

Spring 2019

Volume 1 (231)



Artisan Golfer

The only magazine about Artisan golf for Artisan golfers



Little Aston – a beautiful venue (See Carr Memorial)

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The Artisan Golfers' Association
(Affiliated to England Golf) www.agagolf.co.uk for contact details

The Object of the Association is to unite the various Artisan Golf Clubs in the British Isles into one Association and to encourage and help in the formation of clubs.

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Email editor@agagolf.co.uk

Secretary's Report

As the season kick starts it seems to have moved quickly again as it was not that long ago we had our AGA AGM and was discussing the year ahead. As everyone is aware all AGA clubs will be joining their respected counties and our EG fees had been brought forward to November 2018 needless to say this has been an extremely difficult task for our Treasurer and we run well over the collection time period which EG have been extremely understanding.

The main confusion was who why and when these fees were paid and with some Counties still using their old profoma and confused some of our clubs concerning EG payments. Our treasurer and council team have worked very hard to explain the above and we have put all this information on our website.

Next year we will be collecting both sets of fees in January 2020 so there should be no confusion on the above we as an association cannot keep giving extra time to pay these fees and we cannot keep sending reminders and contact secretaries for them to speak to their Treasures about payments. We have agreed that for this year if any AGA clubs have not paid their AGA fees by the end of May we will have to ask them to withdraw their AGA membership and inform their main clubs of the non payment and also will be informing EG and CONGU about these clubs handicaps.

I am sorry to say the above but everyone needs to understand fees must be paid **on time** every time and you as our members need to make sure your club AGA secretary and Treasurer need to be reminded by you that they been paid and if not why. Our council committee cannot keep spending hours making phone calls and emails to ensure clubs pay their fees. Regardless of when your club collection date is our collection has been set for many years and has not changed.

Our Payments to EG ensure we have their full support and the AGA and county fees enables everyone to play and compete in competitions all over the county. As always if anyone has any questions concerning any of the fees please feel free to contact me and I will explain everything to you.

Well now that I have got that of my chest I can report about our first competition which Doug will have covered in his report the course at Little Aston was fantastic and everyone had a great time and our thanks go to Stephen Dyre for getting the course for us and everyone who made this day possible.

We now look forward to Royal Cinque Ports in Deal for the JH Taylor and Sandy Herd trophy on the 2nd July which is where the open championship was held quite a few years ago. This is another great venue the council competition committee have managed to get at a extremely good price.

I look forward to meeting and seeing our members over the next 4 months and hope we have another nice summer like last year so don't forget to keep the sun cream in your bag and enjoy your golf wherever you may be playing.

Bill Johns
Hon Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Another busy year on collecting subscriptions with the added complications of change of date and addition of collecting all England Golf fees through the AGA.

I still have a few outstanding so please could you get this sorted. I will be recommending some changes on how collected and when collected.

Apart from that the funds remain healthy, nothing else to report.

All the best for your golfing season.

Warren Francis
Hon Treasurer

Captain's Report

This year started a lot better than last year with no sign of the Beast from the East disrupting our fixtures and matches.

We played Oxbridge at Temple on the 2nd March and had a very competitive and successful match.

We put a very strong side out with our highest handicap being 3 on the day. We managed to win the morning foursomes matches 4-0 which went down like a lead balloon at lunchtime.

The Oxbridge captain changed his team around to try and find some joy but was not impressed when after discussions with the team we decided to leave the team the pairings the same for the afternoon matches.

The afternoon result was again 4-0 to the AGA, so a very big thank you for everyone who turned out and played some impressive golf.

We played The Seniors Golfing Society at Denham Golf Club on 19th March which as normal was very keenly contested in the morning, with the Seniors taking a 3-2 lead into the afternoon.

The Seniors played their usual trump card of the infamous Denham lunch..... But after many years of this despicable plan the AGA have become wise to this and resisted temptation managing a better performance in the afternoon of 2½ - 2½.

As normal they were both fantastic days played in the true spirit of golf.

