Scottish Region

North

This month sees the Scottish Greenkeepers Association’s Annual Tournament at Elite Golf Club in Fife. It promises to be an exciting event with many interesting teams competing for the title. Please let us know how you get on.

A more welcome message this month is the news that Ross Maclean has joined us at Tain as a trainee. His arrival will be welcomed by all, especially those on the Greenkeeping world. My son Kevin Keith, a trainee at Fortrose, and Kingussie, rejoining us after a one-year absence, will also be back as possible. Take the time and send him your best wishes.

Another Macleod has been let loose to the Greenkeeping world. My son Ross has joined me at Tain as a trainee and will be shortly be joining BIGGA, you have been warned. While on the subject of new members, we have three new faces in the North to report: Malcolm Parsons, an assistant at Strathlene, Kevin Keith, a trainee at Fortrose, and Michael Reid, a trainee at Newmachar, with Derek Chisholm, Assistant at Kingussie, rejoining us after a one-year break.

Unfortunately the wind was well and truly blowing and played havoc with the course. In spite of a very late spring - if not winter - the course proved delightful and well kept even when the weather was not so kind. The first event of our new year was the spring outing at the Dumfries and County golf course, home of our Chairman, George Brown, McKenzie Munro. This event will let the membership know about it. Thanks to the catering staff for their excellent day’s food. The weather was excellent and promises to be for the remaining outings of the season. Stay tuned for more information.

Ayrshire

The first event of our new year was the spring outing at the Dumfries and County golf course, home of our Chairman, George Brown, McKenzie Munro. This event will let the membership know about it. Thanks to the catering staff for their excellent day’s food. The weather was excellent and promises to be for the remaining outings of the season. Stay tuned for more information.

Northern Region

North East

On Thursday April 25 we paid our first visit to the new course at Marlen Hall for the Spring Competition and Hayter Qualifier. The course has only been open a year and was in excellent condition considering the winter we have had. Everyone was very praiseworthy.

Unfortunately the wind was well and truly blowing and played havoc with the course.

On behalf of the section I would like to thank Vincent Price, Course Manager, and his staff, for the presentation of the course.

We would also like to thank John Penlington from HDL for giving us sight and his little chat about Miracle Greenkeepers of the year Award.

Donations came from the following, Braid Hills GC, Greencastle GC, Scottish Borders Turf Services, Greenlay, Rickerley’s Aikens, Belden GC, Turf Care Supplies and Gerald Brady of Rhone Poulenc (personal). Unbelievable.

Our thanks to all those people who gave a donation or paid to John Harrison, Director of Golf, for giving us courtesy of the course.

I would like to wish Ian Hutton, of Connacht GC, the best of luck on moving to Austria for a new job as all do the Section.

Results: Best Gross A. McLare, Whickham GC, 77-78; Best Nett S. Cram, Slaley Hall GC, 83-77; Assistants’ Cup; G. O. Cuthbertson, South Moor GC, 80-3-77; R. Black, Westerhope GC, 83-77-6; I. Cairns, Close House GC, 86-97-7; M. Lanning, Huxley Hall GC, 79-178; S. Pepe, Tyne GC, 88-7-9; C. Parkinson, Slaley Hall GC, 84-4-80; N. Irvin, South Moor GC, 90-4-63; A. Dalby, Watworth GC, 89-7-82; B. Wilson, Stocksfield GC, 88-5-83; J. Richardson, Marlen Hall GC, 89-6-83; G. Baxter, South Shields GC, 89-7-83.

In August this year Steve Pope, Head Greenkeeper of Tyne GC, retired after 37 years in greening. He was presented with a trophy, and his staff were presented with a cheque for the Association for most of this time. Jimmy Richardson.

Central

Cleveland

PAR 4 Irrigation celebrated its 15th anniversary with a Stableford golf event at Romany Bank Golf Club. The winners included Graham Borden, Castle Eden GC, Barry Walker from Whickham GC, Linda Simms from PAR 4. A most enjoyable day, thank you to all concerned.

Congratulations to Course Manager Robert Upton, for the excellent condition of the course, and to everyone who welcomed us to BIGGA membership. His boss, farmer Brian Graven, is to be congratulated on developing such a splendid course layout. We had difficulty at the water approach to a par 3 – nice to see the swans.
Around the Green

Annual competition which will be held at Abbeydale GC on July 9 with a 10.30 tee off. Please return entry forms on time!

Congratulations go to Derek McInnan of Sherwood Forest GC on his selection to represent England in the inaugural Hayter International Cup at West Lancashire GC in September. Good luck Derek!

