**South Coast**

The recent seminar at Sparsholt College was excellent being both well supported and of good information value. The speakers included Arthur King of the EGU, David Golding, Education Officer of the GTC, John Pierson and George Shields.

Our spring tournament was held at Covehampton GC on April 10. Played in delightful spring sunshine the 36 hole Hayter Qualifier was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Mark Webb for running the event.


We are grateful to our sponsors and Covehampton Golf Club for their support of this event. Also to the sponsors of the Sparsholt College seminar.

It is encouraging to note that membership of the section continues to grow rapidly.

BOB CULLY

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**Cleveland**

Head Greenkeeper, Barry Lee, tells us that the new six holes at Chester-Le-Street were officially opened on April 1 by the Earl of Scarborough.

The first part of the March meeting was taken by Ian Webster from Houghall College in Durham and was on the National Vocational Qualification which has been introduced bringing about common standards in the assessment of task, knowledge evidence and equipment presentation.

NVQ is achievable without going to college as creditation is given for prior learning. Assessment at work by Head or first assistant, who must be a qualified assessor.

To qualify to be an assessor we must attend a D32 Creditation Centre of Learning, or at Houghall College. No experience is necessary; there is one day of training a year and your expenses will be refunded. I would like to thank Tony Laurence, Secretary/Manager and the Wilmslow committee for allowing us courtesy of the course and also Mrs Chason for a great lunch and evening meal.

Results: Best Gross, Paul Pearse; Best Nett, Mark Broughan; Veterans, Bert Cross.

The prizes went down to 13th nett thanks to the support of the following companies: Acorn Supplies, Cheshire Sand and Top Dressing, Henry Royle Ltd, Turner Groundcare, Sisis, Grow, High Speed Lubricants, Cheshire Light Tractors, Martin Bros, Strike Top Turf.

Your support is always appreciated.

Incidently the 13th place was won by Arthur Moorhouse and the prize was an edging iron and a rake so I can assume that the bunkers will be in great condition at Didsbury GC when we play the autumn tournament there in September.

The spring tournament was also a qualifier for the Hayter regional final to be play on July 6.


If any of the above can't make it can they please contact me as soon as possible.

A special thanks to Risboro' Turf, Sta-Brite, CMW, Parkers, Standard Golf and Rigby Taylor for supporting the event.

Thanks also to Bill Lynch of BBGA for a lively after dinnerdiscussion.

Finally thanks to my playing partners Geoff and Mark for putting up with my boring golf (straight down the middle!). The next golf event is at Blue Mountain on July 5. See you all there. Anyone with points of view should contact me on 01491 578147.

Football results to be printed next month.

LINDSAY T. ANDERSON

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**Bucks, Berks and Oxon**

The season's first golf event took place at Beaconsfield on April 5. However the turnout was less than expected with 25 entries including some trade members. From a membership of 250 this is poor. I have to say that it is very disappointing for everybody involved especially to trade members who provide excellent prizes for the events. So come on, let's make an effort for the remaining events of the season.

None of the people who did play had a cracking day's golf on a superb course. An extra incentive to play was the chance to play in the Hayter Beaver Regional final. It's not the easiest event to host being so early in the season (a greenkeeper's nightmare) so thanks to Bill and his staff for presenting the course in excellent condition. Judging by the scores there were plenty of putts held on the fast greens.

Results:


The wooden spoon was won by Andy Goodall - apparently he collects them. Ha! Ha! Only kidding Andy.

The following players qualified for the Hayter Beaver Regional final to be play on July 6.


If any of the above can't make it can they please contact me as soon as possible.

A special thanks to Risboro' Turf, Sta-Brite, CMW, Parkers, Standard Golf and Rigby Taylor for supporting the event.

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Football results to be printed next month.

LINDSAY T. ANDERSON

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**North West**

Our spring tournament, held at Wilmslow GC on April 13, was attended by 38 greenkeepers and eight guests who, according to their comments, enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The course, built in 1889 and the second oldest in Cheshire, was in beautiful condition thanks to Steve Oultram and his staff. Steve said that the course was covered in frost when they arrived for work and had to wait sometime before they could cut the greens.

