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OUR NEW PRESIDENT

Gentlemen,

I am honoured to greet you as your newly elected president, yes, honoured. I don't find that too strong a word for I have been a great "fan" of greenkeepers and their trade since my very early days in golf as a youngster at the Ferndown Golf Course in Dorset where my father was, for so many years, the professional. How often did I watch that line of cyclists led by the head greenkeeper, Jim Dean, make their way down the side of the 18th fairway to the "sheds" nestling in the trees close by the second green: the memories of rides on the tractor with Jim Brasher when time came to cut the fairways; oh yes, the smell of the paraffin and the roar of the engine! So you will see my interest in your life-style did begin many moons ago. Now, I don't pretend to know a great deal about your mystical profession, but because of my travels and, I feel, a sense of observation, I do think it allows me to make some sort of contribution which I hope you will feel relative. I don't intend to just butter you up, or to show the majority of golf clubs in a poor light, that would be the very height of foolishness, so here goes.

Great steps have been made over the past years to raise the standard of skill within the organisation, a lot of the old methods have gone by the wayside. Of course things are vastly different now from 20-25 years ago, many more rounds of golf are played over the famous, and not so famous, golf courses which must, because of that very fact, need much more help to recover from pounding feet and flying divots. Mother Nature can't be left alone to do it all, certainly the only areas I have seen in the world left to dear old Mother Nature have very quickly returned to jungle territory and yet some of this almost child-like faith in the prong and the peat as a total solution to all ills still prevails today. One could, of course, talk for hours of the various merits of this type of machine over that, the problem of clay-based golf course and the thousand and one other items that crop up every day.

No, whether people will admit it or not at the end of the day in most cases it is the condition of the golf course which determines its popularity, which in turn stimulates club income, which in turn helps to control the costs of green fees, subscriptions, etc. I know one can't always equate prices in America to ours, but Al Radko, one of the USGA's top agronomists, told me at the recent American Amateur Championship that $60,000 would be round about the basic budget for a reasonably successful golf course to spend on fertilizers, seeds, weed killers, etc. during a season. Just imagine £25,000-£30,000 — all machinery, wages, in excess of that figure — quite mind boggling. The plain facts are that nowhere near enough money has been made available for golf course maintenance, hence the very small number of superbly conditioned courses in the United Kingdom and the ones in my experience that have been in tip-top condition for most of the year have a history of excellent greenkeeping staff and ground that is helpful to their cause. For too many years now greenkeepers have had to put up with a directive that reads "use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without" and that simply is not good enough if standards are to be raised all round. Help is available from all around the world. As usual the Canadian and United States Greenkeepers Association are only too eager to throw open their books of knowledge for all to read. They have many more problems facing them than we have in the U.K. heat, cold, torrential rain, hurricane force winds, the lot; they cope and they can. I am sure, be of great assistance to us if we only make a bit more effort to contact them, but again it is very difficult to equate the difference in standards between the American conception of a golf course in good order and ours. What is considered good for tournament and championship level in this country would in many cases just simply not be accepted in the United States, and I think in that department we are light years behind the Americans in their thinking. Now please don't think I have gone totally overboard for everything American, but facts are facts and things must change if we are to improve. I hope I can help change the attitudes of both those people holding the purse strings and certain members within the association who are such die hards they refuse to even consider change and are so pompous in their outlook that they refuse to even consider that someone else, whether it be either in England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, or some far-flung part of the golfing world, could be able to give them a solution. Gentlemen, here's to the future.

Peter Alliss
President
British Golf Greenkeepers Association

November 1979
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Minutes of the 62nd AGM held at the Royal Birkdale GC, Southport, Merseyside

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
   The Chairman asked the Meeting that as the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting had been published in the Journal that they be taken as read. On the proposition of Mr D. Major and seconded by Mr B. Plain, it was agreed that they be approved and signed.

