



History of the Stage Golfing Society Trophies

by John Baddeley

First Edition 2011
Second Edition 2013

Foretaste

Having gained an undeserved reputation for being the Society's archivist and silver expert, I was asked by the Committee to compile a compact compendium of the history of our trophies. Regrettably, this does not appear to have been done before.

On gathering details of all our winners over the 100 years plus of our existence, I became aware of the absolute treasure trove that we possess. This is not a reference to their monetary value but to the history that goes with them. It seems a travesty that we should allow a further period of time to go by before there is some record of what we have. With the exception of the Bennett Edwardes and the Gold Cup, which receive top billing, they are compiled in alphabetical order for ease of reference. They are also listed at the end in chronological order of their being presented. Those trophies marked with an asterisk are awarded points for the first five places, which gives us our Golfer of the Year.

I am grateful to Peter Murphy for correlating all 2300 or so names of the competition winners, compiled from my handwritten records, which can be found listed on our database. My thanks also go to Richard Healy, our printer, for his generous input; to our Treasurer (and my photographer), Boyd Catling; and to our Secretary, John Peters, for suggesting the project and for his encouragement and editorial skills.

I was delighted when this brief history became available in 2011, the year that I was President of the Society. This second edition allows for the inclusion of five more trophies that have come into existence since then.

John Baddeley 2013



THE BENNETT EDWARDES



THE GOLD CUP

THE BENNETT EDWARDES

The premier trophy of the Society, both in age and prestige.

It was presented by a Mrs Bennett Edwardes within a few months of the Society being established in December 1903. It is uncertain what relationship she had with George Edwardes, the celebrated impresario. George's surname was in fact Edwards but he added the 'e' for theatrical effect. Bennett was not the maiden name of George's wife Julia (Gwynne), so Mrs B.E. will just have to remain a woman shrouded in mystery.

George was undoubtedly the leading theatrical impresario of his day. His particular forte was musical comedy. Intellectual content was well down on the list of George's requirements for his productions. He wanted glamorous girls, elegant costumes and wonderful sets with, of course, plenty of song & dance. In the words of Noël Coward, he wanted "something light and something gay." He would have several productions on in London, as well as tours, all at the same time. His main theatre was *The Gaiety* in the Strand. Members of his companies formed the *George Edwardes Golfing Society* and he was made Captain for life. Following his death in 1915 and the Great War (WWI) the Society changed its name to *The Stage Golfing Society* in 1919, as they wished it to be open to all members of the profession.

The Bennett Edwardes is a knockout competition over 18 holes, with the final being played at Richmond over 36 holes. It was first played for in 1904, the winner being Lawrence Rae.

The Cup is silver and hallmarked London 1902. It has a wooden plinth with silver plates, on which winner's names are inscribed. Their names also appear on the Honours Board in the SGS Clubroom.

THE GOLD CUP *

If not the most prestigious of our trophies it certainly is the most valuable. The stories of how it came into our possession are many and varied. It was purchased in 1922 and bears a Birmingham hallmark for that year. It does not mean that the item was purchased in that fair city but the possibility is that it was. The feeling of your researcher and archivist is that the following apocryphal story, is as reliable as can be expected. The distinguished light comedian and passionate golfer Leslie Henson was on tour with one of his London successes and whilst playing the Theatre Royal in the second city, he teamed up with a Thompson Jowett Esq. to play a round of golf. Following their eighteen-hole competition, they vied with each other to purchase several rounds at the nineteenth. Well into his cups, T. Jowett, wishing to impress the theatrical celebrity, said he would like to present the Society with a Gold Cup. The following morning *he* may have forgotten his rash offer of the night before but L. Henson *had not*. Arriving by taxi at an appallingly early hour, Leslie beat on the door of Jowett's residence. Bleary eyed, hung over and confused, he was bundled into the waiting cab and taken to the leading jeweller and purveyor of fine object d'art in the town. With Mr Henson breathing down his neck he purchased that which adorns our clubroom. There have been many distinguished winners such as its first, H. Le Grand, Owen Nares, Billy Tasker, Stanley Baker, Christopher Lee, Philip Glenister, to name a few. Perhaps a more interesting observation is to note those of outstanding golfing ability who have *not* managed to win it.

BADDELEY'S CAKE *

This entry to our golfing calendar came into being in 1997 when John Baddeley, prompted by the bi-centenary celebration (1996) of the celebrated Baddeley Cake ceremony that is held annually on Twelfth Night (January 6th) at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, presented his trophy.

The theatrical tradition was brought into being by the actor Robert Baddeley, a member of David Garrick's company at Drury Lane from 1762.

Following Garrick's death in 1779, he remained with the company until his own death in 1794. Baddeley was a character actor and known for playing "foreigners and Jews". He created the character of Moses in *The School for Scandal*. Originally, he had been a pastry cook and gentleman's gentleman prior to becoming an actor and was obviously financially skilled (unusual for one of his profession) for he bequeathed £100 in his will, the interest to provide for a cake and punch each year in the Green Room of Drury Lane for the actors and their friends to mark the end of the Christmas period. It was the tradition to partake of Twelfth Cakes on that day during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The cake ultimately became the Christmas cake that we now know.

The SGS cake is in silver, shaped as a cake with a slice taken out. It became established that cake should also be consumed by all present at the presentation of the Trophy, thereby having their Cake and eating it.



BADDELEY'S CAKE & SLICE

BADDELEY'S SLICE

From 2000 the Slice was awarded to the leading woman in the Cake competition, thus becoming Baddeley's Slice for the year. It was possible for them to win both trophies, whereas a man could only take the Cake. This caused a degree of chagrin to the male participants, many of whom felt they should be eligible to compete for that trophy too. As it clearly states that it is for the Leading Lady, they may have a point!

