

Bridge Pa clubhouse's new look

The Hawke's Bay Herald-Tribune

Thursday, April 27, 1978

Big facelift cost \$225,000

The Hastings Golf Club has spent \$225,000 giving its clubhouse a major facelift.

The top floor of the two-storey clubhouse has been extended to provide a larger 19th or lounge, with folding doors opening into an adjoining diningroom and kitchen.

The general outward appearance of the one-time farm homestead has been retained, although the new roofline and longrun iron roofing indicate the changes that have been made inside.

Horizontal dark-stained timber has been used on the exterior of the enlarged top floor with vertical timberwork used on the back walls of the verandah leading into the clubhouse itself.

Dark-stained timber features prominently throughout the refurbished interior of the clubhouse. A new carpeted stairway leads up from new offices and a junior games room downstairs to the bar lounge and diningroom.

Fine view

Large windows upstairs give players an excellent view of the 18th green in front of the clubhouse and those having meals in the diningroom share a similar uninterrupted view of the course.

The club's last major building programme was the addition of new lockers and washrooms downstairs in 1969. These alterations have been retained in the latest renovations.

The caretakers' quarters are now at the rear of the building with rear access to the first floor.

Lack of space

Mr Noel Padman, the club's president, said the rebuilding project was necessary because of the inadequate space inside the clubhouse during opening and closing days and during major tournaments at Bridge Pa.

He said the old building had "grown like Topsy" over many years with the last major additions being the new locker-room and washroom area.

In December 1975 the club's annual meeting unanimously agreed that the committee should go ahead with a new 19th for the club.

In June the following year a plan was presented to the club for a completely new clubhouse on a site adjacent to the present building. The old clubhouse would have been retained for social functions.

Rejected

But members "turned the idea down flat," said Mr Padman. "They wanted the new building on the same site as the old."

The committee put a second scheme to the club's

annual meeting in December 1976. It involved a major renovation of the clubhouse. This scheme was accepted by the club and a Hastings architect, Mr Neville Norwell, was appointed to draw the plans.

One of the club's members, Mr John Mackenzie, was the contractor for the work and builders moved in last April.

Most of the renovating was finished by the end of last year without interrupting the club's activities, in the clubhouse.

Mr Padman said the contractors did "a remarkable job" of rebuilding around the club during the 1977 season.

The caretakers' flat, which has been rebuilt as part of the renovations, was temporarily a cut-off section of the clubhouse with a caravan providing extra accommodation.

A big year

Mr Padman said the 1977 rebuilding programme meant a big year for the club and its committee.

A building sub-committee of Messrs Padman, A. E. Smith and Dr B. Lavery had the committee's authority to make decisions on the renovations.

Furniture and drapes were bought with \$10,000 provided by the Hastings Ladies' Golf Club, which uses the same clubhouse. The furniture was installed for the 1978 opening day on

March 4 and drapes were added two weeks later.

The rebuilding programme was financed from a \$100,000 second mortgage from the Eastern and Central Savings Bank and a debenture issue to members.

The benefits of the greatly-enlarged clubhouse were

seen at the end of the winter season last year when, for the first time, everyone attending the closing-day competitions was able to get inside.

Mr Padman said the club would have no difficulty hosting combined men's and women's tournaments with their associated meals and social functions.



Above: A group of women golfers sets out from in front of the remodelled Bridge Pa clubhouse. Left: Players relax in the refurbished 19th.



Hard-working administrators

Throughout its history the Hastings Golf Club has been blessed with hard-working and far-sighted administrators.

Many of them devoted years of service to the club, but the record of the late Dr R. Cashmore is unlikely to be bettered. He had 16 consecutive years as president, from 1938 to 1953.

However, before Dr Cashmore, and after him, most of the presidents served at least three terms, a trend preserved by Mr Noel Padman, who is now in his third year as president.

From the very early days the club's administrators displayed vision and faith.

Faith was needed in large amounts when the club took over its present course which was then a dusty bowl of sand and pumice-filled gullies.

But they persevered and the course gradually took shape. Subsequent administrators have boldly tackled new problems—including the provision of an irrigation system which has brought one of the most remarkable changes to Bridge Pa and created one of the best summer courses in the country.

Other administrators have enthusiastically tackled other major financial undertakings such as the provision of a new machinery shed, a professional's shop and the upgrading of clubhouse facilities.

The trend has continued, with today's administrators seeing the completion of the club's biggest financial undertaking to date—the new clubhouse.

The present committee headed by Mr Padman includes: Vice-president, Mr J. P. Ewing; club captain, Mr L. M. MacInnes; vice club captain, Mr W. A. Armstrong.

Committee, Messrs G. K. Coles, B. C. Houlihan, B. C. Lavery, R. M. MacDonalld, H. H. McHardy, A. E. Sowerby.

The club professional is Mr Mike Allott and the secretary is Mr D. J. McGregor-Macdonald.



Mr Padman... president for third year



Mr MacInnes
Club Captain

Mr McGregor-Macdonald
Secretary

Official opening is on Saturday

The official opening of the Hastings Golf Club's new clubhouse will be held at a wine and cheese evening on Saturday night.

The qualifying round in the club's Tattersall-Dixon Salver competition will be played during the afternoon.

The official opening ceremony is expected to begin at 6.45pm with speakers including the president, Mr Noel Padman, the chairman of the Hawke's Bay County Council, Mr M. R. Groome, the MP for Hastings, Mr Bob Fenton, the deputy Mayor of Hastings, Mr John Mackenzie, and the women's club president, Mrs June Smith.

The official opening will be performed by Mr Jack Blake, a former club president and its senior life member.

Six-hole course in 1885

The Hastings Golf Club has occupied its Bridge Pa course since 1912, but the club was in existence before the turn of the century.

The late Mr A. I. Rainbow recalled that he first saw golf played in Hastings about 1885 on a flat piece of ground between Sunla Avenue and the Waimarama Rd, Hawke's Bay, where an English minister had laid out a six-hole course on 16 hectares (40 acres).

Mr Rainbow believed that the first Hastings Golf Club course was on a property later known as the Ridge which is now largely occupied by the Hastings hospital.

The first hole was on the Omaha Rd-Marakekaho Rd corner where a train-shed shelter acted as the clubhouse.

Mr Rainbow joined the Hastings Golf Club in 1901 when the course was then on what is now the Mangatere Golf course.

