



The Long Game

The Official Newsletter of the Golf Society of Australia

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From the President

Your Committee has selected "The Long Game" as the title for our newsletter. It expresses an aspect of golf with which the history and traditions of the game have a metaphorical association.

"The Long Game" also says a great deal about the Golf Society of Australia Inc. It has been founded and set up with long term intentions and will no doubt be in existence long after we have passed our niblicks on to the forthcoming generation. Thus it is fitting we should do whatever we can to have recorded in our annals the foresight of its Life Member and Founder, Dr. Ken Shepherd RFD, VRD & Bar, MBBS (Melb).

Accordingly I have much pleasure advising that your Committee has seen fit to invite Dr. Shepherd to accept the illustrious status of Patron. This is a most deserved and appropriate position for one who had the foresight, courage and tenacity to bring the Society into existence and be involved all the way through its existence to where it is now; on the threshold of being a n a t i o n w i d e o r g a n i s a t i o n .

Whilst considering what the Society might do for its founder, your Committee also gave much thought to the contribution other Australians have made to golf. Many have made a mark in golfdom but none stands above Peter Thomson CBE. Following his stunning success as Captain of the victorious International Team in last December's Presidents Cup, one wonders where the remarkable talents of our golfing ambassador extraordinaire will take him next. Thus it is with much pleasure that I also announce that Peter Thomson CBE has accepted our invitation to be a Patron of the Golf Society of Australia Inc.

Sir William Deane AC, KBE, Governor-General of Australia now becomes our Patron-in-Chief. Also with the Golf Society's expansion throughout Australia it can be envisaged that in due course our Society could be most appropriately structured with a P a t r o n f r o m e a c h S t a t e .

It would be most helpful if any member who has a flair for research and writing could assist with the compilation of data relating to museum items. Whilst we have catalogue type notations, an embellished description of each museum piece is needed for the edification of any visitor having more than superficial interest in the museum pieces. Our Hon. Sec., Mrs. Rosemary Wakeham would be delighted to hear from any member prepared to help with this task.

I also have much pleasure advising that your Society's funds are being put to appropriate use. Recently a book case was purchased and installed in the AGU headquarters to house some of the many golf books held at the Museum. To acknowledge the unique contribution made by the Australian Golf Union over the past 100 years, we have presented the AGU with a commemorative scroll. I

look forward to seeing you at our next function.

Daryl Cox, President

1999 Calendar of Events

The Committee is planning the following program for 1999. Please note your diaries accordingly but be aware that the dates may be subject to some variation as we contact venues, guest speakers and obtain confirmation.

19th March	Don Lawrence Trophy at Frankston
25th March	Dinner at Royal Melbourne GC
26th April	President's Trophy at Victoria GC
20th May	Dinner at Metropolitan GC
6th June	Hockory Day at Kingston Heath GC
22nd July	Dinner at Kingston Heath GC
30th September	Dinner at Yarra Yarra GC
12th November	Doug Bachli Trophy and AGM at Commonwealth GC
9th December	Dinner at Victoria GC

Did You Hear About?

Perhaps if I dyed my hair peroxide blonde and called myself the great white tadpole, that would help (to get media attention)

I a n

Woosnam

— ooo —

A golf ball is a small indented spheroid which remains on a tee while a perspiring golfer fans it with a club.

— ooo —

If the pleasure of golf is in striking a ball,
and in seven a hole you do,
I who have had fourteen in all,
have had twice as much fun as you.

Sutphen Van Tassel 1904

Report on "Presidents Cup" Dinner - 12th December, 1998

By Daryl Cox (President of The GSA)

This dinner was held on the 12th December 1998 at Victoria Golf Club. The guests of honour were the Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews, Mr. John Beharrell and his wife Veronica who as Veronica Anstey won the Victorian, Australian and New Zealand titles in 1955 when she toured here with a British Ladies Junior Team. John Beharrell was the youngest player to have won the British Amateur Championship. He was 18 years and one month when he won at Troon in 1956. Bobby Cole of South Africa was the same age when he won in 1966. He is the fourth Amateur Champion to become Captain of the R & A.

Both Mr and Mrs Beharrell were invited to address the gathering. John Beharrell spoke of his appointment and the captaincy of the R & A, whilst Mrs Beharrell related the highlights of her trip to Australia in 1955. Both addresses were well acclaimed by the members. Robert Wade who has a painting hanging in the R & A clubhouse, thanked the special guests which he did with his usual delightful turn of phrase. A tie was given to the Captain of the R & A and his wife received a GSA badge and wine glasses.