THE BANNISTER FOURSOMES

Trevor Bannister, actor and gentleman's outfitter (*Are You Being Served*), presented this trophy in his Captain's year 1996. Comprising three cups, one jointly for the winners and one for each individual on which the winner's names are engraved. Being a foursome competition it allows the opportunity for teamwork, bonhomie and considerable forgiveness being hopefully displayed.

The first winners in 1996 were Siôn Tudor Owen and Robert Pugh.

The silver cups are hallmarked Birmingham 1933



THE BANNISTER FOURSOMES

BULLSEYE TROPHY *

This was presented by Andy Wood and Norman Vaughan in 1994, as a reminder to the Society of their highly successful television game. Its format is Stableford – that is the competition not the TV game. It is also one of the competitions where points are given for the Golfer of the Year award.



BULLSEYE TROPHY

THE BUNCH TROPHY

This competition is only for the distinguished few. Presented in 1955 by Anthony Nelson Keys ('Bunch' being, as one would expect, his nickname). The competition is only open to winners and runners-up in that calendar year, plus past holders of the Bunch Trophy.

It means that if it does not bear your name you are nobody – but do not give up. The winner is usually overwhelmed not only by the honour of being its recipient but by the sheer size and weight of the trophy, which makes it not only difficult to carry but also to display.



THE BUNCH TROPHY

MRS 'BUNCH' KEYS TROPHY

Presented in 1969 by Mrs 'Bunch' Keys for an annual match to be played at the Sunningdale Ladies golf course between the SGS and the Ladies Stage Society (not to be confused with our ladies, who are all equal members with their weaker brethren). It was played in this format from 1969-86. It then went into abeyance until 2000 when the fixture was reinstated (and regrettably rained off!) to become a fourball, where an SGS member would partner a Ladies Stage member.

The competition is usually followed with the Ladies providing afternoon tea and a glass of vino for the non-tea drinkers present.



MRS BUNCH KEYS TROPHY

CARDEW the CAD'S TROPHY

Cardew Robinson was one of the Society's most celebrated and colourful members. His comedy act, that of a schoolboy wearing shorts, school cap and tie, delighted audiences in the theatre, films and on radio for years.

He was a huge bonus at charity functions and dinners but a total disaster on the golf course. The direction of his golf ball was totally unpredictable both to his opponents and himself. His competition is played in the most relaxed manner with a total disregard to any rules laid down by the R & A. It should be played from the yellow tees (if they are available), Mulligans to be in liberal supply, and all putts must be given if they are within a grips length or preferably a putter's length of the hole (belly and under chin, however, not allowed).

On his demise in 1992, the following poem was found on Cardew's desk by John Hine, the Secretary, the original of which has become the trophy played for in his memory.



CARDEW the CAD'S TROPHY

In Praise of Stableford

Some talk of Henry Cotton,
And some of Alex Braid,
Of Watson and Trevino
And of great games they've played
But of all the golfing heroes
And all their well earned fame,
There's one that I revere the most,
And Stableford's his name.

Some love to play a medal,
That's fine if you are good,
But those who use less fairway
Than bunker, hedge or wood,
Are those who give thanks daily
To he who hides their shame
With lines scored through scores more than six,
And Stableford's his name

So let us raise our glasses
When at the nineteenth hole,
To he who saved our reason
Sweet understanding soul,
And at the final judgement,
We know who'll have prior claim,
To reap reward for life well spent,
Saint Stableford's his name.

(to be sung to the theme of *The British Grenadier*)

THE CAD'S TRIBUTE

Cardew was greatly attracted to the ladies. In 1993 Keith Smith, friend and admirer of The Cad, presented this tribute, similar to the previous trophy, to be played for annually between The Stage and the Sudbrook Ladies (later to become Richmond Ladies). The Ladies Section was separate to the Club until 2009 when they became amalgamated with the Club. It was then felt by the ladies that it was wrong for them to play a separate match against the Stage, even though it had been one of their, and our, most popular events since the trophy's conception. This unfortunate state of affairs was rescinded the following year and our close relationship was once again resumed. Cardew would have been delighted at this happy turn of events and delighted that we play for his poem, however politically suspect:

THE LADIES

Most golfers don't like lady golfers,
That's a sad but true fact of golf life;
Though they're quite fond of others,
Like girl friends or mothers,
And some of them quite like the wife.

But to them lady golfers are different,
The moment one steps on the course,
Whether she be a beauty,
A doll or a cutie,
Or one with a face like a horse.

“The damn lady golfers are out there”
That's what ninety per cent of them sneer.
Whether plain or good looking,
“They should be home cooking,
Not under our feet out here.”

“They're a pest like all women drivers,
This isn't a feminine sport
When women are playing
Must watch what you're saying
And supposing you get taken short!”

And if sometimes you have to play with 'em
They want extra shots, it's sheer hell
For what I am saying,
It's not just they're playing
But most of 'em play bloody well!

THE CENTENARY CUP*

The Committee purchased the Cup in 2003 to mark its centenary. This came to us through Richard Lawson, silversmith and dealer in second-hand silverware in Hatton Garden. Bearing a 1933 Birmingham assay mark, it had originally been a fishing trophy that had got away and sunk without trace until it floated to the surface and was caught by the SGS at a knockdown price and re-inscribed to its present state of glory.