Many thanks go as always to Doug for helping organise these very enjoyable days.

We have the trip to Ireland this year to look forward to, to defend the trophy we won last year over here. Winning in Ireland is never easy but I'm sure the team selected will perform to their true abilities and not be influenced by the normal temptations laid on (if only).

We have some fantastic venues for our upcoming comps this year, which I'm sure will be oversubscribed, so thank you to everyone for supporting and organising these great courses for all of us to enjoy.

Mick Fisher
AGA Captain

England Golf Report

Over the past 6 months although all clubs have come into line with their affiliation fees it seems there are still a few teething problems of when and who to pay these to I hope that all secretaries/treasurers will check before the next years fees are due as to who they have to pay them to which will help the AGA to be able to transfer the whole amount in one go and on time.

With regards to the affiliation fees each paying member will now receive 'personal liability insurance cover' as part of your affiliation fee. This will be active from 1st July 2019 but I am still waiting to get the full details of the cover and will of course inform everyone of this as soon as I get the information.

I continue to be active as the Artisans representative and voting member in England golf and will continue to attend all meetings to push forward the Artisan movement.

Your views on any issues relating to Artisan golf are welcome and I encourage each of you to contact a member of the AGA Committee with any problems or if you need any help/ advice as a member or as a club.

Happy golfing!

Dave Swift

Dave Swift
England Golf Representative

Match Reports

AGA v Oxford & Cambridge at Temple 02 March 2019

A.G.A. v OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE 02 March 2019				
VENUE: TEMPLE GOLF CLUB				
			MORNING	RESULT
A.G.A	1	IVAN FRYER & JACK CHURCH	4-3	GADER BURNIE & JAMES CUMBERLAND
	2	MICK FISHER & CLINT HARRIS	6-5	ANDY EDMOND & NICE PELOW
	3	DANNY TUCKER & ROB EVANS	2 UP	ADAM PARKES & GAZ ROWLANDS
	4	JOHN WHITEHOUSE & SHANE McCAUGHAN & SHANE McCAUGHAN	2-1	ANDREW DODD & DAI ROWLEY-JONES
MORNING TOTAL			4-0	
			AFTERNOON	RESULT
	1	IVAN FRYER & JACK CHURCH	3-1	ANDY EDMOND & GAZ ROWLANDS
	2	MICK FISHER & CLINT HARRIS	4-3	ANDREW DODDS & GABER BURNIE
	3	DANNY TUCKER & ROB EVANS	2-1	JAMES CUMBERLAND & ADAM PARKES
	4	JOHN WHITEHOUSE & SHANE McCAUGHAN	2-1	DAI ROWLEY JONES & NICK PELOW
AFTERNOON RESULT			4-0	
FINAL RESULT			8-0	MARVELLOUS WIN FOR MICK!

Doug Lumsden

AGA v Senior Golfing Society

Venue: Denham Golf Club

Date: 19th March 2019

This match was played this year after losing out last year to the snow

This annual match against this very formidable group of highly accomplished gentlemen who usually are able to produce some fine golf which leads to close results over the years.

Captain Mickey Fisher assembled what we thought was a reasonably strong side for the morning round only to lose 3-2 which was not too bad against the 'Wiley Foxes'.

The very fine Lunch (Large) was provided which went down very well to boost our fighting 'spirits' .

S.G.S brought on a sub who played with 'Jet Lag' from The Caribbean for the afternoon round, did not slow him down at all!

Captain Fisher reshuffled the pairings in an attempt to steady the ship and nearly achieved his high expectations of a win but could only get a 'half' on 2 1/2-1 2.

Final Result S.G.S 5 1/2 – A.G.A 4 1/2

Our Thanks go to Denham Golf Club for the best lunch around.

To Rob Pike for his help last year in trying to get this event on last only to have it called off by the snow but coming good this time.

A Great success keeping a long tradition alive.

Doug Lumsden

Carr Memorial

Venue: Little Aston

Date: 7-5-2019

It is ten years ago when we played this competition at this venue. What a beautiful layout with the flowering bushes randomly placed within the putting green in front of the club house.

