



THE FIRST
ONE HUNDRED
YEARS

POLLOK GOLF CLUB
1892 - 1992

THE FIRST ONE HUNDRED YEARS



OVER the past hundred years, thanks to the generosity of Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, the gentlemen of Pollok have enjoyed playing golf in the delightful surroundings of the Pollok Estate. The harmony and fellowship which exists among the members make Pollok one of the finest clubs in the country.

A programme of events has been organised to ensure that all members will have the opportunity to share in the celebrations. Our thanks

go to all members who, individually and collectively, have most generously contributed to this special occasion.

We wish members good golf, good fellowship and good health in our Centenary year and for many years to come.

The Centenary Committee.



THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING



Sir John Stirling-Maxwell Bart

POLLOK Golf Club – the members of this club, who, have, through the kindness of Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bart, secured a course within the policies of Pollok, held their first general meeting in the upper hall of the U.P. Church, Nithsdale Drive, Strathbungo, when the club was formally constituted and the following office-bearers were elected:- Honorary president, Sir John Stirling-Maxwell, Bart, of Pollok; hon. vice-presidents, Mr M.H. Shaw-Stewart, M.P., the Hon. Lord Provost of Glasgow; captain Mr William Mann (formerly captain of the Eastwood Golf Club); vice-captain, Mr Walter Ritchie; hon. treasurer, Mr Matthew Smith, writer, 120 West Regent Street; hon. secretary, Mr John Watson Stuart, writer, 88 St. Vincent Street; match secretary, Mr Thomas Mitchell, 240 Darnley Street. A

general committee of twelve gentlemen was also appointed. Mr Mann who presided, stated that the course was presently being laid out, and that it was expected to be ready for play early in March, and would soon prove to be one of the finest in the country. It was remitted to the committee to select plans for a suitable clubhouse, and to have the same erected. A cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Sir John Stirling-Maxwell for his kindness in so readily acceding to the request made to him for permission to form a course within his policies. The club is composed of members of Eastwood Golf Club and the feuars and residents of Pollokshields.

Thursday, 1st December, 1892.



POLLOK GOLF CLUB OPENING CEREMONY

IN delightful weather the new course of The Pollok Golf Club was opened on Saturday in presence of large gathering of followers of the game. As already noted, the club is composed of members of Eastwood Club, who have vacated their course at Giffnock, and a number of gentlemen from Pollokshields. When the amalgamation took place Sir John Stirling-Maxwell was approached with a view to the formation of a course within his beautiful policies. Sir John readily agreed to the request then made, and the laying out of the ground was begun by James Douglas, the Giffnock greenkeeper, whose services were retained by the Pollok Club. The course, which is entered by the Cowglen Road, a little beyond the railway bridge, is entirely situated on the south side of the river, and is undoubtedly one of the finest and most exclusive inland courses in the neighbourhood of Glasgow. There are eighteen holes, covering three miles in all, and plenty of beautiful hazards in the shape of ditches, fences, and game preserves.

Mr Mann, the captain, at the outset expressed the gratitude of himself and the other members of the club for the great boon they had secured, and for the almost unparalleled generosity that had prompted Sir John Stirling-Maxwell to grant them the use of over 200 acres on which to form a course.

Mr Mann then called on the Lord Provost to drive off the first ball, and presented him with a silver cleek, which was specially made by Mr James Mark, jeweller, Queen Street, Glasgow, and bore this inscription:- "Presented to James Bell, Esq., the hon. the Lord Provost of Glasgow, by the Pollok Golf Club, on opening the course, 25th March, 1893."

The Lord Provost expressed his great gratitude to Sir John Stirling-Maxwell for the boon he had conferred on the South of Glasgow. It was not a light privilege that he had accorded to the members of the club in throwing open what was usually guarded zealously, the privacy of his own grounds. If it was not appreciated and zealously guarded by the members he felt that such a thing could never again occur in the neighbourhood of Glasgow. Sir John had set an example which could not be valued too much. He had a strong impression that physical exercises were good for everyone. Our social development was progressing very strongly, and we could not have too many amusements such as golf. He wished the club all success and declared the green open. The members afterwards took part in friendly foursomes.

25th March, 1893.

