

Tee Time

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC GOLF SOCIETY

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EDITOR _____ STUART R. MACKENZIE

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GOLF AT GLENEAGLES

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SEPTEMBER Nº 25

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IPGS MEMBERSHIP

IPGS ended its fiscal year with 248 members from 23 countries. The U.S. lead with 160 members followed by England 20, Sweden 18, Scotland 11, Canada 9 and France 4. Australia, Italy and New Zealand each had 3. Germany, Japan and the Netherlands had 2 each. Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Gibraltar, India, Mexico, Northern Ireland, Republic of South Africa, Singapore, Spain and Wales had one each. Of the 32 U.S. states represented, California and Ohio tied for the most with 16 each.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Several times during the past few years members have inquired about a membership directory. We could publish an alphabetical list with addresses then some supplementary country lists.

Let me know your thoughts on the subject since publishing a membership directory also provides dealers with a ready address list. If you do not want your address included, please advise me and your name only will appear.

I would appreciate hearing from the membership before we make further plans for a directory.

CUMULATIVE INDEX TO TEE TIME

If you have paid your dues for the time period 7-1-93 through 6-30-94, you should have received a copy of the TEE TIME Cumulative Index along with a membership card acknowledging receipt of your dues.

This is your last issue of TEE TIME unless we hear from you promptly. The address list will be purged of those who have not renewed their membership after October 15, 1993.

PAST ISSUES OF TEE TIME

Past issues of TEE TIME, numbers 1 through 24, are available from Cora Collins or Stuart MacKenzie. The price is \$2.50 U.S. or 1.5 sterling. Postage is included. Quantities are limited.

REINSTATED

155 Viola, David, 207 W. Lincoln Way,
Minerva, OH 44557-1461 USA

RESIGNATION

Cushman, Helen

NEW MEMBERS

- 367 Alberts, Michael J., P.O. Box 738,
Red Bank, NJ 07701 USA
- 360 Clark, Rod, Box 408, Quathiaski Cove,
B.C., VOP 1N0 CANADA
- 363 Ditchoff, J., #1412 1400 Dixie Road,
Mississauga, Ontario L5E 3E1 CANADA
- 362 Domingue, Sidney J., 870 42nd Street,
San Francisco, CA 94121-3325 USA
- 366 Lorck, Horace C., 933 West Cheyenne
Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80906 USA
- 359 MacMullan, Robert N., 719 Midway Lane,
Blue Bell, PA 19422-2029
- 365 Means, George, 1535 Short St., Racine,
WI 53402 USA
- 361 Pidlaski, William, 493 Stalker Bay,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R2G 0C9 CANADA
- 364 Sherlock, Craig, 4940 Mariposa Court,
Richmond, B.C. V7C 2V9 CANADA



Who issued these? Why were they issued? Were they sold? When and where were they sold? If you can answer any of these questions regarding the Babe Zaharis labels above, please contact Ron Spiers, 8025 Saddle Run, Powell, OH 43065 USA

SPECIAL THANKS

A special word of thanks to David R. Kleuh of Lexington, Kentucky for his work on the Cumulative Index. Mr. Kleuh has also agreed to keep the index up to date and he is willing to make it available on disk for any who might prefer. Details regarding price and procedure for requesting are indicated on the "Preface" page of the Index.

QUIMET FIRST DAY COVERS

First Day Covers of the Francis Quimet issue produced by IPGS are still available. Please remit \$1.50 or a SASE (self-addressed stamped envelope) or \$2.00 and postage will be added. Send your orders to Cora Collins at the address above.

Member Ads

Golf Topical stamps and covers for sale or trade. William E. Wollney, 1571 W. Ogden, Apt. 1536, LaGrange Park, IL 60525 (Tel: 708-579-7113)

TOM BROWNE NEW FIND

Looking through some of my golfing cards recently, I came across this unrecorded Tom Browne postcard. It is a colored card from - Black and White Drawings - (Punch?) with the caption 'An Anxious Moment for the Caddie'. Dated Feb 12, 1905.

See article THE TIME No. 20 June.
Ed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 1993-94

The RED BALL in the square means your Subscription is UNPAID. The Treasurer would be obliged if you would pay by return or intimate whether you wish to remain a member. We depend on all subscriptions being paid on time so that the Society can flourish.



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The Volkswagen Grand Prix Open Amateur Golf Championship.

by Stuart MacKenzie

Several members have written to me regarding the Volkswagen 'Golf' which appears on the 1988 Swiss 50c. Postman value. Bill Wollney, one of our members wrote to Volkswagen United States Inc, to ask them why Golf was chosen to name the car. Evidently the word originated from the German "Golfstrom", which means a Pacific Trade Wind or Gulfstream.