Not an easy course to negotiate was proved by the scorecards, the bunkers playing a major hazard some were taking two or three to get out and I spoke to one who took four. Only 3 par 3s 161,178 and 192 restricted the 2s to nine players. Lowest that I remember. Only 2 players out of the 83 managed scores on every hole twice Andy Douglas (Sundridge Park) and Dave Moxey (Dyrham Park).

We were very privileged to have the chance to compete on a course which is rated in the top 100 for only being charged £48 per player for the golf when the normal green fee is more than £100 per round.

Winner: Kasper Mullhaupt (St Georges Hill) 39-30 69
Second: Andy Douglas (Sundridge Park) 31-36 67
Third :Hayden Smith (Hartsbourne) 32-34 66 Back 18
From : Michael Russell (Verulam) 33-33 66
And : Doug Malcolm (St.Georges Hill) 37-29 66
Best AM: Doug Malcolm (St.Georges Hill) 37
Best PM Bobert Wallace (Verulam) 35

Team of 3 Won By: St Georges Hill Kasper Mullhaupt 69
Doug Malcolm 66
Ian Beauchamp 64
199

From : Verulam Michael Russell 66
Spencer Devereux 65
Robert Wallace 64
195

My appreciation goes to Iain Burns Little Aston Manager and his staff for providing for us an unforgettable day. We will be back !

For all my helpers on the day Paul Bryant, Rob Wallace and Rob Barnes and not forgetting Bill Johns for finalising the day.

Great to have Steve Dyer (Artisan Secretary Aldridge) who was instrumental in getting the venue with us for the evening.

Where next year YOU TELL ME!

Competition Result

Aggregate result of the Competition played on 07 May 2019 at Little Aston.

Aggregated Results - Net Scores - Top 90 positions only

Overall Position		R1	R2	Total	Placing
1	K. Mullhaupt	39	30	69	Overall Winner
2	A. Douglas	31	36	67	Overall Runner-Up
3	H. Smith	32	34	66	Overall 3rd
4	M Russell	33	33	66	
5	D. Malcolm	37	29	66	
6	D Tucker	32	33	65	
7	S. Devereux	33	32	65	
8	R Wallace	29	35	64	
9	P Sullivan	30	34	64	
10	I. Beauchamp	33	31	64	
11	S. McKenna	27	35	62	
12	G. Haycock	32	30	62	
13	J. Pratchett	32	29	61	

14	C. Blake	32	29	61
15	I. Smailes	29	31	60
16	S. Upson	33	27	60
17	J. Searle	33	27	60
18	D. Moxey	26	33	59
19	G. Hobbs	27	32	59
20	D. Jewkes	30	29	59
21	P. Flynn	31	28	59
22	K. Tucker	32	27	59
23	G. Turpin	33	26	59
24	R Harrington	26	32	58
25	T. Clarke	27	31	58
26	D. Curtler	28	30	58
27	J. Harris	28	30	58
28	P. Bryant	30	28	58
29	G. Roberts	32	26	58
30	S. Manning	32	26	58
31	D. Saia	32	26	58
32	R. Healy	23	34	57
33	A. Thacker	28	29	57
34	P. Cunningham	30	27	57
35	P. Demetri	30	27	57
36	M. Blake	30	27	57
37	R Barnes	35	22	57
38	R. Campbell	26	30	56
39	J. Douglas	28	28	56
40	J. Doody	29	27	56
41	P. Wells	29	27	56
42	M. Harding	31	25	56
43	J. Alvey	33	23	56
44	C. Rose	23	32	55
45	M. Bibby	26	29	55
46	G. Franklin	28	27	55
47	G Hunt	28	27	55
48	M. Ryder	30	25	55
49	C. Woodham	30	25	55
50	T. Parker	32	23	55
51	P. Belsham	34	21	55
52	M Hassall	25	29	54
53	B. Johns	25	29	54
54	G. Shrimpton	27	27	54
55	T. Lewis	28	26	54
56	P. Insole	28	26	54
57	N Giglio	28	26	54
58	D Clutterbuck	30	24	54
59	R. Bean	20	33	53
60	C. Massey	27	26	53
61	R. Hollands	29	24	53
62	P. Blagg	31	22	53
63	M. Bright	24	28	52
64	G. Ross	26	26	52
65	K. Williams	26	26	52
66	D. Heckford	28	23	51
67	D. Evans	28	23	51
68	Andy Walker	23	27	50
69	M. Cheshire	27	21	48

