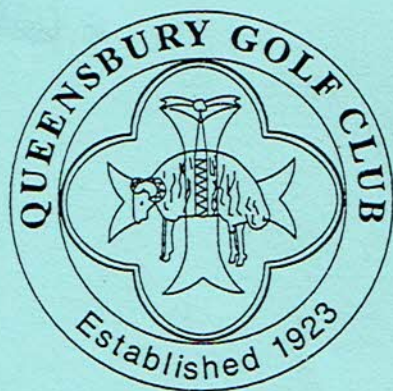


Queensbury Golf Club



1923 - 1998

Dedicated to past members who by their time,
money and effort have bequeathed to present
day members the Queensbury Golf Club

1998

President	D Rhodes
Captain	G Ralph
Lady President	S Stansfield
Lady Captain	B Lloyd

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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JEAN BRITTEON

June 1998



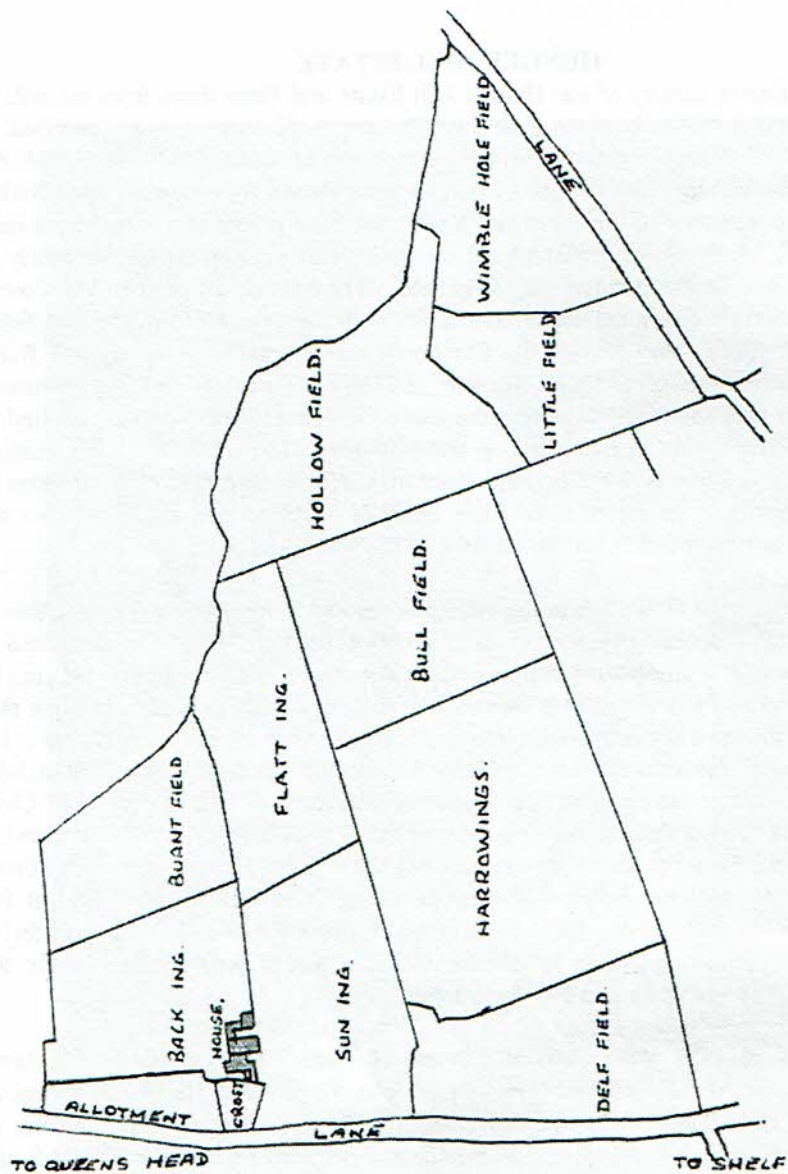
Col. E. H. FOSTER
1869 - 1940

HUNGER HILL ESTATE

The earliest known history of Far Hunger Hill Estate and Farm dates from the will of Nathan Crowther of Northowram in 1679. The copyhold property was described as "Horwithins" or Harrowins and in the occupation of Isaac Smith. By 1748 the copyhold farm building and the freehold land were owned by one man, John Smith, possibly the descendant of the Isaac Smith who had been tenant of the copyhold farm in 1679. The whole estate, freehold and copyhold, was sold by the Smith family in 1770 to William Brown, yeoman of Wakefield. The boundaries of the Golf Course today still remain the original estate boundaries with the exception of the two fields situate on the Queensbury side of the Clubhouse and known as Back Ing and Burnt Field. These were sold off to David Knowles in 1836 by George Teale Lister, owner of the Estate. It was about this time that the name Far Hunger Hill was first applied to Harrowithins/Harrowins. Lister died on the 14th May 1841 after which his trustees sold the estate to Thomas Wheatley, merchant of Mirfield. The date of the transfer to the Foster Family is unknown although a Deed of Partition was made between six members of the Foster family on the 1st July, 1885.

The idea of making a Golf Club in the village is reputed to have come from the Rev E R Dawe, Vicar of Queensbury, who in an interview at the time said, "The idea came to me when I saw so many people hanging about the streets with apparently nothing to occupy their time. I don't want a church golf club or a mill golf club but one that anybody can join and not feel uncomfortable - a sort of working men's golf club". He was supported in this ambition by Mr. Harry Robertshaw, Company Secretary at John Fosters Mill, later to become the first Honorary Secretary of Queensbury Golf Club. Members of the Foster Family had already established a six hole golf course on land at Far Hunger Hill Farm for their own use and in 1923 Colonel Herbert Anderton Foster, elder brother of Colonel Edward Hornby Foster, granted the lease of land at Far Hunger Hill Farm to the newly formed Golf Club. Colonel Edward H Foster presided at the preliminary meeting called to discuss the idea and it was decided to fix the subscription at 50/- for men and 30/- for women.

The founders in 1923 were Colonel Edward H Foster, born at Harrowins, (now demolished), son of William and grandson of John Foster, and the first President of Queensbury Golf Club; his nephew Captain Ronald Foster, first Captain of Queensbury Golf Club; Mr Harry Robertshaw, Company Secretary at the Mill and first Honorary Secretary of Queensbury Golf Club; Mr Asa Midgley, Wool Buyer for John Foster and Son Limited, known as a temperamental golfer likely to throw his bag of clubs over the wall when losing a match, later to become Club Captain in 1931, and finally the Reverend E R Dawe, Vicar of Queensbury. These men are grouped in the



photograph taken on the day of the opening ceremony, Mr Harry Robertshaw in the centre and Colonel Edward H Foster the third from the right.



The farm comprised an estate of 32 acres and although it was good agricultural land a great deal of work had to be done before it was transformed into a reasonably good 9 hole golf course. The many walls intersecting the course were pulled down - members doing a good deal of voluntary work in this respect - and some of the stone work was utilised in the construction of the bunkers, while one or two short stretches of wall were still retained as hazards. Today these walls remain as humps across the 7th and 9th fairways. Advice was given by Harry Loveridge, the Shipley Golf Club Professional.

OPENING CEREMONY

The course was officially opened on the 31st May 1924, when Colonel Edward H Foster announced that on behalf of his wife and himself he wished to present a cup to the Club which would be competed for annually. The cup is inscribed "Foster Cup, presented by Colonel and Mrs Edward H Foster to the Queensbury Golf Club for annual competition". Colonel Foster then drove off the first ball. Captain Ronald A C Foster, Captain, received the cup and said that Colonel Foster's beautiful gift was very highly appreciated. The Reverend E R Dawe, Vicar of Queensbury, proposed a vote of thanks to Colonel Foster, which was seconded by Mr Harry Ackroyd.

Afternoon and evening exhibition matches had been planned to celebrate the opening. However the course was wrapped in dense fog with visibility of 40 yards, together with

rain, which made play in the second round impossible and only two rounds of the course were played instead of four as originally intended. The matches were played by Mr C Hodgson, Baildon and Yorkshire County amateur ex-champion of Yorkshire, Mr J Robinson Queensbury Club and Yorkshire County, Mr H Loveridge, Professional of the Shipley Club and Mr W Good, Professional of the Halifax Club. A large crowd followed the players over the course. Despite the fact that Mr. Charlie Hodgson had to ask the direction and distance for every shot he returned an excellent score of 71 over 18 holes. Mr W Good adapted himself very well to the conditions of the new course and secured a win of 4 up and 2 to play over Mr H Loveridge.



A steady growth in membership was recorded from the Club's earliest days. In the first year the membership was 176, including 98 men and 68 ladies and by 1927 the number had increased to 250 members whilst in 1929 the total was very near the 300 mark. However not all were playing members. It was considered an honour to be a member of Queensbury Golf Club. During the years of the Depression and the 2nd World War there were several membership crises. The Telegraph and Argus records that things looked black in 1934 but that this crisis had soon passed. In a 1930's Bradford and District Golf Club handbook, directions for Queensbury Golf Club were 'to alight from the tram at the Stags Head and walk down the Brighthouse and Denholme Gate Road towards Shelf'.

OPTION CLAUSE

In 1931 there was a most important development in the Club's history when Colonel Herbert Foster, from whom the land was leased, offered to sell to the Club the building and course for the nominal sum of £1000. The property was purchased

by the trustees of Queensbury Golf Club in a deed dated the 21st February 1931 with the proviso that in the event of the Club ceasing as a golf club the Foster family be given the option of taking back the freehold land and building for the sum of £1000. This sum was increased to £2000 in 1952.

