



The Long Game

The Official Newsletter of the Golf Society of Australia

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From the President

What price a scrap book? At our June dinner at Metropolitan Golf Club our delightful guest speaker Sandra McKenzie-Wood, who is on the executive of the LPGA, lamented the lack of publicity accorded Ladies Professional Golf. Whilst one can be sympathetic with the LPGA's dilemma, the dearth of publicity for amateur golf is even more regrettable.

This was brought home to me quite strongly the other day when I received a phone call from Mrs. Jess Bull, the widow of the late R.L. (Bob) Bull, the great Huntingdale amateur of yesteryear. Mrs Bull asked whether the Golf Society would be interested in Bob's scrap books. When I looked at them the memories come flooding back. There were clippings and photographs galore of numerous amateur and open events in the post war years up until recent times; a multitude of stories by the late Jack Dillon and Don Lawrence hailing the winners, giving a summary of the days play and listing the names and scores of the contenders. Nostalgia flooded in. What a wonderful record of past events. I told Mrs Bull the Society would love to have the books.

As I drove away I reminded myself of the modern era and the problem of the dearth of publicity for amateur golf. Events are recorded in the State and National journals but these lack the immediacy of a daily paper where performances are recorded side by side with the other achievers in other sports.

As it is not possible to turn back the clock, amateur golf (and the LPGA) has to find other ways of keeping performances before the public eye. This is an almost impossible task given the predilection of the media for professional play especially of the kind that performs before large audiences. The Golf Society of Great Britain does its bit for amateur golf through fund raising. Even if the Golf Society of Australia raised money for amateur golf it is unlikely it would lead to greater mass media exposure of amateur play.

Perhaps mass media circulation managers might rethink their target audience profiles if they were exposed to scrap books as they do induce reflection. With electronic mediums the significant communication vehicles of the future, scrap books will become relics of a bygone era. If any member has a scrap book or knows of any others kindly remember such an item would be a valuable acquisition for the Museum.

Daryl Cox,

President

From the Editor

As you can see above, we have opted for a new "name" for our Newsletter. We are looking for feedback from members as to their preference for a name the above being among those favoured by your Committee. We have also considered names such as -

Approach	Screamers
Top Shots	Bisques
Out of the Rough	Down the Fairway
Links	Chip Shots
Back Spin	Divots
Follow Through	The Match
The Auld Game	

How about giving us the benefit of your imagination and let us know if you have a favourite name for our publication or perhaps you might indicate a preference for one of the above names. We would really like to settle this matter before the next issue goes to the printer (anticipated early October 1998).

As you will see inside, Dr Ken Shepherd has contributed a substantial piece on Ralph Guldahl. We all share a strong interest in the game of golf, past, present and future so why just leave it up to Ken? - we would love to hear from anyone with a contribution. I do hope you enjoy our latest issue.

John Lindsay, Editor

Quotable Quotes

Lee Trevino is always quick with a one liner! Try these -

On hearing from his opponent that he would prefer not to talk "That's OK, you don't have to talk, just listen!"

Trevino's Doctor "you know Lee, jogging could add years to your life" Trevino "Oh I know that, I feel ten years older already!"

On aging "Grey hair is great, ask anyone who is bald"

On shaping a delicate little chip shot "Just watch this one land ... like a butterfly with sore feet"

On hearing that his opponent is twenty-seven years of age "My Gaaad! I've got socks older than you, and they are still in perfect working order!"

To an opponent who has just putted five feet past the hole "You wanna go and hit that now, while you are still mad!"

The Inaugural playing of The President's Trophy

by The Editor

A small but enthusiastic field contested the inaugural President's Trophy on Monday 11th May at Victoria Golf Club. Although the weather was not kind, all participants indicated their enjoyment of this new event in the GSA calendar.

The event conceived by the current President, Daryl Cox, took the form of 9 holes qualifying followed by lunch. Following lunch the 4 leading qualifiers then played off sudden death to determine the winner. Daryl introduced a number of interesting conditions under which play took place. These are summarised below -

- All players were limited to seven clubs
- The competition was to be played under the rules prevailing in 1950 including -
- Compulsory use of the small (1.62") ball
- No lifting or cleaning of the ball on the green.
- No repairing of ball marks on line of putt.
- Stymies to apply in match play section of the event

The first challenge was to select the appropriate collection of clubs - perhaps those with local knowledge of the VGC layout had a clearer idea of this than others although subsequent events do not support this notion. Out of interest the author took 3 wood, 3, 5, 7, 9 irons, sand iron and putter. Others took driver rather than 3 wood but this selection was fairly representative of the choices made on the day.

