and in the same year part of the newly formed Nottinghamshire area of British Coal. Major reconstruction took place in 1986 when the Tupton and Deep Hard seams were abandoned, and all future mining operations were based on Thick Black Shale.



In 1988 the Colliery officially became the Annesley/ Bentinck Mine. When Linby ceased production in March 1988 it left Annesley as the last pit in the Leen Valley having produced coal for over 120 years. In January 1999, it was announced that the Midlands Mining PLC was closing Annesley-Bentinck colliery due to geographical problems and adverse market conditions. The last shift was 28th January 2000.



Coal Mines 1959.

Annesley Colliery and water extraction

(abridged from Harvey Wood of the Clean Rivers Trust)

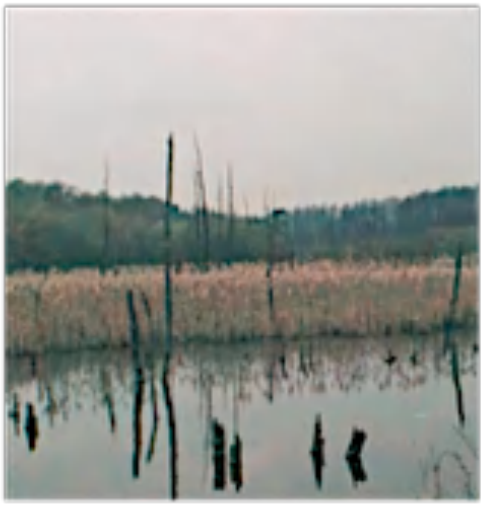
Annesley is notable for being situated on the outcrop of the Sherwood/Bunter sandstones that make up the main east geological covering over part of the Carboniferous limestones whose outcrop lies a mile or so to the west. Beyond this the coal seams start to outcrop into the valley of the River Erewash. Annesley Colliery was a fine example of a Victorian coal mine that continued to cut and raise coal up to the last year of the Twentieth Century. Annesley was known as a low water producing mine with its operations being relatively dry. However, as other mines closed the water increased from elsewhere in the labyrinth of interconnected workings stretching north and west towards the outcrops of Derbyshire. Pumping 1.2 million gallons a day was a constant issue both below ground and on the surface.

The pit top at Annesley was extensive. Around the northern and eastern sides of the site large pit tips dominated the landscape. From the top of the tips the natural drainage pattern was toward the Dumbles, South of Hollinwell, down to the Leen Valley and beyond Newstead and its lakes. The drainage from the colliery right up to the 1960s had been Victorian, rudimentary and basic.

Present site of Annesley Colliery (red).
Three lagoons used to hold pit water are to the right.

The water from Annesley mine, both pumped and surface, was allowed to drain down the hill to the Dumbles (the Dumbles are surface water lagoons to the right of the second large lagoon and bordered by the ploughed brown field), flowing through the South route to Newstead Abbey lakes and down the River Leen. There were water quality issues with contamination by coal dust and detritus, acidity and iron staining. The 1960s saw the beginnings of a major shrinkage in the coal industry. Some water stoppings were placed strategically underground between the closed and active areas to protect the deeper working mines. These water stoppings gave protection, but some of the stoppings were better engineered than others and the water pressure that built up behind them was immense.
In the 1970s these hydraulic barriers started to fail with the result that to protect the working coal faces and continue production the working mine had to increase pumping rates. This led at one period to the pit having to remove over 4 million gallons a day.

This was both to protect the economic coal seams and even more importantly to protect the miners from inundation, one of the great fears of those labouring beneath the surface of the earth. When pumped volumes of water started to increase dramatically it was not discharged into the River Leen headwaters, but via a huge holding lagoon that was constructed on the top of the old spoil heap overlooking the Leen Valley. This lagoon was found to be inadequate to hold the volumes of water that were being brought to the surface and control the discharge to the river, so a further two holding lagoons were constructed at decreasing levels on spoil heaps adjacent to the first lagoon. This whole operation covered more than 600 acres of land.
The three large ponds on the spoil heaps are clearly visible, the smaller lagoons and pumping station that sent the water from the mines to the River Trent are to the southeast of the first lagoon. The Dumbles surface water lagoons are to the right of the second large lagoon.
These lagoons did what was required of them at the time, to hold water and allow some of the iron that was in the water to precipitate out of the minewater as ochre. However, when the water volume into the headwater of the Dumbles significantly increased, the top lakes of Newstead Park became flooded.



Mine water was pumped into the top lagoon at 27c degrees.

The water quality of the mine water discharge deteriorated as well as its iron content and the water was acidic (pH 6 – 3.7) with an increase in its chloride content. The wooded banks of the lakes running into Newstead Park were inundated by this polluted water. Many of the trees died, fish and other aquatic life was wiped out. The Trent River Board at the time stepped in at the request of Nottingham City Council and Newstead Abbey and Park. The damage to the landscape proved to be considerable to the lakeside woodland: the damage is still visible today more than 40 years on (see top left). Urgent discussions were carried out to see what could be done to alleviate the plight of Newstead lakes and the River Leen. An advantage of a public company (the nationalised National Coal Board as it was at the time) was to avoid getting into further conflict with local authorities regarding opencast coal mining applications.

The solution to this problem was to remove the polluted water from the Leen catchment area altogether. The volume of the pumped mine water steadied to less than 2 million gallons per day and was diverted to the River Trent some 17.5 kilometers away to the south emptying near the Attenborough Nature Reserve. The Trent River Board felt that the main midland river, the third largest in the UK, could cope with the chloride levels by dilution with the main river flow. The route of the pipeline was agreed and largely followed the route of the mineral railway line (today the Robin Hood Line). This was a remarkable route that could only have been economically agreed as the railway company, British Railways would have charged a king's ransom for such a wayleave. That the two organisations, the National Coal Board and British Railways were both nationalised companies made it politically possible, a private company could never have been able to afford such a route, and the mining would have had to cease 25 years sooner than it did. The mining industry in the 1970s was a major force in the land as its power was predominantly supplied by 'home' produced coal and the National Union of Miners had as much or more political force than did the Chairman of the Coal Board. This scheme was put in place by the end of 1978 and functioned well until pumping ceased at the end of the millennium. There were problems regarding the pH and pumping line blockages. A pig, a solid rubber projectile, was released down the pipe to unblock it. These objects were found by anglers along the Trent bank, who, called the bomb disposal squad.

The acidity problems were resolved with lime dosing of the ponds and the placing of ‘dekka’ blocks in the spillways between the lagoons. Further ‘stilling’ or settlement ponds were added to the three major lagoons in the 1980s to help remove more iron from the discharge just before the entrance to the pumping station which was also replaced at that time. The lower of the three original top lagoons was taken out of commission at this time as it was found to be unstable and starting to slump. It was retained though as an emergency resource in case extra capacity was required. The amount of mine water in the lagoons and Dumbles could vary in its content. Oil and greases were commonly found to be washing into Newstead lakes.

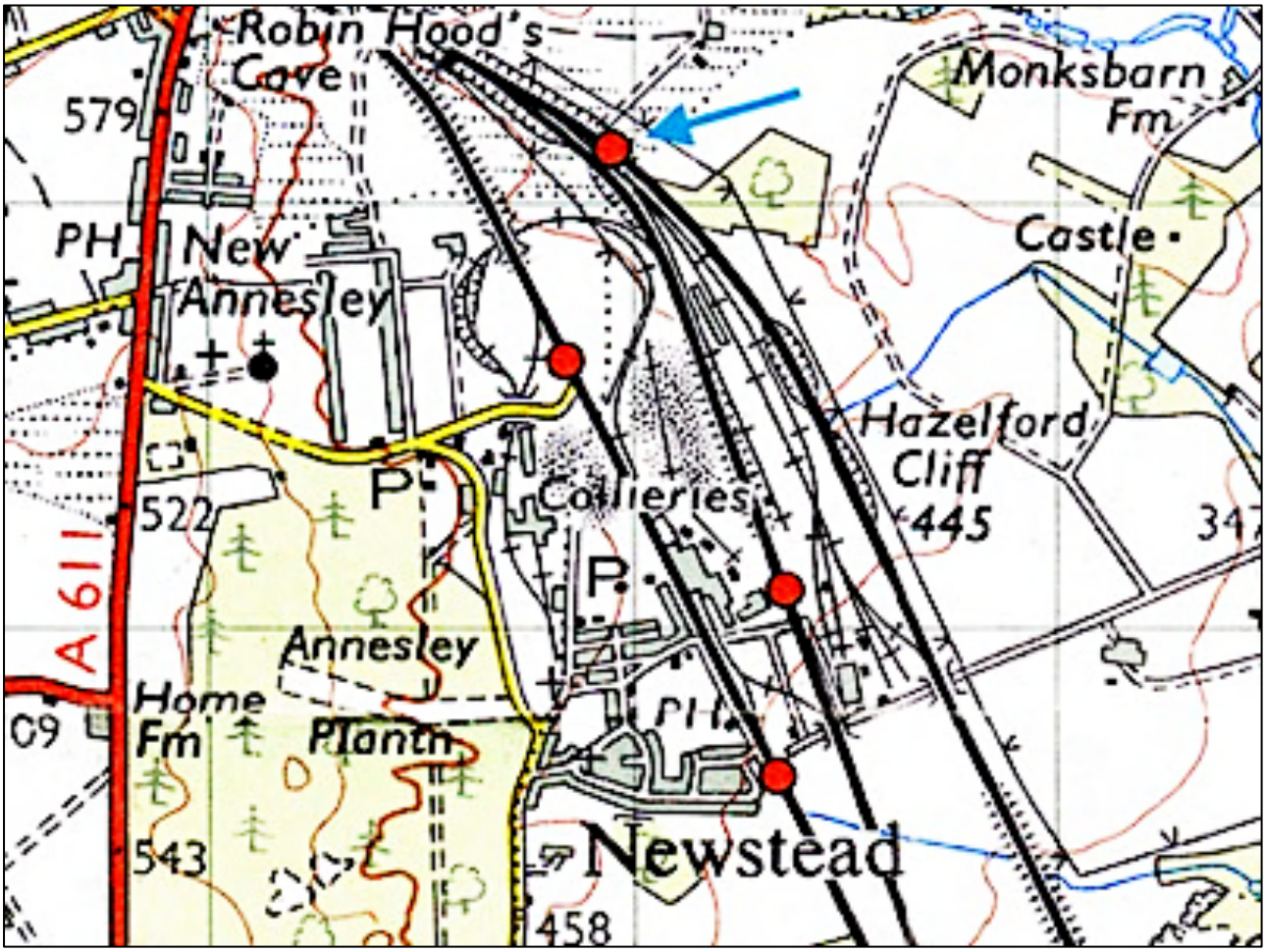
This led to a series of smaller lagoons that were designed to allow treatment of the colliery top surface water and any other runoff that might occur on the eastern edges of the mine’s estate. Thus, water in the Dumbles could be redirected through more lagoons.

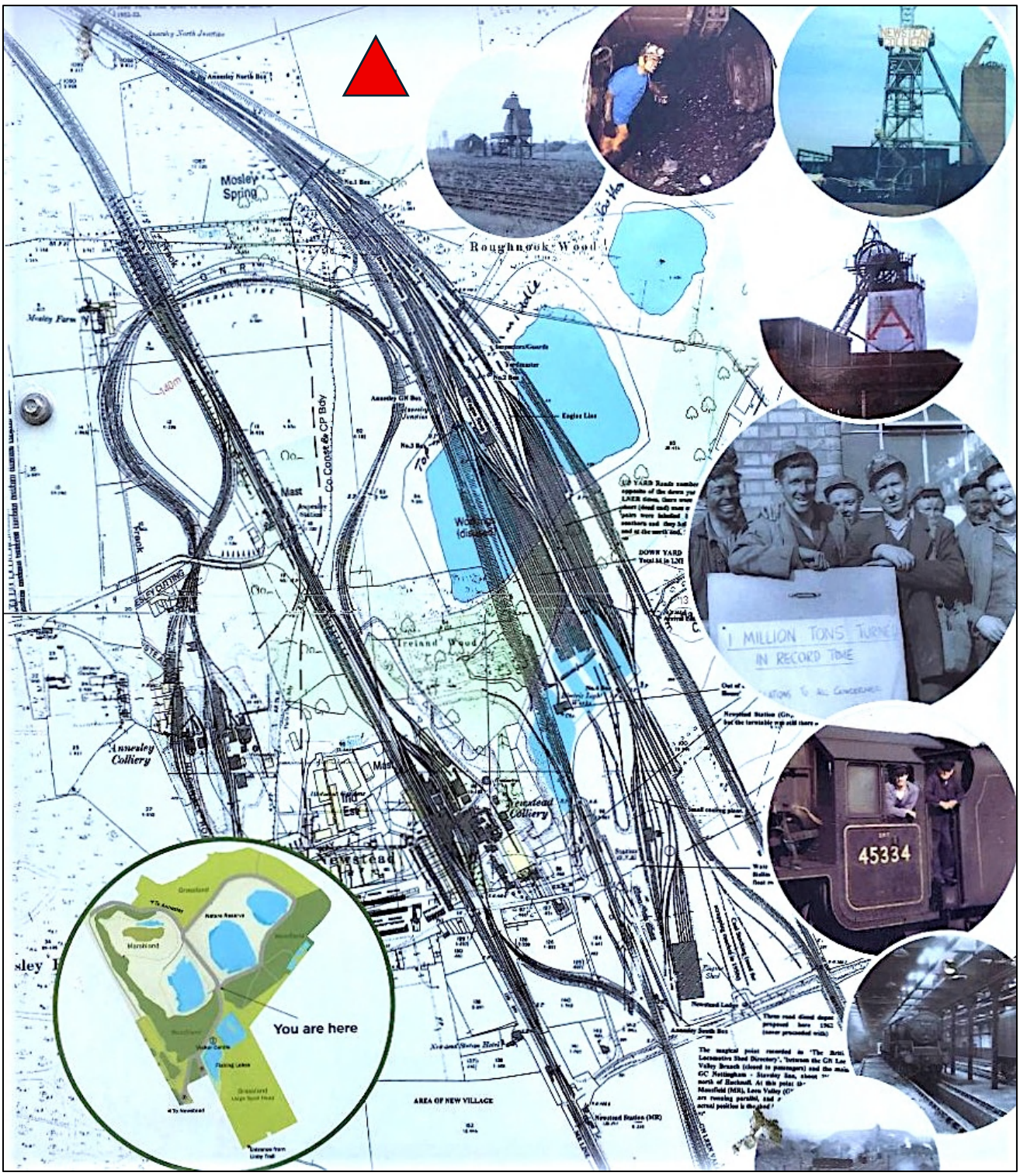
Part of the lagoon system taking pit water from the Dumbles.

There was concern about pollution of the stream with hydrocarbons, oils and grease from around the workshops, accumulated over the last hundred years. One response was to place hydrocarbon retaining boom filters across each spillway where the water passed from one water body to the next. These operated successfully until the mine closed. The Dumbles lagoons became very neglected by the end of their operational life, but they had developed into important wetland and wet meadow habitat with a remarkable flora and fauna. Seven orchid species were identified by Nottingham University working with the Wildlife Trust. Damsel and dragonflies, reptile species including three different newts have also been identified.
The Annesley site was developed as a housing estate by Persimmon Homes plc. The colliery top is known as Jasmine Gardens. Surprisingly, when the drainage plans for the estate were put to the Environment Agency for approval, the surface drains ticked all the sustainability boxes by consigning the water to a soaraway located about the development. In 2000 the pumping station for Annesley-Bentinck colliery was demolished and the pipeline damaged by tram works. As a result, the water table rose and the aquafers were being contaminated by acidic water that had a high mineral content. This poses a problem for the environment agency, farmers and Hollinwell and has yet to be resolved.

Photo of a model of Newstead Colliery (Annesley Colliery was below and to the left of the loop in the railway, Newstead is bottom right).

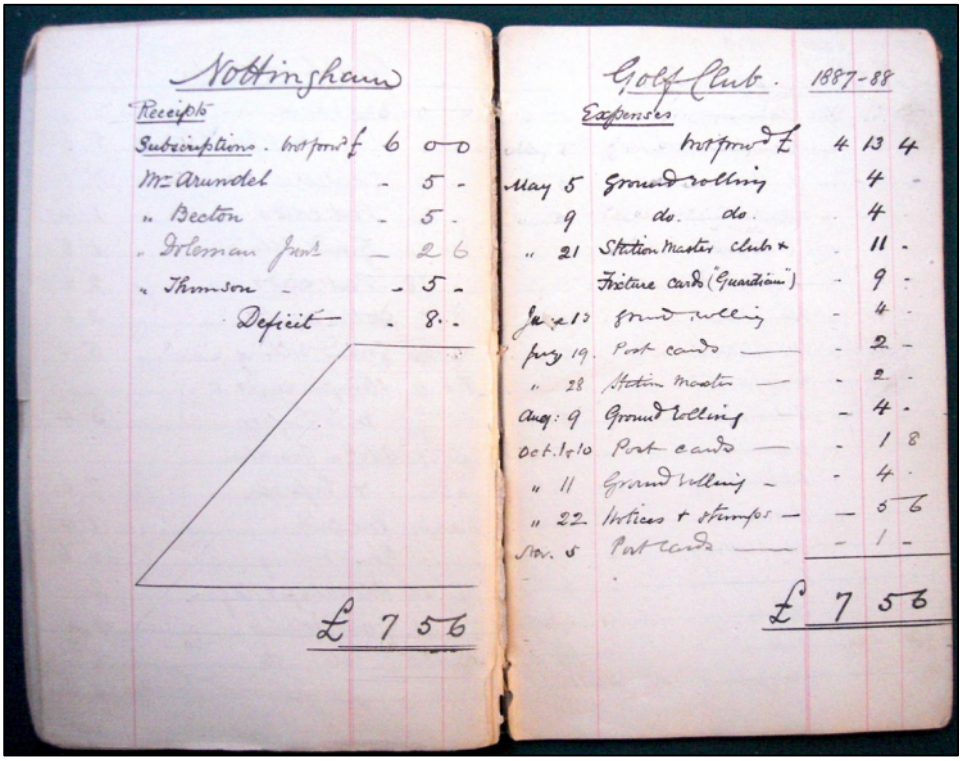
The blue arrow points to the Hollinwell and Annesley Station (below).





An overlay of maps showing the position of the old railway lines and collieries in relation to the lagoons that now form part of Newstead Country Park. Red triangle is the position of Hollinwell.

Financing a members' club



Nottingham Golf Club. 1887-88

Receipts

Subscriptions. brt forwd	£	6	0
Mr Arundel		5	-
" Becton		5	-
" Ireman Jnr		2	6
" Thomson		5	-
Deficit		8	-
	£	7	5

Expenses

	brt forwd	£	4	13 4
May 5	Ground rolling		4	-
" 9	do. do.		4	
" 21	Station Master club &		11	-
	Fixture cards ("Guardian")		9	-
June 13	ground rolling		4	-
July 19	Post cards		2	-
" 28	Station Master		2	-
Aug: 9	Ground rolling		4	-
Oct. 1 to 10	Post cards		1	8
" 11	Ground rolling		4	-
" 22	Notices & stamps		5	6
Nov. 5	Post cards		1	-
		£	7	5

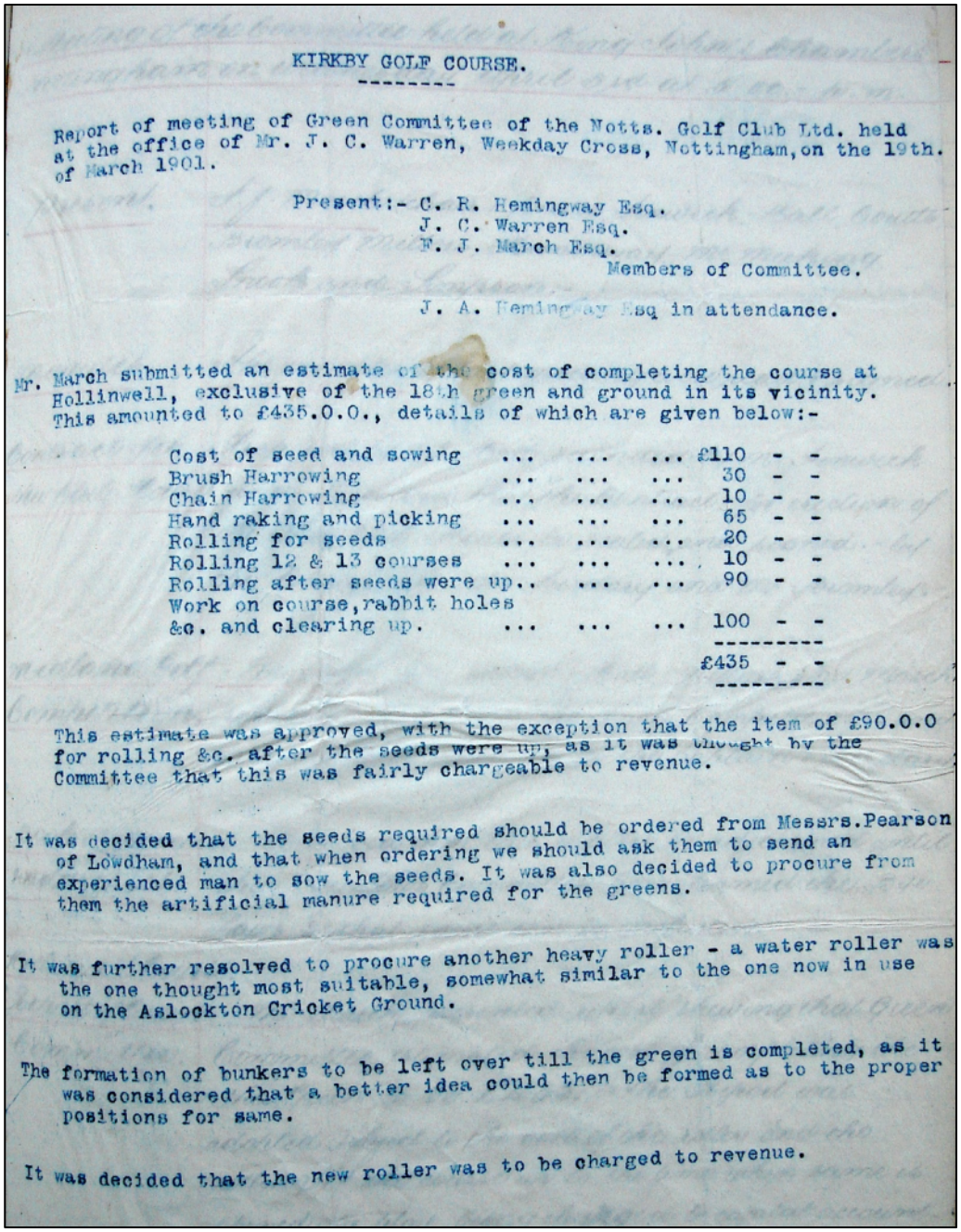
1887 Accounts: if it was this simple today!

The acquisition of land that is now Hollinwell along with its infrastructure were made possible by debentures from members, many of which were later relinquished through their generosity. Members have also been generous with donations to improve many aspects of the Club and its course. The most profitable years for the Club have been when championships have taken place such as the Haig (Tournament Players Championship), when green fee income has been good. The number of members has always been restricted and even though subscriptions have been more than local clubs this has meant that the club has relied on a significant proportion of income coming from green fees.

Many committees have been ingenious in devising means of supplementing funds from various sources, be they the National Coal Board, Renewable Heat Incentive or the Breweries. However, many more have found it easier to spend more than they have! Subscriptions often remained relatively unaltered for several years at a time and then required increases as large as 50% when the Club reached a critical point. It appears that all too often committees have chosen to avoid any conflict with members by not increasing subscriptions, even when inflation was high. I hear the cry that unknown events were responsible for deficits. These ‘unknown’ events occur with such regularity that they can be described as ‘known unknowns’ and need to be budgeted for with a reserve fund. Road resurfacing, irrigation, greens equipment (always need renewing with more expensive machines), water pumps, roofs, pensions, plumbing, rewiring, internal and external decoration, staff furniture, fridges, crockery, carpets, are amongst the items set to drain the treasurer’s pockets on a regular basis. A reserve fund is needed for big one-off costs.

A surplus has been made in only thirty-nine of its one hundred-and thirty-nine-year history, which indicates that maintaining an estate that is twice the size of most golf courses (440 acres), and with a limited membership, to a high level suitable for major competitions is not easy. The following includes some of the items of interest over the years.

1887 Subscription including entrance fee was 5/-.
1900 Subscription of 2 guineas (3 guineas for those joining after 1901). £3,450 raised in debentures.
1901 Clubhouse built for £2,160.
1902 Call for further debentures.
1903 Bishop Baynes, a founder member, wished to re-join the club. He was advised that he had to pay the ordinary entrance fee to do so (he received honorary life membership in 1909).



KIRKBY GOLF COURSE.

Report of meeting of Green Committee of the Notts. Golf Club Ltd. held at the office of Mr. J. C. Warren, Weekday Cross, Nottingham, on the 19th. of March 1901.

Present:- C. R. Hemingway Esq.
J. C. Warren Esq.
F. J. March Esq.
Members of Committee.

J. A. Hemingway Esq in attendance.

Mr. March submitted an estimate of the cost of completing the course at Hollinwell, exclusive of the 18th green and ground in its vicinity. This amounted to £435.0.0., details of which are given below:-

Cost of seed and sowing	£110 - -
Brush Harrowing	30 - -
Chain Harrowing	10 - -
Hand raking and picking	65 - -
Rolling for seeds	20 - -
Rolling 12 & 13 courses	10 - -
Rolling after seeds were up..	90 - -
Work on course, rabbit holes &c. and clearing up.	100 - -
	£435 - -

This estimate was approved, with the exception that the item of £90.0.0 for rolling &c. after the seeds were up, as it was thought by the Committee that this was fairly chargeable to revenue.