70	M Ferguson	23	24	47
71	M. Pugh	24	23	47
72	N. Flint	25	21	46
73	M. Growney	22	23	45
74	T. Millington	17	27	44
75	R Neville	26	18	44
76	D. Webster	27	17	44
77	K. Ledger	18	25	43
78	M. Evans	24	18	42
79	T Dearlove	24	18	42
80	P. Dempster	15	25	40
81	D. Lundon	17	22	39
82	C. Mellors	22	16	38
83	D Purkiss	16	21	37
84	M. Doody	29	--	29
-	J Jewell	NR	NR	--
-	M. Batt	NR	NR	--
-	A. Albon	NR	NR	--
-	D. Race	NR	NR	--

Number of Entrants = 88

Competition Scratch Score (CSS):

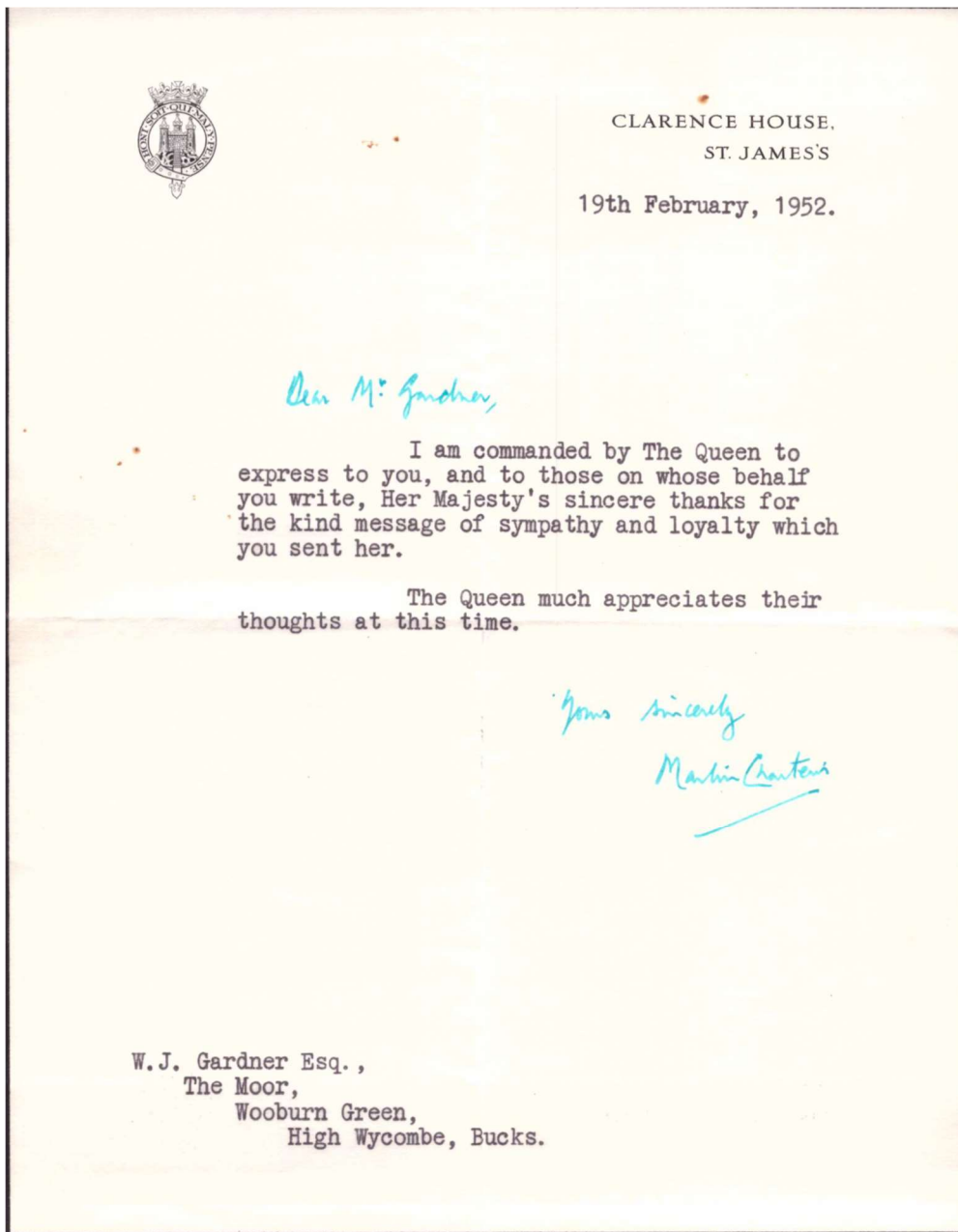
Date	Tees	Par	SSS	Competition Scratch Score
7 May	White (Men)	72	73	75 (33 Stableford Points)
7 May (PM)	White (Men)	72	73	75 (33 Stableford Points)