I would like to thank Tony Laurence, Secretary/Manager and the Wilmslow committee for allowing us courtesy of the course and also Mrs Chason for a great lunch and evening meal.

Results:

Best Gross, Paul Pearse; Best Nett, Mark Broughan; Veterans, Bert Cross.

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Incidently the 13th place was won by Arthur Moorhouse and the prize was an edging iron and a rake so I can assume that the bunkers will be in great condition at Didsbury GC when we play the autumn tournament there in September.

The spring tournament was also a qualifier for the Hayter regional final on the qualifiers are.

Cat 1. P. Pearce, C. Hulme, B. Merritt.

Cat 2. M. Broughton, P. Harley, T. Manning.

Cat 3. S. Mosley, N. Berry, J. Fitzgerald.

The regional final will be played at Middlesborough on July 4 and I wish you all good luck.

The next tournament will be the summer meeting at Hazel Grove GC on July 17. All entries to be sent to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynton, Stockport SK12 1HX Tel: 01625 859258 with a deposit of £10 not later than July 12. Lunch will be served between 12-1pm and tee times are from 1-1.30pm. Tee times will be allocated on the day.

On a more serious note, approximately 120 members North West members have not renewed their membership for 1995 so if you are reading these notes in someone else's magazine, get your subs paid and read your own magazine. The whole membership package is value for money. Finally any queries or problems ring me of 0151 724 5412.

BERT CROSS

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**Northern**

The first of this year's tournaments got under way on April 12 – the Hayter's qualifier. We could not have wished for better weather. It was as if summer had arrived early at Hesle GC.

Results:


I would like to thank all the sponsors for their support for our event. They were: Hayter, Martin Bros, Trident and Rhône Poulenc. Many thanks once again. I would also like to thank the green staff and catering staff of Hesle GC for making it such an excellent day.

I have been asked to inform you about two members who have recently moved to different

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**Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions**

**EVENTS DIARY**

June 21: South Turf, Mottspur Park, South West London

July 20-23: The Open Championship, St Andrews

July 31-August 2: National Tournament, St Annes Old Links Golf Club, Lytham

September 13-14: Hayter Challenger Tournament Final, West Lancashire Golf Club, Blundellands

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**Around the Green**

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courses. John Waite has left Temple Newsome to take over as Head Greenkeeper at Scaringheall near Tadcaster and Andrew Flemmings has taken over as Head Greenkeeper at Ferry Lane. John Heaton has taken over Andrew's position of assistant head at Ferry Lane. I would like to wish them all the best for the future.

Our next golf competition is President's Day at Woodhall Hills GC on June 8 at 2pm. Please contact me as soon as possible if you would like to take part. Tel 01274 601195.

MARCUS CORDINGLEY

London

The Hayter qualifier was held at Sudbury GC in April. The weather was excellent and the course was in fine shape. I would like to thank Jeff Raison and staff for preparing the course for our first event of the year. As we all know, growing conditions have not been favourable since the start of the year and the course was a credit to Jeff.

The overall winner was Chris Carpenter with an excellent score and he also managed to win the nearest the pin. The qualifiers for the next round are as follows:


The longest drive prize was won by Nick Sher-
ris on the 18th hole.

I would like to thank Sudbury GC for allowing us to use the facilities and a special thank you to the catering and bar staff for looking after us so well. I would also like to thank the club Captain Mr Mark Braizer for presenting the prizes, the General Manager Mr Alec Poole and the Green Chairman Mr Graham Jones who all joined us for the day. It was nice to see such enthusiasm from club officials and we thank you for taking the time to join us. I would also like to thank the trade for its support and, in particular, Dennis Smith for acting as starter.

Any information regarding forthcoming events can be obtained by Don Wilson or myself. Please remember to keep me informed of any news which could be used in the magazine. Contact Don Wilson on 0181 440 5361 or me on 0181 959 5629.

