

DIARY OF AN EDINBURGH 18 YEAR OLD

Oct 10 -14 1965

BBC TV and STV telephone asking my parents for an interview with me and I say no in case the whole trip was a complete disaster.

I gave some Scottish Press interviews and I succeeded in getting The Scotsman newspaper to agree to buy any golf tournament stories I wrote for 2 guineas per report.

Fri Oct 15

Thankful that publicity and preparations were over I settled down with mum and dad at Glasgow Airport for a 3 hour delay! Time was on our hands and they were anxious and so was I.

It was like the heart pounding feeling I used to have before going back to a new term at prep school. I hadn't registered till now that I had never really been away from home more than 3 weeks and now I was about to fly away to another country and another way of life for at least 4 months.

The plane finally took off around 12-30 am on its 12 hr one stop flight and a busy excited and nervous Friday was over.

Sat Oct 16

Plane reached Keflavik (Iceland) at 4-40 am in choppy conditions and pouring rain. Another wait 2 hrs. Finally re boarded plane after nearly taking up Loftleider's offer of a free 24 hrs in Iceland. Slept quite a bit in the plane but was woken up occasionally by passing stewardesses....I didn't complain. (attractive)

My stomach wasn't on its best behaviour owing to strange eating hours.

Enormous meal at Glasgow Airport and another 2 hrs later.... Scottish attitude prevents me from rejecting it. However the 3rd meal at Keflavik has to go by the board or it would be overboard. I bought a bottle of whisky for the Balcombes there.

Arrive JFK Airport at 10-30 am.. 4 hrs late, temp. 80 deg and I have a sweltering time at Customs finally leaving the airport for bus terminal at 11-30. Horribly hot in my heaviest clothes and carrying heavy bag. Burger for lunch at bus station. Rang the Balcombes in Baltimore.

Bus leaves at 1-30 and trip takes 3.5 hrs. Marvellous weather, roads and scenery. Bus averages 60 mph. Reach Baltimore on time. See an American discount store..tempted to buy camera but don't.

Balcombes have lovely house. Tired but happy. Can't believe I'm abroad.

Sun Oct 17

Visit Baltimore shipyard with uncle Wilfred (my godfather and a Cunard exec.) and breakfast aboard Cunard cargo ship bound for Glasgow. One million bottles of whisky aboard.

Return home 10 .30 and we set out for lovely town of Annapolis, home of the US Navy Training College.

American lunch (shark steak) at Harbour House. Cant drink alcohol till 21 yrs and am impatient to wait so long...a coke suffices.

Visit Naval College in the afternoon; thousands of crewcuts and a splendid edifice. Very attractive girl visitors...almost wished I had joined the navy. Tomorrow Five Farms CC.

Mon Oct 18

Marvellous weather, marvellous golf club, marvellous game - sums the day up. Temp 80 deg., enormous clubhouse, 3 pools, dozens of buggies, countless staff.

I found myself playing with a millionaire within 10 mins of arriving. New set of clubs and balls + buggy at my disposal. No wonder I shot 78.



Five Farms Clubhouse, Baltimore CC

Inside of clubhouse is quite beautiful...it should be...only the very rich can afford to join.

Aftershave in the wash room.

I was almost offered the job of Caddymaster! They thought I was looking for a permanent job....

Tues Oct 19

Again great weather, temp in the 80s again and it happened to be Ladies Day so everyone's temperature rose a few degrees any way. I had to wait about 3 hrs for my first caddying job as I was only naturally chosen last out of the 25 or so regular caddies, by the caddymaster.

Each caddy carries two bags so about 50 women passed by before my turn. Eventually I got a job with 2 typical women golfers...dreadful; it was almost too hot to carry two heavy bags! I had only gone one hole before one strap caused a shoulder blister. Nevertheless I survived one round...\$8. I lunch at 4-30pm and typically over excited for anything new, I rushed out again for 9 holes. \$3. but only one bag this time.

Americans are all very flamboyant but friendly and except for my shoulders and feet the day is great fun.



