

THE BRITISH GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY



ISSUE NUMBER ONE - JUNE 1987

THROUGH THE GREENis the official journal of the British Golf Collectors Society and will be published quarterly in June, September, December and March. It will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information aimed at individual collectors and historians. In particular we hope that through these pages you will increase your knowledge and understanding of the rich history of golf, make new friends and cement old friendships. We hope you enjoy this first ever issue and warmly welcome any contributions, comments or suggestions you may have.

THROUGH THE GREEN

EDITOR

David White

SECRETARY

David Easby

TREASURER

Tony Hawkins

CAPTAIN

Raymond Gossage

COMMITTEE

Peter Crabtree

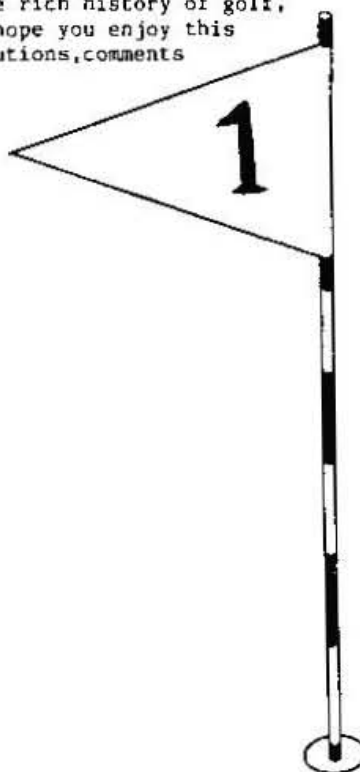
Raymond Gossage

Tony Hawkins

Tim Smartt

Philip Truett

David White



EDITORIAL ADDRESS: 13 GREAT COLLEGE STREET, KEMPTOWN, BRIGHTON BN2 1HJ EAST SUSSEX.

Seventeen years ago a modest single page bulletin was issued by the GOLFANA COLLECTORS CLUB, written by the co-founder, Joseph Murdoch. Issue number two indicated a change of title to GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY and listed a small input of members. In those early days few could imagine the immense growth that was to emerge from what was then considered to be an inexpensive and slightly eccentric hobby. In all eighty nine issues of the bulletin were published and membership grew to thousands. It is no easy task to establish the real reasons for the fragmentation of that society and I have no wish to grind my axe on the unfortunate matter. That the G.C.S. will continue seems likely, though in what form remains uncertain. No matter - we in Great Britain have sufficient enthusiasts to 'go it alone' and the BRITISH GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY has been formed. This first publication returns to modest proportions and with the avowed intention to return to those basic ideas of 1970. Input from members is vital to sustain reader attention and original golf related contributions will be most welcome.

My hope is that in seventeen years time a future scribe will turn to this issue and observe that we began on the right course.

DAVID WHITE



THE 1987 BRITISH GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY MEETING
GULLANE, 15th JULY

Those of you with long service in the G.C.S. will know that it has been custom for the British contingent to hold a 'gathering' during the week of The Open Championship. This year, with The Open being held at Muirfield, the BRITISH GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY will continue the tradition with the delicious prospect of a round of golf at GULLANE, to be followed by a SUPPER in the GULLANE clubhouse. Our member Archie Baird has organised several tee times for those wishing to play and prospective entrants are urged to make contact with him without undue delay. Non-players will be welcome at the supper but prior booking and payment MUST be made BEFORE the event. Entry fee for both golf and supper is £20.00 and for supper only £7.00. Spies inform me that our friends from Texas are likely to invade this, our first official B.G.C.S. meeting. Write or telephone Archie now and reserve a place for this important event.

