DEVON & CORNWALL

The section congratulates Tony Gooch, head greenkeeper at Torrington GC, on being runner-up in the Devon & Cornwall award, held recently at Aldwark Manor. Tony's prize includes a visit to Portugal for the 1993 PGA European Tour seminar for head greenkeepers/course managers, plus working with the PGA greenkeeping support team at two Tour events next year. Congratulations to Nick Ridgen and his staff for the support they have given Tony and also to Torrington GC. Though Torrington is only a nine hole club, the members have encouraged and supported Tony's greenkeeping education. Hopefully some of our larger clubs will follow suit.

Our first meeting of the season was held at the expertly prepared Warren GC, which I am sure all will agree is a credit to Laucllan Millar and his staff. It was nice to see many members at this meeting, and to welcome especially our most westerly located member, Peter Stringer, who is head greenkeeper on the Isles of Scilly. We hope you enjoyed your day, Peter, and we look forward to your next visit.

Following an excellent lunch, our president Don Hunt presented the prizes to our lucky winners, prizes he had kindly donated for the D O Hunt Trophy: First: Buster Lewer (Dainton Park) 37 pts, Second: Norman Gagg (Churston) 33 pts Third: Trevor Pipe (Honiton) 32 pts. A mention now for Richard Minton of ICI who finished with 36 points. Richard declined a prize for a mere mention in this report, so here is a mere mention!

Our educational talk was on 'Medical emergencies on the golf course', presented by Dr Peter Stanley. The talk was most informative and posed many questions from the audience. The raffle rounded off a most successful day and our thanks to all the trade who donated prizes for the raffle, especially to Maxwell Hart, who donated £30. The section thank the Warren GC for allowing us use of their facilities and their staff for making us feel so welcome. Our thanks finally to Don Hunt for donating the prizes and to Dr Peter Stanley for his excellent talk. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. See you all at Fingle Glen on Wednesday 13 January.

RICHARD WHYMAN

NORTH WALES

Our Autumn Golf Tournament held at Chirk G&CC on 14 October was a great success, with 103 players (must be a record for any section?) attended. The winners were: 1st Peter Gabriel (The Gem Professional Shield & Tankard, an umbrella and a bottle of whisky) 96-28=68. 2nd A. Kift (Hayter sweater) nett 75. 3rd D. Rowlands (body warmer) nett 74. 5th C.M. Davies (putter). 5th N. Tower (holdall). 6th Gareth 'Bronco' Williams (holdall). Best Gross Alan Lewis 80. (ski coat donated by Major Owen). Guests: 1st Colin Bather nett 75 (Rorlakre). 2nd Ted Roberts (holdall). Nearest the pin on 12th, John Humphreys 116", (stainless steel spoon + shield). Two 50 Comedy Golf balls: A. Lewis, J. Westcott, J. Humphreys. First raffle prize (a golf bag) went to John Moss. There were many other prizes, too numerous to mention.

We now have our own flags, poles and tee markers with BIGGA N. Wales Section printed on them, donated and supplied by A. Cornes of ACORN.

Many thanks to all the sponsors: Gem Professional, ACORN, Major Owen, Mommemsteeg, R.J. Campey, I.C.I., Martin Brothers, Walker Engineering, P. Hughes (Members), J. Osman, High Speed Oils and Hayter, plus many more prizes donated - apologies if any name has been omitted from the list.

A very special thanks to Chirk G&CC for allowing the section to stage the Autumn Tournament on such an excellent course, prepared so well by Chirk course manager Alan Sharp and his staff, plus the catering staff for a superb meal.

I had the privilege of playing with Alan and 'friends' and have no doubts that the jokes told over 18 holes were crafted to make me forget why I was out there in the first place (but the jokes were very good!)

A Christmas venue has been kindly offered by Abergele & Pensarn GC on 9 December 1992. Our thanks to secretary Mr. F. Richards for D. Prys Jones (green committee) and course manager Mr. B. Anderson.

DAVID PROCTOR

NORTH SCOTLAND

As we near the year end it is pleasing to report a healthy increase in section membership. Total membership is 186, of which 162 are greenkeepers. Next year, let's aim for 200 greenkeeping members, and if staff at your club are not yet part of BIGGA, let them know the benefits and get them to join - the more the merrier.

All section events have been well attended and the last for 1992, our AGM, takes place this month. Royal Aberdeen is the venue and prior to our annual Chairman versus Vice-Chairman golf match we have a talk on top dressing by Peter Jefford of Rufford Top Dress. We welcome him and look forward to his words of wisdom.