(Extract from the *Pollokshaws News*)

Pollok Clubhouse 1903



ANDREW JAMIESON, JUNIOR

ANY Centenary reflections of Pollok Golf Club would not be complete without appropriate reference to Andrew Jamieson Jnr.

Andrew is best remembered when he met the famed Bobby Jones, the US Champion at Muirfield in the British Amateur on 28 May, 1926. Andrew was a mere 21 year old and beat the Champion by 4 and 3.

When the match was recalled some 25 years later, Robert T. Jones, Jr. of Atlanta Georgia wrote to the Evening News saying: 'I remember quite well the very thorough beating administered to me by Andrew Jamieson. Although Andrew Jamieson was not too well known at the time, I assure you he was a worthy opponent for anyone - he played uncommonly well.'

He participated in a number of local and international matches and his memorabilia (which we retain in the lounge) illustrates the level of his golf by such names as Gene Sarazen, Joe Turnesa, Henry Cotton, R.D. Brand, Harry Vardon and Jas. Braid. Our own Jimmy Irons, Ewart and Colin Brown and Bill Irvine were to the fore at the time and Pollok Golf Club was therefore a force to be reckoned with.

Andrew Jamieson, Jnr. was the perfect gentleman golfer and in his later years when the match of our Members v Juniors was posted on the

Notice Board, his name was usually first on the list.

When aged three score years and ten he had been quite ill but was seen back at Pollok ...

'Nice to see you back again Andrew - are you playing yet?'

(AJ) *'Yes, I'm able to play, but it's not the same.'*

'Oh, I'm sorry to hear that.'

(AJ) *'I can't get my distance; can't get home at the 18th with my second.'*

'Oh what a pity' ... What else could I say?'

(AJ) *'However, I've found the secret.'*

I was immediately most attentive ...

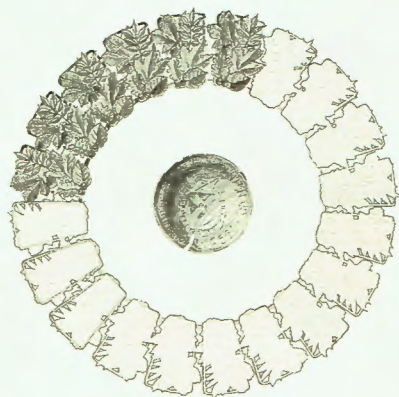
(AJ) *'Yes, I just put my third one stiff!'*



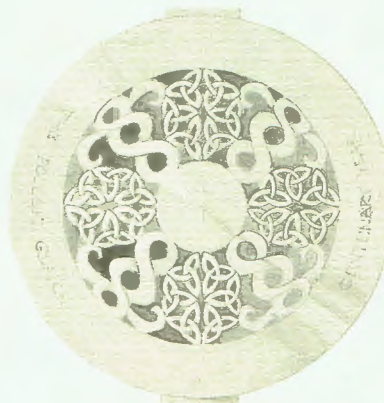
R.T. (Bobby) Jones shaking hands with Andrew Jamieson, British Amateur Championship 1926.