THE CENTENARY CUP

THE DEREK CREWE RENEGADE TROPHY

Derek was a member of the Society for many years before his premature death in 2011. A determined golfer and a delightful entertainer and raconteur, his company was always sought, especially by those who, like Fluellen, carried the leek, not only in their cap, but in their hearts. His George Formby inspired entertainment on the ukulele was a must when the SGS entertained at various Clubs. His cherubic smile and slight stature led to warm affection from all those who knew him. The trophy, which was presented by an old school friend, Roy McMahon, is for the best scratch score in the Gold Cup.

'Turned out nice again', Derek.



**THE DEREK CREWE
RENEGADE CUP**

GORDON'S PIANO

Gordon Clyde, who died in 2008, had been a stalwart of the Society for many years. He was devoted to it and everyone who was a part of it. A fine actor/singer, he was a considerable musician and had been a Cambridge music scholar. He was a composer/lyricist and was an intrinsic part of any entertainment that the Society mounted, being particularly skilled at pastiches on established musical numbers. He formed a double act with co-member John Hollis called *Johnnie & Clyde*. Times were not kind to him towards the end of his life but he was always in demand as our musical director.

Gordon Snell, a close friend and musical collaborator of Gordon's, said he would like to present a trophy to be played for each year in memory of Gordon. The Committee gratefully accepted and suggested that a silver piano would be fitting, and that the competition would be open to all those involved in the annual show for the Richmond Golf Club. Gordon was in agreement and he came from Dublin to present it to the first winner, Nigel Pegram. The piano was handmade by master-silversmith, Bernard Leon of Thames Ditton. The inscription on the base of the trophy reads: *Gordon's Piano Presented by Gordon Snell & Maeve Binchy in memory of Gordon Clyde.*



GORDON'S PIANO

THE DICK NAIRN CUP

Presented by Ross Van Nairn in 1992 in memory of his father, Dick. This replaced the Edmund Gwenn Challenge Cup that Dick had won on several occasions. The Gwenn Cup, which was presented by its namesake in 1924, was lost in 1989. It had been won in the previous year by David Sinclair who confessed to mislaying this superb item when the time came for it to be passed on to the next winner in 1989. David lived in Brighton and a search was made in every antique dealer's shop, of which that seaside town is virtually made up, without success. For three years the trophy was played for in absentia. It was last played for in 1991, the winner being John Hollis, who might have torn his hair out at not being able to receive this irreplaceable piece of silver, if he had any to tear out.



THE DICK NAIRN CUP

THE GERALD DU MAURIER*

This is our second oldest trophy, also referred to as the President's Cup. Presented to the Society by our first President, Gerald du Maurier, in May 1919. Its inaugural winner was Martin Lewis. Gerald was the son of George du Maurier, author of *Trilby*, and made his first appearance in the play, adapted from that novel, under the management of Beerbohm Tree in 1895. His most celebrated parts were perhaps, Capt. Hook and Mr Darling in J M Barrie's *Peter Pan* and as Bulldog Drummond in an adaptation of 'Sapper's' book.

Apart from being a distinguished actor/manager, for which he was knighted in 1923, he had a reputation for putting it about with the ladies.

Hence the limerick:

*There was a young lady called Gloria
Who was had by Sir Gerald du Maurier,
Jack Hylton, Jack Paine,
Then Sir Gerald again,
And the band of the Waldorf Astoria*

(This verse should be recited by the winner of the trophy at the presentation ceremony).

His daughter was Daphne du Maurier, author of *Rebecca* and also of a biography of her father called, *Gerald, a Portrait*.

Gerald (1873 – 1934) was our President not only in 1919 but also '24-26 and in 1929.



THE GERALD DU MAURIER CUP

EDMUND GWENN CHALLENGE CUP

Perhaps this should be called the trophy that sometime was. Presented in 1924 it was played for without a hitch until 1988. As already mentioned, whilst in the possession of the winner, the Cup went AWOL. He went to all ends to trace the object, including having an appeal made by our Secretary, John Hine, on Southern Radio. All to no avail. Of course, a robbery must have occurred but there is lingering concern that such an item should vanish in the holders hometown of Brighton, the very centre of silver marketeers. It had been presented to the Society by member, Edmund Gwenn, who had a hugely successful career in Hollywood, including in his many credits *Miracle on 34th Street*, for which he won an Oscar as Best Supporting Actor in 1947.

FREDDIE BRADSHAW TROPHY/THE BAR EWER

For the period between 1963 and 1987 this was played for in an annual match versus The Bar. It was presented to the Society by a W.W.Stubbs Esq., to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the SGS in 1963. It has to be said that over that period it was won overwhelmingly by the Stage which shows that you cannot depend on barristers to defend anything. Regrettably, in 1987 the match was dropped, as our cash-strapped members found that they were not able to match the affluence of their legal brothers and couldn't afford the costs involved! Rather than leaving this elegant trophy dormant, in 2000 it became a Stage competition in memory of one of our most distinguished secretaries, Freddie Bradshaw. In 2013, however, order in court was restored with a trial outing being arranged at the New Zealand Club with a match against The Bar GS, in the hope that, yet again, it could become an annual event. At the time of writing, the jury is out.



THE BAR EWER/BRADSHAW TROPHY

THE FREMLIN TROPHY

Presented in 2012 by one of the SGS' longest serving members, Ian Gardiner. He was introduced to the Society in 1952 by the Captain of that year, Arthur Askey. Ian's outstanding golfing achievement, he claims, was winning The Fremlin Trophy at Bearsted Golf Club in 1948. Fremlin was a celebrated Kent brewery at that time – what could be a more fitting trophy for a thespian golfer?

The format is for the best par 3 scores in the Captain's Day competition.