The next challenge was to find a small ball in good enough condition to play with. For those without a "secret" supply or cache (previously salted away for hickory day), Lindsay Gitsham kindly provided a supply for use on the day and return for future events. Thank you Lindsay.

The qualifying holes were played in constant rain which made scoring difficult. All players were delighted to find the fires lit and burning strongly in the clubhouse upon completion of qualifying and normal circulation was soon restored. The "match" committee confronted the issue of determining the qualifiers with due diligence and after much deliberation announced that the qualifiers were (1) Norm Davies, (2) Ray Wigley, (3) John Lindsay and (4) Glen Carboon. Ruth Summerfield tied for 4th place but was eliminated on a count back - bad luck Ruth.

After a most enjoyable lunch, the qualifiers proceeded to the first tee to commence the sudden death match play. Before teeing off the finalists were given a short presentation on the "art" of playing the stymie by the President. This was both interesting and informative but unfortunately ineffective as the match play did not actually see a stymie come into play. As the rain was again falling there was a noticeable reluctance among the non qualifiers to actually venture onto the course to witness the match play. Glen Carboon defeated Norm Davies at the 1st hole. John

Lindsay also won at the 1st over Ray Wigley. Glen and John proceeded to the 2nd hole.

Neither player drove well at the 2nd and Glen did well to find the right edge of the green with his third shot. John meanwhile had layed up short of the green in two then played an excellent pitch to within 4 feet of the hole. This was to no avail as Glen holed a magnificent 30 foot putt for a net 3 and the victory. Well done Glen!

At the presentation ceremony, the President presented each qualifier with two GSA golf balls and informed the gathering that, as his trophy was not yet ready for presentation, Glen would be presented with the trophy at a future GSA function. The participants all agreed that the day was a great success and we look forward to it becoming a regular outing in our golfing calendar.

Remaining 1998 GSA Events

The following events are scheduled for the remainder of the year -

13th August	Dinner at Victoria G.C.
22nd October	Dinner at Yarra Yarra G.C.
18th November	Doug Bachli Trophy, AGM and Cocktail Party at Commonwealth G.C.
12th December	Special Presidents Cup Dinner at Victoria G.C.

Please note your diary. Notices will be forwarded.

Golf Trivia Quiz *(Answers on Page 8)*

This issue we focus on the "Open" Championship.

1. Only one player won the Open before and after World War II. Name him.
2. How many times has the "Open" been played in Ireland? Name the venue/s and the winner/s.
3. Since winning his fifth "Open" in 1983, what is the best finish recorded by Tom Watson in pursuit of a record equalling sixth title?
4. Who said, referring to the famous claret jug: "In 1982 I had my left hand on the trophy; in 1988 I had my right hand on it; now at last I have both hands on it"?
5. When was the "Open" first scheduled over 4 days?
6. What famous player shot an 83 in the first round of the 1981 "Open" and then improved 17 shots for his second round?
7. Name the oldest and youngest winners of the "Open" Championship - both for the Belt & the Jug.
8. How many amateur golfers have won the "Open"?
9. Name the former US Open Champion who was disqualified because he failed to arrive in time to play in the "Open".
10. We all know that Gene Sarazen holed in one at the "Postage Stamp" hole at Troon in 1973 but he was not the only one. Who else holed out?

Some highlights in the golfing career of Ralph Guldahl

by Dr Ken Shepherd - Founder, Life Member and Past President of the Society

Ralph Guldahl was born in Dallas, Texas on 22nd November, 1911 of Norwegian parents. He started caddying at Lakewood Country Club at the age of 11 and would often sneak onto the course in the evenings to play a few holes. Practice was limited to three baseball diamonds with a variety of distances marked out. His real start as a player was at Randall Park - a 9 hole course with sand greens. It was there that he made his first "ace" on a 145 yard hole using a spade mashie. His first tournament was the Times Herald Junior Tournament at the age of 13. A, B & C classes were age determined and young Ralph was the C class (ages 13 - 15) winner and also the medallist for the best score in any class. The next tournament (still aged 13) was at Tenison Park Municipal Course where Sid Cooper (Harry's father) was the professional. Ralph's brother won the event; Ralph came second receiving as his trophy a wooden shafted Macgregor "Ace" driver which he was to use for many years.

Whilst attending High School Ralph played at Tenison Park but was unable to afford to pay the fees but, by winning the Club Championship he was permitted to trade his winners merchandise for his fees. At the Woodrow Wilson High School he was captain of the golf team and at age 16 won the State High Schools Championship against players such as Gus Moreland, Ray Mangrum, Spec Goldman and Reynolds Smith. He left High School in 1929 at the age of 18 missing graduating to play in the Texas Open Championship in San Antonio as a professional. He was lying 4th after three rounds but eventually finished 11th behind the eventual winner Densmore Shute and won \$87.50.

