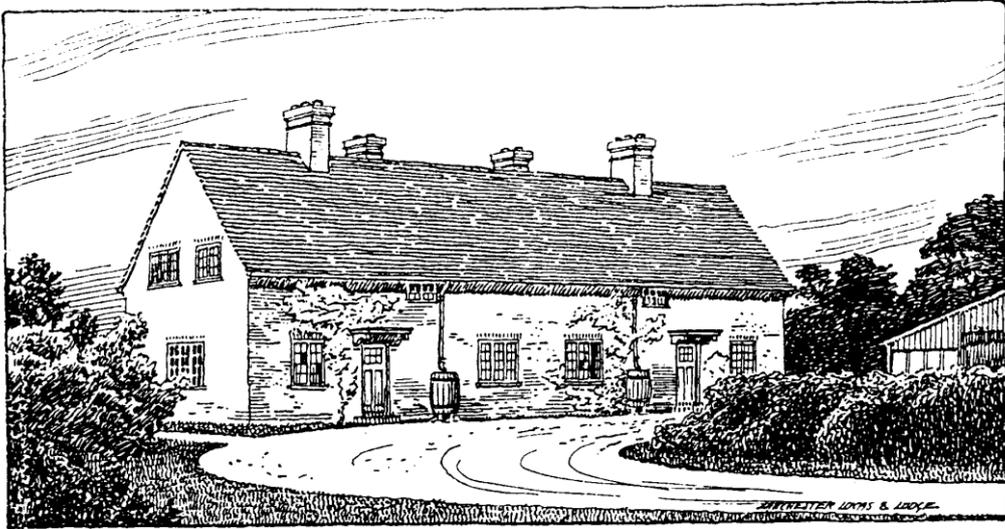


University Country Club

WHITELEAF, PRINCES RISBOROUGH



DIRECTORS:

PERCY BROADBENT INGHAM, B.A. (*Chairman*)

THOMAS LLOYD HUMBERSTONE, B.Sc. (*Managing Director & Secretary*)

ARCHITECTS:

LANCHESTER, LUCAS & LODGE, EF.R.I.B.A., 19, Bedford Square, W.C.1.

SOLICITORS:

STOOKE-VAUGHAN & TAYLOR, 12, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 1

AUDITOR:

OLIVER GREENWOOD, F.I.A.A., 15 Baronsmead Road, Barnes, S.W.13.

BANKERS:

MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED, 237, Tottenham Court Road, W.C.1.

LONDON OFFICE:
15, GOWER STREET.
W.C. 1.

TELEPHONE:
MUSEUM 267.

[Seven acres of land were purchased in 1919 for the purpose of establishing a University Country Club but the high cost of building delayed the project until 1924.]

In 1919 a syndicate composed of the present Directors and Mr. H. J. Randall, LL.B., purchased an area of nearly seven acres of undeveloped land at Whiteleaf, Princes Risborough, for the purpose of establishing a University Country Club.

The high cost of building made it necessary to postpone development for some years but a private company has recently been registered with a nominal capital of £2,000 in Ordinary Shares of £1 and has acquired the land on favourable terms.

The Club-House is under construction to the plans of the Company's Architects and will be available for members in the summer of 1924.

The accommodation includes a large lounge, dining room, library, eight bedrooms, garage with accommodation for six cars, and other outbuildings. It is hoped to provide additional accommodation in the form of separate cottages.

The Club-House is 35 miles north-west of London and two miles from Princes Risborough Station on the main Great Western Railway to Birmingham and the Great Central Section of the London and North Eastern Railway, which provide an excellent service of express trains to and from London. Princes Risborough is 18 miles from Oxford with a direct railway service and is accessible from the North and West. The motor-bus service from High Wycombe to Aylesbury passes within a stone's throw of the Club-House.

The land is situated at the focus of a wooded range of the Chiltern Hills and overlooks Chequers Park, containing the official country home of the Prime Minister. The air is exceptionally fresh and reviving, the altitude being between 400 and 500 feet above sea level. Within a mile is Great Kimble Church where John Hampden made his protest against Ship Money. A walk through beech woods brings one to the "*Pink and Lily*" a modest inn on the Chilterns often visited by Rupert Brooke, who wrote the poem beginning:-

"Never came there to the '*Pink*'
Two such men as we I think
Never came there to the '*Lily*'
Two men quite so richly silly

The last words describe the exhilaration which this beautiful country-side induces.

But, apart from the natural beauty of its scenery, Buckinghamshire has other claims as a meeting-place for University members. One of the most sporting shires in the country, it is also full of archaeological and historical interest. "The Parliamentary constitution of England," said Disraeli, "was born in the bosom of the Chiltern Hills." It is the cradle and home of great statesmen: the names of Hampden, Chatham, Burke, Greville, Disraeli, Rosebery—not to mention the Prime Ministers who have found a temporary home at Chequers—adorn a brilliant list which no other county can challenge.

The great growth and increasing distractions of London and other University cities have rendered urgent the provision of some retreat in the country where University teachers and *alumni* can "make their souls" as the Irish say.