THE FREMLIN TROPHY

THE FRISBY VETERANS SINGLES

Terence Frisby, actor, author and playwright, became a member of the Society in 1963 and was both Captain and President in his time. His best known play was *There's a Girl in my Soup*, which ran from June 1966 for six and half years, firstly at the Globe Theatre (now The Gielgud) and then at The Comedy Theatre. It was also made into a film starring Peter Sellers and Goldie Hawn. This is a competition for senior members i.e. those 65 and over. The trophy is an original handbill of the play in the West End, displayed in a silver frame.

The first winner was Richard Mills in 2002.



THE FRISBY VETERANS SINGLES

THE GODDARD BOWL

Theodore Goddard presented this Challenge Bowl as a Foursomes competition in 1949. He was a leading lawyer of his day and celebrated for representing well-known personalities in their divorce cases, usually with great success. He led for Wallis Simpson in her divorce case, which was to have a profound effect on the monarchy – and Mr Simpson. Do not don't mention the name of Goddard in the presence of Terence Frisby, for he did our worthy member no service at all, details of which can be found in his lengthy masterpiece *Outrageous Fortune*. Having been co-winner of the trophy in 1987, to gain some revenge, for the time that Terence was allowed to have the Bowl, he kept it under his bed and used it on a regular basis for an unmentionable purpose.



THE GODDARD BOWL

GOLFER OF THE YEAR

THE TUDOR OWEN TROPHY

Siôn presented this replica of the famous Claret Jug in 1994. It was the first time in the Society's history that the leading player of the year would be recognised. Although there would have been many outstanding golfers each year in the Society going back to its inception in 1903, their names were never recognised. Somewhat belatedly this error was righted.



THE TUDOR OWEN TROPHY

The format, chosen by Siôn, is that certain competitions are selected for points to be awarded for the first five positions in each. In 2013 the competitions selected were: The Ronald Squire Trophy; The Bullseye; Gerald du Maurier; The Secretary's Ankle; The Treasures Trophy; The Centenary Cup; The John O'Gaunt Salver; The Captain's Day; Vardon's Putter; The Tennant Bowl; The Gold Cup; The Warrender Spoon; Warrender Trophy and Baddeley's Cake. These are all denoted with an asterisk. The player with most points at the end of the season, being the Golfer of the Year. The first winner was Ian Ashpitel, who became Captain in 2007.

The winner's names are also 'gold leafed' on the honours board in the Stage Clubroom.

THE GORDON CUP

John Gordon presented this as The Challenge Cup in 1930. Among those that have won this delightful cup (with lid and base) have been Robert Shaw (acting shark killer), Trefor Jones (a distinguished *Gerontius*), Anthony Verner (farceur extraordinaire) and Jason Connery (son of *Bond*). It was also won by our Golfer of the Century, Terence Longdon, twice (but officially only once), in consecutive years. Terry was introduced to the Society in 1948 (incidentally the first year of The Richmond Golf Club becoming our home) by Jeremy Hawk who generously said that he would pay Terry's sub that year. Terry entered his first SGS competition, this very Gordon Cup, which was played for at Moor Park, and won. He was then informed by the Secretary, Arthur Lucas, that as the Society had *not* received his subscription he could not win the trophy and that the prize would be awarded to the runner-up. It so happened that the runner-up was the Secretary himself! However, Terry showed his true fighting spirit, for the following year he returned, having seen that his sub had definitely been paid, and won the trophy for the second time(ish). Terry went on to win competitions in every decade into the next millennium, with a final victory in 2003. Sadly, who John Gordon was remains a mystery, but maybe one day ...



THE GORDON CUP

THE STEPHEN GREIF PUTTING COMPETITION

Stephen presented this trophy in 2009. It was played for after the competitions on the Bennett Edwardes day and prior to the dinner, its first winner being Siôn Tudor Owen. From the following year it was played as a knockout competition throughout the season. The draw being made on Bennett Edwardes day with the final to be played after the Bennett Edwardes final.



THE STEPHEN GREIF PUTTING COMPETITION

THE HAVERS -WHITING TROPHY

This has to be one of our most interesting of trophies and perhaps its most challenging. It was presented in 1949 by member Harold Whiting and his close friend, Arthur Havers. Havers was Open champion in 1923 when he was Pro at Coombe Hill and runner-up when he was Pro at Sandy Lodge in 1932. It is of interest to note that he ended his long career as Pro at Frinton from 1956 – 64. We are affiliated to the latter two Clubs, which are close to our hearts.

It is our original Scratch prize. This means you have to be, as stated in the vernacular, a 'proper' golfer. In fact, there had been a scratch prize going back to 1922 but it continued as the Havers-Whiting from 1950. This means that only our finest golfers name's appear on that trophy, amongst them being Terence Longdon, Christopher Lee, Noel Murphy and numerous times, Siôn Tudor Owen.



THE HAVERS -WHITING TROPHY

THE HENSON CUP

Presented by Leslie Henson, in 1920. He was also responsible for bringing our Gold Cup into being. Leslie was one of our most distinguished members and a star in the West End for the first half of the twentieth century, Prior to the First World War he appeared mainly in musical comedies both in London and New York and afterwards in one success after another in the West End, in particular, *Funny Face* (he looked just like a trout) and in farces such as *It's a Boy* and *It's a Girl*. In the Second World War he toured extensively playing to the troops. Towards the end of his career he had great success with *And So to Bed*, a musical in which he played Samuel Pepys. He died in 1957.



THE HENSON CUP

THE JOHN HINE CUP

John was Secretary of the Society from 1987 to 2007 and then Secretary Emeritus. He was also one of a small but distinguished band to be made a Life Member, which he was in 2005. The idea for the trophy came from Michael Rudman and Stephen Greif, which Michael brought to fruition in 2003. This unique silver Cup was made in 1914, which makes it our second oldest trophy in age. It obviously bears a lengthy history, like its namesake! The first winner was Ronnie Laughlin - President in 2010.