It was decided that the seeds required should be ordered from Messrs. Pearson of Lowdham, and that when ordering we should ask them to send an experienced man to sow the seeds. It was also decided to procure from them the artificial manure required for the greens.

It was further resolved to procure another heavy roller - a water roller was the one thought most suitable, somewhat similar to the one now in use on the Aslockton Cricket Ground.

The formation of bunkers to be left over till the green is completed, as it was considered that a better idea could then be formed as to the proper positions for same.

It was decided that the new roller was to be charged to revenue.

1904 270 members. Ladies' Club to pay 15 shillings per member.
1906 303 members. News of the World Tournament, the largest purse at the time with a Prize fund of £240.
1907 316 members. Numbers had been limited to 300 just the year before!
1909 A cash register was installed. Hot lunch 1s 6d, tea with bread-and-butter 6d.
1921 Juniors under 10 whether related to a member or not were allowed to join.
1924 Debentures raised to pay £6K to purchase the course. Sunday golf started once the course was purchased from the ecclesiastical commission.
1924 Clubhouse burnt down. Insurance was paid out but not nearly enough for a rebuild. A new clubhouse built for £11,200. Debenture stock from 180 members amounting to £13,730 and 22 members of NLGC for £1,240 (later the total cost increased to £15,000 plus a mortgage of £5,000).
1924 AW Bright gave his services as an architect.
1928 Members practice ground created and paid for by HW Roberts.
1929 Joining fee suspended (re-introduced 1936).
1934-39 JD Player made several donations including the putting green, driving range shed and clubhouse bay windows as well as course materials.

1938 Joining fee abandoned again (until 1964).
1943 Many members surrendered their debentures.
1946 Anonymous donation was made for a special fund to meet any pensions that the club might become liable for or redeeming debentures.
1948 Further debenture scheme set up.
1949 F Price paid for carpeting and furnishing lounge. Machine kept in a shed by the 7th green.
1951 Finance committee established.
1952 Mr. AS Bright paid for shop's fixtures.
1959 Special resolution for 15 on committee.
1955 17 life members created to clear debts and 'tots' of whisky from 26p to 32p per bottle.
1962 Captains appeal to clear debts. Members donations paid for redecorating, 5- & 6-day members. 1963 The Captain expressed hope that the cost of decoration of the locker rooms and staff quarters might be met by donations.
1964 330 made limit of membership. Joining fee reintroduced and six-day membership abandoned (three in that category invited to become ordinary members). Subscription increases from 20 to 25 guineas. Debate about increasing life members (15) to 20 to repay loan stock. Gaming machine purchased.
1966 8a and 9a in play.
1967 Perilous finances. More debentures launched to deal with life members loans and a new watering system.

1969 Interest-free loans were sought from members to cover an anticipated shortfall in next five years.
1970 36 vacancies.
1971 EGM to increase subs from £37 to £50 (35%).
1974 The Club was in financial difficulties with virtually no reserves and a significant amount of loan stock outstanding repayable at six months' notice. Subscriptions of £50 unchanged since 1971 during which period there had been cost inflation of 40%. Sale of land raised some funds. Subscription increases from £50 to £75 (50%) was rejected by a section of senior members. A reconvened EGM accepted £65 but inevitably the next two years saw deficits. However, as a result the membership was alerted to the parlous financial position of the club.
1975 Funds received from the National Coal Board for 19.5 acres forming a triangle between the disused railway lines to the south of the first green. A bund, or mound, would be made, and the new tip would merge with the old with tree planting on completion. Subscriptions increased from £65 to £80. 1st division 125 members, 2nd 122, no handicap 171.
1976 Subscriptions increased from £80 to £95 (46% in last two years or 90% in last three years). Sixty-two juniors.

1977 PGA Professional Championship income boosted green fees. Capital levy rejected by members. Awarding Honorary Life Membership had become more common with four awarded that year. Greens staff were reduced to a Head greenkeeper, three others and a trainee.
1978 Subscriptions increased from £95 to £115 (resulting in an increase of 130% over four years).
1980 Hut by 9th tee built.
1982 Haig Tournament led to better finances.
1985 320 members, of these 17 members were over 70 and this was a concern!
1995 New greenkeeper's equipment shed. Minuted: *"...the price of Mansfield bitter has been increased by 6 pence a pint…. (and in the same paragraph) hoped that at the end of the year the club should have **liquid** assets of £75,000!"*
1996 Car park refurbished. Received compensation from the Robin Hood Railway line. *"The 'concessionary' price that is given for a bottle of whisky for a hole in one should not be extended to members who had been unable to find time to visit the appropriate off-licence…. the practice must cease immediately!"*

1997 A new watering system cost a great deal, and it never worked properly. A VAT rebate was helpful, but it resulted in members voting down any increase in subscription. Money had to be borrowed to pay for the land next to the 8th and 10th holes.
1998 Proxy votes became admissible.
2002 Grants from the Countryside Stewardship Scheme and Sherwood Forest Trust.
2005 Greens machinery converted to leasing.
2006 Poor green fee income. Biomass boiler.
2007 Over 70s a growing concern with an increasing cost because of their reduced subscription.
2010 Reduction in green fee income. Life membership scheme raises funds.
2011 Jeff Leadley Legacy for the short game area. Sale of land raised funds to the far side of the railway line. Dining room upgraded thanks to a donation. Irrigation system removed reserves.
2012 Car park and road deplete funds.
2013 Age related discounts were reformatted.
2015 Donations helped build new greens shed, revamping old shed, compound fence and Yard. A VAT rebate boosted a reserve fund. Increase in green fee income.
2016 Renewed biomass heating system.
2018 The first of many surveys.

2019 Facilities for greens staff and trolley store.
2020 Covid: the course was closed for many months. Government support and shred management kept the club solvent.
2020 New driving range all weather surface.
2022 The committee structure and governance of the club was changed to a smaller committee, a chairman and a manager.
2024 Leasing arrangements for machinery were curtailed.

The Bits that all Add up: Road resurfacing, internal and external decoration, staff pensions, fridges, crockery, carpets, plumbing, rewiring, furniture, greens equipment (always newer machines and more expense) are amongst the items likely to drain the treasurer's pockets on a regular basis.
In the past limited reserves have often meant that material purchases, machinery and projects have been done cheaply, which has all too often incurred problems and more expense in the long term. One example is that good machinery costs, but it saves on manpower, doesn't break down, and does a better job.

Biodiversity and Sustainability

In 2000 the club started on a journey to restore its heathland character. Restoring heathland does not only mean encouraging and maintaining heather, but in controlling self-set trees, oaks in particular (their leaves mulch the heather and enrich soil), so that copses of valuable woodland can be restricted without invading heathland. The club works closely with Sherwood Forest Trust, The Heathland Trust, Natural England, Notts. Wildlife Trust, the RSPB and other agencies to encourage biodiversity and sustainability. The club use no pesticides, and are sparing in the use of fertilisers, fungicides and water. The club encourage habitats that support wildlife, particularly invertebrates (recently two MSc students have had projects looking at invertebrates in the water system and hybernacula), reptiles, water voles, woodcock- amongst others. Surveys reveal an astonishing range of species.
In 2016 the course was awarded GEO Certification.

Bob Taylor (STRI Ecological assessor on behalf of the R&A) *"From an ecological perspective Notts. Golf Club is every bit a nature reserve as it is a Golf Course. The quality of the habitat management provided by the green staff, and indeed the Club is excellent, and the Course Manager does have a very strong understanding of ecological functioning and management".*

Heathland restoration between 10,11 and 12 holes over the two decades (gorse before, below after).

Gorse is difficult to control and unpleasant to remove. In 2018 a team of volunteers started to support the green staff in restricting its spread.

One of the defining features of Hollinwell is its heathland nature. In the past this came about because of its impoverished soil on sand and grazing by deer, sheep and rodents. Humans also took bracken for bedding and coppiced any of the few trees that grew in the area. Today the equilibrium has altered, and humans are needed to maintain this rare environment and as an internationally threatened habitat identified as a priority under European Law. Below a volunteer 'popping' a self-set tree from amongst the heather.

Gordon Irvine, Master Greenkeeper, has said, "Hollinwell's great qualities are its layout, and that it is one of the few heathland courses in the UK". He then qualified this compliment by saying, "What would make it even better is if it became true heathland and less parkland". These words echo those of others including Jim Arthur in 1986, one of the foremost agronomists of his day. Jim Arthur said, "We must control seedling trees…. remember there are still an awful lot of trees compared to the turn of the century.

Gorse needs cutting back". In 1999 Donald Steel, golf architect, said "…there are signs that the landscape is becoming too enclosed… there are plenty of woodland courses but only one Hollinwell".

Oak trees have many wonderful qualities. They grow for years and soak up carbon dioxide whilst producing oxygen and they also provide an environment for many species. Planting them, and preserving them, helps humans as well as wildlife. However, heathland is one of the few areas that suffer if oak trees proliferate. This is largely because of the large amount of leaf litter that oak trees produce. Heather and longer fine grasses trap and collect oak leaves which smother them, cutting out light and damaging them. Oak leaves also enrich the soil and allow broader leaf grasses to outcompete heather which prefers poor soil.

An example of the extent that oak leaves can collect and mulch heather and potentially enrich the soil.

The enriched soil and plants that follow enrichment with leaves outcompete species that depend on heather and fine grasses. Historically the area that is Hollinwell was not woodland. The soil structure comprises a few inches of humus over sand means that there has been no woodland here for two thousand years.

In 1801 there was only one oak tree in the area towards Thieves Wood (map by John Carey 1801). Nottinghamshire now has only approximately 2% of the heathland that was recorded in 1887. The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust estimates that since 1927, 90% of heathland has been lost in Nottinghamshire. A report by Neil Glasson in 2007 confirms this.
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01426398708706218?journal Code=clar20

Most of the beech, sweet chestnut, birch and oaks at Hollinwell were planted in 1938. So, is heathland more important than woodland? Yes. On this basis, Sherwood Forest Trust, the National Wildlife Trust and the Heathland Trust have been working with Hollinwell to redress this situation and increase the amount of heathland. This is being done primarily under the Country Stewardship Scheme for which the club receives considerable funding.

Bee orchid, one of the rare species found at Hollinwell.

Over 400 bird boxes

Habitat made for a Kingfisher

Hawkbit (below)

Brackenhurst college master's student studying invertebrates

What does GEO certification mean?

In 2016 Notts Golf Club was certified by the Golf Environment Organisation, an international non-profit body dedicated to promoting sound ecological and sustainability practice in and through golf.

The Official Ecologist to the R&A Championship Committee wrote:

Notts. Golf Club is one of the premier nature conservation sites within the UK, it is every bit a nature reserve as it is a golf course and indeed is well known for its nature conservation interests UK wide. The course lies within plantation woodland but is essentially heathland in character and this has been brought out by the ongoing management that is provided by the green staff on behalf of the club. Tree and scrub management and heath regeneration all backed by grazing are key to retaining the conservation interests at Notts. golf club, and all are being undertaken on a routine basis. This course is a prime exemplar and ambassador for best conservation management practice something that has evolved in line with experience, and with regular close working with the local wildlife groups.

Grass snake

Sombrero mushroom

Stinkhorn

Green Forrester

Freshwater mussel

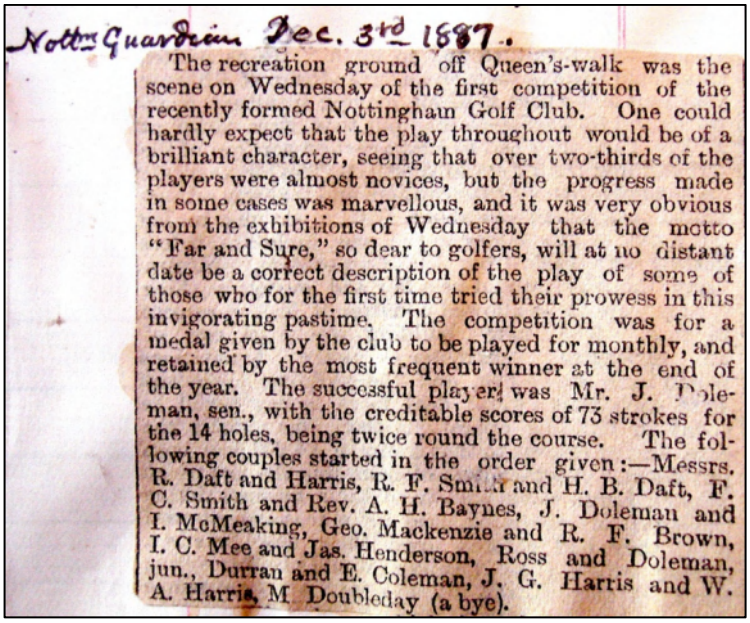
Wood blewits

The whole of the conservation management is overseen and monitored by the Sherwood Forest Trust and through regular and ongoing discussions with Natural England, The Wildlife Trusts and The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

“Notts. (Hollinwell) Golf Club represents a superb example of sustainable golf. It has aligned its golfing experience to get the very best from the sport by being challenged and rewarded by a high-quality naturalised course that supports a wide range of key habitats, species and landscape features. The quality and operation of the facilities and its expert course management team mirror this.”

Newspaper and Magazine Articles

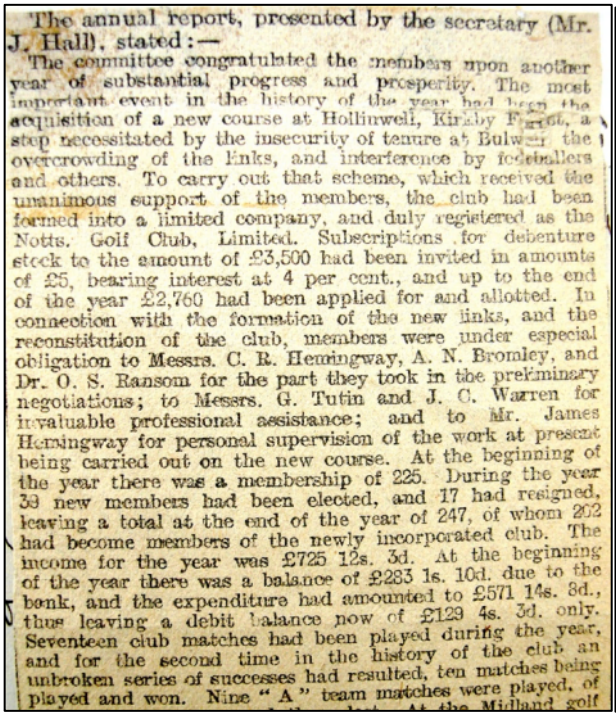
Hundreds of cuttings have been neatly filed of every competition, and event with minutes of all meetings in copperplate handwriting until the 1950s. Here are some examples:



Notts Guardian Dec. 3rd 1887.

The recreation ground off Queen's-walk was the scene on Wednesday of the first competition of the recently formed Nottingham Golf Club. One could hardly expect that the play throughout would be of a brilliant character, seeing that over two-thirds of the players were almost novices, but the progress made in some cases was marvellous, and it was very obvious from the exhibitions of Wednesday that the motto "Far and Sure," so dear to golfers, will at no distant date be a correct description of the play of some of those who for the first time tried their prowess in this invigorating pastime. The competition was for a medal given by the club to be played for monthly, and retained by the most frequent winner at the end of the year. The successful player was Mr. J. Doleman, sen., with the creditable scores of 73 strokes for the 14 holes, being twice round the course. The following couples started in the order given:—Messrs. R. Daft and Harris, R. F. Smith and H. B. Daft, F. C. Smith and Rev. A. H. Baynes, J. Doleman and I. McMeaking, Geo. Mackenzie and R. F. Brown, I. C. Mee and Jas. Henderson, Ross and Doleman, jun., Durran and E. Coleman, J. G. Harris and W. A. Harris, M. Doubleday (a bye).

1887 First Club competition (74).



The annual report, presented by the secretary (Mr. J. Hall), stated:—

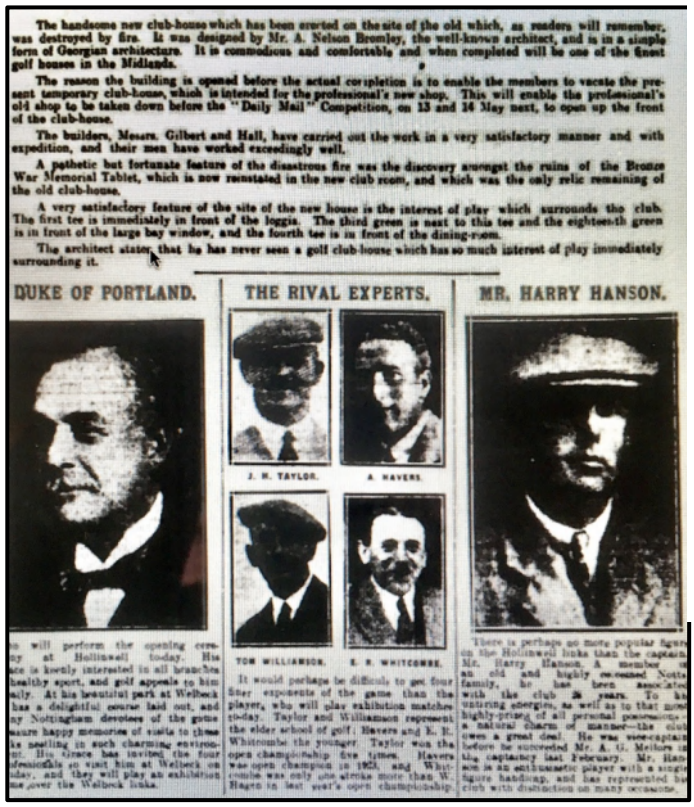
The committee congratulated the members upon another year of substantial progress and prosperity. The most important event in the history of the year had been the acquisition of a new course at Hollinwell, Kirkby Forest, a step necessitated by the insecurity of tenure at Bulwell, the overcrowding of the links, and interference by footballers and others. To carry out that scheme, which received the unanimous support of the members, the club had been formed into a limited company, and duly registered as the Notts. Golf Club, Limited. Subscriptions for debenture stock to the amount of £3,500 had been invited in amounts of £5, bearing interest at 4 per cent., and up to the end of the year £2,760 had been applied for and allotted. In connection with the formation of the new links, and the reconstitution of the club, members were under especial obligation to Messrs. C. R. Hemingway, A. N. Bromley, and Dr. O. S. Ransom for the part they took in the preliminary negotiations; to Messrs. G. Tutin and J. C. Warren for invaluable professional assistance; and to Mr. James Hemingway for personal supervision of the work at present being carried out on the new course. At the beginning of the year there was a membership of 225. During the year 39 new members had been elected, and 17 had resigned, leaving a total at the end of the year of 247, of whom 202 had become members of the newly incorporated club. The income for the year was £725 12s. 3d. At the beginning of the year there was a balance of £283 1s. 10d. due to the bank, and the expenditure had amounted to £571 14s. 8d., thus leaving a debit balance now of £129 4s. 3d. only. Seventeen club matches had been played during the year, and for the second time in the history of the club an unbroken series of successes had resulted, ten matches being played and won. Nine "A" team matches were played, of

Guardian Saturday [illegible] 1921

Tom Williamson, who was last night elected an honorary member of the Notts. Golf Club and presented with £200 in recognition of 25 years continuous service as professional.

1902 Annual report.

1921 Tom Williamson's 25 years' service (75).



The handsome new club-house which has been erected on the site of the old which, as readers will remember, was destroyed by fire. It was designed by Mr. A. Nelson Bromley, the well-known architect, and is in a simple form of Georgian architecture. It is commodious and comfortable, and when completed will be one of the finest golf houses in the Midlands.

The reason the building is opened before the actual completion is to enable the members to vacate the present temporary club-house, which is intended for the professional's new shop. This will enable the professional's old shop to be taken down before the "Daily Mail" Competition, on 13 and 14 May next, to open up the front of the club-house.

The builders, Messrs. Gilbert and Hall, have carried out the work in a very satisfactory manner and with expedition, and their men have worked exceedingly well.

A pathetic but fortunate feature of the disastrous fire was the discovery amongst the ruins of the Bronze War Memorial Tablet, which is now reinstated in the new club room, and which was the only relic remaining of the old club-house.

A very satisfactory feature of the site of the new house is the interest of play which surrounds the club. The first tee is immediately in front of the loggia. The third green is next to this tee and the eighteenth green is in front of the large bay window, and the fourth tee is in front of the dining-room.

The architect states that he has never seen a golf club-house which has so much interest of play immediately surrounding it.

DUKE OF PORTLAND.

THE RIVAL EXPERTS.

J. H. TAYLOR. A. HAVERS.

TOM WILLIAMSON. E. R. WHITCOMBE.

MR. HARRY HANSON.

1925 Describing the opening of the new clubhouse designed by Nelson Bromley, a member (76).

NOTTS. GOLF CLUB.

REASONS FOR CONSTANT DECLINE IN MEMBERSHIP.

HOLLINWELL COURSE IMPROVEMENTS.

Alarm at the constant decrease in membership of the Notts. Golf Club, Ltd., was expressed at the 31st annual meeting of the company, held at 8, Low Pavement, Nottingham, last night.

The committee's annual report indicated a total of 340 members, of whom 248 were ordinary members, seven life, 10 country, 16 junior, 52 non-playing and one honorary.

Against 25 new members during the past year, seven members had died, 17 resigned, and three were crossed off the list.

Ten matches had been won, three drawn, and seven lost. At a special general meeting held on July 11th last, it was resolved that water be laid on the course at a cost not exceeding £1,150, and the committee was authorised to make arrangements. One of the members undertook the supervision of the work and the scheme was proceeding satisfactorily. When completed, sufficient water would be available for all the greens to be watered over a week.

TOM WILLIAMSON AND MISS ENID WILSON

Congratulating her on winning the scratch prize at the Ladies' Golf Union Midland Meeting at Hollinwell, Nottingham

Tom Williamson congratulating Enid Wilson after her win at the Ladie's Golf Union Midland Meeting (77).

1931 Membership declined to 248 ordinary members. In 1929 the joining fee was suspended and two years later JD Player reduced the mortgage rate from 5% to 4% to help finances the club's finances (78).

THE NOTTINGHAM JOURNAL, FRIDAY, 8 AUGUST, 1947

ES, SIMPSON 90, AND —

Big Somerset

ORGY OF SCORING

Eleven Batsmen Top the Century

WELL IN THE PICTURE AT HOLLINWELL

Ashover Nap For Newcastle

N. (SHUSH!) VON NIDA ALL OUT FOR MORE GOLF CASH

THERE seems to be no stopping that wonderful little Australian golfer, Norman von Nida. With a second round of 70 over the Notts. Golf Club's 6,700 yards course at Hollinwell yesterday, he totalled 141 strokes for 36 holes to share leading position with the stocky Yorkshire champion, Arthur Lees (Dore and Totley) in the "Lotds" £1,500 professional tournament.

Staveley Leads Coal Share Rise

London Prices

Nottingham Stock Exchange

1947 The 'Nottingham Journal' about Norman Von Nida who won The Lotus Championship at Hollinwell (79).

Crashed on Hollinwell golf course

The crashed experimental plane lying in the rough near the fourteenth fairway at the Notts. Golf Club course, Hollinwell.

Notts. women golfers rescue four in plane

WING-CMDR. J. HARVEY HEYWORTH, the Rolls-Royce chief test pilot, was injured yesterday when a four-engined bomber in which he was making a forced landing crashed on Hollinwell golf course. Three technicians with him suffered shock. The aircraft, on a test flight, got into difficulties at 500 feet, and hit a tree during the forced landing.

Women golfers playing on the course helped to get out the pilot and three technicians. The plane crashed near the 14th hole.

Wing-Commander Heyworth, who lives at Altham Lodge, Papplewick, was taken to Nottingham General Hospital with slight injuries.

A member of the golf club staff said that the plane was badly damaged.

Into the rough

Mr. W. Horrocks, who is in charge of the Hucknall Division of Rolls-Royce, told the Guardian Journal that the aircraft, an old RAF type of Lancaster four-engined bomber, was on normal experimental flight from Hucknall. It was getting ready to come into the Hucknall airfield, five miles away.

The aircraft came down from a height of 500 feet, into the rough

MOTHER SEES REPRIEVED MURDERER

MRS. MAUD DAVIES, with her daughter, Joyce, went to Wandsworth Prison yesterday for a half-hour visit to her son Michael John Davies, aged 21.

Her previous visit had been overshadowed by the thought that he faced the gallows on February 2 after the Old Bailey sentence of death for the murder of 17-year-old John Ernest Beckley in a Clapham Common fight last July.

The news of Davies's reprieve, had not then been announced. Yesterday, Mrs. Davies and Joyce were able to pass on the congratulations of the rest of the family, and of friends.

After their half-hour talk, his mother returned home.

A friend said: "Michael is fine and happy, but his mother is very upset. It seems that she is really just beginning to feel all the strain and worry of the past months."

Russian spy, wife, gaoled by Americans

FRANKFURT, Friday.

A FORMER Soviet Army lieutenant, described by the prosecution as "the most dangerous spy brought before a United States court in Germany," was sentenced to-day to a total of 23 years' imprisonment for passing information to Soviet agents.

Nikita Vladimirovich Khorunzi (36), also known as Georg Mueller, and his German wife, Elisabeth Mueller (33), were each convicted on three charges. The sentences are concurrent and Khorunzi will serve only 14 years. His wife, sentenced to a total of four-and-a-half years, will serve two years.

Both pleaded "Not guilty" at the trial, part of which was held in secret. Defence counsel said they would appeal.

West German newspapers have called the tall, handsome Khorunzi a "master spy" for Russia.

Mercy plea

After Judge de Witt had read the verdict, Khorunzi appealed to the court for mercy. He said he had fled to the West "to seek freedom and fight for freedom, but I have not found it yet."