The Archives

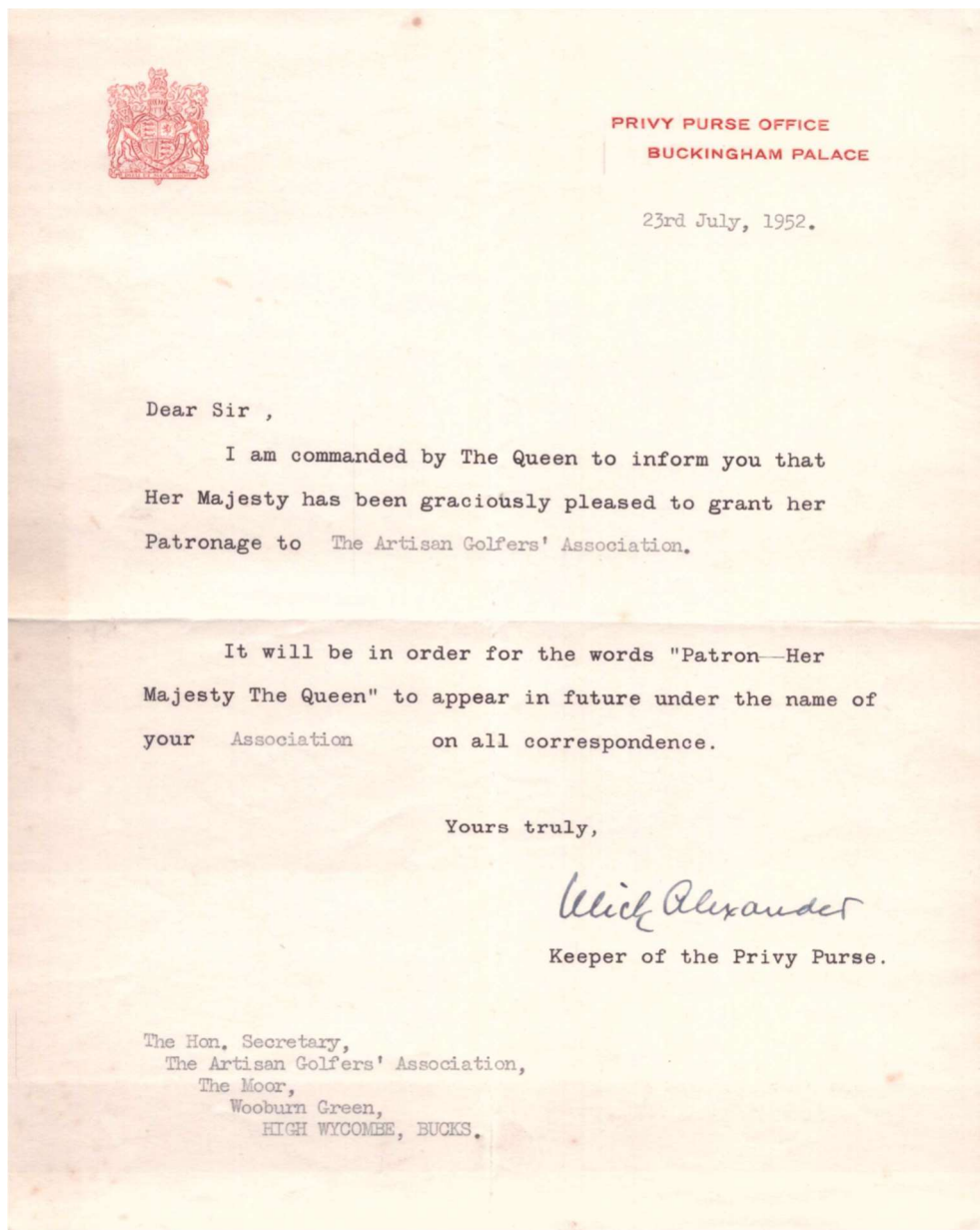
The Artisans have a long history and here are some interesting facts and information that have been discovered in the archives