It cannot be stated enough how respected and loved John was by the Society. He had come from the alcoholic world of advertising, producing many well-known TV commercials and more importantly employing actors. This latter talent made him totally qualified to be a member of the Society. He had an extraordinary facility to care for impecunious thespians and delighted in all their idiosyncrasies and tantrums. He also felt compassion for the underdog and thus sub-titled his trophy the *Loser's Cup* as it was played for at the end of the season and was only open for those who had failed to win anything during the year!



THE JOHN HINE CUP

IAN HAY CUP

Presented in 1968 by Lord Lurgan in memory of Major General Ian Hay Beith who was our President in 1939. Ian Hay's actual name was John Hay Beith. He had a distinguished military career being awarded the MC during the First World War for "his conduct at the battle of Loos" and also the CBE. He was a successful playwright during the period between the two world wars. They were light-hearted dramas, sometimes veering towards farce and brought a great deal of humour to the West End stage. Some of the plays were adapted from his novels, such as *Housemaster*. He collaborated with several others including *Leave it to Psmith* with P.G.Wodehouse and *The Middle Watch* with Stephen King-Hall.



IAN HAY CUP

THE IMRIE TROPHY

Presented by Benjamin Whitrow in 1998, it having originally belonged to Celia Imrie's father. Benjamin thought that the lady depicted bore a close resemblance to both Celia and her mother! It was originally played for as a knockout competition by members of the fair sex.

In 2009 this format was changed so that it was awarded to the leading female in the Gold Cup competition and then from 2010 to the Lady Golfer of the Year.



THE IMRIE TROPHY

THE JOHN O'GAUNT SALVER *

The silver Salver was presented to the Society by John O'Gaunt Golf Club to mark the twenty-fifth playing of our match in 1987. It's first winner was the much admired Jeremy Kemp - do I detect the *Z Cars* theme tune? The venue for playing for the trophy has moved around over the years, taking in Foxhills and Sandy Lodge. It eventually found its true home in 2009 when it went to John O'Gaunt itself. It is now played there the day before the weekend fixture with the Club.



THE JOHN O'GAUNT SALVER

JUBILEE CUP

Presented in 1977 by Gerald Case to mark the Silver Jubilee of Elizabeth II ascent to the throne. This small trophy is symbolised by it being a Two Club competition. This does not mean we invite another Club to take part but that there is no need to carry a bag for the round. It is usually found that player's scores are exactly the same as when they go round armed with the full set.



JUBILEE CUP

THE KENNEDY TROPHY

Were Bob & Maurice Kennedy a double act? Certainly. They were brothers who ran the Dudley Hippodrome, which was a major pantomime venue in the fifties. The theatre had been built in 1938 and remained open until 1964 when it became the Gala Bingo Hall.

They presented the trophy in 1949. It is played as a medal competition – and that's about it.



THE KENNEDY TROPHY

THE KIMMINS CUP

Anthony Kimmins was an enthusiastic golfer, being not only a member of the SGS but Highgate GC. He was born in 1901 and after service with the Royal Navy as a Captain he became an actor. His career then led him into films, where he became a screenwriter, director and producer. In his early days he wrote and directed films with George Formby and there followed countless others; including *Mine Own Executioner* with Burgess Meredith; *Bonnie Prince Charlie* with David Niven, Margaret Leighton and Jack Hawkins; and also with Alec Guinness in *The Captain's Paradise*. He was President of the Society in 1959 and also received the OBE that year – perhaps they went together in those days! Following his death in 1964 the trophy was presented in his memory two years later by that fine singer Ian Wallace, who could often be seen on the golf course 'wallowing in glorious mud'. Among its many outstanding winners have been Jeremy Hawk, Terence Longdon, James Bolam and Stan McMurtry (Mac), artistes all – but did they go to Charterhouse as Anthony and Ian had done?



THE KIMMINS CUP

KEITH SMITH GREENSOMES

Keith was devoted to the Society and was its President in 1986 and was made an honorary member in the last year of his life. He presented his trophy in 2003, our centenary year.

The trophy takes the form of a shield for both of the winning partner's names to be inscribed and one for each individual. The first winners were Peter Smith & Tony Verner.



KEITH SMITH GREENSOMES

THE CLARET JOG

The 50th Anniversary match was celebrated in June 2013. John O'Gaunt presented us with a small replica of the famous jug to be played for annually at the return match when they visit the SGS at Richmond. This fixture started in 2009 but there was no trophy to play for. They asked us for ideas for a suitable title for the trophy and Terence Frisby suggested the one that they adopted. To mark the occasion, we presented them with a framed MAC cartoon, depicting Stage golfers destroying the JOG course, with a lorry following after them carrying turf and labourers, replacing the vast number of divots made by our players.

There was the usual delightful dinner and alcoholic abuse. The traditional reading of the John O'Gaunt speech was stirringly delivered by David Cunningham which was followed by a dozen JOG members, supported by a visiting line-up of regular barber shop singers, rendering their own version of *There's No Business Like Show Business*, which they had been rehearsing for several weeks, if not months. This was somewhat daunting for the SGS thespians, for they were then called upon to present their own somewhat under-rehearsed entertainment, finding themselves in a 'follow that' situation! However, Messrs Pete Cook (saxophone) and Laurence Pendrous (keyboard); Roy Holder, John Baddeley and Terry Woodcock (The Sophisticates); John Peters (Mrs Shufflewick); and the Captain, Steve Jones (giving a Lonnie Donegan rendition), all rose to the occasion, putting on the style.

In time honoured fashion, the SGS were defeated comprehensively over the two days of play but of that "Enough, no more ..."