Other activities of the evening included poetry readings of golf verse by Michael Fitchett and Margaret Reid, some quiz questions and the display to members of the scroll which will be presented to the AGU to mark its Centenary. (See full report later in this publication - Ed.) The meal was excellent and the arrangement of having an all in price including pre-dinner drinks worked well. In summation the night was most convivial and a fitting finale to our year.

From the Editor

I would like to thank the many members who have given me positive feedback about "The Long Game". At a recent dinner hosted by the AGU, the incoming President, Len Rae from Tasmania confessed to being an enthusiastic reader.

This all goes to underline my considerable regret at the delay between issues. I can only plead too much work and not enough time but here we are in 1999 and, armed with new year resolutions and some more time, I intend to revert to our previous frequency of publication, ie. February, June and October each year.

I would also like to thank those members who have forwarded items of interest for inclusion in future editions. In particular, I would like to thank John Fawcett, Peter Rosenhain, Frank Greig, Ian Holland and Ken Shepherd for their contributions and encouragement. If you have a favourite piece you would like to share or a "pet" topic please let me know and I will do my best to include it in a future edition.

Good golfing for 1999,

John Lindsay, Editor

Gene Sarazen on his sand iron.

Courtesy of our member Frank Greig

In about 1960 Gene Sarazen wrote the following account of his unique contribution to the evolution of the sand-iron in the early 1930s.

Necessity is the mother of invention, so the cliché goes, and it was necessity that compelled me to invent the sand-iron almost 30 years ago.

In 1931, I was intent on winning a British Open and also copping another National Open. Taking stock of my game, I realized that I was throwing away championships always because of one disastrous stroke in the course of 72 holes. And almost invariably this disastrous stroke could be traced back to a sloppily played trap shot that cost me a double-bogey, if not worse.

Plainly, something drastic had to be done to improve my bunker play. That something came to me, strangely enough, while taking flying lessons in Florida that winter. I was observing the action of the tail fins in making the plane go up or down. Perhaps, I thought, a "tail fin" on a niblick would help me to put quick loft on



Gene Sarazen playing his "sand iron" in 1933

a trap shot. At any rate, I could hardly wait to get the plane back on the ground to see if some sort of a flange could be attached to a club that would serve the purpose of generating pronounced loft. I wanted to make myself a club that would drive the ball up as I drove the clubhead down. When a pilot wants to take off, he doesn't raise the tail of his plane, he lowers it. And so I wanted to lower the "tail," or sole, of my niblick to produce a club whose face would come up from the sand as the sole made contact with the sand.

At a machine shop in New Port Richey, where I was living, I had thick globs of solder attached to the underside of my niblick, to which I had added a few

extra degrees of loft. The local golf course wasn't a very good one, but it did have one excellent bunker, right behind my house. I tried out my sand-iron there by hitting thousands of shots each week, making adjustments back in the machine shop and testing the improvements until I had the sand-iron perfected. Eventually, I felt confident of getting the ball within ten feet of the flagstick from any trap, regardless of the lie. And so the sand-iron was born.

I knew the club was revolutionary, so much so that I was scared to show it to anybody. I hid the head of it by placing the club upside-down in my bag while I was playing and by taking it home with me at night.

The first successful test of the sand-iron came at Prince's, in Kent, England; where I won the British Open that following spring, in 1932. Soon afterwards, I won my second National Open, at Fresh Meadow, on Long Island. Thinking back, I cannot recall an instance in which I did not get down in two from a trap. In short, I won both those championships with the sand-iron.

The first thing you have to do in order to use the sand-iron is to take a lesson in its technique from your local pro. The technique of it is so utterly different from the technique of other irons that you are unlikely to find the secret through experimentation alone. You don't swing the clubhead. You pick it up with the hands and then drop it behind the ball. The clubhead is taken back outside the line of flight and then flicked down behind the ball, not too unlike the way you would swing an axe when chopping a tree.

And, above all, the wrists remain unbroken throughout the stroke. By breaking the wrists, you almost certainly will either top the ball or hit way behind it, resulting in one of those disastrous double-bogeys which the sand-iron was specifically designed to overcome.