EMPLOYEES IN THE EARLY DAYS

The first professional at Queensbury was a Mr Sharp who came from Halifax Golf Club. His wife acted as stewardess and catered in a small way on a Sunday serving teas. Their two sons, George and Rowland, both good golfers, worked as greenkeepers and the whole family lived in the Clubhouse. In 1926 Mr. Eric Allamby became the greenkeeper/Professional and it was he who, by planning out new holes and greens, did a great deal to get the course into first class condition. He was followed by Mr Walter Smith from Keighley Golf Club and then in 1929 came Mr Frank Clegg who was to give 21 years service to the Club. After the Sharps left in 1926 Mr and Mrs Atkinson became the Steward and Stewardess followed by Mr and Mrs Jagger in 1928 and Mr and Mrs Major in 1930.

In 1933 a Mrs Mitchell was appointed as stewardess with her husband Mr Sam Mitchell assisting in the bar. At this time a stock check was made at each month end but the Steward's word was taken for its accuracy. A check on the stock taking was then made at the end of each financial year. On the 31st March 1936 there was found to be a deficiency of £40.19.6d. The Secretary, Mr. George Whiteley, agreed to give Mr Mitchell a week to return the money. When he and the Treasurer, Mr. J Whitehouse, arrived on the Friday evening 3rd April Mr. Mitchell was found to be missing. Mr Mitchell suffered from ill health due to having been gassed in the war and as a result suffered from sleeplessness and sickness. His body was eventually found on Friday 10th July 1936 in the well at the rear of the Clubhouse. The well had previously been searched so there was a mystery surrounding his death. However he had last been seen in the Clubhouse at 5 p.m. on the 3rd April and his watch had stopped at 5.10 p.m. The Jury at the Inquest returned a verdict of "Drowned himself while of unsound mind".

THE CLUBHOUSE

Parallel to the work being done on the course was the work necessitated in the Clubhouse due to the fact that it had previously been a farmhouse. A deed of 1829 describes the farm as having been "lately rebuilt". In 1926 a new dining room was added to the amenities of the house. This room is now the ladies locker room, known then as the Long Room. Over the next 25 years there was very little change. Meals were carried from the downstairs kitchen to the Long Room and, although water was piped into the house, there was still an outside lavatory. Heating was by coal fires and lighting by gas.

GOLFING ACTIVITIES

The Club had not been long in existence before an Open Competition was organised. The Tournament was well supported, there being an entry of about 70 players and for a few years it was successfully repeated. However in the 1930s competition from 18 hole Clubs also holding Open Tournaments led to this event being abandoned by Queensbury, not to be resurrected until 1947. Inter-club matches were very popular with Queensbury members, both men and ladies, and from 1929 there were fixtures with local Clubs. There were also a wide variety of Club competitions and several of the many trophies played for in 1998 have been competed for since the early days of the Club, the first being the Captains Cup presented by the first Club Captain, Captain R A C Foster. The following year Colonel Edward Foster presented the Foster Cup at the official Opening Ceremony and this family also presented a trophy for Juniors in 1925. In 1928 Mr Harry Robertshaw, Honorary Secretary, later to become Captain in 1934 and President in 1936, 1953, and 1963, presented the Robertshaw Bowl.

The Ladies Section was first formed in 1927 and under the leadership of Mrs Alice Townsend became affiliated in 1928 with the Ladies Golf Union, the ladies SSS being fixed at 74. From 1927 the ladies were accorded a vote at the Annual General Meeting. Upon formation of the Section two ladies trophies were offered, the Townsend Cup donated by Mrs A Townsend, then Lady Captain, and the Denham Bowl presented by Mrs Denham, Lady President in 1927. The Dorothy Bowl was also first played for in 1929 being donated by Miss D Jagger. In 1936 Miss Gwendoline Foster, Lady President, presented a Cup to the Club to commemorate the Coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The men were invited to join with the ladies to compete for the cup, ladies to be given three shots. This cup is now awarded to the winners of the mixed knockout competition. Mr Haviland Mann donated the Haviland Mann Mixed Foursomes Trophy in 1938 and in 1944 the Sedgwick Crow mixed greensome trophy was donated by Mr J C Sedgwick, President in 1942, and Mr A H Crow, President in 1944. These are the eleven trophies competed for in the first 25 years of the history of the Club.

Visiting player, Mr Philip E Fox, a member of the Howley Hall Golf Club, had the honour of being the first golfer to hole in one at Queensbury only a month after the course had opened. He holed his tee shot at the 9th, a distance of 185 yards (*6th tee to 9th green*). In 1929 two partners in a fourball game both holed the last hole in one. Mr Walter Smith the Club Professional and Mr Harold Thompson were playing Mr A Midgley and Mr H F Birkett. Mr Smith decided the game by holing in one in the morning round and his partner, Mr Thompson, in the afternoon round to decide the match. Another remarkable occurrence had come in 1932 when 13 year old Laurie Hewitt holed in one at the short 3rd hole (*now the 7th*). His mother, Mrs F

Hewitt, had twice previously done this, on one of the occasions the ball going straight into the hole without first touching the green.

Social activities also played an important part of Golf Club life. The first recorded Annual Sports Day occurred in 1928 although there may have been previous events. The course was closed between 12 noon and 5 p.m. and members enjoyed a gala occasion with bring and buy stalls. This function ceased in 1950. Dances were held several times a year in the Assembly Rooms, Queensbury, and also in the Long Room at the Clubhouse. Bridge and whist drives were the other popular social activities.

THE WAR YEARS

The years between 1939 and 1946 were difficult ones. Just a few members kept the Club going. John Sedgwick, Alf Crow, Bill Cleary, Robert Bruhin (Swiss neutral) Billy Marshall, Herbert Binns, Fred Holdsworth, are some of those remembered by Mr Joe Waterhouse, then Honorary Treasurer, who modestly did not include himself. These men worked as groundsmen - mowing greens and servicing tractors. Herman Bateson saw to the bar. The professional, Mr F Clegg, was still in residence, serving as a member of the National Fire Service. In 1942 the Ladies Section guaranteed to collect £5 from each lady up to the end of the year as a result of a letter from Mr George Whiteley, Honorary Secretary, regarding the serious financial situation of the Club. Ladies subscriptions at this time were around 2 guineas. Again in 1945 a letter from the new Honorary Secretary Mr J W Marshall resulted in the ladies voting to increase their own subscriptions to £3. Queensbury Golf Club survived but the War changed everything and links with the Foster family were finally broken.

In 1948 Queensbury Golf Club celebrated its Silver Jubilee by organising golf competitions, prizes and cash being given by committee and club members. In his retiring speech at the Annual General Meeting in the following year the President, Mr W H Taylor, said that steady progress had been made during the 25 years existence of the Club and that he hoped the Club would continue to flourish until the Golden Jubilee. This Silver Jubilee marked the end of an era.

THE RABBITS SECTION

The first change came on the 6th February 1949 when a request from Mr. Priestley to Main Committee to form a Rabbits Section was agreed to, but permission for separate monthly competitions was withheld in view of the Captain's decision to revive monthly medal and bogey competitions open to all members. By 1952 this Section had been given permission to hold a dinner and to arrange five matches. However at the Rabbits general meeting on the 6th December 1953 a discussion took place on whether

it was worth while the Rabbits Section carrying on owing to the poor support and the difficulty in team raising. It was proposed by Mr H Taylor and seconded by Mr J Jagger that the Rabbits Section be carried on. The men who formed part of this section were later to become well known figures in the Golf Club - J A Lund, J Jagger, J L Rae, E R Harbisher, S Bradley the assistant greenkeeper, H Taylor, W Cleary and E Sutcliffe are just a few. By 1954 it was generally acknowledged that Rabbits Sections were the backbone of every Club and the few members of this Section were encouraged by Main Committee to persevere. At Queensbury this Section had begun to hold the Opening Competition on the first Sunday in April, Tigers versus Rabbits matches had begun, matches with other Rabbits Sections arranged and the Club was being represented in the Yorkshire Rabbits Association competitions. The success of the Rabbits Section at this time was due to the efforts of the Rabbit's Captain, Mr J Jagger. In 1956 the first Rabbits Section trip was organised to Pleasington Golf Club, Lancashire.

When the Bradford and District Rabbits Association formed a league in 1962 a team was entered from Queensbury. In 1960 the Rabbits Section had gone through the season without once being beaten in matches against other Clubs. The 1962 season was to be as successful. Queensbury Rabbits won the Team Championship of the Bradford and District Rabbits 9 hole course competition. J Ryan won best gross prize in the Yorkshire Rabbits Thornton Cup competition and in 1964 won the Yorkshire Rabbits Championship. Mr G Ralph won the Individual Bradford and District Rabbits Championship in 1981 and in 1991 the Rabbits Section was the Bradford league winners of their division and also winners of the Mellor Trophy. The first Rabbits versus Ladies match was held at this time and the first Rabbits Open Competition on the 30th May 1965. The Rabbits Section was now firmly established. The co-opting of Mr B Beverley, Rabbits Captain, to Main Committee in 1983 signalled the standing of the Rabbits Section at Queensbury. A car parking space for the Rabbits Section Captain was approved in 1984 and in 1996 Mr M Lloyd, the Rabbits Section Captain, was invited to "drive off" at the drive in. This Section supports the Club by opening and closing the golfing season and most importantly raising funds. In 1952 a donation of £5 was given. Today the 191 members of the Rabbits Section raise hundreds of pounds.

THE LADIES SECTION

The Ladies Section also have a long history of raising funds for Club use. Their first donation came in 1929 shortly after the section was formed with the sum of £21.15.9d being handed to the men's section. At the Annual General Meeting in 1961 in referring to the Ladies, Mr J A Lund, President, said "I don't know how they do it but they do it somehow". Whilst they were having their general meeting he and Mr Treasurer waited below. There were three knocks from above and he bolted upstairs to

receive a lovely cheque for £120, whilst Mr. Waterhouse waited in suspense below. Money has also been raised by the Ladies Section at Pro Am and Am Am events since 1982 when catering on the course has been provided and a caravan manned by members of the Ladies Section. Appreciation for the efforts of the Ladies Section permeate the minutes of Main Committee.