THE LEICHNER CUP

Slap on the Leichner (particularly 5 & 9) and the stage is your world – or at least it was. No theatre actor in the twentieth century would venture before their public without having applied their sticks of make-up. This elegant trophy was presented by their representative, Stephen Pollitzer in May 1952. Its many distinguished winners have included Robin Parkinson (actor with the light touch), Gordon Clyde (SGS maestro for many years), Roy Holder (winner so often one wondered if he had shares) and – (what pleasure this gives), John Baddeley.

In recent years, the Leichner with the Gordon and the Kimmins, have been played for on the same day prior to the Bennett Edwardes supper with the sweep and draw, for that prestigious competition. The Gordon is for the low handicappers (1–12) and (in their eyes) the cream; the Kimmins, for those of modest but steady ability (12–18); and the Leichner for members with a special quality all of their own (18–28).



THE LEICHNER CUP

RICHARD MILLS TROPHY

Presented by Richard M. Mills, celebrated man of the theatre, in 1998. His career began as a stage electrician for H.M. Tennent; moving on to stage management; working for Bernard Delfont Ltd., eventually being their Chief Executive; he also became gov'nor of The Talk of the Town.

A resolute golfer, he was our President in 2004. His trophy is for an annual knockout four-ball competition. From 2014, apart from the winner's names appearing on the trophy they are presented with £200, which has to be placed as a wager on The Masters in Augusta. The winners may select three players of their choice in that event. If they succeed in winning on their gamble then the spoils are divided between the players and the Society.

The first winners in 1998 were Peter Kendal and Terence Longdon. Terence was one of the Society's finest golfers. His determined will to win was demonstrated to Tony Verner, who, knowing that Terry had recently undergone major surgery, observed him playing on an adjacent fairway and called across to him: 'Terry, how are you?'

To which Terry replied: 'Four up!'

He was made our Golfer of the Century in Centenary Year.



RICHARD MILLS TROPHY

THE MASKS

The theatrical masks, made out of aluminium, had been commissioned by The Richmond 2005 Captain, Roger Frampton, and his wife, Gail. They initially intended it to be a tribute to our Secretary, John Hine, however, by then the John Hine Cup had already come into being. It was therefore agreed that this would be a trophy played for each year to mark the occasion of the match and dinner for the SGS Committee against the Richmond Committee.



THE MASKS

PATRICK'S PUTTER

This unusual and unwieldy trophy was presented to the Society in 1987 by Shaun Sutton and Innes Lloyd (distinguished BBC television directors) in memory of Patrick Troughton. It is a practical putter which Patrick used not only on the greens to hole out but also, by opening the screw at the top of the handle, to consume Scottish water which had been poured into the chamber within prior to the round, allowing for numbing relief for its desperate owner whenever the need arose. It is the tradition that the winner each year should see that it is replenished for the next victor.

Patrick had a distinguished and volatile career – very much like his personal life. He was perhaps best known for being the second Dr Who.



PATRICK'S PUTTER

THE INGRID PITT-RUDLIN TANTALUS

In 2011, Tony Rudlin, a member since 1976, presented the trophy in memory of his wife, Ingrid Pitt. Although never a member of the SGS, Ingrid was a golfer and occasionally played at Richmond with her husband. She won the Tantalus in a Ladies Charity competition. Her career in film was celebrated worldwide. She appeared in many horror films and not only terrified the viewers but at the same time became every young man's secret fantasy! A festival in memory of her was held in 2012 in the UK to select 'The Queen of Horror', the winner then going to the United States to present the crown to the American 'Queen of Horror'.

The Tantalus is played for on 'Turkey Trot' day. The previous year's winner is expected, nay required, to fill the decanters with port, whisky and brandy (or similar) for the revellers at the Christmas Lunch to imbibe.



THE INGRID PITT-RUDLIN TANTALUS

THE RONALD SQUIRE TROPHY *

Presented by Jeremy Hawk in memory of Ronald Squire in 1961. Ronald (1886-1958), who commenced his distinguished career at the Liverpool Rep., was known for his urbane manner, nasal tones, braying laugh and for playing genial uncles! He was constantly in demand for films, which included *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Island in the Sun*, *Encore* and *Million Pound Note*. The highly unusual trophy represents a cigar (which he was always partial to) with silver engraved snuffbox. Jeremy was celebrated in Revue, when that was in fashion.



THE RONALD SQUIRE TROPHY

THE SECRETARY'S ANKLE *

This unusual trophy came into existence in 1987. It was presented to the Society by Walter McMonagle, who had been its secretary for a brief period of time. During his term of office, a member of the Foxhills greenkeeping-staff felt it was his duty to attempt to kill our distinguished member. He failed in this endeavour, for in reversing his buggy at considerable speed into our theatrical golfer, he only succeeded in shattering his anklebones and ruining his thick Irish brogues. To make sure that we were never allowed to forget his astonishing courage, Mr McMonagle had all the pins, nuts and bolts that had been inserted to restore his ankle, thus allowing him to make his usual awesome swing unfettered, mounted in a most fascinating fashion. From its original gluey opaque plastic mounting, it was later re-styled into that of an upright index finger, the symbolism of which is open to interpretation.



THE SECRETARY'S ANKLE

THE SENIOR SALVER

Peter Jeffrey, an actor of distinction, was Captain in 1987 and presented the salver that year. It is open to those of mature years and has been won by many ripe old actors although its first winner in 1988 was Peter Brace, a stunt artist. It was Peter (Jeffrey), who by playing a round of golf at Richmond with his daughter, Victoria, sowed the seeds for the Society to introduce females into the ranks of the SGS. Although in 2011 there are not many “members who happen to be female” in the Society, those that we have are talented and refreshing company to have both on and off the course. It is warming to see the number of Clubs that have now followed our example and have the fair sex as equal members with their not so attractive male counterparts. Jeffrey was a great lover not only of golf but also of jazz and, it appears, ducklings, as he would converse with them regularly at his Warwickshire abode by the River Avon.