Golf Trivia Quiz (Answers on Page 8)

1. In 1909, he won the Australian Amateur Championship, the NSW Amateur and the Victorian Amateur.
2. Name the first woman to compete in a professional championship in Australia.
3. Name the first player to win three consecutive British Amateur Championships. When?
4. Name the first golfer to be honoured by having his portrait on a postage stamp. When?
5. Name the Australian golfer who withdrew from an Open event rather than be drawn to play with an invited lady amateur player. Where and when?
6. In the Open Championship at St Andrews in 1921, this player accidentally trod on his ball incurring a penalty. He tied for first and lost the play off.
7. In what year did the R & A allow women competitors to use the facilities of the clubhouse at St Andrews?
8. In 1979, three players were the first to be involved in a sudden death play off at The Masters. Name them.
9. Name the oldest player to compete in a Ryder Cup.

Extract from "The Times" 1874

Reproduced from "Through the Green" March 1998

We own that at first sight it is difficult for the uninitiated looker-on to sympathise with the evident enthusiasm of the players. There does not seem to be anything very stimulating in grinding round a barren stretch of ground, impelling a gutta-percha ball before you, striving to land it in a succession of small holes in fewer strokes than your companion and opponent. But as to the reality of the excitement, you are soon compelled to take that for granted.

You see gentlemen of all ages, often of the most self-indulgent or sedentary habits, turning out in every kind of weather, persevering to the dusk of a winter day, in spite of bitter wind and driving showers; or dragging about their cumbrous weight of flesh in hot defiance of the most sultry summer temperature. The truth is that, appearances notwithstanding, experience proves it to be one of the most fascinating of pursuits...



The Swilcan Bridge, St Andrews, etching c 1920.

Boy Hanged for Stealing Golf Balls

In an interesting note on "Golf in Banff in Early Times" published in the Banffshire Journal a writer says: "The earliest reference to Golf in the records of the burgh of Banff is in the year 1637, when Francis Brown, 'ane boy of ane evill Iyiff,' was hanged on the Gallows Hill of Banff for, inter alia, stealing 'some Golf ballis,' two of which he confessed 'he sauld to Thomas Urquhartis servand.'

The numerous references to club makers in the burgh records leave little if any doubt that golf has, at least since the above date, been played continuously on the Links of Banff. In Banff Museum is a skull, labelled that of Macpherson, the noted freebooter. The skull was found prior to a recent complete examination of the burgh records, and when the belief was entertained that Macpherson alone suffered death on the Gallows Hill. The evidence points, however, more strongly towards the skull being that of this infamous golf ball stealer, and I would respectfully suggest to the Museum Committee that the skull be re-labelled as that of the aforesaid Francis Brown, in order to point a moral and serve as a warning to all future generations of the danger and disgrace of stealing golf balls.

1891

The Ladies Championship of 1897

or

Miss Orr, Miss Orr and Miss Orr

In May 1897, the British Ladies Amateur Championship came to Scotland for the first time. Gullane was the venue in this, the fifth year of the tournament, and the assembled players are known to us through the scene at the first tee in the Life Association of Scotland calendar. Scottish men's golf, professional and amateur, was still dominant in Britain, and this delay in the Ladies tournament in coming to Scotland seems odd, and the outcome was stranger still. The quality of Scottish women's golf had not even been tested until this time. None of the leading Scottish players had played in any of the earlier championships in England.

The first hint of the Scottish triumph was when a Miss Orr (North Berwick) won the preliminary stroke play competition, with a round of 87, including a second half of 40. In the match play main event, only two English players survived to the last eight of the competition. In the final, Miss E

C Orr (North Berwick) beat Miss Orr (North Berwick), her sister. A third Orr sister, Miss A L Orr (North Berwick) had been in the quarter-finals. It was not only a triumph of talent and matchplay tenacity for the Orr family but also a thrashing for the English women who had dominated the earlier four championships - with the proviso that the winner of the first three meetings, Lady Margaret Scott had retired from golf after her marriage. The events at Gullane suggest that the Scottish Ladies regarded the new English players with some disdain. Mabel Stringer recalled in her memoirs that they came away smarting from the defeat on and off the links. "They made us visitors pay the utmost farthing" she recalled. Another bit of evidence is that the Ladies Golf Union had ruled before the Gullane tournament that the players were not to engage professional golfers to caddy for them. The Misses Orr completely disregarded this ruling and the winner Miss E C Orr had the celebrated North Berwick teaching professional Davie Grant as her caddie and he doubtless coached and clubbed her with effect. That the Scottish ladies made their own judgement in such matters is clear, and their detachment from the English game is evidenced by their earlier absence from the first four Championships. Not only that, but they failed to travel next year to the English venue for the Ladies Championship. Notably absent were the Orr girls, and the failure of the champion to defend her title, a decision which she made clear well in advance, was criticised.