As well as raising money the lady members have also served on House and Social sub-committees since the early 1930s with a short lapse in the early 1970s when the Ladies Section was severely reduced in numbers of members and in danger of disappearing. In 1972 Lady membership stood at 24. The matter of winding up the Ladies Section was discussed and Mrs B Ross stated that she did not want to see the Ladies Section disbanded and that she would be willing to take the office of Lady Captain in 1973. Mrs N Robertshaw agreed to become Honorary Lady President and she served in this office until 1988, chairing the Annual General Meetings from 1973 to 1977. In an effort to support the Ladies Section, Main Committee waived the entrance fee of £4.00 but despite this there were only 10 lady members in 1974 and that year passed without a Lady Captain. However in 1977 the number of lady members stood at 50 - considered to be too many by Main Committee and in 1983 the entrance fee was re-introduced. In 1951 the Ladies framed their first constitution within the principles of the Club's existing rules. Today the section operates under the latest constitution framed in 1994. The ladies first began to play for a medal spoon on medal days in 1943 but it was not until 1963 that their winter medal days finally became fixed on the first Sunday of each month from October to March inclusive. In 1976 ladies were allowed courtesy of the course on Tuesdays and the Lady Captain was accorded a car parking space. In 1988 Miss P Holcroft, Lady Captain, was invited to join Mr Captain and Mr President at the "drive in" which had been inaugurated in 1971 by the President Mr J P Midgley. In 1990 the Lady President, Mrs V Crossfield, was invited to "have a swing" and in 1995 Mrs E Henderson, Lady President, was co-opted onto Main Committee. Mrs J Taylor, Lady President in 1996, was accorded a car parking space.

During the past 20 years the ladies have fielded a strong playing section. Instigated by Miss S Wilson, now Mrs S Paul, Queensbury ladies entered a team in 1979 in the Yorkshire Ladies Golf Association to play in the "A" Division, and in that year they were the Inter-Club Team Championship "A" Division semi-finalists, the team consisting of Mrs B Ross, Miss P Holcroft, Mrs D Ingham and Mrs J Rhodes. Queensbury ladies were also the winners of the Ladies Evening League Team Championships in its inaugural year. In 1982 Miss P Holcroft won the Individual Evening League trophy. Mrs P Leppingwell became Vice-President of the Evening League in 1981. In 1984 it was felt necessary to change from "A" Division to the "B" Division. The Ladies Section remained in this Division until 1988 when a team was

again entered in the "A" Division where they remain today. Queensbury ladies were also finalists in the Ladies Evening League Championship in 1987 and in 1992 won the Team Championships at Fulneck Golf Club playing against South Bradford. Members of the winning team were Miss S Wilson, Mrs J Trudgill, Miss J Bedford and Mrs S Gormley. Miss S Wilson and Mrs J Trudgill were also finalists in the Evening League Foursomes. In 1994 Mrs S Paul brought honour to the Club by winning the Halifax and Huddersfield Championship.

THE JUNIOR SECTION

Queensbury Golf Club has a thriving Junior Section although little is known about its early days. Since 1925 Juniors have played for the Junior Foster Cup. By 1949 competitions for juniors were being organised and those juniors with a handicap of less than 24 were allowed to play for Queensbury trophies. The rules relating to Juniors were fixed at an Extraordinary General Meeting on the 28th May 1959 and are little changed today. In 1977 a letter from the Halifax Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs requested that an organiser be appointed to encourage the activities of Juniors and Mr Alan Rhodes accepted this responsibility. Today this work is undertaken by Mr B Outram. Upon the death of Mr W K (Pat) Paterson in 1983 his wife Mrs N Paterson donated a trophy to be played for annually in Open competition by juniors in memory and recognition of his interest in this Section. Mr Paterson had introduced instruction for junior members during his Captaincy of the Club in 1963. There is also a trophy donated in memory of Mr J H Moore, who died in 1996, for the most improved junior golfer of the year.

MEMBERSHIP

In the year that the Silver Jubilee of Queensbury Golf Club was celebrated there was a reduction in the number of members, thought to be due mainly to the abolition of basic petrol. Elections to membership at this time show that members came from Heaton to Halifax, Marshfields to Frizinghall, all dependent on private transport. The Club originally formed for Queensbury inhabitants now attracted members from a wider area. Throughout the 1950s' membership was usually full. By 1960 there were 113 men, 33 ladies, 7 social and 5 juniors.

It was at this time that the question of reduced subscription for veteran members was first raised but it would not be until 1978 that full playing members on reaching the age of 65 and after ten years continuous membership could retain full privileges on payment of half the annual subscription which was at that time £43.00. This decision applied to only three veterans but it was realised at the time that in future there could be a membership of mostly senior citizens. At the Annual General Meeting in 1961 the question of country membership was first proposed by Mr W H Taylor but defeated. Twenty-six years later in 1987 it was decided that a limited country membership

would be allowed at the Committee's discretion. Each individual must have been a member for at least three years and now living outside a 20 mile radius of the Club. No more than 10 would be allowed. Due to the pressure from waiting lists and as a result of an extra yardage of 300 yards on the course, five day membership was finally introduced in 1975, these members being allowed to play on the course from Monday to Friday inclusive each week up to the time of 5.30 p.m. and after 5.30 p.m. at the weekend. 1982 saw the first application for five day membership from a lady member. The only other item of note has been the introduction of a ten year membership in 1990 in an effort to overcome the prevailing cash flow problem. Numbers in membership have fluctuated. Waiting lists were common throughout the 1950s 1960s and 1970s but during the years of inflation in the 1980s advertisements were placed in local newspapers offering membership. In 1950 the total playing membership was fixed at 150, in 1968 160 was the limit on gentlemen members, 1978 the limit was 185 and in 1993 full membership was held to 230. Pressure from waiting lists and the need for financial security has corresponded with the increase in membership. In 1998 membership numbers stand at a very healthy 412, nine of whom are social members.

LIFE MEMBERS

- AGM 1951 Mrs Alice Townsend, Lady Captain in 1928 and 1930, Lady President in 1948 and Ladies Honorary Secretary for 21 years. Mrs Townsend donated the Townsend Trophy and also seconded the vote of thanks to the retiring committee at the Annual General Meetings until 1962. Known as "The Boss", Mrs Townsend was the first Queensbury member to be accorded an honorary life membership and at the time said she appreciated the honour bestowed upon her and the Ladies Section as she looked upon it as a wonderful gesture of the Club to a member of the Ladies Section. Mrs Townsend died in 1967.
- AGM 1959 Mrs Azuba Wood, Lady President in 1936 and an original member of the Ladies Committee. Mrs Wood donated the 1953 Coronation Trophy.
- AGM 1961 Mr Joe Waterhouse, a member since 1926, President in 1946, Captain in 1933 and Honorary Treasurer of the Club from 1934 until 1961, a period of 27 years. He was also the Greens Chairman in 1954 and 1955. Presented with a silver salver suitably engraved in recognition of his service to the Club. Mr. Waterhouse is the oldest member of Queensbury Golf Club.
- AGM 1966 Mr J A Lund elected as honorary life member for work done as a member for the past twenty years. President in 1956, 1961 and 1967, and House Chairman from 1965 to 1967.

- AGM 1973 Mrs Nancy Robertshaw in recognition of her service to the Club in various offices and her many years of loyal membership. Lady Captain in 1942 as Miss Nancy Farrar and in 1960 as Mrs Nancy Robertshaw, Lady President in 1953, 1968 and Honorary Lady President from 1974 until 1988.
- AGM 1973 Mr W H Taylor in recognition of his service to the Club in various offices and his many years of loyal membership. President in 1948 and House Chairman in 1947 and 1950. On behalf of himself and Mrs Robertshaw Mr Taylor made a suitably appreciative statement.
- AGM 1978 Miss Ann Burnley, member since 1940, Lady Captain in 1949, 1950 and 1954, President in 1959, 1963, 1970, 1973 and finally in 1987. Ladies Honorary Secretary from 1962 to 1975 and 1987 to 1993.
- AGM 1978 Mr J P Midgley, Captain in 1967, President in 1971 and 1982 and Greens Chairman in 1967.
- AGM 1980 Mr Ernest Sutcliffe, member since 1953, Captain in 1964 and Honorary Treasurer from 1966 to 1971, Social Chairman in 1955. Past Captain, Secretary and Treasurer of the Rabbits Section. Mr Sutcliffe's 90th birthday honoured by the Club on the 28th November 1991.
- AGM 1984 Mr Edward Mitchell, President in 1969, Captain in 1978, and Honorary Secretary from 1961 to 1974, a period of 13 years. Also House Chairman from 1960 and 1961.
- AGM 1984 Mr J Werritt, a member since 1956, Captain in 1970. Chairman of the Building and Development Fund in 1963, Greens Chairman in 1974 and 1975, and House Chairman in 1970.
- AGM 1986 Mr J H Moore, member since 1948, Captain in 1977 and President in 1981, Greens Chairman from 1978 to 1980. Died in 1996.
- AGM 1995 Mr Granville Sutcliffe, brother of Ernest, and a member since 1964. Captain in 1981, President in 1986, Social Chairman in 1982.
- AGM 1995 Mr William (Bill) Dyson, member since 1969, Captain in 1979, and Chairman of the Greens Committee from 1988 to 1998. Presented with a memento on his retirement from this Committee. Also Social Chairman in 1988.
- AGM 1995 Miss Pat Holcroft, member since 1954, Captain in 1971 and 1972, President in 1988. Ladies handicap secretary in 1976 and 1977.

