'Customers won't accept the advice of someone they don't trust'

45 All are BASIS trained, constant updating in the light of new technology. Their way of staying ahead. Clive's thinking is summed up in our selling is done by giving advice, therefore advice of someone they don't trust. Most of the advice must be utterly believable, true and Cambridge village of Hardwick or when taking miles a year in his car, so he must have some affection for the motorway system! He and Bernard are countrymen at heart, never happier than when pottering in his lovely garden in the

To some this may be a dread disease, but to them it's a highly enjoyable experience from which they both get a positive 'buzz'. Bernard says that when he gets back from the adrenalin starts pumping and both liken their work to sport, a game they'd rather be winning than losing!

No interview would be complete without some discussion on the BIGGA connection. Rigby Taylor have become Golden Key supporters for one simple reason, they believe in the education of greenkeepers! As an investment in the future both Bernard and Clive see BIGGA as supporting their thinking: they like their company to be involved both at section and regional level and are glad that this new way of saying thank you can be registered now on a national scale.

Asked what they would like to see for the growing profession if they could wave a magic wand, their reply in unison was for a greater awareness at club level – members, committees and green chairmen alike – of the professional qualities involved in caring for such a valuable asset as a golf course - the assets are massive, the recognition should be likewise.

Above all, they enjoy dealing with 'our' profession, expressing the view that it is populated by nice people with nice attitudes. From two nice people with nice attitudes, that's a very comforting statement.

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

SHEFFIELD

A Happy New Year to you all! What a marvellous Christmas dinner we all had at Wortley Golf Club. Our thanks to Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the event and providing the prizes, also to Rigby Taylor's Brian Booth, a very popular trade member whose support for BIGGA is very much appreciated. Thanks also to Barry Henney for arranging the event and presenting us with a superb course (as always), and to Wortley GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course.

Congratulations to all the winners and don't worry, Barry Henney is taking stock of your hard caps!

February Lecture.*

We are again privileged to have Mr Peter Greenough, captain of Brough GC and a member of the R&A Rules Committee, to talk to us on the Rules of Golf. As examples, do you know why you cannot go back to retrieve a forgotten club, or why you cannot start a match anywhere you like, even if you both agree to start on the eighth tee? Please bring your questions for Peter to answer – it will be an evening not to be missed.

March Lecture*

A trip to the GEM Fertiliser factory is planned – limited to 30 greenkeepers. Please contact me on 0298 813374 if you are interested – we are arranging a coach and Gem are providing lunch – please book early.

April Lecture*

Howard Evans, Howard Evans Financial Services, will talk to us about pensions, mortgages or any other financial problems we may have. Howard visited my club recently to advise and arrange pensions for our green staff, and I was very impressed with the professional service he offered. Nothing was too much trouble for him to explain, and we all know how most of us struggle with gobbledegook jargon. Howard is a real credit to the greenkeeping profession if they could wave a

DEVON & CORNWALL

Happy New Year to you all! China Fleet GC was the venue for our AGM, held on Wednesday 11 November. The morning’s golf was a foursome competition for the Toro Trophy, played over China Fleet’s excellent new course. Our non-golfing members were treated to the customary ‘course walk’ by course manager Richard Shapland, who I hear had a few sleepless nights before our meeting. After lunch the prizes for the Toro Trophy were presented by Joe Turner of Lely and Alan Dommett of Devon Garden Machinery: 1st A Woolnough (Teignmouth) & R Whyman (Bude) 29pts. 2nd D Manley (Mullion) & C Miles (DGM) 27pts. 3rd T Farkins (Dartmouth) & G Tamblin (Mullion) 26pts. Our thanks to Joe and Alan for donating and presenting the prizes, also many thanks to Richard Shapland, who had the course in superb condition and to China Fleet GC for allowing us the use of their excellent facilities. The section AGM followed, opened by our chairman, Bill Pile.

Agenda & Minutes

1) Opening of the meeting. B/big approval of last year’s minutes: Proposed by D Parr, seconded by W Potter - Approved.

