SHEFFIELD
Hon. Sec: Frank Barratt, 46 Lister Avenue, Sheffield S12 3PF.
Telephone: (0742) 399941

All members of the section, and indeed all greenkeepers will be saddened by the death of George Harrington. George was a good man in the broadest sense of the word, and will be greatly missed.

For the Autumn Tournament match, Sheffield versus Northern Section was held this year at Heworth Golf Club, York. The Sheffield Section thank all concerned for a very pleasant day, even the wetter the day was. There was of course a snag, the Northern Section won, yet again.

Six days after the debacle at Heworth, the Autumn Tournament was played at Halloweex Golf Club, and once again the section thank all concerned for a pleasant afternoon.

The result was:-

J. McNickolas (2 up)
R. Needham (2 up)
K. B. Haeney (2 up)

The opening talk of the winter series was a non event, our promised speaker Mr. M. Farrant of Farrant Chemicals (Soil Life) did not turn up.

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Wednesday 6th October we held our annual match against the South-West at St. Pierre Golf and Country Club.

Forthcoming Events:

December 2nd:
Xmas Competition at Otton Golf Club, £9 each. Contact A. Phillips (0964) 262052.

January 13th (Monday) - 7.30 p.m.: Summer Golf Videos, Moor Hall Golf Club.

February 10th (Monday) - 7.30 p.m.: Lecture Meeting at Arcot Hall Golf Club.

March 7th (Friday) - 7.00 p.m.:
Spraying and Chemicals.
Telford Golf and Country Club.

Contact: I. Toon (020) 306 7036 for details.

The South-West won 4-2

DATES FOR 1986:

17th April: Wenvoe Castle Golf Club
10th July: Dinas Powis Golf Club

SOUTH COAST
Hon. Sec: J. R. Dennis, Hampshire College of Agriculture, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2NF.
Telephone: (0962) 272441 Ext. 288.

Over fifty members and guests took part in the Section's Autumn Tournament in September. This was a 36 hole Greensome Stableford Competition, held at Waterlooville Golf Club. As usual, the Section is indebted to the Club officials for their hospitality, in particular to Laurie Carless and his staff for preparing the course to such a high standard. Thank you, Laurie, and we were pleased you could join us for the evening meal and presentation.

Our thanks also to trade members for their contribution to the Prize Table.

Prize Winners were:

1st J. C. Newman (7) 79 pts.
2nd J. Gove DOWNSHIRE GOLF CLUB
3rd R. Walker (21) 79 pts.
Hon. Sec: Frank Barratt, 46 Lister Avenue, Sheffield S12 3PF.
Telephone: (0742) 399941

We would like to thank Peter Henderson and his staff for the excellent condition of the course, the committee for their courtesy and the steward for the excellent meal.

Also thanks to the trade for supporting the section and the donation of prizes.

TROPHY WINNERS:
Best Gross: (Salver) C. Handyman (Gosforth G.C.) (7) 
(Carrington Clock) 77 + 39 = 116
Best Nett: (Ransomes Cup & Watch) J. S. Richardson (Whickham G.C.) (108) 74 + 35 = 109
Greenleaf Cup: (Wine Set) J. Redhead (City of Newcastle G.C.) (9) 74 + 36 = 110 Nett
Fewsters Shield: (Holford) I. Johnson (Stockleigh G.C.) (14) 76 + 36 = 112 Nett
Fisons Tankard: (9 holes Competition) J. S. Richardson (Whickham G.C.) 34/4 Nett
Slesia Tankard: I. Johnson (Stockleigh G.C.) 33 Nett

Our grateful thanks to the following:

Ryton Gravel Co. Bland Short Dixon Sports
Supaturf . Fison . Sisis . Ransomes

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WELSH
Hon. Sec: Philip Swain, 6 Locke Street, Newport, Gwent NP11 4HU

On Wednesday 6th October we held our annual match against the South-West at St. Pierre Golf and Country Club.