THE SENIOR SALVER

THE STAG'S HEAD

This quite beautiful trophy has been in the Society's possession since 1969. Who the donor was is not indicated or known. Its first winner was Kenneth Wolstenholme, who apart from winning the DFC and Bar for his wartime flying heroics, was perhaps best known as a television football commentator and celebrated for the famous last words of the 1966 World Cup Final when England defeated Germany 4-2, “*They think it's all over – it is now*”.

Because of Richmond GC having a stag as its emblem, it was thought fitting that it should be used as the trophy for the annual match between the Society and Richmond played prior to the entertainment provided for the delight of Richmond members. This has taken place since 1992. No matter who the winners of the trophy are, it is kept permanently on display in the Members Bar of the RGC.



THE STAG'S HEAD

THE LORD'S TAVERNERS TROPHY

The fixture between the SGS and the Lord's Taverners had been played for several years without there being a trophy to brandish. In 2012, Taverner and Stage member Nigel Seale presented this splendid and heavy trophy, marking his year as President of the Society.

The figure, in bronze, was made by the celebrated French sculpture, Antoine-Louis Barye (1796-1875). It was of a herald or troubadour, holding a croquet mallet with ball. The figure appealed to the donor because of his somewhat theatrical stance. Ronnie Laughlin, with the help of various bronze workers, wood workers and silversmiths who gave the figure a base with silver band, re-shaped the mallet and ball to become a golf club and ball. The age of the figure cannot be accurately stated but a rough calculation would suggest mid-19th century – thus making it the oldest trophy in our possession.

Nigel was director of The Spotlight. His father Kenneth, with Rodney Millington, became owners of the celebrated actor's directory in the twenties. Nigel eventually took over from his father, who was also a passionate member of the Society.



THE LORD'S TAVERNERS TROPHY

THE TENNANT BOWL *

Cecil Tennant was the Society's President in 1967. He was the theatrical agent to many of the stars including Gielgud, Olivier and Vivien Leigh. Indeed, he was killed in a car crash on his homeward journey from attending the funeral of Vivien Leigh in that year. It is believed that the Bowl was presented to the Society by Cecil's wife in 1967, in his memory. His personal history is difficult to obtain. However, he was married to the distinguished ballerina Irina Baronova who had originally been married to the dancer Sevastianov, which had ended in divorce. Cecil said he would marry her as long as she wouldat this point Wikipedia runs out on my screen, so what the request was is left to the imagination. Presumably, he insisted on his regular 10%.



THE TENNANT BOWL

THE TREASURER'S TROPHY *

Presented in 1948 by Donovan Parsons, not only a keen golfer and member of the Society, but its Treasurer for a time. It is invidious to select names from its distinguished winners but the name Christopher Lee stands out in 1965 - his appearance in the competition must have been a terrifying sight. Also, it is amusing to see that in 1976 the name of Patrick Westwood appears engraved on the cup, which Mr Michael Rudman vehemently says should be his. To placate him, we allowed him to donate the John Hine Cup!



THE TREASURER'S TROPHY

VARDON'S PUTTER *

Another long-standing competition, the trophy is in recognition of one of golf's most respected players, Harry Vardon, and was presented in 1930 by Basil Foster. For some reason the early winners names are recorded but not inscribed. However, this was corrected in 1961 and since 1990 their names are there for all to see. Of its many winners Sean Connery in 1967 catches the eye. He was later knighted for his services to Scotland.



VARDON'S PUTTER

THE WARRENDER SPOON *

Harold Warrender was President in 1950 and presented this trophy to the Society in that year. The silver spoon is a most original piece and like Vardon's Putter, so large that it would take up the entire length of most mantelpieces. The Spoon measures twenty eight inches from stem to stern. Why he should have chosen a spoon, however magnificent, to mark his Presidency is not known. Mr Danny Thorpe's suggestion that a spoon may have been the only club he felt happy using is scurrilous invention. It is mounted on a base for ease of display and has been played for since 1950. Its first winner was R.Stuart Lindsell.



THE WARRENDER SPOON

THE WARRENDER TROPHY*

Harold was not only a distinguished actor but also a revered member of the Society from 1928 to 1953 and was President in both 1950 and 1951. He was seen winning the war in many films, frequently at the helm of a Battleship as it sank numerous German vessels and ploughed its way through fearful seas. He also went to the South Pole in *Scott of the Antarctic*. Harold was not only a sea captain but also Captain of the SGS in 1949 and 1953 (our Golden Jubilee year). Sadly, he died in May '53 so was unable to take his place as Captain at the glittering celebration that took place at the Savoy Hotel in December 1953, when Sir Laurence Olivier was our President and A.J.Evans the President Emeritus. His place at the Dinner was taken by former Captain, Richard Murdoch. John Mills was the Toastmaster. This trophy was in his memory and presented in 1953, the first winner (1954) being Nigel Green – another macho hero.



THE WARRENDER TROPHY

THE WEGUELIN CUP

One of our earliest trophies, it was presented by Thomas (Noel) Weguelin in 1920. Thomas was an actor and first appeared in London with Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree at Her Majesty's Theatre in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Other productions he appeared in were *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero and *Windfall* by R.C.Sheriff.

He had been educated at Eton and was also a member of The Green Room Club, essential qualifications for membership of the SGS in 1920.