Ralph qualified for the US Open at Interlaken in 1930 where Bobby Jones was on his way to the "Grand Slam". This was to be Jones' last appearance in the Open but was Ralph's first at 18 years of age. He tied for 41st and watched Jones' half topped spoon shot on the par 5 ninth hole which skipped across the lake and landed safely in the shallow rough just short of the green. He then chipped up close and made a birdie.

Later that summer Ralph travelled with Ben Hogan and Ted Lowmore playing in the St Louis Open and finishing 4th with a score of 284. His next event was the \$25,000 Aqua Caliente Open where he tied for 12th with Horton Smith winning \$375. The following

event was the Motion Pictures Match Play event which Ralph won beating Joe Kirkwood, Olin Dutra, Fred Morrison and, in the 36 hole final, Tony Manero. Ralph won \$1000. Ralph was married in 1931 at the age of 20. At this stage in his career he took some Club jobs including Franklin Country Club as professional and St Louis Country Club as assistant to Walter Hagen.

In the 1933 US Open at North Shore Country Club, Illinois Ralph came to the 72nd hole needing to hole a 4 foot putt to tie amateur Johnny Goodman. He missed the putt and the playoff causing Bobby Jones to remark that "he would be markedly affected by the miss." (cf. Greg Norman) In fact he gave the game

away completely for two years his confidence having been completely shattered. Eventually, after a lot of hard work in preparation, he did return to tournament play.

To further quote Jones on Guldahl, "the first aim should be simplicity but to learn to leave nothing undone which should be done and at the same time eliminate all unnecessary actions which tend only to increase the difficulty of maintaining a consistent rate of performance." Wisdom indeed coming from the master. In the lay off period Ralph worked in the automobile industry and played with eminent partners who encouraged him to return to tournament play.

Ralph qualified for the 1936 US Open at Batusrol, New Jersey where he eventually finished 8th.

He finished second in the Shawnee Open and the won the Western Open at Davenport, Iowa with 274. This was followed by wins in the Augusta Open and the Miami Biltmore tournament. He finished second to Horton Smith in the 1936 money list and won \$7000 for the Radix Trophy for the best scoring average - 71.65 per round.

On to 1937. Ralph finished second to Horton Smith in the Los Angeles Open and second to Sam Snead at Oaklands (Snead's first year on tour). He was invited to play in the Bob Jones Invitational Masters at Augusta National Golf Club where he finished second to Byron Nelson losing a six shot lead to Nelson over the 12th and 13th holes in the final round. In the US Open at Oakland Hills, Michigan, Snead was in the club house with 283 as Guldahl completed the front nine in 33. He played poorly on the second nine but



Ralph Guldahl

managed a 36 to complete his round in 69 and win with a new Open record score of 281. Byron Nelson has described the scene on the closing hole as follows "Ralph had the tournament won, all he had to do was hit his putt. He was all lined up and ready when he stopped, backed away and took a comb out to comb his hair. I think he suddenly realised that they would be wanting to take pictures and he wanted to make sure he looked good..... He finished with his hair, two putted and that was that. I don't recall if the press said anything about how nice his hair looked".

Ralph was also a member of the victorious 1937 Ryder Cup Team beating Great Britain for the first time on British soil at Southport & Ainsdale. Playing with Tony Manero he beat Richard Cox and Artur Lacey and in the singles beat the reigning Open Champion Alf Padgham 8/6. He also played in the 1937 Open Championship played at Carnoustie finishing eleventh, 10 shots behind the winner, Henry Cotton, but the expense and small prize money were enough to deter him from future visits to Britain.

In the 1938 US Open at Cherry Hills, Nevada, he finished with a 69 for a total of 284, 6 shots clear of Dick Metz. This made two Opens in a row, a feat previously performed by Willie Anderson, Bobby Jones and Johnny McDermott and only subsequently matched by Ben Hogan and Curtis Strange. Ralph won the 1938 Western Open beating Horton Smith in a play off. At the height of his game at this time, he was runner up to Harry Cooper in the Canadian Open and runner up to Henry Picard in the Masters.