Subscriptions were not more than \$250 and clubs cost less than \$1 each. A full set comprised a driver, a brannie (No. 2 wood), cleek, mid-iron, lofer, maulie, niblick and putter.

"A full set was, however, only within the reach of the well-to-do and we youngsters and most of the adults made do with only three clubs, carrying them by hand."

Mr Rainbow recalled that Whakau — as the course was known — was a pleasant and handy one, but

the club moved when the landlord preferred not to renew the lease because of his dislike for Sunday golf.

The club had two more relatively short-term homes — the first on land owned by the late Robert Wellwood and then on what is now Chatham Park.

"Conditions were quite impossible and both our clubs and members suffered. By this time we were at our wit's end; the majority of landowners didn't want golfers trespassing over their land and disturbing livestock and the rent we could offer was poor recompense."

According to Mr Rainbow, providence stepped in with a Mr W. A. Kieley, a keen golfer, arriving in Hastings to manage the Union Bank.

Mr Kieley, later to become club president, understood finance and learned that Mr E. J. Watt was planning to sell his Longlands property.

The then committee inspected the land, driving out on a Saturday afternoon in a horse-drawn drag.

"We were not impressed but, largely on the advice of Charles Kennedy, a surveyor who was convinced that the property could in time be converted from a sandy dust bowl

into one of the best golf courses in the country, negotiations went ahead."

The price was \$14 an acre, practically all of which was lent on a mortgage of 5 per cent. Mr Watt also provided the cash to erect the original clubhouse at 6 per cent interest.

The club was officially opened on May 20, 1912, by the president, Mr John Beatson (shown at right).

"In the meantime, there were a number of working bees — firstly to cover sand pockets to improve growth on the fairways, and to plant trees."

"We bought sacks of marram grass from Waingamui to plant around the sand edges, but most of this was wasted because of lack of rain. For many years we dressed the fairways with 'tailings from seed-dressing plants' — valuable to them, but containing much goosegrass seed and the seed of every other grassland weed."

It was long and frustrating work with trees dying from lack of water and from attacks by rabbits and hares.

The real improvement to the course came when the club was able to do without the grazing rent and the sheep were abolished in 1927.



John Beatson, the club's 1912 president, in action.

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Jones has put club on the map

If the Hastings Golf Club's Bridge Pa course is better known than most in New Zealand it is because of one man—Stuart Jones.

Since the late 1940s Jones has dominated the golfing scene at Hastings, Hawke's Bay and New Zealand.

The refurbished honours board in the new clubhouse bears his name in bright gold 26 times for his 13 club titles since 1948 and 13 Hastings Open championships

wins since 1950.

That, of course, is only the start of the 51-year-old's remarkable golfing achievements which have brought him recognition as one of the world's leading amateur players.

He has won the New Zealand amateur championship seven times and

represented his country on 18 occasions between 1953 and 1975. Overseas he claimed the Canadian amateur championship in 1967, was runner-up in the Spanish amateur in 1970, and won the Australian foursomes with Ross Murray in 1963.

He has had dozens of other successes up and down the country in tournaments large and small, played in countless exhibitions and charity matches, and broken course records by the score.

Jones has won the Hastings Golf Club Open championship 13 times and was obvious first choice for representative and Freyberg teams until a broken elbow put him out of action for a while two years ago.

It has always been a talking point among Hawke's Bay golfers on how well Jones might have done if he had turned professional. He himself, however, has always been quick to acknowledge there is a gulf between professional and amateur games.

Yet he has taken on the knowledge of a good job and a regular pay cheque enabled him to play without the worries faced by professionals, where a missed putt could be the difference between eating or not.

He once said that the professionals at their own game and beaten them, taking the Watties in 1965 and adding the Spalding Masters in 1970 along with the Coca Cola, Dunlop, Penfold and Tauranga programs.

The one big title that has eluded Jones is his own country's Open, although he went close in both 1956 and 1959 when he finished third.

On top of that he has been leading amateur many times.

Jones has retired from the international scene and been rewarded with an M.B.E. for his services to the sport.

He missed the 1976 Freyberg because of his broken elbow, but bounced back last year to win all seven of his matches.

Just over 12 months ago he scorched round Bridge Pa with a seven-under par 65, but even that is still five shots off his record-breaking 60 a few seasons earlier.



Golf bitten by inflation

Like everything else, inflation has caught up with golf.

The early minute books of the Hastings Golf Club reveal some prices that would make administrators and golfers alike wince for the return of the good old days.

For instance, Mr T. Gutter appointed greenkeeper at \$2.50 a week—May 1912.

Visitors, with consent of the committee, allowed to play on the course by paying green fees of 15c a day—June 1912.

Cost of lunches increased to 15c—September 1913. Greenkeeper's wages increased to \$3—March 1914.

Cost of teas increased to 9c, lunches still 15c—July 1918.

Greenkeeper's wages increased to \$3.50, prices of afternoon teas cut back to 5c—March 1919.

Hawke's Bay County rates \$18—March 1920. Decided it was inadvisable to strictly enforce payment of green fees—August 1922.

Green fees increased from 15c to 25c a day—June 1924.

One-horse grass cutter bought for \$48.75—January 1925. Subscriptions increased from \$6.30 to \$9.40.

Long skirts caused bother

One of the tribulations of women golfers in the early days of the Hastings Golf Club was the long skirts they wore.

This could prove most disconcerting on windy days, specially when putting.

Most of the women, however, had their own remedy—a circle of elastic was worn round the waist while they played down the fairways, but pulled down to about knee-height on the greens.

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Women's club separate from the men's

The Hastings Ladies' Golf Club — the biggest provincial women's club in New Zealand — has thrived since it held its first club championship in 1910.

Today the club, which shares the Hastings Golf Club's Bridge Pa course and buildings, has a playing membership of 400 players and 100 honorary members.

Unlike many women's clubs in New Zealand, the club is a separate entity from the men's club and holds its own annual general meetings, sets its own fees and sends out its own accounts.

It pays a capitation fee to the men's club for the use of its facilities.

Other women's clubs in New Zealand are incorporated as sections of the men's clubs.

New office

The club, therefore, will benefit from the new buildings at the course. It will share the new upstairs

lounge and will have a new office and added locker space in the old lounge building.

The club captain, Mrs F. W. Ward, said the added amenities will not mean the club will be able to accommodate many new members. The membership was dependent on the amount of players the course could cope with.

"We have a short waiting list for full-playing members but we have a few vacancies for mid-week players," Mrs Ward said.

