



## Obituary

It was with deep regret that we received news recently of the death of Steve Donnachie. Steve, a native of Maybole in Ayrshire, served with the 4th and 1st Battalions The King's Own Scottish Borderers during the last war and was a popular personality with his fellow regimental members.

Severely wounded in action, Steve eventually finished his army life as company sergeant major. However, he retained his links by way of reunions and also in his work with the army cadet force in Banchory after the war.

His greenkeeping career started at Banchory, where he worked for 12 years. From there, he moved as head greenkeeper to Royal Deeside GC, where he remained for 26 years. He was much respected for the work he carried out improving and keeping the course in excellent condition.

He was a past-president of SIGGA and an enthusiastic member of the north section for many years, where he served on the committee and as chairman.

Steve was a gifted man in many ways. Many of us remember his poems and sketches, which appeared from time to time in greenkeeper magazines. He was also a great character, a fund of humorous stories and a personality in his own right.

He will be sadly missed by his many friends in SIGGA, especially those in the north section, and, no doubt, his name will crop up in many greenkeeping conversations for years to come.

Steve is survived by his wife, son and daughter and our sympathies are with them at this time.

## Executive Report

The executive held a meeting on June 3, at which a comprehensive agenda was covered. The draft constitution for the proposed new association was discussed

thoroughly and a few alterations mooted for the next meeting.

SIGGA's representatives at that meeting will be president W. Woods, vice-president J. Kidd, past-president J. Neilson and general secretary J. McKean.

Organisation for the national tournament was finished and we look forward to a great day at Downfield.

The Open Championship arrangements were discussed fully and everything seems to be running to plan. SIGGA will again have a tent and we look forward to continuing the successful venture that started at St Andrews in 1984.

Cecil George gave a report on education, indicating that all colleges were pleased with the standard of greenkeeper training. Section secretaries gave reports on outings and activities and it was pleasing to note that membership is still rising.

The president stated that he had attended all the section events, which he found well-organised and attended by well-dressed greenkeepers and he would like, on behalf of the general secretary and himself, to thank all the sections for their hospitality.

*Elliott Small.*

## Central

At the April committee meeting, members were given an updated report on the new greenkeepers' association. Numerous questions were raised by the committee and, after hearing the chairman and secretary's answers, it was felt that the steady progress being made was in the best interests of the profession as a whole.

It was decided that the two trophies presented to the section by the Australian Mutual Provident Assurance Company would be awarded to the best third-year student at college within the section and to the player with the best combined scratch score over the spring and autumn tournaments.

Golf outings for 1987 were proposed to Leven Thistle in the spring and Callander in the autumn.  
*J. Crawford.*

## East

With the problems of last year all ironed out, the section has settled down. Membership stands at 70 fully paid up with a few still to come in.

The annual spring outing was held at North Berwick GC. A windy day did not deter the 60 members, guests and trade. We were delighted by the presence of the SIGGA president, past-president and general secretary, who presented the prizes.

Our thanks go to North Berwick GC for the courtesy of the course, head greenkeeper D. White for the condition of the course and the clubhouse staff for the catering.

New dates for diaries are: the national outing at Downfield, Thursday August 21, greenkeepers and greens convener tournament, September 24, autumn outing to Royal Musselburgh, Tuesday October 28 and a winter outing to Winterfield, Dunbar (date to be announced).

The annual match versus the north east of England has not been finalised yet, but should be in early October. The first winter lecture will be held in early November and will be a visit to Oatridge College.

*W. Blair.*

## West

A joint seminar involving the west and Ayrshire sections was held at Inverclyde. Speakers were W. Lockie, who gave his views as a professional golfer, and W. McLaren of the Ayrshire Golf Union.

D.G. Allan Oils presented a talk and then a video of how an engine and its lubrication work.

Our spring outing was held at Cowglen - some 40 participated and all found the course in fine shape.

The education committee has been very active. A meeting between them and the Woodburn House principal has taken place and the winter programme of college lectures is well in hand.

*A. Connell.*