3) Financial report: the balance sheet showed a slight loss of £15.82 on the previous year, which now stands at £868.63. The approval of the balance sheet was proposed by G Child, seconded by T Pipe - Approved.

4) Secretary’s report: The secretary thanked all members for supporting the section in such large numbers over the past year, also mentioning our two new meeting sponsors: Avoncrop (February) and C.R Willecocks (Guest Day). Thanks were expressed to our main Iseki dealers, Devon Garden Machinery & PJ Flegg, who once again provided breakfast and travel to the 1992 Iseki final.

5) Chairman’s Report: The chairman opened by congratulating Tony Gooch, head greenkeeper at Torrington GC, on being runner-up in the 1992 Toro/PGA Student Greenkeeper of the Year competition. The chairman also congratulated Gordon & Marion Child and the regional board on their continued success of Westurf, which is now the premier turfcare show in the south west. With the success of Westurf, members were offered an excel-

lent package to attend BTME, and this was very well supported. The chairman further reported that membership had passed the 100 mark and asked all members to promote our Association to those greenkeepers who haven’t yet joined. On closing he thanked all our trade members for their continued support.

6) Election of Officers:


ii) Secretary/Regional Board member – R Whyman. Proposed G Child, seconded B Summers – Approved.

iii) Vice-Chairmen. J Mitchell, S Redman and B Summers were all re-elected en block.

iv) Vice-President. A Dommett. Proposed G Child, seconded T Pipe – Approved.

v) Any Other Business – Suggested venues for 93/94 were: Oct: Trehidy. Nov: Torquay. Dec: (AGM) Okehampton. Jan: Fingle Glen (section seminar). Feb: Trevose/Thurlestone/Looe. March: Padbrook. July: Launceston (guest day). B Mitchell asked if the committee could look into a less expensive menu for lunch at meetings, so that some of our younger members could afford to attend. The venue of our Christmas meeting was also raised, as numbers were limited to 80 at Okehampton. After some discussion it was agreed to keep this venue, as Okehampton GC always make us very welcome.

Gordon Child ended by congratulating and thanking the committee and secretary for running section affairs so efficiently.

RICHARD WHYMAN

SOUTH COAST

Our winter lecture programme got off to a good start in November, well attended by both members and guests. Our speaker, Alan Betts from the Forestry Commission, gave an illustrated talk which included details of grants which are available when planting woodlands.

On 3 February our guest speaker is Jim Arthur, who will be talking on ‘Commonsense Greenkeeping’. In view of the expected large audience, the venue will be at the Dorset College of Agric.

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AROUND THE UNION

KENT

It is good to report on the outstanding success of the Emergency First Aid course, held at the Weald of Kent Golf Club on 16 November. Although we had originally allocated 15 places, we had to include two more on the day, and such was the response to our mail shot that another course looks likely in the near future. The course was excellently presented by Mr Ken Bick, Medical Training Services, and was a thoroughly enjoyable way of learning some simple, basic first aid techniques. Such training may save a life. Although we are all now armchair experts on notes and, hopefully, our soon to be awarded certificates, micro surgery and transplant surgery may have a place in the future, but Ken pointed out that we could perhaps try a bit of brain surgery on some of our golf club members, perhaps beginning with those on committee! Those in attendance were impressed by his professionalism, the choice of Kent being an excellent example of what a new and modern golf facility should be when properly thought out and managed.

My personal thanks go to John Roots and David Vidler of Mid-Kent for trying manfully to resuscitate my car at the end of the day, which appeared to have slipped into a comatose condition in the wet and windy parking area. I can report that a 'high powered' back arrived an hour later, not in the shape of a paramedic, but a wet and tired RAC man. Also thanks to the members and staff at the Weald of Kent who made my unexpected stay in the clubhouse so pleasant.