The club can boast it is the biggest provincial club in New Zealand and the fourth largest in the country behind the metropolitan clubs of Remuera, Wellington and Auckland.

Lowest handicap

It has 11 players on single-figure handicaps and 76 players in the silver division. The club's lowest handicap player is the present Hastings Open tournament champion, Judy Morton, who plays off a 3.

During its 68-year history the club has had two New Zealand representatives — Pat Naylor (nee Helan) played for New Zealand twice before the Second World War and Heather Booth, a New Zealand representative in the 1960s, was a member of the club during the 1969-70 season.

Mrs Naylor is now a member of the Napier Golf Club and plays off a 13. The club also has a good record of players being members of the Hawke's Bay-Poverty Bay team for the Russell Grace inter-provincial tournament. In 1974 the club had four players in the team, in 1973 three and last season four.

The club first held its Hastings Open championship tournament in 1929 and it is still held annually. Club records go back as far as 1910 when the first



Mrs D. Hembrow... the women's club champion.

club championship was played on an old course near the polo grounds at Flaxmere. The club moved to the Bridge Pa course in 1912.

The club's longest-serving president was Mrs C. Baker, who served from 1919 until 1951.

Ten members who joined the club in the 1930s still take a part in all the club's activities.

The longest-playing member is Mrs J. J. Connor, who first started playing competition golf 44 years ago.

The other nine players who joined up in the 1930s are Miss Margaret Thomson, Miss Margaret Bell, Mrs Doug Grieve, Mrs Patti Grieve, Mrs J. P. Farrell, Mrs C. Breakwell, Mrs R. Cabot, Mrs Joan Nelson and Mrs Jean Lyons. They all still play every week.

Mrs Ward said they joined the club soon after they left school.

The present club champion is Mrs D. Hembrow who plays off a 4. She is also champion-of-champions of the Hawke's Bay-Poverty Bay district.



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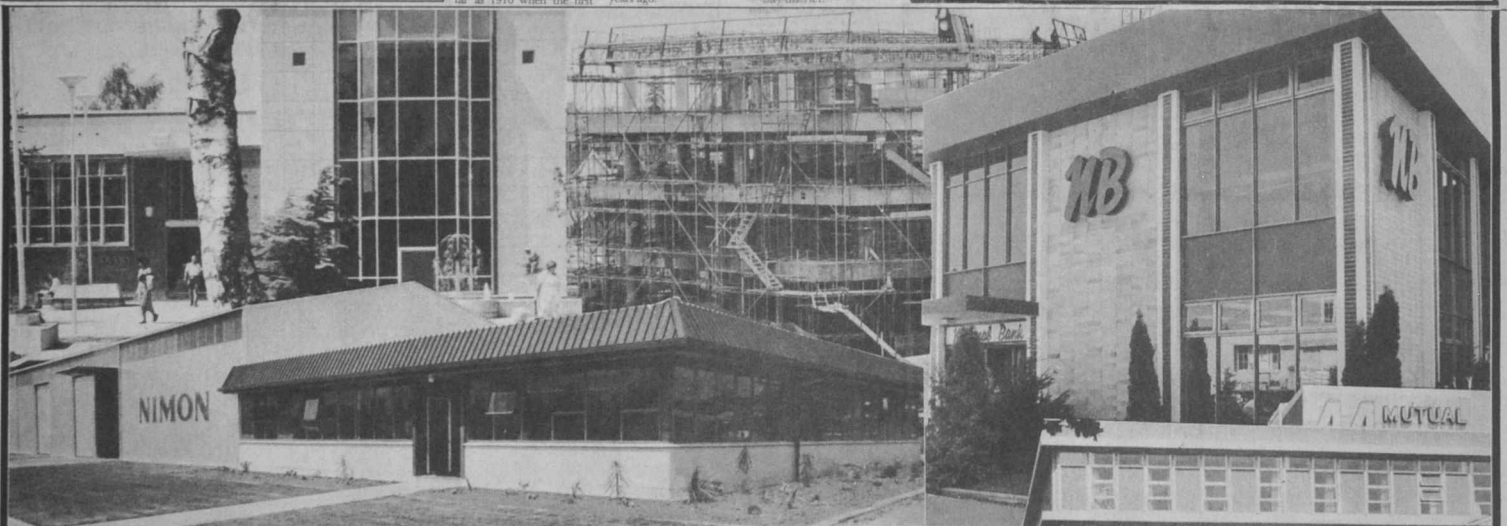
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Bob and Marie provide all the meals

When Bob and Marie Powley (above) tidy up after providing meals for the players in next month's national amateur championships at Bridge Pa, they will bring to a close a 17-year association with the Hastings Golf Club.

During that time Mr and Mrs Powley have operated their own business as club caterers, supplying morning and afternoon teas, meals and snacks six days a week.

But at the end of the national championships they will leave Hastings for Taupo where Mr Powley is going into another type of business.

Besides the usual daily food requirements they have catered for five regular tournaments each year with "extras" and interclub fixtures as well.

This often means preparing food for more than 150 people.

Mrs Powley said it is really the women's club that keeps their business going.

"We would get 90 per cent of them here. With the men it's a quarter."

Mr Powley said a lot of golf course caterers growled about women "but we find them our best customers."

Mrs Powley said they had built their way into the life through the years.

"It doesn't give you much family or social life, but you are meeting people all the time."

She said customers were very friendly and most knew them by their Christian names.

"We are made to feel like an important cog in the wheel," Mrs Powley said.

Mr Powley said more people were playing golf. He said television had done a lot for the sport by bringing it into the public eye.

"I think a lot see it played and want to try it. It used to be a game that the gentry played."

More courses had been developed in the last few years, Mr Powley said.

The Powleys have seen three major alterations at the club since they have worked there.

In restructuring last year a new kitchen was built upstairs. The dining room now seats 90, compared with 52 in the old dining room.

The Powleys' day usually begins around 8am and seldom ends before 6pm. During tournaments they sometimes work from 6am until midnight or 2am.

As well, Mr Powley cleans the golf club.

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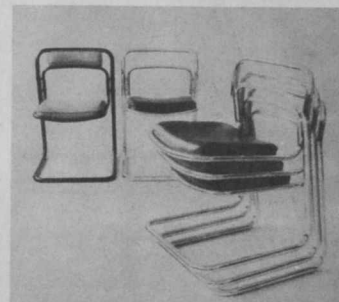
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event...**Marsh... record
total of 262**HB lapped up
play of pros**

For most of the 1960s the Watties tournament staged by the Hastings Golf Club at Bridge Pa opened up the world of professional golf to Hawke's Bay.