2. Annual Report
   The Hon Secretary reported to the meeting that this had been a year of quiet progress. We have been fortunate in having a Chairman who has fulfilled his task with much enthusiasm and we would like to express our sincere thanks to him. To succeed him we have Mr R. Lewis, better known to a lot of us as Dick, who is also a man who has the interests of greenkeepers very much at heart.
   There have been no additional events taking place. The setting up of a new look magazine, the commencement of the arrangements for the International Golf Tournament and Turfgrass Symposium have been the main features.
   The ballot requested at the 1978 AGM regarding the joining of a trade union resulted in 99 for and 85 against, a very poor vote from the membership.
   The Chairman and Secretary attended meetings with the City and Guilds regarding the setting up of the new training syllabus.
   Mr D. Gould and the Secretary attended Greenkeepers Training Committee meetings.
   A special visit was made to the STRI Bingley regarding the STRI Journal and it was pointed out that the Greenkeepers Association received the Journal as a body, with special terms, and that this could only continue if supported by all members.
   This year the STRI celebrated its 50th Anniversary and the Chairman and Secretary attended on your behalf, manning a caravan Information Centre giving details of the Association. This proved a very successful and worthy three days, with much interest in the Association being shown by visitors from many golf clubs including the Royal and Ancient. Mr Golding proposed and Mr Smith seconded the Annual Report be adopted.

3. Financial Statement
   The Hon Treasurer informed the meeting that he was pleased to report the balances at 30 April 1979 were as follows:
   "Building Society £2,058, Government Bonds £300, Bank and Cash Balance £5,770, Benevolent Fund £879, total £9,007. After allowing for Corporation Tax and outstanding postage totalling £965 this leaves us with a grand cash total of £8,042. Mr Lewis proposed and Mr Palmer seconded the accounts be adopted.

4. Executive Report
   The Tournament Committee elected for the meeting were Messrs C. Geddes, V. Smith, R. Lewis, E. James and H. Fry.
   It was agreed that the Tournament should be played from the Yellow Tee Markers. The 1980 Tournament is in the hands of the South West Section and will be held at the Somerset Golf Club, Minehead, on 18, 19 and 20 August. The Executive Committee are happy to advise members that Mr R. Gates has been nominated as vice-Chairman.

Membership
   The figures produced by the Section Secretaries for the year ending 30 April 1979 show a total of 1,077, comprising 916 greenkeepers and 161 Class “E” members.
   An increase of 68 greenkeepers and a decrease of 16 Class “E” members making an overall increase of 52.

Annual Tournament
   The 61st Annual Tournament was held at the Moor Allerton Golf Club, Leeds, with approximately 64 members taking part, once again the weather let us down but everyone seemed to enjoy the occasion. We much appreciated the kindness and courtesy of the Officials of Moor Allerton Golf Club for their efforts in making our stay a pleasant one.
   Last but by no means least we would like to express our appreciation to all the trade members who donated to make our prize table a worthy exhibit, and the many friends who gave so much help.

Continued on page 7
Dear Sir,

At the risk of initiating a dialogue that may bore your readers, I feel I must correct some of the misunderstandings revealed by Mr Bisset’s letter (September issue), if only because it is possible that others of your readers may have failed to grasp the meaning of my articles!

Mr Bisset gives the impression that he thinks I meant that it was a mistake to teach young greenkeepers about pH measurements, whereas I, in fact, criticized in the article the implication that it was possible to determine lime requirements by pH measurement — in other words that there was an optimum pH figure for golf greens and fairways.

Since excellent fine-textured turf can and does exist over a wide range of soil pH figures, from the low 4s to the high 8s, there can be no such thing as an ideal pH. Since, however, Mr Bisset has stated that he feels there is a place for lime on golf courses there can be no agreement between us on this point.

I have just returned from examining ten golf courses last week in Holland, one of which had previously been the best “heather” course in Holland, which is now a soggy cow pasture with hardly a plant of heather left, as a direct result of heavy basic slag treatment on agricultural advice based on soil analyses. The previous week I saw the fairways, once excellent rescue turf, on a heathland Hampshire course, now smothered in Ophiobolus disease, worm casts and daisies, as a direct result of liming, “because the pH was too low on analysis”. It is not easy to restore the status quo — and the cost can be enormous.