We are currently in the seminar/demonstration season. This gives members the opportunity to learn about new products or machinery and also meet old and new friends in the business. One I attended recently gave us details of a new herbicide that will kill just about all weeds in fine turf, even when turf is at the seeding stage. The sooner it gets approval, the better!

Next month sees BTME at Harrogate. I have enrolled and hope to see plenty of North members present, as well as friends from other sections. The attendance of a member of the Royal Family is quite a coup and H.Q must be congratulated on this achievement.

Any greenkeeper now deep in salary negotiations may care to know that I have copies of BIGGA wage scales for 1993. I will post these to anyone interested. I am currently trying to put together Pesticide Spraying Courses of two days tuition, followed by a third day of examination at a college in our area. The package will include accommodation and course fees. Interested?, please call me on 0862 894402, for by the time you receive this magazine I hope to have something organised. A minimum of ten will be required for each course.

Well, all that remains is for me to wish all members a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

I hope 1993 brings you all you wish and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the year.

IAIN MacLEOD

CLEVELAND

Our Autumn Tournament was held at Brass Castle GC, Middlesbrough, on 29 October, the format being a Fourball, Betterball Stableford. Prizes were presented by the captain to the winners, Graham Pyle and H Wilson, with second place going to David Crocher and R Derby. Twenty four players took part.

Our thanks to Norman Sheddon of Atkin's for making the score cards.

We offer a warm welcome to the latest new members to join our section, Paul Millward, greenkeeper at Bedale GC.

A Christmas Social and Quiz, sponsored by Turf Care of County Co. Durham, will be staged on 15 December at Billingham GC, starting at 7.30 pm. I close by extending my personal Christmas greetings to you all.

BRUCE BURNELL

NORTH WEST

The final golf fixture of 1992 was held at Dunham Forest GC on 8 October, and proved to be the biggest turn-out of the year with no less than 50 competitors. I must admit I was pleasantly surprised at such a large attendance until I realized the reason. Dunham Forest are at present without a head greenkeeper and this was a perfect opportunity to renominate the course. I don't think there will be a shortage of applicants when the job is advertised, and with such a good attendance it might be advisable to choose our golf venues from the Stix. Vac. column! The day was a great success with everybody enjoying the course and the hospitality. The winners were: Best Gross: F. Piatt, 75; Best Nett: A. Kift, 68; Aggregate Prize J. Pearson. 80-10=70. 2nd. J. Farrimond 76-2-74. 4th. F. Platt 84-9=75. 5th. M. Davey 87-12=75. 6th. P. Solski 90-15=75. Vets Prize J. Wright. 98-20=78. Guests Prize 76-6=68. Aggregate Prize J. Pearson. 215.

Many thanks to our trade friends for helping to swell the prize table; the caterers for a superb meal and Dunham Forest for allowing us the courtesy of their lovely course.

A series of winter lectures has been arranged during the coming months and all members will now have received a newsletter with lecture titles, dates etc. Please make every effort to attend and support your section. The Toro workshop at Reaseheath College on 16 October was very poorly attended, with only nine of an estimated forty attending, despite every effort being made to advertise this in your section news and at Haydock Park. The day turned out to be excellent value for money; and I would like to thank Robin Hume and the Toro team for their presentation.

That appears to be all, other than to take this opportunity to wish you a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

BERT CROSS

BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

"In the bleak mid-winter", or so the song goes, is about right for some of the weather we have been experiencing at the moment, but have no fear for you can still rely on the trusty greenkeeper to go out and toil against the elements for a meagre crust (send donations for the Ray Clark Appreciation Fund to the usual address!).

Now, once your heads have stopped nodding in
through the tough qualifying rounds to reach the Nudds & S Horwood, D Childs & D Goodchild, J Teix-er, D & Buckley, and S Edwards & P Wright.

The Autumn Invitational, held at Burford GC. All the greenkeepers and their guests had a great time and our thanks for this pin-(am) B.Woodward, (pm) M.Fuller. Longest drive L.Robinson & C.Clifton. 2nd nett- B.Holt & J.Shep-go to head greenkeeper, Barry Holt, the captain, Mr J

fin for the TORO Shield donated by County Mowers; and Sta-Brite, Risborough Turf, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart and Pattisons.

Congratulations to the Midland region on winning the team event at the ISKCI National Tournament and to Barry Holt for representing us at the Kubota competition, staffing, delegation of staff job descriptions that we all bear

and to Barry Holt for representing us at the Kubota early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

The format was, as in previous years, a morning 18 foursome and an afternoon 18 holes greenkeeping in 1993'.