In 1939, Ralph teamed with Sam Snead to win the Miami International 4 ball matches and went on to win the Masters at Augusta beating Snead by one shot. He followed up by winning the Greensboro Open and pocketing \$5000. His putting deserted him in the US Open at the Philadelphia Country Club, Pennsylvania where he took 33, 36, 35 and 34 putts to finish 5 shots behind Byron Nelson, Craig Wood and Densmore Shute. Nelson won the play off. Ralph then again finished second in the Canadian Open which was won by Harold "Jug" McSpaden. He teamed with McSpaden in the Walter Hagen 25th Anniversary Tournament at Midlothian Country Club, Chicago finishing second to Ed Dudley and Billy Burke.

At this point a description of Guldahl is of interest. He was a big strong man; 6 foot 3 inches and 210 pounds (95 kg) and his win in the 1937 Open was the first of a series of disappointments for Sam Snead. It is interesting to compare Ralph and Sam; Ralph was a most dangerous big tournament player. He could play inspired golf but didn't excite the galleries the way Sam did. Playing with Sam at Inverness in 1940 he played the better golf but Sam drew the crowd. Sam with his glorious flowing rhythmic swing, hands above his head at the top of the backswing, feet firmly planted, hands whipping through the hitting zone in a burst of power finishing with his hands high again.

Guldahl, on the other hand, squirmed into position, took a full shoulder turn with his feet firmly anchored, drew the club back with great speed and struck the ball with an uppercut blow having the force of a sledgehammer; awkward but it worked. Snead's personality sparkled while Guldahl was drab. Snead's clothing was well fitting; Guldahl's hung like washing out to dry. Snead erect with a loping stride while Guldahl slouched and plodded. Sam showed emotion while Ralph was quite impassive. Sam had the magnetism which Ralph lacked.

Henry Cotton attributed Guldahl's success to his accuracy through the green when under pressure. Cotton described Guldahl as having a narrow stance and keeping both heels down throughout his swing. Despite having a full shoulder turn with his back to the hole at the top, he kept his left heel firmly planted. He did this at the expense of allowing the club shaft to slide in his right hand.

P. A. Vaile had corresponded with Cotton calling this a sledge hammer action. The right hand did not cock in the accepted way and remained in line with the right forearm. The gloved left hand showed three knuckles in common with many leading US and UK players. Vaile felt that Ralph's technique would upset a lot of traditional theories and attested to the fact that the keynote of modern swings was economy of movement.

Grantland Rice believed that Ralph had greater confidence in his own swing than any other professional of his time. I would refute Peter Allis' assessment that Ralph woke up one morning and found that his swing had gone - far from it!! but he had other fields to explore. He eventually settled into the life of a club professional. My interest in Ralph Guldahl was extreme in the late thirties following the Jones era when Guldahl was a shadowy figure not getting much publicity. His place in the history of the game is assured having won two US

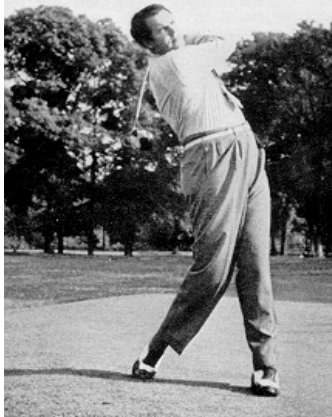
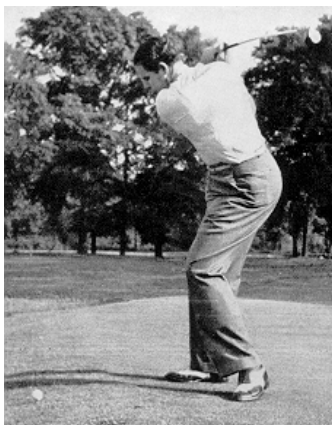
Opens in successive years and a Masters. He foreshadowed the even greater exploits of Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan and the great Sam Snead. He was a product of the era of Hagen, Jones and Sarazen having learned the game playing with hickory shafted clubs.

Ralph Guldahl's major scoring records -

US Open	1937	71 69 72 69 281
	1938	74 70 71 69 284
Masters	1939	72 68 70 69 279
Western Open	1936, 1937, 1938	

Bibliography:

(1) This Game of Golf	by Henry Cotton
(2) Who's Who of Golf	by Peter Allis
(3) Groove your swing	by Ralph Guldahl
(4) The US Open	by Robert Sommers



Cross Bunkers and the Pitch Shot

*By Bernard Darwin (Extracted from "Through the Green" March 1998)
First published in 1913*

Each year sees certain tendencies or fashions predominant in the abstruse science called golfing architecture, though whether the architects set the fashions or whether they cunningly follow the trend of public opinion it is a little difficult to say. Just at present public opinion and architectural opinion seem both to be setting somewhat in favour of the once despised cross-bunker.