All this may be a matter of opinion, but when comments are made that “disparaging remarks from people who have done little to help ... (the cause of greenkeeper training) ... are worthless”, — I must take issue and point out that from the earliest stages of the inauguration of the Standing Conference for Golf Greenkeeping I was and still am a fervent supporter of greenkeeping training. My frequent offers to give all possible assistance freely to the Conference were not even acknowledged. I did eventually receive one visit from their Co-ordinator but subsequently did not get even an acknowledgement for my time or hospitality extended to him.

I have badgered past and present Presidents of the Golf Unions, some of whom are personal friends, and asked for the matter of training the trainers to be raised at CONGU meetings, but with no ascertainable results.

I give my time freely to speak to greenkeeper meetings and to address symposiums and seminars. I have spent full days at the final period of Phase 2 greenkeeper training courses at horticultural colleges in an attempt to make young greenkeepers think for themselves and base principles and not to accept the words of others — whether they are disinterested or not — without some thoughts of their own.

I fight constantly with golf club management to get better conditions as well as better opportunities for training for greenkeeping staff. I do this solely in the interests of better training and for no other reason. I am sure the Training Committee receives support from the trade — and much of it may well be disinterested.

I am taken to task for being critical about training courses run by tutors with so little knowledge that they have to ask me for the names of good books on the subject. Of course, they get and have got all the help I can possibly give them, but what a way to train young greenkeepers on greenkeeping! Out of a book!

Mr Bisset is absolutely right when he identifies the main problem as apathy. He should, however, consider why that apathy exists. A less apathetic approach to my offers of assistance might have been more constructive, but is typical of the complacency which affects many aspects of the problem of training.

I can say without exaggeration that I carry out more advisory visits to golf courses than any other single adviser in the UK — simply because I examine one or two golf courses every day for at least five, and sometimes seven, days a week for virtually every week of the year, in this country and abroad. As a matter of principle I refuse to carry out these examinations without the head greenkeeper being present, as I regard him rightly as being an equal member of the advisory team, whose aim is to solve problems and jointly agree management programmes. I, therefore, am uniquely placed to assess the opinion of practical and experienced head greenkeepers on these training schemes. It is pertinent to ask why some schemes have been cancelled for lack of interest and why any young greenkeepers fail to complete the course.

My views are shared by literally hundreds of experienced head greenkeepers and by club managements reluctant to release staff when in some cases they are not benefiting from further education. Day release courses create serious administrative problems. Block release undoubtedly produces the best results on both sides of the fence.

Unfortunately, despite Mr Bisset’s protestations to the contrary, far too much time is still spent on purely horticultural aspects in certain parts of the country. Young greenkeepers have to learn about pruning apple trees and — yes — even rose bushes, or even how to dig herbaceous borders, and naturally they lose interest. In other cases I hear of young greenkeepers having to take the first year again in the second, as there is insufficient demand for a second year.

Young men leave before completing the course. We simply cannot afford to lose anyone from an under-staffed profession.

I have had excellent co-operation with Elmwood — significantly now examining under Scotec and not City & Guilds. Myrescough is another excellent example — with block release courses. If other establishments would like to show me or tell me what they are doing I would be delighted to hear from them.

Sadly, however, even the least irascible of the best of our head greenkeepers report that they find they have to explain to their apprentices that what they have been taught at “college” is not necessarily the only answer, or, indeed, even the right one. When young recently qualified greenkeepers tell me to my face that they think my advice — practised consistently for over 30 years, even in my days as a Bingley adviser for six years after the war — are a lot of nonsense and they have been taught something diametrically different, I tend to admire their willingness to stand up for their opinions, but am saddened that they have not been more soundly taught.

After all, the methods which I advise are those which are practised on virtually all the major championship as well as countless other courses in good condition throughout Britain, and my ideas are not some manic idiosyncrasy of my own, but are based on long-established, even if old-fashioned, principles which might be promoted with advantage through greenkeeping courses.