Even in Scotland the Orrs were an aloof group. Although the three Orrs entered as members of the North Berwick Ladies Club, they did not play in any of the club's

competitions. It has always been assumed that they were North Berwick residents, but instead they were summer visitors. The family (there were six girls) came from Glasgow and their father was a carpet importer. They can also be traced playing in summer at Dornoch and Machrihanish, as usual not playing in any competitions, even though Ladies clubs existed there. In the Machrihanish part of their summer travels their skill was well known and Miss E C Orr was thought to have broken 90 on the main links in the gutta era.



In the picture, No. 9 is Miss Orr, the eventual winner of the championship, No. 12 is Blanche Anderson, to become Mrs. Maud Gordon Robertson, No. 13 is Miss E. C. Orr, and No. 21 is Miss A. L. Orr.

In looking at these events, we get hints of some very Scottish middle class attitudes, nor do I think Father Orr actively prevented his girls from extending their horizons. He seems to have encouraged their sport and provided the best professional teaching for them. I think the entire family's assumptions were to avoid publicity, and one's name should appear only three times

in the newspapers - once at birth, then at marriage and finally at death. Added to this were the high Corinthian ideals in middle-class sport. Playing not winning was the thing. Scottish women (and their husbands and fathers) had an aversion to pot hunting.

The explanation seems to be that Scottish ladies golfers were talented but aloof. Hence Miss E C Orr had her moment of unwanted fame and then took care to disappear without trace thereafter. Miss A L Orr who was good enough to reach the quarter-finals of the national championship, cannot be traced any further in any golfing event, even the North Berwick Ladies Club competitions, except in one exhibition match. Most puzzling of all is the third golfing sister, Miss Orr, beaten only in the final by her sister. So unhelpful was she that her first name is unknown, since her initial is not given in any of the many reports of the championship. The Orr family seems to have decided that if two out of three sisters gave their first names that was sufficient for the public to differentiate between them.

Scottish ladies golf had great talent at the time, but to many of them sport was clearly regarded as a private affair. And of the Scottish ladies, the Orrs were the most talented and private of all.

*By David Hamilton,
Extracted from Through the Green, September, 1998.*

J. Douglas Edgar

By GSA Life-Member and Past President, Peter Rosenhain

I was first attracted to the name of J. Douglas Edgar a few years ago whilst I was perusing the "Guinness Book of Golf Facts & Feats". At that time he had the distinction of winning a major golf title by a greater margin than any other player. This was the Canadian Open in 1919. The winning margin was 16 strokes and he defeated Jim Barnes, Bobby Jones, then aged 17, and Karl Keffer who had previously been successful in 1914 and 1909. This margin has since been superseded by Jerry Pate who won an event in the U.S. about 15 years ago by 20 strokes.

The sheer margin ahead of other players was sufficient to attract interest, but I also found that he also won the event in 1920 and is one of only four golfers who have achieved successive victories. The others are Leo Diegel who did this twice in 1923 and 1925, and 1928 and 1929, Sam Snead in 1940 and 1941, and interestingly, Jim Ferrier who was successful in 1950 and 1951.

After becoming interested in Edgar I sought further information about his ability and talent. His win in the Canadian Open is mentioned in Jones autobiography 'Golf is my Game' and he is also mentioned in an article that Don Lawrence wrote about Ivo Whitton in 1957. Ivo played exhibition matches with Edgar, Vardon and Ray in 1915 after the outbreak of war, for the Prince of Wales fund.

The greatest source of information, however, was Peter Alliss's 'Who's Who of Golf'. Alliss devotes a whole page to Edgar, which is twice as much as he does to Jim Barnes, U.S. and British Open Champion in 1921 and 1925 respectively; Leo Diegel and Jock Hutchinson, as much as he devoted to George Duncan, and only a little less than that given to J.H. Taylor, among his near contemporaries. Why, one may ask, so much space on a relative unknown, who won neither U.S. nor British Open?