TRUSTEES OF THE CLUB

Mr H Ackroyd	1931 - 1951
Mr A Midgley	1931 -
Mr H A Robertshaw	1931 -
Mr M F Farrah	- 1951
Mr W Waddington	1951 - 1963
Mr J H Waterhouse	1951 - 1983
Mr J Jagger	1963 - 1969
Mr J Werritt	1963 - 1981
Mr J V Farrar	1963 - 1983
Mr H Copley	1969 - 1975
Mr D Rhodes	1983 - 1986
Mr R A Adshead	1983
Mr A Bedford	1983
Mr W Dyson	1983
Mr B Outram	1986

GOLFING TRIUMPHS

At the Annual General Meeting in 1950 the retiring President Mr J Ramsden said that the Club playing strength was very good and he doubted if at any time in the Club's history there had been so many single handicap members. In 1949 Queensbury had won the Halifax, Huddersfield and District Handicap Team Championships and also the 9 hole Clubs Championship and in 1950 Queensbury Golf Club applied to join this Union. They went on to win the 9 hole Clubs Championship in 1950, 1956, 1969 and 1976. It was decided in 1958 to rejoin the Bradford and District Golf Union. Queensbury Golf Club had been members of this Union in the 1930s but had not in those days figured prominently on the Honours List. This Club became members of both Unions and in the same year won the Bradford 2nd Division Team Championship. As members were not allowed to play individual championship competitions in both leagues Queensbury resigned from the Halifax, Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs. In 1965 the Bradford and District 9 hole Championship was won by Mr G S Hirst. Also in this year the Halifax and Huddersfield Alliance was won by Mr R Adshead and Mr W K Paterson. Due to the fact that 18 hole courses began to take precedence in the Bradford and District Golf Union it was decided in 1967 to return to the Halifax and Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs of which Queensbury had been a founder member.

There followed a number of golfing successes in this Union. In 1968 Mr R K Firth, Professional, and Mr J Jack won the Halifax and Huddersfield Alliance; The 1969

nine hole Team Championship was won by Mr R E Gill, Mr R A Adshead, Mr J V Farrar, and Mr R Longbottom. Mr. H L Heptinstall won the 1969 Individual Championship. The Halifax and Huddersfield Union division 4 scratch league was won in 1971 and commemorative plaques were presented to Mr R A Adshead, Mr J V Farrar, Mr R E Gill, Mr H L Heptinstall, Mr M Heptinstall and Mr B Turner. The 1971 Halifax and Huddersfield Fourball Competition was won by Mr E K Crossfield and Mr J M Jack, in its inaugural year. The 1976 Halifax, Huddersfield and District 9 hole Team Championship was won by Mr C Birtwhistle, Mr A Bedford, and Mr K Leppingwell. In 1977 Mr W K Paterson was elected to the committee of the Halifax, Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs and in 1979 he became the President Elect, a great honour for Queensbury Golf Club. In 1982 the scratch team was promoted to the third division through the offices of Mr K Leppingwell, Mr H Wilkerson, Mr D Rhodes, and Mr E K Crossfield. Others also brought honour to the Club, Hedley Wilkerson and David Rhodes jnr. winning the Union Junior foursomes in 1981 and Simon Copley and David Rhodes in 1983. Nicholas Andrew reached the final of the Yorkshire Junior Golf Society. 1983 was a notable year. The scratch team was promoted to Division 2 for the first time in the history of Queensbury and Hedley Wilkerson was the first member to be chosen to play for Yorkshire. Simon Copley won the Lightcliffe Tankard in 1983 and 1984 and both the Union Junior stroke and match play championships in 1986. In 1987 the handicap team won promotion to the first division. Despite the fall in membership numbers during the 1980s this decade marks the pinnacle of golfing achievement at Queensbury Golf Club. Today the Scratch team and the Handicap team play in Division 4.

OPEN COMPETITIONS

In the summer of 1958 an experimental Invitation Fourball was held but was poorly supported by the members of Queensbury. Today eleven Open Competitions are organised by the Club, the Queensbury Cup, the Men's Fourball Competition, the W K Paterson Trophy for juniors, Senior Men's Fourball Better Ball, Men's Invitation Day, a Mixed Greensome, two Ladies Greensomes, a Ladies AM AM, a Senior Ladies Greensome, and a Mixed AM AM re-instated by Mr A Paul when Captain in 1995.

A 9 hole Round Robin Tournament for Professional Golfers, instigated by the Captain, Mr J P Midgley, was held at Queensbury Golf club on Sunday 4th June, 1967. The players included Johnny Fallon who had been second in the British Open in 1939 and 1955, Alex Caygill, Yorkshire Professional Champion 1961-64-66 and Charles Hughes who had recently retired as professional from Woodsome Hall Golf Club and was later to become Captain of the P G A in 1986. Our current Professional, Mr Geoff Howard, who was then aged 18 and Assistant Professional at Bradford Golf Club also competed.

A Professional Tournament was again played at Queensbury on Sunday the 8th September 1968 but, due to the difficulty experienced in attracting Professionals and also costly gratuities, the Tournaments were never repeated. 1982 marks the first Pro Am Competition to be played at Queensbury. Organised by Mr A Ross it was a wonderful success and the first of six Pro Am Competitions between 1982 and 1987, which in the words of the 1987 President, Mr A Bedford, came to be rated very highly with similar events at other venues in the district. The teams consisted of one professional and three amateurs. The following extract from a poem written by Mr B Outram reflects the feelings of players at that time.

We stood on the tee at Mid-day,
It was PRO-AM, the day of the year.
When our ears are pounding madly,
and our bellies full of fear.
Up strode the tall professional,
"What handicaps are you?"
"I'm off 27 and he's off 22"
"Oh hell", replied the big one,
"Is your mate a big surprise?"
"Oh, he plays off 15 handicap,
World Class in our eyes".

It was not possible to hold a Pro Am in 1988 due to a clash of dates and so committee proposed to hold an Am Am in its place. This tournament proved equally as successful and has now become a major event in the calendar at Queensbury, as well as a substantial fund raiser.

TROPHIES

In 1948 only eleven Trophies were competed for in Club competitions. Today there are forty-two trophies to be competed for and Queensbury has a full playing calendar - the very purpose for which the Club exists. The Trophies are listed.

- 1923 Captains Cup donated by Captain R A C Foster, nephew of Colonel Edward Foster, Captain from 1923 to 1927 and a founder member of Queensbury Golf Club.
- 1924 Foster Cup donated by Colonel Edward Foster, Founder and President from 1923 to 1932.
- 1925 Foster Cup for Juniors donated by the Foster family.
- 1927 Queensbury Cup to be competed for annually on the Queensbury Golf Course. Provided by Queensbury Golf Club.

- 1928 Robertshaw Bowl donated by Mr H A Robertshaw, Company Secretary of John Fosters of Queensbury and a founder member, Honorary Secretary of Queensbury Golf Club from 1923 to c 1930, Captain in 1934 and President in 1936, 1953 and 1963. Died in office.
- 1929 Ladies Denham Bowl donated by Mrs Denham, Lady President in 1927.
- 1929 Ladies Townsend Cup donated by Mrs Alice Townsend, Lady Captain in 1929 and 1930, Lady President in 1948, and Ladies Honorary Secretary from 1930 until 1967.
- 1929 Ladies Dorothy Bowl donated by Miss D Jagger, Lady Captain in 1928. To be played for by ladies who qualify.
- 1936 Miss Foster's Coronation Cup, to celebrate the coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth, to be competed for annually in a mixed knockout. Donated by Miss Gwendoline Foster, daughter of Colonel Edward Foster.
- 1938 Haviland Mann Mixed Foursomes Trophy donated by Mr Haviland Mann.
- 1944 Sedgwick Crow Mixed Greensomes Trophy donated by Mr J C Sedgwick, President in 1942 and Mr A H Crow, President in 1944.
- 1953 Coronation trophy to celebrate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, to be competed for annually around Coronation date by men and ladies. Donated by Mrs Azuba Wood, Lady President in 1936 and original committee member of the Ladies Section
- 1953 Ladies Silver salver donated by Mrs K Shepherd, Lady President in 1952, and later Mrs K Armytage, Lady Captain in 1958, Lady President 1961 and 1962.
- 1953 Winter fourball trophy donated by Mr J Jagger, Captain in 1956 and President from 1963 until 1967, Greens Chairman 1956/1957, and 1964/1967, House Chairman 1958/1959, Social Chairman 1957/1959 and 1962/1963. Trustee of the Club from 1963 to 1969.
- 1955 Victory Cup to commemorate the end of the Second World War donated by Mr H Armytage, Captain in 1950 and 1957, President in 1947 and 1962. Competed for by men and ladies. This competition had been played since the end of the War. Mr Armytage decided to donate a Trophy in 1955.
- 1969 Albert Lund Trophy in memory of late honourable member Mr J A Lund, President 1956, 1960, 1961 and 1967. Donated by Mr A Crowther and originally named the Albert Crowther Trophy and inscribed The Halifax Artisan Golf Club. Re-named in honour of Mr. Lund. Men's foursome knockout.
- 1969 R E Gill Cup donated by Mr Gill, Captain in 1969, awarded to the Golfer of the year by the presiding Captain.