Continued on page 7

From J. H. ARTHUR BSc(Agric)
Sections
Our thanks are once again due to the officers who take such an active part in the section activities, which undoubtedly is one of the chief essentials of a satisfactory Association, the membership of which covers the whole country.

The British Golf Greenkeeper (Golf Greenkeeping and Course Maintenance)

This year has seen the start of a new look magazine, we have had very favourable comments from members and the trade. Members will no doubt be aware of the magazine issued called the “Golf Greenkeeper”. This has no connection whatsoever with the British Golf Greenkeepers’ Association.

STRI
Once again we would like to express our thanks to the STRI for their continued advice and assistance to members when they can be of help.

4th British Turfgrass Symposium and 3rd Golf International

This will be held on 8, 9 and 10 October 1979, at the Penns Hall Hotel, Sutton Coldfield and a change of venue for the Golf International to the Walsall Golf Club.

In Memoriam
We record with sorrow the deaths of the following members: Mr G. Hall, Mr Jones and Mr J. Temple. The Chairman called upon the meeting to observe a minute’s silence.

5. Election of Officers
President. It was proposed by Mr E. James and seconded by Mr D. Gould that Mr P. Alliss be nominated as President for the ensuing year. This proposition was carried.

Vice-Presidents. It was proposed by Mr G. Woodward and seconded by Mr D. Thompson that the names listed in the Journal be re-elected for the ensuing year. This proposition was carried.

The following named persons were proposed, seconded and voted as Vice-Presidents of the Association: Mr J. Cogan, proposed Mr B. Lax, seconded Mr N. Maltby; Mr E. Stanniforth, proposed Mr R. Vickers, seconded Mr R. Janovskis; Mr T. Scott, proposed Mr D. Gould, seconded Mr D. Crawford; Mr G. Vaughan, proposed Mr V. Smith, seconded Mr R. Goodwin.

Secretary/Treasurer
It was proposed by Mr R. Moffatt and seconded by Mr J. Kirkpatrick that Mr Walter Heeles be re-elected for the ensuing year. This was carried unanimously.

Executive Committee
It was agreed that the Executive Committee should be as elected by Sections.

Hon Auditors
Mr D. Golding proposed and Mr H. Scollard seconded that L. Phillips & Co be re-elected as Hon Auditors for the ensuing year.

Hon Solicitors
Mr A. Price proposed and Mr D. Thompson seconded that Messrs Topham Phillips & Co be re-elected as Hon Solicitors for the ensuing year.

Chairman
The retiring chairman, Mr C. Geddes, proposed that Mr R. Lewis of the North West Section be elected Chairman for the ensuing year, this was unanimously agreed.

Mr Geddes handed over his badge of office to Mr Lewis who, after expressing his thanks, presented Mr Geddes with a tankard to mark his year in office.

Mr Geddes thanks the members of the Executive Committee and the members of the Association for their help during his year of office.

6. Proposition from the Southern Section
That a pull-out slip be enclosed in the February, March and April issue of the Journal. This could be sent to the Section Secretaries with annual subscription. It should provide the following information: Member’s name, address and name of golf club. Position held and phone number if any. Also, most important, a certificate to be used for handicap. Proposed by Mr R. Tempest, seconded by Mr D. Golding. Proposition carried.

7. Proposition from the Southern Section
That Rule 17(c) regarding proxy votes be changed. As it stands at the moment, this rule does not give a member time to send in a proxy vote 21 days before the meeting. After discussion the Executive Committee agreed to make sure enough time would be given for proxy votes by bringing forward the date of a meeting prior to any alteration in Rules.

8. Any Other Business
Mr R. Goodwin brought to the notice of the meeting that there were a number of greenkeepers in the Mid/ Anglian area who were too far away to join either the Midland or East Anglian Sections but would like to join the Association. He therefore requested permission to start a new Section to be known as Mid/ Anglian Section. On the proposition of Mr V. Smith, seconded by Mr D. Mason, this was carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chair was proposed by Mr B. Plain.

As there was no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting.