TONY DUNSTAN

North Wales

Our Hayter qualifier took place at Abergelle & Pensarn GC on April 19.

A total of 94 competitors took part and it was fortunate that it will be the excellent condition of the course that the day will be remembered by and not the bad weather that members and their guests had to put up with.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to making the day such a success – the staff of Abergelle and Pensarn, the members and guests, who took part and all the sponsors who donated prizes.

The nine who qualified will be given the opportunity to go forward to the next round which will be held at Middlesbrough Municipal on July 4.

The winners were: P. Valentine, D. Davies, J. Hughes, K. Jones, R. Walker, K. Jones, H. Jones, J. L. Jones and P. Davies.

TP EVANS (Competition secretary)

Devon and Cornwall

As Chairman of our Region I would like to express the region's gratitude and congratulations to Gordon and Marion Churchill who organised and ran this year's Westurf trade show superbly. Also on behalf of all the members in our region I would like to thank all the companies which took trade stands at the show. The success of Westurf is vital to our region, so we are able to continue our commitment to greencare education.

As you read this article I will be putting the fin-
ishing touches to our fixture card for the forthcoming winter programme which should be with you shortly – once again our cards will be spon-
sored by Devon Garden Machinery. Before our winter programme gets underway members will have the opportunity, by kind permission of Mike Duval of WBB, to visit its sand works at Corn-
wood Quarry near Plymouth on September 27. Numbers are limited to the first 20. The agenda for the day is as follows:

9.30am-1pm. Visit Cornwood quarry sand plant, workshops and clay processing plant. 1pm-2pm. Lunch at Cornwood Inn provided by WBB. 2.315pm to 3.15pm. Visit Shaugh quarry sand plant. 3.30pm. Depar.

If you would like to attend and see behind the scenes please contact me as soon as possible to avoid disappointment Tel: 01288 353438.

In conclusion a reminder to all our Cornish members that the day will be remembered by the course that the day will be remembered by the weather which was probably the reason for some absences the show again proved successful thanks to the meticulous prepa-
raton from Gordon and Marion Churchill. Thanks also to everyone who performed, the see the score contributed both, during and after the day.

It was to Bowood Golf and Country Club on April 6 that we gathered for this year's Hayter Qualifying competition. This young course con-
structed on land owned by Lord Shelburne holds enormous potential on reaching full maturity and was beautifully green and there were good turn out. On the subject of dates you should all have received a fixture card for 95 sponsored by P. Tuckwell/John Deere. If you have not received one and you are a member of the East Anglia section please contact Dave Wells and I am sure he will get one in the post to you.

Geoff Shelton became a father before Christmas and wife Yvonne and daughter Alice are both well. Another new arrival is William, the latest offspring of Andrew Cooke, also born just before Christmas.

Welcome to John Shurbury of Bury St Edmonds who has recently joined BIGGA.

Our next meeting will be June 6 at the Warren GC for the "P. Tuckwell Cup" and "Spring Challenge" unfortunately coincides with the Hayter Challenge but I am sure we will have a good out. On the subject of dates you should all have received a fixture card for 95 sponsored by P. Tuckwell/John Deere. If you have not received one and if you are a member of the East Anglia section please contact Dave Wells and I am sure he will get one in the post to you.

Finally Turf Actant is looking to hold a seminar meeting followed by a cricket match in early August. Anybody interested in either of these events please contact Edward Clarkson of Turf Actant for further details.

STEPHEN MILLARD

Midland

As we are getting the courses ready for a busy season ahead, some sad news has been received here. Richard Clarke, Course Manager of Trenneth Park GC has died suddenly. May we all send our sincere condolences to his family and friends, from all at the Midland section.

The first round of the Midland GC golf championship was held at Kenilworth GC, on April 26. Twenty-four greenkeepers and seven trade members played.

The weather was a trite windy, with the north easterly wind chilling us in the morning but the sunshine in the afternoon gave us a little warmth welcome. This was to reflect in my golf, being a little poor am and average pm. Mind you, I needed some of the trees pruning around the semi-rough, with my ball finding them a magnetic force!