The trophy was won on numerous occasions by Arthur Lucas (one time Secretary of the Society) and by Terence Frisby.



THE WEGUELIN CUP

THE WINTER KNOCKOUT

To stop one hibernating during the winter months this hardy annual came into being in 1988. Stephen Greif presented a Shield with individual smaller shields on it for the winner's names to be inscribed. So that the competition commenced in a manner that he would have thought most fitting, Stephen made sure that he was its first winner!



THE GARFIELD MORGAN WINTER KNOCKOUT

From 2010, with Stephen's agreement, its title was changed to The Garfield Morgan Winter Knock-Out in memory of Garfield, a long-standing member of the Society. In 2011 the Shield became a Cup, which was presented by his close friend and former President, Rick Wakeman. Garfield was Captain in 1985 and President in both 1984 and 2003 (the Society's Centenary year). From 2006 up to his death in 2009 he was also the Secretary. He was devoted to the SGS, and in his latter years it virtually became his life.

Garfield was particularly amused by this competition for although it is the Winter Knock Out, it frequently takes until August before the winner is known. Because of this, Garfield called it the Vivaldi competition as it took all Four Seasons to complete.



EXTRA SPECIALS

There are several trophies that are not for competitions. There is the heavily tarnished **WHITE & MACKAY CUP** played for annually, as a triangular match between the 40 Club/The Lords Taverners/SGS.

THE FRINTON HUT designed and made by Ronnie Laughlin, of the celebrated beach hut at Frinton, that is played for annually in our match against Frinton GC

The Wimbledon Ladies have a trophy called **THE MCGILL SALVER** that is played for in the annual match between us. This is followed by a late lunch and alcoholic largesse being provided by the Ladies for the humble and quite often, humbled, thespians.

THE BROOKWOOD OSCAR was introduced by West Hill GC in 2012, for our annual match.

THE CAPTAIN'S FINAL PUTT instigated in 2004 is where the outgoing Captain has to make his final putt on the 18th prior to the incoming Captain's drive-in. The winner being whoever guesses the distance from the hole that the putt will come to rest.

THE GREENKEEPERS TROPHY is for the match against The Richmond GC Greenkeeping staff. Once again made by Ronnie Laughlin.

THE OSCAR ASCHE BOWL was presented in 1920. Asche was the stage name of John Stanger Heiss, an English actor of Scandinavian descent. Born in 1871, he made his stage debut in 1893 and appeared with Beerbohm Tree and Frank Benson. He was best known for writing the musical fantasy *Chu-Chin-Chow* that ran for five years, a record in its day. He was one of the Society's earliest members and was closely involved with its running, being Captain in 1921 and also President in 1920 & 1922.

The present trophy, however, is a replacement and was withdrawn from competition in 1981. History does not say what happened to the original. Whether it was purloined, returned to the family, or cashed in to replenish the Society's coffers, may never come to light!



THE OSCAR ASCHE BOWL

THE LONDON INTER-THEATRE GOLF CHALLENGE SHIELD is competed for now on Guest Day when the SGS entertain representatives from the Clubs and Societies that we play against. The Shield goes back to 1908. This was in the days when being member of the Society meant you trod the boards and there are rumours that the seeds for the trophy were sown at The Garrick Club. It was a competition between all the London theatres. Representatives from each theatre would play for this annual competition, to bring honour to their theatre .. and themselves. The first to triumph was the Queen's Theatre and the last was The Criterion Theatre in 1935. These were the days when actors really had 'actors' names. Two winners stand out with J. Wallett Waller and Halliwell Hobbes.

THE COLOURS

The Society colours of green, yellow and white are said to represent the fairways and greens; the bunkers; and the ball.

THE FLAG

There is no record of when the original SGS Flag came into being but by the time of the centenary in 2003 it was virtually threadbare. Running repairs were attempted which caused it to be reduced in size and dignity. In June the following year, John Hine, the Secretary, presented the flag that we now have. It was made by the celebrated flag-makers Turtle & Pearce to the exact design of the original, this time of a more durable material, which should stand the test of time and tempest.

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF TROPHIES

Bennett Edwardes	1904
Gerald du Maurier	1920
Henson Cup	1920
Weguelin	1920
Oscar Asche	1920
Gold Cup	1922
Edmund Gwenn	1924
Gordon Cup	1930
Vardon Putter	1930
Treasurer's Trophy	1948
Goddard Bowl	1949
Havers-Whiting	1949
Kennedy	1949
Warrender Spoon	1950
Leichner	1952
Warrender Trophy	1953
Bunch Trophy	1955
Ronald Squire	1961
Bar Ewer	1963
Kimmins	1966
Tennant Bowl	1967
Ian Hay	1968
Stags Head	1969
Bunch Keys	1969
Jubilee	1977
John O'Gaunt Salver	1987
Senior Salver	1987
Secretary's Ankle	1987
Patrick's Putter	1987
Winter K-O	1988
Dick Nairn	1992
Cardew the Cad's Trophy	1992
The Cad's Tribute	1993
Golfer of the Year	1994
Bullseye	1994
Bannister 4'somes	1996
Baddeley's Cake	1997
Richard Mills Trophy	1998
Imrie	1998
Baddeley's Slice	2000
Frisby Trophy	2002
Centenary Cup	2003
Keith Smith Greensomes	2003
John Hine Cup	2003
The Masks	2005
Stephen Greif Putting Trophy	2009
Gordon's Piano	2010
Garfield Morgan Winter KO	2011
Ingrid Pitt-Rudlin Tantalus	2011
Fremlin Trophy	2012
Derek Crewe Renegade Trophy	2012
Lord's Taverners Trophy	2012
The Claret Jog	2013