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November 1979
1979 Annual Tournament
Royal Birkdale GC

Monday, 20 August
18-hole Stableford
1st, the Fisons Bowl and Memento (glass tray): B. Newcombe, 39 pts.
2nd, the Hargreaves Cup and Memento (six glasses): C. Geddes, 39 pts.
3rd, lighter: J. Robinson, 36 pts.
4th, rose bowl: B. Payne, 36 pts.

Tuesday, 21 August. 36-hole Scratch
The Toro (UK) Trophy and Memento (water jug): E. Walsh, gross 149.

The Jubilee Cup. Section Team Competition. 36 holes, best net aggregate
1st North West Section: J. Robinson, E. Walsh, D. Golding, small tray each, nett 446.

Under 25’s Competition
1st, table lamp: M. Sheehan, nett 149.

The Coming of Age Cup
1st, Maxwell Hart Trophy, soil tester and golf balls: G. Woodward, nett 77.
2nd, Coming of Age Cup, hors d’oeuvres dish: R. Lewis, nett 79.
3rd, travelling clock: R. Pugh, nett 81.

36 holes Senior Division
1st, Ransomes Cup and gold watch: D. F. Golding, nett 143.
2nd, Golf Illustrated Cup, rose bowl: R. Tempest, nett 145.
3rd, Universal Cup, round tray: E. R. West, nett 148.
4th, round tray: M. Sheehan, nett 149.
5th, basket: P. Shaw, nett 150.
6th, fruit basket: S. Oddy, nett 152.
8th, lighter: S. Arrowsmith, nett 153.

36 holes Junior Division
1st, Pattison Trophy and gold watch: K. Noble, nett 150.
2nd, President’s Cup, rose bowl: A. J. Martin, nett 151.
3rd, Mays Cup, hors d’oeuvres dish: A. Boraston, nett 151.
4th, umbrella: T. Huntley, nett 155.
5th, patio set: M. Dawber, nett 155.
6th, fruit spoons: P. A. Marsh, nett 156.
8th, two golf gloves: P. J. Baume, nett 159.

Wednesday, 22 August. 18-hole Medal
1st, Hamilton Stutt Cup and travel bag: T. Moon, nett 71.
3rd, rose bowl: T. Huntley, nett 73.
4th, candelabra: K. Reay, nett 74.
5th, bottle whisky: M. Bottomley, nett 74.

54 hole SAI Mini Crum Trophy Nett Aggregate
2nd, goblet: E. Walsh, nett 220.
3rd, goblet: E. West, nett 224.

Vice-Presidents
1st, lighter: G. Vaughan.
2nd, tankard: C. Mordue.

Holes-in-One Prize
Trimmer: E. R. West.

We are indebted to the following who kindly contributed to our prize fund for the Annual Tournament:
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happiness is a
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purrrr-haps
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The Jacobsen 70" Trimmer provides:
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- Transport speeds in excess of 7 miles an hour
- High stability for banks and uneven areas
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The Turf King gives you all you could ask for including:
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November 1979
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Did our existing system cope with our needs, or should we consider updating our sprinklers and control system to meet modern standards? Could we not save time and money and improve the standard of our tees by installing automatic watering? Are our approaches and parts of our fairways difficult to maintain due to the lack of irrigation? And finally what costs will be involved in providing a more comprehensive irrigation scheme.

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February, March and April. Please let's try to keep up the good attendances as in the past, if nothing else it gets us all together to discuss our problems and talk to people who really do know what it's all about.

SOUTHERN
Chairman:
R TEMPEST
Secretary:
D. GOULD
Langley Park G.C.
Buckingham
Kent.