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Around the Green

the series with nearly 40.

The recent South Wales Seminar “Mechani-
nation on the Golf Course” held at the St Mary's Golf and Country Club was well attended.

Despite a few minor hiccups early on the day
we got off to a grand start with Howard Storey of John Deere UK Ltd giving a very informative talk on “Maintenance Vehicle v Compact Tractor”. Howard’s presentation was based on an unbiased view in selecting the right machine for the job – castings, purchase options etc.

John Deere tries to bring us six new products every year and we at the seminar were in the privileged position of being the very first in the UK to view the new John Deere 1200 A bunker rake.

Greenkeeping Support is still required for the Walker Cup to be played at Royal Port-
cawl on September 9-10. Anyone available
and willing to help over the period Septem-
ber 6-10 or part of that time should contact Peter Lacey, telephone: 01792 239323.

John Turner of Toro Lely UK Ltd followed on with his lecture “Developments in Fairway Mowers”. Joe took every one on a trip back through time and the history behind the birth of fairway mowers from the first horse drawn to the first motorised gangs – claimed to be Toro – up to today’s ultra modern marvels such as the Reelmaster 5100 with “ACE” Automated Controlled Electronics – a diagnostic computer which not only controls relaspeed ensuring cuts per yards but also registers faults and errors.

After lunch Paul Watson of Ransomes Slms and Jefferies Ltd made his presentation “Diesel v Petrol v Electric Mowers”, a fitting title for the only company which at present makes all three types of ride on mowers. The E Flex all electric greens ride on mower is causing quite a sensation at the moment and Ransomes claims that it cuts running costs by up to 50%. Also the newly launched G Flex range, that Ransomes claims to have developed in consultation with greenkeepers.

Lastly a sincere thanks to Keith Morgan, our local Jacobsen dealer, who came to the rescue
when Paul Withers of Jacobsen UK Ltd, could not attend as a result of circumstances beyond his control.

Keith delivered Phil’s excellent lecture “Triplex Mowers v Pedestrian Mowers” admirably and amusingly. Again the presentation was packed with technical information, facts and figures. Did you know that in 1832 the first cylinder mower
was Gerwyn Price of Maesteg GC.

Another congratulations, albeit for something
entirely different, to David Gladwin who com-
pleted the London Marathon in a time of four hours and 20 minutes – despite taking more than 20 minutes to cross the start line.

Lastly, thank God I hear you cry, (I don’t think I’ve written such a long report) our good wishes to the Richardson family of Cefn Golleu Farm, Three Crosses, Gower on the opening of their new venture – the Gower Golf Course this summer. The 140 acre course has splendid views overlooking the Loughor estuary, Carmathen Bay and the Black Mountains. It was designed by Don-
ald Steel and is looked after by former Morriston Head greenkeeper Steve Mills.

PETER LACEY

Mid Anglia

Royston GC was the venue for our first tournament of the year – a 36 hole event. An 18 hole medal was played in the morning, which was the venue for the Hagley Trophy qualifying tournament, followed by an 18 hole Stableford in the afternoon for those who were up to it!

The course was in fine condition for so early in the year and our thanks go to Tim McCreadie and all his staff. Thanks to Royston GC for the cour-
testy of the course and hope after us so well on the day. Rigby Taylors was once again the sponsor so thanks to Rodger Bowles for providing the prizes and to all the other companies which supported the event in which 45 golfers took part.

Results:

Monday Round:

1. P. Briars, Chessfield Downs, 68; 2. D. Cole-
man, Leighton Buzzard, 69; 3. S. Cherry, Woburn, 69

Afternoon Round:


Nearest the Pin was won by P. Judd, Bucking-
ham, and the Longest Drive by A. Grew, Berkhamsted. The Trade Prize went to C. Ayers, Lodgeway Tractors, with 39 points.

The Regional Final of the Hayter-Bower
was contested by all those who were up to it!