Five Farms, Baltimore CC

Wed Oct 20

Very warm day and equipped with shoulder pads I carry 2 big bags amongst a tedious fourball; 4.5 hrs for 16 holes. Fortunately my pair sat out 2 holes.

The members are beginning to know me. Gossip does a lot of work round here. I stretch my tired legs for another 9 holes caddying for two women, with very light bags, as soon as the first game is over.

\$13 earned in total including a 50 cent tip for lifting 2 bags for a guy into the boot of his car.

In the evening all my 2 day earnings go towards buying a Kodak Instamatic. \$43. Colour pictures tomorrow perhaps.

Thurs Oct 21

I decided that by arriving late, at 11am, I wouldn't have so long to wait for a job and it so happened I was one of the quickest to be chosen. I must be improving! And I was appointed to caddy in a 4 ball which included Mr Wise, my millionaire partner on Monday.

This 5hr game was most enjoyable and highly lucrative. \$13.50. I took one colour picture and also played 2 shots to the 17th short hole at their request.

pm...I was too tired to caddy any more and finished up buying a \$6 wallet in Towson. Earnings so far average \$12 pd about £4 -50. I have written to Arnold Palmer.

Fri Oct 22

Rain stopped play. Misty haze and customers aren't accustomed! So we caddies starve. For my pains I have a close study of a day in the life of a down and out caddy. Friendly bunch they are really. I'm Americanised already. Andy is now my name. They also warn me I may need a caddy permit out West and for this I need a work visa. Haven't decided what to do.

Some of the caddies are wearing tee shirts left over from last month's Walker Cup which was played here. The name of "Peter Townsend", "Joe Carr", "Michael Lunt" and "Clive Clark" who holed the putt at the 18th to tie, on their tee shirts. etc
In the evening I took my first ever flash picture.

GB & I and USA Walker Cup Teams 1965 Five Farms, Baltimore CC



GB&IRE

Joe Carr Capt.
Michael Bonallack
Clive Clark
Gordon Clark
Gordon Cosh
Rodney Foster
Michael Lunt
Sandy Saddler
Ronnie Shade
Peter Townsend

USA

John Fischer. non pl. Capt.
D. Allen
D. Beman
W. Campbell
D. Eichelberger
D. Gray
J. Hopkins
D. Morey
W. Patton
E. Tutweiler
E. Updegraff

Sat Oct 23

Uncle Wilfred very kindly drives me to Five Farms...everyone at home is recovering from a late night. Caddying not very successful for a Saturday. Only one tedious 4 ball. \$9. I take afternoon off with a lift and a bus ride into Baltimore. Little success in buying a battery razor but I do see some of the Town. Bus to Towson and walk home.



George Blome QC. Five Farms, BCC

Sun Oct 24

Caddying? easy peasy! I run behind a buggy for a couple of short sighted old men, just watching where their balls go for them. One of them George Blome, a lawyer, is one of the kindest men I have met and typical of my concept of warm hearted Americans. He loved his trip to Scotland and is very interested in my trip. He gave me his address, forced a \$5 tip into my palm and told me to write to him. The caddiemaster chose me first out of 20 old stagers for the job. Patience is after all a virtue.

I am much in demand for giving on course lessons. At the players' request of course. Today I was asked by a Mr Snead!! He had hooked his ball disasterously at a short hole and my prescription left his repeat shot 6ft from the hole.

Back home our Washington trip is cancelled in the afternoon and instead we take a trip into "Scottish" countryside around Loch Raven.

Mon Oct 25

Early trip to Baltimore. I travelled in with uncle W. Visit to the Greyhound Bus Station. My ticket (\$99-99 days) expires Feb 14 '66. Also went to the Consulate for a work visa but will have to go to Washington for that.

It is a small world..chat to a golf dept. salesman in a store and he turns out to be an ex tour caddy who gives me all the gen. I also make schick negotiations about a battery razor! Letters written to NY but despite this there is a distinct lack of mail from home or anywhere. Weather is much colder.