Our Autumn Tournament this year was played on 26 September at Doncaster Golf Club by kind permission of the Captain and committee. Although there was a small entry this year with only 24 greenkeepers and their guests playing a 4-Ball Better Ball Stableford in the morning and a greensomes Stableford in the afternoon, I'm sure everyone had an excellent day, with the weather bright but windy, the course in fine condition and also being looked after so well by the bar and catering staff. I thoroughly enjoyed the day and although I didn't figure in the prizes it's always a pleasure to take money from our secretary. As always we are indebted to John Field and David Craig for organizing the competition and to Ron Jobson for starting and selling raffle tickets. The captain of Surbiton sent his apologies and in his absence our popular president David Craig presented the prizes to the following winners: 1st P. Staines and H. Shanks, Maylands GC, 82 points; 2nd D. Kent and A. Dines, Umpster GC, 78 points; 3rd C. Whitehead and J. Swailes, Shooters Hill GC, 78 points; Best back nine, G. Solley, Littlehampton.

Judging by these scores a few greenkeepers' handicaps need looking at! We did have a booby prize which went to the guest of the greenkeeper with the lowest points total for the day (no names mentioned).

The next greenkeepers' one-day course will be held at Lancashire Agricultural College at Myercough on Wednesday, 5 December, 1979. Principal speaker will be Jim Arthur, Agronomist to the R & A. In addition to Head Greenkeepers, Mr Arthur's views on feeding and aeration will be of interest to those younger greenkeepers who have recently qualified, and those who intend to make greenkeeping their career, and to Club Secretaries and Chairmen of Green. All those who intend to be present should inform K. Bamber, 2 Woodfield Road, Chorley PR7 1QT as soon as possible.

A Course on the Maintenance of Turf Machinery will be held at the Lancashire College of Agriculture, Hutton, on 10 December, 1979 and 7, 14, 21 and 28 January, 1980. These five days will cover most types of machinery used on golf courses, and should be invaluable to assistant greenkeepers. The course fee will be £20 plus £4 for lunch on the 5 days. The course is limited to 12 students, and names should be sent to K. Bamber.

Winter Lectures
7 November: Marshall Concessionaires
5 December: Johnsons Seeds.

The lecture by a representative from Johnsons Seeds is one which should have taken place last winter. We hope that now we have a permanent meeting place the mix-up which occurred last time will not repeat itself and we look forward to an interesting talk. Lectures begin at 6.30 pm. Just a reminder that the address is: The Sesame Club, 49 Grosvenor Road, W1. Nearest underground station is Bond Street. Leave by Davies Street exit, turn right until Grosvenor Street meets Davies Street, turn right and the club is on the left 5 mins walk from station. Dress must be jacket and tie or polo-neck.

SUSSEX
Hon. Secretary:
RON JOBSON
10 Blenheim Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 4AG

I would like to report a most successful Autumn Tournament and our thanks go to the Captain, Committee, Secretary, bar and catering staff of Manningsheath Golf Club for a most wonderful and enjoyable day's golf and hospitality showered upon us. Under a cloudy sky it was a pleasure to play on such a nice course and in such good company. Also I would like to put on record our warmest thanks to: Ransomes Sims & Jefferies; T. Parker & Sons Turf Management Ltd; Lloyds of Letchworth; Sisia; Paice & Sons; Mary Holway, Professional Cottesmore Golf Club; Cottesmore Golf Club (Mr Rogerson); Hugh Page (Sussex Ltd); Monmore Grass Seeds; Mannings-heath Golf Club; Fison, for the lovely prizes presented to our Section for the competition.

Winners Morning Stableford
1st Dick Bull, 38 points, Bognor Regis; 2nd David Lucas, 32, RAC Epsom; 3rd Brian Berry, 32, Pyecombe; 4th Chris Keen, 32, Tandridge; Best back nine, G. Solley, Littlehampton.
WALES

Chairman: ARTHUR PRICE
Carmarthen
Hon. Secretary: W. JONES
Golf Bungalow
Ogmore-by-Sea
Mid Glamorgan
Bridgend

Chairman:

Mid Glamorgan
Carmarthen
Bridgend

We held our Autumn Meeting at the Clyne Golf Club on 19 September and also held a rather hurried AGM. We played 9 holes am and 18 pm with a mixture of competition. We had a beautiful cup presented to the Section by Waycott Bros to be played for annually at the Autumn meeting. This Trophy was to be for the best nett score of the afternoon 18 holes.