I suppose I can now finally report on how our lone Iski finalista fared in last summer's final at Coventry. It is only fair to say that he fared as well, but this would not be in keeping with the tradition of tall golfsing stories or of Nigel Stapley's equally long excuses. Apparently his problems started when he was out of pocket, got drunk, and was led astray into an evening of excessive merriment and over indulgence by two of our greenkeeping crew. Apparently his problems matured into a real test for golfers, with the natural defence of Kent being an excellent example of what a new and modern golf facility should be when properly thought out and managed.

MID-ANGLIA

The AGM of the Mid Anglia section was held on 25 November at Arkley GC, Barnet. The meeting was preceded by nine holes of golf and 20 members took the opportunity to play this lovely nine hole course. John Hacker of Sports Turf Research and the STRI was again well organised by 'our' man, Roger Willars, with the committee being the man who always gets things right.

After the break John Hacker of Sports Turf Design (NW Ltd) spoke on greens construction, followed by Derek Green, course manager at Royal Birkdale, who presented a well planned organisation that went into the 1992 Curtis Cup, a winning formula if ever I saw one, (and not a mention of Dry Patch, very strange). On behalf of the North Wales section we would like to thank the best speakers for every interesting and educational afternoon.

An important date for your diary is 11 February, when the STRI will be holding a seminar at the Welsh College of Horticulture. Please come and support us and bring along your green chairman or club secretary - all will be most welcome.

Congratulations to P Gabriel (Curzon Park GC), J Cheung (Caldy GC), and A Heslop (Oaklands), all of whom are moving to Cardon Park GC, the latter as deputy head.

Any member requiring further information on section affairs may call me on 0248 713490.

DAVID PROCTOR

The Cleveland AGM was held at Darlington GC on 17 November with 26 members present. The previous year's minutes were read and accepted, these followed by the report of chairman, Harry Lees. The report was of particular interest, since the regional report followed from Ian Holloran, who was exceptionally well for his hard work. Secre- tary and treasurer reports were given by Roger Shanks, chairman, and Martin Price, who always gets the hard work. Roger is a 'worker' and has kindly indicated his willingness to continue in the post, and we wish you all a 'guid new year' to the new officers.

A strong plea was made for all members to seek out friends and contacts, and to bring along your green chairman or club secretary, to come and support us and bring along your green chairman or club secretary. The choice of the Toft Hotel GC as the venue for the Spring Tournament at Verulam, some members taking the opportunity to play this lovely nine hole course. Please help all concerned by returning entry forms on time!

MID ANGLIA

On a personal note, I shall be retiring to home for 1993, so let's hope for a better show for the East of England section members.

A strong plea was made for all members to seek out and encourage many more greenkeepers to join our section of BIGGA, the feeling being that there are still far too many greenkeepers unaware of the benefits of membership - this is in such a strong golfing area.

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Ian McNab on the addition to their family of a son, Duncan Gordon, also good luck to St Nicholas greenkeepers, Donald Kerr and David Shanks, on their sponsored golfing wagon. I need say no more - how it came about and where it was going. At this point we decided to have a break, allowing members and guests to stretch their legs and air their views.

The choice of the Toft Hotel GC as the venue for the Lamb's Lawmower Trophy proved an excellent one. The course, built on farmland in 1970, has matured into a real test for golfers, with the natural contours of this 'anything but flat' part of Lincolnshire having been used to good advantage.

To the owner, Mr Derek Lee, we give our thanks for arranging a very good course, with relaxed layout and playing, and also to Graham Dolan for making the arrange- ments. The evening meal proved to be one of the best we have ever experienced.

Robin Lamb joined us for the golf and presenta- tion of prizes, which went to eighth place. The tro- phy winner was as usual, he had to search for his clubs the night before, it having been so long I wouldn't be able to thank all ours, Roy Harrison from Stoke Rochford proved a popular winner, with the long straggler driving of David Forsyth taking him to second place and Mick Key placing third.

