

Ashton-Under-Lyne Golf Club Annual General Meeting. May 5th 1934.

Secretary's Report

I have pleasure in presenting the report for the past year.

The financial position has been explained by the Treasurer, Mr Robson and I think everyone will agree that the result is highly satisfactory.

The loan account has been reduced by paying off two loans and interest and now stands at £114-8-0, and it may be of interest to know that the loan and interest account stood at £737-8-10 in 1917 so that £623 has been paid off since that time.

There are still four loans which should be paid off as early as possible, but owing to the considerable expense we are embarking upon in the coming season, it is not yet advisable.

The members will be pleased to know that there are only two subscriptions owing for last season, and I am sure that the Committee are proud of such a record.

The number of members is as follows: -

127 Gentlemen Playing members, 2 Juniors and two country members, and 92 Lady members and 3 Juniors.

Honorary Members: - 20 Gentlemen and 22 Ladies.

The Gentlemen's membership has decreased by 5 playing members, Juniors are the same and an increase of 1 country member.

The Ladies membership has increased by 5 and Juniors are the same. There are two or three nominations on the board but these have not been taken into account.

Honorary membership has decreased by 2 Gentlemen and 4 Ladies.

Some of our older members have resigned, but the vacancies have been filled to some extent by new and active members, and this will certainly help to keep the Club alive.

The Committee however would very much like to see a substantial increase in membership, this would naturally assist in the management in carrying out the many improvements which are desirable, and the members are asked to continue the good work of assisting to obtain new members.

The members of Committee have a record attendance and keen interest has been taken in the affairs of the Club in regard to financial matters, upkeep of the Course and comfort of the Members.

The House Committee: - Messrs E Raines and H Ridyard Joint Secretaries to October. And from October to March, Mr Raines has given valuable service in the management of the Bar and Shop and the result is very pleasing, but the shop is not too flourishing and any improvement in this department can only be brought about by the members themselves and their patronage is very desirable.

The financial results from the bar gives evidence of careful and expert management and our thanks are due to the Secretaries for their valuable services.

I may say that in connection with this Committee, Mr J H Barratt has been co-opted, and he will in future act as House & Shop secretary and I feel sure that his services will be of great assistance.

The Steward and Stewardess continue to give satisfaction and as the services and comforts of the Club are of great importance, you will no doubt agree that their services are worthy of our appreciation.

The Handicap Committee: Mr E S Jones secretary up to October and Mr H Ridyard from October onward, has also carried out its many duties efficiently, and handicaps have been revised from time to time, and our thanks are due to the Secretaries (sic) for their excellent and necessary work

The Calendar is a very comprehensive one and special mention should be made of one or two events viz: - Luxor Cup Competition, September 22nd, in aid of the District Infirmary, and the Annual Dance on December 7th. The Luxor Cup Competition coupled with the Ladies effort resulted in the sum of £16-13-0 which amount was handed over to the Infirmary.

The Greens Committee: - J Gibson Secretary, has also given much time and thought to the improvement and upkeep of the Course, and I am sure that we all appreciate the efficient services of Brooks the groundsman. Some of the tees have been re-laid and a new temporary tee has been laid at No 12.

The services of an expert from the Bingley Research Station were sought at the beginning of August, to inspect and report on the condition of the Greens etc., and the report was very favourable, but a modification of treatment was recommended. The treatment and suggestions have been thoroughly carried out at considerable expense, and we expect to see a great improvement, in fact good results are already shewing, although growth is rather backward.

The rough cutting was carried out three times during the season. All the machines have been thoroughly overhauled, and everything is in good order.

The Committee decided a short time ago to dispense with the horse traction and purchase a motor, also two extra mowing units to convert the present triple mower into a quintuple, the machines are to hand, and the delivery of the motor is expected shortly. This machine will be used on the fairways and for topping the rough where possible, and will mean a speeding up of the work and thus release the man for other work.

The course generally is looking quite good and will "providing the weather is favourable", be in better condition than ever.

A successful Caddies Match was held during the year and the Committee thank all those who subscribed or helped in any way. We are having a Caddies Match on July 17th. and your support is again asked for.

The Social Committee: Mr J Taylor, Secretary, has again rendered excellent support and handed over the sum of £75 as a result of their efforts, and you will quite see that the work of this Committee is still very necessary, and that the sum they have handed over is very appreciable and their services deserve our warmest thanks.

The Ladies Committee has handed over the sum of £15, to the funds of the Club, this sum is also very welcome but you will notice that the amount handed over each year is gradually growing less, this I suppose is on account of diminished funds at their disposal, but it is only fair to point out that the Ladies have in addition undertaken the decoration of their own room on the Ground Floor, also new linoleum &c. and I am sure that we all appreciate their help and assistance.

The subscribers to the Prize Fund and the Winners of the various events, who provided runner prizes are deserving of our warmest thanks as it is owing to their generosity that the Club is relieved of considerable expense.

The Committee has decorated certain portions of the Club premises thus adding to the comfort of the members, and I feel sure that we can look forward to a very enjoyable season.

I must also refer to the 21st celebration supper on Nov 14th which was well attended and proved a great success.

In conclusion I again ask for a continuance of your goodwill and support in aiding the Committee to maintain the present position of the Club and to ask every member to assist as far as possible in making the Season a successful one.