***** Archie Baird, Greyfriars, ABERLADY, East Lothian, Scotland. *****
 Telephone: 087 - 57 - 277

FORWARD INFORMATION

The British Golf Collectors Society Meeting

ST. ANNES OLD LINKS GOLF CLUB JULY 13th 1988

Member Bill Birch has already reserved 40 places for a round of golf at the St Annes Old Links course, this to coincide with The Open Championship at Royal Lytham & St Annes. Past experience indicates that this popular holiday resort area is likely to attract a large following of enthusiasts and you may care to make prior reservations with Bill for both golf and for a formal DINNER to be held at THE CLIFTON ARMS HOTEL in the evening. 'Old Links' alone amongst Lytham St Annes courses retains an openness to the sea, the mark of traditional 'links' golf, an exposure which guarantees those salty breezes which ensure an excitingly different experience for the inland golfer.

***** Bill Birch, 6 Square Rd. Walsden TODMORDEN Lancs *****
 Telephone: 070 - 681 - 6229

EPITAPH ON THE TOMB OF A SCRATCH GOLFER

Here lies the golfer, handicap scratch;
 He played like the Devil, rarely lost a match,
 As hard as iron, as gnarled as wood,
 He strode through life as a scratch man should.

Now, he sups with the Devil: and he golfs as well;
 He needs full long spoons at the courses of Hell.
 Now, he never wins matches, never a round,
 But he's won one hole, this hole in the ground.

Ray Gossage.



LETTER FROM AMERICA by 'MARTINI'

We do not know exactly where we picked up the following but we thought it was appropriate....."Collectors are crazy.They are,and they know it.You have to be, to have the real collecting urge". It was a wise man who wrote that.

We Tories - those of whom still remain - greeted the news of the formation of a British Golf Collectors Society with some joy and some pain. Pain,we suppose because we (the original G.C.S.) could not attract you for at least one more year,but Joy because we can certainly understand the desire to stand alone and independant of demonic Dictatorship. We wish you well - and hope that on our occasional forays onto your sacred links,you will receive us with some charity.

Under the newly established 'quad - part' leadership - is that how you say that? - of Yaws,Olson,Carey and Kuhl,the G.C.S. is struggling to keep its non -organizational head above ground. Those of you who are perceptive - and aren't all of the British perceptive? - will realize that the acronym of the four saviors is Y O C K,which rhymes with jock,which starts with "j",which means it is 'hey',the G.C.S. is saved'. Good for them. We do not have everyone in the fold that is listed in the 1986 Directory but considering the travail,we are doing well.

Visitors from your part of the world have included John Adams - not the second U.S.President - but G.C.S. John who is doing research which may lead to a book on Willie Park.....and Sarah Baddiel,who was a welcome visitor to a local meeting held by the 'Illustrious Norman S Hollander Chapter' of the G.C.S. which was held at Far Hills,New Jersey on March 22nd. More than ninety G.C.S.members and guests attended and it did an old book - collectors heart good to see four tables devoted to books. We were encouraged when it was announced that the annual G.C.S. meeting will be held at Golf House,Far Hills,New Jersey on October 9th & 10th and we hope to offer more information and detail on this meeting in future 'letters'.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Tom Scott,former G.C.S. member and for many years the editor of GOLF ILLUSTRATED....he was a kind man as evidenced by his polite answers to the many queries we asked of him over a good number of years.

We note that Laurie Auchterlonie has sold (still another?)collection of old clubs to a Country Club in Florida and in the collection was the putter with which Willie Park won the very first Open in 1860 - wouldn't you think that the very least he could have done was to donate it to Royal Musselburgh?

We note,too,with interest,that the Honourable Company will auction off their collection of paintings by Major Hopkins (Shortspoon).

We would be presumptuous to advise you of books being offered on the British market but perhaps some items of American publication will be of interest.