It came about by the efforts of that good friend to New Zealand professional golf, Peter Thompson, who approached Sir James Wattie to sponsor a tournament in Hastings.

As a result, for the next eight years Hawke's Bay golfers were treated to exhibitions of top-class golf from some of the world's leading players.

The Watties tournament also introduced Hawke's Bay golfers to a host of young players who were soon to make a huge impact on the international scene.

Players like Tony Jacklin, Britain, and Graham Marsh, Australia, were virtual unknowns when they appeared on the New Zealand circuit and at Bridge Pa. A few short years later their names were household words.

One of greatest finishes

It was Jacklin, later to capture both the British and United States opens, who played a leading role in one of the greatest finishes ever in a professional tournament in this country.

This was the 1966 Watties at Bridge Pa where, after the morning's third round on the final day, Charles had a two-stroke lead over the 22-year-old Englishman.

After nine holes in the afternoon's final round Jacklin, who was burning up the course, had taken a one-stroke lead over New Zealand left-hander.

The news filtered down to Charles after he putted out for a par on the 10th and he grimly set about the task of regaining the lead.

He did it spectacularly with seven consecutive birdies for a homeward nine of 28 to leave a bewildered Jacklin wallowing six shots behind.

"He's a freak," said Jacklin after hearing how Charles had ripped victory away from him with seven consecutive one-putt greens. Those who saw Charles's performance that day would readily agree.

Made winning a habit

Charles, fresh from his most successful year when he won the 1963 British Open, was the first Watties winner and made a habit of winning at Bridge Pa.

He always commanded a big gallery who admired his precision, especially round the greens. But he lacked the warmth and personality of favourites such as Thomson and that outstanding gentleman of the greens, Keri Nagle.

The two were always popular, friendly and courteous to the crowds that followed them.

Graham Marsh followed in the same mould as his Australian compatriots and turned on a brilliant exhibition to win the 1970 Watties with a tournament record score of 262.

Marsh, a 26-year-old Australian schoolteacher, opened with rounds of 65 and 65 and then crashed the field with an eight-under par 62 in the third round.

This broke the former record held jointly by Charles, Billy Dunk, and Hastings' own Stuart Jones, by one shot and, despite a final-round 70, was enough to carry him to victory three shots ahead of Nagle.

A dozen of beer

From a reporter's point of view, Marsh was the easiest of professionals to get on with. After his win in 1970 he walked into the press room with a dozen of beer under his arm, opened up bottles for everyone and chatted for the next half hour with us.

But for Hawke's Bay golfers the greatest Watties win belonged to Stuart Jones when he fired 69, 65, 67, 69 to win the 1965 tournament by two strokes against a field which included all the top pros.

Not all the players can be winners and there was a host of players who regularly returned to Bridge Pa for the Watties and built friendships among the galleries.



Bob Charles speaks to the crowd after being presented by the late Sir James Wattie (left) with first prize for winning the 1967 Watties event.

Those who followed these tournaments will always remember men like the South African Cobie Le Grange, the debonair Englishman Guy Wolstenholme, the big-hitting Dutchman Martin Roosink, the quick-swinging Australian Ted Ball and others who always delighted regardless of their scores.

Women's event excitement

In 1961 the New Zealand women's golf championships at Bridge Pa also produced its fair measure of excitement.

Most of it came from the 23-year-old Lochiel player Glennis Taylor who, in the stroke-play event, twice broke the women's course record.

In the second round she carded a par 74 to break the 10-year-old record by one stroke, and followed this with a two-under 72 in the third round.

But a disastrous 87 in the first round denied her a chance of the title which eventually went to one of the best-known names in New Zealand golf, Una Wickham.

Miss Wickham took the championship by two strokes from Miss Taylor, but needed two fighting birdies on the last two holes for her victory.

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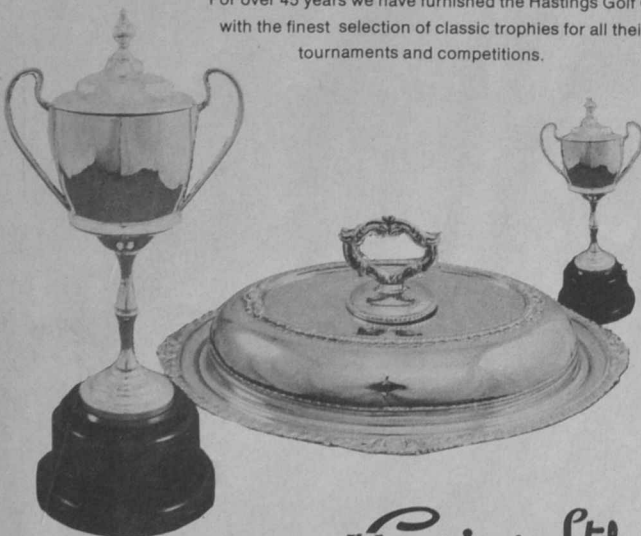
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4-146 metres PAR 3-H. J. GRIEVE LTD (JEWELLERS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	12-305 metres PAR 4-BRIAN SORENSEN MOTORS LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>
5-393 metres PAR 4-STEWART GREER MOTORS LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>	13-163 metres PAR 3-REDGRAVE GARDEN CENTRE	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-422 metres PAR 5-HARVEY FULTON & HILL	<input type="checkbox"/>	14-354 metre PAR 4-LOCKYER'S ELECTRICAL LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>
7-389 metres PAR 4-AGNEW REFRIGERATON LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>	15-316 metres PAR 4-BATCHELORS CAMERA HOUSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
8-170 metres PAR 3-STORTFORD AUTO SERVICES LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>	16-136 metres PAR 3-NEWBIGIN WINE & SPIRITS LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>
		17-439 metres PAR 5-PARKVALE PHARMACY LTD	<input type="checkbox"/>
		18-382 metres PAR 4-FOSTER BROOK BOOKSELLERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
		TOTAL SCORE	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMPLETE QUESTIONNAIRE AND SEND IN
SCORE AND COUPON. WE DO NOT REQUIRE
FULL PAGES

HOW TO ENTER

- Answer the question at the foot of the entry form.
- Forecast the lowest score card of the First Qualifying Round of the New Zealand Amateur Golf Championship to be held at the Bridge Pa course on Tuesday, 9th May, 1978.
- Show your pick of the hole by hole scores to make your final total.