Edgar was born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1884 and is little remembered today but remains a fascinating figure. He was professional at Northumberland Golf Club in Newcastle and achieved temporary fame in 1914 when he

led the French Open throughout, averaging 72's and defeating Harry Vardon by 6 strokes. The war interrupted his career, and in 1918 he emigrated to the U.S. The following year saw his most remarkable achievement. In the Canadian Open he began with rounds of 72, 71 and on the final day had rounds of 69 and 66 to win, as I mentioned by 16 strokes, in a field that included Barnes, Jones, Armour and Hagen. The following year he was less dominant but won again in a play off against Tommy Armour. He also came close to winning the U.S. P.G.A. in 1921 losing to Jock Hutchinson, by 3 putting the final green.

In the U.S. Open he was less successful. He started favourite in 1919 but finished 16 strokes

behind the winner Walter Hagen who recorded his second and final success in this event. In 1920 he could do no better than 20th, 12 strokes behind Ted Ray. Tommy Armour is a key figure in the assessment of Edgar. Armour had finished runner up to Edgar in the 1920 Canadian and saw all the great golfers from the triumvirate through Hagen, Sarazen, Jones, Nelson, Snead and Hogan.

Armour has said that 'Edgar was the best golfer I ever saw', and in fact Armour credits his own successes to Edgar's teaching. To re-enforce Armour's opinion is that of Harry Vardon. He said "This is the man who one day will be the greatest of us all".

Edgar's writings go some way to showing that he was the first of the moderns, anticipating Byron Nelson's thoughts two decades later. After his Canadian victory he produced an instruction book entitled 'Through the Gate' and it is the first to emphasise hitting from "the inside out". He also stressed left side dominance, saying that golf has essentially "left eye, left side, left hand". He also anticipated Bobby Jones who expressed the thought that the clubhead should 'freewheel' through the ball, by saying that "the

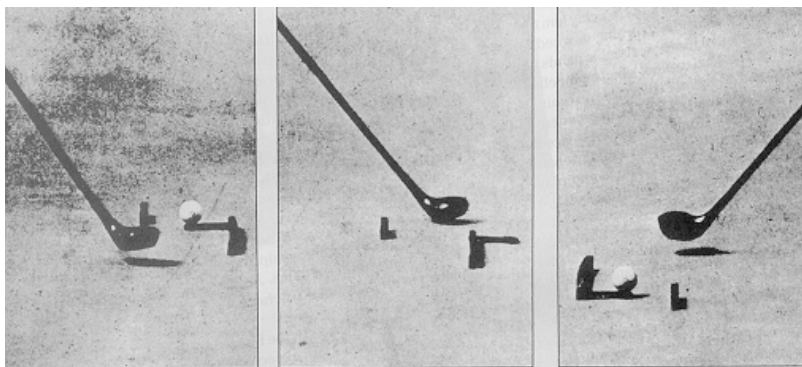
ball is only an incident that lies in the way of the swing". Photo sequences of Edgar's swing still exist and they illustrate that he did not fan the clubface open on the backswing as was usual at the time, had a strong left hand grip, and kept his right elbow close to his side. But where his swing is remarkable is that it shows he was the first major golfer to play with a very full shoulder turn and a restricted hip turn and it was here which he was so well ahead of his time. Vardon and Jones, the great stylists of the day, had the full shoulder turn but this was accompanied by a very free hip movement that has been out of favour since articulated by Byron Nelson in the 40s. Edgar

then, by many years, anticipated the modern theory of retaining tension between free shoulder movement and restricted hip turn. He also seems to have led the downswing with leg drive towards the ball. Edgar's successes in America came when he was in his mid 30's, and he may not have lasted much longer as a major figure. In 1921

however, less than six months after losing the P.G.A. to Hutchinson he was professional in Atlanta, Georgia, and was found dead, in the street. At first the local police thought that he was the victim of a hit-run car accident. However, it is more likely that he was mugged while walking home late at night. The cause of death was a narrow deep cut on the inner left thigh, which would have been almost impossible to have been done by an automobile. He bled to death and no-one heard his calls for help.



J. Douglas Edgar (1884 - 1921)



Photos from Edgar's Book - "The Gate to Golf"

The Golf Society recognises 100 years of the Australian Golf Union.

The following is the text of the speech given by GSA President Daryl Cox in presenting a commemorative scroll to the President of The Australian Golf Union at Commonwealth Golf Club on 11th February, 1999

We, the Committee of the GSA and our Patrons regard it as a special privilege to be with you at dinner this evening and we thank you most sincerely for creating the appropriate environment for the GSA to acknowledge the magnificent contribution the AGU has made to golf in Australia over the last 100 years.