As it may be, Volkswagen have used the 'Golf' car to promote the game. In 1884 while Secretary of Gairloch Golf Club I received correspondence for THE VOLKSWAGEN GRAND PRIX OPEN AMATEUR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP (see heading), which used the Meter Frank to promote the Tournament - 'Take a Drive With an Open Golf'. Later that year the Meter changed (see below).

I have now been in contact with Volkswagen U.K. but, nobody seems to know anything about this Golf Championship! This article will be sent to them in the hope that it will jog somebody's memory.



The Volkswagen
Grand Prix Open Amateur
Golf Championship.

Stuart R. MacKenzie,
Hon. Secretary,
Gairloch Golf Club,
'Cabarfeidh',
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A HISTORY OF JAPANESE GOLF, PART TWO: UNZEN, THE FIRST PUBLIC COURSE

Today Japan has about 170 public or semi-public golf courses, of which the oldest, Unzen, dates back some 70 years. Unzen was ahead of its time, and was probably based on models of municipal courses in Britain and America. In its heyday, the course was very popular, having as many as 2,962 visitors in 1927, when golf was still relatively new to Japan. Unzen Golf Course managed to survive Japan's turbulent history, and still exists today.

Between Kobe and Unzen

During the ten years between the opening of Kobe Golf Club in 1903 (see *Japan Golf Report*, Vol. 2, No. 2) and that of Unzen Golf Course in 1913, only two other golf courses were built in Japan. Both had a sadly brief history. In 1904 one of the founders of Kobe Golf Club, the English William Robinson (1852-1931), constructed a 6-hole course in Yokoya, Hyogo Prefecture and established the Yokoya Golf Association. The course had sand greens and was 1,196 yards in length. A local farmer's home was used as a clubhouse and the farmer's son, Kakujiro Fukui, eventually became Japan's first professional golfer. Unfortunately the land on which the course was built was sold in 1914 and Yokoya Golf Association disbanded.

The other course, Japan's third and the first in the Kanto area, was built inside the Negishi Racecourse in Yokohama by members of Nippon Race Club Golfing Association and opened on November 23rd, 1906. Members of the club took part in an annual match against a team from Kobe, the Interport Golf Match, held alternately at the two courses from 1907. Negishi was the centre of golf in the Kanto area until 1922, when the championship course at Hodogaya Country Club was opened. Now a park, the course was badly damaged in The Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, became the property of the Japanese government before the war and was used exclusively by American troops during the Occupation era. Nippon Race Club Golfing Association has long since ceased to exist.

JAPAN'S FIRST PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

Unzen, site of Japan's first public golf course and first National Park, is located on the Shimabara Peninsula near Nagasaki in north-west Kyushu. The area was created by volcanic eruption about 200,000 years ago, opened as a hot spring resort in 1653 and became particularly popular during the Meiji Period (1868-1912). According to elderly residents of the local village, foreigners shouldering golf clubs were seen walking and practising golf in the Unzen Mountains as long ago as 1860.

Unzen was established as a Prefectural Park in 1911. The Governor of Nagasaki and other local officials, supported by foreign diplomats and businessmen resident in the area, decided that the parkland was perfectly suited for a golf course. Particularly enthusiastic were the American Consul Mr. Dykeman and Messrs. May and Backrand, Managers of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The efforts of these three facilitated the speedy construction of the course, which was officially opened on August 14th, 1913. Unfortunately, however, the local people had very little knowledge of or interest in golf and so the course at first had few visitors. To remedy this situation, the Nagasaki Golf Club was officially established in 1922 and the course's facilities improved. The club had over 100 members both Japanese and foreign, and the annual number of visitors soon increased dramatically (see graph). Unzen's fame gradually spread beyond Japan's shores and the course was especially popular as a summer resort for residents of Hong Kong and Shanghai. In the early days the course had many problems with turf maintenance, which were



Early visitors to Unzen travelled by rickshaw.



International matches were held every summer, and this photograph shows one such group, around 1928.



The banquet in the clubhouse after one of the international golf matches, late 1920's



A ceremony celebrating the opening of Unzen Golf Course



Unzen was officially designated as a National Park in 1934.

