EAST SCOTLAND

The 'Willie Wood Memorial Trophy', held at Swanston GC on 6 August, brought with it a smaller than usual entry. Normally held in October, the competition was brought forward as an experiment and I regret this decision backfired on us. However, our grateful thanks to the captain and committee; to the caterers, who should have the extra award. (Nevertheless, it was Keith!).

As they say at the end of all good cartoons - that's all folks!

AYRSHIRE

My apologies to section members/readers for the absence of published news over the past few months. As I wrote earlier - please keep the column.

ONE DISTINCTION

At the Welsh College of Horticulture prizegiving held on 14 October at Chirk G&GC, but we hope to have our first lecture either on the second or third week of November. Members who are not playing in the competition may contact David Proctor or Terry Adamson for further information.

On 28 October Lindum Turf will be staging a demonstration at Abergele GC. All are welcome; so please come and support.

Many congratulations must go to Alan Sharp (and his staff) at Chirk G&GC for finishing second in the Northern Section of the I.C.I. Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award.

At the Welsh College of Horticulture prizegiving held on 14 July, four students received special awards: Graham Parker (Best 1st year on Phase II), Martin Howell (2nd year on Phase II), Andrew McInnes (1st year on Phase I), and Matthew Horton (2nd year greenkeeper achieving the overall best marks). The Rufford Lord Dress Cup. This year the C&G Phase II proved particularly successful, with two students awarded distinction in both exams and five others receiving one distinction and one credit -well done to them all.

On a more personal note, the committee would like to thank Mark Proctor for his help in starting our section some three years ago. We take this opportunity to wish Mark and his family the very best in their new venture in Germany.

DAVID PROCTOR

EAST ANGLIA

Just a quickie lads, for even greenkeepers have holidays (mostly, it would seem, in August, for only 15 turned up at Colchester!).

Just along the road from me at Ardeer GC, Neil Armstrong, who should have the extra award. (Nevertheless, it was Keith!).

Mike Long has been a member of the SGIAG flag committee member, section chairman and Scott-

tish chairman. During the past few years he has kept his abdication. He has renounced his English citizen-

ship and a Scottish International - yes, George represented Scotland during the 1992 European Championships. This was staged at The Belfry and George contributed to an outstanding Scottish victory - vanquishing all comers to lift the title. Nice one, Mr Brown! Now all we need is another retiree, Jimmy Renton from Gifford GC. Our heartiest to you both!

A sub-committee has been set up to organise the social side of the BIGGA National Tournament to be held at Dunbar in 1993. We are looking at accommo-