He alleged he had been "blackmailed and extorted" by the American counter-intelligence corps.

During the trial an alleged statement by Khorunzi said he fled to West Germany in 1948 from East Germany.

He said he tried to give just enough unimportant information to satisfy the Russians without having

Blidworth funeral of victim of Comet crash

IN Blidworth's tiny 16th century Parish Church of St. Mary, where he was to have been married to-day, the funeral service took place yesterday of Mr. Bernard Butler (24), of Vicarage-yard, Main-street, Blidworth, who was killed in the Comet crash in the Mediterranean on January 10.

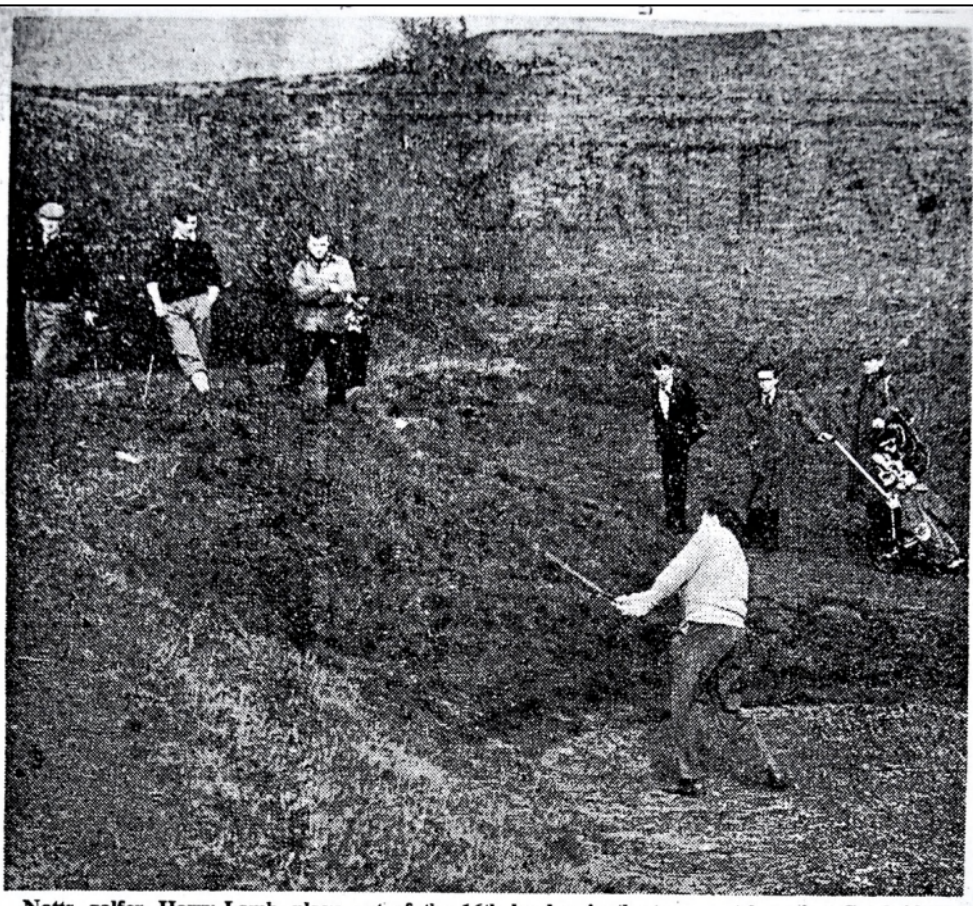
His body was one of the first recovered by Italian fishermen after the accident, and was taken to the Elba village of Porto Azzurro. From there, together with five other victims, it was taken by sea to Malta and flown to London Airport on Wednesday.

Brought from London to Blidworth by road on Thursday, the

Freedom of Manchester for Attlee

MR. CLEMENT ATTLEE, leader of the Opposition, who received the freedom of the City of Manchester last night, said: "I have always maintained that, pre-eminent as is Parliament, the democratic idea expresses itself with no less importance in local governing institutions."

1954 Rolls Royce plane lands near the 14th fairway.



Notts. golfer, Harry Lamb, plays out of the 16th bunker in the team match against Cambridge University, at Hollinwell on Saturday. Notts. GC won 10½—7½.

Notts. golfers made the best of course knowledge

By DESMOND LOWE

A FULL-STRENGTH Cambridge University team tumbled to a 10½—7½ defeat against Notts. Golf Club at Hollinwell, on Saturday, in their final tune-up before the inter-varsity match at Royal St. George's, Sandwich, next month.

The Cambridge side is comprised of many fine young golfers, some of whom might easily win a place in the Walker Cup team, but lack of course knowledge proved a big handicap against golfers who could match them for skill and experience.

Most impressive golfer in the side is triple blue, E. R. Dexter.

His style is similar to that of the international, Joe Carr, and he is capable of hitting the ball almost as far as the big-hitting Irishman.

Accurate Gardner

But his short game is distinctly weak. He could not match the deadly accuracy of the smooth-swinging Derek Gardner and was beaten on the 16th green.

An idea of Dexter's hitting power can be gained from the fact that he found the fourth green with a drive and an easy seven-iron. Gardner needed a three-iron for his second, but he won the hole from an opponent who three-putted.

The foundation of Notts.' victory was established by gaining a 4-2 lead in the morning's foursomes. They had to fight hard for this lead, for five of the six matches finished on the last green.

Dexter and C. A. Strang made a great recovery to square the match at the 17th when three-down with five holes to play against Jimmy Angus and Harry Lamb (Notts.).

But it was a wasted effort, for they three-putted on the home green to lose an exciting and always interesting match.

Shock for Bussell

One of the biggest surprises was the defeat of Scottish international, Alan Bussell. Not quite on his game, he was beaten two-and-one by South African W. M. Grindrod, the University captain.

Grindrod is undoubtedly the most compact and efficient golfer in the side. He strikes the ball with great accuracy and power, and is sound in all departments.

The experienced Jimmy Angus had a fine win over Geoff Muscutt, a Lancashire county player. He was two-down after seven holes, but he hit back with a wonderful 4-2-3 burst to command a one-up lead.

It was this spell which proved decisive, and the Notts. player went on to win two-and-one. Results (Notts. players first):

FOURSOMES.

A. Bussell and D. C. Gardner beat W. M. Grindrod and J. H. Churchill 2 and 1; J. Angus and H. Lamb beat E. R. Dexter and C. A. Strang 1 up; C. H. V. Elliott and H. S. Johnson finished all square against O. Muscutt and R. H. Parkinson; C. F. Windrow and A. D. Crafts lost to E. H. G. Chapman and E. D. V. Bowater 1 down; W. Taylor and J. F. Sheehan finished all square against D. C. Taylor and C. J. H. Davies; J. H. Walton and T. W. Risley beat W. P. Cooper and G. T. Mills 1 up.

SINGLES.

Bussell lost to Grindrod 2 and 1; Gardner beat Dexter 4 and 2; Angus beat Muscutt 2 and 1; Elliott lost to Churchill 3 down; Windrow beat Chapman 2 and 1; Johnson beat Strang 5 and 4.

Lamb beat D. C. Taylor 2 and 1; Crafts lost to Parkinson 3 and 2; Walton beat Davies 2 and 1; W. Taylor lost to Bowater 2 down; Sheehan lost to Cooper 1 down; Risley finished all square against Mills.

1957 Cambridge match with Ted Dexter.

A FAMOUS VICTORY : After twenty-four years Great Britain's team, captained by Dai Rees (left), won the Ryder Cup at Lindrick. With Dai Rees is Ken Bousfield, his partner in the foursomes, when they beat A. Wall and F. Hawkins. Both won their singles. Rees beat Furgol by 7 and 6, whilst Bousfield beat Hebert by 4 and 3.

CHRISTIE O'CONNOR playing out of a bunker during the foursomes. In his single he defeated D. Finsterwald by 7 and 6.

Henry Cotton's Golf Notes

Thought he club would like to have this little appreciation Alex Catto

"OUR MASTERS"

BERNARD HUNT watching a putt curve into the hole during his match with Doug Ford, whom he beat by 6 and 5.

ERIC BROWN'S win in the Dunlop Masters event at Hollinwell, Notts, was well deserved and it brought out all the great golfing qualities of this mercurial Scot. His score of 275, three shots ahead of Peter Alliss, was a good one on this testing course, which I found quite exhausting to walk, especially from the back tees, which are often placed up steep slopes.

This moorland course, on one side boasting a beautiful view equal to any at Gleneagles, and on the other side that of the usual slag-heaps and pit-head gear of colliery life, is a bit off the beaten track, is approached only by a long, single-width lane from the main road ; this snag alone rules it out of the big championship rota, though the local police did a wonderful job in traffic control, I thought, using the " walkie-talkie " successfully to stop road jams.

The club members and officials did well in organising the domestic side of this popular event, and the B.B.C. Outdoor Television Unit showed the rest of Britain what golf can offer in entertainment. Bill Cox, up on his 60-ft. tower in the centre of the course, and Michael Henderson by the clubhouse, supplied the necessary verbal coverage for the TV cameras. This course can be called an ideal one for the spectator, because at many places the holes converge, and it is possible to keep track of what is going on.

There are two great practice grounds at Hollinwell, one has a very large shed facing out onto it, from which, in inclement weather, golf practice can be carried out ; and the local pro., Bert Rhodes, has a first-class golf shop, right on the first tee.

I enjoy playing in these events, and although these greens caused me agony as I could not read the slopes—nor could many others, let me add—I do get the opportunity to judge the play of the others better than if I were just looking on from outside the ropes.

The weather was dull, the sky overcast, not surprising, maybe, in this industrial district, but there was no wind, which was a rest from roaring winds at Turnberry the previous week.

Eric Brown " rocked " everyone with an opening round of 64, a course record. This was great golf, for there are only three short holes on this long course, and they are all good ones.

The young players stole much of the limelight during the week and I was pleased to see Peter Alliss, Bernard Hunt and Neil Coles [illegible] played three rounds with twenty-[illegible]orge Low and was much impressed by his sound golf. He had no luck, really, and except that his big iron play is not quite up to the standard of the rest of his game he is a most finished golfer. He has a good temperament and putts boldly with a nice action.

Tom Haliburton played well ; he had the best score of the second round (67), and again showed that he can keep up with the best at forty-two years.

Peter Thomson complained that he had received numbers of " poison pen letters " following the incidents at Turnberry, and it could be that they were responsible for his 78 in the second round—however, he scored a 65 in the third round and finished strongly with a 69, but could then only get into fifth place. There is only one place for anonymous letters, the waste-paper basket.

Brown, in a commanding lead after one round (he had five strokes in hand), lost most of this lead after round two, but his fine 68 in the third round opened up the gap again and the innovation in this four-rounds event, that of playing two rounds on the second day, leaving just one round for the Saturday, was a success ; it meant that players and spectators could keep track of the exact situation.

Brown had three strokes in hand over Hunt with one round to go. With this leaders-out-last idea—which is a must, too, in modern golf, for it toughens the players and the crowds can then assemble to see the winner—he had to fight all the way.

Although he finished in 70 and won by three shots in the end, it was not as easy as that for him. Alliss went out in 32 just ahead of him ; Brown was 36 to the turn ; and Alliss continued to score well and got to six under fours after the short thirteenth, so if Brown did not get some threes he could still lose, if Alliss kept up the pressure. All this, plus the fact tha[illegible] last year in this same event at Prestwick, he had begun the last round six shots to the good and then slipped, did not make his task any easier.

He played a great inward nine holes in 34, which included " two birdie threes " and so, with Alliss taking a five at the fifteenth, for a 35 back, he won by the three strokes he had in hand when he set out that day. A great win !

Brown is one of those outspoken, down-to-earth fellows, who sometimes " puts his foot in it," as it were ; but I personally have much more admiration for those who are not perpetual " yes men " in order to be popular. His swing is not elegant, it is still the swing of his amateur days, when he was on the footplate of an engine, and an amateur golfer. It will not change, but he knows it now, and can use it effectively. He is not afraid of a drive in the rough, or a long putt for his par figure, and, in fact, only needed a very little luck to have been our Open Champion this year—he was in the forefront all the way at St. Andrews.

This is his best win so far and I hope he will gain more confidence from this valuable triumph. We have too few players of his calibre.

I made an experiment on the putting green with some special yellow glasses which I use for night-driving. These were given to me by a noted oculist when I protested to him that I had difficulty in selecting the lines on the greens. I miss nearly all the putts through failing to see the line to the hole. Of course, I do mis-hit the ball at times, like everyone else, but four out of five times I guess wrong. For the first time of trying I should say it was a bit better and I will try them again.

So many people pretend to me there is no line . . . just hit them straight and firm at the back of the hole ! But at Hollinwell every putt had one " bend," often several, for the greens are full of " 'umps and 'ollows." But the surface is excellent and being keen, the ball had to be coaxed, not bolted, at the hole.

The " Dunlop Masters," with the weight of Fort Dunlop behind it, cannot fail ; this event at Hollinwell attracted big crowds despite its inaccessibility, and it looks to me like a spot to note for a future " big show " !

Henry Cotton

(World Copyri[illegible])

1957 Dunlop Masters. Henry Cotton appreciation.

DUDLEY ED.

AUSTIN FROM BURTON AND COLE
BURTON & COLE LTD., BURTON ST., BIRMINGHAM. PHONE EDG. 2011
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The Birmingham Post
Birmingham Gazette
Friday, September 20, 1957
Lighting-up Time: 7.42 p.m. to 6.19 a.m.

NEW AND USED ROVER CARS AT HATTON MOTORS LTD. 91 BROAD ST. MID. 2607

RECORD 64 BY BROWN EARNS LEAD OF FIVE STROKES

Ward's Unhappy Round

By Our Golf Correspondent
MAURICE WOODBINE

THE Scottish champion, E. C. Brown (Buchanan Castle) played golf of great accuracy at Hollinwell yesterday to lead the Dunlop Masters' tournament by five strokes.

Actually, the course has been lengthened by almost 250 yards to a distance of 6,931 yards, but Brown's almost unbelievable score of 64 was one stroke better than the record for the old course, set up by W. J. Martin more than 20 years ago.

Several players were heard to express doubts that 70 would be broken at any stage of the competition, despite the fact that the weather was fine and sunny.

Brown's reply made a mockery of their opinions, presumably based on experience of the course during practice on the previous day. Five other players returned scores of 69 and P. W. Thomson (Australia) was on the 70 mark.

There was no particular aspect of Brown's game which could be held responsible for his excellent return. Off the tee he was immaculate. His iron strokes were played with admirable judgment and his chipping and putting were rarely off direction.

A Flying Start

Rugby for the new course is 74 and Brown, at his first real attempt, reduced that by ten strokes. He began with two 3's and had an "eagle" and nine "birdies" on his card.

Out in a remarkable 31, Brown's only real mistake on the return half was at the ninth, where he dropped a stroke for a 5 after he had bunkered his drive. The only other 5 on his card was one of the 14th. There he cut his drive and played a wood which just scrambled over a bunker.

It is, however, unfair to concentrate upon Brown's errors. On his card there were eight 3's and a splendid 2 at the ninth (17b yards).

Of the players on 69, the first to return to the clubhouse was last year's assistants' champion, T. C. Cross (Hurlish). Cross finished his round in remarkable fashion with an "eagle" 3 at the 16th and "birdies" at the remaining three holes. His efforts on the green in that spell consisted of a seven-yard putt at the 16th, one of six yards at the 17th and one of three yards at the 18th.

C. O'Connor (Bundoran), the holder, finished in 2, 3, 4 to also return 69. R. J. Hunt (Hartsbourne), formerly of Hillsborough, sank a putt of ten yards at the 18th for his fourth 3 of the round and also included a two at the short fifth. He, too, was among the 69's.

Unplayable Lie

When found, his ball lay on top of some grass mowings which meant that he could drop his ball within two club lengths without penalty. He made four attempts to do so, but each time the ball rolled into an unplayable lie. Eventually—and according to rule—he was allowed to place the ball, but he then played it through the green to take 5.

At the 16th, Ward had his one piece of good fortune in the round when he holed a putt of 15 yards up a slope, but his unhappy round of 83 was one which he will be glad to forget.

First Round Scores

Yorkshire II Give Nothing Away

By a Special Correspondent

Unless they can produce some fireworks with both bat and ball at Scarborough to-day, Warwickshire seem destined to fall in their challenge match attempt by Yorkshire and bring the Minor Counties title to Edgbaston for the first time.

Frustrated from the start by the weather—there was only 105 minutes play on the first day—they were further held up when Yorkshire took five hours 10 minutes to reach a total of 217, and badly shaken when they lost their first three wickets for 16. They recovered to close with 92 for four, after having been twice batting for two hours and five minutes for a most valuable lead.

The start of the Warwickshire innings was a calamity. Pickles bowled Ratcliffe with only 4 on the board and Leach, after hitting two 4s and looking confidence itself, played forward inside the line to Ryan and had his off-stump clipped.

Wolton Indiscreet

That was 16 for two and Wolton, indiscreetly trying to hook his second ball from Ryan when he misjudged and lifted it to mid-on where Moore, although stumbling on the damp square, managed to hang on as his legs went from under him. There was both a bump on the forehead which needed attention in the dressing room.

There followed a scared period between Cartwright and Stone which required all their powers of concentration, but although the Yorkshire bowling may have lacked penetration there was no doubt that in their hostile bowling and fielding they really looked like champions.

Livingstone went at 32 and although Dollery was at first worried by Pickles's pace, he entered a bright end to the day with six aggressive 4s in 31.

But until late in the afternoon there was a show of aggression in the Yorkshire innings and it came from their captain, Burnet, who took advantage of some tired bowling to hit five 4s in his 46.

Never in a hurry, Yorkshire had added 80 in the two hours before lunch. It was all very unrewarding for Warwickshire but there was hope on the re-start, when Carter and Griffiths, on a pitch which appeared to be getting a shade more pace, each got a quick wicket.

Moore, who had batted patiently and often attractively for a 72 which contained nine boundaries, was bowled by Carter, and the experienced Lester, whose ground fine leg, was a trifle too late in running down on a good ball from the West Indian.

The rest of the innings was mainly concerned with Burnet and the young Hickenbottom, either from following instructions or being naturally a limited stroke player, became the middle for two hours and 20 minutes while scoring 37.

E. C. Brown, the Scottish golfer (left) led the field with a round of 64 strokes at the end of the first day of the Masters' tournament at Hollinwell yesterday. Right: P. W. Thomson, the Australian and triple open champion, in play. He is seventh with 70.

EASY VICTORY FOR BRITISH WOMEN

Miss Jackson Only Loser

The British Isles women's team beat Belgium 7-1 at Le Zoute yesterday, the only set-back being in a singles match

Other Sport in Page 11

Racing
Greyhound Racing

In which Miss Bridget Jackson (Handsworth) went down 2 and 1 to Mrs. Villiers. Other results were:

Rugby Football

Newport Backs Score Freely

Newport 24, Gloucester 6

Newport gained revenge over Gloucester, who took their ground record last year, their fast and constructive attack repeatedly breaking through the visitors' defence.

Scrivens, at scrum half-back, played a leading part in and out Newport's attacks. They scored two sparkling tries in the first half, by Robbs after a neat scissors move with Morland and by Watson after swift manoeuvring among the forwards. N. Morgan converted one and kicked a penalty goal, and Ingram kicked a penalty goal for Gloucester.

Robbs and Davidge added tries for Newport in the second half. Morgan converting both and kicking a penalty goal. Ingram kicked another penalty goal for Gloucester.

River Reports

Warwickshire 'Open' Draw and Times

The Warwickshire open championship will be played at Handsworth on Tuesday, October 1. Draw and starting times are:

Win for Manchester Press Club

Birmingham Press Club, represented by P. W. Hitchcock, of Stratford-upon-Avon, and G. E. Arms, of Cocks Moors Woods, were fourth in the Martel Golf Trophy, which was played off for the first time at Waddon Heath yesterday.

Manchester won a close match—a Stableford foursome with 36 pairing, London and Liverpool shared second and third places with 38, Birmingham were next with 37, followed by Edinburgh (36) and Glasgow (32).

Rugby Results

Ian Craig waves goodbye as he leaves Southampton aboard the Union Castle liner Capetown Castle for South Africa, where he will captain the touring Australian cricket team.

Walsall End Newport's Run of Success—and Go Up Eight Places

Results and Tables

Walsall 3, Newport County 0

By winning their home match against Newport County last night Walsall not only inflicted upon the Welsh side their first defeat on the ground for nine seasons, but the two points took them eight places up the Southern Section table.

At the interval there seemed little hope of Walsall ending Newport's long immunity from defeat—indeed they were fortunate to be on level terms for the visitors had revealed far more snap and cohesion in attack than the home side.

What was said in the Walsall dressing - room during the interval must remain a club secret but it certainly had the desired effect. From the restart the home players were vastly faster and far more accurate in their passing than Newport.

For 15 minutes the hard pressed Newport rearguard held

Found the Gap

It was obvious, however, that even the brilliant, and often uncanny anticipation of the Welsh rearguard could not hold out for ever against such incessant hammering. It was left to right winger Stewart to discover the gap which had hitherto seemed non-existent.

Receiving the ball near the right wing Stewart cut in and feinted as though to put the ball to his colleagues waiting in the goalmouth. As the defenders ran across to cover the move Stewart shot in score his first goal for Walsall since his transfer from East Fife.

Prolonged Attacks

Impressive as they had been up to this stage Walsall became even more confident and the ball was kept in the Newport goalmouth for long spells in the 57th minute Richards finished a Tarrant-Hodgkinson move with a second goal, and eight minutes from the final whistle he tapped home the ball after Hodgkinson had struck the bottom of an upright with a drive from 20 yards.

Although he did not score, Hodgkinson was a grand schemer for Walsall and had a share in all the goals.

Without an any way taking away any of the credit of Walsall's win it was hard to understand Newport's tactics. Throughout the second period they seemed content to rely on defence whereas the first half had shown all too clearly they could well hold their own in attack. It was a change of policy which paid a heavy penalty. Attendance 7,688.

Walsall: Chatterton; Perkins, Pearson; Richards, Tarrant, Hodgkinson; Stewart, Kirkham, Richards, Ward, Hodgkinson.

Newport County: Hughes; Williams, Hollyman; Hole, Hollyman, Hole; Hollyman, Hollyman, Hollyman, Hollyman, Hollyman.

Referee: Mr. Hollyman (Hollyman).

To-morrow's Teams

Millwall Back May Join Leyton Orient

Mr. R. Gray, the Millwall manager, has had talks of discussion with Leyton Orient officials after the Orients game against Charlton Athletic concerning the possible transfer of Jardine, his club's right back. Afterwards he said that he and Mr. L. Gore, the Orient acting-manager would get down to the matter more seriously to-day.

Mr. Gray said that several clubs had shown interest in Jardine, who was anxious to remain in London. Millwall were willing to release him for a reasonable fee.

Liverpool Rally Wins Point

Rotherham United 2, Liverpool 2

Although they led until the 64th minute, Rotherham could not stay the pace.

Playing in his second League match, Partridge put Rotherham in front in the 11th minute and Webster added a second goal two minutes after the interval. Liverpool reduced the margin through Arnell and Melia levelled the score six minutes from time. Attendance, 18,350.

News in Brief

Hutchison, a wing half-back or forward from Blackpool, is included in the list of 13 players from which the England team will be chosen for Tuesday's match with Northern Ireland at Belfast. The latest news is that he will be his first appearance in the League team.

Swansea Surprised by Notts

Notts County shocked Swansea by taking the lead through Astle in the second period and vigorous defensive methods thereafter held their advantage to the interval.

Swansea, greater zest to their play, Swansea dominated the game afterwards, but Tucker put County further ahead in 61 minutes. Eight minutes later Palmer reduced arrears, but in a snap raid Carver scored a third goal for County in 79 minutes.

This was the visitors' first win of the season and moved the club from bottom position. Attendance, 10,000.

PRIDE IN VILLA'S ACHIEVEMENT

Happy Annual Meeting

The success of Aston Villa Football Club in winning the F.A. Cup for the seventh time last May, a record number of victories, was re-lived at the club's annual meeting at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, last night. Both from the floor and from the Board came notes of praise for the club's achievements in bringing the Cup —which was on show bedecked with claret and blue ribbons — back to Birmingham so soon after a critical period in the team's history.

Villa benefited by about £16,000 from their visit to the Cup. It was announced. A profit of £676 on the season's working was reported. The previous year Villa lost £42,565.

The club's president (Sir Patrick Hannon), who was once again re-elected, told this harmonious meeting: "We must feeling proud of the association with this great club and of the team work maintained all the time. We are all proud to be on the part Aston Villa has played."

Sir Patrick received first mention of McParland, who scored both goals at Wembley.

Few Criticisms

Few criticisms or comments disturbed the atmosphere of goodwill throughout the meeting. There was a comment from a shareholder on the rise in travelling and hotel expenses, but it was explained that when a club reaches the Cup Final there were many additional items to be taken into account.

In reply to a question, the auditor (Mr. E. T. King) said that Villa's average League gate last season was 60 above the average attendance figure for the First Division. He said that notwithstanding the fact that entertainment tax was "being paid on football" the gates have got to improve for the club to

Mr. W. S. Lewis, elected a vice-president of Aston Villa Football Club.

hold its head above water." He suggested the figure for gates between 45,000 and 50,000 as one which would enable the club to stay on a sure footing.

The directors' report and statement of accounts was adopted without a dissension.

Mr. Walter Samuel Lewis, chairman of the Midlands Electricity Board, was unanimously elected as the vice-presidency seat made vacant by the death of Mr. E. Smith. He said: "It brings back memories because when I was a boy in Shropshire, Aston Villa came along and took my idol, Harry Hampton. I never thought the day would come when I would become a vice-president of that club."