CENTENARY TROPHIES



*Centenary Trophy
Autumn Meeting*



*The Pollok Quaich
Summer Meeting*

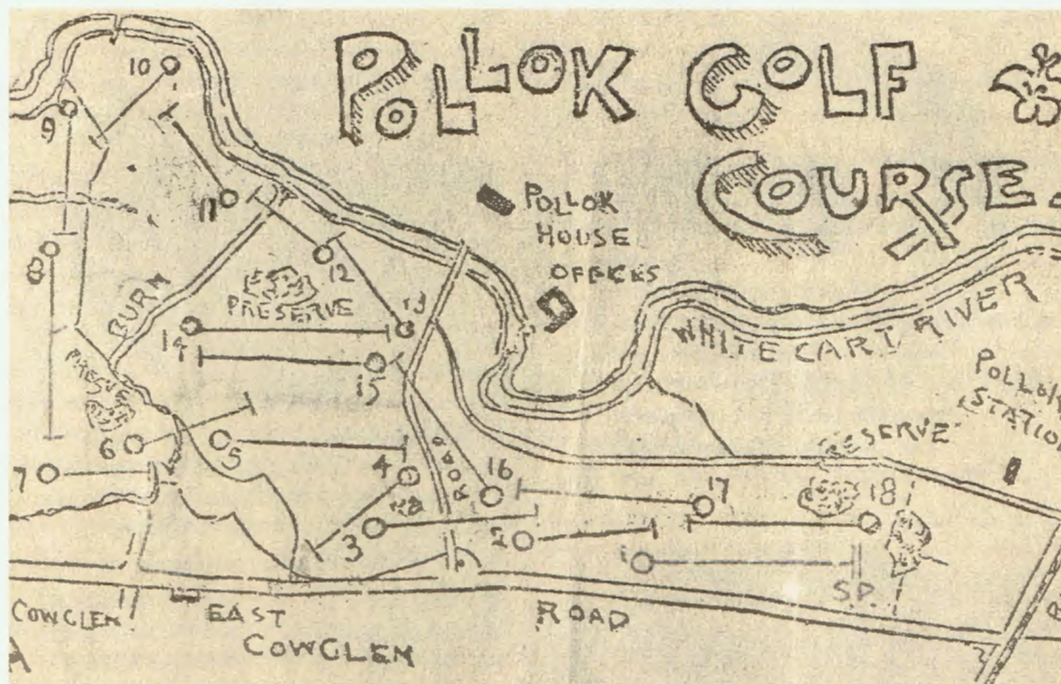
Taken from Original Drawings

POLLOK GOLF CLUB - CLUB CHAMPIONS

1920 J H Irons	1937 R P Burnet	1959 W S Jack	1976 M G Fairman
1921 J H Irons	1938 C S Brown	1960 R Montgomerie	1977 R N C Douglas
1922 J I Scott	1939 A Jamieson	1961 W S Jack	1978 J G B Peters
1923 J H Irons	1940/45 —	1962 W S Jack	1979 I W Dunn
1924 A Jamieson Jnr	1946 T R Taylor Jnr	1963 W S Jack	1980 K R Fergusson
1925 A Jamieson Jnr	1947 J T Johnston	1964 D H Reid	1981 J G B Peters
1926 J H Irons	1948 J T Johnson	1965 W S Jack	1982 I W Dunn
1927 A Jamieson Jnr	1949 A C Moodie	1966 W S Jack	1983 G W Spy
1928 A Jamieson Jnr	1950 D H Reid	1967 J E Stuart	1984 G W Spy
1929 E S Brown	1951 W S Jack	1968 J E Stuart	1985 M H Glasgow
1930 E S Brown	1952 W Irvine	1969 J E Stuart	1986 J G B Peters
1931 A Jamieson Jnr	1953 J P Dunlop	1970 H C Davidson	1987 J G B Peters
1932 A Jamieson Jnr	1954 W Irvine	1971 J E Stuart	1988 J G B Peters
1933 A Jamieson Jnr	1955 W S Jack	1972 D H McIvor	1989 W K Edgar
1934 A Jamieson Jnr	1956 A Jamieson	1973 D H McIvor	1990 B N Ker
1935 W Irvine	1957 W S Jack	1974 H C Davidson	1991 G C Cox
1936 A Jamieson	1958 J P Dunlop	1975 D H McIvor	1992 G C Cox



COURSE LAYOUT - 1893



From an Original Drawing

As at 25th March 1893 - Yardage 5,400

1. Ashtree	420	10. Corkerhill	220
2. Lodge	300	11. Rhannan	220
3. Clump	330	12. Sunk Fence ..	150
4. Table	310	13. Bridge	220
5. Hippenstones .	350	14. Warren	390
6. Cowglen	270	15. Lawbush	380
7. Damshot	180	16. Dowgate	340
8. Crookston	380	17. Avenue	330
9. Halfway	250	18. Home	360

As at 1st December 1992 - Yardage 6,257

1. Ashtree	384	10. Sunk Fence ..	395
2. Lodge	329	11. Crookston	388
3. Cowglen	350	12. Corkerhill	166
4. Table	335	13. Hagg's View ..	336
5. Hippenstones .	371	14. Rhannan	407
6. Damshot	174	15. Bridge	476
7. Lawbush	487	16. Dowgate	321
8. Warren	361	17. Avenue	150
9. Halfway	430	18. Home	397



COURSE MANAGEMENT - 1893

1. ASHTREE - called after the large tree on the left "two long drives and an iron shot should reach the green". The green was 20 yards square.

