THE South West and South Wales Region
Regional Seminar

The Seminar was introduced by Paul Worster, Course Manager at Lilley Brook Golf Club, still not fully recovered from the flu, but he gave us all an enthusiastic view of the BIGGA before introducing the speakers.

The first paper was given by Nick Rigden, N.D.H. Cert. Ed. on Greenkeeper training, a day off with an insight into the training given at Cannington for the City and Guilds.

Jeff Perris, B.Sc., from the S.T.R.I. started the day off with a talk on conservation connected to golf courses. It was very informative and his slides were excellent. I am sure they were enjoyed by everyone.

We met up with question time conducted by the Chairman, Ivor Scoones, with the two morning speakers taking on a healthy 30 minutes of questions. After an hour off for a superb lunch provided by the college chef, Ken Gordon Child, Regional Administrator.

Bob Corns of the N.C.C. gave the second paper on ‘Nature Conservation of Golf Courses’, and I personally have not heard a better talk on conservation connected to golf courses. It was very informative and his slides were excellent. I am sure they were enjoyed by everyone.

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to BIGGA South Coast Section. Teeing off from 9.30 am.
Members who intend to play should send their written entries giving name, address and current handicap together with entry fee to Joe Burdett at the above address. Please also state whether you wish to enter the 36 or 18 hole Medal Competition and the Nita Stimson Trophy Entries to arrive not later than 19th January, 1988.
J. R. Dennis

SOUTH EAST REGION

London Section

A letter from your Chairman:
I would like to welcome all members to the new London Section, although the Section has been in existence for some years now. The first A.G.M. of the BIGGA Association London Section was held on 19th January, 1988. The area has been increased and a new Committee has been elected into office, so everything is new. May I take the opportunity of thanking those members that attended the AGM and for their vote of confidence in me, by electing me as the Chairman. I will endeavour to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability and it would also be my Committee for their acceptance of their positions. I look forward to the coming year with a great deal of optimism and pride in the knowledge that I will have a very workable team with which to operate.

The area includes the new London Section, although the Section has been in existence for some years now. The first A.G.M. of the BIGGA Association London Section was held on 19th January, 1988. The area has been increased and a new Committee has been elected into office, so everything is new. May I take the opportunity of thanking those members that attended the AGM and for their vote of confidence in me, by electing me as the Chairman. I will endeavour to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my ability and it would also be my Committee for their acceptance of their positions. I look forward to the coming year with a great deal of optimism and pride in the knowledge that I will have a very workable team with which to operate.

Thank you all once again and welcome to all the new members in the Hertfordshire County and the East London and West Essex areas.

Bill Thompson

Firstly I would like to pay tribute to our past Chairman, David Low. David was forced to resign because of personal circumstances. His experience, commitment to the Association and pleasant manner will be missed not only by the Committee with whom he worked so closely, but also by all the members that had the privilege of knowing him.

May I wish David and his wife all the very best for the future. The A.G.M. was held at Pinner Hill Golf Club and I thank them and their staff for their kind hospitality. A lot of business was carried out and I would like to give you the names of your elected Committee:-

Vice Chairman - Mr. John Edwards
Administrator - Mr. Michael Peters
Committee.
Mr. Norman Exley
Mr. Christopher Greenwood
Mr. Brian Anderson
Mr. Jeffrey Donovan
Mr. Jeremy Hill

Mr. Nick Baldwin
The following were elected Regional Board Representatives, myself and Brian Anderson. The Region comprises of 5 Sections, London, Surrey, Kent, Sussex and East Anglia. The accounts for the period April 1987 to January 1988 were read and accepted. Any member requiring a copy should contact me.

The Chairman mentioned the extension of the Section in his opening comments. The position is that the area that is inside the M25 covering the North of the Thames together with Herts and Middlesex is now the boundary of the London Section. This increases the size of the Section and makes the potential of the Section that much greater. Any member wishing to apply for uniforms should contact me as soon as possible with their sizes and choice of colours, etc.

The following is the diary of events:-

21st April
Spring Meeting at Moor Park Golf Club at 3.00 pm. This will be an 18 hole event also qualifier for the Regional final of the Isetk National Tournament. The cost will be £6.00 per head which will include a sandwich buffet on completion of the golf.

Members wishing to take part in the event please contact me NOW on Northwood (09274) 28167. 1st June
Evening Golf Meeting at Bush Hill Golf Club. I am awaiting confirmation of this event and will notify members in the next newsletter.