Enter your chosen scores in the squares provided against the Hole sponsor's name.

e.g. ☐

Prize \$50 donated by the Herald-Tribune. Entries must reach the H.B. Herald-Tribune offices no later than noon Saturday, 9th May. In the event of a tie, a winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. * No correspondence will be entered into and the judges' decision is final.

* IF NO CORRECT ENTRY the winner will be decided on the correct total and most holes correct.

NAME

ADDRESS

Telephone No.

I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES LAID DOWN

SIGNATURE

QUESTION: Who won the N.Z. Amateur Golf Championship at Hutt Golf Course in 1971?

ANSWER:

HASTINGS GOLF CLUB **BRIDGE PA**

He's had eight aces

Although many people believe that a hole-in-one is nothing but pure luck, the record of Stuart Jones shows that the greater the skill the greater the chance of pulling off golf's perfect shot.

During his career Jones has scored eight holes-in-one, including two in crucial matches of major tournaments.

The one which gave him his biggest

thrill was in the Commonwealth tournament in Canada in 1967. He needed it to win the hole as his opponent scored a birdie two.

Another was during the national amateur championships at Middlemore. Despite having eight aces to his credit Jones says they still provide a big thrill.

"I haven't had one for four or five years now and am overdue for one."

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Record cards

These cards belong to Australian Graham Marsh and Hastings' Stuart Jones and made course history at Bridge Pa.

The four cards at the top were Marsh's rounds when he won the Watties event in 1970 with a tournament record score of 262.

The Perth professional dashed clear of the field in the first three rounds with scores of 65, 65 and a crushing 62. He "slumped" to a 70 in the final round but still won by three strokes.

His victory took one shot off the tournament record, jointly held by Bob Charles, Billy Dunk and Jones.

Jones's magical 60 (above right) was scored during a Saturday morning club round and included six birdies and two eagles. He did not drop a shot during the round.

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

DATE 17/12/70 ROUND 1

HOLE	DISTANCE	TEE	PLAYER	MARKER
1	476	5	4	5
2	518	3	5	5
3	398	4	4	4
4	116	3	3	3
5	171	3	3	3
6	431	4	4	4
7	473	4	4	4
8	471	4	4	4
9	186	3	3	3
Out	3240	35	35	35

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

MARKER *G. Jones*

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

DATE 18/12/70 ROUND 2

HOLE	DISTANCE	TEE	PLAYER	MARKER
10	403	4	4	4
11	417	4	4	4
12	337	4	4	4
13	178	3	3	3
14	437	4	4	4
15	178	3	3	3
16	146	3	3	3
17	489	4	4	4
18	437	4	4	4
In	3149	35	35	35
Out	3240	35	35	35
Total	6389	70	70	70

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

MARKER *G. Jones*

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

DATE 18/12/70 ROUND 2

HOLE	DISTANCE	TEE	PLAYER	MARKER
1	476	5	4	5
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4	116	3	3	3
5	171	3	3	3
6	431	4	4	4
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In	3149	35	35	35
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Total	6389	70	70	70

PLAYER *G. Marsh*

MARKER *G. Jones*

*The Hastings Golf Club (Inc.)
Course Record - 60 - S.S. Jones, Hastings
Played on Saturday morning, 5/2/72*

Competition		S.G. JONES		Handicap		Scr.		Final Score		Points	
Player	Hole and Distance	Score	Marker	Player	Marker	Scr.	Mod.	60	Score	up	down
1	476	11	5	4	10	403	8	4	4		
2	518	7	5	3	11	417	2	4	3		
3	398	3	4	4	12	337	12	4	4		
4	116	17	3	2	13	178	16	3	2		
5	171	15	3	2	14	437	4	4	3		
6	431	1	4	4	15	178	14	4	4		
7	473	9	5	4	16	489	18	3	3		
8	471	5	4	4	17	186	10	5	3		
9	186	13	3	3	18	437	6	4	4		
Out	3240	36	30		In	3097	35	30			
Marker				Player		Out	3240	36	30		
Date				Total		6337	71	60			
				Less Handicap							
				Net Score							

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Hartstone is title favourite

By John Bone

Several players entered in the 76th New Zealand amateur golf championships starting at the Hastings Golf Club on May 8 are staking early claims to the title.

Favourite for the event is Napier international Paul Hartstone who waltzed his way to an 8-shot win in the North Island 72-hole stroke championship at Tauranga at Easter.

He has maintained his good form and shot an excellent two-under-par 70 at Napier's Waikiki course while playing in driving rain.

Hartstone is strong in all departments and is no stranger to the Hastings course.

Also showing good form is the big-hitting Wellington No. 1, Phil Mosley. Mosley impressed with his 6 and 5 win in the final of the Wellington provincial match-play championship last week.

He is unbeaten in two years of Duncan Cup inter-club competition and in January won his second successive national under-23 title with a four-round total of 285, 3-under par.

Mosley, described by New Zealand selector Mr John Slade as "one of the brightest prospects around," has just been named as non-travelling reserve in the New Zealand team to play in the Australasian Golf Classic in June.

Dunedin international Geoff Clarke, a veteran of New Zealand teams and the South Island stroke champion, is making a rare appearance at an amateur championship and will be looking for a good performance.

Clarke is one of New Zealand's most successful amateur golfers in the past 10 years, but he has yet to win the amateur title—maybe 1978 will be his year.

New Zealand's golfing "emperor," Stuart Jones, playing on his home course, will be seeking his eighth amateur title.

Jones's experience is unprecedented, as is his knowledge of the Bridge Pa course, but whether he can match it with some of the younger players remains to be seen.

The great Ted McDougall, formerly of Tokoroa and now secretary-manager at the Peninsula Golf Club, always figures in the end results of any tournament.



Hartstone... won N. Island title.

On taking up his new position at Peninsula last year, McDougall retired from all representative golf but he has come out of "retirement" for another crack at the most prestigious title offered to New Zealand's amateur golfers.

Christchurch golfer Bruce Taylor will be looking to avenge his defeat at the hands of Terry Pulman in last year's final.

Taylor, captain of the Canterbury Freyberg team,

is unimpressive in his striking of the ball but has a most impressive stroke and match-play record.