Robertson (2nd year green-
CLEVELAND
Our Autumn Tournament will be held at Middlesbrough Brass Castle – details later.
Graham Pyle's course extension is being carried out by Graham (with the help of a contractor from his club) and the greens will be built to USGA Spec.
Ian Harrison, head greenkeeper at Darlington, reached the regional round of the ICI Greenkeeper of the Year award – congratulations, Ian.
Pleased to hear of Bob Upson's appointment at Romanby GC, Northallerton, N.Yorks. This is a large acreage and I think water features are to form part of the course – details later.
Anthracose disease can be grown out in the growing season – more trickly later.
Autumn programme of events is being arranged for October; November and December and a newsletter (sent to all members). Roger's recent addition to the family – a son, Andrew – was born on 23 March and weighed in at 8lbs 11 ozs.
BRUCE BURNELL
DEVON & CORNWALL
Our Christmas meeting will again be staged at the very popular venue of Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday 9 December. As is usual, members will play a greensome format for the PJ Flegg Trophy during the morning, with the usual course inspection offered to non-playing members. This year our afternoon luncheon entertainer will be Tank Sherman, who comes very highly recommended by our local talent spotter! Numbers will be restricted to 80, so please make sure you return your entry form to me as early as possible to avoid disappointment. All members who plan to travel on next year's regional trip to BTME at Harrogate should have returned their forms (with deposits) to GORDON CHILD (at Sparsholt College on a National Technical Course – phone me on 0274 568128, or write to 49 Cornwall Rd, Gilstead, Bingley W. Yorks. BD16 4RL).
We wish Les Kirkbright a long and happy retirement following his work with Scarborough College and at South Cliffe GC. Les is an active member and represented us in the Battle of the Roses.
The only move I am aware of is that of my ex-right-hand man, Nigel Graham, who moved on to take the head greenkeeper post at Sedgebury GC up in Cumbria. The best of luck to you, Nigel.
Invitation Day at Northcliffe GC was a great success and even the sun came out for us, ensuring that those attending had a very enjoyable day. This event was again sponsored by our friends Yorkshire Mowers, to whom we owe thanks for their continued support.
For further information on the programme of forthcoming seminars, etc., please contact Michael Peters, 18 Saxmundham Road, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5PE (tel 0728 452143), or Sam Sylvester, 7 Park Lane, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5HJ (tel 0278 452215).
ROGER TYDEMAN
SOUTH EAST
Regional news of great importance concerns our forthcoming Summer Meeting scheduled for the second month (Tuesday 3 November) at Canterbury College. This well established annual event is sponsored by Avoncrop Amenity Products, the cost being £10 for members and £15 for non-members, inclusive of lunch.
A packed programme will begin in at 9.25am with an introduction by Rod Feltham, of Avoncrop Amenity Products, followed by ICI's Richard Minton on 'Understanding the use of fertilisers'.
This year sees an earlier and highly satisfying trend extending still further with the presentation of papers by no less than three of our own greenkeeper members, all making their appearance on the Canterbury rostrum for the first time.
In order of appearance they are Jason Hampton (at Spenholm College on a National Diploma course, who will talk on 'The golfer – making him less green', Neil Macintyre, (at Canterbury taking Phases II and III) talking of 'Wear and tear on the golf course', and Guy Woods (Finalist, Student of the Year 1990) on 'Managing Poo around greens successfully'.
Additional speakers – each an acknowledged master of his chosen subject – include Roy Brighton of Timperley, who will present his own education, David Golding, talking on 'Greenkeeper Education – what is available', and the famous golf course architect, Donald Steel, discussing 'Golf Course Architecture'. In both morning and afternoon sessions ample time will be allotted for questions.
This is an event not to be missed and please telephone 0803 844056 to be booked by calling me on 0803 844056.
GORDON CHILL
BUCKS, BERKS & OXON
Not much going on, but thanks again to Mark Barthelmie of Risborough Turf for putting on an excellent invitation day at Maidenhead GC. Results were: 1st Les Witham (West Berks) 2nd Brian Woodhouse (Little Chalfont) 3rd Icart (Buckingham) and to Sunningdale Artisans Club for their hospitality.
A little word of warning to Messrs Tribe and Fletcher about had still to be played against Messrs Nudds and Horwood they delivered an early in the round crippling shot with a wrecked 3 iron to John Nudds, which caught him sharply on the knee.
Apparently it didn't matter, for he seemed to play better after being hit (they breed 'em tough at Ger- rards Cross!)
Contact me to Dave Childs of Elles- borough GC, the only qualifiers from B&B8O section to win through to the final – play well, Dave.
RAY CLARE
NORTHERN
I said in my last report that winter lectures were in the process of being formulated. Here are some that can be penned into your diaries: • Wednesday 14 October (start approx.7.30pm), Eddie Seaward, N.D.T.; F.Inst.G. Head Groundsman The All England Lawn Tennis Croquet Club. Wimbledon. • Wednesday 18 November: Nu-Trel soil analyst, also Boral Lytag. Venus- West Bowling Golf Club. I shall enlarge on the above in the next report. • Wednesday 2 December: Judging of Bob Upson's appointment at Romanby GC, Northallerton, N.Yorks. This is a large acreage and I think water features are to form part of the course – details later.
And I cannot stress enough that the time to act is now – in the growing season – more trickly later.
Autumn programme of events is being arranged for October; November and December and a newsletter (sent to all members). Roger's recent addition to the family – a son, Andrew – was born on 23 March and weighed in at 8lbs 11 ozs.
Wakeman from Brora GC and Caroline Ross (our Secretary) welcome two new members to the section, Ian Rickman of the Ayrshire G.C., and Peter Solski (Dav-dale). The older members will be saddened to learn of the death of retired greenkeeper George Cranna, of Renmay, near Inverurie. Our thoughts are with Mrs Cranna at this time and we wish her well.

IAN MACLEOD

SOUTH COAST

In pride of place this month is Kerran Daly, head greenkeeper at Salisbury and South Wiltshire GC. Kerran has recently passed the Master Greenkeeper Certificate this summer and is the first member of the section to obtain this prestigious award. Congratulations, Kerran – no doubt other members will be inspired to follow your example.

Your secretary needs a response from section members! First aid training, now a vital part of staff development, can be provided by the section, this training if carried out on a day to day to four days of training. Please let me know if you are interested, so that a programme of training can be provided.

Secondly, the provision of coaches to BTME at Harrogate in June and Westrup in April. A coach to both these events could be provided if required. Again, let me know if you are interested in making a trip to these events.