- 1971 Ladies Golfer of the year Trophy donated by Miss P Holcroft, Lady Captain in 1971 and 1972, Lady President in 1988, and Honorary Life Member
- 1973 Jubilee Trophy donated by Mr H Copley to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of Queensbury Golf Club, President in 1958 and 1968, Honorary Secretary from 1959 to 1961 and 1974 - Died in office. 1975 - Jubilee trophy to be known as the Haydn Copley Jubilee Trophy in his memory.
- 1973 Thursday Cup donated by Mr W Allan and Mr J Midgley, competed for by members of the Thursday afternoon competitors.
- 1975 Seniors Trophy donated by Mr H Copley, President in 1968, and Mr. W Horner, Captain in 1975
- 1976 Captain's Prize donated by Mr A G Pearse, Captain in 1976, President in 1988. A qualifying round with winners to go forward on a match play knockout basis.
- 1979 Medal Cup donated by Mr E Mitchell, Captain in 1978, President in 1969, and Honorary Secretary from 1961 to 1974, and now Honorary Life Member.
- 1979 J H Moore Salver donated by Mr Moore, Captain in 1977, President in 1981, and Honorary Life Member from 1986 to 1996
- 1981 Ladies Winter Eclectic Bowl donated by Mrs D Ellison, Lady Captain in 1981.
- 1981 Conway Cup donated by Mr R Conway in memory of his brother George Conway who had collapsed and died on the course. President in 1977 and 1978. Cup to be competed for by members of the Rabbits Section.
- 1982 Ladies Summer Eclectic Salver donated by Mrs M Farr, Lady Captain in 1982.
- 1983 W K Paterson Salver donated by Mrs N Paterson in memory of her husband, Captain in 1963, President in 1970, 1975 and 1976. President of the Halifax, Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs in 1980. Introduced instruction for junior members in 1963. Trophy to be competed for in Open competition by juniors from the Bradford and District and the Halifax, Huddersfield and District Union of Golf Clubs.
- 1983 Lady Captain's Knockout Trophy donated by Mrs J Adshead, Lady Captain in 1983.
- 1984 Ladies Winter Fourball Trophy donated by Mrs V Crossfield, Lady Captain in 1984, Lady President in 1990.
- 1984 E Mitchell Stableford Trophy, Captain in 1978 and President in 1969. Honorary Secretary from 1961 until 1974, and now Honorary Life Member.

- 1985 Ladies Summer Medal Cup donated by Mrs B Frankland, Lady Captain in 1985 and Lady President in 1991. Best three of six medal cards.
- 1986 Winter Knockout Trophy donated by Mr W Dyson, Captain in 1979 and Greens Chairman from 1988 until 1998. Present Trustee of the Club.
- 1986 Winter Knockout Trophy donated by Mr A Bedford, Captain in 1982 and President in 1987. Present Trustee of the Club.
- 1986 Ladies Net Birdie Trophy donated by Mrs P Bancroft, Lady Captain in 1986, Lady President in 1992.
- 1987 Ladies Winter Greensome Knockout Trophy donated by Miss J Bedford, Lady Captain in 1987.
- 1987 Two Trophies donated for Winter Knockout by Mr W Dyson, Captain in 1979, and Mr A Bedford, Captain in 1982 and President in 1987
- 1988 Ladies Dora Ingham Trophy. Lady Captain in 1980. Comprises three replica trophies won by Mrs Ingham and returned to the Ladies Section on her death. Replicas now used as trophies and competed for by three divisions.
- 1989 Most Improved Lady Golfer of the Year trophy donated by Mrs J Bennett, Lady Captain in 1989
- 1992 Ladies Summer Stableford trophy donated by Mrs A Magson, Lady Captain in 1992.
- 1994 Ladies Gross Birdie Trophy donated by Mrs S Paul, Lady Captain in 1970 as Miss S Wilson, Lady President in 1994.
- 1996 Most Improved Junior Golfer of the Year trophy donated by Mr David Moore, in memory of his father, Mr J H Moore, who died in 1996. Captain in 1977, President in 1981 and past Honorary Life Member.

In 1990 Mrs B Wigglesworth, Lady Captain gave a brooch to be competed for each year on the April Medal Day, known as the Golf Foundation Brooch.

There are also other Club competitions held each year - traditionally Mr President's Day, Mr Captain's Day, Lady President's Day and Lady Captain's Day. Others are more recent - the Opening and Closing Competitions organised by the Rabbits Section and latterly the Subscription competition re-introduced in 1984.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Queensbury Golf Club has also had a good social calendar. Both snooker and table tennis have been played. In fact in 1949 Queensbury had four teams in the Table Tennis League. By 1965 the tables had been placed in the new Extension and were felt to be too prominently situated and occupying space used for dancing, despite the fact that teams were still entered in local leagues. Race meetings have been popular

since Mr H Copley presented an easily constructed Tote in 1968. The first Turkey Trot was held in 1978 and the Fun Golf Evening and barbecue in 1981. In 1962 the first Annual Dinner Dance was held at the Bankfield Hotel and continued to be held here until 1975. Since that time the Annual Dinner Dance has been held at a variety of venues including the Norfolk Gardens Hotel, Sandal Farm, The Auctioneer, and Cleckheaton Golf Club. Since 1989 it has been the custom to invite the Professional, Steward, Greenkeeper and partners as guests of the Club. Monthly dinner dances in the Clubhouse have been popular and all the Festivals have been celebrated, Christmas, New Years Eve, St. Valentines Day, Easter Bonnet Parties, and Plot Nights. Mention must be made of the not to be forgotten events organised by Mrs Esme Dyson - the pantomime in 1981, the comedy sketch production in 1985 and the war years cabaret in 1991.

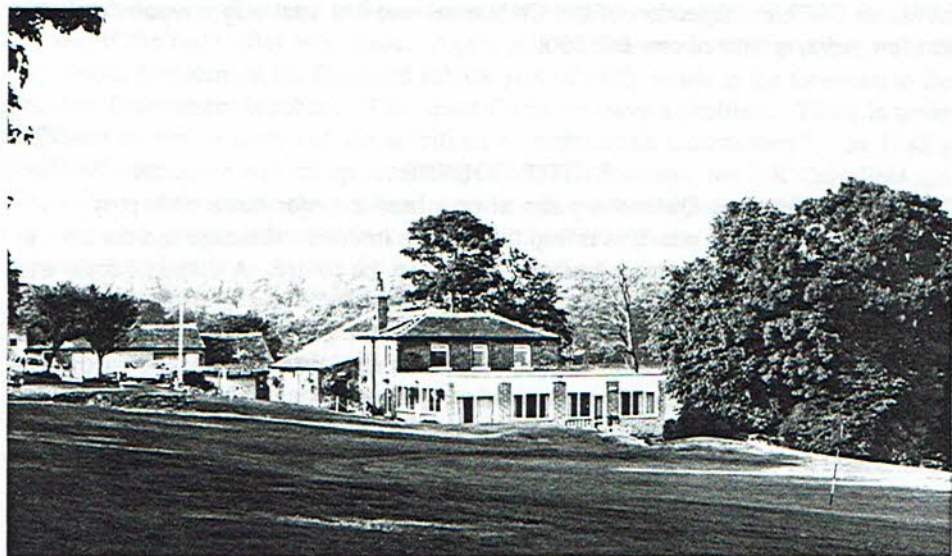
THE CLUBHOUSE

By the time of the Silver Jubilee very little alteration had occurred to the building since the new dining room built in 1926. Central heating had been installed but an open fire was still in use in the bar. In 1947 the YEB placed Queensbury Golf Club on a waiting list for the installation of electricity and this was eventually installed in 1949. Three years later on the 3rd November 1952 a fire occurred in the Professional's shop and the electrical system was found to be the cause. The shop was used as the place where members kept their golfing equipment. They fortunately were covered by insurance. However this insurance did not cover the stock of the Professional, Mr F Rosser, who suffered a severe loss and members were requested to obtain replacements through him to alleviate his losses. The fire also gutted the office, which was downstairs at that time, and resulted in the loss of the early Committee Minute Books. A double blow occurred during the same week when the President Mr J W Ogle died in office. A new Stag Room, sometimes referred to as the 19th, had been created in 1950 and, although this room suffered from continual roofing problems, Mr Rosser had the use of the room until his own had been repaired. The Stag Room was still in use in 1956 when an offer of a pair of antlers from Victoria Hall was accepted and placed on the wall. The first major alterations to the building came in 1958. The ladies locker room was given over to the Steward and Stewardess and the rear half of the long room earmarked for the ladies new locker room, with two toilets and washbasins fitted, the remainder of the long room to be used as a bar for men only. The upstairs lounge and the stewards sitting room were made into one (room over the present bar) and a dumb waiter installed. This room was to be used until 1965 as a dining room, social function room and meeting room. In 1960 the old caddy cart room was converted into men's toilets, and in 1963 a new shed was built to incorporate the caddy carts and a new Professional's shop. This was opened on the 1st January 1964. The entrance to the gentlemen's locker room was also screened.

An application from the Rabbits Section to hold a dance on the 4th January 1964 was turned down because of concerns regarding the safety of the upper floor. At the Annual General Meeting in 1964 the committee were given the authority to investigate all possibilities of carrying out improvements and to call a Special General Meeting if and when a reasonable plan was formulated. The plan was to build an extension and a fund was launched. The Bank had agreed to extend credit and the remainder would come from loans from members. The committee estimated that it would take six or seven years to repay loans and overdraft by means of revenue from the fruit machine and social activities. The committee were not unanimous in supporting the project but by a majority vote had decided to recommend its adoption. At the Special General Meeting in September, after much discussion, the motion that the committee be instructed to proceed with the extension scheme was carried by an overwhelming majority. Mr H Copley had influenced the meeting by pointing out that if past committees had been pessimistic and unprogressive the Club would still have gas lighting and the steward would still be swilling glasses in a bucket of cold water concealed behind the bar. On Saturday the 3rd of April 1965 the Extension was officially opened and exhibition golf was provided by Mr Rodney Foster and Mr Derek Ibbotson. It was to be another six years before the Club would be in profit. During this period the Club faced near bankruptcy and the prophecy of Mr J V Farrar who had opposed the scheme proved correct. He had objected on the grounds that future committees would be hamstrung for many years to come with a huge debt which would prevent even minor repairs and improvements being carried out. The gentlemen's locker room needed overhauling and the car park resurfacing. Both were left on the table for many months. The situation was saved by Mr Haydn Copley who had been associated with social events for many years. He almost single-handedly organised a series of Discos and Rave Nites which proved a great success and reduced the overdraft until in 1971 the Club could look once more to the future. It must be noted that there were many complaints about these discos which were by ticket only and open to members of the public. Members who wished to use only the bar were still charged entry and Mr. W K Paterson complained bitterly at the Annual General Meeting in 1967 that Queensbury was one of those very few, very bad clubs, that buy carpets instead of fertilisers. However when Mr Copley died in the Bradford Royal Infirmary following a serious operation in 1975 Mr. Paterson spoke movingly of the tremendous work that Haydn had accomplished and the affection in which this truly remarkable man was held.