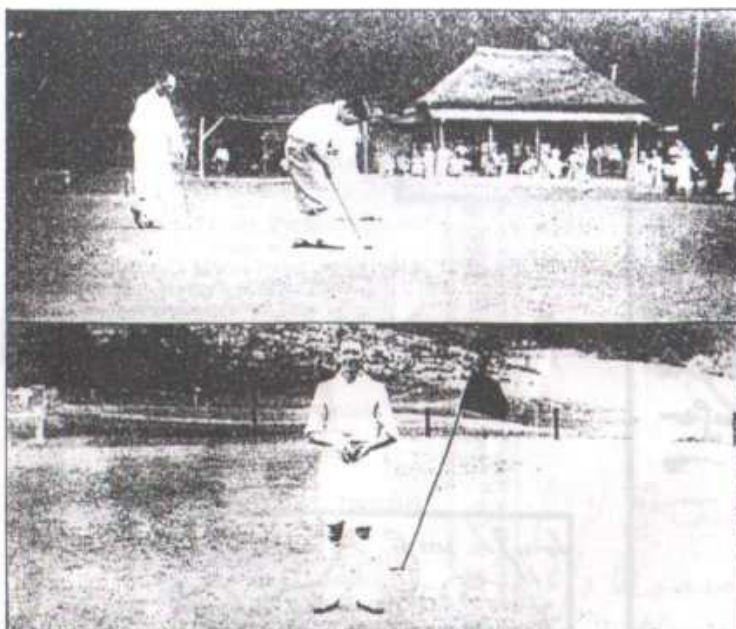
eventually solved by the acquisition of a "new-style" American lawn mower, still on display in the clubhouse.

Unzen Golf Course, originally designed by local engineers Yamada and Suzuki, consists of a par 36, nine-hole course (length 3,161 yards, JGA course rating 34.9), a short course and a driving range. As well as being Japan's first public golf course, Unzen is also unique in several other ways: its location inside a national park, its proximity to the renowned Unzen Hot Springs and its appearance on the first golf-related stamp in the world, issued on November 20th, 1953. (See *Japan Golf Report*, Vol. 2, No. 1) Unzen is also famous for its crows, which "appear from nowhere to carry off golf balls." The crows are said to be especially fond of new, colour balls, and they are particularly greedy during the off-season for worms i.e. March-July and November-December. A story about the crows of Unzen appeared in a Japanese language school text-book published by The Ministry of Education in 1941. A game of golf at Unzen today costs a visitor ¥6,100 (\$24) on weekdays, and ¥8,100 (\$32) at weekends and holidays.

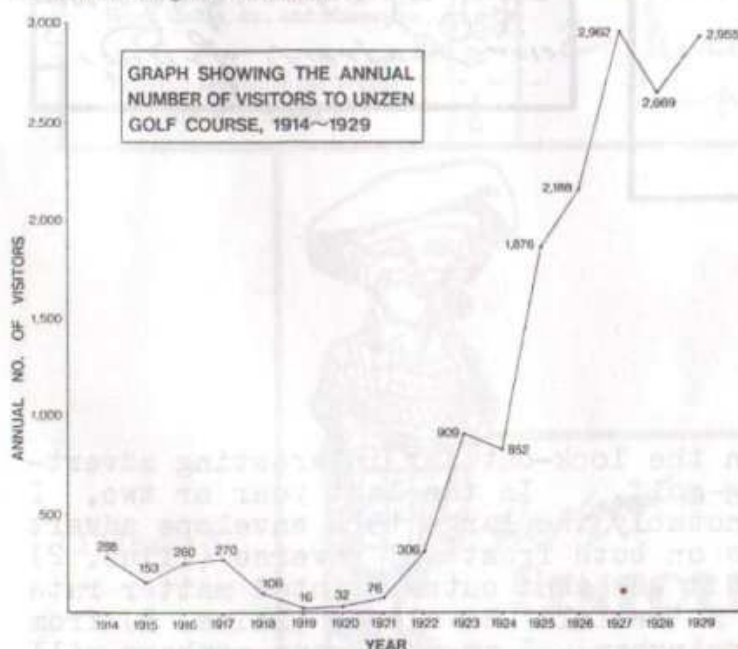
Note: Our thanks to Unzen Golf Course and especially Mr. Minoru Yuda, for assistance with this article.



Horse races were sometimes held inside the course, beside Tenran Pond near the first hole. Even today, the Unzen area is famous for its top-quality racehorses.