With 64 golfers to qualify for match play, a cut-off in the region of 154 (10 over par) would seem a realistic score, but as has often happened in the past, the pressures and tensions of the moment have seen scores of 160 meet the mark.

Chasing second foursomes title

By John Bone

Titleholders Mike Nicholson and Sloan Morphet head the list of entrants for the New Zealand amateur foursomes championship which precedes the championship proper, being played at the Bridge Pa golf course on May 8.

Nicholson and Morphet matched victory from Christchurch brothers Brent and Mark Street at Ransley last year after the Streets held a four-shot lead after the first round.

Both Nicholson and Morphet are accomplished golfers and have represented New Zealand in the past, and they must stand a good show of retaining their title at Hastings.

Strenuous competition should come from the international pairing of Paul Hartstone and Geoff Clarke.

Hartstone and Clarke are considered New Zealand's "in-form" players and their 36-hole total should prove difficult to beat.

Greats team up

Two of New Zealand's greatest amateur golfers, Stuart Jones and Ted McDougall, have teamed up for the foursomes and should also figure prominently in the final placings.

Jones's knowledge of the Hastings course, combined with McDougall's all-round expertise, provides a championship-winning formula that probably no other pairing has. This combination should produce some absorbing golf.

South Islander Bruce Taylor and Des Turner are both steady and experienced golfers, but to eclipse either Jones and McDougall or Hartstone and Clarke is a formidable task.

Former New Zealand representative Peter Burney teams up with fellow Auckland Rod

The draw for the ten qualifying rounds for the New Zealand amateur golf championship on May 9 and 10 are—

Tuesday, May 9

8.00 R.C. Houlahan, I. Letica, A. J. Dwyer, 8.07 M. J. Rogers, A. R. Rasmussen, T. Morris, 8.14 N. M. Muir, D. A. J. Rasmussen, A. R. Rasmussen, 8.21 J. V. Barry, L. Rasmussen, J. A. Sharp, 8.28 J. E. Ward, R. J. Thomas, R. H. Bradley, 8.35 P. K. Korman, R. J. McDougall, J. G. Gledhill, S. E. Reid, 8.40 P. T. Carrigan, M. D. Piper, K. G. Potts, 8.46 B. K. Street, P. A. Reid, 8.53 J. H. Lapsley, 9.00 D. O. Wood, E. J. Bradley, A. Smith, 9.10 R. Church, R. Berry, R. Hogg, 9.17 P. M. Burney, R. C. Taylor, M. S. Nicholson, 9.24 Michael Letica, C. K. Wilson, 9.31 M. R. Barlow, C. M. Harper, J. L. McKenna, 9.38 G. E. Clarke, P. Morphet, P. Gallagher, 9.45 P. K. Korman, J. P. Jones, 9.52 G. A. Jones, R. Dailmore, W. L. Pike, 9.59 J. E. Walker, J. Varnum, M. R. Burney.

10.00 Starter's time.

10.11 P. Nicholson, G. Jones, K. R. Dwyer, 10.20 T. Forman, A. R. Kimo, L. Phelps, 10.27 G. M. Hughes, J. Dwyer, R. P. Burns, 10.34 M. A. Rasmussen, K. L. McDougall, S. J. Potts, 10.41 H. Wainwright, D. J. Potts, L. McDougall, 10.48 J. P. Potts, M. S. Nicholson, 10.55 R. A. White, B. F. Brock, R. M. Burney, 11.02 R. M. White, C. B. Wainwright, N. J. Morgan, 11.09 D. N. Turner, P. E. Hartman, A. R. Smith, 11.16 T. Potts, S. E. Reid, G. D. White, 11.23 M. G. Brown, N. H. Johnson, P. R. Wells, 11.30 J. Wilson, R. Wainwright, R. J. Jones, 11.37 M. T. Davidson, W. S. Hogg, 11.44 J. L. Jones, R. S. Jones, M. J. S. Williams, 11.51 A. D. Walker, W. S. Hogg, R. M. Burney, 11.58 R. Lapsley, R. D. Morgan, D. J. Gledhill, 12.05 Starter's time.

12.12 G. Hogg, R. M. Korman, I. D. Dobson, 12.19 R. J. Jones, G. C. Saunders, B. A. Soudry, 12.26 J. R. A. Potts, N. P. McNeil, M. Reed, 12.33 P. White, G. A. Ritchie, S. J. Potts, 12.40 T. de Lamer, P. Hogg, R. L. Jones, 12.47 G. S. Korman, C. Lory, R. A. Wilson.

Wednesday, May 10

8.00 R. R. Wilson, R. G. Brown, R. P. Burns, 8.07 B. M. Walsh, P. R. Wells, J. Wilson, 8.14 H. Wainwright, G. B. Wainwright, R. J. Jones, 8.21 R. L. McDougall, S. S. Rasmussen, A. R. Smith, 8.28 N. J. Morgan, S. E. Reid, N. H. Johnson, 8.35 T. Potts, G. M. Hughes, R. A. White, 8.42 J. Dwyer, L. McDougall, G. D. White, 8.49 P. H. Hartman, M. A. Rasmussen, P. H. Hartman, 9.00 S. J. Potts, P. A. Reid, 9.07 D. N. Turner, 9.14 G. Hogg, 9.21 M. T. Davidson, 9.28 N. P. McNeil, T. de Lamer, G. C. Saunders, 9.34 B. A. Soudry, J. C. M. Korman, J. R. A. Potts, 9.41 G. A. Ritchie, P. Hogg, C. Lory, 9.48 G. C. Saunders, W. L. Hogg, S. J. Potts, 9.55 R. Hogg, 10.02 R. D. Morgan, R. A. White, 10.09 M. T. Davidson, 10.16 J. Dwyer, 10.23 M. T. Davidson, 10.30 J. Dwyer, 10.37 M. T. Davidson, 10.44 J. Dwyer, 10.51 M. T. Davidson, 10.58 M. T. Davidson, 11.05 M. T. Davidson, 11.12 M. T. Davidson, 11.19 M. T. Davidson, 11.26 M. T. Davidson, 11.33 M. T. Davidson, 11.40 M. T. Davidson, 11.47 M. T. 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Bruce's life is the golf course

Life, for Bruce Wakefield, revolves around the Hastings golf course.

Some wives would say the same of their husbands who are members of the club.

But Bruce Wakefield's dedication is not to playing the game, but to keeping the trees, fairways and greens in good order.