The other three vice-presidents, Messrs. A. Brown, J. Murphy and F. C. Sargent were also unanimously re-elected.

The club chairman (Mr. C. S. Buckley) was unanimously re-elected a director. Seconding his re-election, Mr. Norman Smith paid a tribute to the "magnificent reception" given to the team on their triumphant return to Birmingham. Mr. Buckley said his sole desire was the success of the club.

Offers From Abroad

One serious difficulty concerned on the retention of the maximum wage is the comparative ease with which Continental clubs are able to tempt first British players.

As Mr. Busby points out, if a club like Milan go to Manchester and offer Pegg or Colman £40 a week for playing football, United are placed at a hopeless disadvantage because although they might like to match the Italian offer they are prevented from doing so.

Of his club's refusal to let Taylor go to Italy, the United manager said this would have been but the thin end of the wedge. Several thousand pounds in the bank would be poor compensation for seeing the best side in England playing in a foreign country, he writes.

The Italian First Division club Alessandria yesterday agreed to release Roger von Gunten, a forward, to play for Switzerland against Scotland in the World Cup match in Glasgow on November 6.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL NOTES

League Reform Plan: Only the First Step

By CYRIL CHAPMAN

THAT more one looks at the suggestions put forward by the Management Committee of the Football League for putting the League house in order the more one learns to the view that the reformers, who have worked very hard to prepare important amendments to the rules in a comparatively short time, are only at the start of a tremendous uphill struggle. The first is to get them on the League statute book at all, and then to enforce them.

The lengthy backward-and-forwards discussion is not expected to follow the meeting of the club chairmen and other representatives on October 21 to-day more than it will be a few, so or two before any changes are put into effect, and then will come the task of seeing that clubs abide by the new rules.

It is not as much as it is an outside body which is trying to secure a clean-up, but the League clubs themselves are attempting the task, and even if the reforms secure the necessary three-quarters majority, it is difficult to imagine any such agreement being reached on the best means of ensuring that the rules are not broken.

Problem of Accounts

Standard books of accounts and a yearly inspection of all club books by the Management Committee has been suggested. Can one imagine a majority of clubs agreeing to that, however?

Clubs will want to retain the maximum freedom, and to the end I believe it will be left, as at present, to the conscience of club officials to see that there is no infringement of the rules.

This is hardly likely to be a sufficient safeguard, as the past previous has proved. The main bone that needs de-rousing is payments and other abuses of the present system may pass

must rest, therefore, on the proposals for increasing the legitimate remuneration to players, thus reducing the temptation to seek the illegitimate.

The big clubs, of course, would like to go much further than the £20 maximum now proposed, and say their best players what they considered they were worth. Mark Busby, in his recently published book, "Soccer Revolution" Press, 10s.), says that he has always regarded increases in the maximum wage as excuses to dodge the main issue, "and opponents of the inevitable day of reckoning when professional performers in this game of football will have to be treated on a professional basis."

"Yet the really important, progressive clubs (he names Aston Villa, Birmingham City, West Bromwich Albion and Wolverhampton Wanderers) are those which have the courage to be different, but more numerous. Brethren," he writes.

It is feared that all the best players in the game would be signed by a handful of clubs if there was no maximum wage. On this, Mr. Busby says the big clubs get the big players to-day—they always have and always will.

"No amount of legislation will alter the state of affairs. Unless soccer follows the speedway racing packers and starts allocating players to clubs in the hope of maintaining uniform strength. If that happens, I suggest we should put up the shutters."

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A close call for Newport County as Richards made for goal, closely followed by Wilcox. Hughes intervened and cleared. Sherwood, of Wales and Cardiff City fame, is running up on the left.

City and Albion Wait for Fitness Reports

Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion are among the Football League clubs who have delayed the selection of their teams for to-morrow's matches on account of injuries to players.

Merrick, the City goalkeeper, who had four stitches in a cut over his left eye after being hurt at White Hart Lane on Wednesday, was having his full yesterday of being able to play in the match against Preston North End. There were no other injuries to the team which was defeated 7-1 by Tottenham.

West Bromwich Albion have Allen and Barlow under treatment, the former for a damaged ankle and the latter for a wrist strain. They will have to undergo fitness tests to-day before the team is chosen to replace Sanders and Lovers (full-back), both of whom were hurt in the match with Portsmouth last Saturday. A third player in the side, Johnstone, the Scottish international inside forward, who has leg injuries.

It is expected that only Smith outside right will not be available for selection at Villa Park as all the other players are fit to-day, including Orcutter, Myerscough, Chapman and Saward, all of whom have been hurt in recent games. Villa visit Blackpool.

Thomson Fit

Stoke City, with Cairns and Conley doubtful, from their semi and Ostrell, who has missed the last three games still doubtful with a pulled leg muscle, are expected to decide until to-day or possibly to-morrow for the home match with Rotherham United. Thomson, who had sustained injury in a head wound after Monday's match against Bristol Rovers, is fit.

Port Vale, who went into second position in the Southern Section after defeating Brentwood on Monday will be unchanged for the fourth successive game for their visit to Exeter.

Brown, Derby County's inside-left, is receiving treatment for a calf injury so the side is not at Blackpool will not be chosen until to-day. Darwin, centre-forward, who has missed three games with a pulled muscle in the thigh.

Smith, the Northampton

Athletics

British Doubles in Israel Games

Two British athletes completed notable "doubles" yesterday in the Maccabiah games in Tel Aviv.

H. Kane, who previously had won the 400 metres hurdles, took the gold medal in the 400 metres with a Games record time of 49.8sec. Miss Yvonne Kane added the discus title to her shot-putt success with a throw of 111ft. 2in.

Britain had another winner when Miss Jennifer Fraser won the 80 metres hurdles in 12.2sec. She also finished second in the high jump.

Boxing

Stricter Medical Examinations

Alarmed by the death of two professional boxers in less than a year, the Transvaal Boxing Board of Control yesterday announced stricter medical examinations for fighters. All professionals must have two medical examinations a year and after every knock-out.

Lacrosse

The U.S.A. women's lacrosse team opened their third British tour with a comfortable victory by 9-3 over the Northern Counties at Birkenhead yesterday. Their greater speed proved too much for the English players.

Charlton Lose Their Unbeaten Record

Leyton Orient 3, Charlton Athletic 2

Leyton Orient deservedly deprived Charlton of their unbeaten record in a fast, hard game. Orient had the outstanding forward of the game in Johnston, at inside-left, who brought his tally of goals for the season to 11. A tireless worker, he shot hard with either foot and was equally dangerous with his head.

Johnston constantly worried the Charlton defence and was rewarded by goals in the 22nd and 41st minutes. Woosnam distributed the ball well to the lively Orient attack.

Charlton often moved smoothly in attack but found the defence stubborn. Hewie and Bishop being particularly effective at centre half-back.

Kiernan equalised Johnston's first goal within a minute, but much of the fight went out of Charlton when, in the 52nd minute, Heckman put Orient 3-1 up from a free kick. Charlton made a late rally and Ayre scored their second goal 19 minutes from time. Attendance 16,553.

Hughes, the Newport County goalkeeper, takes no chances and bats the ball clear of the Walsall forwards, Taylor (11) and Tarrant. Hughes played a fine game.

A close call for Newport County as Richards made for goal, closely followed by Wilcox. Hughes intervened and cleared. Sherwood, of Wales and Cardiff City fame, is running up on the left.

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1957 Dunlop Masters won by Eric Brown (80).
A crowd of 10,000 flooded to see the final round.

Wonder shot by Goldie

PAST county captain Stuart Goldie holed out with a four-iron second shot at the 18th to win his foursomes in Notts Golf Club's annual match against Cambridge University at Hollinwell.

It is now being asked if an eagle two has ever been achieved at this challenging 470-yard finishing hole.

Scotsman Goldie and Mike Kidd, another past county captain, came off the 13th green holding a three-up advantage, but they lost the next three holes and halved the 17th.

Then came Goldie's wonder shot after Kidd had hit a long, fairway-splitting drive.

It gave Notts a 4-2 foursomes lead and, although the Light Blues fought tenaciously in the singles, the home club won the match by a three-point margin to take the Linskill Trophy.

The University's biggest singles win was that recorded by Stuart Melville.

Melville, recent winner of the President's Putter at Rye and Cumbrian champion for six consecutive years, handed out a 6 and 5 thrashing to ex-county champion Richard Naylor. Details:

FOURSOMES

Trevor Coupe, Ian Skellern lost to S. Melville, S. Rosser 3 and 2; Derek Gardner, Richard Naylor beat P. Green, J. Tunnicliffe 6 and 5; Vin Meakin, Chris Smith beat T. Walker, J. Bryce 2 and 1.

Tony Slade, Dick Sykes lost to R. Randall, R. Tickell one hole; Ian Guise, Ian Wagstaff beat D. Warden, T. Godwin 2 and 1; Stuart Goldie, Mike Kidd beat R. Eley, M. Anderson one hole.

SINGLES

Naylor lost to Melville 6 and 5; Skellern beat Green one hole; Coupe lost to Bryce 5 and 4; Gardner beat Tunnicliffe one hole; Meakin beat Rosser 4 and 3; Guise lost to Randall one hole.

Smith beat Warden 2 and 1; Sykes all square with Walker; Slade lost to Tickell 3 and 1; Kidd lost to Eley 4 and 3; Goldie beat Godwin two holes; Wagstaff beat Anderson one hole.

Notts Evening Post

Stuart Goldie, the Club Secretary 1994-2000 and whose dry wit as Master of Ceremonies delighted members for many years.

Two extra holes to be constructed at Hollinwell course

TWO extra holes are to be constructed at Hollinwell golf course. The project, which is expected to be completed by 1966, is being carried out so that members can finish near the clubhouse after playing nine holes.

The first seven holes will be played as the card, and then those going to play only half a round will head back towards The Nineteenth.

"We are not going to any great expense on these two holes," says Mr. Donald Bland, the captain of Notts. GC. "Most of the work will be done during the winter months.

"When the project is completed, members will be able to play nine consecutive holes without crossing in on those playing a full round."

The introduction of these two new holes will certainly be welcomed by those who find it hard, tiring work to play the hilly 11th, 12th, and 13th. AND MOST MEMBERS DO.

Another major tournament coming to the 7,000-yard Hollinwell course next year with the English Amateur Championship. It will be played during the week July 14 to 19.

This means that the Notts. course is once again right back near the top of the EGU list.

Its rating undoubtedly slipped a few points after the Brabazon Trophy in 1959 when the club were victims of a drought. It will be remembered that the water system had broken down, and the greens could not be put on the parched, furry greens.

This reduced playing conditions to a bruising-hose affair, and many top-class English amateur golfers went away with a poor impression of the course.

Relic of past

But that is a relic of the past. The water system has since been modernised, and in recent years the course has been in splendid condition.

No major course alterations are anticipated for the English Amateur Championship, last played at Hollinwell nearly 30 years ago.

Says Mr. Bland: "We will be having a meeting with the EGU secretary, Colonel Hastings, and we will consider any suggestions they may make.

"Perhaps they may suggest the carrying-down of some fairways, or that one or two bunkers should be filled in."

George Fraser, a doctor at Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, will be making his debut for Notts. GC in the annual match against Oxford University at Hollinwell on Saturday, November 30.

I am told that Fraser, who is an older brother of Rodney Fraser, the brilliant young Yorkshire international, is a most consistent scratch player. He joined the club a few weeks ago.

Notts. are fielding a powerful side, most of whom are regular first-team county players, against the Dark Blues. They scored a crushing 13½-4½ victory last year, and this brought the score sheet in the series to: Notts. GC 3, Oxford University 1.

Scotsman Alan Bussell is unable to play for business reasons, but Alec Shepperson will be turning out against his old university. The team which will be announced by the experienced Vic Windeler, is:

A. C. Shepperson, J. C. Fraser, A. Bussell, R. Fraser, D. Bland, A. Hall, R. Bussell, P. Smith, J. Hall, R. Bussell.

Cambridge University will be visiting Hollinwell at the end of January.

New sixth hole

Retford Golf Club are to lose their 380-yard sixth hole—known as the railway hole—because of a British Railways development.

"But we have already started building a new hole near by," says Mr. J. B. Hall, the club captain. "A new green has been seeded, and we are hoping this will be ready for play in the Spring.

"We may have to play off a temporary tee box if the railway scheme starts before we have completed the hole."

Mr. Hall said that the order in which the holes are played will not be altered.

GOLF NOTES

by Desmond Lowe

Golfers in the Midlands will be interested to learn that two extra holes are to be constructed at Hollinwell golf course. The project, which is expected to be completed by 1966, is being carried out so that members can finish near the clubhouse after playing nine holes.

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Cambridge University will be visiting Hollinwell at the end of January.

New sixth hole

Retford Golf Club are to lose their 380-yard sixth hole—known as the railway hole—because of a British Railways development.

"But we have already started building a new hole near by," says Mr. J. B. Hall, the club captain. "A new green has been seeded, and we are hoping this will be ready for play in the Spring.

"We may have to play off a temporary tee box if the railway scheme starts before we have completed the hole."

Mr. Hall said that the order in which the holes are played will not be altered.

Hollinwell par rating may go up one

STEPS may be taken by Notts. Golf Club to have an extra stroke added to the par rating of their 7,000-yard course at Hollinwell. A hint that this was being considered was made at the club's annual meeting last week.

It is claimed that the course has greatly altered in character since it was assessed some years ago.

Extensive treatment to the turf has brought a denser growth on the fairways, and the result is that less run is being obtained in long shots.

Hollinwell is a formidable proposition for golfers of all grades. True, Scotsman Eric Brown reduced it to a mere 64 shots in the 1957 Dunlop Masters, but this was under perfect conditions.

There was no wind, greens were "holding" and drives were being hit prodigious distances.

For example, Brown played a wedge for his second shot at the 15th, and mastered several of the tough par-four holes with a drive and pitch.

To quote the inspired Brown as he came off the course: "It was the finest tournament round I have ever played."

But four years later, the course presented a far more difficult challenge. There were very few of the world-class field in the Dunlop £6,000 tournament who managed to break 70.

Few will deny that Hollinwell, off par 74, is a most difficult course on which to maintain a handicap. It is extremely long; it has punishing rough and bunkers, and is nearly always affected by a troublesome wind.

GOLF NOTES

by DESMOND LOWE

Trophies and club medal competitions are frequently won during the year with net scores above the par rating. This seldom happens at other courses in Nottinghamshire.

It is the short handicap players who are making out a strong case for having the par increased. I fully agree with them.

There is no doubt that the par at Hollinwell is unrealistic when compared with the rating allocated to other courses in the county. Either they are too high, or Hollinwell is too low.

It is a problem which demands careful consideration.

Notts Alliance golfers had their first meeting of the season cancelled this week. Heavy rain caused flooding on several greens at Cotgrave and officials had no hesitation in calling it off.

Round Lindrick in 63

YORKSHIRE-BORN David Talbot, the long-hitting Notts. GC professional, often crosses the border to play in his home county.

In a four-ball match at Lindrick recently, he was round in 63. And this included a colossal 5ft. birdie putt on the last green in a return half of 30.

Worksop's David Snell was also playing in the match. He was round in 66, and was beaten four and three by Talbot.

The event—an 18-holes Stableford—will be played on Thursday, April 16. It is counting towards the Jack Ward team shield.

Secretary John Small tells me that the Alliance are organising an open foursomes competition at Radcliffe on Sunday, May 10, in aid of the Cheshire Homes.

"A wide range of prizes is being offered," says Mr. Small, "and we are hoping that the event will be fully supported by Alliance members. It is open to any kind of combination."

1963 Two new holes 8a and 9a.

1964 *"Few will say that Hollinwell, off par 74, is not a difficult course on which to maintain a handicap. It is extremely long; it has punishing rough and bunkers and is nearly always affected by a troublesome wind"* (81).

WHY HUGGETT THINKS OUR COURSES ARE WONDERFUL

ONE man who enjoyed a golfing visit to Nottinghamshire this year was Ryder Cup star Brian Huggett.

BRIAN HUGGETT—enjoyed his visit.

DAVID SNELL — dominated local scene.

He stayed for five days and went away with a £1,000 cheque in his pocket — his winnings for finishing first in the inaugural Sumrie tournament at Hollinwell.

This brought 32-year-old Huggett's earnings in the four events in which he has competed in the county to £2,300 . . . an average of just over £2 a shot.

SIXTH

Huggett's first visit to Nottinghamshire was in the spring of 1961, and he picked up £300 for finishing sixth in the Cox Moore tournament at Wollaton Park.

His next appearance was four months later — in the £6,000 Dunlop event. He again finished in sixth position, and this time he collected a cheque for £350.

Then in 1963 the Cox Moore tournament was held for the second time at Wollaton Park, and the Welshman emerged a worthy winner. His earnings: £750.

The Sumrie tournament, played over the testing Hollinwell circuit on May 30, 31 and June 1, was undoubtedly Nottinghamshire's golfing spectacular of the year.

STRONG FIELD

GOLF SURVEY
by
Desmond Lowe

Coxmoor professional Bill White, in a thrill-packed final Boland, who was under White for four years before joining David Talbot in April, rolled in a birdie putt from the front edge of the last green to snatch victory.

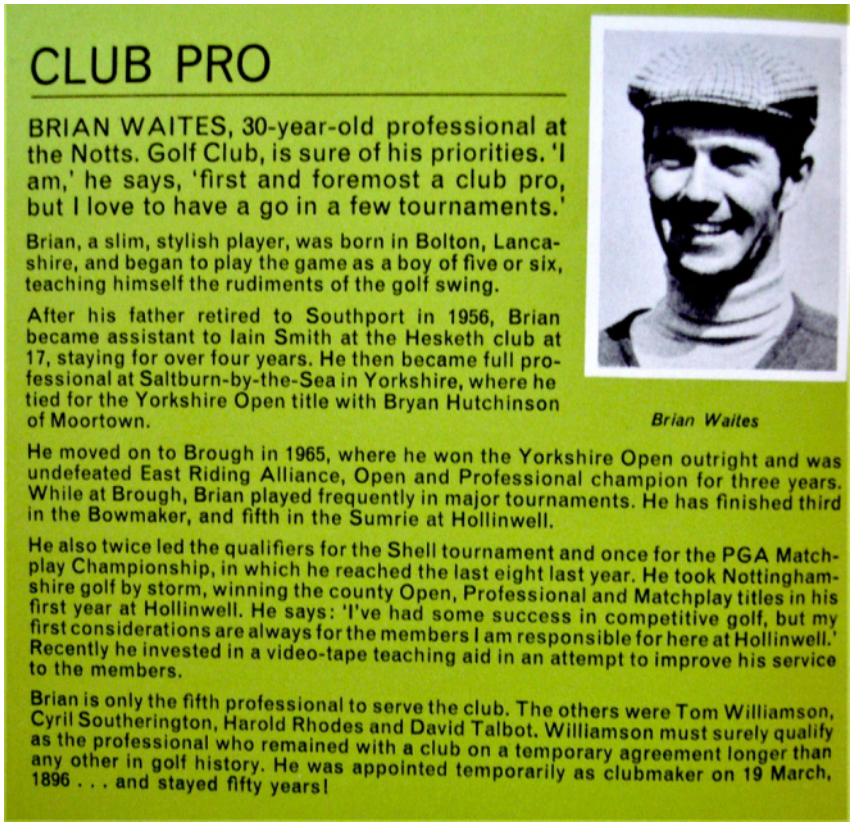
I thought Snell had let his chances of winning the county Open championship slip when he three-putted from a yard on Stanton's last green for a two-round aggregate of 142 (71,71).

This was a target Scotsman Alan Bussell, first round pacemaker with 68, was quite capable of beating when he turned in 35 on his second lap.

STRUGGLED

But as the rain began to get heavier and the wind freshened, Bussell's scoring touch deserted him. He struggled for 39 on the return stretch, and this left him one shot outside of Snell.

Mentions Brian Hugget's win at the inaugural Sumrie Tournament at Hollinwell in 1968 (82).



CLUB PRO

BRIAN WAITES, 30-year-old professional at the Notts. Golf Club, is sure of his priorities. 'I am,' he says, 'first and foremost a club pro, but I love to have a go in a few tournaments.'

Brian, a slim, stylish player, was born in Bolton, Lancashire, and began to play the game as a boy of five or six, teaching himself the rudiments of the golf swing.

After his father retired to Southport in 1956, Brian became assistant to Iain Smith at the Hesketh club at 17, staying for over four years. He then became full professional at Saltburn-by-the-Sea in Yorkshire, where he tied for the Yorkshire Open title with Bryan Hutchinson of Moortown.

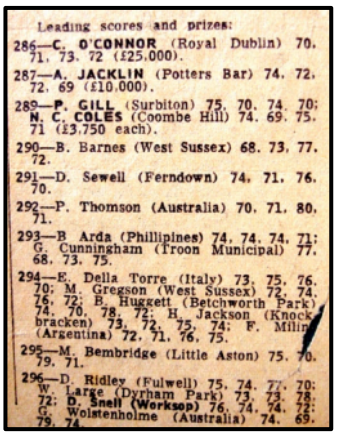
Brian Waites

He moved on to Brough in 1965, where he won the Yorkshire Open outright and was undefeated East Riding Alliance, Open and Professional champion for three years. While at Brough, Brian played frequently in major tournaments. He has finished third in the Bowmaker, and fifth in the Sumrie at Hollinwell.

He also twice led the qualifiers for the Shell tournament and once for the PGA Matchplay Championship, in which he reached the last eight last year. He took Nottinghamshire golf by storm, winning the county Open, Professional and Matchplay titles in his first year at Hollinwell. He says: 'I've had some success in competitive golf, but my first considerations are always for the members I am responsible for here at Hollinwell.' Recently he invested in a video-tape teaching aid in an attempt to improve his service to the members.

Brian is only the fifth professional to serve the club. The others were Tom Williamson, Cyril Southerington, Harold Rhodes and David Talbot. Williamson must surely qualify as the professional who remained with a club on a temporary agreement longer than any other in golf history. He was appointed temporarily as clubmaker on 19 March, 1896 . . . and stayed fifty years!

1970 John Player Classic
note on Brian Waites.



Leading scores and prizes:

286—C. O'CONNOR (Royal Dublin) 70, 71, 73, 72 (£25,000).

287—A. JACKLIN (Potters Bar) 74, 72, 72, 69 (£10,000).

289—P. GILL (Surbiton) 75, 70, 74, 70; N. C. COLES (Coombe Hill) 74, 69, 75, 71 (£3,750 each).

290—B. Barnes (West Sussex) 68, 73, 77, 72.

291—D. Sewell (Ferndown) 74, 71, 76, 70.

292—P. Thomson (Australia) 70, 71, 80, 71.

293—B. Arda (Phillipines) 74, 74, 74, 71; G. Cunningham (Troon Municipal) 77, 68, 73, 75.

294—E. Della Torre (Italy) 73, 75, 76, 70; M. Gregson (West Sussex) 72, 74, 76, 72; B. Huggett (Betchworth Park) 74, 70, 78, 72; H. Jackson (Knock bracken) 73, 72, 75, 74; F. Milin (Argentina) 72, 71, 76, 75.

295—M. Bembridge (Little Aston) 75, 70, 79, 71.

296—D. Ridley (Fulwell) 75, 74, 77, 70; W. Large (Dyrham Park) 73, 73, 78, 72; D. Snell (Worksop) 76, 74, 74, 72; G. Wolstenholme (Australia) 74, 69, 79, 74.

1970 John Player Classic results (left). £25,000 then the largest prize money in the history of the game.

line
nce

NICK FALDO . . . faltered on the homeward stretch before deservedly getting his hands on the Haig Trophy

Faldo tops — but Waites roars back

By DESMOND LOWE

LEADERS

NOTTS GOLF CLUB professional Brian Waites, slow to get into the £70,000 Haig Tournament Players' Championship birdie rush, finished on a high note on his home course at Hollinwell yesterday afternoon.

He fired a blistering birdie-eagle-par run in a closing round of 68 that sent him soaring into a four-way tie for seventh place on 279 — nine shots behind clear winner Nick Faldo.

Said 42-year-old Waites afterwards: "Considering all the pressures I was under as home professional, I was more than satisfied with my performance."

His winnings: £1,704.

More important, was that his aggregate (72, 71, 68, 68) meant that he and Faldo will represent England in the World Cup in Mexico in December.

STRIDE

Bodies at the third and sixth holes, after a below-par outward run, a crowds built up for the final duel almost between Faldo and Spaniard Manuel Calero.

He dropped a shot when he overhit the green with an eight-iron second at the eighth, pulled it back with a flawless birdie at the ninth but found himself in a bunker at the tenth.

Explaining: "I played a bad pitch to the green and it finished in a terrible spot in a bunker."

Waites met the challenge with a superb recovery. Then, the exasperated Faldo hole out like a fire — but that was his only error on the homeward stretch.

The pair was then joined by Newcastle's Mark Mouncher, a very great finish that clearly underlined Our Man from Hollinwell could more than hold his own with the best golfers in Europe.

Faldo had his anxious moments on his way to a last round 69 — "at one stage I had to give myself a kick up the backside."

It gave him a three-shot victory over a fighting Calero, who won £11,666 and clinched a place in next month's Bentley world match-play championship at Wentworth.

Said 20-year-old Faldo: "I made my own mind before coming how I really wanted to win this one. I knew it was my only way into the Wentworth event."

●Connoc beat Nottingham City by a five-hole margin in the 36-hole final of the Notts Union of Golf Clubs' mixed four-some knock-out competition.

nphs

CLIVE BRETT

Notts win

SPORTS TEASER

1882 The Haig Tournament Players Championship won by Nick Faldo.

Shaw chips in to strengthen Notts. side

FORMER Staffordshire county player, Peter Shaw, will be making his debut for Notts. Golf Club in their annual match against Oxford University at Hollinwell on Saturday, November 28.