In 1971 the committee decided to amalgamate the two small bars, to re-equip and re-furnish, and thus create a large bar lounge. This work was completed by December 1971 and financed by the continuing Discos and Rave Nites. Mr J Werritt, Honorary

Life Member, as House Chairman supervised the work and received the thanks of the committee for the tremendous amount of work he had put in supervising the contractors. By the beginning of 1972 Queensbury Golf Club had the luxury of £1000 in hand. Discos continued to raise money and this was used to advantage. The entrance to the Clubhouse was improved and the office upstairs was constructed, the work being done by Mr R Stansfield. A new heating system was also installed. In 1975 under the leadership of Mr E K Crossfield, Chairman of House sub-committee, the main kitchen was built adjacent to the Extension and the old kitchen became a private one for the use of the Steward and Stewardess. The walls in the Extension, now known as the dining room, were wood panelled at this time. The Clubhouse remains today much as it was in 1975.



As a result of a letter from Mrs Dora Ingham, Ladies Section, in December 1978, requesting the use of the spare bedroom in the Steward's quarters for a ladies locker room, the committee decided that in the New Year a sub-committee should be formed to discuss the whole question of the Club House. By October 1980 a Development Committee chaired by Mr J P Midgley had been formed and preparation of plans of the Club House had been authorised. Earlier in the year the committee had been occupied with the long overdue refurbishing of the men's locker room with a concrete base, carpeting and new lockers. The ladies had refurbished their room by their own efforts. The house and grounds at Old Harrowins had come on the market and in 1981 Queensbury Golf Club made an offer of £50000 but it was eventually sold at a price in excess of this figure. In August of that year a new Financial Sub-Committee was formed and Mrs D Ingham invited to Chair the committee. Mrs. Ingham was given

targets for raising finance and these targets included an extension to the ladies locker room by extending the sloping roof upwards. However by December it was realised that it was not feasible to proceed with some proposals because of the difference in floor levels. At a committee meeting on the 18th March 1982 Mr D Rhodes proposed and the Captain Mr A Bedford seconded that there was a case for a new club house and alterations be prepared for presentation to the members at an extraordinary general meeting. At the Special General Meeting on the 6th October 1982 the committee were given the mandate to proceed with plans for a new Clubhouse. Queensbury Golf Clubhouse was placed on the market and tenders were invited to build the new clubhouse. These tenders proved higher than expected necessitating a £40,000 mortgage. Views of the members were ascertained at a Special General Meeting on the 14th December 1983 and the scheme failed as the resolution was not carried by two thirds. In 1989 an inspection of the Clubhouse revealed vital major repairs over the next few years, estimated cost £40,000.

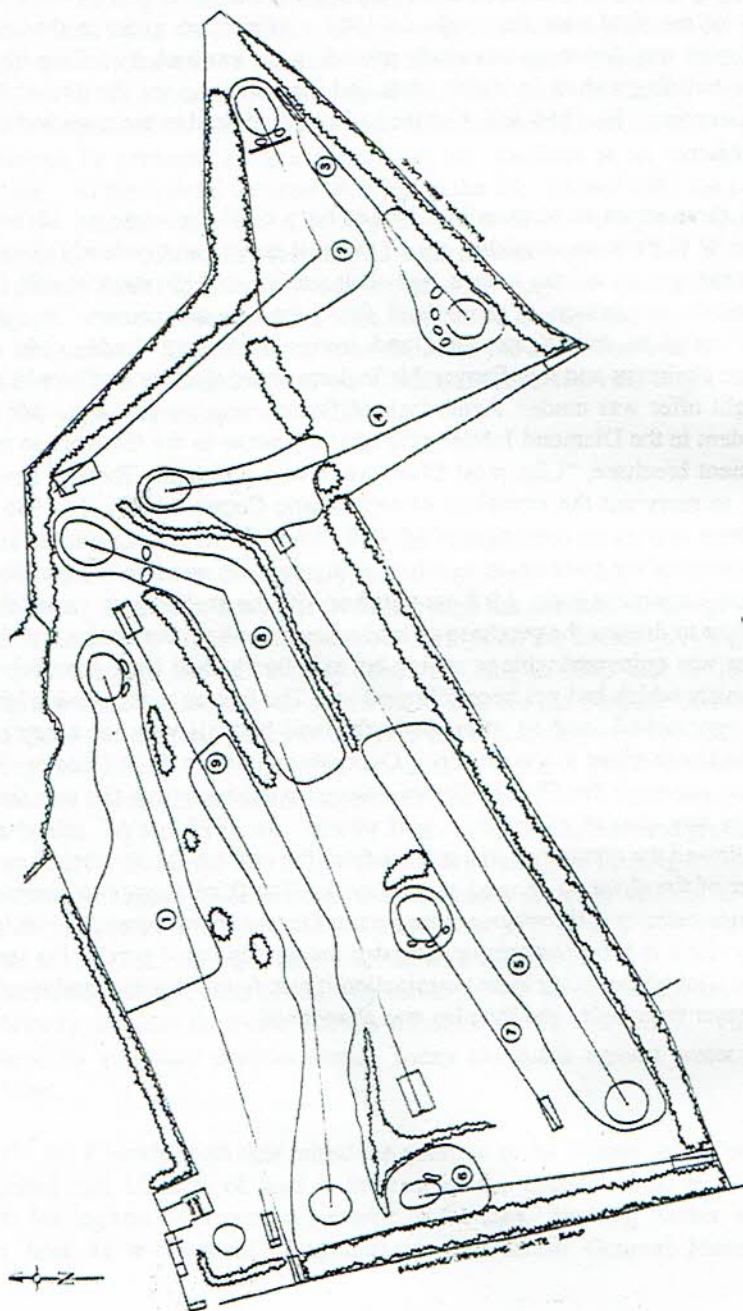
THE COURSE

Care for the course at Queensbury has always been a major issue with progressive committees. Two main concerns thread through the minutes - drainage and the need to acquire more land. There are numerous springs on the course. A diagonal drain was first placed across the 5th fairway (then the 8th) in 1953 and in 1954 the Greens committee were empowered to spend up to £50 for the purpose of removing surplus water from the course. Later in the year mole draining was commenced on the 5th fairway which was showing large amounts of water. As this treatment appeared satisfactory it was carried out on successive years until in 1958 1000 pipes were bought for drainage. In the dry years a lack of water on the course caused problems and water was eventually laid on in 1961. By 1968 water was again causing trouble and in 1972 the course was again mole drained. An ambitious drainage scheme in the vicinity of the 2nd green and the 3rd fairway was carried out in 1978 and mole draining was again carried out in 1982. Another ambitious scheme was tried in 1987 when a 150mm drain was run from the top of the 9th fairway across the 8th to the poplars and then across the 4th fairway and into the beck, 100mm tributaries to be run into it. This scheme was financed by voluntary contributions. Today the battle against water on the course continues.

In 1951 Mr F Holdsworth first raised the question of the inadequacy of the car park and suggested that 1/2 acre of land at the rear of the Clubhouse be purchased from the owner Mr Ingham who was sympathetic to the idea. Nothing further was done. Ten years later as a result of complaints at the Annual General Meeting about the

lack of car parking space Mr. Ingham was again approached but he refused point blank to lease a corner of the field near the road. In 1963 a scheme to improve the area around the Clubhouse was drawn up to include extending the car park by felling trees near the entrance, building a shed for caddy carts and incorporating the Professional's shop and caddy cart room. By 1964 the first tee had been replaced in the trees and the car park completed.

There have been three attempts to transform Queensbury Golf Club into an 18 hole club. In 1971 Mr W K Paterson, arguably one of the best golfers and certainly always concerned about the quality of the course, felt that serious consideration should be given to the possible acquisition of extra land for extending the course. A sub-committee was formed to investigate ways and means of raising funds. Mr. R Stansfield became chairman and the Farmer Mr Ingham stated that his land would be for sale if the right offer was made. Again lack of finance was the problem. Mr H Pickersgill, President in the Diamond Jubilee year of 1983, wrote in the foreword to the Pro Am Tournament brochure, "Like most Clubs we have a problem. There is never sufficient money to carry out the ambitions of enthusiastic Committees". In 1986 a small sub-committee was set up consisting of Mr R B Simpson, Mr E K Crossfield and Mr A Ross to determine the position as to whether it would be possible for the Golf club to buy or lease Littlemoor Park. Mr Ross together with the greenkeeper visited the neighbouring farmer to discuss the purchase of land adjacent to both the course and the park. Mr. Ingham was quite amenable to selling but said that he had been approached with offers previously which had not been followed up. The farmer to the south of the course was also approached and an offer made for land but this was not accepted. Littlemoor park had been given to the people of Queensbury under a Trust Deed by the Foster family and although the Charity Commissioners would approve the sale they would not support any change of use to a golf course. In 1995 a VAT refund of £41,000 finally allowed the committee to purchase from the Ingham family a small area of land to the rear of the sheds to be used as a car park. The third attempt to increase the number of holes came in 1997 when a nine person Development Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr B Moores again investigated the possibility of purchasing land to the north of the Clubhouse. On closer examination it was found that the land would only support a further three holes and the plan was abandoned.