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

There has always been a great sense of friendly conc-erned. I find the numbers taking this training, and

in mind that though somewhat com-

For the first 'customers' on our Pesticide Treatment Scheme are now becoming qualified and we have received nothing but compliments from all con-

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rother-

s most enjoyable, but the winning team were Mal-

Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the story of our club war, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens - into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

The format was, as in previous years, a morning 18 foursome and an afternoon 18 holes greenkeeping in 1993'.

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rother-

s most enjoyable, but the winning team were Mal-

Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the story of our club war, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens - into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

There has always been a great sense of friendly conc-erned. I find the numbers taking this training, and

in mind that though somewhat com-

For the first 'customers' on our Pesticide Treatment Scheme are now becoming qualified and we have received nothing but compliments from all con-

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rother-

s most enjoyable, but the winning team were Mal-

Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the story of our club war, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens - into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

There has always been a great sense of friendly conc-erned. I find the numbers taking this training, and

in mind that though somewhat com-

For the first 'customers' on our Pesticide Treatment Scheme are now becoming qualified and we have received nothing but compliments from all con-

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rother-

s most enjoyable, but the winning team were Mal-

Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the story of our club war, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens - into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course.

There has always been a great sense of friendly conc-erned. I find the numbers taking this training, and

in mind that though somewhat com-

For the first 'customers' on our Pesticide Treatment Scheme are now becoming qualified and we have received nothing but compliments from all con-

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rother-

s most enjoyable, but the winning team were Mal-

Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the story of our club war, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens - into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.
AROUND THE GREEN

Tournament. Bernard was the sole region representative on Wednesday 13 January. Our speaker is from Lloyds and I look forward to a full report when we next meet.

October was Matthew Buckley, who continues his storming start in section/region events. Thanks to Breakwells held at Whittington Barracks GC on 21 October. A fine golf course, also to Brian Turner, Mike Ayres of Lodgeway. They certainly looked very good.

Our next event is the Christmas Bring & Win competition, at Birstall GC on 16 December - entry forms are available at least 1 month in advance. So welcome and providing such a wonderful meal, also many thanks to Sta-Brite Supplies for sponsoring the Christmas Bring & Win competition, and to greenkeepers everywhere I send best wishes for Christmas and 1995.

Tony Howarth

SURREY

Yeoman's first class day of golf was enjoyed by section members on 29 October at Worpledon GC. Scoring was good on such a fine day and even the bullying waitresses caused by a summptuous lunch did little to spoil the afternoon. The results: (over 27 holes) - Winner Jim Russell 57 pts. Second Steve Kirkham 50 pts. Third Doug Ferrie 50 pts. Scratch prize Brian Turner. AM prize Richard Christie, PA prize Kelvin Bray. As ever, thanks went to the club for their first class hospitality and courtesy of themselves in golfing action, these provided by Chas. Ayres of Lodgeway. They certainly looked very good.

Many thanks, Chas.

A special mention must be made of Lee Murdoch (Woburn) who achieved an ace at the sixth - only the second player to do so this season. Also a mention for John Blair (Brocket Hall) who, having scored only four Stableford points, still submitted his card, when he could so easily have ripped it up. Finally, a thanks to all the staff at Woburn for making us so welcome and providing such a wonderful meal, also to the trade: Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart and Pattinsons for providing prizes for our Christmas competition.

A match against the London section was played on 29 October at Ports Park. Unfortunately, all the matches were lost. While not a great day out on a magnificent golf course and we thank the London section for their hospitality. Maybe in the future we might actually win a match against another section, so to all good golfers in Mid Anglia we ask - where are you? We need you!

Paul Lockett

MIDLANDS

It is with regret that I have to inform members of the sudden death of George Dollochin, head greenkeeper at Trentham Golf Club, who died following a heart attack, aged 47. Our sincere condolences go to his family.

On a much happier note, the Midlands section beat our old rivals, the East Midlands, in the annual match sponsored by Rigby Taylor. Having gone in to lunch one down, we came back to win by four on the final day. Rigby Taylor, beating Peter Holtham and Ted Evans in an entertaining final played at the Northamptonshire County Golf Club.

Fingers crossed for our last tournament, the winners of the Aggregate Shields were announced: Mick Hughes won the gross award and Steve Wood the nett award - well done to both players.

During October the Gay Hill GC played host to the Champion of Champions competition, sponsored by Breakwells and organised by Keith Fitzharris. Players represented both East Midlands and the winner, with a fine round of 69 off three handicaps, was Matt Buckle.