On 25 November the Regional seminar was once again well organised by 'our' man, Roger Willars, and was chaired by our secretary, John Wells. The turn-out from our section was rather poor, with some members taking the view that Warwick is a long way to travel - but my own feel- ings were that the best speakers get better each year and it is an event well worth making the effort to attend. On that score, the talk of is a venue nearer to home for 1993, so let's hope for a better show for the East of England section members.

On a personal note, I shall be retiring from my secretarial post at the section AGM, and I wish you all a 'guid new year' to those who have helped me - sincere thanks.

COLIN SWINGER

CLEVELAND

The Cleveland AGM was held at Darlington GC on 17 November with 26 members present. The previous year's minutes were read and accepted, these followed by the report of chairman, Harry Lees. The report was of particular interest, since the regional report followed from Ian Holloran, who was exceptionally well for his hard work. Secre- tary and treasurer reports were given by Roger Shanks, chairman, and Martin Price, who always gets the hard work. Roger is a 'worker' and has kindly indicated his willingness to continue in the post, and we wish you all a 'guid new year' to the new officers.

George Malcolm proposed a vote of thanks to the section for their support when he received his plaque, presented to Middlesbrough GC, in recogni- tion of George being the first person to enter the club'sgary in allowing George time off work during this term of office as national chairman.

The golf match against the North East section at South Shields GC was keenly fought with the result being won by the North East by a margin of four to one. Thanks to Robert Bell at Slaley for having the course in such beautiful condition and to the club for the courtesy extended to us.

BRUCE BURNELL

NORTH WALES

On a personal note, I shall be retiring to home for 1993, so let's hope for a better show for the East of England section members.

Paul Lockett. Vice Chairman and Match Secretary, Chris Brook. Secretary, Gerald Bruce. Treasurer, John Wells. Committee members, Ronan McKean, Richard Saunders and Stewart Boyes.

Our thanks must surely go to Les Wakerhill, our retiring treasurer, for all his hard work and support that he has given for the last 11 years. For some time, a new accountant has been at work.
themselves. A few changes in competition format are likely in 1993. It was suggested that the Spring Tournament be changed from 18 holes to 36, the Autumn Tournament to 18 holes. The Lodgeway Fourball will be removed from the Autumn Tournament in order that it may be played over a top class course, thus allowing members to watch the final. In the Texas Scramble could be moved from South Beds, as we have played there for the past eight years. If any members can offer their course for the 1993 Autumn Tournament, please contact Gerald of myself so that the matter may be given consideration.

All members should have received a fixture list for 1993. If you are not in receipt of such a list, please contact Gerald.

Finally, the question was posed at the AGM, 'Could more material be included in this column? I would hope so,' said Mr. Brookes, 'I have distributed our section's course ratings to many members which I think would wish to include. Either phone me or, better still, put pen to paper and send contributions to me at 72 Russell Drive, Ampthill, Bedford MK 24 6TP.'

PAUL LOCKETT

SURREY

To begin, I may wish every member a Happy New Year. Please do not forget to pay your BIGGA subscriptions and make a concerted effort to encourage all new members of your staff to join the Association.

We had a very good attendance at our first winter lecture, held at Walton Heath Athletic's club.

The lecture was on 'First Aid on the Golf Course,' given by Neil Harrison of the Ambulance Service.

Neil gave a most interesting lecture with demonstrations of basic first aid skills and resuscitation. Let us hope that all greenkeepers will now go forward to take a full 'Health and Safety First Aid at Work course,' progressing to become recognised 'first-aiders' at their respective clubs.

The next winter lecture is on 14 January at New Zealand Artisans clubhouse; the lecture being given by the company, Envirogreen.

Congratulations to Brian Turner and his lady partner on winning the Worpledon Mixed Four-somes.

If you have any contributions for this column, please contact either Roger Tyden or myself.

DAVID ANDREWS

MIDLANDS

During the winter period we will be running two lectures and a trip to Ransomes, the cost being £20 per person with numbers limited (probably) to twenty. If you would like to go, please contact Ivor Beetlestone on 092682509. Finally, may I wish everyone a prosperous New Year.