10th June
GRAND SUMMER BALL at Aldenham Golf and Country Club, 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Dancing to the ‘Patriche’ Band. Cost £16.00 per ticket, which are now available and members wishing to attend please contact me now in order to secure a ticket. 23rd August
Golf Evening 18 Holes at Pinner Hill Golf Club, confirmation awaited. 26th to 30th September
BIGGA National 3 day Tournament followed by 2 day International Conference at the Belleslie Golf Course, Ayr, Scotland. Members wishing to attend please contact me NOW.

Summer League
For the benefit of new members, this is a tournament which I have run for the past few years and the format is as follows:- Each team comprises 2 greenkeepers and plays each of 3 other teams in a league competition on a home and away basis. 2 points for a win, 1 for a half. The winners of the league go forward to a knockout competition. There are normally 4 leagues in the event. Any teams wishing to participate, please contact me NOW.

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would like to welcome all new members to our Section and hope that they will participate in as many events that they possibly can through the season. Who knows who require any items of the BIGA uniform please contact me for an order form.

R.W. Williams

Mid Anglia Section

At the AGM held at St. Neots Golf Club on 16th February, the following were elected to represent the Section for the fourth coming year:

President - Graham Pitcher
Chairman - Paul Fitzjohn
Secretary - R. J. Goodwin
Treasurer - Les Wakerell
Match Secretary - Ken Bunting
Representatives to Regional Board - Paul Fitzjohn & John Wells.

The February Lecture at St. Neots was well attended by more that 50 members who were given a talk and film on the development of the "John Deere Organisation" ably assisted by Woodlands Agriculture Ltd. of Brigstocke, Northampton who kindly donated half the cost of the lunch.

Dairy Dates

27th June

Jacki Golf Tournament at Tewkesbury Park Golf Club (Qualifiers over 18 holes of Spring Tournament on 19th April)
8th July
Annual match v Midland Section at Moor Hall Golf Club.
2nd August
Summer Tournament, 36 holes at Knebworth Golf Club (Qualifier for Jacobsen's International Tournament)
19th October
Autumn Tournament, 27 holes at Ashridge Golf Club.

Chairperson - A. Kite (021-351-4423)
President - R Pugh
Secretary -1. Toon (021-308-6684)
Treasurer - E. Thomas (021-308-2954)
Committee members and their duties: -

R. J. Goodwin

Midland Section

Our AGM took place at Edgbaston Golf Club on 27th January with only 17 members attending. Our elected officers are as follows:-

President - R. Pugh
Chairperson - A. Kite (021-351-4423)
Secretary - I. Toon (021-308-6684)
Treasurer - E. Thomas (021-308-2954)
Committee members and their duties:-

Lecturers - Peter Woodward (021-378-2511)
Competitions Secretary - Peter Richmond (021-351-5456)
Inter Section Matches - Tom Kelsall (0827-221409)
Handicaps - Mick Hughes (021-422-2615)
Regional Representatives are A. Kite and I. Toon.

On February 17th Peter Woodward arranged a visit to the Toro factory at St. Neots. 18 of us left Walsall Golf Club on a coach laid on by Alexander's better known as King's Heath Mowers and were treated to a most enjoyable day visiting not only the Toro UK factory at St. Neots but also the Bury St. Edmunds factory where expert machinery is made. Our grateful thanks go to Mr. Dale and his associates of Toro and also to Peter Richardson who displayed another of his many talents and drove the coach.

Competitions for the Year

Summer - 11th July

Autumn - 22nd September

Worcestershire Golf Club Christmas Cup Heath Golf Club
Closing dates for any competition will be 14 days prior to the competition. Anyone wishing to play who has not yet received application forms should notify Peter Richmond who will oblige.

Finally an apology to Mr. N. Woolfrey for the 'gaff' I made when I previously reported that St. Stenhouse had won the Christmas Tournament when it was in fact N. Woolfrey who won.

I. R. Toon

NORTHERN ENGLAND REGION

North West Section

Our Seminar at Mere Golf and Country Club on March 17th was a huge success as usual with a large turnout of members who were treated to an enthralling array of speakers.

The North West Section members would like to thank all concerned for the hard work they have done in putting on the seminar especially John Lowery, Education Chairman, whose work was invaluable.