Northern

Our first winter lecture was held recently at West Bowling Golf Club, and I am pleased to report that it was well supported, with an excellent turn out attending a superb presentation given by Paul Lockett (IoG). He talked of the need for good presentation and concluded with a presentation by Greenkeepers recently had a nice day at Brockton GC, where Boroughs held their Open Day. The golf was won by Larry Quine, who I know puts in a lot of time and energy into making this an annual fixture the success it is today.

Our final meeting of the year will be held at Queens Park GC on Monday 14 December. Details will be announced in December issue of the newsletter.

Tony Howarth

Greenkeepers recently had a nice day at Brockton GC, where Boroughs held their Open Day. The golf was won by Larry Quine, who I know puts in a lot of time and energy into making this an annual fixture the success it is today.

Greenkeepers recently had a nice day at Brockton GC, where Boroughs held their Open Day. The golf was won by Larry Quine, who I know puts in a lot of time and energy into making this an annual fixture the success it is today.
to the following companies, in recognition of their support for the

The Toro Company
International Division
Irrigation

Professional Products
ICI Lely (UK) Ltd.
UK distributor for Toro
Commercial Products

Ransomes
Kubota
Lindum
Rufford
Iseki
Hardi

Together, we’re building a great future
for golf club, greenkeeper and game

For details of how you can support the Education and Development Fund, contact BIGGA at
Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aire, York Y06 2NF. Telephone: 03473 581 Fax: 03473 8864

COMING UP

December 7: ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals – Aldwark Manor, York 1993
January 19-22: BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
January 23-30: GCSAA Show, Anaheim, California, USA
March 26-30: BIGGA National Education Conference, University of Keele, Staffordshire
April 28: Westurf Trade Exhibition, Long Ashton, Bristol
May 25-30: Amateur Championship, Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland
June 9-10: Landscape Industries '93, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
July 5-6: Royal Show, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire
July 15-18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, Kent
August 2-4: BIGGA National Golf Tournament, Dunbar Golf Club, Scotland
August 19-19: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA
August 19-22: Planitarium '93 (specialised tree cultivation fair) Booskop, Holland
September 7-8: IoG Show, Peterborough, Northants
September 24-26: Ryder Cup, The Beltry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire
October 2-3: Golf '93 Trade Fair, Dusseldorf, Germany
October 11-12: Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor, York
November 23-25: Golf International 2000, Sandown Park, Surrey

WILIE BLAIR

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The final golf tournament of the season was held in October at Kinross GC, where 50 members/guests had an enjoyable time on a sunny day. Results: Best aggregate (spring and autumn) – David Leith, St. Andrews. Best nett – Richard Sharp, Kinross. Scratch – Athol Purdie, Crail. 1st class – 1st Ross Wilson, Kinross. 2nd Tommy Gilchrist, Falkland Tryst. 2nd class – 1st Fraser McNeil, Braehead. 2nd John Crawford, Higgs Castle. Trade – Ian Thomas, Provan. Guests – Robert McHale, Kinross. Two ball foursomes – Graeme Downie and Fraser McNeil, Braehead.

Our sincere thanks go to Sir David Montgomery of the Green Hotel Golf Courses for the courtesy of their course, Kinross GC for the use of clubhouse facilities, Mr and Mrs Aitken for first class catering and service, and to course manager John Bashford and his staff for preparing the course in such excellent condition, despite the atrocious weather experienced in the weeks prior to the tournament – well done, lads!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: The Spring Tournament will be held at Gleneagles in April, date to be finalised. Visit to Souter's Sporthurst and Sotting GC, 13 February. Autumn Tournament at Glenbervie GC, 12 October. We also hope to stage an STRI lecture, given by David Boocock, in March. Topics for future lectures/demonstrations are welcome, so if you have any suggestions on subjects you would like to see included, please write to me and your committee will try to arrange them.

I would like to wish everyone the compliments of the season, and thank everyone who has supported us in 1992. Every success in 1993.

JOHN CRAWFORD

AROUND THE GREEN

38 → announce the annual match East Scotland v North East England (sponsored by Stewart & Co.), played at Goswick, resulted in a well deserved victory – this after a loss and a draw in the last two clashes. I am delighted to have the trophy back where it belongs – in Scotland. Grateful thanks, as always, to Stewarts and Goswick GC.

The dance tickets are going well, so if you haven’t yet obtained yours you may be too late. Let us hope that my next report will bring glad tidings. Until then, on behalf of your chairman and committee, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a good New Year.

WILIE BLAIR