It was on the 14th October 1898 that the AGU was founded. 1898 was also the year when a referendum in NSW failed to support Federation, fifteen miners lost their lives in an explosion in Newcastle, bush fires raged through Gippsland, Melbourne was officially sewered, Hobart was lit by electricity, Western Australia became the largest gold producing State, a cyclone wrecked Mackay, Sir George Grey, Governor of South Australia died, Lawrence Harnett, Walter Lindrum and Howard Florey were born, Australia beat England four tests to one and regained the Ashes, Fitzroy beat Essendon in the grand final and The Grafter won the Melbourne Cup.

Some 83 years later the Golf Society of Australia was launched in 1981 at Royal Melbourne by Dr. Ken Shepherd who is with us this evening.

In 1898 one would imagine the founding fathers of the AGU may have

conjectured and philosophised about what their fledgling Union might be like in 100 years. But one wonders that they would have ever considered somebody would bring together a group of golfers whose interest in the game not only exceeds 100 years, but whose interest also goes beyond State and national boundaries.

Yet when one thinks about the role of the Golf Society, it has a logical place in the structure of golf in Australia, particularly in light of it's primary objectives, which are (1) to assist the Golf Museum Committee of the AGU develop a National Golf Museum and (2) to record the history of golf in Australia. Unlike the USGA, for the AGU to carry out these tasks would mean a further significant investment in personnel and infrastructure. An investment which at this stage may nor may not be affordable, how much better is it then for the AGU's Museum Committee to have at its disposal a dedicated group of volunteers who have years and years of experience in their favour. In this regard it is well for the AGU to know it is the intent of the GSA to become a truly national body. If the museum is to be replete with

national memorabilia and golf's history in Australia properly recorded it is essential for the GSA to become a live and vital organisation in each State and Territory of the Commonwealth. In that regard we are off to a good start with out Patron-in-Chief being the Governor-General.

This year the GSA will be approaching known dedicated golfers in each State to form State Divisions. We have the appropriate legal machinery in place to keep costs in control and ensure the objectives of the Society are followed. Just as the AGU is an umbrella organisation so we see the GSA being an organisation assisting parochial groups interested in memorabilia and the game's history.

We sincerely trust the AGU's Museum Committee can find a way to fully utilise the potential,

which the GSA has to offer. The fact that the AGU's Museum Committee has not met for a while is quite understandable considering the ramifications for the AGU of the game's incredible development particularly in recent years, not just in Australia but throughout the world. The GSA understands that when it comes to priorities a Museum Committee deals



AGU President, Len Rae accepting the scroll from GSA President Daryl Cox

with retrospect and retrospect was definitely not in mind when Messrs Macneil, Swift, Whyte, Brentnall, Balfour-Melville, and Brown from Royal Melbourne, Royal Sydney, Adelaide and Geelong Golf Clubs, set the first objective for the AGU which was, "The general advancement of golf in Australia." The other two objectives were to run the Australian Championships (both men's and ladies) and arbitrate disputes, if any. In setting these objectives one wonders if, in their wildest flights of fancy, the delegates had any idea of how broad the realm of golf would become and the degree to which the AGU must now be involved in every aspect of the game in order to oversee the "general advancement of the game of golf in Australia".

"The general advancement of the game of golf in Australia" is an all encompassing statement. One wonders if the creators of that statement realised their successors in one hundred years time would have to run for men only, 7 national championships annually and that sponsorship of the open Championship involving a large amount of money was critical. In addition, it would be necessary

for the AGU to conduct amateur international events from time to time.

One wonders if they would have had any idea that "general advancement" meant their successors having to administer, not 13, but 34 rules with a myriad of sub-sections and decisions for playing the game. That the AGU would have to supervise comprehensive and sensitive regulations for amateur status under tremendous pressure from the temptations of ever increasing voluminous sums of money, as well as implementing an Australian Course Rating System and an immense computerised national handicapping system to match, involving Women's Golf Australia, a very large multinational Bank, a very large multinational Computer Company and a very large multinational member-benefits Company, the function of which is so important that golf associations all over the world are watching the project with the utmost interest.

Would they have seen that the AGU would become involved in seeing that golf development would start at primary schools, that the AGU would be involved with coaching courses and coaching camps and an Australian Institute of Sport which involved a full time golf scholarship programme. That there would be a Junior Golf Advisory Panel and the production of instructional videos and posters.