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tournament, followed by an 18 hole Stableford in the afternoon for those who were up to it!
the first football match between Central and West sections was held at Dalgety Bay Sports Centre. Honours were shared with West scoring with the very last kick of the game to tie the score at 4 all. The Central team was selected on the day with all shapes and sizes forming a formidable outfit. Ian Membises and Kevin Brunton made up the back four (there wasn’t room for anyone else) with some young talent up front.

The match was played in great spirit (not the liquid kind) and everyone enjoyed themselves with not a cross word being heard – until that last goal went in!

The return match was played at the all weather pitch at Ibrox on March 20 and a very even game was expected. Unfortunately due to some late call-offs by our top players we were left with our young colts to do their utmost. Playing into a very strong wind (almost too strong to spray) we quickly went two goals down but we improved when playing with the wind and only conceded one more goal. West were therefore comfortable winners at 3-0 so well done to them and bring on the next challengers.

Membership of the section is still increasing at a steady rate and we extend a warm welcome to everyone who contributed to the prize table.

Results:
Best scratch. D. McAllister, Ladybank, 72
Best nett. A. Wallace, Dollar, 68 (On countback).
Cat 1. G. Wallace, Westerwood, 70 (On countback); 2. R. Hensbey, Tuillallan. 70.
Cat 2. 1. K. Duncan, Dunfermline. 68; 2. J. Oliver, Pitreavie, 71
Cat 3. 1. G. McRae, Aberdour, 78; 2. A. Nimmo, Alloa, 94.
Stewart's Quaich A. Dunn, J. Sievwright, Auchterarder, 146.
Patrons. K. Brunton, Souters, 73
Guests. J. Rudigan, Kirkcaldy, 74
Two ball fouromes. A. McGregor and J. Clark 27.

Cat 3. G. McRae, A. Nimmo

Match Report by "The Selector". On March 12

Central
April saw the first of the season's tournaments with the spring outing being played at Aberdeen GC. We were honoured to have Association Chairman Barry Heaney and his lovely wife, Joan, and Scottish Chairman Gordon Moir as guests. The weather was superb and with the course in excellent condition, the food and drink just as good, we could not have asked for more.

Everybody enjoyed themselves and our sincere thanks go to all at Aberdeen GC for their help and to everyone who contributed to the prize table.

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Best scratch. D. McAllister, Ladybank, 72
Best nett. A. Wallace, Dollar, 68 (On countback).
Cat 1. G. Wallace, Westerwood, 70 (On countback); 2. R. Hensbey, Tuillallan. 70.
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Match Report by "The Selector". On March 12

Around the Green

Surrey
Any members wishing to participate in the England v Scotland match should contact either myself or Dougie Fernie for the Scotland team on 01372 740516. Numbers are limited to 12 a side and a venue has still to be decided.

Congratulations to Drift GC's greenkeeper/mechanic Ted Stiles upon reaching 65 although Ted assures us he is not yet ready for retirement. On behalf of the section I would like to wish Don Major of Betchworth GC all the best on his retirement.

Members interested in the dinner/dance should contact their committee members for tickets which will soon be on sale. The venue is to be the Reigate Manor Hotel on November 18. Tickets priced £18.

John Hardy celebrates 70 years employed with West Surrey GC. Born in 1910 John joined West Surrey when he was 14 and went part time when he reached 65. It was a slight stroke last year which convinced him to retire and his immediate plans in full time retirement are to sleep and smoke. Well done John.

The Huxley Bowl showed good support again with 34 pairs entered. Forthcoming events include the MacMillan tankard at Sunningdale GC on August 3; the Parker Salver Invitational at Tryalls Wood GC on September 5 and the Autumn tournament at Home Park GC on October 4.

Ayrshire
There have been no reports for the past two months as nothing has happened in the section area – or so it would seem from the deafening silence from the members.

There has, however, been a couple of events over the past month, the first being a quiz night held in the Parkstone Hotel in Prestwick. This was an excellent form of entertainment especially from some of the answers and some of the team names. The winners were “I’ll have a Pee Bob” which gives some indication of how seriously the evening went and how much everyone enjoyed it. Don’t miss the next one as I’ll even make sure the quiz masters have the right answers.

