

WILLIAM CHARLES BALD THOMSON

1910 -2001



William C.B. Thomson (Bill) was born in Earlsferry 5th May 1910

William Charles	1910	M. Duncan Campbell Macgregor	Duncan Thomson	1910
Bald	May	Thomson	Father	May 20 th
Thomson	Fifth	Thomson	(present)	At Elie
	11h. 30m. P.M.	Marion Stobie Thomson		Robert Combie B.
	Links View Cottage,	M.S. Bald		Registrar.
	Earlsferry,			
	Elie.	1907, December 11 th Anniston		

Robert Combie Registrar.

He and his family lived in Links View Cottage. There is no doubt he served an apprenticeship as a golf club maker, but we do not know whether it was with Scott or Forrester although he was a time served golf clubmaker at least by 1931. He was as usual a prominent golfer in Elie and Earlsferry and won a number of medals of the golf club. But he shot to prominence when he won the Eden Tournament at St Andrews in 1931 beating T. Rodger of St. Andrews in the final. By all reports this was not a classic final, but it served to suggest to Bill Thomson that a career could be made as a professional golfer standing his experience as a club maker and no doubt reports from his contemporaries. 1931

It looks as if he turned professional (although in these days the requirements were rather less stringent) and shortly thereafter joined Royal Berkshire at Ascot as an assistant. Then in 1933 this newspaper report appeared:

[FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE]

St Andrews, Saturday

The Eden Tournament produced a new winner here to-day in William C. B. Thomson, a young Earlsferry handicap golfer of hitherto only local reputation, who defeated Tom Rodger, St Andrews, in the 36 holes final by 6 and 5. The trophy therefore goes back to Earlsferry, James Braid's native place, after an interval of a year, for J. N. Smith won it in 1928. Last year's winner was R. W. Penttie, who beat Smith in the final.

Thomson, who is 21 years of age, a clubmaker, and son of the secretary of the Earlsferry Thistle Golf Club, thus won his first open event at the end of a week remarkable for its sequence of surprise results, a feature to which the winner himself was a notable contributor. In a final which brought these two Fifo players into general notice, Thomson was distinctly the steadier and kept a better control of the ball in the stiff chilly wind that blew from the east. Rodger is 26, and a son of St Andrews.

From this it is possible that he was firstly attached to Formby, but we know that he turned professional in early 1932 after his Eden win. We have no reference to him having been at Formby or Beaconsfield although he certainly was at Ascot before Bradley Hall. There are at least two discrepancies in this report. Firstly, in relation to Elie but he actually won the Eden tournament in 1931 and not 1930.

He married in 1937:

Name:	William C B Thomson
Registration Date:	Apr 1937 [May 1937] [Jun 1937]
Registration Quarter:	Apr-May-Jun
Registration District:	Huddersfield
Inferred County:	Yorkshire West Riding
Spouse:	Connie Mellor
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DAILEY

Berkshire Club Assistant Joins Bradley Hall

W. C. Thomson, a former Scottish amateur, who won the Eden Tournament at St. Andrews in 1930 and is now engaged as an assistant professional at the Berkshire Golf Club, Tower Hill, Ascot, has been appointed professional to the Bradley Hall Club, Halifax, in succession to Allan Dailey, who has just gone to Addington.

Thomson is a slightly-built man of 23 years, who hails from Elie, twelve miles south of St. Andrews. While a member of the Earlsferry and Elie Golf Clubs he played in many amateur tournaments in Fifeshire, and in 1930, playing from scratch, he won the Eden Tournament at St. Andrews out of a record entry of 347 players.

In February of this year he won the Guildford Alliance Cup at Tyrells Wood. He qualified in the recent Assistants' Tournament at Moor Park with scores of 78 and 75, but was defeated by J. E. Field, of Sunningdale, at the last green in one of the best matches of the tournament.

Thomson was assistant to the late W. McEwan, at Formby, and has also served as an assistant at Beaconsfield and Ascot. He is a skilled club maker and coach, and the Bradley Hall officials are satisfied that they have found an excellent successor to Dailey. Thomson played there on Sunday last, and his smooth and rhythmic swing impressed the officials of the club.