The Royal Connection

In 1952 King George VI died and Queen Elizabeth II came to the throne. The Artisan Golfers' Association sent a letter of condolence to the new Queen and here is the reply:



Following on from this in July 1952 the Queen granted her patronage to the Artisan Golfers' Association with this letter:



Her Patronage lasted until Sir Michael Bonallack took on the role

In March 1967 a letter was sent to the Artisan Golfers' Association inviting up to four people to her Garden Party. There are very specific instructions on who was included in the quota!



LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE, S.W.1.

21st March, 1967

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir,

I am desired by the Lord Chamberlain to inform you that Her Majesty will give Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace during the month of July this year.

His Lordship would be grateful if you could forward to him the names of those of your members recommended for invitation.

The total number of names submitted must not exceed 4. It must be realised that a man and his wife count as two names; the names of unmarried daughters born in 1949 or before may be included but they do not count as part of the quota.

Would you please arrange for the return of the attached form, upon which the names should be compiled, as soon as convenient but not later than Friday, 12th May. Once it has been returned to this Office it will not be possible for substitutions or alterations to be made.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. H. Johnson'.

Assistant Comptroller

The Secretary,
Artisan Golfers' Association.

A Potted History

This Potted History of the Artisan movement was discovered. As you can see it was type written (with handwritten corrections) and typed on the back of a British Railways – Southern Region Fixing Instructions form.

POTTED HISTORY

BRITISH RAILWAYS—SOUTHERN REGION
FIXING INSTRUCTIONS

ALTHOUGH THE ARTISAN GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION had its official birth in a room in a now defunct Fleet Street hotel called Andertons on a July evening in 1921, artisan golf - like the game itself - began in Scotland. And a good many years before 1921.

Many of the earliest Scottish courses - this was back in the 1700's - were (to use a phrase of Fred Hawtree's) 'hacked or trampled into being' with the blessing and backing of enlightened public bodies. ^{This} ~~Which~~ enabled them to offer golf for a very small fee, or in some even more enlightened instances, no fee at all. Another thing - from the very dawn of the golf age, a number of the big Scottish business houses - let us honour at least two by naming them, the Ballantyne Press and the Edinburgh Tramway - ran golf clubs formed solely of their own employees.

This state of affairs, of course, ~~could~~ could only exist where golf was widely popular - and in those dark days, south of the border, it wasn't - or where there were public courses.