DEAN CLEAVER

SOUTH WEST

Who'd be a greenkeeper?... That must have been the question Bob Burkin, head greenkeeper at Bath GC, was asking himself last month.

On Christmas Eve, he was finding the next moment half his staff had left in a week's notice & leave. To make matters worse Bob contracted a nasty cold which led to an almighty Asthma attack, and just when things couldn't possibly get any worse, the South West Section turned up for the Maxwell Hart Autumn Golf Tournament & AGM Beat that! Seriously, we all wish Bob our best for a speedy recovery and hope that his staff problems are soon resolved. It was, by the way, sheer coincidence that the mass exodus took place, and that nothing to do with either Bob or the club.

On to the Tournament... The day dawned fine and bright, but it was not to last and several people, myself included, were completely caught out as the temperature plummeted and the torrential rain arrived. Who'd be a weather forecaster ever, come to that?

Despite the gruesome conditions, there were some very good scores returned, (and some very bad ones) none better than Maurice Pearce, who won with the best score of the day, an almost unbelievably 40 points. The full result was: 1st M Pearce (Wells GC) 40 pts. 2nd N Wilson (Filton GC) 39 pts. 3rd D Eves (Painswick GC) 36 pts. 4th C Gudge (Tracy Park GC) 35 pts.

Many thanks to Bath GC for their hospitality, to the stewards who looked after us so well and to all the companies that so generously donated prizes. Our major sponsor of the day was Maxwell Hart, other sponsors being Avoncrom Acapony, Rofy Bres, Rigby Taylor, County Mowers of Witney and ICI Professional Products. Thanks to all you.

At the AGM the election of officers was as fol-lows: Chairman, John York. Vice Chairman, Peter Cook. Secretary, Ray Matthews. Treasurer, Brian Turner. A Question Panel of which one member from each section, a Mr. K Teasdale is not in the best of health at the moment, and was suffering from whiplash and a cut head. I enquired if the car was badly damaged, to which he replied 'No, I was jogging at the time.' I think Bill had better take notice of 'give way' signs in future.

The section AGM was held at Renfrew GC on 2 December, running smoothly under new chairman Drew McKeachie (Douglas Park GC), who handled his first task quite admirably. Also held at Renfrew GC was a course rating evening, in the shape of a slide show and talk given by Bill Mitchell of the Renfrewshire Golf Union. - thanks Bill, for a very informative evening.

Cecil George, our education administrator, has arranged several winter seminars, of which there will have already taken place, e.g. A Question Panel at Langside College on 30 November, with students from Langside College firing questions at a panel of experts, with one speaker giving a talk on 'The War of 1812.' On 1 December a talk was given by Paul Miller, assistant agronomist with Souters of Sterling, on 'Sportground Drainage.' On 26 January a talk will be given by, Ian Bridges of Jacobsen on 'Suppliers Turf Equipment,' and on 23 February the ICI representative, David Morrison, will discuss 'Development of Environmental Management in the Sportsturf Industry, both these to be staged at Langside College.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who has supported the section throughout 1992. - I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for 1993.

GORDON KERR

NORTH WEST

The North West AGM, held at Bury GC on 25 November, was well attended with 28 members present. The evening began with a talk given by Clive Heegbesth who has been researching the aspects of 'Turf Nutrition and Diseases.' This was very well presented, with slides and plenty of good sound advice, followed by a question time that might have gone on all night if time had allowed. I thank Clive for his time and advice.

Following some light refreshments, the AGM took place. In addition to the full committee being re-elected for a further year, two members were voted on to committee, the full committee complement for the NW being: Chairman, W Mer-ritt; Vice Chairman, P Pearse, Secretary, B Cross, Treasurer, B Wrench. In attendance, Ian Bridges of Jacobsen on 'Suppliers Turf Equipment,' and on 23 February the ICI representative, David Morrison, will discuss 'Development of Environmental Management in the Sportsturf Industry, both these to be staged at Langside College.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who has supported the section throughout 1992. - I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for 1993.