The match was a well-fought affair played with enthusiasm. This year it was the year of the South-West yet again.

RESULTS:
P. Swain v. G. Wilsott Won 1 up
T. B. Forder v. A. Lewis Won 2 & 1
D. Jones v. I. Walters Lost 4 & 2
R. Payne v. W. Jones Lost 2 & 1
J. Walsh v. R. Kitcher Lost 5 & 4
T. Gray v. D. Williams Lost 4 & 3
D. Jones v. L. Walters Lost 4 & 2
J. Lister (Hon) (11) 78 pts.

The South-West won 4-2

NORTH EAST
Telephone: 886765

On the warmest day of the year we held our annual Autumn Meeting at Arcot Hall Golf Club.

We would like to thank Peter Henderson and his staff for the excellent condition of the course, the committee for their courtesy and the steward for the excellent meal.

Also thanks to the trade for supporting the section and the donation of prizes.

TROPHY WINNERS:
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NORTH WEST
Hon. Sec: David F. Golding, Telephone: (061) 748 8952

The North-West Committee are unanimously agreed. Please study the reports etc., and if anybody has any views, please write to me as on the Committee would like to meet in that capacity.

New members since my last report:

Stephen Longyear Phillip Ryder
(Both with Pennyhill Golf and Country Club)

MIDLANDS
Hon. Sec: S. Wood, 153 Dickinson Drive, Bescot, Walsall.
West Midlands WS2 9DR
Telephone: (0922) 402921

On Wednesday 18th September we held our Autumn Tournament at Trentham Park G.C.

We would like to thank the committee and the members for giving us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse facilities.

Because of the International Exhibition that week our numbers were reduced to only 24 players, but a good day's golf was had by all.

A. Lewis won the gross competition with a fine one over par score for 27 holes, and also wins the best Gross Aggregate score from our three major Tournaments, for the second year running.

Best Nett: 67 25 1/2 J. Humphries
Second: 69 34 M. Hughes
Third: 71 36 B. Forder
Fourth: 72 35 I. Toon

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February 10th (Monday) - 7.30 p.m.: Lecture Meeting at Arcot Hall Golf Club.
March 7th (Friday) - 8.00 p.m.:
Spraying and Chemicals.
Telford Golf and Country Club.
Contact: I. Toon (020) 306 7036 for details.

The South-West won 4-2
DEVON & CORNWALL
Hon. Sec: Bill Pilie, 33 Knowle Drive, Exwick, Exeter EX4 2DF.
Telephone: 214053

Our Section were certainly blessed with good fortune on the day of our first meeting at Truro Golf Club on Wednesday October 16th. After several days of thick fog and mists causing havoc on the roads and delayed starts for golfing events, our day dawned clear and everyone had a good run down to Truro with the golf starting right on time.

Fifty-two members attended the meeting and thirty eight put out on the course. Keep the first fettle by Dick (sorry, Richard) Parr and his staff, to contest for the Stanley West cup and Ransomes watch. The others were given a conducted tour of the course and work sheds which proved most interesting.

After a first class meal the cards were checked and the results were announced as follows:

1st. P. Bullen (Hep 20) 20 pts. Newquay G.C.
2nd. P. Bullen (Hep 20) 20 pts. Newquay G.C.
3rd. P. Bullen (Hep 20) 20 pts. Newquay G.C.

Keith Stuart kindly presented the prizes which had been donated by Stanley West Ltd.

The afternoon had been set aside for a discussion on greenkeeping practices, but although a lively debate took place on the various merits of the amalgamation of the B.G.G.A. with the P.G.A. and the alternative offer of assistance from the R & A and the R.G.U., our section were unanimous in support of more information on these propositions in the magazine. Certainly the P.G.A. offer should be printed in full. Also the minutes of all meetings with the R & A golf unions and other greenkeeping organisations with any relevant comments from the B.G.G.A. executive.