Bob Sommers,editor of GOLF JOURNAL,has written "The U.S.Open:Golf's Ultimate Challenge" and if the adjective is somewhat autocratic,the book should fill the need for a recap of those 100 Opens which have been played...."Ken Venturi's Stroke Savers" is published by Atheneum at \$17.95.....and a reprint of "Doctor Golf" by William Price Fox,is offered by the University of South Carolina Press(Columbia S.C.29208) for \$13.95. Also,promised, are "My Most Memorable Shots in the Majors" by Jack Nicklaus with Ken Bowden and "Strokes of Genius" - a neat title for a golf book - by Tom Boswell(Doubleday \$19.95)... holy cow,remember when a new book cost \$3.95? John Olman has written and published "The Squire: The Legendary Golfing Life of Gene Sarazen". Nicely produced it sells for \$23.95 from The Old Golf Shop,Cincinnati,Ohio.G.C.S.member ,Bob MacDonald continues to impress with his 'Classics of Golf'series of reprints:the latest of which will be "Reminiscences of Golf on St.Andrews Links",by Balfour and "Hints on Golf"by Hutcheson. Jack Nicklaus will write the 'afterwords;as usual,Warren Wind will write the perceptive and fascinating Forewords.

In closing,we are pleased that someone (four of 'em,actually!) has stepped forward to carry along the philosophy of the G.C.S.....we are sorry that there was a 'burp' in the process.....but we are pleased that it is all being sorted out. You can expect the usual invasion of 'American natives' to your Open and we hope to meet you on open ground - which means a links,a fair wind,a cloudless day and a very dry martini awaiting after the battle.

Editorial note: There is not,I fear,an award for guessing the identity of 'Martini', who is none other than our dear friend Joseph Murdoch.Our thanks to you Joe,for your contribution.May we hope,the first of many?

TOURNAMENT REPORT - SCOTTISH HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROYAL MUSSELBURGH GOLF COURSE MAY 29th 1987

True to the spirit of the collector, the Scottish section of the G.C.S. (now fully amalgamated into the British Golf Collectors Society) held their third annual hickory championships on May 29th, this time on the Royal Musselburgh course. Having attended the previous meetings, at Old Musselburgh & Royal Burgess respectively, I was disappointed at being unable to attend on this occasion, being involved at Sunningdale with The Walker Cup (of which, the least said the better) and I am therefore indebted to John Rigg for the account which follows:

Last week the members of the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club were treated to the unusual spectacle of a group of golfers tackling their course armed with hickory - shafted clubs. This band of worthies from the British Golf Collectors Society were competing in their annual competition for the Scottish Hickory Championship of 1987.

Apart from rain, which created a full mornings work for one BGCS member who had shafts to oil and heads to clean on sets of clubs which he loaned to other players, the outing was a declared success with some notable scoring. The main prize, The ROYAL TROON CLUB (A replica of a 17th c club as displayed at Royal Troon) presented by Phillips of Chester was won by the champion Alan Jackson, a Group Captain in the R.A.F. and one-time member of the Royal Burgess with a fine 74 nett off 17. Runner - up in this section was last years champion John Kiernan, hotly pursued by Archie Baird. (Gullane & The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers).

The SAM SHARP SWINGER trophy, presented as a permanent award by Sam Sharp, and awarded to the best scratch score return was won in convincing style by John McTear, the Cowglen Professional, with a fine 77 which included a one over par inward half - sharp shooting indeed! Runner - up was Brian Hanson who was seen with a valuable scared- head driver in his bag. Did he use it? No one really knows!

Other notable events on the day included a flying mashie niblick head - John McTear being left with the shaft intact some fifty yards from the landing area and a 'gentle' 10 on the 14th from event organiser John Rigg (The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers). Rigg, winner of the scratch award in 1986 thinned his mashie shot from the tee and ended some forty feet down a gully with only a niblick for companion! His playing partner suggested that a scythe might have been more appropriate.

