NORTHERN

Our lecture season has now finished and it was pleasing to see so many of our members attending. I trust you all found the presentations interesting and informative, whilst also enjoyed yourselves. Not many BIGGA members attended the quiz night, staged with our colleagues from the IoG, in fact it turned out to be a solo performance with Alan Gamble attending in isolation. I couldn't attend personally as I was at a secretaries meeting at Aldwark Manor, though Alan tells me he had a fine evening and did very well in the quiz. Thanks Alan, for waving the section flag.

Golf events are filling up quickly so don't delay in booking: £10.00 deposit to me at 49 Cornwall Road, Gilseate, Bingley, W. Yorkshire BD16 4RL. If you have not yet received information of our 1993 golf programme, please 'phone me on 0274 568128 and I shall endeavour to put it right.

Our friends in the trade are again being very generous, with Rocol Easyline Paints sponsoring our last mail-shot, Yorkshire Mowers again sponsoring our Invitation Day, Pattisons the Roses Match and Chaplins our Autumn Tournament. Many thanks to you all, it is greatly appreciated. The annual dinner took place at Shipley GC on Thursday 19 March with some 70 members and friends attended, enjoying a first class meal and top rate entertainment. My thanks to those who helped make the night such a huge success.

As stated, our winter lecture series is over, the last being the Lloyds Workshop held at the STRI. I must thank Derrick Coad and his colleague Stan Duncan for presenting the workshop – very interesting with many pertinent questions answered. Thanks also to the STRI for the use of their premises at short notice.

Michael Lealman has become head greenkeeper at a new course being built near York, named the Forest of Galtres. We wish you well, Michael. It is with deep regret that I have to inform you that Ken Scruton, father of Gary Scruton of Greenkeeping Services, has passed away after a long illness. Condolences to his wife Mildred, and to Gary.

Are there any members who would like to attend a public speaking course and perhaps speak at BTME Harrogate, or even at the National Education Conference? Please contact me for further details.

PAT MURPHY

AYRSHIRE

The first draw for the 200 Club, drawn at the Spring Meeting, means that results are not yet to hand as I write this in late March. However, winners will be announced in the next issue.

The Ayrshire Autumn Meeting will be held on 28 September at Old Preston GC, which should prove an excellent outing over this tremendous course. Also confirmed is a trip to the Stewarts of Edinburgh Turf Farm, for which a bus will be provided. This also should prove well worth while, for only today (Mar 31), Alan Miller told me that the recent weather had caused some of their newer turf to be literally blown away. They experienced very strong winds and with the ground being so dry the surface just disintegrated.

On the course maintenance side we are all busy with deep regret that I have to inform you that Ken Scruton, father of Gary Scruton of Greenkeeping Services, has passed away after a long illness. Condolences to his wife Mildred, and to Gary.

Finally, would players in the Huxley Bowl try to play their matches promptly in order to keep the competition moving ahead throughout the summer.

ROGER TYDEMAN

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SURREY

‘No news is good news’ is a saying which often proves an excellent outing over this tremendous course. Also confirmed is a trip to the Stewarts of Edinburgh Turf Farm, for which a bus will be provided. This also should prove well worth while, for only today (Mar 31), Alan Miller told me that the recent weather had caused some of their newer turf to be literally blown away. They experienced very strong winds and with the ground being so dry the surface just disintegrated.

Keep in touch with news and comment from the regions
get our courses into immaculate order and
shortly I am preparing for the Scottish Boys
Championship at the beginning of April. Imagine,
right now I am preparing for the Scottish Boys
preparation for the Scottish Boys

CLEVELAND
Guy Longshaw gave a talk to our section on natu-
ral growth activators based on bacteria and fungi,
which it is claimed will break down thatch into
nutrients, thus reducing the need for nitrate fer-
lisation. Some interesting information was dis-
played, but again, as last year, our American col-
laborator, Dennis Archer, who in the near future
will (I hope) see a large attendance at Clevedon GC
for the

DEVON & CORNWALL
The section's meeting was held at Wood-
bury Park GC, Exeter, on Thursday 10 March,
afternoon talk taking place at the Kings Arms, Ottery.
Both venues are owned by the Carter family. Jeff Mills
and his staff had the course in splendid condition and it
was a pleasure to play our golf tournament over such a
well designed new course.

Our golf comprised three competitions: The Supa-
turf Trophy for head greenkeepers & trade, the
Incorporating the Hayter Challenge Trophy for
section's qualifier for the new Hayter Challenge
Tournament. The results were: Supa-Turf Trophy
1st A Ramsden (Budock Vean) 35pts 2nd L Millar
(Warren Mill, Camborne) 34pts 3rd J Mitchell (Perranporth) 35pts second and A James (Budeck Vean) 35 pts third.

Qualifiers for the regional final of the Hayter Challenge Tournament to be held at Clevedon GC, Bristol on Friday 11 June are: (0-9) J Mitchell, A Ramsden, L Millar, J Mitchell, S Mitchell, M Scott, J James, R Whyman, A Woolsnough, B Ridgeway, E Barber, B Lever and W Potter. (19-28) M Scott, A James, D Parr, N MacIntyre and C Browning. Congratulations.

The section offers thanks to John Patfrey of Avonbase for presenting the Supa-Turf prizes and to Paul Clifton of Rhone Poulen for donating and presenting the HAYTER Challenge Trophy.