2. LODGE - named after the Lodge House of Pollok House situated on Cowglen Road. "At the putting green the first tree which is directly menacing is experienced" (!)

3. CLUMP - the game preserve is on the right. A deep ditch at the far side of the putting green will punish strong approaches.

4. TABLE - the green derives its name from being situated at an elevation.

5. HIPPENSTANES - or hipping stones - stepping stones. Hipping is to hop on one leg or skip [mentioned on Ainslie's map of Renfrewshire 1796]. No prominent features except rabbit holes to the right of the green.

6. COWGLEN - the first great difficulty. A few yards from the teeing ground a meandering burn has to be crossed. But a hedge on one side and a wire fence on the other by the burn add to the width of the dangerous ground and a well-raised long drive is required to reach safe ground. The approach to the hole is narrow and is between a garden and a game preserve which necessitates care with the second shot which will probably be taken with the brassy. The putting green which is raised is circular and about 270 yards from the tee. At the side are rabbit scrapes.

7. DAMSHOT - a watercourse running from a dam. [marked on Ainslie's map of Renfrewshire 1796]

8. CROOKSTON - a very sporting hole. At the distance of a short drive is a ridge of rabbit holes extending right across the course which will catch short heeled, toed or straight balls.

9. HALFWAY - again the player experiences a tree guarding the green. As the distance is 250 yards, a four may be expected.

10. CORKERHILL - it runs parallel with the river. A straight and long driver has a chance of reaching the green from the tee with a back wind but the 220 yards

to be covered will be well done in three or four.

11. RHANNAN - is 220 yards long. The line of the hole shaves the river which takes a quick turn. Timid players will drive for safety to the right and of course will be penalised by a longer approach. The green is furrowed and nicety of judgment will be brought to bear in the putting.

12. SUNK FENCE - presents another formidable difficulty. The drive will have all the excitement of clearing a deep ditch containing water and backed up by a high stone wall at a distance of 80 feet from the tee.

13. BRIDGE - this hole does not leave the Cart. A view of Sir John's home with its beautiful grounds is here obtained. But probably the golfer will be more intent in keeping his ball out of the river. The distance is 220 yards and another four will be run up.

14. WARREN - it strikes out at right angles from the river and derives its name from the putting green being placed in a rabbit warren which will give some variety to the approach game. It may be taken in five.

15. LAWBRUSH - so called on account of its being in the vicinity of a mound on which are trees from which tradition says witches were hung [sic] - a hillock often associated with a tumulus, so a place of religious significance, therefore an appropriate place to hang wrongdoers. The golfers have formed this into a hazard and it requires to be driven over or played round about. A five will be a good score for 380 yards.

16. DOWGATE - a corruption of Dovecote or doocot - situated near the square. 340 yards long and contains no more incident than a wire fence in front of the teeing ground and a road.

17. AVENUE - requires straight driving to prevent the ball going on the road to the left or the game preserve to the right.

18. HOME - is 360 yards in length and is a good test of long driving. The putting green is excellent and is 24 yards square. The golfer who is able to take this hole in an average of five will probably go round the course in a little over eighty.





Clockwise from top:
JA McGlashan, George Duncan, Abe Mitchell
and JLC Jenkins - Pollok 1921.

George Duncan holing out with JLC Jenkins,
Abe Mitchell and Dr JS Kennedy looking on -
1921.

Andrew Jamieson Jnr., winning the Scottish
Amateur Golf Championship.

Ewart Brown with Andrew Jamieson Jnr., win-
ning the Scottish Foursomes - 1926.



Clockwise from top:
GH Deakin, Sandy Lyle and CS Potts - 1985.
Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader with John
McTear and Alan Brodie - 1977.
DH Reid and Dr FWG Deighton winning the
Scottish Foursomes - 1950.
JE Stuart, GB Peters and WS Jack - Prizegiving
1967.
Robin Neill Jnr., SL McKinlay, John McKinlay
and Jock Morrison with former Open Cham-
pion, Gene Sarazen - 1958.



THEN AND NOW

Circular to intending members.