Having viewed the fine collection of golfing antiquities on display at the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club survivors from the competition took Dinner in the clubhouse - no quarts of Claret at 1/3d though - and were addressed by Tony Hawkins, who gave a resume of the founding of our new British Society. This over, the assembled gathering listened with fascination to a reminiscent half - hour or so from that grand old man of golf - George Colville. George had played eight holes that very day and at aged 92 demonstrated how able he still is with the hickory. It was the late Frank Moran who once dubbed George 'The Musselburgh Golf Historian' and his talk ably demonstrated how knowledgeable he really is. As one who learned his golf from such masters as Willie Park Senior and Bob Ferguson (both Open Champions) he can with much pride claim 'I know 'cos I was there'. Sixty or more years ago he had been assigned by the Royal Musselburgh Club to assist the legendary James Braid, who was to lay out the 'new' course at Prestongrange House and recalled how, having been given funds to ensure that Braid was properly refreshed at lunchtime, asked if he would care for a dram. Braid's reply came as no surprise: "naw laddie I'll hae twa!"

AFTER THAT, I WANTED
MORE AND MORE.



ANOTHER DATE FOR '88

Scottish Hickory Golf
Championship - Royal
Burgess Golf Club -
Friday June 3rd 1988.

contact John Rigg:
031 - 440 -1385.

NOW —
I'M ALL MESSED UP.



TOURNAMENT REPORT - SCOTTISH HICKORY CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROYAL MUSSELBURGH GOLF COURSE MAY 29th 1987

True to the spirit of the collector, the Scottish section of the G.C.S. (now fully amalgamated into the British Golf Collectors Society) held their third annual hickory championships on May 29th, this time on the Royal Musselburgh course. Having attended the previous meetings, at Old Musselburgh & Royal Burgess respectively, I was disappointed at being unable to attend on this occasion, being involved at Sunningdale with The Walker Cup (of which, the least said the better) and I am therefore indebted to John Rigg for the account which follows:

Last week the members of the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club were treated to the unusual spectacle of a group of golfers tackling their course armed with hickory - shafted clubs. This band of worthies from the British Golf Collectors Society were competing in their annual competition for the Scottish Hickory Championship of 1987.

Apart from rain, which created a full mornings work for one BGCS member who had shafts to oil and heads to clean on sets of clubs which he loaned to other players, the outing was a declared success with some notable scoring. The main prize, The ROYAL TROON CLUB (A replica of a 17th c club as displayed at Royal Troon) presented by Phillips of Chester was won by the champion Alan Jackson, a Group Captain in the R.A.F. and one-time member of the Royal Burgess with a fine 74 nett off 17. Runner - up in this section was last years champion John Kiernan, hotly pursued by Archie Baird. (Gullane & The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers).

The SAM SHARP SWINGER trophy, presented as a permanent award by Sam Sharp, and awarded to the best scratch score return was won in convincing style by John McTear, the Cowglen Professional, with a fine 77 which included a one over par inward half - sharp shooting indeed! Runner - up was Brian Hanson who was seen with a valuable scared- head driver in his bag. Did he use it? No one really knows!

Other notable events on the day included a flying mashie niblick head - John McTear being left with the shaft intact some fifty yards from the landing area and a 'gentle' 10 on the 14th from event organiser John Rigg (The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers). Rigg, winner of the scratch award in 1986 thinned his mashie shot from the tee and ended some forty feet down a gully with only a niblick for companion! His playing partner suggested that a scythe might have been more appropriate.

Having viewed the fine collection of golfing antiquities on display at the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club survivors from the competition took Dinner in the clubhouse - no quarts of Claret at 1/3d though - and were addressed by Tony Hawkins, who gave a resume of the founding of our new British Society. This over, the assembled gathering listened with fascination to a reminiscent half - hour or so from that grand old man of golf - George Colville. George had played eight holes that very day and at aged 92 demonstrated how able he still is with the hickory. It was the late Frank Moran who once dubbed George 'The Musselburgh Golf Historian' and his talk ably demonstrated how knowledgeable he really is. As one who learned his golf from such masters as Willie Park Senior and Bob Ferguson (both Open Champions) he can with much pride claim 'I know 'cos I was there'. Sixty or more years ago he had been assigned by the Royal Musselburgh Club to assist the legendary James Braid, who was to lay out the 'new' course at Prestongrange House and recalled how, having been given funds to ensure that Braid was properly refreshed at lunchtime, asked if he would care for a dram. Braid's reply came as no surprise: "naw laddie I'll hae twa!"