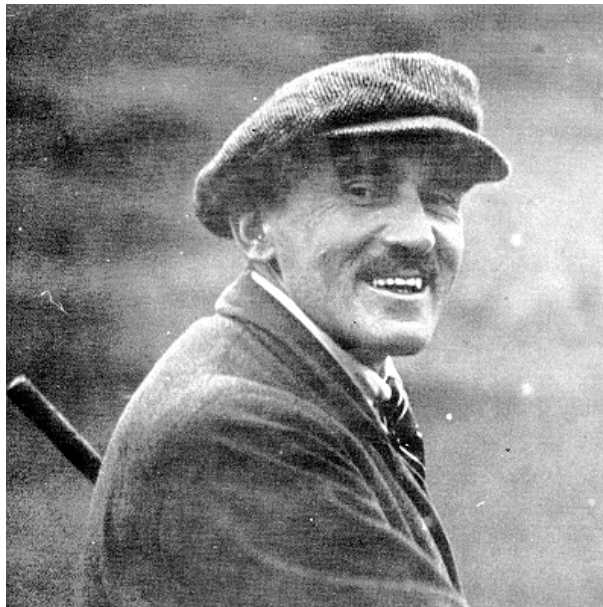
Now the cross-bunker has many merits, and if it had always been made skilfully, artistically, and in the right place it probably never would have gone out of fashion. It became objectionable not because of its intrinsic qualities but because it was so often made with the maximum of hideousness and uselessness. No need to recapitulate the monotonous horrors of the "ribbon bunker" that disfigured so many inland courses: one rampart stretching across the course when it could easily be carried by any decent driver, who might then, as a rule, be as crooked as he pleased: another rampart at just such a distance from the green as to afford the minimum of anxiety to anyone who could get the ball into the air somehow with an iron. After a while golfers could bear these things no longer, and thereupon they flew to the opposite extreme: they believed, quite erroneously, that there was no possible beauty or virtue in any kind of pitching shot, and they went more or less mad about lateral hazards. Now the pendulum has swung back, and the cross-hazard is coming back to its own again, though in a much prettier and saner and less tedious form than of old.

A Fatal Defect

The cross hazard may either have to be carried from the tee or it may guard the green. Some highly distinguished persons have lately urged that it should be carried far more frequently than it is, with the tee-shot, and Taylor's "Jamb in the cross-bunker, sir, jamb in the cross-bunker," accompanied by much formidable shaking of the head, has almost passed into a classic. The chief object, as I understand it, of this crusade is to compel players to drive higher, and so diminish to some degree the running power of the modern ball, which laughs at yard measures and spoils our two-shot holes. One fatal defect always seems to me to under-lie this plan; it does not take sufficiently into account the fact that the links have to be used by many different golfers, gifted with very different powers of driving. If a bunker is going to be put so far from the tee as to compel a

Braid or a Taylor to hit a higher ball, I shall not be able to carry that bunker at all; I shall have to play short with my iron from tee after tee: the game will be very dull for me, and I shall be very cross with the green committee. Similarly if the bunker is placed for me and my like, it will have no effect on Braid and Co, but it will affect persons of still feeblar driving powers than mine; the dullness and the crossness will be transferred to them.

The diagonal bunker goes some way to overcoming the difficulty, because each player can cut off the largest chunk that he believes him self able to chew, and he who takes the bunker at its furthest point reaps a due advantage. But even then golfers vary so enormously in their hitting powers that the nearest point gives infinitely more trouble to the short driver than the furthest does to the long one. Most golfers are abort



Renowned British Golf Writer Bernard Darwin

drivers, they do not like being continually bunkered on playing short: they pay the piper and they may well desire to call an occasional tune. Needless to say, a bunker to carry from the tee now and then is capital fun, so long as it is what one may call an elastic one: that is so long as the tee is movable and a strong adverse wind does not make the shot an impossible and so an absurd one, as it used occasionally to do at old days at Sandwich, as played from the "St. George's" tees. On the whole, however, I do not think that the future of the cross-bunker lies chiefly in this direction of tee shots.

