



HISTORY 1937-1948

(Taken from Club Minutes)

GOLF COURSE

October 1938

Rabbit damage referred to Earl Wharnccliffe

November 1939

4 acres of ground bordering the 5th green to be let to a neighbouring farmer, in conjunction with Wharnccliffe Estates

June 1940

Plans to make the course impractical as a landing place for enemy aircraft

September 1940

Sheep grazing on the whole course at £10 per annum

January 1941

Sheep grazing on the 'lower field' at £3 per annum

Sheep grazing on the 'upper field' at £3 per annum

March 1943

Coal boring operations (commenced ?)

May 1943

Coal boring:-

The parts of the course likely to be worked, in addition to parts already cut up shown on a plan

Work scheduled to be finished (coal digging and replacement) on 31st December 1943.

Course restored to playing conditions by 31st March 1944 subject to any requisition by Ministry of Agriculture.

July 1943

Dialogue with Regional Compensation Surveyor in connection with Open Cast Coal Workings. The Club submitted a claim for £42 and a Rating Appeal for a reduction of net Annual Value of Clubhouse and Course from £176 to £88.

Secretary to write to Yorkshire Union for golf architects consultation re Course reconstruction.

August 1943

Secretary to ask Greenkeeping Research Station, Bingley, to advise.

October 1943

Rating Assessment reduced from £176 to £126 net

Open cast workings compensation at £25 p.a.

December 1943

Report and plan from Messrs James Carter & Co. approved – cost £31/10/- submit to Ministry of Works for their acceptance and undertaking to meet the cost.

March 1945

4 new greens being laid, drainage difficulties encountered.

May 1945

Course is almost fully restored.

July 1945

15 holes now in play.

March 1946

16 holes in play. All sheep to be removed from the course as soon as possible.

April 1946

The President (Earl Wharnccliffe) made suggestions regarding the position of the 1st hole and the new 10th hole.

May 1947

Following a meeting with Ministry of Agriculture officials, arrangements made for drainage, provision of top soil and re-seeding.

July 1947

Greens and drainage work complete Sowing 14th and 15th fairways well advanced.

Compensation: Ministry of Works £462 (equivalent to £12,640 today), the course being officially de-requisitioned on 1st July 1947.

Settlement considered to be 'eminently satisfactory to the Club'

August 1947

New 14th green approved.

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PEOPLE

1. MEMBERS

Earl Wharncliffe

- a) Took an active role. Present at most Management Committee meetings and Annual General Meetings.
- b) Regularly introduced new members to the Club.
- c) In January 1944, complained that bar prices were too high.
- d) In October 1946 proposed the Duke of Lancaster as new member (the only mention of him in this period of history)
- e) In November 1948 he provided timber for fencing around the Clubhouse.

Lord Fitzwilliam

In November 1946 his apology receive for absence (the only mention of him in this period of history)

Duke of Newcastle

In December 1947 his resignation was announced (the only mention of him in this period of history)

Stuart Coldwell Goodwin - (19 April 1886 – 6 June 1969) was a Sheffield steel industrialist and philanthropist who gave away over £500,000 to charities. He was head of the Neepsend Steel and Tool Corporation and knighted in the 1953 Coronation Honours list

- a) He was on the Management Committee all through this period 1937-1948 but, not surprisingly, often submitted apologies for absence.
- b) In February 1938 became President of Sheffield Professional Golfers Association.
- c) In February 1946 donated £350 for course machinery. (equivalent to £10,250 today)
- d) At the AGM, February 1949 was elected as Vice-President along with A J Venables and W P Green.
- e) Goodwin was President of Lindrick from 1958 to 1960.

A J Venables

- a) He was on the Management Committee all through most of this period.

- b) In February 1942 he presented a 'piece of plate' (now known as the Venables Silver Saver) for competition by Members and Visitors.
- c) In February 1946 he donated £150 towards furnishings and decoration of the Clubhouse. (equivalent to £4,400 today)
- d) At the AGM, February 1949 was elected as Vice-President along with S C Goodwin and W P Green.