Summer Meeting – Basingstoke Golf Club.

The South Coast section should be proud indeed of the support from our greenkeepers and their guests, for a field of 56 came to Basingstoke GC to participate in the Summer Tournament. Again, this year the event was sponsored by T Parker & Sons (Turf Management Ltd) and Roffey Brothers Ltd., with additional prizes supplied by Avoncrop Amenity Products, Sao-Briee, Rigby Taylor, ICI Professional Products, and the City of Salisbury. Perhaps the star of the show was Richard Conolly, a member of the club, James Buchanan, joined the members for a wonderful meal supplied by Val Reddie and prizes were presented by chairman Ken Lodge and representatives of the sponsors. With David Haskell of T Parker & Sons presented the Parker Shield to the winning pair.


The gales of the first two days seemed to pale into insignificance compared to the final day. The course was superbly prepared by Malcolm Grand and his staff and many felt it was quite possibly the highest quality turf they had the privilege to play on.

The golf from our meagre band of Kent stalwarts was in stark contrast to the superb playing of the opposition. Happily we all completed card scores every day – some achieve the truly remarkable score of 65. However, must go to Pattissons for sponsoring this tournament this year, as indeed they have for many years.

In August I managed a few days away to compete in the BIGGA National Tournament at Littlestone on the South Coast. It was a great time and can heartily recommend participation in the next one (at Dunbar GC) if you get the opportunity. The North West was well represented and Peter Solski (Dav-dale) found himself deservedly among the winners.

The section AGM will be in late November and full details will appear in the November issue.

BERT CROSS

KENT

You will all probably have read the report of the National Tournament at Littlestone in Greenkeeper International. No words are adequate to describe the quite horrendous weather conditions on the last day. I can quite honestly say that I hope never again to play such a course – if venturing means I must play under such howling gales and torrential rain!

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BERT CROSS

SHEFFIELD

The season is now coming to a close, with sides looking ominously down the field and the leaves beginning to fall. We shall all be soon Ventitraining and hollow tining and, no doubt, incurring the wrath of our members.

The greenkeepers have seen yet another year of competition – and as usual, a dedicated staff who make such events possible. Hal- inshire G.C. have been host to the first Sheffield Amateur Scratch Open, with a full field of 72 top players from around the country. The competitors were complimentary about the course and condition – well done Gordon Brammah and his team.

The section welcome new members and look forward to meeting them at the winter lectures held on the first Thursday of each month at Rotherham GC. Again, let me know if you are interested in making a trip to these events.

COMING UP

October 12th: TOROGPA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award – Aldwark Manor, York

October 14th: BIGGA Northern Region Seminar – Askham Bryan College

October 14th-15th: KUBOTA Challenge – The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire

October 16th: BIGGA Northern Region Seminar, Reaseheath College

October 19th-November 27th: BIGGA Management Courses (six weeks) – Aldwark Manor, York

November 2nd: BIGGA South East Region Seminar – Colchester Centre, Essex

November 3rd: BIGGA South West Region Seminar – Cumnor College

November 11th-12th: IOG Scotsturf Trade Exhibition, Edinburgh, Scotland

November 12th-14th: Golf Course Europe ’93 Show – Monte Carlo, France

November 24th-26th: Golf International 2000 – Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey

November 25th: BIGGA Midlands Region Seminar – Warwickshire College

November 27th: BIGGA North Scotland Section Conference – Dundee College

December 7: ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals – Aldwark Manor, York

Many have pulled my leg over the ‘plugging’ of BIGGA Financial Services man, Howard Evans, but was it my imagination, or did I see photographs of Howard Evans on the back of a motorised fine turf mowing machine? If any Trade member is interested in sponsoring a golf tournament, please get in touch with me 0295-813134.

Thanks to Brian Booth for his invitations.

JANE EYAN

NORTH WEST

Once again the Pattison Trophy is in its rightful place with the North West section! The reason?

BOB DENNING

AROUND THE GREEN

The section beat the Northern section at Stockport in what has become known as the ‘Battle of the Roses’. Not only did we win, we whitewashed ‘em, and as the results poured in I do believe I could hear the ghostly sounds of Mick Hannam sobbing his heart out in the upper reaches of the M62!

To be fair, however, North West could not field a full team, but we made up five matches and everyone enjoyed a good day of golf. The course, a magnificent parkland creation, was in perfect condition – thanks to Paul Barr.

I would like to thank Stockport GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course, also the catering staff for looking after us so well. Last but not least, thanks must go to Pattissons for sponsoring this tournament each year, as indeed they have for many years.

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