AFTER THAT, I WANTED
MORE AND MORE.



ANOTHER DATE FOR '88

Scottish Hickory Golf
Championship - Royal
Burgess Golf Club -
Friday June 3rd 1988.

contact John Rigg:
031 - 440 -1385.

NOW —
I'M ALL MESSED UP.

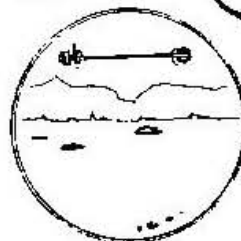


A PLEA FOR HELP!

Lost, stolen or strayed - a 4cm Sterling Silver medal with recent pin attachment on the back.

Front shows turbaned Indian and back with scene of the lakes and houseboats of Cashmere, with the Himalayan mountains in the distance. The pin is attached just above the mountain and there is some scarring - between the attachment. Possibly dated 1935.

Mr Peter Hartman (Tel: 01 - 935 9582) writes to advise that this medal, which he recognises as not of great materialistic worth, was originally awarded to his Grandfather, Brigadier A.H. Williams, and has considerable family sentimental value. Medal collectors will know that Gulmarg medals are not uncommon and you should contact Mr Hartman ONLY if this particular item, fitting the exact description, should come to your attention.

A U C T I O N D A T E S

CHRISTIES - Glasgow Wednesday July 15th

Tel: 041-332-8134

PHILLIPS - Edinburgh Thursday July 16th

Tel: 0244-313936

SOTHEBYS - London Tuesday July 21st

Tel: 01-493-8080

I know I am not alone in objecting to the practice of the auction houses of charging for sale catalogues. I know equally well that my protest will not cause them to change policy. My suggestion to those who receive bills of account for unsolicited catalogues - which in my household are about as well received as might a single malt whisky be in Teheran - is to consign them to the waste bin!

Sharpeyed observers will note that the Christies auction clashes with our golf meeting at Gullane. With members making in excess of 50% of total attendance at these specialised auctions would it be asking too much for the organisers to consult with us first?

"It matters not the sacrifice
which makes the duffer's
wife so sore.

I am the captive of my
slice

I am the servant of my
score"

IT'S A DOGS LIFE.

As a gift for their wedding, Alastair & Tammy Johnston were delighted to receive a Golden Retriever puppy, one of a litter of three, from their good friends Arnold and Winnie Palmer.

As one of the foremost collectors of golf books and memorabilia, Alastair decided to christen the puppy McEWAN, who readers will know was a legendary club maker of the nineteenth century.

Alastair was quick to point out to me that outside of the golfing fraternity the given name was more readily identified with a well known Scottish brewery and you may imagine his surprise on learning that Greg Norman had taken one of the two remaining pups back to his home, naming it FOSTER!

The coincidence took a further twist when Alastair made contact with a young couple in New York who had purchased the remaining mutt and, unaware of the existence by name of McEWAN and FOSTER had named their dog GUINNESS!

M E M B E R S H I P D I R E C T O R Y

The news that our total membership is still growing is very encouraging and certain proof that our timing was pretty well perfect.

Given the wind on our back we'll probably have a full list of members, their interests, 'phone numbers etc. ready in time to send out with the next issue of this journal. If you have yet to advise our Secretary, DAVID EASBY, of these vital details please do so by writing to him at:-