He has worked at the club since 1949 and says he has never wanted to leave. The job came by chance. He had just left school and was waiting for a job on a farm. The farmer did not arrive at the appointed time.

He was asked if he would like to help prepare for the New Zealand amateur golf championships being staged at Bridge Pa.

He was taken on as a casual—and became a permanent staff member when he was appointed head greenkeeper 16 years ago.

Rules his day

Mrs Wakefield, without a trace of rancour in her voice, said that what happened on the course was Bruce's whole life.

She said that going out—for instance a trip to the beach—depended on what had to be done on the course.

As head greenkeeper Bruce looks after the whole course, except the clubhouse. Fairways, tees, greens, plantations, budgeting and staff employed on the grounds are all his responsibilities.

Greens have to be cored and are given daily attention. Fairways have to be mowed.

The pine plantations, which provide shelter but also a cash crop for the club, are cared for under the guidance of the Forest Service.

Irrigation

A major improvement, and which changed the club, was an irrigation system. Before it was installed play began at Easter and finished with a men's tournament in September.

During summer the fairways burned off. Bruce said there was now as much golf played during summer as winter, which made maintenance difficult.

Even with the water system, it was still difficult to start grass growing. Constant use of fertilizer was necessary. But once grass was established, it was easy to keep.

On the fairways he uses a mixture of brown top, chewing fescue and perennials, an American creeping grass.

The greens are in brown



Bruce Wakefield at work on the greens.

top and perennials. They are gradually all being changed to perennials.

He said it was not possible, with a full membership, to pull up all 18 greens and resow them, but with the introduction of a turf nursery and machinery, it would be possible to relay a whole green at the end of a season.

Greater skills

The advent of machinery has brought greater skills to the job and as a result better-qualified greenkeepers are sought.

Bruce served no apprenticeship—there was not one available until 10 years ago.

He now holds a machinery course for apprentices from throughout New Zealand each year. One was held earlier this month.

Through magazines he keeps in touch with greenkeeping developments in the United States and is on the lookout for new and better machinery.

Information is passed on to the national greenkeepers' association.

Holds diploma

He holds a diploma and trade certificate in greenkeeping.

"I want to upgrade things, get a better job done," Bruce said.

He is helped by the community college and companies such as Morrison Industries and Stewart Greer Motors.

A wide range of machinery is used to maintain the course.

On the greens a Green-master mower is used. This has a seat and is fully hydraulic. It is a very sensitive machine. One bump puts the blades out.

A different mower is used for cutting grass around bunkers.

There are three sets of mowers—one nine-set and two five-sets.

Then there is the coring machine which alleviates compaction and lets air into the soil.

Bigger staff

With the increased use of the course the staff required to keep it in order has increased. When Bruce began there were two men, although a third man was employed for the amateur championships in 1949.

Now there are five—four permanent and one casual worker.

With greater demands being put on the course, more work has to be put in.

Players often see Bruce working first thing in the morning and as late as 8pm.

The course for tournaments should be of a high standard, he said.

"But players ought to remember that every course is different—that's part of the game."

"Just imagine if every course in New Zealand was

the same as Wairakei," he said.

Overseas players came from courses that employed staffs of 20 and took on more men to help out during tournaments.

Bob Charles (New Zealand's best-known player) once criticised the course during a tournament.

But in his final round he set a course record.

He had 28 putts in the round and one-parred the last nine, except the 18th.

"It wasn't so much the course as the player who came right," he said.

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Tom Garrod at the end of a swing.

Long link began with an eagle

The first time Tom Garrod stepped on to the Bridge Pa golf course, he eagled the first hole.

That was in 1926 and Mr Garrod and his partner, Mat Morrison, representing the now defunct Parkvale Golf Club, were at the Bridge Pa course to play Hastings in an interclub match.

Mr Garrod, then 15, was considered one of the district's up and coming golfers, and he admits he was a bit nervous in his first venture to the Hastings Golf Club.

"Our opponents, Harry Fannin and J. L. Patterson, both very talented golfers, hit first and got their drives out about 240 metres down the middle," recalls Mr Garrod.

Hit on head

"Harry hit a good shot and then I promptly got up there and hit mine on the lid. It only went about 50 metres," he said.

"I played my next shot with a spoon and that only went about 50 metres — I'd already played two and wasn't up to the other fellows' first shots."

"I was still a long way from the green so I hit a 3-iron for my third, and blow me dead if it didn't go in the hole."

Life member

Mr Garrod joined the Hastings club the following year. Today, 51 years later, he is the longest-standing member of the club. In 1975 he was honoured with life membership.

Mr Garrod said today's

golfer, although he has the chance to use highly-specialised golfing equipment, is no better than the golfer of the hickory-shaft era.

"Golf in those days was a completely different game to what it is today," he said. "The torque in a hickory shaft was tremendous and it required a different swing, yet we could still shoot rounds that are comparable with today's top scores."

When the steel shaft was introduced to golf it created a few problems for the players, but Mr Garrod said it only took a minor adjustment to the swing when using the new shafts.

"You had to use your legs more. It was OK for the younger players, but some of the older chaps found the change a little too drastic."

Punice lumps

In the 51 years Mr Garrod has been a member of the Hastings club, he has seen vast improvements in the condition of the course.

"When I joined there were lumps of punice in the fairways. The course virtually consisted of tussock and rushes," said Mr Garrod.

"There were no decent lies and placing was frowned upon — it was a sin if you didn't play the lie," said Mr Garrod.

"Now the course would leave high-grade English parks for dead."

Mr Garrod's name appears in record books and on tournament boards with frequency matched by greats such as Tim Woon,

John Hornabrook, the legendary Kapi Tereha, and New Zealand's golfing "Emperor", Stuart Jones.

He was club champion in 1934, 1936 and 1940, and has won virtually every major tournament in the district, except the Hawke's Bay amateur championships.

"That one always beat me," Mr Garrod said.

In 1930 I top-qualified with scores of 70 and 68 (8-under par) on the Waiohiki course. I played Arthur Morris in the first round and shot 69, and then carded a 70 in the second round against Arthur Sinclair.

In the third round I shot a 71 and lost 1-down to Bill Reid, so I was out of the tournament.

"At that stage I was 17 under par for five rounds, and if the tournament had been a stroke-play competition I would have won it by 20 shots — that would be about the closest I came to winning that tournament."

At 68 years of age, Mr Garrod's ambition is to shoot his age.

"I haven't done it yet, but I'll be a happy man the day I do."