MIC ANGLIA
Hon. Sec: L. Wakerell, 26 Loxley Road, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 3PS.

The Autumn tournament was held over 27 holes at Verulam Golf Club on Tuesday 24th September.

Once again the weather was kind to the 33 competitors and Andrew Burden, a young assistant from John O'Gaunt Golf Club scored 23 points over the morning 9 holes and although steading down in the afternoon with 33 points, the total 56 points was good enough to take the President's Watch and Trophy.

Second with 54 points (17 + 37) was Cyril Stevens, and third, playing his first Tournament was Steve Denton on 53 points, (17 + 36).

The morning prize was won by Bill O'Hanlon, with 16 points and the afternoon's best round (73 gross) for 43 points was easily good enough to win the Tea Set for young 'Loc' Millar, who was pleased to welcome from the South West Section.

The course was in fine condition and the greens absolutely superb, as they always are at Verulam thanks to Geoff Smith and his green keepers.

We were delighted to have Mr. Peter Cooper, the Verulam Captain join us for dinner in the evening and present the prizes. We were also pleased to see the three members of our President, Don Reeder, and indeed many of our Vice-Presidents throughout the day.

The meals were most enjoyable and the welcome extended to us of course thanks to the prize donors:

Mr. Don Reeder, our President
Supalift Ltd. — Rugby Taylor Ltd.
Smyths Ltd. — F. Parker and Sons Ltd.
Norwell Hart Ltd. — Ransomes Ltd.
Bentley's Ltd. — Mr. Ben Bentham
Mr. Geoff Smith

They point out that more cash will be available. This may be true, but you should also be aware that most of this cash will come from your pockets. So what are the alternatives? I would like to see us make a move to the R.A. for help, which will be given, and not at the cost of jobs.

The information passed down the line to the B.G.G.A. members, that E.I.G.G.A. and S.I.G.G.A. are no more than splinter groups and struggling to get by is rubbish. That was evident at the Conference where they were very well organised.

I listened to many comments made by different members of greenkeeping groups, as well as the press, and one cannot help feeling that unless we are very careful, the B.G.G.A. could end up being a minor organisation. This must not be allowed to happen.

It is my view that the past must now be forgotten, and a big effort made to bring the groups together as soon as possible. If we realize that personality problems exist, which are difficult to overcome but if we are to look after the greenkeepers of the future, we cannot afford to let them stand in the way.

So I ask all of you to find the common ground that must be there and end this mess before it is too late. Working with the R.A. has got to be better than the P.G.A. and no doubt will be taken up by both S.I.G.G.A. and E.I.G.G.A. so just for once we must be together.

I do not apologise to anyone this letter may offend, because I believe that all members of the B.G.G.A. should know what goes on, and if it brings to life some reaction then my letter has done some good. By the time you read this, it may be that some decisions have been taken on your behalf. I only hope they prove to be the right ones.

G. F. CHILD

NORTHERN
Hon. Sec: D. C. Hannam, 12 Moorfield Avenue, Menston, W. Yorks.
Telephone: (0943) 72008

Our Autumn Tournament this year visited yet another of Yorkshire's golfing jewels - Otley.

With conditions comparable with the ideal summer, a keen group of speculators sampled and thoroughly enjoyed the delight of Hugh Marshall's magnificent course.

Our thanks to Hugh, his staff and Alwoodley Golf Club for permitting and providing such a superb experience.

As this was the final fixture in our 1985 golf calendar we offer thanks to all clubs and greenkeepers responsible for making our year's golf such a success.

Another Section evergreen Tom Burns suffered a heart attack during September.

He lays the blame on stress, pointing out the needless tension created by people in authority. Judging by what is known and heard, Tom could have had a very valid point, worthy of further investigation. Who knows, perhaps our winter meetings might be better taken up by Yoga, Meditation or some other form of mind relaxation?

Tom, we are pleased to hear is on the mend.