Formidable Specimens

Doubtless the cross-bunker will be made use of to an increased extent in long two-shot holes, such as those three formidable specimens of an eighteenth hole to be found at Hoylake, Muirfield and Walton Heath respectively. A bunker that cannot be circumvented but must be carried with a long shot is always trying to the nerves at the end of a match; Westward Ho! supplies another example if more are needed. It seems to me, however, that the main use of the cross-bunker in modern architecture, will be at the holes of the length called "a-drive-and-a-pitch," or sometimes "a-kick-and-a-spit." Just because cross-bunkers came too often to be made without due thought, and in futile places, the drive-and-a-pitch hole came to be undeservedly despised. It was said to be a bad hole because the man who had missed his tee-shot could still reach the green in two, and so receive no punishment for his mistake but

this was only true of holes when the bunker was not cut near enough to the green. I can to-day call to mind plenty of holes where the player of a poor tee shot is chastised as severely as need be. True, he can still carry the bunker with his second, and he can pitch his ball on the green but unless he be a very juggler, he cannot make it stay there: nothing but a mashie shot, with plenty of cut will make it do that; the longer shot sends it scurrying across and into the bunker on the far side. There is a certain hole - nay there are two - of Mr. Herbert Fowler's creation at Delamere Forest: there is one of Mr. Colt's, the eleventh, if I mistake not, at Swinley Forest; there is the third on the private course of the Royal Wimbledon Club; there is "Death and Glory" at Northwood. At each and all of them the man who has hit his tee shots reaps a rich reward. Nor for that matter need I confine my instances to younger and inland courses. Go, just for one more example, to Hoylake, a course that breeds, if any course does, a race of expert pitchers, and look at that deep, uncompromising cross-bunker that guards the sixteenth or "Dun" Green. Here, to be sure, it is a case of a third shot and not a second, but the principle holds good. Miss your second and leave yourself with a long third to play, and you are not going to stop on that green; only the man who is fairly close to the bunker with his second can do that, and even so he has got to play a good shot.

Circumstances Alter Cases

Those last words contain a point to be emphasized. Let the cross-bunker be cut ruthlessly near to the hole, and the player cannot, as it were, rest on his oars as soon as he has banked the ball two hundred and more yards down the course; he has given himself a chance but he has still got to exercise some skill in order to take it. If he has not got the gift of getting the ball well into the air with his mashie and further of making it sit down, like the proverbial poached egg, when it alights, he is still in a bad way. Many of us, alas! know in our heart of hearts that we have never quite acquired the true knack and the true confidence in playing those little pitches, and how they do frighten us sometimes! How we do want to wriggle round and along the ground. We may not commit the obvious and grossest error of plumping the ball into the bunker, but the bunker serves its purpose for all that. We determine to get over at all costs, and we do get over - forty yards over the green: or else perchance we lift the anxious eye too quickly and hit the ball to cover-point off the socket. Most of us can make some sort of a show with the mashie when there is nothing in the way, but there is no shot in which circumstances painfully alter cases.

It seems to me that the forgers of iron heads by making the modern niblick with its deep, broad encouraging face - a weapon infinitely superior to its little bullet-headed predecessor, have done a somewhat cruel kindness to the young approacher. I do not speak of the young professional, since he, chipping about with his one battered old iron on a patch of rough ground, seems always to acquire the true cutting stroke, but of the young amateur. This young amateur is apt to take a convenient short cut to approaching through that "saucer-faced" niblick. He plays a comparatively easy and straight-forward stroke with it: it helps him to get

the ball well into the air, and as long as the ground is fairly soft, he gets along well enough. But even so I don't think he puts the ball so near the hole as do the masters of an older generation, and if the turf is hard and burnt he is often all abroad.

Two Valuable Lessons

In the torrid summer of 1911, when the ground was hard as adamant, I had the pleasure of playing several rounds with Mr. Horace Hutchinson at Ashdown Forest, a course that demands much pitching over cross hazards, and a very instructive pleasure it was. I was enormously impressed by the way in which that real master of the cutting shot could make the ball stop even on the rock-like ground, whereas a ball merely hoisted into the air with but little back-spin would bound gaily over the green almost as if struck with a driver. It was a second valuable lesson coming closely on the heels of the first that had been given by Mr. Hilton in the Amateur Championship at Prestwick, when with his mashie he pitched right up to such a hole as the sixth a feat of which hardly any other man in the field seemed capable.

As I said before, the stroke with a niblick is comparatively simple: it demands no great niceties and consists in the case of most players of a straightforward shovelling stroke, but it is stereotyped and limited. How different it is to the pitching shot as played by the professional. He does not try to get under the ball and shovel it into the air: he comes down on it, wonderfully hard and wonderfully firmly. No one with eyes in his head can see the two strokes and doubt which is the right one. I have sometimes wondered whether many of us have not done ourselves a good deal of harm by practising pitches on the garden lawn. The owners of gardens do not like their turf cut up and so, because we are frightened of them, we try to take the ball clean. That seems to me just what we ought not to do; we must not be afraid of taking divots: we must come down hard and let the turf look after itself. One last word I may perhaps add. In speaking slightly of the niblick, it was not the club I condemned, but the method which it is apt to breed. We may see nearly all the most distinguished professionals nowadays approaching with the niblick and the mashie-niblick, and it is a most useful club, but the method in which these great men use it and the method of most of us, are as the poles, asunder.