W P Green

- a) He was on the Management Committee all through most of this period and, appropriately, was chairman of the Greens Committee.
- b) In February 1946 he donated £150 towards furnishings and decoration of the Clubhouse.
- c) At the AGM, February 1949 was elected as Vice-President along with S C Goodwin and A J Venables.

2. STAFF

- a) In August 1942, resignation of Steward and Stewardess
- b) July 1943, 'A suitable man and wife for Home Guard and Clubhouse requirements being energetically sought'
- c) August 1943 Mr and Mrs Duffield of the Royal Oak Hotel, Wombwell to take over on 25th September 1943 to be paid £4 per week by the Home Guard and £1 per week by the Club.
- d) H Lane could not be admitted to P.G.A. until cessation of hostilities.
- e) February 1946 Mr and Mrs Cooke appointed Steward and Stewardess, starting March 1946.
- f) Caddies fees to be fixed: Senior Caddy 3/6 per round, Junior Caddy 2/6 per round exclusive of tips.
- f) June 1946 Greenkeepers' wages increased to £4/5/- per week. (equivalent to £124 today)
- g) January 1948 Greenkeepers' wages increased to £4/10/- per week.
- h) August 1948 "Lane" granted leave of absence for a few days
[Harry Lane was a Wortley greenkeeper before becoming Wortley's golf Professional. Note: only surnames were used when addressing staff, they were known as servants. I had 4 lessons with Harry in 1957 when I was 14) and he always addressed me as 'Sir']
His elder brother Jim was Wharnccliffe's gamekeeper.
- i) September 1948 Greenkeepers' wages increased to £4/15/- per week, named as Lane, Pickering (J W) and Pickering (F).

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CLUBHOUSE

- a) July 1940 'Blackout' arrangements made.
- b) June 1941 Excessive sales of whisky led to a Notice in the bar: No sales of bottles of whisky etc.
- c) September 1945 A Notice to be affixed to the bar: "Owing to present scarcity of spirits, no Member be allowed to order more than 2 double measures in the same day"
- d) June 1946 Clubhouse to allow use for accommodation of evacuees if necessary.
- e) March 1947 no activities in Clubhouse or Course due to adverse weather.
- f) April 1947 Clubhouse windows blown out in gales and leaks through the roof.
- g) October 1947 Club servants forbidden to join in card games with Members
Notice 1: Poker and card games other than Bridge are prohibited in the Clubhouse.
Notice 2: The Captain notifies the Ladies Section they are welcome in the bar except on Sundays
- h) October 1947 The card games notice to be cancelled.
- g) November 1948 Draught beer to be 1/6 a pint. (equivalent to £1.91 today)

MISCELLANEOUS

- a) September 1939 Captain W W Wood represented the Club at the Earl of Wharnccliffe's daughters wedding, a present to be given.
- b) July 1940 Officers and men in uniform pay reduced green fee 1/6 per day (note women not included).
- c) February 1941 Friends of the Captain in the Home Guard may have membership for 10/-
- d) March 1942 motor mower converted to run on paraffin, 20 gallons ordered.
- e) May 1942 H M Forces during period of hostilities 1/6 per round, 5/- per week, 15/- monthly.
- f) January 1943 Wedding present for Lady Diana Stuart Wortley: 10/- (equivalent to £16 today)

- g) March 1944 Committee to make every effort to get new members, waiving the entrance fee as an inducement.
- h) May 1944 A press publication prepared to describe the condition and future prospects of the Club and to attract new members
- i) May 1945 Entrance fee restored
- j) September 1945 Pre-war scale of green fees to be re-imposed.
- h) October 1945 Entrance fee and Subscription raised:-
 - Ladies: E.F = £5/5/-, Sub. = £4/4/- (equivalent to £285 today)
 - Gents: E.F = £3/3/-, Sub. = £7/7/- (equivalent to £317 today)
 - [note these fees would probably have been quoted as guineas ie £7/7/- would have been 7 guineas].
- k) May 1946 Green fees 2/6 day with Member, 7/6 Sunday, 5/- other days, 2/6 after 4.00pm

Alan P. Hampshire

12th April 2017