GORDON KERR

NORTH SCOTLAND

The section's autumn outing was held at Hagg's Castle GC on 23 September. It must be a true say-ing that the suns shines on the righteous, for this must have been the first dry sunny day for a month (that guy St Swithen has a lot to answer for) and it is for that reason that a special vote of thanks must go to the course manager, John Crawford, for hav-ing the course in such good 'nick.' Thanks also to Hagg's Castle GC for the courtesy of their course and their secretary, Mr. N Potter; S Harthorn; H McAdiey and C Sheehan.

Finally, the next lecture, on Wednesday 20 January at 7pm, will be given by Pat Murphy, the Northern Scotland secretary, on 'Some Aspects of Conservation of a Green.' In addition, Anthony Wilde of Acre Landscapes will talk on 'Trees for Golf Courses.' Please make every effort to attend.

I am convinced of days that were lost to Bob Burkin, the NW chairman, to arrange transport to Bury GC. He told me that he would be going but would have to travel in his car, as he had run into a 'give way' sign and was forced to stop and cut the head. I enquired if the car was badly damaged, and he replied 'No, I was jogging at the time.' I think Bill had better take notice of 'give way' signs in future.

I have been informed that Graham Teasdale is not in the best of health at the moment, so we send him our best wishes for a speedy recovery and hope that his news, views or ideas - please contact me on 051 724 5412.

BERT CROSS

NORTH SCOTLAND

Fourteen months of meetings, correspon—

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began - the day was a great success. Almost 150 fruition with the staging of our one day conference Theatre to listen to some really excellent speakers, at Dundee College. Despite one or two hiccups - Shiel's withdrawal due to his wife's hip injury - it was like having an International player on the 'suds' bench! We wish Eric's wife a speedy recovery and hope that Eric will address us at a future conference.

Alasdair McLaren and Sam Morrison ably chaired the proceedings, while Sam Blair and especially Graham Carr kept things running smoothly on the college side.

Thanks also to David Goldberg, for not only did he address the conference but also closed the festivities - I hope by this time, David, that the 'Frenchman' has settled in. Finally, heartfelt thanks to our generous sponsors, M&M Turf Products, CSC Amenity and Scottish Grass Machinery, without their assistance the day would not have been a success.

We welcome our first new member in 1993, Simon Beeke of Beeke Grass Machinery, Arbroath, who joins us as an Associate.

Following an earlier story concerning the new course at Skibo Castle, Alick MacKay has left Boat of Garten and joined Skibo Castle as head greenkeeper - we wish him success, knowing that work on the course is to be resumed in February, with the rest of the fairways being shaped and seeded in the spring and tees and greens to be turfed. In addition, a rabbit protection fence has been installed around the whole perimeter, a must for this area. Alan Dobie, previously assistant at Boat of Garten, has returned as head greenkeeper and, like Alick, we wish him success in his new job.

I hope Ian Carson is settling down in mainland life and wish him and his wife every good fortune.

IAN MacLEOD

AROUND THE GREEN

BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

The Turkey Trot took place at Frilford Heath on 2 December, with the following players in the winning frame: 1st John Scoones, 40 pts (The John Deere Trophy + voucher for £25 from CMF); 2nd Dave Goodchild, 40 pts. 3rd John Teixeira, 33 pts.

Our sincere thanks to secretary Jacques Kleyhans, to the catering staff for a superb meal and, of course, to Dave Heads and his staff for a wonderfully presented course - yet again! In addition, our gratitude to Bernie Hall of Sta-Brite and Roger Bowles of Rigby Taylor for official scoring efficiency and to Richard from Parkers, Mark and his gang from Esherbo' Turf and Mike Moss from CMF. The Rigby Taylor Fourball was normally an exciting and enjoyable day at Frilford was marred by the unfortunate involvement of semi-finalists John Teixeira and Peter Austin in a motor accident Luckily they were not seriously hurt, but they were unable to take part in their match. This lead to a few headaches for Roger, but as usual he managed to sort things out and the rest of the day progressed with ease.