Some of the first golfers at Unzen



FEES AT UNZEN IN 1925

Play	Fee (¥)
1 time	0.50
10 times	4.00
25 times	8.00
50 times	13.00
1 week	2.50
1 month	7.50
2 months	12.00
Club Hire	0.50

N.B. ¥1 in 1925 was equivalent to about ¥10,000 (\$40) today.

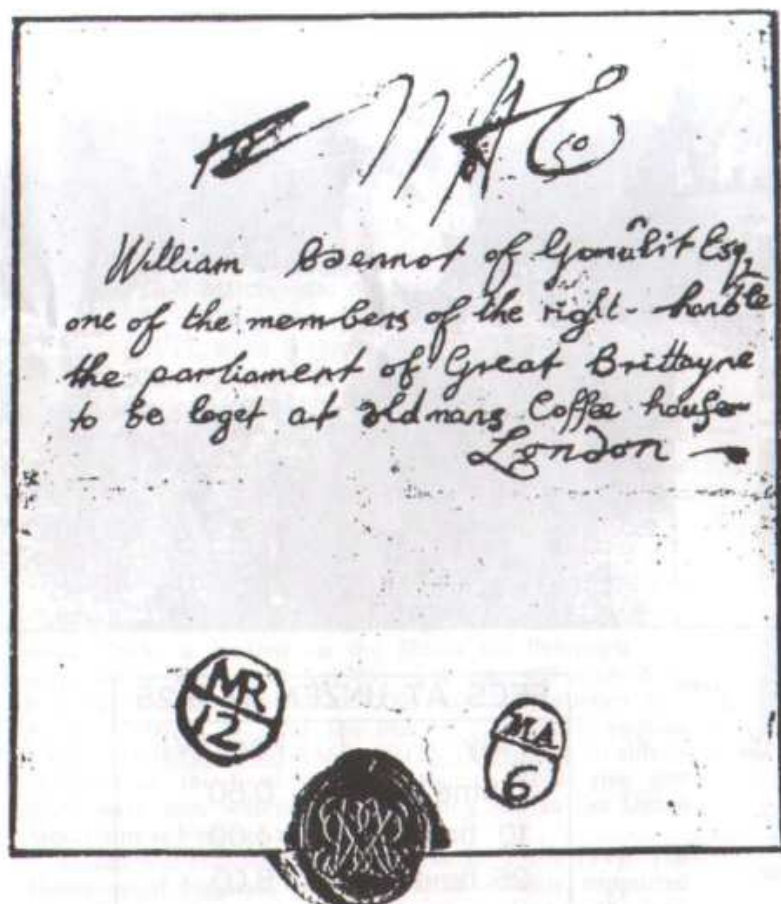
I would like to thank Jillian Yorke, Editor and Dave Harmon (Assistant Editor) of the International Golf Research Institute, Tokyo for giving permission to publish this article from *Japan Golf Report* (July 1985).

SOME GOLFING ODDMENTS and ODDITIES

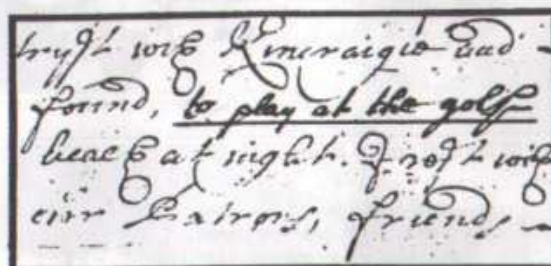
by Graham Winters

A year or two ago, I promised Stuart MacKenzie that I would write a short article for Tee Time based on my Golf Thematic collection. Well at long last the time has come. I have chosen, as the title suggests, one or two of the more unusual items, most of which are waiting to be written up into an International Exhibition entry.

The earliest item which I possess is a 1708 entire letter (Illus. 1) from Edinburgh to the Old Man's Coffee House in London, with both the Edinburgh and London Bishop Marks. The letter mentions playing "at the golf", possibly at Leith?



(Illus. 1)



Of course, most of us are always on the look-out for interesting advertising envelopes and cards concerning golf. In the last year or two, I have acquired some very nice ones, notably the large 1912 envelope advertising William Gibson & Sons wares on both front and reverse (Illus. 2) This clearly contained a circular as it was sent out as printed matter rate of a 1d. More recently I purchased a 'Penfold' envelope, (Illus. 3) from Golf Ball Developments Ltd., in Birmingham - I am sure many members will remember the - 'Bromford' golf balls of the 50's and 60's named after the company's address.

(Illus. 2)

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George Duncan's "Akros"
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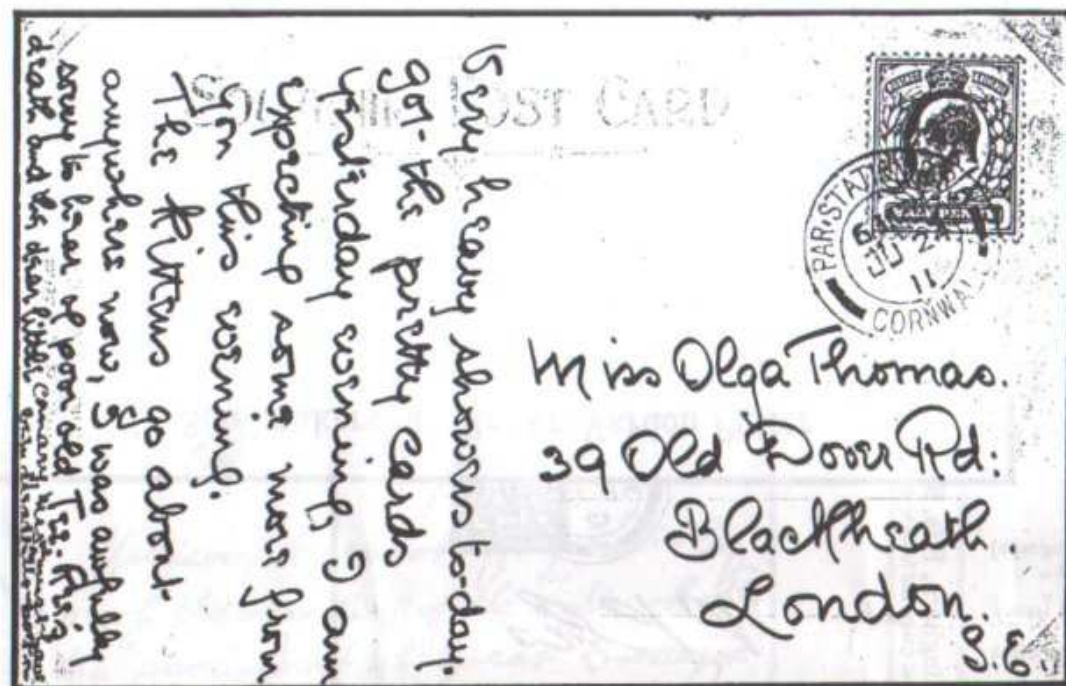
Jacey Buildings,

Sutton Coldfield,

Nr. Birmingham.

(Illus. 3)

Postal markings mentioning golf or related to golf are also much sought after, and while there are a few which are well-known, and often highly-priced, like the Victorian F.P.O.s, and early items from Golf Village in the U.S.A., there are others which are perhaps more easily obtained. When illustrating how golf is scored on a card, I have always used an example of the Par Station railway sub-office mark from Cornwall (Illus. 4). There are other markings for Par which would be equally useful, including a very nice squared circle which I only have on a small piece.



(Illus. 4)



(Illus. 5)

Whether we collect golf just for fun or to exhibit, I'm sure that unusual items make interesting additions to any collection. For example, a friend from New Zealand, knowing my interest in golf, sent me the 1911 Windsor Flight signed - some years later as a souvenir - by Percy Burton, the first President of the English Golf Union in the 1920's (Illus. 5)

to be concluded



122nd OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP at ROYAL ST GEORGES SANDWICH

I am delighted to inform the members that a 'White Knight' came to the rescue of this year's Open Championship at Sandwich. Souvenir covers and Special Handstamp have been sponsored by 'Benhams'. The covers are the famous 'Silk Series' and show both Defending Champion (Nick Faldo) and New Champion (Greg Norman). They are used on First and Last Day's Play with the Special cancellation.

Any members wishing to purchase both these covers can do so by sending to me - Stuart MacKenzie - Sterling Bank Draft for £8.50 or \$13 (Bills) U.K. members £7.50. Price inclusive of Air Mail Post and packing.

Stuart MacKenzie, 'Cabarfeidh', Riverside, Poolewe, Ross-shire, IV222LA Scotland.



Nick Faldo, World No 1 defending his title as Winner of the British Open broke the course record on 16th July 1993 with 7 under par. He was ultimately 2nd in the competition.

GF1/G3



GF1/G3

GOLF STAMP CATALOGUE

1993 (January 16) DUBAI TOURISM



1993 (January 28) The DUBAI CREEK GOLF and YACHT CLUB



1993 (March 24) MONACO 'GOLF'



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