Mr Garrod is playing off a 7 handicap. In the 1930s he was a scratch golfer. For the past 50 years he has never played above an 8 handicap.

Taking this into account, he must stand every chance of fulfilling his ambition.

Mr Garrod had one final word for today's golfer: "They might have all the flash equipment, but they're far too slow getting round the course."

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Wholesale manufacturers of a wide range of quality GOLF TRUNDLERS, congratulate the HASTINGS GOLF CLUB on the occasion of the opening of a fine NEW CLUBHOUSE.

We extend a warm Hawke's Bay welcome to all competitors in the 1978 New Zealand Amateur Golf Championships.

The club's senior professional, Mike Allott, has his father, Fred Allott, on the teaching staff and the pair have been joined by Michael Sparling, 19, as a teaching professional.

In addition, Fred's wife, Judith, and Mike's wife, Jean, help to run the professional shop at the club.

Fred Allott teaches part-time and has been a member of the Professional Golfers' Association for 44 years. For 25 years he was the professional at Enfield, North London.

"On the balance, British amateur players are better than their New Zealand counterparts below the top-ranking players. There are more of them and they have better facilities to improve their game," he said.

The average New Zealand golf course was not up to the standard of its British counterpart, Fred said.

A fine record

Fred built an enviable record as a top teaching professional in England.

Named professional of the year in the South of England in 1970, he was also recognised as one of the leading golf administrators in the PGA.

Fred was an executive member of the PGA Ryder Cup committee and took the 1959 British team to the United States.

He was also the official coach for the PGA and ran schools to ensure that coaches reached the required standards before being admitted as full

members of the PGA.

"We taught them everything at the coaching schools at Lilyshill in England. It was a magnificent centre with every available facility for teaching sport—there was a wrestling team using part of the Centre while we were there for one school," he said.

"Coaches were taught bookkeeping and salesmanship, as well as aspects of teaching and playing the game—in fact, everything they would have to do as a professional golfer," he said.

During his 44 years as a golf professional, Fred has seen the game grow at a tremendous rate.

Television and the press have encouraged people to become more golf-minded.

But one major disappointment to Fred is the dropping away of personal service to people, not only in golf but throughout society.

"We used to pride ourselves on personal service at Enfield—whatever the client wanted for his or her golf game, we made every attempt to get it," he said.

Fred and Mike maintain this attitude to teaching at Hastings.

With his father's experience in golf, it is of no great surprise that Mike turned to the game as a professional at 20.

Started young

Mike started playing with golf clubs almost as soon as he could walk.

For two years after his secondary education in England he worked with a timber company.

He then went to a professional golf-coaching school in North Wales for three years and passed his apprenticeship before going back to Enfield to work for his father as an assistant professional.

While at Enfield Mike set up an assistant-professional golfers' association for young professionals and organised one-day tournaments for them in the summer months.

"The European circuit had not started then and the young professionals needed tournament play in the off-season," he said.

The association and its matches became popular and attracted many young golfers.

Players such as Gary Hunt, this year's winner of the Dunlop Masters and a member of the British Ryder Cup team, and David Jagger, twice winner of the Nigerian Open in the last three years, were attracted to the tournaments.

"They have now lasted 16 or 17 years and I hear they are still popular with the young professionals."

Arrived in 1971

Mike, a professional for 16 years, came to Hastings club from England in 1971 with his wife and two sons.

He said his time had been fully occupied in coaching and teaching.

"We see most of the 1000-odd members of the club twice or three times a year for individual coaching," he said.

In addition, clinics for teenage golfers and younger boys from seven to nine-year-olds—members of the women's club and student groups are held during the year.

But 60 per cent of the coaching Mike carries out during the year is performed away from the

Women's rights debated

The question of whether women should actually be allowed on golf courses was once hotly debated—and in some cases the argument lingers.

The minute book for the Hastings club in 1911 shows that a proposal to prevent women from playing on Saturdays was defeated.

But the women's committee was asked to caution new players "re obstruction on Saturdays."

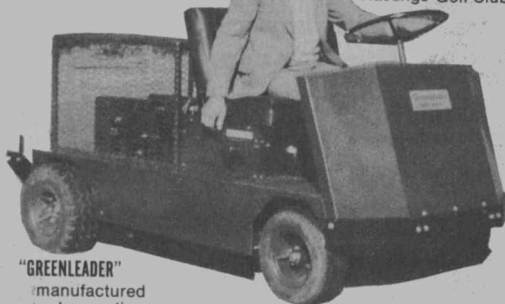


The team at the Hastings Golf Club's pro shop. From left to right: Michael Sparling, Mike Allott, Mike's mother, Mrs Judith Allott, Fred Allott, and Mike's wife, Mrs Jean Allott.

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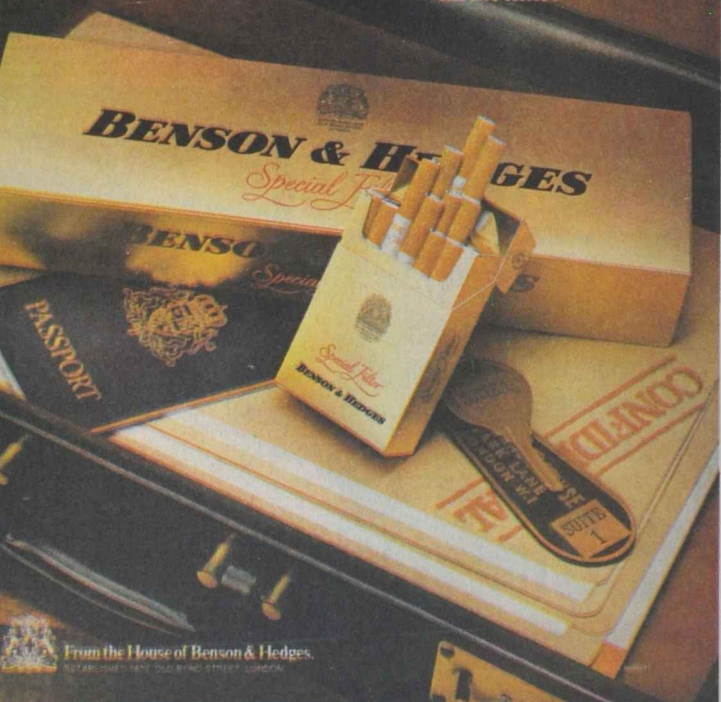
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