"88 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, 22 November, 1891 - Dear Sir, I am instructed ... to request you to pay ... the sum of one Guinea being entry money to the Club and like sum of one Guinea being your subscription for the first year."

"The following motion will (also) be submitted to the meeting by Mr. ... 'That on and after this date, ladies be allowed to play golf on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.00am and 3.00pm.'"

Notice calling Special General Meeting on 11/9/1894.

(Consideration continued to Annual General Meeting)

"The Committee .. unanimously recommend that consideration ... be deferred for at least another year."

Annual Report, 20/12/1894.

(There is no record of the matter having again been raised.)

"The Chairman moved 'That the Committee of Management be empowered to make arrangements for having liquor and other refreshments supplied in the Clubhouse.'"

Annual Meeting 20/12/1894.

(Agreed)

"Sheepark."

Claim paid for loss of one cow£18.10.0d

Claim paid Andrew Leishman for injury to ewe grazing in Sheepark£1.5.0d

£19.15.0d

Annual Accounts, 1895.

Income Expenditure

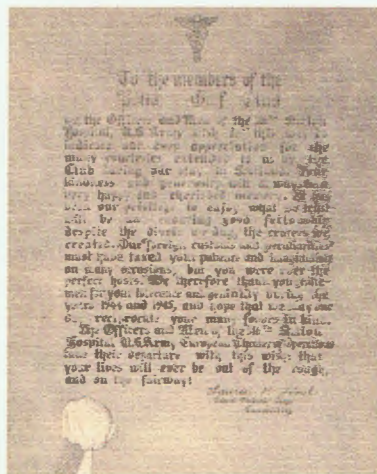
Sale of Horse£7.0.0d

Purchase of 6.8 HP Motor Mower£121.17.6d

Annual Accounts, 30/11/1911.

"The new Clubhouse was opened by Mrs J Campbell Murray of Haggis Castle on 20th April, 1912. The structure has been completed for the sum of £3,110.3.2d."

Annual Report, 23/12/1912.



During the second world war Cowglen Hospital was occupied by the American Forces.

The medical staff were given the courtesy of Pollok and many were entertained in the homes of members.

In turn the members received first class treatment in the hospital for their golfing aches and pains.



THE SUGGESTION BOOK



The Suggestion Book is a fine illustration of the thoughts of our predecessors. The current book is only eighty years old but still provides us with some gems.

19 APRIL, 1919:

We the undersigned consider that the time has now arrived when the committee should take the necessary steps to obtain the services of a competent man to undertake the combined duties of House Steward and Caddie Master.

The suggestion was signed by 68 members, but there was no response recorded by the Secretary.

In earlier days when the Clubhouse was located in the present Car Park area the Members took it in turn to "sweep it out". Perhaps this was the reason for suggesting the "services of a competent man".

24 AUGUST, 1924:

In view of the danger to players in the dip approaching the 18th green, that a notice be put up at the 1st tee to the effect that when a player slices a ball he should immediately cry aloud "Fore".

Perhaps we should find this notice and re-instate it.

5 AUGUST, 1930:

The undersigned suggest the following improvements to the Clubhouse:

1. Comfortable chairs in the smoke room
2. Electric light throughout the Clubhouse.

This suggestion was noted by the Committee, 11 August, 1930, "but not considered to be practicable meantime."

10 AUGUST, 1930:

That a wireless be installed for the benefit of the Members and staff of the Club

This was signed by 19 members. The matter was "considered; decided no action be taken."

29 JANUARY, 1938:

We suggest that "Bulk Whisky" be abolished and that all whisky should be served from the bottle. *Following a sympathetic hearing the Committee "decided that Bottled Haig be added to Bulk Whisky already stocked."*

It is interesting to note that the next suggestion in the book is "that an Ambulance Box should be purchased for use in case of minor accidents."

It is assumed that these two suggestions are not related.

6th NOVEMBER, 1960

Suggest that players who effect the eccentricity of wearing the trousers inside the socks should be compelled, in order to complete the regrettable sartorial picture, to sport the galluses outside the upper garments.

These are some of the quotes from our Suggestion Book – your Suggestion Book. There are only about seven pages to be filled in, but that should suffice for about ten years. We are not proposing that you submit an entry but we do recommend that you take some time to examine it.