As a result of the failure of the first attempt to purchase extra land, it was decided in 1974 to improve the course by altering the numbering of the holes thus making the course more difficult, to make a major modification by building a new sixth green on the old number nine fairway, and to cut out number two green and make this into a tee for the new eighth hole. A green at the new second hole was also laid during this period most of the work being done by Mr D Rhodes, Mr A Trudgill and Mr H Westby. Prior to this date the course had been played 1, 9 to 8th tee, 7, 8, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 to 9th green. By 1977 the work was complete. The idea had been conceived by Mr J Werritt, Greens Chairman, and he had been supported by those who wished the course to become more competitive. The length of the course had been increased by 300 yards and the SS score risen to 65. It allowed the Club to take an extra 20 full members and also form a five day section of 50. Some members felt the course to be too arduous and at a Special General Meeting on the 17th November 1977 applied to have the course reversed but lost their motion on a show of hands.

As part of her work on the Finance Sub-committee, Mrs D Ingham invited members to name a hole at £100 each. The holes were duly sponsored and named, 1 Harrowins, 2 The Well, 3 Lane Side, 4 The Dell, 5 Hill Top, 6 The Folly or Rhodes End, 7 Ross's Bowl, 8 John Willie, 9 Hunger Hill. Tree planting has also been a concern of respective committees. In 1951 the committee provided several trees and the farmer to the north of the Club kindly planted them on his side of the wall down the first fairway. In 1983 a Tree Preservation Order to encompass the whole of the golf course was placed on Queensbury Golf Club but between 1985 and 1988 thirty-one elm trees suffering from Dutch Elm disease had to be removed. Numerous small plantations have since been created to enhance the appearance and challenge of the course. Other amenities added to the course have been the practice green and in 1992 the practice net erected in the trees at the side of the 1st tee and finally safety fencing erected in 1995 to screen the patio from golf balls.

THE PEOPLE

In his speech at the 1978 Annual General Meeting the new Captain, Mr E Mitchell, reflected on past Captains of the Club which gave him fears as to his own ability. He mentioned Mr Farrar who had a sunny year and actually enjoyed himself, Mr Sutcliffe, who had adopted a "they shall not pass" strategy, Mr Midgley who had introduced a professional competition. Mr. Foster had greatly improved the Annual Dinner by not having any speeches. Mr Werritt a tiger not only in handicap but also on the course and in the Union. Mr. Horner who had decided to play like a Captain and had reduced his handicap by four. Mr. Paterson who had introduced instruction for junior members. Messrs Gill, Adshead and Heptinstall, who could actually play golf. He finally mentioned Messrs Waterhouse and Carrington for their wise counsel. This amusing speech masks the reality of the members of Queensbury Golf Club who have through

the years worked for the benefit of the Club without monetary reward. Mr H Copley, President in the Diamond Jubilee Year of 1968, who claimed the shortest period of presidency and the shortest drive at the drive in, mentioned earlier members, Mr H H Armytage, Mr J Jagger and Mr J A Lund and said their generosity must never be forgotten. At the Annual General Meeting in 1963 Mr. Harry A Robertshaw said that he considered five minutes notice to be inadequate for the office of President but that he had yielded to persuasion because being a founder member of the Club in 1923 this was the Club's 40th anniversary. He was later to die whilst in this office. Those who have worked for Queensbury Golf Club in an official capacity are mentioned below.

Mr R M Lodge, appointed Honorary Secretary at the Annual General Meeting in 1998, is the eleventh person to hold this office. Mr H Robertshaw became the first Secretary, followed in c1930 by Mr G Whiteley, Mill Manager at John Foster and Son Ltd, and then Mr. J W Marshall who died in office in 1959. Mr H Copley served for one year and then the office was filled by Mr E Stead who served for 13 years from 1961 until 1974. He saw the Club go through many phases - of dire poverty, near bankruptcy, through to thriving prosperity. He had been one of the leading factors in bringing the Club into its present position in 1974. Mr H Copley again served for one year dying in office in 1975. Mr H Pickersgill served from 1975 until 1983 when he became President. There followed in 1983 Mr A Bedford, 1984 Mr M Roberts, 1989 Mr A Robinson, 1992 Mr H Andrew and 1998 Mr R M Lodge.

Nothing is known about the early Honorary Treasurers until 1934 when this position was taken by Mr J Waterhouse who served for 27 years. When he retired in 1961 he was made an Honorary Life Member, a position he still holds today, in recognition of the service he had given to the Club for so many years. Mr E Stead then served for four years and in 1965 Mr R Dalton was elected Treasurer by ballot. In 1966 Mr E Sutcliffe became Honorary Treasurer and served in this capacity until 1971 when his post was taken by Mr K Leppingwell who was to serve for the next eighteen years. Mr S Clegg became Treasurer in 1992 and the following year Mr A Cummings took office and still retains that position. Those who have served in the capacity of President, Captain or Sub-committee Chairmen are listed in the Appendix.

Others have also contributed to the life of Queensbury Golf Club and indeed without these employees the Club would not exist. When the Professional, Mr Frank Clegg, retired in 1951 he had come to be a much valued member of the Club. He had competed on a regular basis in Open Championships bringing honour to the Club in 1952 when he and Mr H H Armytage won the Morecambe Amateur and

Professional Open Fourball. He was elected Captain of the Yorkshire Union of Professional Golfers for 1949. To support the Club he devoted considerable time to the bar when needed and also to the course. In 1950 he was given a Testimonial in recognition of his 21 years service. He was also made an Honorary member for the years 1951, 1952 and 1953. Mr Fred R Rosser was appointed Professional in 1951 and it was he who suffered a severe financial loss in the fire the following year. As a result he was given honorary membership for one year. In 1954 he was also engaged as a greenkeeper and this dual role of Professional /greenkeeper was to cause the Club problems for some years to come in view of the amount of work involved for one person. The course came before Mr Rosser's work as a Professional and as a result in 1958 it was decided to appoint additional labour in the form of Mr S Bradley who was also an original member of the Rabbits Section. When Mr Rosser resigned in 1958 to take up a post in Wales he was followed by Mr G Waller who was soon requested to resign from the Club. In 1960 Mr W J Light was appointed and he too supported the Club by supervising the bar and cutting greens during respective holidays. In 1963 he resigned to take up a position at Baildon Golf Club and finally retired as a Professional from Whitley Bay Golf Club. He died in 1997 in Newcastle. Mr Raymond K Firth appointed in 1963 served Queensbury Golf Club for the next fourteen years. At the 1971 Annual General Meeting he was praised for consistently doing work in the Club's interests outside the sphere of his Professional duties and received several ex-gratia payments for doing so. He was the first Professional to be invited as a guest of the Club at the Annual Dinner and when he resigned in 1977 to take up a position at Bingley St Ives Golf Club he was presented with a gift of £250 and an honorary membership. Mr David Sutcliffe became the next Professional and he augmented his retainer by working on the course for a negotiated fee and also painting the men's locker room. In 1981 he resigned to take a position at Shipley Golf Club. Mr Julian Holchaks joined Queensbury Golf Club as Professional in 1981 and when he was appointed as a dual Professional at both Halifax and Queensbury Golf Clubs in 1985 it was decided to appoint an assistant professional, Mr Nigel Barber. In 1986 Mr Barber won the Professionals prize in the Page Trophy. When Mr. Holchaks resigned in 1987 Mr D Sutcliffe from Shipley Golf Club was asked to take on Mr. Barber as his assistant at Queensbury Golf Club. This he did until Mr. Barber achieved his playing proficiency in 1989 and became the full Professional at Queensbury. When he resigned to take up a position at West Bradford Golf Club in 1990 Mr Simon Yearsby was appointed as Professional and the following year in 1991 Mr. Geoff Howard became the thirteenth Professional golfer at Queensbury and remained so until 1998.

Due to the loss of the Minute book in the fire nothing is known about the greenkeepers until 1947 when Mr H Gregson is mentioned. Mr. E Jones was appointed in 1949 and

the only reference to him is a letter from Mr F Holdsworth complaining about the fact that members should not have to cut fairways. From 1954 to 1958 Mr Rosser and Mr Bradley worked on the course. Mr Padgett of Keighley was appointed greenkeeper in 1958 and he remained until 1961 when Mr P Gibson, assistant greenkeeper at West Bowling took over. The greenkeepers were considered to be the best for ages but in 1962 it was decided that Mr. Bradley was a luxury and his employment terminated. Within a few weeks, when work was behind, he was re-instated and remained as assistant until 1963. In 1968 Mr C Ramsden from Cleckheaton Golf Club was appointed greenkeeper and at the Annual General Meeting of 1971 he was presented with a wristlet watch in appreciation of his work and in celebration of his 21st birthday. There followed Mr M Barrett in 1971, Mr G Parker from Beckfoot Golf Club in 1972, Mr Storey in 1973 and Mr M Bateman in 1977. In 1972 members had to rally round during the greenkeeper crisis to work on the course. Mr B Raistrick was appointed in 1978 and Queensbury was to enjoy a period of stability for the next 15 years. When Mr Raistrick retired in 1993 a buffet presentation was organised by the Club and he was presented with a suitably inscribed clock. In 1979 his wife, Mrs Dorothy Raistrick, had painted a picture of the Clubhouse and this hangs in the entrance today. Mr T Doyle from the Youth Training Scheme was employed in 1988 as an assistant greenkeeper and he and Mr M Shaw, greenkeeper appointed in 1993, have the care of the course today.

There have been 40 Stewards and Stewardesses - too numerous to mention individually. Mrs Robertshaw was employed as Stewardess from 1938 and throughout the second world war. She catered with rabbit pie suppers for dances held in the Long Room. In 1948 the Committee became concerned about Mrs Robertshaw living alone on the premises and also that additional heavy work was being placed on other members of the staff which would normally be done by the husband of a Stewardess. Her service was terminated. Mrs Robertshaw remains the longest serving Stewardess to date. Mrs Gregson, the greenkeepers wife, was appointed in her place. In 1949 when a letter was received from the Hon. Counsel of the National Golf Clubs Protection Association informing the Committee that a sum of 15/- per week would be required to be made to the Stewardess to bring her wages into line, Committee decided that the Club should recoup this money from Mr Gregson by way of a charge for heating and lighting. The Steward and his wife gave notice. There followed a continual succession of Stewards and in Mr H Copley's Presidential year of 1958 he was heard to complain that he had had four greenkeepers and five stewards in his year of office.