It is suggested this is the strongest side the club has ever fielded, and included in the line-up is the county's number one amateur, Peter Moody — the present British Universities champion — and former Walker Cup star Alan Russell.

Shaw, a long hitter although only small in build, plays off one handicap, and has a sound, all-round game. He will strengthen the county first team when he has met the qualification period.

Golf by Desmond Lowe

David Baxter, who captained Oxford last year, will be returning to Hollinwell, also Scotsman Cullen Steel, the present captain, and powerful John Turnbull.

IN TRIM

MAXIMUM

Stylist Alec Shepperson will be turning out against his old university. The former

Baxter scored maximum points in the January match. He teamed up with Steel to beat Alan Russell and Richard Naylor in the foursomes, and then went on to beat Russell on the 17th green in the singles.

Steel was beaten 2 and 1 by Shepperson, while Turnbull coped withe difficult Hollinwell course with great skill in beating Harry Johnson by 4 and 3 margin.

Moody, Naylor, Estrop, Sykes, Kidd and Brooksby will be turning out for the club in the Sunday match against the undergraduates, and the other players invited are: Roger Winson, Barry Wardman, Ian Linster, Ian Bain, Fred Hill and Ian Simpson.

A dinner in the clubhouse will follow the Saturday match, and it is planned to show some golf films, including one of Tony Jacklin's storming victory in this year's U.S. Open Championship.

ALEC SHEPPERSON — the former Walker Cup star — will be turning out against his old University

1970 The Oxford and Cambridge University matches were very competitive and sometimes boisterous. Henry Longhurst had previously won a tankard, The Linskill Trophy, and in 1976 offered it to be competed for between Notts. and Cambridge University, a match that started in 1893. In 1977 Alec Shepperson donated a tankard for the match versus Oxford University which started in 1908.

Hollinwell welcomes return to big time

BIG TIME amateur golf will be returning to Hollinwell with the staging in 1975 of the English amateur stroke-play championship for the Brabazon Trophy.

A Notts. GC official said this week: "We were only too delighted to accept this major event."

The last time the Brabazon was held over Hollingwell's rolling fairways was in 1959, and the course was in a bone-dry condition because of a fractured water main.

RECOVERED

Several of the greens were without water, and scoring was never easy

Little Doug. Sewell, who shortly afterwards turned professional, and big Mike Bonallack tied for first place with an aggregate of 300.

Sewell returned rounds of 76, 73, 78 and 73, while Bonallack recovered well after opening with a 79. He added rounds of 73, 74 and 74

The replay was a fluctuating affair, but it was Sewell who came out on top with a 78 to Bonallack's 79

WATERING

Five years later the Notts club were hosts to the English amateur match-play championship With no problems over watering, the event was a great success

Lancastrian Dr David Marsh took the title — beating Yorkshireman Rodney Foster on the last green in the 36-hole final

Former Walker Cup star Alec Shepperson, kept local hopes high. He produced wonderful golf to reach the semi-finals, then he was let down by his putter

He missed three putts from a yard and less in the opening stages, and Foster took full advantage of Shepperson's putting errors

He went on to score a comfortable 5 and 4 victory

The Brabazon went to Woodhall Spa in 1962. and Shepperson had a great chance of winning the championship

By Desmond Lowe

VETERAN

But he ran up a five at the par four finishing hole, and tied with Yorkshire veteran Alan Slater He was beaten in the play-off

Shepperson has played little golf in the last few years, but I'm told he is now showing much more interest in the game At one time he was rated one of the best amateur golfers in the country

Perhaps we may see Shepperson, with his beautifully-controlled swing and deadly short game, in a challenging position when the Brabazon is held at Hollinwell in May, 1975

Several major professional tournaments have been staged at Hollinwell, including the 1957 Dunlop Masters and the inaugural John Player Classic three years ago.

RESIGNED

Scotsman Alan Bussell, who also made the Walker Cup side in the Shepperson era, has resigned his membership of Notts. GC and joined the Derbyshire club of Chevin.

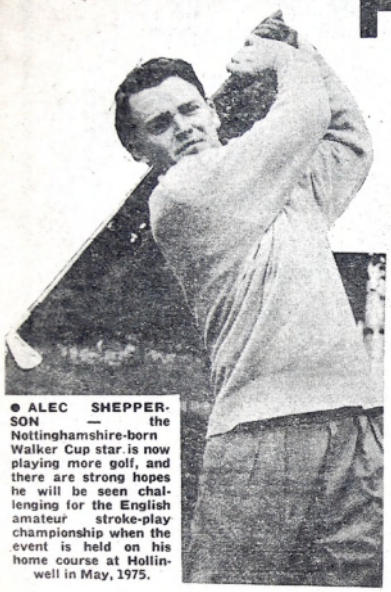
Says Bussell, who now plays off two handicap: "I have no intention of playing for Derbyshire in inter-county matches. I will continue to turn out for Nottinghamshire if invited."

He will also compete in Notts. Union events, including the county open and amateur championship meeting.

REASON

The reason Bussell, who has been a member of the Notts. club for 15 years, has joined Chevin GC is that it is nearer his Eastwood home.

Trevor Coupe will be taking over later this month from Michael Kidd as match secretary at Notts. GC Kidd has been nominated as vice-captain to Dr Dick Sykes



● ALEC SHEPPERSON — the Nottinghamshire-born Walker Cup star is now playing more golf, and there are strong hopes he will be seen challenging for the English amateur stroke-play championship when the event is held on his home course at Hollinwell in May, 1975.

● ALAN BUSSELL — the former Walker Cup player has resigned his membership of Notts. GC and joined the Derbyshire club of Chevin.

1973 Article about the 1975 Brabazon Trophy:
Hollinwell has held the Brabazon six times (83).

Nothing but the best for Waites

Severiano Ballesteros

NOTTS GOLF CLUB professional Brian Waites has taken time off this week to reflect on the full significance of his shock win in the Tournament Players' Championship at Foxhills, Surrey.

For it has brought him up against some of the best players in the world in the £130,000 Colgate world match-play spectacular from October 12-15.

To my question as to how he would feel standing on the first tee of the formidable Burma Road course with swashbuckling Severiano Ballesteros as his first round opponent, 38-year-old Waites replied:

"I'd probable feel a little nervous until I had got the first hole out of my system. Then I would enjoy it."

And he added: "I would love to play Ballesteros. It could only benefit my game.

"I'm going to be the underdog so I can go out knowing that I've nothing to lose."

Three

Waites is one of three Britons in the 16-strong field chasing a top prize of £30,000. The other two are Nick Faldo and European match-play champion Mark James.

Graham Marsh will be defending his title and fellow Australian David Graham, the 1976 champion, is also playing.

Springbok Gary Player will be bidding for his sixth world match-play victory. His last win was in 1973.

Spearheading the American challenge is twice Open champion Tom Watson who, with four triumphs this year including the Hall of Fame Classic, is leading U.S. money winner with more than 300,000 dollars.

Strong

US Open champion Andy North, U.S. PGA champion John Mahaffey, big hitting Andy Bean and Lee Elder make up the strong American contingent.

Elder is tenth in the US money list having won the mammoth play-off with Lee Trevino — and the Westchester Open.

But the all-conquering Ballesteros is likely to start favourite. He is having a remarkable year and his victories include one on his first appearance in an American event.

New Zealand PGA champion Simon Owen, who finished second to Jack Nicklaus in the Open at St Andrews, Springbok Dale Hayes, holder of the French and Italian Opens, and Japan's leading player, Isao Aoki, complete the starred field.

Format

The format is unchanged with each match being played over 36 holes, but for the first time this year the first and second round losers will compete in an 18-hole match-play competition.

Eleven handicap Nottingham City golfer Dennis Pritchett lost both his matches by a 2 and 1 margin in the Whitbread Northern Trophy finals . . but he came away with plenty of prizes.

He was one of 16 who

1978 Brian Waites won the
Tournament Players Championship (84).

SUPER SPORT GOLF SPECIAL

DAD'S BARMY!

BRIAN WAITES was a clark-haired lad of 17 the last time our golfers licked America in the Ryder Cup.

That was in 1967—the year Waites started his first golf job as a sweeping, scrubbing dogsbody assistant pro at Southport.

Now, 16 years later, he climbs aboard Concorde tomorrow as the silver-thatched, 43-year-old daddy of the 12-man European team who take on the Yanks again in Florida, on Friday.

He's throwing away £1,000 to take on the Yanks

By KARL KERSHAW

Lucrative

Strength

Easy

Threshed

'I've won £42,825 . . . not a bad part-time job'

TONY JACKLIN . . . the non-playing captain

BRIAN WAITES . . . "Forget history, the Yanks are only human. We can beat them."

Rarin' to go

1983 More articles about Brian Waites at the Ryder Cup in Palm Beach.

Glory in defeat for Europe

So close in Cup thriller

BRITAIN and Europe failed by the narrowest of margins to win the Ryder Cup on U.S. turf for the first time in a dramatic ebb-and-flow final day in Florida.

And it was Lanny Watkins, one down playing the last hole, who clinched a 14½-13½ victory on the PGA national course at Palm Beach Gardens with a superb approach when the contest looked to be heading for a draw.

His closing birdie earned him a half against Spaniard Jose-Maria Canizares and brought title contenders from United States captain Jack Nicklaus: "It was an experience I will remember for the rest of my lifetime."

And European captain Tony Jacklin added: "I'm disappointed but my boys were fantastic."

He said he was convinced that Europe had four of the best players in the world in Ballesteros, Faldo, Langer and 20-year-old Way.

Faldo and Langer both scored four points out of five. Way contributed with 3½ and Ballesteros with three. Tom Watson was the only American to play in all five sessions and he scored four points with 2½ from Watkins, Haas, Peete and Crenshaw.

Ballesteros snapped up four successive birdies to go three-up against Zoeller, but the American took four in a row on the homeward half to square the game.

Faldo and Langer justified Jacklin's strategy of packing his best players at the top. Faldo, putting superbly, beat Haas 2 and 1 and Langer defeated Morgan by two holes.

Then came wins from Gilder, Crenshaw and Peete — but the Europeans were not finished. Way triumphed 2 and 1, Brown 4 and 3 and Torrance halved with Kite.

But it was the Americans who survived the intense pressure to win the Ryder Cup for the 21st time. They have been beaten only three times and held to a draw once.

A LUCKY break — for black American Calvin Peete — cost Notts Golf Club professional Brian Waites his singles game as excitement mounted in the closing stages of the biennial Ryder Cup contest.

It came at the 14th where 40-year-old Peete, with the match standing at all square, sent his tee shot flashing into trees.

Said 43-year-old Waites: "He finished in a good lie, fired a three-iron on to the green and holed a birdie putt from six feet.

"I found the fairway with my drive, the green with a five-iron second and missed from five yards."

Peete celebrated his good fortune by rolling in an 8ft. birdie putt at the next to go two-up after a four-yarder from Waites had stayed on the edge of the hole.

Waites won the 16th, watched Peete sink a seven-footer for a fighting half at the next, and could not match his opponent's match-winning birdie at the last.

Birdies at the first and fifth twice put Waites in the lead in this battle between the straightest drivers on the United States and European circuits.

But each time Peete promptly replied with a birdie of his own to square.

They were still square after ten, halved the 577-yard 11th in birdie fours and halved the next two. Then came Peete's stroke of luck — and defeat for Waites.

Waites was also beaten on the last green in Saturday's fourball matches with Scot Ken Brown by Craig Stadler and Lanny Wadkins, and by a 3 and 2 margin by Curtis Strange and Jay Haas in the foursomes.

Parting Florida shot from Our Man from Hollinwell: "We were always in with a chance and it was a big disappointment to lose after going so close."

WAITES IN FLORIDA

Waites is out of luck

PALM BEACH DETAILS

FOURSOMES: Kite, Floyd lost to FALDO, LANGER 3 and 2; WADKINS, MORGAN bt Torrance, Canizares 7 and 5; Watson, Gilder lost to BALLESTEROS, WAY 2 and 1; HAAS, STRANGE bt Waites, Brown 3 and 2.

SINGLES: Stadler halved with Ballesteros; Haas lost to FALDO 3 and 2; Morgan lost to LANGER two holes; GILDER bt Brand two holes; CRENSHAW bt Lyle 2 and 1; PEETE bt Waites two holes; Strange lost to WAY 3 and 2; Kite halved with Torrance; Watkins halved with Canizares; Floyd lost to BROWN 4 and 3; WATSON bt Gallacher 2 and 1.

Waites gives advice

NOTTS GC professional Brian Waites is pictured giving a lesson to Midland-based Scot Sandy Lyle on the practice ground of the formidable PGA National Golf Club course in Palm Beach as the European team prepared for the biennial Ryder Cup match against the United States.

Speaking to the Evening Post from Florida, Waites said: "Sandy was having trouble aligning himself up properly. He was pushing his shots and I was trying to put him right."

The United States have a formidable record of 20 victories, three losses and one tie since the start of the contest in 1927. They have never lost on their home soil.

WAITES IN FLORIDA

NOTTS GOLF Club professional Brian Waites made an unexpected winning Ryder Cup debut — at the age of 43.

He said from his Palm Beach Gardens hotel early today: "Ken Brown and I had gone out for a practice round as we had been told by Tony Jacklin we would not be required for the first day's action.

"We had reached the eighth when Jacklin burst on the scene in his buggy and literally dragged us off the course.

"He said Gallacher and Lyle were not playing well and we were needed for the afternoon fourball session."

And what a combination he and 26-year-old Brown turned out to be!

FINE BURST

With Europe halving the morning foursomes, they were pitched into the fray against flamboyant Fuzzy Zoeller, second in the 1983 U.S. money list, and Gil Morgan.

Brown reeled off four birdies on the outward half and this fine burst of scoring put he and Waites one-up at the turn.

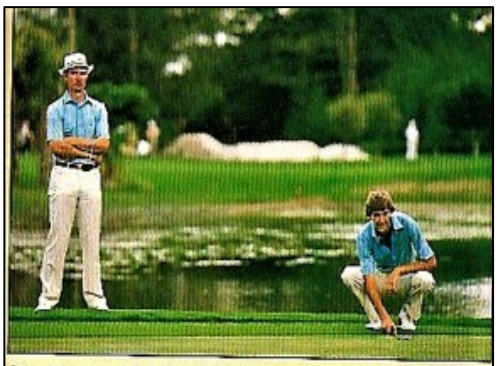
Waites birdied the tenth for a half and they went two-up when he reduced the 577-yard 11th to a drive, three-wood, wedge and 18ft. birdie putt.

'Tony dragged us off the course'

And it was Waites who produced the killer punch at the tricky, dog-legged 13th. He was the only one of the four to find the well-guarded green with his second and two safe putts for par put the Euro pair three-up.

The Americans bounced back with a winning birdie at the 15th but halves at the next two holes gave Waites and Brown a well-earned 2 and 1 victory.

Said Our Man from Hollinwell: "We were called on at the last minute and we did the job."



Brian Waites (left) and Ken Brown, successfully drafted into the afternoon fourballs during the first day.

Waites and Brown were no better. In losing 3 and 2 to Strange and Haas, they were also four over par with one other hole having been conceded.

The second day ended with honours even and the scoreboard standing at 8 points each. All was set for a fascinating last day's singles.

The European side could hardly have had a better start. Jacklin's thinking in putting a tremendously enthusiastic Ballesteros out first caught the Americans on the hop. Nicklaus, it was thought, had assumed that Seve would be used as the sheet anchor and had acceded to Watson's wishes to "let me have him". As it was, Jacklin had a double-edged sword in sending "one of the worst drives of my life". It ended up buried in the long Bermuda grass above the face of the bunker guarding the dog-leg corner. It took a group of marshals several minutes to find it. All he could do was hack it out 20 yards into the next bunker, on the up-slope just under the lip. Anyone else would have been happy to get it out with a sand wedge but Seve took his three wood, aimed well left and hit a magnificent cut shot all of 245 yards to finish pin high, just to the left of the pin, but off the green. Zoeller meanwhile had hit the green with his third shot, a 2-iron after his own drive had been buried in rough on the other side of the fairway, and he

Golf World December 1983

SPORTSTALK

SATURDAY WITH DESMOND LOWE

WHILE Nick Faldo has been setting up all kinds of records on the European golf circuit this season, Notts GC professional Brian Waites has also been getting his name into the record books.

When he goes into Ryder Cup action against the Americans in Florida next month, he will become the second oldest player — at the age of 43 — to make a debut in this biennial contest.

The oldest is the legendary Ted Ray. He was 50 years of age when he captained the Great Britain team in the inaugural Ryder Cup match in Massachusetts in 1927.

And Ray, renowned for his long driving and remarkable powers of recovery, lost both his foursomes and singles as Great Britain crashed to a 9¼-2¾ defeat. We can only hope Waites makes a more successful debut. I'm sure he will.

A Ryder Cup place means there is now no other professional international team honour that Waites can win.

He has made a record five appearances in the Mini-Ryder Cup — an annual competition between club professionals from the United States and Great Britain and Ireland — twice represented Great Britain and Ireland against the Rest of Europe in the Hennessy Cup, and twice played for England in the World Cup.

The only other golfer who has turned out in all four events is Midlander Peter Butler. His international appearances do not compare with that of the globe-trotting Waites.

And Waites will be adding to his formidable record when he plays for England in the two-man World Cup competition in Indonesia on December 8-11.

His partner is Gordon Brand Snr, who goes into the action as high-flying Nick Faldo is not available. A great pity as I feel that Faldo and Waites might easily have emerged as a winning combination.

●Good news is that non-playing Ryder Cup captain Tony Jacklin is happy with the four newcomers in his team — "it is a good balance with the experience of Waites, the aggression of Woosnam and Way and the steadiness of Brand who will not do anything ridiculous."

Jacklin's only regret is that Spaniard Manuel Pinero narrowly failed to make the side — "his short game skill would have been invaluable."

1983 Article about Brian Waites saying he was the second oldest player after Ted Ray be selected for the Ryder Cup. What it couldn't say at the time is that he was the last club professional to play in the Ryder Cup. At 43 years old he was also the oldest player to be selected for the first time.

Waites invite to US Open

Eamonn Gavigan on Golf

BRIAN WAITES is the only European to receive an invitation to play in the United States Seniors Open at Pinehurst in July.

"I'm obviously delighted and take it as huge complement," says Waites. "It's a great honour as the only European who's exempt and invited to play. I've already played there in the Ryder Cup, so I know my way round."

The Notts man, who has also been invited to play in the United States PGA Seniors Championship at West Palm Beach in April, added: "I'll spend as much time as possible playing and on the practice ground between now and April.

"I'd like to do well. I played in the US PGA Championship in 1990 and '91 but missed 1992 because of the accident. I thought they may have forgotten me so I was delighted when the invitation arrived."

Waites is no stranger to Pinehurst as he represented Great Britain in the 1973 PGA match against the Americans on the course.

Even though he didn't finish in the money Waites was delighted with his recent excursion to Arizona to play in the Ping Pro-Am.

"I didn't score particularly well but I hit the ball well," he said. "I was disappointed with the results but not with the way I actually played."

He has gradually been getting back to fitness after his accident a couple of years ago and was delighted with the way he stood up the rigours of the trip.

"I played ten round in as many days, so from that point of view, it was a worthwhile exercise. I'm getting fit but there is still some way to go."

Waites is looking forward to another sucessful campaign on the European Seniors Tour. "The Seniors Tour has been improved tremendously this year. I will play most of the events in Europe."

He also hopes to play as many events as possible on the Nottinghamshire and Midlands circuit. "I'm hoping to play in the Notts PGA Championship at the beginning of April. I'd like to keep as busy as possible."

Waites steals in

ALL IS FORGIVEN, SEVVY

SWINGING: Brian Waites is on target for a Ryder Cup place

1983 Brian Waites B&H at Fulford (85).

NOTTS GC professional Brian Waites had a 'borrowed' putter to thank as he stormed to within an ace of the £18,330 top prize in the prestigeous Benson and Hedges Golf International at Fulford, York, yesterday.

The putter, replacing an identical one he had stolen while in Cologne for the German Open last month, came via a club member who brought it in to his Hollinwell pro shop on Tuesday for a new rubber grip.

Waites, who had eight single putts in his second round 65 to leave him one shot off the lead at the halfway stage, said: "When I saw the putter I knew it was exactly what I needed.

"I refused to re-grip it and said I was going to have the putter instead and leave it as it was.

"I'll sort him out something special when I get back." he added.

Waites rested from the Carrolls Irish Open last week after playing 18 tournaments in the previous 17 weeks claiming: "The petrol tank was empty, the battery flat and I wanted a de-coke. But that rest has done me really good.

"I mooched about the club, did a few repairs, gave a few lessons and had one game with a member and thoroughly enjoyed myself.

"I have been away for so long that no-one recognised me in the clubhouse — they thought I was a caddy," he added.

He believed that average prize-money of £1,000 from each of four remaining tournaments would ensure his Ryder Cup place against the Americans in October.

But after his remarkably consistent form on the greens yesterday, he is on the way to sealing his place in the European team with ease.

In the third round today, Waites began well with a birdie at the second to join Bernhard Langer of West Germany in the lead at slght under.

1983 Waites B&H at Fulford.
A member's putter helped!

Mark misses a major moment in golf

ANYONE who has ever played or watched sport treasures his moments. Sport, like the movies or theatre, is about moments; no one ever recalls a game, film or play in its entirety. What lingers, fossilised in the mind forever, is that instant when the performer, be he actor or athlete, accomplishes something extraordinary.

But vivid as those memories are, the most treasured moments of one's life occur when one is participating in a sport and not merely watching.

All of which leads us to a book which was delivered to my house this week. It arrives annually because it is written by my agent, Mr Mark McCormack, and is his painstaking compilation of the past year's happenings in world golf. In those dear departed days when I was president of the Anti-Golf Society, Mr McCormack sent me his work as a joke, and it was accepted as such.

Today, however, having seen the folly of my ways and disbanded the society, I look at Mr McCormack's offering with new eyes. Indeed, I now actually read it, hoping that I might find some clue as to why I am such a lousy player.

This being the case, I can only say I am disappointed in this year's offering. It purports to list all the major happenings in golf during the past 12 months, and yet it totally neglects even a mention of one of the season's great encounters, namely the match between myself and Mr Peter Alliss.

It was arranged by BBC television as part of a series in which Mr Alliss took a few suckers round a golf course and, in between commenting on their game, asked them questions about their life and times. Thus, on a chilly April morning, I presented myself to the aforesaid Mr Alliss in the car park of the lovely and hospitable Hollinwell course in Nottinghamshire. Now it is important to state here that I am what might be called a slob golfer. All that expensive golf gear is not for me. If I spend my professional life getting dressed up, I'll be damned if I'm going to do the same thing to play a round of golf. Therefore, my normal attire on a golf course is sweater, jeans and a pair of exceedingly comfortable purple trainers. I was attired in this manner when I greeted Mr Alliss, who was looking his usual immaculate self.

"The changing room is over there," he said, pointing to the clubhouse.

"I don't need it, I've changed," I said.

He looked me up and down like a sergeant-major on kit inspection: "You are not playing with me dressed like that."

Which is how I came to play Mr Alliss wearing a pair of golf shoes loaned me by a kind member of the BBC crew and a pair of trousers purloined from an equally generous member.

Apart from being a slob golfer, I am also a fair-weather golfer, which means I don't play the game between October and March-April, because my nose runs and my fingers go like parsnips in the cold. Therefore, as I approached the first tee, it suddenly struck me that this was my first game of golf for nearly six months. I explained this and requested time to practise.

"No time for that," Mr Alliss said, striding onwards like Attila the Hun.

"But you don't know how bad I am," I protested. This caused him to pause.

"That's true," he mused. "All right, just hit half a dozen balls, that's all we've got time for."

I took my trusty five-iron from my caddie, a lovely man with a face like an old armchair. I then took half a dozen practice shots;

not once disturbing the ball. Even Mr Alliss, who is not normally lost for words, was momentarily dumbstruck by what he saw. "Good God, I didn't know you were that bad," he said.

Then, suddenly, I was possessed with a great determination to do well which, in retrospect, arose from a mixture of blind panic and the contents of a hip flask I sipped from occasionally to keep the cruel April weather from my old bones. Mr Alliss informed me the cameras were rolling, and that this was the moment of truth. He explained the first hole, a mean par three, downhill through a gorse-filled and narrow chasm on to the green.

I took my three-iron, regarded the hole just like I'd seen Arnie Palmer do it a hundred times. It was at this point that the fluid I had taken to warm my blood reached the frontal lobes.

"Right, my friend," I said to Mr Alliss. "What are we playing for, and what will you give me?"

Having regard for what he had just witnessed, Mr Alliss would have been in order sending for the men in white coats. Instead, being a good and patient man, he treated my foolhardy bravado with respect.

"A fiver—and I'll give you a stroke on this hole," he said.

What followed was my greatest sporting moment. I shall remember it as long as I live. Seeing it played back later, you could argue about the two-handed grip, write a chapter on how the backswing was an object lesson on how not to hit a golf ball. Nonetheless, what is undeniable is that the ball flew from the tee like a homing pigeon for the green. It hovered above it, and then dropped and stopped four or five yards from the pin. To win the bet, Mr Alliss would have to hole in one.