Following lunch our educational talk was pre-

presented by Herbie Aarons on 'Golf Rules and Eti-

ture' with which we could all identify. I

looking at the use of their facilities for our winter
lectures, also head greenkeeper Dave Berry for organising the buffet on each occasion.

Have any news to report? Why not contact me on 051 724 5412.

NORTH SCOTLAND
A welcome to Iain Bell who moves into the area as first assistant to Alan Dobbie at Boat of Garten. Iain has come up from Duddingston GC, Edinburgh. He is also welcomed to the area by John Morrison and Michael Nicol of Huntly and David Henderson of Bonar Bridge and Ardery GC. David's club is currently a nine-hole layout midway through building and in the past year they purchased some land adjacent to the course and I understand will soon begin construct-
ing twelve new holes to go with six of those exist-
ing. It is an ambitious plan but as they will be doing to much of the work themselves, raising funds through various ventures and obtaining grants from the region etc. We wish them every success and look forward to playing the new course in the future.

What with Bonar, the new course at Skibo and the upgrading of the Struie course at Dornoch we are certainly going to have plenty of variety for golf in the Dornoch Firth in the near future. Work has begun again on the Carnegie Course at Skibo. Over the winter Alex and his assistant Stuart Scur have been putting in new fairway bunkers and cutting back bushes for the contractors. I plan to go over sometime to see the progress being made. Perhaps I will see you there?

This month sees our Spring Meeting staged at Murcar Golf Club, Aberdeen and I hope to see a large turn-out of members. Chris Pearson is in charge and I'm sure he'll have the course well pre-
pared for us. A forward date for your diaries is November 23 when we will have our AGM at Nairn Dunbar. I am hoping to arrange a tour around the three new holes to see how they are coming along with (maybe) a talk by the constructors. Finally, if anyone has any news which they would like to see in Around the Green, please call me on 0662 894402.

SOUTH WALES
The last talk in our winter lecture programme was held on 10 March, with Huw Morgan discussing 'Spring Preparation at Southerndown Golf Club', his last presentation as a member of the South Wales section. I trust he will now join the Kent section of BIGGA. Our 15 April Spring Competition held at Southerndown Golf Club, on the same night - kicking off at the same time as our

angling back fighting.

PETER LACEY

SOUTH WEST
Hotfoot back from the conference at Keele, I must again report on very high standards all round. A very professional show from the Association, its officials, CTC education director, Dennis Archer, who in the near future will be re-admitted to hospital for a series of operations – come back fighting, Dennis!
Two of the best performers on the circuit

For an information pack contact:

CLAYMORE

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Telephone: 0789 778255

AROUND THE GREEN

45  overestimated: the Environmental Health Officers are on the move.

COSHH Assessments are also still available from our resident expert, Mr. Noel Stevens. This service can be arranged through me, or by contacting Noel direct on 0452 526111.

In the meantime, I’ll wish you a successful summer of greenkeeping, and look forward to seeing many of you at Enmore Park on 6 July.

PAUL WORSTER

NORTH EAST

On 24 March section members were invited by Abcon Top Dress Supplies to visit their plant and witness production of their top dressings. A full tour of the plant, under the guidance of Alan Taylor and his son Gavin, gave us a full run-down on the process from start to finish – and the ten greenkeepers who attended were most impressed by it all. Our sincere thanks to Abcon for providing a most enlightening tour, an excellent buffet lunch, and to everyone on their staff for ensuring that we had an enjoyable day.

Congratulations to Brian Hughes, assistant greenkeeper at Whickham GC, on becoming the proud father of a baby daughter.

JIMMY RICHARDSON

MIDLANDS

During February a group of our members visited Ransomes factory in Ipswich, where they were shown around and were able to see how machinery is designed – from raw steel to design and through to assembly. The section would like to thank both Ransomes and ET Breakwell for sponsoring the day visit and for entertaining us so well.

On 26 March we held our final lecture of the winter series at Telford Country Club. Subjects covered were Jacobsen machinery and its maintenance, and Envirogreen and how it works. Both subjects prompted good discussion and made for an enjoyable afternoon. The section extends thanks to both Jacobsen and Envirogreen and especially to Oakley’s, who provided refreshments and also a prize for the informal golf played in the morning. On a personal note thanks to Ivan Beeston, who did a fine job in organising the lectures during the winter.

The Summer Tournament is to be held at Kidderminster GC on Thursday 17 June with entries due in by 17 May. Anyone wishing to play but without an entry form may contact me on 0789 762912.

DEAN CLEAVER

MIDLANDS REGION - RYDER CUP 1993

Derek Ganning, course manager at The Belfry, has requested the help of a support team during the Ryder Cup, to be held over 24-26 September. A total of 24 members are required to assist from 20-26 September and though you’ll get to see something of the action at this world-class match, unfortunately no accommodation is available. Anyone interested in attending should contact Dean Cleaver on 0789 762912.

COMING UP

May 25-30: Amateur Championship, Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland
June 9-10: Landscape Industries ‘93, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
July 5-8: Royal Show, NAC, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire
July 15-18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, Kent
July 18-24: International Turfgrass Research Conference, Palm Beach, Florida, USA
August 2-4: BIGGA National Golf Tournament, Dunbar Golf Club, Scotland
August 18-19: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA
September 7-9: Boj Show, Peterborough, Northants
September 24-26: Ryder Cup, The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire