

Extracts from the Press

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A POTTED HISTORY

The Manor of Brookmans, a fine building of Tudor origin, stood at the highest point of Brookmans Park and was formerly known as Mymme Hall, and derived its later name from that of John Brokeman who held it at the beginning of the fifteenth century.

Andrew Fountaine, of the Inner Temple bought Brookmans in 1666. It is probable that he pulled the old hall down for, in 1680, he built a new mansion which was much enlarged in later years.

The most famous man to live at Brookmans was John, Lord Somers, Baron of Evesham, Lord Chancellor and William III's trusted Minister. He died there in 1716.

It was then acquired by Samuel Robert Gausson a descendant of a wealthy Huguenot family who settled in England in 1739, and for more than a century this family exercised great influence in both the Parish and the County.

Brookmans was virtually destroyed by fire in 1891, and afterwards the former stables were converted to serve as the house. The contemporary use of this building has been as Brookmans Park Golf Club's club house.

The two magnificent cedar trees that graced the sunken garden adjoining the house, are still standing majestically overlooking the first tee, and it is a cedar

tree that is the emblem of the golf club.

The idea of a golf course at Brookmans Park was envisaged in the late 'twenties by Alex Hattrell together with some members of Brookmans Park Estate Co, but the house was occupied by four families including Mr Hattrell and other members of the Company, and until they were able to obtain alternative accommodation the idea was shelved.

Subsequently, in early 1930, after two families had vacated the house, the course got under way with the assistance of Messrs Hawtrey & Taylor, who constructed the course, and was opened by Major Burton, by driving the first ball on behalf of Sir Charles Clauson.

A further tenant vacated the house in 1932 which enabled the club to provide an office for Major Lousada, the first secretary, and an additional club room.

In early 1935, the house became completely vacated, and the committee decided that the whole building should constitute the club house and was officially opened on 6 July 1935, by Lady Clauson.

An exhibition match was arranged at the club, between Percy Alliss and James Bradbeer against C. A. Whitcombe and C. W. Richardson, when Percy Alliss had a personal score of 66, standard scratch was 74.

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GOLF CLUB HOUSE METAMORPHOSIS

*Lady Clauson Performs Opening
Ceremony.*

Famous Professionals at Brookmans Park

The transformed club house of the Brookmans Park Golf Club was formerly opened on Saturday by Lady Clauson, the wife of Sir Charles Clauson, of Hawkshead House, Little Heath, in the presence of a distinguished company.

The club house, which is a model of elegance and comfort, has emerged from the somewhat unattractive block of buildings which formed the stables of the old Brookmans House. One end of the building has previously been in use for club house purposes, and the remainder was used as flats. Now the whole of the building has been included in the club house, which includes a spacious dining-room, bedrooms, smoke-rooms, and a lounge, all redecorated in most attractive style.

The opening ceremony was preceded and followed by exhibition golf matches by Charles Whitcombe (Crews Hill), Percy Alliss (Beaconsfield), James Bradbeer (Porters Park), and W. J. Richardson (Brookmans Park).

The opening ceremony

After the morning match a large company assembled on the club house terrace, where Lady Clauson, who was