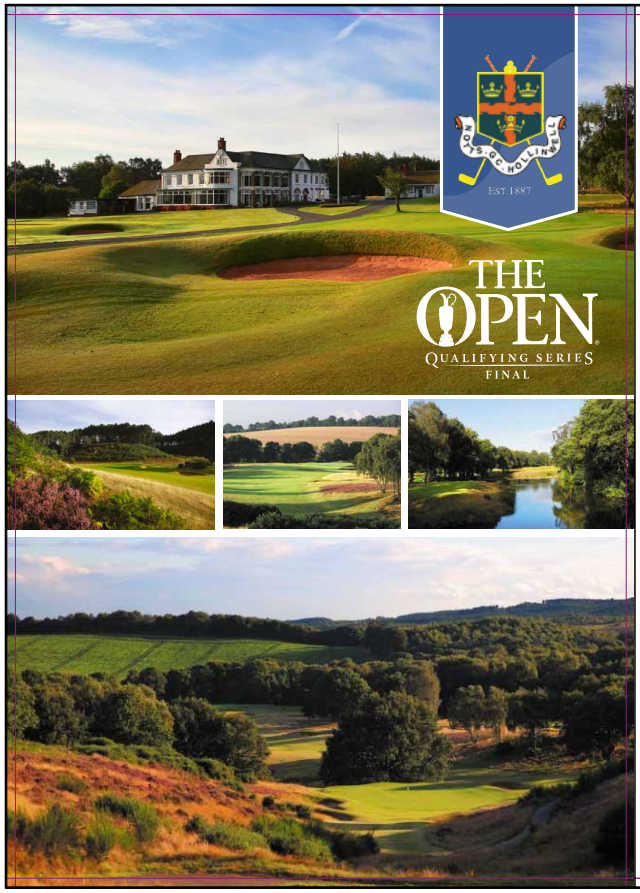
"Where's your mask, Parky old son?" asked Mr Alliss as he stepped forward. My caddie looked at me with wondrous respect. It was one of those delicious moments, those fictional happenings, when the booby wins the prize. I should have retired there and then, hung up my clubs forever with the world wondering if I might have won the Open.

As it was, I continued playing and conclusively proved to Mr Alliss, even with the help of his patient and wise advice, that I really am the sort of golfer who should be allowed, nay encouraged, to play in jeans and purple trainers. It wasn't that my game disintegrated, simply that I reverted to normal.

No matter, the moment existed and it will forever linger. When the programme was shown, I watched the opening hole, just to re-live the ecstasy, and then switched off. In the video recorder in my head, I have edited it into the reel containing my favourite sporting memories, those moments when, in my own mind at least, I stood alongside my sporting heroes in the Hall of Fame.

It would have been nice to have found my moment substantiated in Mr McCormack's book. That it is omitted accounts for the reason why it has joined The Tony Greig Book of Cricket and E. W. Swanton's memoirs in propping up the spare bed.

1971 Article by Michael Parkinson about his televised round with Peter Alliss at Hollinwell available to watch on YouTube.



"When you turn into the entrance of Notts Golf Club your first thought is "this surely can't be the way in".

Many of you will be familiar with Ken Brown from the BBC's golf coverage but perhaps you are less familiar with Notts Golf Club at Hollinwell. Ken recently described his experience of this amazing club in his own inimitable way

"After driving over farmland then through an avenue of pine trees you turn the corner and are suddenly greeted with a distant view of the white clubhouse; it is like entering into another world. You have discovered one of the best heathland courses in Britain. I could go on to explain its history, the magical layout and design that tests every aspect of your game but the real joy is in the playing. Heathland turf, crisp and tight, the ideal texture for iron play combined with intriguing green complexes. All laid out on 400 acres, it somehow manages to combine grandeur with intimacy. Stand on the par 3, 13th tee and see what you think, you will not be disappointed.

It's a course that everyone will enjoy from the high handicapper to the scratch man. No club is better suited or prepared for staging prestigious events, it has everything."

Notts Golf Club, often known endearingly as Hollinwell, hosted the Final Open Qualifier this July along with Woburn, Hillside, Royal Cinque Ports and Gailes Links. Seventy-two players arrived from around the world from regional qualifying events to contend at Hollinwell for the three available places in the 146th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale.

Hollinwell is no stranger to tournaments, being one of the few clubs to have hosted the Brabazon Trophy on five occasions. It has held regional qualifying for The Open in the past but this new accolade takes the club to a new level. So what makes this golf course (voted No 1 in the region by Midlands Golfer readers) so very special?

Every hole is different posing its own challenge and they are all wrapped up in a remote heathland mosaic away from any houses or roads. Double Open champion Willie Park Jnr used the natural contours of 400 acres of historic Nottinghamshire heathland to design Hollinwell, named after the natural spring 'Holy Well' which is tucked away alongside the eighth hole. The natural terrain cuts a glorious swathe through the heart of legendary Robin Hood country. Gently undulating and fast running ground that can see you negotiating your ball around tight wooded hillsides on one hole, then through gorse and heather clad valleys on the next. With the towering Scots Pines overlooking proceedings it's an inspiring setting for a golfing journey. From the 12th fairway there is a spectacular view over the county and Newstead Abbey, Lord Byron's gothic home, with its tallest tower poking through the tree tops.

By the time you've reached an outstanding closing hole, long and downhill back to the clubhouse no one can fail to acknowledge the rich variety of holes here. A sweeping long second is an impressive early test, a wonderful looking dog-leg where you seem to walk forever before discovering a secretive green in the corner, set on a valley floor and flanked by a fern and heather clad bank. The second also marks a further historic spot; a rocky outcrop called Robin Hood's Seat sits

above the undulating green.

The subsequent holes meander through ever-attractive wooded surrounds and if anywhere the back end of the front nine edges it as the most realistic scoring stretch. All that ends with a delightful but dangerous short ninth, the tee sheltered by the tall trees but there's bunker trouble around the green for the less than accurate.

Memorable holes to discover during a back nine are once again is packed with contrast. The wide-open 12th, the highest point, is very moorland looking and will suit the long hitter. The 15th poses a challenge with a bottleneck fairway and an elevated green with a very examining putting surface. There's a touch of risk and reward about an equally beautiful but potentially villainous 16th. A tight tee shot to the floor below, followed by a lofted approach to the raised putting surface, which is protected by its recently restructured bunkers, awaits anything that drops short. The penultimate hole is a reachable and simply stunning looking par five and the 18th is a tough test that will stretch the best golfer.

With an SSS above par for all tee lengths this is the ultimate test of your game, one that will thoroughly examine every decimal point on your handicap. Yet if the elements are favourable and you can keep it on the short grass and master the nuances of the superb putting surfaces there is a score to be had. Complete with an attractive look for each passing season there is always the guarantee of play all year round and they have some of the best playing winter greens to be found.

Hollinwell Heaven: 13th - 198 yards Par 3

Difficult to imagine a more breath-taking tee shot sight. From the raised tee it's a glorious descent down the narrow gorse clad valley to a distant and exposed green with six bunkers dotted around. It may look a club less from the tee but be watchful of the breezes around this hole which tend to behave very unpredictably. Daunting enough from the amateur pegs yet from the Open qualifying tees even higher up, this measures a frightening 241 yards.

19th Hole:

The large and refurbished ground floor bar and dining area boast panoramic views of the golf course, welcoming members and visitors alike, and there's a separate 80 seater dining room upstairs for group occasions and functions. Practice facilities include a driving range and a sizeable long game area adjacent to the course.
The club is classified as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The Official Ecologist to The R&A Championship Committee Courses recently said, "Notts Golf Club is one of the premier nature conservation sites within the UK, it is every bit a nature reserve as it is a golf course and indeed is well known for its nature conservation interests UK wide."

Next year on July 3rd Hollinwell will again host one of the Final Open Qualifying events along with Prince's Golf Club in Kent, The Renaissance Club in East Lothian and St Annes Old Links in Lancashire on July 3rd 2018.

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2017 Article about Hollinwell and the Open Final Qualifying Series. In 2017 Hollinwell was asked to hold an extra event of the Open Final Qualifying Series a year ahead and at two weeks' notice. Everyone rallied to do so, and everything went extremely well.

Excerpts from the Suggestions Book

1925 *The hay around the fairways be mown another 10 yards. This is not a natural hazard. After rain it is horrible.*
Answer: This is not necessary.

1928 *Why is it that stilton cheese cannot be provided?*

1930 *That in view of the false handicaps under which the majority of the club members are labouring each member shall automatically be raised one each January 1st, any members doing 76 net or better should immediately be reduced.*
Answer: The committee are not able to agree to this suggestion.

1932 *There should be a minimum age for caddies. My boy today was 12 years of age and nothing more or less than a nuisance.*
Answer: Such a suggestion will not be entertained.

1939 *That 3p [equivalent to 60p in today's money] is an exorbitant charge for one portion of jam.*
Answer: The committee are unable to make any reduction in charges during the period of war.

1963 *That the fruit machine, the most wicked form of gambling, be removed from the clubhouse.*

1971 *The committee decided that, due to declining standards, dress jackets were to be worn in the men's smoke room, mixed lounge and dining room. This resulted in the following:*
That in view of the arrival of the British Summer full consideration should again be given to the relaxation of the request regarding the wearing of jackets... If the request to wear a jacket secures respectability in the clubhouse, then none, I hope, could possibly object. But does the wearing of a jacket guarantee respectability? Is theft diminished by a jacket, is loudness checked by a jacket, is intemperance tempered by a jacket? Surely not. If respected tradition demands of the British golfer that he wear a jacket as the concert pianist wears tails or the monk a habit, then we must bow to this request. But is tradition so exigent on such an issue? I think not. Why this attempt at regimentation? Why should taste be dictated to us?
Ans: The committee sees no reason to change its decision that jackets should be worn in the men's bar and mixed lounge.

1972 *That the suggestion book be locked up on rainy Thursday afternoons.*

1973 *Would the committee authorise that the ground staff be given some quicker means of dispatching the current infestation of rabbits than with a member's No 7 iron.*

Answer: The committee considers a 9 iron would be better.

Entries by Eric Lancelot Copleston Pentecost:

7.7.32 *That a water softener be installed to avoid the future expense of rapid fouling of water pipes.*

19.8.34 *That the continuous gambling behind the car park throughout every Sunday by bands of youths who have no intention of coming down to caddie is a reflection on the club and should be stopped.*

7.5.48 *That a pot of tea be servable at any and all such times as alcoholic liquor is obtainable for the benefit of members to whom the taste of strong drink is abominable.*

7.10.61 *That the fruit machines be removed from the clubs' premises. Even the few of us who have hitherto led blameless lives are tending to succumb to this dreadful craze for easy money.*

3.8.62 *Have we got to have the dressing rooms like hothouses for the sake of maintaining the hot water supply? Have we got to have the price of tonic water increased from 6p to 8p when it is 7p in every pub in the country? Have we got to pay 4p for Penguins when they are 3 and a half p in every shop?*

Answer: Yes.

30.8.63 *That the fruit machine, the most wicked form of gambling be removed from the clubhouse forthwith. Failing which that a nine on the third roller be replaced by an ace.*

22.7.68 (letter) *I was shocked to read the news today of a totally unwarranted reduction of my handicap. Just when I was making some progress after my hernia operation, it has knocked my legs from under me…. when I told my cattle what had happened, all the cows immediately stopped work to hold a protest meeting….it will be very doubtful whether there will be any manure available for the NGC next year.*

22.12.70 *Schweppes tonic wholesale price sevenpence halfpenny, NGC price 1s 3d, 100% profit. Draught beer wholesale price 1s 11d, NGC price 2s 9d, 45% profit. I propose these prices should be revoked. It's the teetotal chaps who are the losers. Why should these clean-living members subsidise the clubs boozers?*

Answer: Although your plight is pathetic, the committee is not sympathetic.

1974 *With the rapid advancement of medical science in recent years and the consequent expectation of life, this club has sadly lagged behind other bodies in geriatrics and little provision has been made for the unprecedented prevalence of rheumatoid*

arthritis, alcoholic paralytics and mentally decrepit amongst its members. The committee should attempt to brighten the life of some of life's flotsam and jetsam by increasing the handicap limit to 30 to enable such human wrecks to once again enjoy the golf income to which they had become accustomed to in happier days...

Answer: This suggestion considerably brightened the last committee meeting.

30.4.77 *For some months I have been unable to sleep o'nights through thinking about the shocking state of the course and pondering over ways and means of exterminating the greens committee. I'm sleeping better now.*

27.7.78 *I make no apology for bringing up yet once again the continuing injustice when having previously fixed up with an opponent, either because he did not know there was a competition, or had forgotten, or that the balance of his mind was deranged through thinking too much about that stupid lake hole the 8th and finds that he is not allowed to play until after 2 o'clock or, alternatively, he must go back home...*

...I would suggest that, if it is a genuine case, a member should be taken in by a two-ball provided they play after 12noon.

29.8.78 *That the new bunker machine is unsuitable. It leaves the sand too fine, too loose, too deep. If persevered with a new type of club will be required, the dredge.*

13.3.80 *An entry that the remainder of the page be left blank in the memory of that ardent contributor over the years, the late Eric Lancelot Copleston Pentecost. Signed by 37 members.* The sundial by the putting green was erected in his memory.

Eric Lancelot Copleston Pentecost rescuing a gannet. He bred beef cattle and wrote a book of poems and tales called ‘Penty’.

Forests and Hollinwell

In the past, the term forest didn't mean dense areas of woodland. They had woods but with open spaces of scrub and heathland which were used for hunting (not just for Royalty, although there are some Royal forests). From 1919, when the Forestry Commission was set up to replenish areas of woodland that had been lost and the term forest started to become synonymous with thickly wooded land. In 1086 based on the Domesday book only 12% of Nottinghamshire was woodland and there was relatively little change over the next 800 years (Oliver Rackham, Trees & Woodland in the British Landscape). The map from 1724 by Herman Moll shows that the area the area around Hollinwell was not wooded and that of 1836 shows only two small coverts, but few other trees.

1898 Map of Hollinwell, red arrow points to 'Robin Hood's Chair'.

A search of other maps of the area in the University of Nottingham Archives and Ancient Manuscripts and the Nottingham Archives (Councils Record Office) has maps from 1600 and 1637 that show that this area was scrub. Photographs taken when the course opened in 1901 and for several years after that show very few trees and little gorse. It was only in the late 1930s when the Club was gifted over one thousand trees from the Dunrobin estate in Scotland that the course started to have more than the odd tree. In the early 1950s the Forestry Commission planted Scots Pines in the surrounding hills. There was a plan for them to be thinned out when they got to maturity to allow another generation to grow in those areas but a reduction in the price of wood has made this unviable. The Scots Pines, with a few Cyprus Pines, are likely to die at the same time which will probably result in a disruption to the landscape to the north and around the second hole until others and deciduous trees seed in spaces.

Gorse has also posed problems. In the Greens minutes of 1934, it says that over several years, gorse bushes had gradually encroached on the course and repeatedly been removed. That year there was an effort to remove them on holes 4,6,8 to 13,15 and 16 as they were troublesome. In 1939 Tom Williamson tried to deal with gorse encroaching on the sides of the fairways, often burning it, not realising that this was the best way to germinate

gorse seeds in the ground!
The gorse has increased in bulk, and because of its tenacity it has thrived and started to encroach into areas of play, as well as other areas. It is not all bad as it provides a habitat for some animals, but it is very good at binding nitrogen and enriching the soil.

This means that, even when gorse has been removed, heather and fine grasses are at a disadvantage (they do best in poor and slightly acidic soil) compared to Yorkshire fog and broad-leaved plants. To manage areas where gorse has been removed it is best to remove its roots as well as the enriched topsoil which also contains many seeds.

Our agronomists are united in saying that grass needs light and air as well as aeration to do well. Trees shade the grass and stop the wind drying it out.

In 1986 Jim Arthur, one of the foremost agronomists of his day, said *“We must control seedling trees.... remember there are still an awful lot of trees compared to the turn of the century.*
Gorse needs cutting back”.

In 1999 Donald Steel, golf architect, said *“...there are signs that the landscape is becoming too enclosed... there are plenty of woodland courses but only one Hollinwell”.*

In 2019 Sherwood Forest Trust said on its website: *“Huge areas of semi-natural habitat – primarily heathland and acid grassland – have been lost from*

Sherwood over the last few centuries."

The Stewardship Scheme and working with Sherwood Forest Trust:

In 2000 the Country Stewardship Scheme started. An agreement with Sherwood Forest Trust was made to maintain and expand the heathland nature of the course by removing self-set tress, limiting the growth of gorse and helping heather regenerate.
In 2009 there was a review of the Conifer Plantation Management Plan. “Today Kirkby Forest is one of many pine plantations.... is very visible being located on a ridge and shows poor unity within the surrounding agricultural and amenity landscape.... lacks diversity...

Short term vision: to heavily thin pine to encourage natural regeneration of native species... A network of open areas interlinked with a broad ride will be created through clear felling, scalloping of edges and heavy thinning. The long-term vision is reversion .... To native woodland.... The open spaces will be encouraged to develop as lowland heath/acid grassland, with scrub managed on rotation. Thinning cycle: 25% of native pine to be removed from site every 5 years.... All work will be covered by a felling license ..... "

However, the low price of wood has made this plan uneconomical, and the Sherwood Forest Trust now plans to let indigenous trees slowly and replace the Scots Pines which will be slower if the pine is not thinned.

In 2016 Bob Taylor, on behalf of R&A, wrote when he awarded Hollinwell the Golf Environment Organisation certification:

“Notts. Golf Club is one of the premier nature conservation sites within the UK, it is every bit as much a nature reserve as it is a golf course, and indeed it is well known for its nature conservation interests UK wide. The course lies within plantation woodland but is essentially heathland in character and this has been brought out by the ongoing management that is provided by the green staff on behalf of the club. Tree and scrub management and heath regeneration, all backed by grazing are key to retaining the conservation interests at Notts. golf club and all are being undertaken on a routine basis.

This course is a prime exemplar and ambassador for best conservation management practice, something that has evolved in line with experience and with regular close working with the local wildlife groups. The whole of the conservation management is overseen and monitored by the Sherwood Forest Trust and through regular and ongoing discussions with Natural England, The Wildlife Trusts and The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust.

In conclusion, tree removal, done under the guidance of Sherwood Forest Trust, is being done to encourage a heathland landscape within a mosaic of trees. Gorse is being removed in many areas where it

has started to encroach on play. We don't want to produce too many bare areas at a time, although where the work has been done in winter months these areas should soon recover. If gorse roots and enriched soil with seeds are removed it will give fine grasses and heather a chance, especially as most of these areas will be seeded with heather. Even then, gorse is likely to try and return and will need to be dealt with."

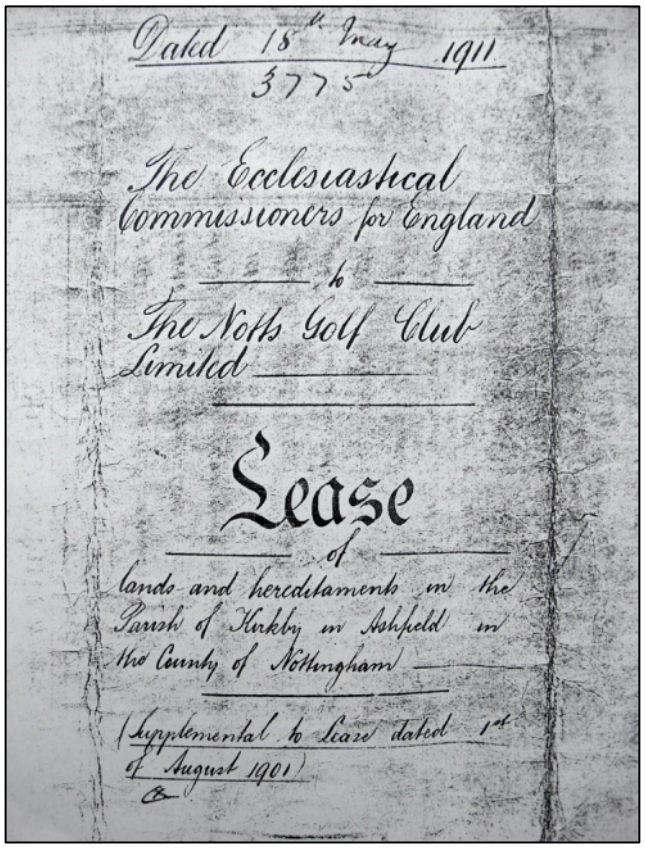
Land

1900 At the George Hotel 86 members met and 32 against 31 voted to move to Hollinwell. Debentures amounting to £3,450 were raised from 210 members.

1901 The course at Hollinwell opened. Events revolved around the train timetable. A rental of £25 a year from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for 25 years was negotiated. The rent was low because the shaft of Newstead Colliery was nearby.

1910 Sir Joseph Bright suggested approaching the Ecclesiastical Commission to acquire more land to the West. The committee did not support this suggestion. Later that year Mr. SA Derbyshire arranged a lease for 15 acres from the Ecclesiastical Commission for 80 years just West of the course. Tom Williamson was asked his opinion about the course at that time, and he said that the course lacked length, particularly in its second half, with a very poor 17th hole. The area leased by Mr. Derbyshire would not have been enough to extend

the course. It was resolved to lease a further two hundred acres to the West and to ask Mr. Derbyshire not to develop his land.
Torrid negotiations with Mr. Derbyshire ended in the club leasing the land from the Ecclesiastical Commission for £29 1s per annum, thanks to the services of an intermediary, Mr. TC Leman.


Dated 18th May 1911
3775
The Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England
to
The Notts Golf Club Limited
Lease
of
Lands and hereditaments in the Parish of Kirkby in Ashfield in the County of Nottingham
(Supplemental to Lease dated 1st of August 1901)

1911 Ecclesiastical Commission lease which included the extended area for the new first three holes and an area across the railway line.

It is ironic that Mr. Derbyshire's action, seen by members of the club as underhand, ended up achieving the result that Sir Joseph Bright had suggested several months beforehand, and this led to the footprint of the course today.

1911 Several wrote in to say that the road to the club

was unfit for motor traffic.
1911 “That the boundary line between that portion of the recently acquired additional land, which the club shall keep in hand on the expiration of the tenancy, and the other portion to be let off again run as follows...” One hundred acres around the Warren Farm that the club did not need, was sublet.

1922 The railway wanted to acquire a strip of land to build a tunnel (No record of sale but it took place).

1924 The Ecclesiastical Commissioners agreed to

sell the land for £6,000 (lease was set to end in 1930). The rights for minerals were reserved, and no surface mining was to be allowed but compensation would be paid for subsidence. The clubhouse burnt down and had to be rebuilt the same year. Members took out debentures or paid an additional £1 1p on their subscription. The land West of the course outside the perimeter of the golf course was leased in plots. Some of these leases produced a lot of aggravation and paperwork over the years.

1925 New Hucknall Colliery wanted to acquire an area of about 13 acres to place a spoil heap. The land was sold on condition that it could not be used for anything else. Basford Urban District Council bought an area between the railway lines of about 74 acres and agreed to leave it as an open space.

1935 Purchased 2.5 acres of land to make a new championship tee on the 11th hole.

1947 An agreement was drawn up between LNE

Railway and the club allowing right of way for £3 16s, along the westerly footpath.
The Notts. & Derby Electric Power Company Ltd agreed to make one pylon higher at 90ft instead of 70 ft allowing 50 ft clearance over the green. Five pylons were erected for the consideration of £1 per pylon!

1949 The committee agreed to lease 84 acres to the Forestry Commission for 150 years providing two crops of timber and to ask for help in repairing the road.

1953 The Forestry Commission planted Scots Pines around the north and west of the course.

1963 The owner of the bungalow was prepared to exchange 40ft of road frontage for a strip of land adjacent to his own for the entrance to the club.

1968 The Piggeries, Derby Road, 1,300 sq yds had been offered for sale by auction. Mr. Harlow (solicitor and member), after consultation with the captain, had bought the property and offered to resell it to the club. It was agreed to take over the sale.

1972 A 10ft wide strip adjacent to the drive south of the approach road was purchased from the neighbouring farmer.

1974 Sought planning approval to build on the Annesley side on surplus land; it was refused.

1975 There was a proposal for a 9-hole golf course where the railway lines had been. This plan was abandoned when the National Coal Board offered

£20,000 for the nineteen and a half acres forming a triangle of land between the two disused railway lines to the South of the first green to be used as a tip spoil. Notts. GC agreed if the soil heap was no more than 30ft high (see below).

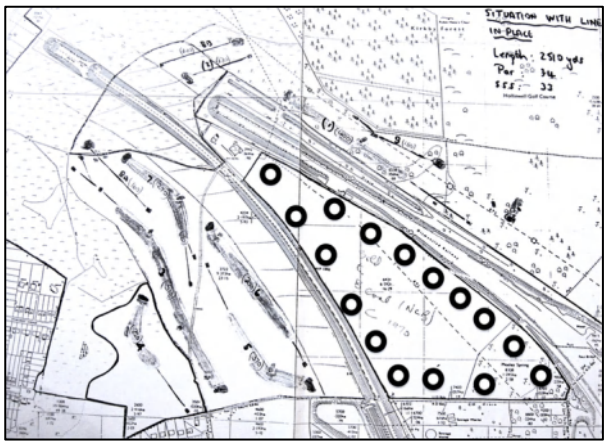


Diagram of proposed 9-hole course and area the National Coal Board bought for tip spoil.

Solid triangular line is the same area as previous figure with the hatched area for tipping and a further new area for the same with dashes around its perimeter.