Would they have foreseen the entire world becoming a global village and the Australian Championships being seen simultaneously in other continents? Would they have visualised the AGU representing Australia and being affiliated with the governing body of world golf, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. Would they have contemplated that the AGU would sit on the Royal and Ancient Golf Club Rules and Amateur Status Advisory Committee, the World Rankings Committee, the World Amateur Golf Council, the Asia-Pacific Golf Federation to all of which delegates are sent on a regular basis including a World Scientific Congress of Golf.

Would they have considered that the AGU would be responsible for teams competing internationally in events such as the World Amateur Teams Championship, the Asia-Pacific Teams Championship, the Four Nations Trophy and sending players to other countries such as South America.

Would they have thought other golfing bodies would become established and that the AGU would have to liaise with them, setting umbrella policies which would influence Women's Golf Australia, the PGA of Australia, the PGA Tour of Australasia and the Australian Veteran Golfers Union. Would they have believed the general advancement of golf would have led to the AGU being represented on the board of the Confederation of Australian Sport, liaising with the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Sports Drug Agency, the Australian Institute of Sport, the

Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association, the Golf Society of Australia, The Australian Turfgrass Research Institute, Birds Australia and the Horticultural Research Development Corporation.

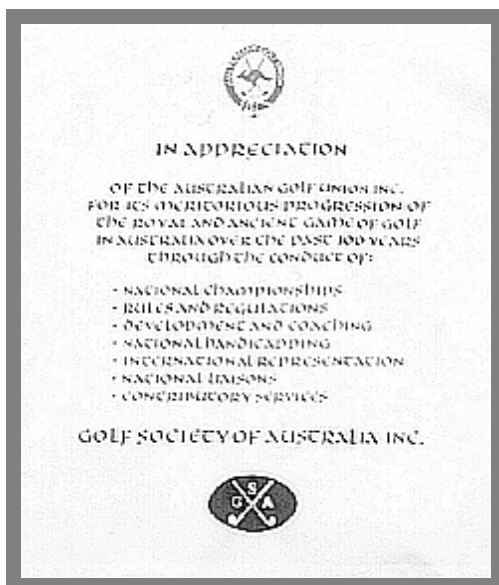
And if that is not enough would the AGU's founding fathers have thought it would be necessary to print and issue publications on matters such as Rules and Decisions, Etiquette and Fitness, and Australian Golfers Handbook, a Golf Journal periodical newsletter to golf clubs and affiliates, a resource catalogue, other rules literature, prepare Australian Open merchandise, Go-Go Golf equipment, disseminate information on the world wide Internet, arrange insurance for golf clubs and golfers, handle environment projects such as Birds on Golf Courses, Environmental Strategy for Australian Golf Courses, turf and allied research such as Bunker Sand Specifications as well as handle through mail, phone, fax and internet enquiries on all aspects of Australian golf from the public, affiliated golfers, clubs and member State Associations, event organisations and sponsors.

The fact that golf has developed so magnificently since 1898 is absolute proof the AGU has fulfilled its first objective beyond doubt. There are now 1600 golf clubs and 500,000 players affiliated with the AGU whilst a further 1,200,000 golfers are unaffiliated. Many of our golf courses are priceless jewels in the crown of Australia's national estate attracting such prestigious international events as the Canada Cup, the World Cup, The Eisenhower Trophy, the Santo Espirito Trophy, Commonwealth Tournaments, Tasman Cup, The Queen Sirikit Cup, Four Nations Trophy, and most recently Presidents Cup. Now, with the forthcoming Moonah development,

the AGU will also be able to set standards for all clubs in Australia thus adding further lustre to its paramount role in Australian golf.

One only has to look at the international performances of individuals and teams, both men and ladies, amateur and professional to realise Australia is a very significant golf nation and on a per capita basis would probably sit at the top of the tree. In the last four years Australians have won well over 100 events overseas. Such golfing prowess requires guidance from the top and that means for 100 years the AGU's policies for the general advancement of golf in Australia have been the right ones.

For all its success the AGU is a very modest organisation. It does not issue press releases blowing its own trumpet. It goes about its work very much in the form of a quiet achiever. So much so, one hears little in the way of praise for the AGU, either in print, or in the bar, or in the locker room. The press rarely give compliments and are usually provocative, some State Associations think might is right, and golfers by characteristic would complain in heaven. Nevertheless there can be no doubt, the AGU is properly structured and



staffed with highly competent personnel, the combination of which delivers wise counsel, refined and sensitive leadership, without which golf in Australia would not have developed anywhere near as well as it has in its first 100 years.