It is hoped that the University Country Club, established in such beautiful and appropriate surroundings, may become a recognised centre for University men and women, giving the opportunity of social intercourse, fresh air, and exercise and, not less important, of direct communion with Nature –

“Banqueting
With her in her wind-walled palace
Underneath her azure dais.”

Our object should be to obtain the advantages both of town and of country life. Charles Lamb loved the cheerful haunts of streets. He would live in London “shirtless, bookless.” He would dream of Fleet Street, wake up and cry to sleep again; and his last walk was “Londonwards.” As to the country, he felicitated our first forefather, Adam, on sinning himself out of his primitive prison. But even Charles Lamb found the perfect life in combining “the curds and cream” of the country with “the turtle soup and lobster salads” of town. “What” he asked “can mortal desire more for his bi-parted nature?”

It is not intended at present to define a University qualification for membership but a large proportion of the members will, it is expected, be University graduates. Applications for membership from graduates of Oversea and American Universities will be specially welcomed.

The annual subscription for Ordinary Members will be two guineas for those resident or employed within fifty miles of the Club-House and one guinea for others.

Original Members will be those who apply for membership before January 1st, 1925, and pay subscriptions from the date of the opening of the Club. No entrance fee will be payable by Original Members.

Those Original Members who acquire before the opening of the Club a minimum holding of 50 Ordinary Shares of £1 in the Company will rank as Foundation Members and will be guaranteed against any increase of subscription during continuous membership and share qualification.

It is expected that there will be a demand for occasional visits to the Club on the part of persons who may not wish to pay regular subscriptions. Subject to the prior claims of Ordinary Members, arrangements will be made for election to temporary membership with the minimum of formality.

Provision will be made for lawn tennis and other games but the question whether the subscription for Club Membership will include such games is reserved. The construction of an open-air swimming bath is under consideration. Whiteleaf Golf Course (9 holes) adjoins the land. The annual subscription to the Golf Club is four guineas and the entrance fee is at present suspended.

Sites are available on the land belonging to the Company for houses to be built by the Company or by individuals.

University graduates and others desiring to apply for membership of the Club are invited to communicate with the Secretary at 15, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.

SOME OPINIONS RECEIVED IN REPLY TO THE PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS.

Principal ERNEST BARKER (London): "Whiteleaf is a charming place, with admirable walks, and your Club should be a success."

SIR SYDNEY CHAPMAN (late of Manchester): "I wish all success to the Whiteleaf scheme."

Professor WINIFRED CULLIS (London): "I have no doubt your scheme for a Country Club will receive much support."

Mr. DOUGLAS J. DAVIS (London): "It is my opinion that the scheme is reasonably certain of success if it is made to appeal to a sufficiently large circle."

LORD DAWSON OF PENN (London): "I need hardly say I wish you well."

Dr. C. A. DUNIWAY, Director of the American University Union in Europe (British Division) : "You have my good wishes for the success of the University Country Club enterprise. This office will, of course, bring the Club to the attention of enquiring Americans who may be interested."

Rev. JOHN A. DOUGLAS (London): "I think the Country Club should be a great thing and a great success."

Professor JOHN EYRE (London) : "I think the scheme is an excellent one and one worthy of support."

Mr. J. C. GRÖNDAHL (London): "A splendid thing for us smoke-breathers and I beg to apply at once for an 'original' membership."

Principal H. J. W. HETHERINGTON (Exeter): "I have no doubt it is an excellent scheme."

Dr. ALEX HILL (Cambridge), Secretary of the Universities Bureau of the British Empire: "We at this Bureau shall be glad to see the proposed University Country Club established; it will be most attractive to oversea teachers and research students."

Professor JAMES JOHNSTONE (Liverpool): "The idea is a very nice one and I hope that you will succeed."

The late Professor W. P. KER (Oxford): "Your choice of land is not far short of the best in England, but I knew it before the landscape was animated with plain policemen protecting Prime Ministers."

Dr. C. J. LAMB (Cambridge): "I think the scheme of a Country Club is a very good one and should prove successful."

Vice-Chancellor SIR HENRY MIERS (Manchester): "I imagine that your scheme does supply a real need in the neighbourhood of London."

Professor J. G. ROBERTSON (London): "I am much in sympathy with your excellent scheme."

SIR MICHAEL SADLER (Oxford): "I hope the Country Club will be a great success."

Professor ARTHUR SMITHELLS (Leeds): "The scheme is very attractive and ought to succeed."

SIR JOSIAH STAMP (London): "I think that it ought to be supported as it seems to be a most excellent project."

Miss M. J. TUKE (London): "The proposed Country Club at Whiteleaf will, I expect, gain many supporters."

Professor H. H. TURNER (Oxford): "Your letter of April 12th drafts a very attractive proposal."

Mr. H. G. WELLS (London): "Your enterprise in the direction of University affairs for which we London Graduates have so much reason to be grateful, seems to be taking a new and very hopeful direction in the Country Club scheme."