1977 National Coal Board accepted liability for subsidence to the access road near the third green.

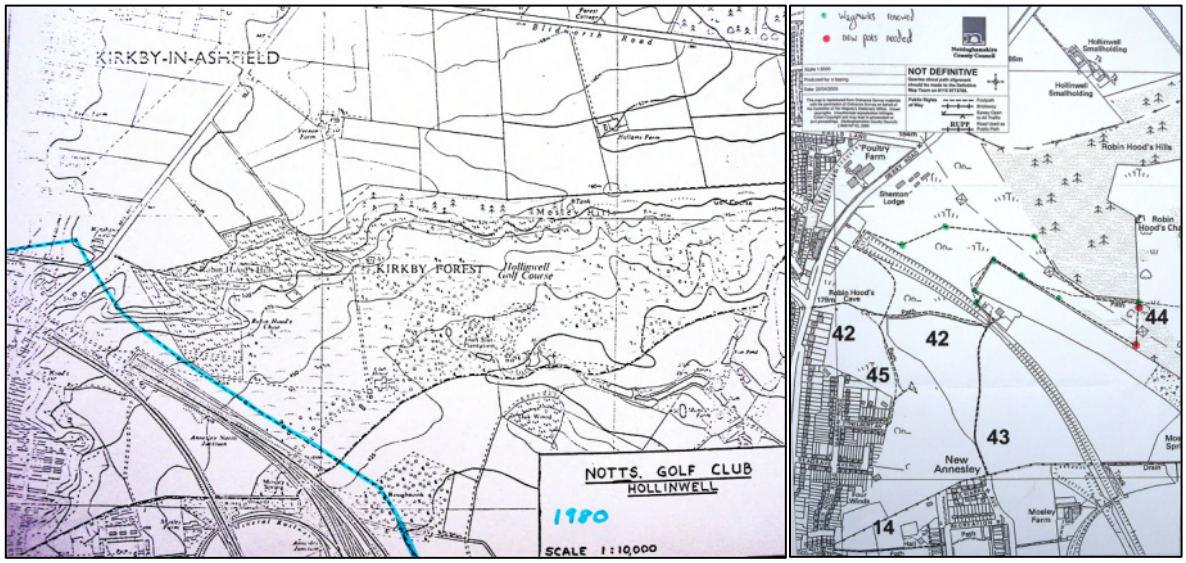
1978 No. 91, Abbey Road was sold. It had been held for use by the head greenkeeper.

1980s There were 25 collieries still working in the area.

1985 Land acquired from the Coal Board to extend the practice ground 2.55 acres.

The extension extended over the old Great Central railway line that had supplied Hollinwell and Annesley station.

1987 Trespassing became a problem. Negotiations took place with the council and neighbours that resulted in a new circular path for walkers. Released land at the end of Seagrave Avenue next to No. 36. Kirkby in Ashfield.



1980 Waymarks above in blue, with new negotiated path turning back from point on right.

1988 The Club purchased 23.6 acres parallel to the 9th and 10th hole (see top of next page). It is a nitrate sensitive area and therefore restricts the amount of fertilizer, the productivity, and worth. It was purchased on the understanding that no new access be made to the land by the club until it was essential (the owner had 1.3 miles of road which he did not want others to use it or access the land over their drive, access would be from land presently owned by the club).

A fair rent would be charged.

1990 Trees are planted in this area in lieu of those removed on the course (area indicated below).

1990s There was subsidence around the clubhouse, the 2nd fairway, left of the 3rd past the left-hand bunker, greenside bunkers, across the 18th and 4th, were not helped by a rise in the water table. Remedial drainage and filling a fracture in the sandstone on the second ridge of the 12th hole. Compensation was obtained from the Coal Board.

1993 Robin Hood Line reopened.

1996 Received compensation from the Robin Hood Railway line for land used.

1999 A further payment was received from Railtrack for them to access the line.

2000 Sold 13 acres from The Warren (the owner would fence the area, and this would restrict public

access). A trench had to be dug at the bottom of the driving range for drainage.

2001 A slither of land to the south of the Robin Hood Line was sold to Railcoach.

2007 Sale of land to the West of the course (below).

2009 Bought the Forestry land of 85 acres along with trees from the Forestry Commission.

1968 Aerial map

2020 Aerial photograph.

Other Bits and Pieces

Creating a structure and recording the club's activities took place from the outset of the club. Its founders, committees and members were quick to make rules and bylaws. Meetings usually took place monthly and were recorded from its inception. Newspapers, being the medium of the day, published every medal result and these were diligently cut out and stuck in a record book.

Annual Dinners

The annual dinner was a grand affair with a short report, if not the whole content of some of the speeches being reported in the local newspaper. They were initially held at the Reindeer Hotel (Wheeler Gate), the George Hotel, Black Boy Hotel and eventually Hollinwell.

Christmas and Summer Balls were lively events with bands and in the Summer, marquees were erected and they often raised sizeable sums for charity.

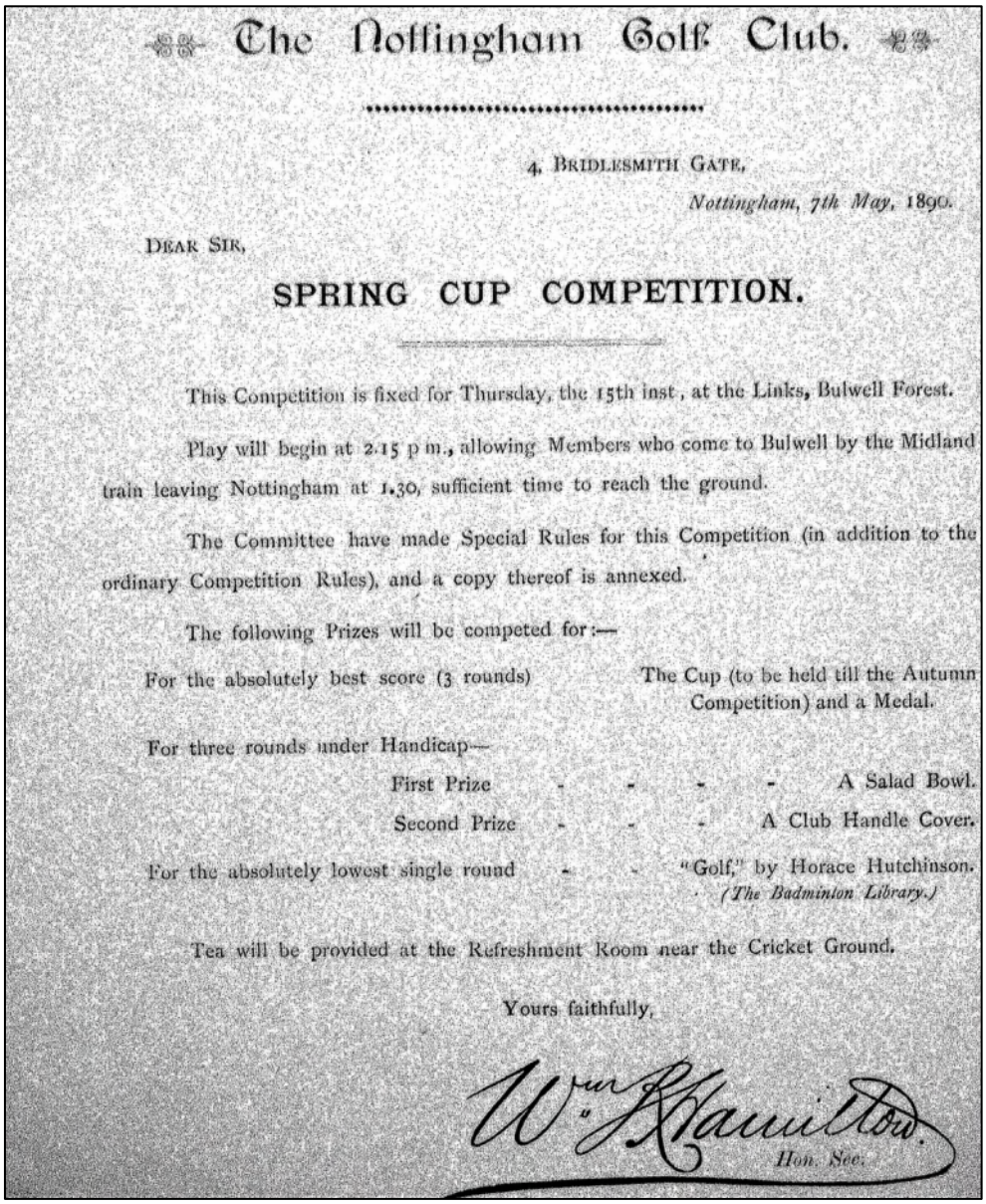
2000 Summer Ball.

Charities

Every year significant sums of money were raised for at least two charities. Money has been donated to a huge variety of causes, from Portland College to Breast Cancer Research.

Competitions

Club competitions from the outset took a form that is recognisable today. The results, often accompanied by commentary, appeared in local newspapers. There were monthly competitions from 1888.



The Nottingham Golf Club.

4, BRIDLESMITH GATE,

Nottingham, 7th May, 1890.

DEAR SIR,

SPRING CUP COMPETITION.

This Competition is fixed for Thursday, the 15th inst., at the Links, Bulwell Forest.

Play will begin at 2.15 p.m., allowing Members who come to Bulwell by the Midland train leaving Nottingham at 1.30, sufficient time to reach the ground.

The Committee have made Special Rules for this Competition (in addition to the ordinary Competition Rules), and a copy thereof is annexed.

The following Prizes will be competed for:—

For the absolutely best score (3 rounds) — The Cup (to be held till the Autumn Competition) and a Medal.

For three rounds under Handicap—

First Prize - - - - A Salad Bowl.

Second Prize - - - A Club Handle Cover.

For the absolutely lowest single round - - "Golf," by Horace Hutchinson. *(The Badminton Library.)*

Tea will be provided at the Refreshment Room near the Cricket Ground.

Yours faithfully,

Wm. J. Hamilton.

Hon. Sec.

1890 Announcement of the Spring Cup.

Spring and Autumn Cups Competitions started in 1889 and were held off scratch ('the absolutely best score') with the winner retaining the cup for the next six months and keeping a medal. There were separate competitions off handicap. Apart from the cup there were other prizes; in 1891 the Spring Competition prizes were a club cover for the scratch first prize and an edition of ‘Golf’ by H Hutchinson for second place and a pair of silver salt cellars for the best three rounds under the players handicap with a limit of 18. In the Autumn Competition the Winner received a Bulger-Driver and Carruthers’ Patent Cleek with the best three rounds under the players handicap with a limit of 18 being given a clock.

In 1894 the English vs Scottish match was inaugurated (later to become Anglos vs Celts). In 1897 it was decided that a prize be given to the winners of the First and Second Division of each monthly medal. This changed at the turn of the next century with a net and gross prize instead. From the late 1890s there was an annual match between the professionals and amateurs of Nottinghamshire organised by HD Snook, and the amateurs invariably came second. This match was discontinued in 1926 when he could no longer take part.

Further Cups were introduced:
1889 Spring and Autumn Scratch Cup 18 holes scratch medal from the blue tees.
1898 Hemmingway Challenge Cup (presented by CR Hemmingway) 18-hole scratch match from the blue tees with the final played over 36 holes.
1899 The New Challenge Cup played (presented by WJ New) 18-hole match play under full handicap difference from the white tees.
1902 The Secretaries Challenge Cup (presented by JA Simpson and HD Snook) for the Spring and Autumn Meetings 18 holes under handicap from the blue tees.
1903 Ladies Challenge Bowl (presented by the Ladies Club) 18 holes match play after a qualifying medal round in Spring. Played off handicap from the white tees. The top 16 players in the medal round qualify.
1907 JD Player Challenge Cup (presented by JD Player) 18 holes match play knockout for players with a handicap over 15 off full handicap from the yellow tees.
1912 The Bogey Challenge Cup (presented by JP Smith) 18 holes bogey competition played from the white tees off full handicap.
1923 The Bromley Hemmingway Foursome Challenge Cup (presented by CR Hemmingway

and AN Bromley) 18 holes match play played off the white tees with shots received based on half the difference of each pair's combined handicap.

1928 The Veterans Cup, 18 holes medal for the over 50's from the white tees off full handicap.

1930 JS Derbyshire Cup, 18-hole medal for the over 60's from the yellow tees off full handicap.

1930 Sir Albert Bingham Handicap Trophy for the Spring and Autumn meeting second division, 18-hole medal off the designated tee for second division players off full handicap.

1938 AG Mellors Four-Ball Foursome Challenge Cup or 'Summer Foursomes Cup' (presented by AG Mellors) 18-hole match play from the white tees with shots received based on half the difference between each pair's combined handicap.

1946 Tom's Cup, one of Tom Williamson's most prized possessions was the silver cup he won with Harry Vardon in 1913 at Deal. He presented this to the club, and it is contested for every year over 18 holes medal from the white tees off full handicap.

1952 The Hollinwell Trophy, an open scratch competition (donated by FW Perry). Open Amateur Scratch Competition, 36 holes accumulative medal played off the blue tees.

1952 Handicap Cup, Open Amateur Competition (donated by G Stonehouse). Open Amateur

Handicap competition, 18-hole medal from the blue tees off full handicap.

1953 Mixed Foursome Challenge Cups (presented by Mr. and Mrs. B Walton) 18 holes match play knockout from the white and red tees respectively using half the difference between each pair's combined handicap.

1974 Jim Gregory Cup for players under 18. Eighteen holes medal played from the designated tee with full handicap.

1976 Albert Gladstone Salver (presented by Dr SE Annesley and Dr MC Starks), 18 holes medal play from the white tees with full handicap.

1981 Winter Foursomes Cup (recognising the services of G Stockley and GE White) 18 holes knockout played from the winter tees with shots received based on half the difference between each pair's combined handicap.

1987 Wagstaff Cup for a handicap monthly medal (presented by A Wagstaff) 18 holes from the white tees with full handicap.

1987 The Centenary Putter (presented by GE White) 18 holes medal with from the white tees with full handicap.

1987 The Slade Cup (presented by AT Slade in the centenary year), for the scratch monthly medal finals off the white tees with full handicap.

1987 The Slade Cup (presented by AT Slade in the centenary year), for the scratch monthly medal finals off the white tees with full handicap.

1987 The Holland Salver (presented by Dr JH Holland for his father Harry Holland who died on the course) for the medal finals second division winner from the white tee with full handicap.

2001 Layfield Short, better ball Cup (presented by D Layfield and D Short) for the best better ball Stableford score playing from the white tees using 90% handicap allowance.

2002 David Francis Stableford, previously the 4-club competition (presented by D Francis) 18 holes full handicap Stableford competition from the tee of the day (normally yellow).

2014 Past Captains versus Committee Cup (presented by MH Kidd and TJ Coupe). The format varies but is normally teams of better ball playing match play using the handicap format of the day! A draw results in the previous year's winner retaining the title. The cup stands in a case in the bar.

2014 The Richmond Cup (presented by B Richmond) 18 holes medal played from the white tees medal score off scratch for over 50 years old.

2019 Under 35s Cup (18 holes scratch medal from the white tees) and Under 35s Handicap Cup (18 holes handicap medal from the white tees off full handicap) played on the same day and both presented by N Jones.

2022 Junior Knockout Trophy presented by N Jones.

Other Competitions:

McLachlan Cup 9 holes knockout match with half the handicap allowance from the white tees (holes 1-7, 8a, 9a).

Crocker Cups is a mixed 18-hole four ball better ball Stableford competition from the white and red tees with 90% handicap allowance.

NUGC Quaich 18-hole medal from the white tees off full handicap.

David Green Mixed 18-hole mixed four ball better ball Stableford competition from the white and red tees with 90% handicap allowance.

1986 Martyn Starks Trophy 18-hole medal competition from the white tees off scratch.

1977 Chris Smith putter 18-hole medal competition from the white tees off full handicap.

2007 Granddads Trophy (also applicable to Grandmothers) (presented by Brian Whitchurch and Tony Smith) 18-hole medal competition played on the same day as a medal from the white tees off full handicap. The entry criterion is to be a grandparent.

2000 John McGarry Cup (presented by Alan Rooksby) 18-hole Stableford competition played on a Sunday morning in memory of John McGarry from the tee of the day (normally yellow) off full handicap.

ALD Smith Salvers (presented by ALD Smith) 18-hole mixed four ball better ball Stableford competition from the white and red tees with 90% handicap allowance.

Coupe Soult Bowl (presented by T Coupe and M Soult) 18-hole medal from the designated tee off full handicap to run in parallel with the Autumn and Spring Cup.

Junior Club Championship white tees off full handicap.

Brooksby Trophy (presented by J Brooksby) junior competition, white tees off full handicap.

Nat West Trophy (presented by N Crocker, former junior organiser who used to work for Nat West) Junior competition playing, white tees off full handicap.

Entries to the knockout competitions must be made on the entry form and presented to the office with the relevant entry fee by 1st March of that year. The only exceptions to this are the Ladies Bowl which is a qualifying cup by way of a medal held early in the calendar and both the Summer and Winter Foursomes, for which closing dates for entry will be confirmed by the Office.
Knockout matches finishing all square in handicap events play an extra three holes. If still all square the match will be decided by a sudden death play-off.

Ties in scratch events are decided by a sudden death playoff. In all knockout competitions it is the equal responsibility of both players to arrange the match. If the match has not been played by the designated closing date the Secretary/Manager and Hon. Match Secretary will flip a coin to decide who progresses to the next round. At the conclusion of each match the player(s) should endorse the result accordingly on the relevant draw sheet and online app.

Ties for monthly Medals, Stableford and Bogey will be decided by a card count back except for the Club Championship which will be decided by a sudden death playoff. Prize giving used to be at the end of October with a simple meal of perhaps chicken and ham pie and a disco after prize presentation. After Aubrey Hubbard, the steward, retired there was a disastrous steward whose wife once turned out all the lights in the men's bar at about 11am after a dinner and said it was time that we all went home. Prize giving then moved to just before the Christmas Party. After the Christmas Party fell by the wayside prize giving now takes place after the Presentation Shotgun (the unofficial Captain v Vice Captain fixture) early in the following season.

Order of Merit

The Order of Merit will comprise the total of the best eight Net scores in all competitions that are designated as qualifying (normally all medals and Stableford competitions played off the white tees plus the Autumn and Spring Cup off the blue tees along with the Hollinwell Trophy and Club Championship off the blue tees).
There is also a separate Order of Merit off the red tees with full handicap for those who elect to play off that tee in any competition, also with the best eight to count.

Additional Competitions

The Christmas competition or ‘Turkey Trot’ was originally organised by and for 'The Saturday club'. Czech glass was never on the prize table! Because the weather can be variable, there was a strict cash with entry rule as some people failed to show if the weather turned nasty leaving a potential loss on prize costs.

Mike Bradley will often hold a ‘Pro’s Comp’ of variable format throughout the year when there was no formal Medal, Stableford, Bogey or Cup.
As mentioned, prizes are presented after the Presentation Shotgun event early the following season.

The gross and handicap winners of all medals receive a monetary prize that is automatically placed in credit in the professional's shop. The Club arranges for the engraving of the trophies.

The English vs Scottish started in 1894 and is four ball better ball match play team event, with shots taken using 90% of the difference from the lowest handicap and the overall total game scores deciding the outcome. In 1981 it became the Anglos vs Celts. A draw results in the previous year's winner retaining the title. A trophy marking the result of the competition sits on the mantlepiece, presented by Alistair Macdiarmid, with two golfers on a scale and the winner is up with the losing team weighed down by a silver golf ball!

Matches

There were matches with many clubs and in December 1891 it was decided that players in the team should bear the cost of the whole match.

However, in January 1892 it was decided that the club would bear the cost of the visitors. In the 21st Century members have paid a fee for both home and away matches to cover expenses with the Club subsidising a minority of events.

There are records of the following matches that are likely to be incomplete:
1891 Lea Hurst, The Watford, Sutton Coldfield
1892 West Herts, Charnwood, Sutton Coldfield, West Herts, Derby, Kettering, Leicester
1893 Cambridge University. Annual matches started. The Grantham, West Herts, Normanton
1894 The Watford, Barton under Neiwood, Sheffield, Kettering, Charnwood, Leicester
1895 Belton Park, Grantham
1897 Leicester, Kettering, Northampton
1898 Belton Park, Nothampton, Kettering, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Coventry, Kings Norton, Leicester, Charnwood Forest, Narborough, Mansfield, Burghley Park, Lincoln, Derby & Sheffield
1899 King's Norton, Peterborough, Sutton Coldfield, Skegness, Cannock Chase, Sheffield at Lindrick Common (Notts. won 9 and 7), Huddersfield, Mansfield, Duffield, Buton-on-Trent, Belton Park, Burton, Lincoln South Park

1900 Duffield, Belton Park, Kettering, Peterborough, Sheffield (Lindrick Course), visit to North Berwick, Manchester, Cannnock Chase, Northampton, Huddersfield, King's Norton, Lincoln, Mansfield, Burton-on-Trent, Bulwell Artisans
1901 Kettering, Burton-on-Trent, Leicester, Duffield, Narborough, visit to North Berwick, Sheffield at Lindrick, Huddersfield, King's Norton
1903 Belton Park
1907 Sheffield, Bulwell Artisans, North Berwick
1908 Match vs University of Oxford, Nottingham Cricket Club, Bulwell Forest, North Berwick
1909 Burton-on-Trent, Leicester, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Charnwood Forest
1911 Northampton, Lincoln, Law Society,
[only four clubs in Nottinghamshire at that time: Notts, Bulwell Artisans, Plumtree and the Ravensdale in Mansfield]
1912 Records of interclub matches are less well documented after this.
Matches have taken place for many years, in no particular order: Lindrick, Alwoodley, Blackwell, Ganton, Woodhall Spa, Little Aston, Luffenham Heath, Wollaton Park, Leicester, The Law Society, Sherwood Forest, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Worksop, The MCC, The Police, Injured Servicemen, Royal Birkdale, Hunstanton, Southport and Ainsdale, Seniors Golf Society, Littlestone, Worplestdon, Burnham & Berrow, Hittites, Wykehamists, County Cricketers, Rye, Royal Cinque Ports and others.

Varsity Matches

In the 1960's and 70's Varsity Matches were usually held over the weekend with 36-hole foursomes and a singles match on Saturday with a more mixed handicap team playing on Sunday. Saturday dinners were held at the United Services Club.

The Cambridge University match started in 1894. The Oxford and Cambridge University matches were very competitive and sometimes boisterous with the visitors often being put up by their guests. Henry Longhurst presented a tankard in 1976, The Linskill Trophy, and offered for it to be competed between Notts. and Cambridge University. It was later returned to Cambridge University, and it has a long and tortuous history (see later).

In 1977 Mr. AE Shepperson donated a tankard for the match versus Oxford University.

1972 Oxford Match Dinner at United Services Club
Far left: Mike Kidd (The Club's Senior Past-Captain).

GOLF PLAYER—MR. W. T. LINSKILL.

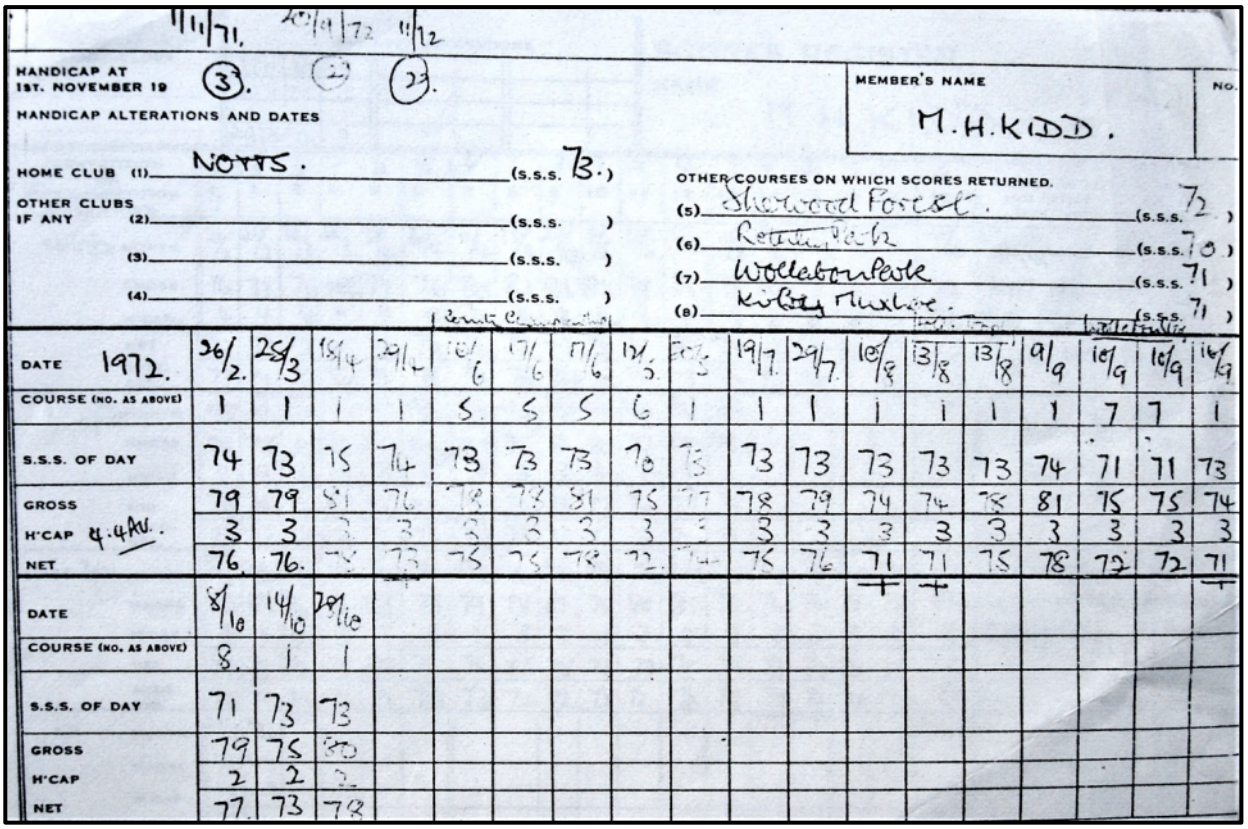
The Linskill Cup was donated in 1877 to the Cambridge University Golf Club by William T Linskill's father, Captain William Linskill. Given that there were only a dozen golf clubs in existence in England at that time, this would make it one of the oldest golf trophies in England. For a quarter of a century, it was played for in the scratch competition at the Cambridge University Golf Club. According to Bernard Darwin it had a 'curious funnel-shaped leather cover' with the names of the winners written in gold letters upon it. Harry Colt tied for it on one occasion, but Bernard Darwin won it on five out of the six occasions in which he participated. The cup was lost on several occasions. The college servant or gyp of the captain was entrusted with it in the first world war but forgot about it for eight years.