Our second event of the month was the spring outing at Kirkcudbright GC which was held in lovely spring weather for a change. The Kirkcudbright course has gained immensely in stature over the past few years since expanding to 18 holes and this was our first visit for an outing. The general consensus among a large turn-out of members was that we would certainly love to go back some time soon.

Our thanks to the club committee, secretary John Sommerville, caterer Mary and her merry crew and last, but certainly not least, to Sammy, Peter and the boys on the green stuff for giving such good conditions to enjoy the golf.

The competition was intense especially with the
Around the Green

East Scotland

Bright sunshine, no wind! What a day to pick for our spring outing at Glen GC. I hope you all enjoyed the day as much as I did.

Special thanks must go to the Captain and council of Glen GC for giving us courtesy of the course at such short notice. Thanks to all who donated raffle prizes. They were very much appreciated. Congratulations to George Paterson and his staff for an excellently turned out course.

Results:
Best Scratch. G. Ferguson, Duddingston, 75 (on countback)
Best Nett. M. Pagan, Goswick, 75-6-69. 2. S. Greenwood, N. Berwick, 81-7-74.
Cat 1. 1. C. Yeaman, Swanston, 87-12-75; 2. A. Gordon, Duddingston, 94-17-77; 3. R. Thomson, Peebles, 91-13-78.
Guest Winner. T. Ross, Uphall, 74-5-69.

The Hayter Qualifiers were:
Cat 1. M. Pagen, G. Ferguson, T. Murray, A. Homes, Reserve S. Greenwood.
Cat 2. A. Gordon, C. Yeaman, C. Peranicuk, P. Ormiston.

Finally if anyone has any information that he or she thinks might be useful for this column please do not hesitate to call me on 01721 722832.

ROBERT HOGARTH

North

Welcome to Scott MacCallum, the new editor of the magazine. We hope Scott, who hails from up here, will keep up the standards of our great magazine and even make it better... as long as he allows my articles. (Flattery will get you everywhere! Ed)

The section welcomes two more new members, Bradley Wood, assistant greenkeeper at Deeside GC and Paul MacKay, apprentice at Banchory. While on the subject of membership I recently heard of a member last year who did not receive his magazine for three months so

Pending subscription: Johnstone of Gillingham GC has taken over as our section secretary and at last month's meet-

ing please phone the aforementioned number.

STUART TAYLOR

Kent

April 20 found the section at Littlestone GC for the Hayter Qualifier. The weather was fresh to see the best but the course was in excellent condition which given the amount of rain that we had had this winter is due testament to the skill and professionalism of Malcolm Grand and his staff.

Results:

Congratulations to the winners and good luck in the following rounds. Thanks should also go to the members and committee of Littlestone GC as well as all the bar and catering staff who worked so hard on our behalf.

As I mentioned in last month's piece Steve Johnstone of Gillingham GC has taken over as our section secretary and at last month's meet-

ing he allocated the committee jobs. Rob Lucas is the section treasurer, Andy Arthur is adminis-

tering the handicap system and Peter Biscoe will be moving among you all with a question-

naire aimed at finding out exactly what you require of this section.

I understand Rob Lucas' first job was to open new bank accounts closer to his home and I have it on good authority that he has lodged all monies in an ultra safe account held at William Hills.

The only other change in personnel is that we have a new regional administrator in the shape of Geoff Hills.

The next golf day will be held at Herne Bay GC and all members will be contacted soon with dates and times etc. I am sure that this will be an excellent day with a high turnout.

RICHARD PAGE

ITS EFFECT IS SHATTERING

Charterhouse

Deep aeration on an intensively used golf course is vital if the grasses which we require are to survive.

We purchased our first Verti-Drain back in 1983 and very quickly bought a second. Both these machines have been working on a continuous basis providing excellent results and utilising only a minimum of spare parts.

Comment From Walter Woods

St. Andrews Links Golf Course supervisor