The 1958 contract between Club and Stewards reads as follows:

Opening and closing of Clubhouse at 8.30am and 11.15pm with one hour closing

Cleaning of all Club rooms including Ladies and Gents locker rooms

Maintenance of the fire in the bar

Service in the Bar and responsibility for all bar stocks.

Provision and service of meals

Weekly day off on separate days - for a combined wage of £9.10.0d per week.

Mr Kitt left a permanent reminder of himself by building the fire surround in the bar lounge in 1962 with the initials QGC punched in on both sides of the fireplace. In 1967 the steward Mr Lovett complained to the Ministry of Labour Wages Inspector that his wife worked umpteen hours a day without pay. Mr and Mrs Kemp arrived in 1969 and were to serve for over 7 years. Disagreements arose in 1975 when members objected to dining tables being laid 48 hours prior to an ordered meal without any consideration how this would inhibit other dining room activities. Matters came to a head when Mr A Bedford found the Steward's cat eating the hors d'oeuvres which had been put out early in the morning. Despite this when Mr and Mrs Kemp left in 1976 they were presented with a radio and vase in recognition of their service. A rapid succession of Stewards followed until 1983 when Mr and Mrs Rostron were appointed. Their high standard of service is still remembered today. They remained for four years and on retirement were presented with a picture. In 1987 Mr and Mrs Jessop from Lightcliffe Golf Club were appointed. They gave six years service. Mr and Mrs S Robinson were appointed in 1993 but resigned to take up a post at Baildon Golf Club in 1996. Mr and Mrs D Wilson were appointed in 1996 and remain the Stewards today.

To all those who have played a part, waged or unwaged, we owe a considerable debt of gratitude. The energy and commitment of our Committee today is no less than that of our predecessors. Queensbury Golf Club enjoys financial security and a full membership and as a result is committed to taking the Club forward in an ambitious, dynamic yet carefully considered manner. In May 1997 the nine person Development Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr B Moores was given the brief to drive schemes forward, obtain grants and create a long term plan that would be upheld by successive committees. The plan would cover the course, the clubhouse and associated facilities. Jonathan Gaunt, golf course architect, was invited to draw up a plan for the course and in December 1997 Main Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the scheme and to commission Jonathan Gaunt to draw up definite designs for course improvement. The work begins in September 1998 and will create an excellent course to take Queensbury Golf Club into the next millennium.

QUEENSBURY GOLF CLUB CAPTAINS

1923	Captain R A C Foster	1961	A T Bennett
1924	Captain R A C Foster	1962	E Stead
1925	Captain R A C Foster	1963	W K Paterson
1926	Captain R A C Foster	1964	E Sutcliffe
1927	D Taylor	1965	D A Knapton
1928	D Taylor	1966	W Allan
1929	F E Crowther	1967	J P Midgley
1930	F E Crowther	1968	R A Adshead
1931	A Midgley	1969	R E Gill
1933	J H Waterhouse	1970	J Werritt
1934	H A Robertshaw	1971	A Foster
1935	G W Hodsman	1972	H L Heptinstall
1936	D Coupe	1973	J C Jack
1937	J W Patchett	1974	D G Earle
1938	J Ramsden	1975	W Horner
1939	J W Marshall	1976	G Pearce
1940	H D Bateson	1977	J H Moore
1941	H Clarke	1978	E Mitchell
1942	W A Cleary	1979	W Dyson
1943	W Waddington	1980	R Stansfield
1944	R A Bruhin	1981	G W Sutcliffe
1945	F Brown	1982	A Bedford
1946	J L Rea	1983	D Rhodes
1947	W A Crawshaw	1984	E K Crossfield
1948	J W Marshall	1985	B Outram
1949	G Holdsworth	1986	G Gibson
1950	H H Armytage	1987	A Rhodes
1951	F Holdsworth	1988	H Andrew
1952	W Waddington	1989	K Leppingwell
1953	A H Crow	1990	M G Roberts
1954	E R Harbisher	1991	A Cummings
1955	H M Morton	1992	A Trudgill
1956	J Jagger	1993	G R Petyt
1957	H H Armytage	1994	M Taylor
1958	H Taylor	1995	A Paul
1959	J V Farrar	1996	D F Sills
1960	K Crawshaw	1997	A Hey
		1998	G Ralph

QUEENSBURY GOLF CLUB PRESIDENTS

1923	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1961	J A Lund
1924	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1962	H H Armytage
1925	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1963	H Robertshaw
1926	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1963	J. Jagger
1927	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1964	J Jagger
1928	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1965	J Jagger
1929	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1966	J Jagger
1930	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1967	J A Lund
1931	Col. E H Foster TD JP	1968	A Copley
1932	H Ackroyd	1969	E Mitchell
1933	E A Shooter	1970	W K Paterson
1934	H Smith	1971	J P Midgley
1935	W Beecham	1972	S Wilson
1936	H A Robertshaw	1973	S Wilson
1937	D Coupe	1974	H Brown
1938	M F Farrah	1975	W K Paterson
1939	M F Farrah	1976	W K Paterson
1940	M F Farrah	1977	G R Conway
1941	J W Marshall	1978	G R Conway
1942	J C Sedgwick	1979	R A Adshead
1943	H D Bateson	1980	J C Jack
1944	A H Crow	1981	J H Moore
1945	J W Ogle	1982	J P Midgley
1946	J H Waterhouse	1983	H Pickersgill
1947	H H Armytage	1984	M G Roberts
1948	W H Taylor	1985	R B Simpson
1949	J Ramsden	1986	G W Sutcliffe
1950	A Burnley	1987	A Bedford
1951	A Burnley	1988	A G Pearse
1952	J W Ogle	1989	R Stansfield
1953	H A Robertshaw	1990	T Hodgson
1954	W Beaver	1991	B Outram
1955	G W Carrington	1992	D Sharp
1956	J A Lund	1993	R I Gordon
1957	D A Knapton	1994	G W Frankland
1958	H Copley	1995	A Farr
1959	W Shield	1996	G Ralph
1960	J A Lund	1997	T Corbett
		1998	D Rhodes

	GREENS CHAIRMAN	HOUSE CHAIRMAN	SOCIAL CHAIRMAN	BAR CHAIRMAN
1947	J W Marshall	W H Taylor	L Priestley	
1948	J W Marshall	J Ramsden	H W Simpson	
1949	J W Marshall	H Armytage	H W Simpson	
1950	H Armytage	W H Taylor	H W Simpson	
1951	H Holdsworth	E Harbisher	H Copley	
1952	W Waddington	J Armytage	J H Rea	
1953	A H Crow	J Ramsden	W A Cleary	
1954	J H Waterhouse	H Taylor	W Jagger	
1955	J H Waterhouse	H Taylor	E Sutcliffe	
1956	J Jagger	H Taylor	K Crawshaw	
1957	J Jagger	H Taylor	J Jagger	
1958	H Taylor	J Jagger	J Jagger	
1959	J V Farrar	J Jagger	J Jagger	
1960	J V Farrar	E Mitchell	A Maden	
1961	J V Farrar	E Mitchell	W Shield	
1962	J V Farrar	F Innis	J Jagger	
1963	A T Bennett	F Innis	J Jagger	
1964	J Jagger	R Stacey	A J Maud	
1965	J Jagger	J A Lund	G R Conway	
1966	J Jagger	J A Lund	G R Conway	
1967	J P Midgley	J A Lund	B J Ambler	
1968	W K Paterson	D A Knapton	A Foster	
1969	W K Paterson	D A Knapton	H Copley	
1970	W K Paterson	K Crawshaw	S Horne	
1971	W K Paterson	J Werritt	S Horne	
1972	W K Paterson	A Foster	S Horne	
1973	B Outram	A Foster	S Horne	
1974	J Werritt	E K Crossfield	R A Adshead	
1975	J Werritt	E K Crossfield	R A Adshead	
1976	W K Paterson	E K Crossfield	S Horne	K Brown
1977	H Westby	T Denton	R Stansfield	
1978	J H Moore	T Denton	R Stansfield	
1979	J H Moore	H Andrew	A Bedford	A Bedford
1980	J H Moore	H Andrew	T D Ellison	A Bedford
1981	D Rhodes	H Andrew	T D Ellison	A Bedford
1982	D Rhodes	H Andrew	G W Sutcliffe	A Farr
1983	H Andrew	E K Crossfield	K Audas	M Roberts
1984	H Andrew	A Cummings	B Beverley	R Simpson
1985	H Andrew	H Westby	A Henderson	R Petyt
1986	H Andrew	A Rhodes	A Henderson	A D Robinson
1987	H Andrew	A Robinson	W Dyson	R Petyt
1988	W Dyson	A Robinson	B Allen	R Petyt
1989	W Dyson	A Robinson	G Ralph	M Roberts
1990	W Dyson	A Trudgill	D Jackson	A Bedford
1991	W Dyson	A Trudgill	J Rostron	A Bedford
1992	W Dyson	A D Robinson	T Stephens	M Roberts
1993	W Dyson	A D Robinson	S Smith	M Roberts
1994	W Dyson	A D Robinson	S Smith	M Roberts

	GREENS	HOUSE	SOCIAL	BAR
	CHAIRMAN	CHAIRMAN	CHAIRMAN	CHAIRMAN
1995	W Dyson	A D Robinson	S Smith	M Roberts
1996	W Dyson	A D Robinson	A P Hey	M Roberts
1997	W Dyson	A D Robinson	W Harris	M Roberts
1998	A Rhodes	A D Robinson	W Harris	D Bennett