— ooo —

This article which was written by Bernard Darwin in 1913 is one reflection of his views. He is also reputed to have appealed to God, when in a bunker, in the following words: "And don't send down your Son. This is a man's job."

The issues raised in this article remain relevant. Ed.

Doug Bachli and the Windsock

Extracted from "The Fairway is Mine"
One hundred years of the Brisbane Golf Club

In the late 1940s, the club had a type of windsock on the flagstick instead of the usual flag. During play for the Yeerongpilly Cup in 1948, Doug Bachli asked whether a ball had ever lodged in the windsock and, if so, what was the ruling. He was told this had never happened and no one had been called upon to give a ruling. In any event, the openings at each end were large enough to allow the ball to be released.

Bachli stayed on for the Queensland Amateur Championship and was playing Stan Keane in the semi-final when Keane's ball lodged in the windsock at the par 3 13th green (current 4th) and did not fall out! Bachli was on the green about ten feet from the hole. They despatched one of the caddies to the clubhouse to get an official to give a ruling but when no one appeared after a twenty minute wait, Bachli suggested Keane shake the stick to dislodge the ball and get on with the game. This done, the ball dropped to the edge of the hole on the line of Bachli's putt. He was stymied and had to putt to the side of the hole. He got a conceded par but had to concede a birdie to Keane.

Bachli had been four up but the loss of the hole under the circumstances upset his concentration to the extent that Keane was back to square hitting off the 18th tee. However, Bachli won the last hole to win the match and go on to win the championship defeating local hero, Alex Colledge, in the final.

Later referral of the query to the R. & A. at St. Andrews elicited the response that the flagstick should have been removed and placed lengthwise behind the hole and the ball removed and placed on the green at the point where it rested in the windsock. It also strongly recommended that the windsocks be replaced with normal flags!

Metropolitan Dinner

The dinner at Metropolitan on Thursday, 11th June was a delightful evening with the Club providing a good table. Some 40 members and guests attended on a cold evening to hear our guest speaker, Sandra McKenzie-Wood, whose ability to speak to an audience is comparable with her excellent golf.

Sandra, who was born in Edenhope, Victoria spoke of her rewarding career which began as a junior amateur golfer and eventually took her from amateur ranks to the professional circuits in Europe and America and Japan.

Sandra, who is now the mother of two boys, is currently teaching at the Sandringham driving range and heavily involved in the media as a golf commentator on both television and radio.

Prior to Sandra's talk, two quiz questions were asked of members relating to the immediate pre war era. Both John Hilliard and Burtta Cheney were quick to answer the questions each winning a golf ball with the GSA Logo.

Hickory Day at Kingston Heath

For our hickory day at Kingston Heath on Sunday, 31st May, we reverted to the format we had used in the past at Kew in that we had lunch first and then played nine holes. This is a very good arrangement and thanks to Kingston Heath who served us an excellent luncheon and wines in the Heath Room, the day was most successful. We also had a very good attendance with some members bringing guests who from all accounts also enjoyed themselves. The weather was also more acceptable than the hot February days which we have experienced in recent years. The winners for the day were -

Longest drive - Ladies	June Griffiths
Longest drive - Men	David Haig
Nearest the Pin - Ladies	Jan Law
Nearest the Pin - Men	Glen Carboon
Burtta Cheney Trophy	Lorraine Clothier
Frank Shepherd Trophy	Daryl Cox

After play the Club served snacks which were appreciated. All in all it was a very enjoyable day. Lindsay Gitsham is to be thanked for his part in the organisation of the day and Kingston Heath thanked for allowing us to play on their beautiful course.

The First Golf Club Who Organized it and Where?

by Ian Henderson and David Stirk
Extracted from "The Bulletin" November 1983

The first golf clubs were called Golfing Societies and we now know that they were different from our concept of a golf club and that they were not formed for the sole purpose of playing golf. "The very healthful exercise of the golf" was "tekn" prior to the dinners and mysteries of these Societies which were all masonic in origin. By joining a Society, you were offered a package deal - you make a freemason and enjoyed dining and wining and the mysteries, as they were referred to, and a game of golf to give you an appetite.