Thus it is with much satisfaction that the GSA is pleased to be in a position where it can meaningfully acknowledge, for all time, a magnificent century of stewardship by the AGU of all aspects of the game of golf in Australia. If ever there is an organisation to be congratulated for a job well done congratulations must be accorded the AGU. So it is with the most sincerest appreciation of all that the AGU has done for the general advancement of golf in Australia that the GSA has much pleasure and satisfaction in handing to the AGU this timeless scroll which recognises the superb role the AGU has played in meeting its first objective.

Mr Rae, President of the Australian Golf Union, on behalf of the members of the GSA, I have much pleasure in presenting this scroll of appreciation to the Australian Golf Union.

Acknowledgements

The Society is extremely grateful to the Golf Collectors' Society of USA, publishers of the "Bulletin", the Golf Collectors of Great Britain, publishers of "Through the Green" and the International Golf Research Institute, publishers of the Japan Golf Report for allowing material to be extracted and used in our Newsletter. Any material extracted from the above sources will be acknowledged. We hope, in time, that the arrangements will become reciprocal as our own Newsletter becomes better established.

The Golf Society is extremely grateful to our founding and honorary life member, Dr. Ken Shepherd, who subscribes to the above journals, for generously making the material available.

Answers to Quiz Questions

1. Hon. Michael Scott.
2. Helen Hicks, South Australian Open, 1936.
3. (Sir) Michael Bonallack, 1968, 1969, 1970.
4. Gary Player of South Africa in 1976. US golfers Bobby Jones and Babe Zaharias were similarly honoured in 1981.
5. The late Ted Ball, 1976 Victorian Open.
6. Roger Wethered. The play off was won by Jock Hutchinson.
7. 1975 British Ladies Championship.
8. Fuzzy Zoeller beat Ed Sneed and Tom Watson.
9. Raymond Floyd, The Belfry 1993.
10. For the first time, none of the winners was an American.

To Caddie

A Letter to The Editor of "The Times"

Thanks to Ian Holland for providing this delightful item Ed.

From Sir Berkeley Moynihan
1929

6 February,

(later the first Baron Moynihan who, when not playing golf badly, was numbered among the greatest of surgeons)

This will never do! For five days in the week we avail ourselves of *The Times* as it so competently deals with the less important affairs of life: politics, domestic or foreign; the imminence, hopes, fears of a General Election; the arrivals or departures of great people; the steady depreciation of our scanty investments; another century or two by Hobbs, or a stupendous break by Smith. But on the sixth day *The Times* is exalted in our eyes; for then your "Golf Correspondent", in a column of wisdom, humour, and unmatched literary charm, deals with the one real thing in life.

This week for the first time he has deeply shocked and disappointed us all. I am but a "rabbit". I confess to a handicap of 24 (at times) and a compassionate heart (always). I cannot bear to see a fellow creature suffer, and it is for this reason among others that I rarely find myself able to inflict upon an opponent the anguish of defeat. Today I suffer for a whole world of caddies, wounded in the house of their friend. They learn in a message almost sounding a note of disdain that the verb which signifies their full activity is "to carry".

By what restriction of mind can anyone suppose that this is adequate? Does not a caddy in truth take charge of our lives and control all our thoughts and actions while we are in his august company? He it is who comforts us in our time of sorrow, encourages us in moments of doubt, inspires us to that little added effort which, when crowned with rare success, brings a joy that nothing else can offer. It is he who with majestic gravity and indisputable authority hands to us the club that he thinks is most fitted to our meagre power, as though it were not a rude mattock but indeed a royal sceptre. It is he who counsels us in time of crisis, urging that we should "run her up" or "loft her," or "take a line a wee bit to the left, with a shade of slice". Does he not enjoin us with magisterial right not to raise our head? Are we not most properly rebuked when our left knee sags or our right elbow soars; or our body is too rigid while our eye goes roaming? Does he not count our strokes with remorseless and unpardonable accuracy, keeping all the while a watchful eye upon our opponent's score? Does he not speak of "our" honour, and is not his exhortation that "we" must win this hole? Does he not make us feel that some share of happiness, or of misery, will be his in our moment of victory or defeat? Does he not with most subtle but delicious flattery coax us to a belief that if only we had time to play a "bit oftener" we should reach the dignity of a single-figure handicap? Does he not hold aloft the flag as though it were indeed our standard, inspiring a reluctant ball at last to gain the hole? Does such a man do nothing but "carry" for us? Of course, he does infinitely more. He "Caddies" for us, bless him.

Yours, Berkeley Moynihan.