25 St. Stephens Avenue; EALING, London W 13.

More of B.O.O.K.S.H.E.L.F. with the publication by Kingswood Press of SEVERIANO BALLESTINOS by David Cannon. This is a rather grand collection of those photographs for which Dave Cannon has become recognised. Distinctive, intimate, revealing and always colourful, it is a photographic record of the famous Spanish golfer's life in Europe and the United States over the past decade. Hard bound, it cost £9.95. Although published in 1986 you may care to know of THE BOB CHARLES LEFT-HANDERS GOLF BOOK published by Angus and Robertson at £7.95. Bob examines the special problems of the left-handers performance - not just the design of golf clubs and the layout of golf courses (which are all designed for right-handers), but the question of psychology and attitude. As a left-hander I can heartily recommend this, a book which 'lefties' have been waiting for - by the best left-hander in the history of golf. A soft cover version of THE GOOD GOLF GUIDE has been released by MacDonald/Queen Anne Press at £5.95. Written by Peter Alliss, it includes a description of some 200 courses, their settings and what they are like to play on. Details of the cost and qualifications required to play (though be warned that some prices included are already out of date), catering facilities, accommodation, addresses and 'phone numbers etc etc. The expert evaluation by Peter Alliss is admirable, written with typical Alliss humour..... Though published in late '85, THE HESKETH GOLF CLUB 1885-1985 is worth a mention. Published by The Club in a limited edition of 750, it's well written by Keith Hick and is available in hardback from the secretary at £15.00 inclusive of postage. Our member Hamish Ewen is fortunate in playing his golf at Nairn and has written telling us of the publication of NAIRN GOLF CLUB - A HISTORY. I've not yet seen a copy but understand it is a card covered book with a dustcover and is available from the club secretary at £6.00 including postage. I had resolved not to review videos but note that a set of the original 18 short feature films made by Bobby Jones in 1931 & 1933 are to be reissued on video. Sold as a 'limited edition' (as Joe M. used to say 'arn't they all') the set is issued by Sybervision in the USA. A move in the right direction is the reissue of BAUMINGTON LIBRARY : GOLF, tastefully done in buckram with the Beaufort crest and printed on a 'quality' cream paper, it is published by Ashford Press Publishing, Shedfield, Hants at £16.95. Apropos the NAIRN GOLF CLUB book mentioned above, a copy has just arrived via the Secretary, the correct title being NAIRN GOLF CLUB 1887 - 1987 by Stuart Lindsay. It is a brave little book, well written and describing how golf, recorded as a rough & ready pastime on the common links in the previous century, was put on a modern footing with the coming of the railway and the town's development as 'The Brighton of the North'. Old Tom Morris was paid £6.10/- to develop and stretch it to its present boundaries in 1890 and the course has been further refined by James Braid. I particularly like an entry found in the club suggestion book that women should be allowed into the clubhouse when the thermometer reached freezing point..... Reading it makes me yearn to play on the links of Nairn Hamish Ewen please note!! All of which reminds me of the time when I made application to join an old and well respected club in Fife. There was, assured the Secretary, little problem in my becoming a country member and my wife would be welcomed, should she care to play..... on 'ladies day' when the lassies are permitted to tee off between 10.30 & 11.30, on alternate Thursdays!!! Another club celebrating its centenary is KINGHORN, with the publication of a centenary brochure entitled ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF KINGHORN GOLF CLUB. The secretary was kind enough to send me a complimentary copy (my only perk!) of this modest 26 pp. soft cover booklet, which gives a nicely written though brief history of this ancient club in the Kingdom of Fife. It was interesting to note that it took fifty years before Sunday play was permitted and another twelve years were to follow before the clubhouse bar was allowed to remain open on the Sabbath. In that year, 1963, a ladies toilet was provided, thus providing an opportunity for ladies to at least be admitted to the clubhouse but it was to remain a case of the male supreme for many more years - the time was not ready. Only in 1983, ninety six years after formation, were the ladies admitted as Associate members.....