It was lost on tour in Canada in 1930 when some Cambridge players, including Henry Longhurst, went on tour. It was in 1976 that the cup was presented as a trophy to the winner between the Cambridge Union and Hollinwell. The match had been held since 1894 and were usually played over the whole weekend, the first teams playing a 36-hole foursomes and singles match on Saturday and a more mixed handicap team playing on Sunday. Saturday dinners were held at the United Services Club in Nottingham. Unfortunately, after a series of cancellations due to snow and pressure on the curriculum, matches were abandoned in 2008. The cup remained at Holliwell and was only traced in 2016 when a Cambridge archivist, Michael Morris, realised it was missing.

The Linskill Cup (more on Linskill in the appendix).

Handicaps

Prior to the introduction of computers, the recording of medal scores and the maintenance of handicaps was, in the case of the former, done by the Match Secretary's fair hand and the latter by a somewhat subjective appraisal.



HANDICAP AT 1ST. NOVEMBER 19 (3). (2) (23).
HANDICAP ALTERATIONS AND DATES
MEMBER'S NAME M.H.KIDD. NO.
HOME CLUB (1) NOTTS. (S.S.S. 73.)
OTHER CLUBS IF ANY (2) (S.S.S.) (3) (S.S.S.) (4) (S.S.S.)
OTHER COURSES ON WHICH SCORES RETURNED.
(5) Sherwood Forest. (S.S.S. 72)
(6) Retford Park (S.S.S. 70)
(7) Wollaton Park (S.S.S. 71)
(8) Kibby Muxloe. (S.S.S. 71)

DATE 1972.	26/2.	25/3	15/4	29/4	10/6	17/6	17/6	12/5.	2/6	19/7	29/7	10/8	13/8	13/8	9/9	16/9	16/9	14/9
COURSE (NO. AS ABOVE)	1	1	1	1	5.	5	5	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	1
S.S.S. OF DAY	74	73	75	74	73	73	73	70	73	73	73	73	73	73	74	71	71	73
GROSS	79	79	81	76	78	74	81	75	77	78	79	74	74	78	81	75	75	74
H'CAP 4.4 Av.	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
NET	76.	76.	78	73	75	71	78	72.	74	75	76	71	71	75	78	72	72	71
DATE	8/10	14/10	29/10															
COURSE (NO. AS ABOVE)	8.	1	1															
S.S.S. OF DAY	71	73	73															
GROSS	79	75	80															
H'CAP	2	2	2															
NET	77.	73	78															

In 1896 It was proposed that the distinction between first and second divisions be done away with, and that all players were to be drawn together in competitions without regard to handicap. This motion was rejected. It came into practice a century later.

Letters

Many letters have been saved in the archives. The majority consist of complaints about slow play,

handicaps, bunkers, subscription increases, the price of a cup of tea or the absence of Stilton. Dress code and the type of bunker sand that should be used have also taken up an inordinate amount of notepaper. In 1895 A letter was received from Mr. Bromley complaining about the amount of turf cut up and not replaced: plus ça change!

Committee Meetings

General Committee Meetings were held at:
1891 No.4 Bridlesmith Gate or the Eagle Restaurant
1985 No.1 King John Chambers
1919 Victoria Station Hotel
1920 Hollinwell (EGM) then back to
1926 The Sale Room, Hallam & Son, 8 Low Pave'nt
1927 The Constitutional Hall, Norfolk Place, then
No.1 King John Chambers became the default site
or Hallam & Son, 8 Low Pavement
1960s Offices of Robert Barber and Sons, the Club’s solicitors on Castle Gate, then Hollinwell.

Annual General Meetings were held at:

1892 The Reindeer Hotel
1893-5 The Eagle Restaurant
1896-1919 The George Hotel
1920 The Exchange Hall 1926 The Sale Room, Hallam & Son, 8 Low Pavement, then Hollinwell.

Other Committee Meetings such as the Handicap Committee or House Committee were held at The

Borough Club or after General Committee Meetings. Green Committee Meetings were held at various members offices then at Hollinwell.

The minutes were published in the local press, sometimes causing embarrassment. In 1891 it was reported that the Earl of Winchilsea had been elected as a member when he hadn't been approached!

The election to membership was carefully scrutinised and was a rigorous process. In 1891 it was reported that AM Bromley had been elected in error (the correct 'process' had not been used). He was duly elected at the next committee meeting and went on to become a member who contributed much to the life of the club.

House Committee

Relatively little has been mentioned about the house in this text. The clubhouse has always taken second place to the needs of the course and as a result its upkeep has fallen behind. The heating and plumbing systems have regularly needed work doing as have the flat roofs. The poor salary offered to the stewards resulted in a rapid turnover except for some notable exceptions where individuals dedicated themselves to the cause. Bar stock takes often recorded a significant deficit and the reason for this is speculative. In 1937 upstairs was converted into a dining room, and the downstairs dining room was made into a lounge. There was a

seating area available for the use of spikes to the right of the staircase, with service from the bar through a hatch. This was replaced by the spike bar in 1986. In 1993 a sign went up in the dining room asking diners to refrain from smoking and the steward’s accommodation was converted into a private dining room.
The clubhouse is likely to soak up funds; the alternative – a new build – is beyond the purse of the club at present. If more debentures were taken out to rebuild it, history would indicate that it might be built on the cheap and cost more in the long term. Unfortunately, John Player a generous benefactor to the club, is no longer with us although the hearsay that he paid for the present clubhouse is incorrect, he facilitated favourable mortgage terms, but it was repaid by the club.

Membership

Members who let their subscription lapse often wrote asking to return. A common answer was that they could do so on the payment of the full subscription for the lapsed time, sometimes this comprised several years! More recently the full joining fee has been requested, unless walking membership is maintained in the interim.

New Year's Eve

In Aubrey Hubbard’s time as steward a group of members and their guests enjoyed a meal and dancing finishing at 1am with soup. It became so

popular that the club took it over but with time it waned.

Notts. Union

Over the years the Club has been very well represented in the Notts. Union of Golf Clubs by members who have been appointed President of the Union and County Captain and sometimes both.

Past Captains' photographs

These were first put up in 1905. More recently Bill Brazier has arranged and framed them so they can be displayed to good effect.

Slow Play

In 1981 ‘In the Spring and Autumn meeting only 1st Division players should go from the blue tees’; also, in the records for that year ‘Four fourballs were unable to finish on invitation day…. groups should start earlier at 7.30 and at 8-minute intervals….’

Richard Bonello recalls *“In 1981 the invitation day was indeed a disaster. I invited my father and arrived to find the event running an hour late by 12 noon. As we made it to the 18th tee a hot air balloon fell from the sky and landed between us and the fairway. Chaos quickly followed with cars and their occupants, many of whom were children. Sometime later play resumed and we finished in almost darkness with 3 hours of the field behind us”.*

Juniors

The club has a long history of supporting juniors. From 1906 junior members had the right to be elected to full members on reaching 21. They were not counted in the membership numbers. Since 1909 the club has allowed children of non-members to join but they had to be over 15 years old until 1921 when juniors over 10 were allowed to join. In the 21st Century playing juniors were accepted over 8 years and in 2018 younger members were admitted with permission of the committee.

In 1911 the committee celebrated an influx of younger members. Junior numbers were initially limited to 25 until the 1930s. After the 1930s no cap was placed on them but 'about 60' has been mentioned as a desirable number in the minutes of committee meetings.

From 1947 children under 8 were allowed in the clubhouse (precipitated by petrol restrictions). It is uncertain how long this lasted but from the 1980s children under 8s needed permission from the secretary to enter the clubhouse.

The category 'Family Junior' was discontinued in 1967 along with the financial discount that they enjoyed, making all juniors equal whether they were related to a member or not.

Juniors have always been able to play throughout the week, including Saturdays. Juniors have been encouraged to play with other members.

In 1930 a scheme of temporary junior membership

during school holidays was introduced with five days play for £1 1s.0d a year. It is uncertain how long this lasted. In 1949 children under 21 did not have to pay an entrance fee and this remained the case until 1964.

The 1950s saw the start of a junior coaching scheme and over the years several members and professionals have contributed selflessly to this scheme (Mr. Rhodes, John Brooksby, Peter Sutcliffe, Norman Crocker, Lew Wood, Ian Tilson, Martin Allen and John Vaughn to mention a few). Over the last few years free tuition on Wednesday evenings given by the club professionals and members has been one of the reasons for the success of the junior section. Other initiatives have taken place over the years. From 1962 various schools have been visited to encourage golf for youngsters.

In the late 1980s the junior section suffered and in 1987 the junior organiser lamented lack of enthusiasm for juniors. In 1988 there was a 'Special Trial Junior Membership' and a twelve-month probationary membership announced (with a view to attracting them to remain members) and 12 were accepted. From 2015 the number of juniors increase thanks in part to the input of the professional staff and volunteers.

PAST CAPTAINS

Founding Captain:
1887-88 Rev AH Baynes

1889 Ruthven-Smith
1890 J Harris
1891 J Doleman
1892-94 JC Warren
1895-96 J Hall
1897 J Johnstone
1898 CR Hemingway
1899 EA Coutts
1900 TG Mellors
1901 HJ Nelson
1902 FK March
1903 AN Bromley
1904 J Bright
1905 HD Snook
1906 G Tutin
1907 LF Pearson
1908 JA Simpson
1909 EA Coutts
1910 J Forman
1911 H Crewdson
1912 J Percy Smith
1913 H Russell
1914-17 W Moss
1918-19 P Snook
1920 JD Player
1921 FW Perry
1922 J S Bridgett
1923-24 AG Mellors
1925 H Hanson
1926 AE Roe
1927 AS Bright
1928 AB Lewis
1929 HW Roberts
1930 F Pragnell
1931 WC Church
1932 HD Bright
1933 AN Lee
1934 WT Rowe
1935 JH Mackie
1936 RG Law
1937 The Duke of Portland, KG
1938 GW King
1939-42 E Forth
1943-45 EH Harlow
1946 L Anderson
1947 CHV Elliot
1948 HB Fletcher
1949 RH Buxton
1950 JF Powell
1951 AE Eberlin
1952 RJ deC Barber
1953 AH Mann
1954 RA Kidd
1955 FB Tasker
1956 AP Burgass
1957 TW Riley
1958 AJ Pentecost
1959 PH Blandy
1960 JF Sheehan
1961 JE Harrison
1962 S Cartwright
1963 DGF Bland
1964 RP Bentham-Green
1965 RW Cox
1966 HL Pycroft
1967 HS Johnson
1968 A Shipman
1969 MJ Sparrow
1970 WM Jones
1971 RA O'Shea
1972 NS Hardiker
1973 RV Sykes
1974 MH Kidd
1975 WP Charlton
1976 RF Prior
1977 TR Heald
1978 TJ Coupe
1979 BS Wardman
1980 AH Macdiarmid
1981 GE White
1982 B Whitchurch
1983 JH Holland
1984 EG Thompson
1985 A Wagstaff
1986 MC Starks
1987 AT Slade
1988 KD Loyd
1989 DH Green
1990 IM Sparrow
1991 AE Hardy
1992 WF Brazier
1993 E Greasley
1994 JSB Mather
1995 IT Simpson
1996 RW Bonnello
1997 B Crampin
1998 DG Hughes
1999 GM Mcleod
2000 BS Richmond
2001DGG Davies
2002 DJ Layfield
2003 M Soult
2004 NJ B Carnall
2005 KS Kirk
2006 JI McLachlan
2007 RJ Sallis
2008 J Stevenson
2009 SJ Bunting
2010 ALD Smith
2011 LF Slack
2012 PK Newman
2013 DJ Tillcock
2014 CC Bartle
2015 TSN England
2016 CR Bentley
2017 T Dilks
2018 MD Grindle
2019/20 NS Jones
2020/21 DG Black
2022 AS Humpston
2023 PM Eastwood
2024 DT Williams
2025 SP Jackson

REVIEWS

“Hollinwell is my favourite course in GB & Ireland."

PETER COWEN - EUROPE'S No1 GOLF COACH

“Hollinwell is a splendid and thoroughly challenging course, the turf is springy and fine and the heather and ferns enclosing the holes give the course a rich texture.”

TOM DOAK
ONE OF GOLF'S MOST ACCLAIMED DESIGNERS

“What is so refreshing about this place is it’s not only a fantastic course, which is challenging yet fair, but the practice facilities are superb. A great place to sharpen and keep my game competitive.”

MEL REID
SIX-TIME EUROPEAN TOUR WINNER and ONE-TIME LPGA TOUR WINNER

"I suggest checking this hidden gem out. Great history, great architecture."

PAUL CASEY
21 TIME TOUR WINNER & RYDER CUP PLAYER

Acknowledgements

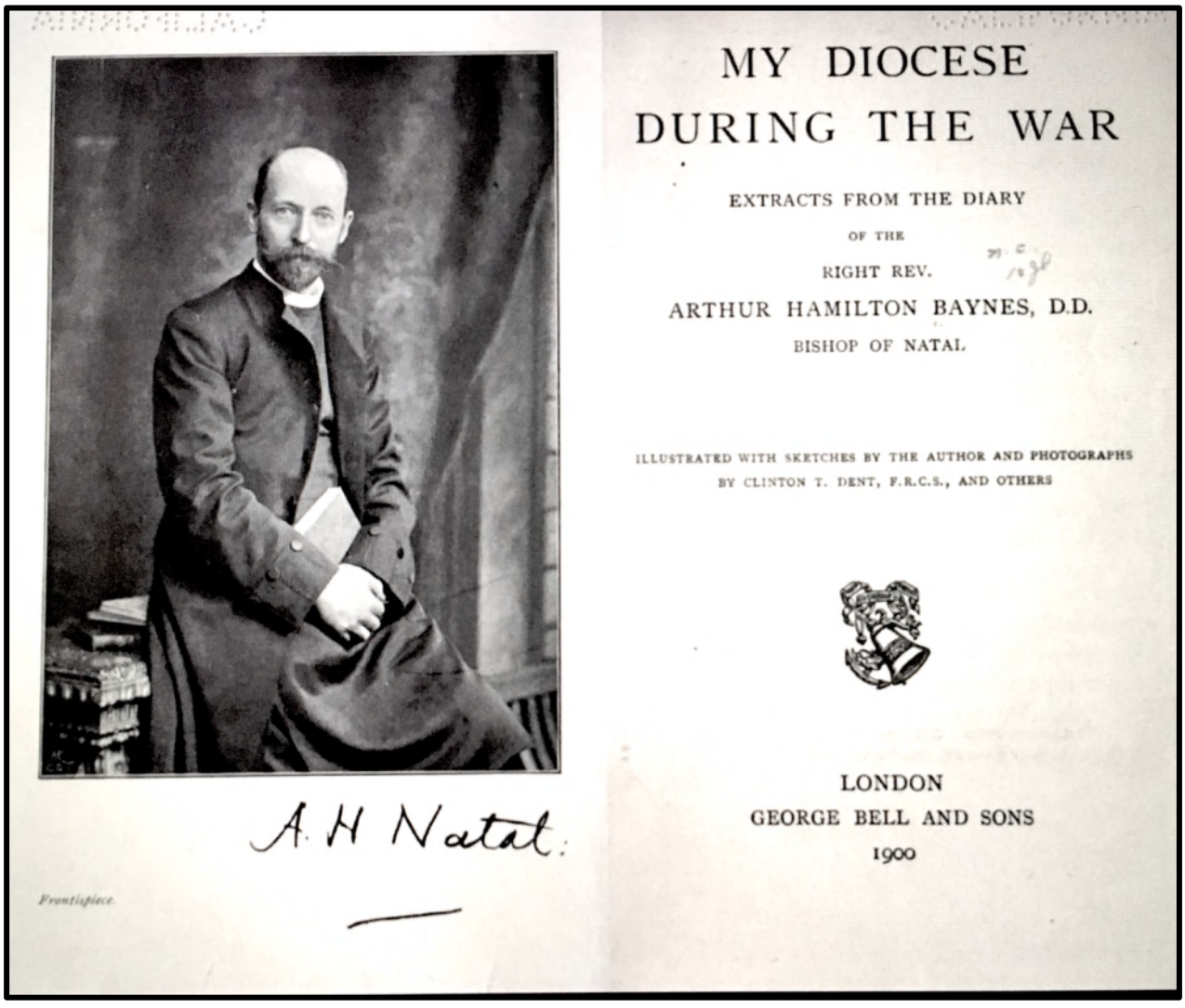
This summary of Notts. Golf Club's and the wonderful course that is Hollinwell comes from minute books of the General Committee, the Green Committee, many documents in the archives, 'Letter Books', and 'Circular Books' that contain hundreds of newspaper cuttings, the media of the day, many written by a ghost writer named 'Dormy' whose identity is lost in mists of time as well as personal anecdotes and contributions sent by members. Several members have also been of great help as has Colin Strachan, an honorary member, and a great golf writer and supporter of the club. This outline has greatly benefited from the work that Douglas (Dougie) Smith did in compiling 'The First Hundred Years at Hollinwell' and that of Valerie Collins '100 years at Notts. Golf Club'. As Dougie said, *"I would like to record, on behalf of the members, the debt of gratitude we owe to the handful of far-sighted individuals who discovered the terrain and designed the golf course called Hollinwell".*

Appendix

Arthur Hamilton Baynes

AH Baynes was the son of Joseph A Baynes of Blackheath and was born in Lewisham, Kent, on 23rd March 1854. In 1875 he went to St. Andrews to study and entered Oriel College, Oxford in 1875 becoming ordained in 1881 and receiving an MA the next year. He was the first secretary of the Oxford University Golf Club and helped manage its first match versus Cambridge University (The Times 6.2.1932 p13). He was vicar of St. James, Nottingham and chaplain to the General Hospital 1884-8, and became a founder member and the first captain of Notts. Golf Club in 1887. In the 1880s he lived at 4, Upper College Street on a stipend of £300, the gift of the Lord Chancellor. He became the Domestic Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1888 until 1892, and then he became six-preacher in 1893, and chaplain of Christ Church, Greenwich before moving to South Africa. In the time of the Boer War (1899-1902) he was posted to the Diocese of Natal Missions, Natal and was appointed Bishop of Natal Ladysmith and Umbuluwana being based in, coincidentally, Nottingham Road General Hospital, Mooi River. The church in Natal had internal division and he managed to heal dissention. He took an active part during the relief of Ladysmith and was at the front at the battle of Spion Kop.

It was reported that he camped with the troops in the open rather than sleep in the commanding officer's tent. He kept a diary, and these were published in his book “My Diocese during the War” in 1900. In it he laid out his thoughts that are now source material for theology and history students. He accompanied these by sketches and paintings and revealed that he was a good artist.



He was awarded the Queens Medal, 1 clasp for the Relief of Ladysmith.

A sketch of The Nottingham Road by AH Baynes (The name is a coincidence; the area was one of the oldest farming associations 1887).

By 1900 he had been awarded a doctorate from Oriel College, Oxford (an honorary degree given to people who have given their lives to theology or the betterment of community, and they must hold a bachelor's or master's degree in theology), but the exact year he received his Doctorate is uncertain. On 1st February 1901 he was appointed vicar of St. Mary's Nottingham. He lived in the vicarage which included 21.5 acres of the glebe. He also became assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Southwell from 1901 and then Canon in 1905 before becoming honourable Chaplain to the High Sheriff of Somerset in 1905 and then chaplain to the South Nottinghamshire Hussars.

In 1904 he was also appointed Chaplain to the Imperial Yeomanry (Sherwood Rangers).

In the first World War he was again an army chaplain and became provost to Birmingham Cathedral until he retired in 1937.

Some extracts from his book:

“As to the ethics of the question, which after all is the matter that supremely concerns us, my own tendency has always been to distrust anything like Jingoism.”

“God give us all grace to keep our heads, to sternly repress the unworthy feelings of race hatred, of vain longing for revenge or retaliation, and so overrule even the evils of war for our good that it may in the end lead to a truer brotherhood and a firm and righteous rule, and to the extension of His Kingdom among both white and black South Africans.”

“Our losses were very severe, over 2,100 in all, many I fear uselessly sacrificed.” “There is, for instance, something wrong in the thought that God has now intervened, has now begun to deal with us, or that we are called on to humble ourselves as we should not have been if we had been uniformly successful, or that our reverses are a sign of God's anger.”
“How often we have failed to bear patiently and

devotedly the "white man's burden," how lightly our vast responsibility to the more backward races has sat upon us, how we have lagged behind in the steep ascent of Duty."

When he returned from South Africa, he asked to rejoin Notts. Golf Club and was told that as he had not retained walking membership, he would need to pay the full joining fee. This he did, and not long afterwards he was made an honorary member.

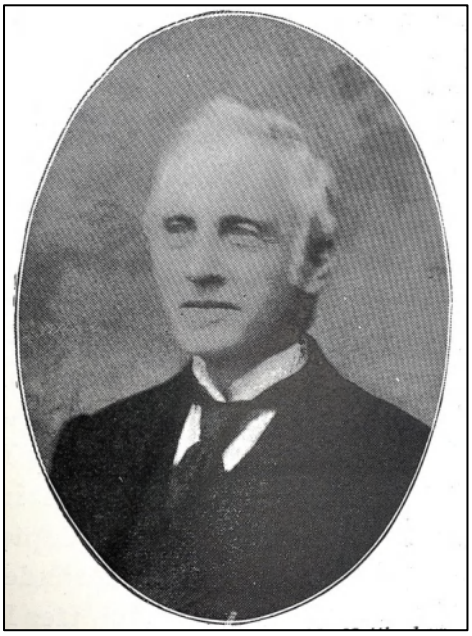
1913 Bishop Baynes.

John Harris

He was born and educated in St. Andrews and helped his father who was a timber merchant supply Fogans with wood for the club faces using apple wood, thorn, utilised beech - hickory shafts were imported. He was articled to an architect who had designed the club house at St. Andrews, then known as the Union Parlour. He set up practice in Nottingham. He, along with the Rev. Hamilton Baynes were the first to convene a meeting to form Notts. Golf Club. He was the secretary and treasurer for the first three years and arranged play on a vacant piece of ground in the Meadows where the Great Central Railway Company's goods depot was subsequently erected (October 1913 'Midland Golfer'). There were only six holes, and they then got approval from the Parks Committee to play on Bulwell Forest. In the application he sent an old wooden putter for them to inspect to prove how harmless the game was.

John Doleman

He was born in 1826 at the old clubhouse in the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club where his father was a green keeper. They were a golfing family and he had three brothers, Alexander H (1836-1914), William, an accomplished golfer (1838-1918) and Frank A clubmaker (1848-1929). According to J Hall in Golf Illustrated in 1899, after Musselburgh he played at Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, before going to Paris and paying his first visit to Nottingham in 1864. It is uncertain how long he stayed in Nottingham before he returned to Scotland. He was a tailor in the censuses in 1851 and 1861 living in Chelsea and in 1871 he was in Aberdeen. He was one of the founder members of Bon-Accord Golf Club, Aberdeen in 1872.



He returned to Nottingham in 1885 and practiced using a cleek in the Meadows. He was one of the first members of Notts. Golf Club and became captain in 1891.

He was made an honorary member of Notts. Golf Club in 1890 and left Nottingham in 1906 returning to Levenhall, Musselburgh, where he died on 15th June 1916 (86,87). More can be learned about the family in Mungo Park's 'Musselburgh – The Cradle of Golf'.

John Doleman became a silver medalist in the 'Allied' in Edinburgh at the age of 82.

William Thomas Linskill

Linskill was born in Tynemouth, Northumberland, the son of another William, the Mayor of Teignmouth. He was educated privately and then went to Larchfield Academy, Helensburgh, near Glasgow. He went to St. Andrews on holiday and was taught golf by Old Tom Morris in 1860 or 1861 (88). He was admitted to Jesus College, Cambridge in October 1876, aged 21. In Donald Cameron's book 'Social Links' he recounts how Linskill scoured the Cambridgeshire for ground to play on. They ended up at Coldman's Common and Linskill cut the holes himself. Coldham Common was all clay and Bernard Darwin described it as *"...the worst course I have ever seen..."* Linskill played with others including Alexander H Doleman, brother of John Doleman, one of the first golfers in Nottingham. Alexander was the second oldest of the Doleman brothers and founded his own school in Blackpool in 1858 as well as being a founder member of The Blackpool Golf Club. He was involved in starting Lytham St. Anne's and was captain in 1888.

William Linskill
by
Thomas Hodge
(89).

The River Leen

The River Leen is a 15-mile (24 km) long tributary of the River Trent that flows from the Robin Hood Hills just above Hollinwell down through Newstead Abbey, Papplewick, Bestwood Country Park, Bulwell, Basford where it is joined by the Day Brook to Radford, Lenton, under the Nottingham Canal in the city of Nottingham to join the river Trent neat the Meadows. It has several links with Notts. Golf Club which started playing on the Meadows and moved to Bulwell Forest and ended up at its source at Hollinwell and the Robin Hood Hills.

St James' Church, Papplewick, the River Leen 1950.

Wollaton Hall's Lenton Lodge and the River Leen 1905 (left).

The River Leen where it entered the River Trent in 1973 near Notts County Football ground.

The source of the River Leen is not one discrete point but several springs which include Hollinwell. The name Leen developed through various renderings of the Celtic word meaning "lake" or "pool". Some of the surrounding villages derived their name from the River Leen. Lenton, 'ton' being the Saxon word for 'village'; and Linby, being the Danish equivalent of village of the Leen.

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' Hollinwell' by Harry Rowntree
(Looking across the ‘Old’ second green).

In 'The Golf Courses of the British Isles'
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Post script: If you have any information that you believe would supplement this archive, or if you think anything is inaccurate, please send your comments by email to:
nj46891@gmail.com