1933

GOLF ASSISTANT'S SUCCESS

W. C. B. Thomson Wins Guildford Alliance Competition

W. C. B. Thomson, assistant professional to the Berkshire Golf Club, won the Guildford Alliance competition at Tyrells Wood yesterday with a scratch score of 73. Thomson was formerly an Earlsferry club-maker and in 1931 won the Eden tournament at St Andrews. The field he beat yesterday included A. Perry, Gus Faulkner, W. M. Watt and H. B. Rhodes.

The best score in the qualifying round at Barnehurst yesterday for the Kent County women's foursomes tournament was 79 by Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Smith.

He played in a number of professional tournaments out of Bradley Hall and lived in Elland in Yorkshire until 1940 when this report appeared:

9282	KNOWLEDGE	W.B. Thomson	29 Sept 29	5	at School
		12 months	30 Mar 37	5	under school age
		Thomson William CB	10 May 10	10	Professional Golfer
		Thomson Bonnie M	21 May 08	11	Unpaid Domestic Duties

We are not sure how long he was at Southport, but it is significant that he lived in at 7 Windsor Road Southport before 1950. By then he had two daughters. Isobel born in 1938 and Susan born in 1947.

W. B. Thomson, the Bradley Hall (Halifax) golf club's professional since November, 1933, has resigned that office and gone to Southport. Frank Crossley, who has been steward for three years, is acting temporarily in Thomson's place.

We cannot find reference to anything he may have done at Southport which is not surprising during the war.



7 Windsor Road,
Southport (1950)

However in 1950 he and his family set off for Canada . Whether he left on spec is difficult to know but very soon he seems to have established himself first in Ontario at Port Arthur in Thunder Bay where he was professional for 5 or so years.

9	THOMSON. WILLIAM	40	42	12	3	1	7 WINDSOR ROAD SOUTHPORT, LANCS.	GOLFER	1	CANADA
	THOMSON. CONNIE						DO	HOUSEWIFE	1	CANADA
	THOMSON. ISOBEL						DO	STUDENT	1	CANADA
	THOMSON. SUSAN						DO	CHILD	1	CANADA

* By Permanent Residence is to be understood residence for a year or more. Northern Ireland and Eire are to be regarded as separate countries.

before moving to Southwood golf club in Winnipeg in Manitoba, where he remained for 20 years eventually retiring as Professional emeritus in 1975.



In the meantime his first wife Connie had died and he remarried Ida Thomson, who died in 1989. He lived in Holly Avenue in Winnipeg.



WILLIAM CHARLES THOMSON Friends and family are saddened to announce the death of William (Bill) Thomson at Victoria General Hospital on Friday, May 25, 2001. Born in Eagles Ferry, Fyfehire on May 5, 1920, Bill immigrated to Canada in 1950 following a career as a Professional Golfer in Scotland and later England. He resumed his golf career as Head Professional at Port Arthur Golf and Country Club in Thunder Bay, followed by 20 years as Head Professional at Southwood Golf & Country Club. Bill received the title of Professional Emeritus on his retirement in 1975 and participated in the Bill Thomson Invitational Golf Tournament which continued for some 25 years. Bill is survived by his daughter Susan of Naples, FL and was predeceased by his daughter Isabelle and his wife Connie, and second wife Ida. A service to commemorate his life will be held on Tuesday, May 29 at 10:30 a.m. at Neil Bardal Inc., 984 Portage Ave., entrance on Aubrey Street with Mrs. Catherine Kinsman officiating. His honorary pallbearers will be



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Detail Source

Name:	William Charles Thomson
Birth Date:	5 May 1910
Birth Place:	Fife, Scotland
Death Date:	25 May 2001
Death Place:	Winnipeg, Greater Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Cemetery:	Fort Garry Roman Catholic Cemetery
Burial or Cremation Place:	Winnipeg, Greater Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Has Bio?:	N
Spouse:	Ida Thomson
URL:	https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/161652993/william-charles-thomson

Researched and compiled by Graham Johnston