When our favourite game followed ^{the amber liquid} ~~the daily of salt over the Tweed~~ as the second great Scottish ^{to cross the Tweed} ~~benediction~~ and landed ^{golf courses} ~~where~~ neither hacked nor trampled, but made playable only after costly manipulation of the soil itself, some other means had to be devised of making the game available to all. The great English art of compromise produced the solution - private clubs taking artisan satellites under their wing.

Actually, it was some time before ~~the~~ the word 'artisan' gained a golfing ^{very} ~~connatation~~ connotation. The first collection of off-peak golfers in England bore a name reminiscent of one of the early craft unions - the Newbiggin-by-the-sea ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Mechanics' Golf Club (and just for the record, Newbiggin is by the

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— 1011 —

sea on the coast of Northumberland, not far from ~~Newcastle~~ Newcastle.)

But with all due honour to the Geordie mechanics, the two clubs generally regarded as the prototypes of artisan golf in this country are Northam and Cantelupe. If only for their association with ^{the great} John Henry Taylor, the Devonians ^{first} must get ~~fixt~~ mention. It has been pointed out with truth that conditions at Westward Ho! , where the Northam Working Mens Golf Club was founded just 80 years ago, could scarcely have been more favourable for the development of the artisan game.

Except for the fact that the pubs let their customers in at the front door on Sundays, ^{at this time} things golfwise in Devon were comparable to those in Caledonia stern, wild and sober. In those blissful distant days, when God's green acres were only filched to add to the sum of mans pleasure ^{by building} ~~to build~~ a golf course , not to multiply his misery by ^{perverting them} ~~perverting them~~ to a motorway, it was possible to impose civilised conditions on the takeover bid. Which was precisely what these solid west-country citizens ~~did~~ (or potwallopers, as they were so delightfully ^{called} ~~known~~) did. Before 'the Burrows' was turned into Northam golf course, they insisted on a couple of things - retention of their grazing rights and getting their golf for nothing. J.H. Taylor, rated scratch from the start, was of course ~~Martha~~ one of the founder members.

The Ashdown Forest course was opened in 1889, although the artisan section, the celebrated Cantelupe, did not come into being until a year or two later. In those days Cantelupe could field a team, seven or eight strong, all named Mitchell - one of whom, the celebrated Abe, ~~was~~ is once said to have played off six against an opponent whose handicap was thirty-six!

After Cantelupe, came two more 'working mens clubs' in the north-east, at Ryton and Newcastle itself, and another two in Norfolk, at Yarmouth and Brancaster.

- Marc.

None of them, however, carried the word 'artisan' in their title. This appeared for the first time with the formation of a club called Bulwell Forest, in the Robin Hood country. Another artisan club, Malvern, began around the same time, followed by Crowborough Beacon at De La Warr in 1896, and by the time Queen Victoria's reign ended there were as many as a dozen clubs scattered throughout the country.

As the popularity of golf increased, so did the Artisan movement spread and it became increasingly apparent ^{that} some sort of organisation was necessary. Thus it was that in 1921 certain gentlemen sat down round a table in that Fleet Street hotel to get this under way. Among them were names still 'familiar in our mouths as household words' - J.H.T. himself, Fred Hawtree and a man recently made a life member of the Association he did so much to help off the ground, Jim Wilks of Flackwell Heath.

Alas, the writer has not been able to obtain the minutes of this historic occasion. But it is on record that, there and then, it was decided ~~to form~~ an Association be formed 'to be known as the Artisan Golfers' Association, with the object of uniting the various Artisan or Working Mens Golf Clubs...and to encourage and help in the formation of Clubs where (these) are not already in existence.'

We have ~~an~~ record, too, of the first of the many great names to hold A.G.A. office - the first President (there has only been four, right down to the present day) was Lord Riddell, the ^{first} Vice Presidents ~~were~~ were Sir Emsley Carr, Mr Arnold Tebbutt and J.H.T. and the first secretary, Fred Hawtree. Sired thus by the golfing equivalent of a Hyperion and bred in the right stable, the new colt couldn't fail to be a winner. And so it proved.