The Section Committee sent out a letter to advertise for any interested or informative articles to be published in our magazine. If you have anything which may help other greenkeepers or be of some interest, please put pen to paper. Finally, there has been another change of Secretary in the North West. If you did not receive a copy, please contact me as soon as possible and I will send you one.

Here is an offer that no golfer/greenkeeper should pass up. How would you like to walk alongside your favourite golfer? Well, you can - simply by offering your support for the World Golf Challenge. The competition will be held in the autumn of 1981. Funds raised will go to the International Golf Foundation, a not-for-profit organization operating in some 50 countries, which may help other greenkeepers or be of some interest, please put pen to paper. Finally, there has been another change of Secretary in the North West. If you did not receive a copy, please contact me as soon as possible and I will send you one.

I would like to thank the Section's Committee for all their help over the recent months and wish them all the success in the future.

Mark Lewis

Northern Section

There appears to be a strong attack of Spring Fever in our Region right now, a veritable all-change extending beyond our Region into England and Europe. But first the home news:-

Northern Section Committee member Robert Lunt has come in for another success in the future.

Finally, there has been another change of Secretary in the North West. If you did not receive a copy, please contact me as soon as possible and I will send you one.

I would like to thank the Section's Committee for all their help over the recent months and wish them all the success in the future.

Mark Lewis

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AROUND THE GREEN

President’s Day, Cobble Hall.
If you feel like a decent read, £7.50 will buy you the transcript of our last Seminar, Greenkeeper, Golf Course and Conservation; package and postage inclusive.

David Hannam

Cleveland Section
It was with regret that I received Mr. W. Bart’s resignation as President of the Cleveland Section, due to poor health he has had to stand down. Bill has been with the Cleveland Section since it began and he was one of the founder members, long ago in a back room in Yarm. He is well liked by both greenkeepers and groundsmen in the area and I am sure that everybody wishes him a speedy recovery and hope to see him up and about again soon.

Our Spring Tournament will be the qualifier for the Regional round of the Igel National Tournament. 12 qualifiers are needed - 4 from each of the counties.

The Regional Final will be played at Moor Allerton on Tuesday, 24th May.

Our Autumn Outing has been arranged for Thursday, 29th September at Alloa Golf Club, Alloa.

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Notice of the Inter-Club Tournament and the proposed bowls matches will be sent out with the Spring Outing entry forms, so if you wish to participate in any of these events, please return your forms promptly.

On his retirement, in February, from Souter of Stirling, the members made a presentation to Jock Armstrong for all his hard work and assistance to the Glasgow Section since its formation in 1980, when he was elected onto the Committee of which he has been a member ever since.

The best wishes for a long and healthy retirement go to Jock from all his friends in the Central Section.

The following is a letter sent to the Committee of the Section by Jock:
Dear Fellow Members,

I would like to wish everyone in the West a great golfing year and hope to see as many members as possible at the outings, etc that have been organised.

R. Brewer

SCOTTISH REGION

Central Section
The two Section lectures in February proved to be very successful, with both of them being well attended. We are indebted to the Council and members of both Tulillairian and Lady’s Golf Clubs for their support and for granting us the use of their clubhouses to hold these events and also our sincere thanks to the speakers, Jimmy Kidd (Glenegyles), John Souter (Souter of Stirling), Keith Vertigan (Isis), Nander Robertson (Glenisde Organics) and John Hutt (Rigby Taylor) for their excellent presentation of their particular subjects.

The Section Spring Outing, will be held at Falkirk Tryst Golf Club, Larbert on Thursday 21st April, and all entries for this event must be in by 14th April.

The Autumn Outing has been arranged for Thursday, 29th September at Alloa Golf Club, Alloa.

The Autumn Outing will be held at East Renfrewshire Golf Club on 28th April. The cost for the day will be £10.00 which include morning coffee, a 3 course lunch and high tea.

The Autumn Outing is provisionally booked for Tuesday, 6th September at Glendoe House Golf Club. Congratulations go to James McKenzie for his new post as Head Greenkeeper at Renfrew Golf Club. James was previously employed by Cawder Golf Club. Also congratulations go to Jamie Coutts who has moved from Beasdale Golf Club to Walton Heath Golf Club as Assistant to Clive Osgood. The Committee wish both greenkeepers all the best in their new positions.

The Committee of the West Section would like to wish everyone in the West a great golfing year and hope to see as many members as possible at the outings, etc.

John Crawford.