Way back in 1803 they were arguing about when the various Societies were founded and which was the oldest - but they were more social clubs than golf clubs and we are interested in finding out who thought of playing golf first. We would now include the following in the list of Eighteenth Century Clubs, noting the earliest concrete evidence for confirming their existence:

Hon. Co. of Edinburgh Golfers	1744
The Royal and Ancient	1754
Royal Blackheath	1766
Royal Burgess	1770
Aberdeen	1775
Charleston (U.S.A.)	1775
Royal Musselburgh	1784
Glasgow	1787

Bruntsfield	1787
Savannah (U.S.A)	1787

(Note: The two U.S.A. Clubs included were clearly formed and run on parallel lines to those in the U.K.)

As time went on they were faced with the problem of letting non-masons into their Societies and this resulted in the destruction of their earlier Minutes in order to safeguard their secrets. Most of them did this and it is, therefore, safe to assume that the members of all these Societies were certainly playing golf together some years before they were publicly known as Golf Societies or Clubs.

The most noticeable characteristic of these Societies was the obligation to dine after playing golf. They had Club uniforms, ceremonies, fines in the form of drink for absence or other offences, toasts, including the masonic "Three times three". Attendance at dinners and the guests were recorded and often details of the meal. There was never a great deal to mention in those days about golf except the bets on matches which were usually entered in a separate book and were by no means all related to golf matches. Ladies were conspicuous by their absence and some of the original Societies still have no lady membership today.

So, where should we look for the origin of the idea of using golf as a healthy form of exercise? Perhaps the first place to look is the Royal Company of Archers, formed in 1676, and who in 1710, obtained from the Edinburgh City Council, a Silver Arrow to shoot for as a prize. In 1744, the Edinburgh Company followed suit and obtained a Silver Putter from the same source, which directly resulted in the first Rules of Golf being drawn up. Thereafter, the idea of a prize was adopted by other Societies together with the Rules - Prizes in themselves did nothing to stimulate the game and, generally speaking, contestants were few and far between.

All these early Clubs also had their own uniforms, not to be confused with the red coats of modern times, and regarding these, Dr. Colville, writing in the "History of the Glasgow Golf Club" (1907), suggested that "a uniform followed naturally on the lines of the old archery clubs and the exclusive social tone of the players", (i.e., freemasonry). The Royal Archers and Golfers sported themselves on the same ground or Leith Links at Edinburgh - some shot arrows, others played golf and some did both, and with the growth of the masonic movement, Edinburgh seems the logical place to look for the origins of organized golf.

There is plenty of evidence to suggest that golf was not the only exercise to be enjoyed in conjunction with dining and masonic mysteries. Archery, Curling and Bowls all provided the opportunity from which the early organization of those sports ultimately originated. It was to be many years before a golf club was to be formed, a course laid out, the sole object of the members being to play golf - it was probably Westward Ho!, England, in 1864.

All the early Societies played golf on public land and used a local tavern for their festivities. The Edinburgh Company even built its own tavern and reserved space for itself. The golfers of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century played a fascinating part in

keeping the game alive, when it might so easily have died out as it did in Holland, circa 1700, and the U.S.A., circa 1812. The game was expensive to play and the membership of the Societies was small as we know from the records, whilst the game itself produced no technical improvements of club or ball until the arrival of the rubber ball in 1848. It transformed the game and by 1870 the world craze for the game had started.

To the modern golfer, it may seem strange but it is now clear that the game of golf was stagnant for many years and was only kept alive by the social customs of the freemasons, who deserve our grateful thanks. In the light of this new information, all the Minutes of the original clubs require fresh study because none of the historians who commented or wrote about them ever understood what these social customs were really about. We believe that with the help of masonic historians, the whole true history of early golf could be revealed and who knows, they could confirm that the Archers started the Golfers off on the right course.

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The Society is extremely grateful to our founding and honorary life member, Dr. Ken Shepherd for making the back issues of the material available.

Answers to Golf Trivia Quiz

1. Henry Cotton.
2. One at Royal Portrush in 1951, won by Max Faulkner.
3. 2 strokes in 1984 and 1989.
4. Nick Price, winner at Turnberry in 1994.
5. 1966 at Muirfield.
6. Jack Nicklaus.
7. The Belt -
Old Tom Morris was 46 winning in 1867:
Young Tom Morris was 17 winning in 1868.
The Jug -
Roberto de Vincenzo was 44 years 93 days in 1967
Willie Auchterlonie was 21 years 25 days in 1893.
8. Three. John Ball, Harold Hilton and Bobby Jones.
9. Johnny McDermott in 1914.
10. David Russell (Am) who was the youngest player in the field; Sarazen was the oldest.