A SUGGESTION PUT FORWARD RECENTLY IS FOR A 'WEEKEND' OF GOLF, WITH A VENUE SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDLANDS. PRELIMINARY ENQUIRIES SUGGEST THAT SUCH A WEEKEND WOULD COST ABOUT £70.00 WITH A FORMAT OF, SAY, ARRIVAL AT HOTEL FRIDAY EVENING, GOLF AT AN HOTEL VENUE SOMETIME ON SATURDAY, PERHAPS A SHORT TRADING SESSION OF ONE OR TWO HOURS DURATION. DINNER SATURDAY EVENING AND A FURTHER ROUND OF GOLF AT SAME HOTEL, GOLF COURSE ON SUNDAY BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR HOME. TO MAKE SUCH A WEEKEND VIABLE WOULD NECESSITATE A MINIMUM OF TWELVE PLAYING MEMBERS. IF SUCH A GATHERING APPEALS PLEASE WRITE AND LET ME HAVE YOUR VIEWS. - SEND YOUR LETTERS ON THIS, OR ANY OTHER TOPIC TO: DAVID WHITE

13 GREAT COLLEGE STREET,
BRIGHTON BN2 1HJ
EAST SUSSEX

PORTRAIT OF A COLLECTOR - SAM SHARP

Eighteen years ago, Sam Sharp heard of a new group of collectors in the U.S.A., wrote a letter to Sir Murdoch and as a result of that letter became the first non-American to join the Golf Collectors Society. It is fitting that he should be the first to be featured in 'Portrait of a Collector', which will become a regular feature in 'Through the Green.' Sam Sharp was born in Hull just after the first world war, remaining the epitome of a true blue Yorkshireman (Yorkophile?) to this day. After graduating from London University with an honours degree in chemistry he joined **THE ALCOYS**, being amongst the very first to work on development of the atomic bomb - an explosive character from the very start! Having 'won' the war, Sam entered a new career in the paint industry and has remained in paint - up to his neck - for close on forty years. He has only recently retired from the position of Technical and Industrial Sales Director of **HUMROL** Limited and can proudly claim to be one of the first two chemists to make emulsion paint, this as early as 1947. His pioneer work on the first non-toxic paints as early as 1956 helped **HUMROL** to become the world leader in this field. Aside from academic achievement and industrial pioneering, Sam has always maintained an abiding interest in all sports, being Captain of his school team in Cricket, Soccer and Table Tennis. His soccer was of a high enough calibre for him to have a trial with Aston Villa, (though University intervened) and he played for his beloved Yorkshire in the county team before W.W.II.* A more bizarre interest was (is) his devotion for the game of baseball, Hull was the hot-bed for this electrifying game and he became hooked! (Was it Walter Ruggen who said "if you can throw a ball you can hit a ball"?) No matter, his passion has never faltered. Captain again for both soccer and cricket at University, Sam enjoyed some notoriety in both fields before a knee injury cut short his activities and it was to be several years before he took to golf. Within one year of starting he was playing to a handicap of 9 and this was reduced to 4 within three years at his golf club, the championship standard **HURNSEA** Links on the Yorkshire coast. He is a life member at **HURNSEA** and is also a long standing member of the famous **CANON** Club. This club celebrates its centenary in 1991 and has asked Sam to write its history. Naturally flattered, he is keen to help but will in probability assist with the authorship. It will be a piece of history that we shall all await with considerable interest. Incidentally, 'spurs' tell of 'THE WALKER CUP' possibly being held at **CANON** during centenary year. Most of Sam's friends are amazed at his swing - being a composite of the speed of Billy Joe Patton and the brevity of Doug Sanders - and that celebrated golfing journalist Peter Alliss, a close friend of our hero, is on record as saying "Sam, your swing makes that of Doug Sanders look normal!" however this scribble can verify to it's efficiency, having been on the receiving end once or twice. It is only now, after some 27 years that Sam has gone up to a handicap of 10. Sam became interested in collecting in 1970 and was to become a bibliophile of some note, with a library which contained all but a handful of the very rarest books. He is also an expert on cigarette card collecting. Due to advancing years (his words, not mine!) and a need to reduce the volume of material in his house Sam has disposed of much of his collection, though retaining a lively interest in the activities of other collectors. His loves remain the same, namely golf and jazz (he maintains a wonderful collection of pre 1940 recordings and is confident in issuing the following challenge: "I'll play anyone for a fiver pound at **CANON**."

* At Tennis!



SAM SHARP - THE YORKSHIRE TERRITOR