The first tournament - prizes donated by the Association's constant friend,

- MUR -

the News of the World - was held at Walton Heath in 1922. It was a one-day affair, but ^{not} many years were to pass before the continued growth of the new association meant extension, first to two days, then - after the second world war - to three.

No history of the A.G.A. could possibly mention, let alone do anything like justice to, the many ^{people} ~~people~~ who have contributed to its success and present honoured status and position in the counsell~~a~~ of the game. But however potted the history it would still be Hamlet without the Prince indeed to overlook an entry in the minutes of 'a meeting of the interim council of the A.G.A. held on the evening of Tuesday, October 16, 1923'. Here, it was 'unanimously resolved on a proposition put from the chair by Mr J.H. Taylor that, subject to the confirmation of the next A.G.M., Mr W.J. Gardner of Flackwell Heath be appointed honorary assistant secretary of the Association.' Mr Gardner 'intimated that he would be quite willing to accept the office and would do his best to satisfactorily fulfil the duties involved.'

When Bill Gardner MBE retired in 1966 he had been 'doing his best to satisfactorily fulfil' his A.G.A. duties for 43 years, 30 of them as secretary for in 1936 he took over from Fred Hawtree. During this time he became, in the words of the present President, Sir William Carr, 'a man who truly deserved the title Mr Artisan Golf, admired and respected wherever he went.' He saw, and was to a great extent responsible for that fact, ~~that~~ membership ~~rose~~ ^{rise} from the original 30 clubs of 1921 ^{the current total of} to two hundred. In 1935 he saw the Association acquire its first Royal patron, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII) to be succeeded in ^{turn} ~~turn~~ by King George VI and the present Queen.

Awarded the MBE in the 1960 New Years Honours, Bill Gardner said he regarded the honour as 'a compliment to Artisan golf and to our Association.'

This great and unique man died only a few months after his retirement.

Unhappily. His

secretary in 1966. He has been succeeded by Bill Farley of Walton Heath, and it is already apparent that a great tradition has been maintained. Both men have more in common than the same Christian name.

Another tradition to be maintained is on the playing side, from J.H. Taylor and Abe Mitchell down to Norman Sutton, a former Seniors' Champion, Match Play Champion David Snell, George Evans and English Champion and Walker Cup player, Doug Sewell, now assistant to Peter Alliss at Ferndown.

Since 1947 the A.G.A. has had its own journal, THE ARTISAN GOLFER, with a circulation of _____ and ambitious plans for the future. There are strong County Associations and Unions, and augmenting the national ^{one} ~~championship~~, Northern and South West section ^{championships} ~~ones~~ as well

Some there are who consider the title 'Artisan' a bit of an anachronism in these days of the so-called affluent society. But whatever its called, off-peak golf is here to stay - and the Artisan Golfers' Association is here to serve it. Perhaps the best way to ^{end} ~~conclude~~ this brief history is to ^{quote} ~~use~~ again the words of J.H. Taylor. ^{once used} ~~written~~ in a letter to Bill Gardner:

'Let me say without ostentation that what I have been privileged to do for the cause of Artisan golf has been done with a full sense of what the game has meant to me during a long life and I pray that Artisan golf will continue to prosper in the long years that lie ahead.'

end

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There will be more items from The Archives in the Winter issue.

Obituary

Don Kear

Don Kear sadly passed away at the end of last year. He is survived by his son, Roland and family. Don was Hon Secretary & Hon Treasurer of Royal Mid Surrey Artisans for many years. He was a well liked member and helped and encouraged other members with being a great caddy enabling some big wins at home and abroad including four course records. He will be sadly missed by all his friends at RMS.

And finally ...

I hope you enjoyed reading the snippets of the past. Remember that your current history is important to share with your fellow artisans as this too will become part of the Archives in years to come. However, your fellow artisans would like to know what is happening in your clubs now, so let them know by writing a small article for the Winter 2019 magazine.

Articles can be sent at any time up to the deadline of end of October 2019. Send your articles for Winter Edition to editor@agagolf.co.uk

The Editor