Evening...good deed of returning a \$1 note I found, leads to an intro to the local teen scene. Language (hip) and mannerisms make them the strangest group I have ever met.

Tues Oct 26

Visit to Andy Gibson, pro at Maryland CC is postponed and I caddy at Five Farms again. Weather is warm again but I wait so long for a job and even then it is in the form of running for practice balls. \$1.50 +12 holes \$6. However I manage to make a Mr Cole a lot happier with his game and he gives me a lift home.

Wed Oct 27

I visited Andy Gibson at Maryland CC and we have a long chat...he was assistant to McInnes at Prestwick 30 years ago! and hails from Prestwick and Galston. He says the Club is at my disposal and I am thinking of caddying there tomorrow.

No mail yet.

Thurs Oct 28

I caddied at Maryland CC...first off - thanks to Andy! I share a 3 ball with a nice young caddy.\$7.50.

A letter from parents and I give a prompt reply. 2 very interesting photos taken; got one of the players to hit his ball where it landed...in the sand cart! hope it comes out.



Maryland CC



12th hole

Fri Oct 29

Another cold but sunny day for caddying at Maryland CC. I chat with Andy again and caddy in the afternoon. 18 holes \$8. 2 heavy bags and my string vest for warmth was not a good idea. It was not funny trying to extract string from both my shoulders after the round.

I return home to a helpful letter from Mr Thomson and a letter from Lee Pockman. Plans for NY suggest an early trip on Tuesday.

Uncle W returns with news of a golf game tomorrow morning with a shipping friend, Mr Caulfield.

pm. I rejoined the kids I met a few days before, for a "fraternity enlistment" but I packed it in at 9-30.

Sat Oct 30

An early game with Mr Caulfield and his twin 30 year old nephews Frank and James Fish. A lovely day and I use aunt Molly's clubs and share a caddy with Jim...ironical or what?

I endeavoured to give Jim, a beginner, a few tips and am quite successful. My score was not spectacular but not bad for a strange course, Hill & Dale CC, and strange hickory shaft clubs from out the loft. I had my longest ever drive, 300 yds with a ladies spoon (3wd) with hickory shaft and layer of felt for a grip... and practically reached the 540 yd uphill 18th in two.

A really wonderful game and I returned with Mr Caulfield to his house for an equally delicious evening. Jokes all round and the Balcombes arrived. Dinner for twelve; and a game for 7am tomorrow is planned. I took 2 more flash pics. Typical American joviality experienced. "Trick or Treat" neighbourhood children call at the house in "spooky" costumes.

Sun Oct 31 Halloween

7am; they are late but we make an 8-15 start on an even warmer day. I have a caddy again and this time I help Jim's twin Frank out with his request for a lesson. My game suffers due to a slack mental approach and a beer...fatal for short putts.

The Fish twins and I arrange to meet in NY, their hometown, on Wed. Mr C kindly suggests another game when I return.

Halloween Party with neighbours in the evening. + I watched the Baltimore Colts beat San Francisco 49ers on tv.

Mon Nov 1

Quiet day. Lunch at Hutzlers big dept store. My accent amuses waitress. Bus into Baltimore and I arrange bus trip to NY.
pm. pack for trip.

Tues Nov 2

Pleasant bus trip to NY. Met Lee Pockman (aunt Hope's friend)...charming. She shows me round the Empire State Building, Rockefeller Centre and Radio City. Marvellous clear day.

Trip to top of Rockefeller, 2nd highest in NY. Picture taken. Wonderful view. R. Centre is a truly marvellous feat of construction.

Wander round streets bordering on 5th Ave. See Tiffanys and Cartiers. Lunch at top of 666..again a magnificent view.

Subway with Lee to Sloane House YMCA. Sign in and she leaves. I settled in and then returned to Bus station to collect bag.

6pm visit NY at night. Walk for about 2hrs seeing life in general. Return to YM centre 8-30pm... very hot room. Cost \$8. Paid for 2 nights.