The semi-finalists were J Nudds & S Howood, D Childs & D Goodchild, S Edwards and P Wright, J Teixeira & P Austin. Much interest was taken, with the aforementioned accident giving Edwards and Wright automatic victory. In match two Nudds and Howood won 2½ against Childs and Goodchild. Thus the final was played: Nudds and Howood versus Edwards and Wright.

The match itself finished in splendid style with John Nudds producing a fine final shot to win, this after being all square at seventeen. Everyone present enjoyed another great day of match play and for this our thanks go to Rigby Taylor, our much appreciated and generous sponsors, especially when considering the difficult times experienced at the moment. Our thanks also to Roger Bowles, who worked tirelessly to make it all happen, especially as he had one or two scares along the way. Finally, to all our friends at Frilford Heath for again making us welcome.

It is the time of year when ideas are needed for possible winter lectures. If you have any, please talk to Mark Chesman on 0734 313479.

Members should have received details of the 1993 programme of lectures, all of which will again be held at Sonning GC. I hope to see all of you in attendance, especially the younger and less experienced greenkeepers - if you require further information please let me know.

If anyone is interested in visiting BTME '93 at Harrogate we are going to run a minibus. Please let me know - it's not too early and we will see what can be arranged (e.g. days and times, according to demand).

The Gentlemen's Dinner will again be staged in March - watch this column for details or call me, Ray Clark, on 0628 829208. Congratulations to Risborough Turf on becoming Gold Key members, contributing to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund. This is an extension of the support they already show for the BBO section and we look forward to welcoming Mark, Peter and Jim to our functions in 1993.

RAY CLARK

EAST SCOTLAND

The annual skittles event took place on 6 November at the Silver Wing, Edinburgh and proved to be another great night. A similar event is planned for early in the year at the same venue.

The East Scotland AGM, took place at Kingsknowe GC on 25 November, with a larger turn-out than usual. Before the start of the meeting chairman Mr C Yeaman asked that a minute of silence be observed in memory of those who had passed away so suddenly during 1992: Mrs W Blair, Mrs D Herd, Mr G Dollochin and Mr W Shepherd.

Various relevant questions were asked at the AGM and these were dealt with by the chairman in his usual confident way. Needless to say, the committee was given a total vote of confidence by the members and was re-elected en block.

The year of 1993 looks to be every bit as busy as last year with my diary filling up already: I have the BTME at Harrogate in January; the secretaries outing at Aldwark Manor in February; The Scottish Seminar at Oatridge in March, followed by the National AGM at York. I also am still involved in the setting up of the British Tournament to be held at Dunbar in August, plus working toward the success of all of these tournaments.

Here are some of the dates for section golfing events: Tuesday 6 April, Spring outing to Sea- houses GC, (a coach will be organized for this); The Autumn Tournament will be held at Nairn GC, on Tuesday 14 September and the W. Woods Tournament at Dunbar on 19 October. No Summer Tournament will be held this year due to the BIGGA Championship being held in the East. A full list of section events will be sent to all members.

One thing more - please ensure that your subscriptions are paid on time. They are due at the end of this month and if you don't pay them on time, you will lose your membership and to pass on the good news to those who are not yet members.

WILLIE BLAIR

COMING UP

January 18-22: BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
January 23-30: GCSSA Show, Anaheim, California, USA
March 9: BIGGA Scottish Region Conference, St Andrews College, St Andrews
March 26-28: BIGGA National Education Conference, University of Keele, Staffordshire
April 21: BIGGA Annual General Meeting, Royal York Hotel, York
April 28: Westbury 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 15-18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, Kent
August 2-4: BIGGA National Golf Tournament, Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland
August 16-18: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA
September 7-9: IoS Show, Peterborough, Northants
September 24-26: Ryder Cup, The Bellboy, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire
October 11-12: Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor, York

WILLIE BLAIR

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