We played the am round in really wonderful weather, shirt sleeve stuff and a well prepared course to match. Thanks to Henry and his helpers it was a very good course to play and one could put with the knowledge that the ball would run true (not straight) but true, it really was in good condition Henry, thank you!

The indoor staff we must thank for attending to our source of energy via the stomach. We must also thank the Clyne members and Mr Secretary for your good work in preparing this day for us.

The weather half way through our match was tropical monsoon weather, without the tropical heat; this makes golf difficult but it is compatible with greenkeeping, although not very welcome. We had, as always, some excellent prizes, given by various Golf Clubs and trade Representatives, without these generous people it would be difficult so I say to the donors of prizes and trophies, thanks a million.

Retirements
Bill Cox after long service at Southerndown has decided to call it a day. Well done, Bill, and thanks for your help. Don Jones of Llantreasant after illness has taken a less active role and we hope he will enjoy his semi-retirement.

Characters like Don are a rarity, we hope he will continue to attend our meetings.

EAST ANGLIA

Chairman: D JONES
2 Golf Cottages
Bucklesham Road
Ipswich

Hon Sec and Treasurer: STEVE NOYE
71A Dales Hall Lane
Ipswich
(Tel Ipswich 216196)

A man who should go far, and is open to suggestions, Steve Noye finally walked away with a first prize. After knocking on the door for so long he came in to win the Victor Cup. Obviously he did well to get 36 points but I'm sure he will agree that Doug Neville and staff should take a slice of the glory, The course Doug was in its usual impeccable state which was just as well considering the illustrious company which played there that day. Of course it was our annual Captains v Greenkeepers match so step down Noye, your Cup was not the paramount reason for playing so there.

Well said to relate the Captains once again showed the majority of us how to play although there were several 2 and 1s and halves. It was these sadists who capitulated and who ought to be pulled over the coals, but nevertheless well played Captains, and whilst the subject is bad news we have to say farewell to our Ransomes Rep, Nigel Church. What a stalwart he was. I know he is going to be missed, but the gates have opened for him so he must move up and also away. I understand he has gone to Harpenden and whilst in the house his wife gave birth. Congratulations Nigel and hope you have settled in OK. In the meantime your replacement Clive Lockwood has been making himself known throughout the region. Nice bloke this Clive, can't wait to look at the Gogs, also did Ken Stearn from Supafurin. Nice to have met you Ken, and it goes without saying that John Moyse from Kings and Brian Richardson from Fisons were there doing a helluva lot of backroom work which they must think goes unappreciated, but believe me they are fast becoming the backbone of our society.

We also had a prize for a young golfer for sheer persistence: David Parker, Worthing, Score!

So thanks for a wonderful day.

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REQUIRED
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Cattlegate Road
Enfield, Middlesex
S. Sampson, 01-383 6674
Forthcoming attractions

An evening with Mr P. G. Roberts of Toro Ltd at Swinton Park Golf Club on Monday, 19 November, also at Swinton Park on 17 December, an evening's talk by one of our Vice-Presidents, Mr. Bob Young from Chipman's Chemicals, both lectures start at 7.30 pm and please support these gentlemen who are very kindly giving us their spare time.

On the move

My assistant Brian Moss has taken over as Head Greenkeeper at Pike Fold Golf Club, Blackley. Congratulations, Brian, on your promotion.

Another assistant moving up is David Berry who has taken over as Head Greenkeeper at Prestwich Golf Club, Manchester after serving his apprenticeship with Bill Kenrick at Chorlton-cum-Hardy Golf Club. Good luck to you both as I've heard that you both plan to get married in the not too distant future or even before!

New members

The staff of Chester Golf Club have become members of our Association and may I welcome you gentlemen to our North West Section, Mr P. D. Sproston, Mr L. Sproston, Mr D. Hough and Mr A. Campbell.

Moving experience

Mr David Spurden, the boss at Knaresborough GC, has flitted. Please note the new address: 30 Princess Avenue, Knaresborough, N Yorks. Tel: Harrogate 866285.

As we move into winter with hopefully many of our winter operations completed, all that remains for many of us is to rebuild our courses, such as new tees here and new greens there and in our spare time a few new bunkers here and there. Still's better than painting anything that stands still around the sheds. The one operation that does last from now until the sun shines is painting tee markers, it's amazing how long that job takes.

One man with a major headache is Bill Lawson, the Head Greenkeeper at Heswall Golf Club who gave us such an enjoyable day in Spring. Some idiot has sprayed fifteen of his greens with Paraquat causing extensive damage and needing at least 2,000 sq yds of returfing. We have all suffered vandalism but this must be one of the most serious incidents yet. So much hard work undone by one lunatic.

GOLF COURSE DESIGN

Due to a shortage of space and the reports on the Annual General Meeting and Annual Tournament the next article in our current series on Golf Course Design scheduled for November has had to be held over with other items until the next issue.

November 1979
Our second lecture of the 1979-80 Winter programme will be held at Alresford Golf Club on Tuesday, 4 December at 7 pm. Mr David Jenkins of Marshall Concessionaires will be giving us a talk on Thatch and Compaction, and showing slides of new machinery.

The South Coast Section did not enjoy a team success at the Annual Tournament this Summer but an individual triumph. Eddie, our Walsall player, did well in the Junior Competition. Congratulations, Eddie, and I hope you did well and enjoyed yourself.

Our only other prizewinner at the Annual Tournament was Peter Marsh of Stoneham GC who did well in the Junior Competition. Well done, Peter.

Success of a different kind has been achieved by Garry Briggs of Bramshott Hill GC. Congratulations, Garry, on passing the City and Guilds Examination.

Finally, we send our best wishes to Allan Devlin who has been promoted to Head Greenkeeper at Dunwood Manor GC. I have had a nice letter from lain Dobson to say he has settled in well at St Germain, near Paris.

It would be a great help to me if members would notify me direct if they change jobs or move house. The grapevine can be unreliable! My grateful thanks to those members who do fulfil this courtesy.

M. M. Stimson, Hon Sec.

--

TORO
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--

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M. M. Stimson, Hon Sec.

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THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION HEAD OFFICE — GENERAL & BENEVOLENT FUND BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 APRIL, 1979

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THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION SECTIONS — GENERAL & BENEVOLENT FUND BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 APRIL, 1979

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THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL, 1979

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EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE | 468 | 1332 | 1800 | 2228 |

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Donald Harradine, C.H. 6987. Castlano, Switzerland.

Hawtree & Son, Addington Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey CRO 3AA.

Huggett, Coles & Dyer, PO Box 66, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PW. Tel: Worpleston 2473. Cheltenham 23789.

Cotton (C.K.) Pennink Lawrie & Partners Limited, Marlow Place, Station Road, Marlow, Buckinghamshire SL7 1NB. Tel: 72565.

Fraser Middleton, 84 Dunchurch Road, Oldhall, Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

T. J. A. McAuley, BSc, FICE, 7 Donegall Square West, Belfast, N. Ireland BT1 6JF.

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-November 1979-
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Bartram Mowers Ltd, Norwich Airport, Fifer's Lane, Norwich NR6 6ED. Tel: Norwich 44911. Contact: Mr Alan Brooks (Home No: Great Yarmouth 643646).

E. T. Breakwell Ltd, 814 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 4BJ. Tel: 01-744 4477.

Burrows (Grass Machinery Ltd), Wigan Road, Leyland, Lancs PR5 2VE. Tel: Leyland (07744) 21778.

Burrows (Grass Machinery Ltd), Stafford Street, Newport, Salop. Tel: Newport 810900.

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Sisix Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd, Shoreslough Works, Hulley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2LZ. Tel: Macclesfield 26363. Contact: Mr G. R. Lackford.

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Turf Centre in Scotland: 52/58 Causewayside, Edinburgh EH9 1PY. Tel: 031-667 0689.

Weedkillers

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Fisons Limited, Horticulture Division, Paper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 4BZ. Tel: Ipswich (0473) 830492. Contact: Recreational and Industrial Dept.

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