Finally would like to wish Ron Graham a very happy retirement who at the end of February after 19 years as Head Greenkeeper at Tankersley Park GC.

North West

This year’s annual tournament against North Wales was played at Wilmles GC, on April 11. The weather was good, the course was in excellent condition, and the golf was good. Unfortunately we lost 5-3, allowing North Wales to take the Gem Professional trophy back from the North West. I would like to thank Gem Professional for sponsoring the day, Wilmles GC for allowing us the courtesy of the course, Stephen Outram and his staff for presenting his course in lovely condition, and Owen Chason, Catering Manageress for the superb evening meal, (and the bacon and egg baps).

Mike Sheehan, Course Manager at Mere Golf and Country Club, has a vacancy for a young lad to train as a greenkeeper. If you know anyone in the Knutsford area who might be interested contact Mike on 01625 830155. Peter Baume, Course Manager at Birchwood GC, says that due to a heavy workload, he is looking for a trained greenkeeper willing to work at Birchwood GC, on a temporary basis. If you are between jobs and fancy earning some money, contact Peter on 01925 818819.

I suspect that now we have had some rain, and the ground is warming up you will all be able to sleep a little easier. I am sure you have all had to put up with the "Arachn Greenkeepers Association", wanting to know why our greens are not like they are in Augusta. Well now that spring has arrived, and some growth has appeared, they will forget Augusta until next April.

The North West committee has purchased some videos which will be available to any members wishing to borrow them. They are: GOLF COURSE PRESENTATION. Featuring various maintenance work on the course, plus bunker construction. GOLF GREEN CONSTRUCTION. SETTING STANDARDS. A video on spray application. KEEPER OF THE GREEN. A career in golf course management. If you would like to borrow any of these videos, contact me on 0181172 5412. These videos can also be purchased from us.

North Wales

Firstly my apologies for the lack of section notes in the last few months. This is partly due to my inability to remember journalistic deadlines together with a hectic time at work and to top it all off organising and getting married! Hopefully now that we are reorganised office wise at work things should settle down.

March saw the Section – some of it anyway – visit Holland. No we didn’t see any tulips, for their spring is as far away as possible in Europe. The people who went to Holland spent the whole time! On a happier note I am particularly grateful to John Osman, Major Oswan, Gem Professional and Memmersteeg (including Phil Davies on his own account) for their very kind sponsorship of places. I know that the people who were given this opportunity to go are all very grateful to you all.

In April the North West/North Wales Match took place at Wilmles GC. We were victorious 5-3 against the home team and look forward to next year’s return match. Many thanks to Wilmles GC and Gem Professional for their help and sponsorship. Again, sadly, it left Terry Adamson to phone around looking for players only then to be let down by some. Gentlemen, this is not fair to him and shows extremely bad manners and the situation must be rectified. We cannot afford to lose stalwart members of this section through the inconsideration of others.

On a happier note I am particularly pleased that members have felt able to contact me particularly over employment problems. While I cannot always be of any real assistance at least it puts me in contact with the membership.

For the record my telephone numbers are: Work: 01829 731186; Home: 01352 780602; Mobile: 0802 310576; Fax: 01829 731133. My address is 7 Cae Helyg, Penre Halkyn, Cwylwyd, Nr Holywell, Clwyd.

Any news suggestions for events etc please do not hesitate to contact me.

Andy Campbell

Northern

As many of you will be aware, it is with deepest sympathy that I announce the death of Mr William Bill. Bill served the section as president for 35 years and some say this will never be matched. The family was well attended by section members.

President Day will proceed as planned and a ‘Bill Mountain Memorial Trophy’ is to be introduced so that people will remember all the hard work and effort Bill gave over the years.

Mr Mel Ghy is now the acting president for Northern Section.

Our Spring Tournament at Scarborough South Cliff GC was a great day. Forty one players braved the strong winds and the results were as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>0-9</td>
<td>J. Williams</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-18</td>
<td>R. Lyons</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-28</td>
<td>M. Smith</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The course was presented in an excellent condition, so many thanks to Paul Sleight and his greens staff. Thanks also extended to the club house staff.

The next tournament will be President’s Day, which is to be held on June 12 at Howley Hall GC. Please remember the full names and payments must be received at least one week before the event.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the section: Richard Smith, Clayton GC; Julie Smithies, Temple Newsam GC; Timothy Balcombe, Scarbourgh GC.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Andrew Leech, of Outlane GC, and his wife on the arrival of their new baby girl, Anybody volunteering for babysitting duties please contact the aforementioned.

Simon Heppenstall

Midland Region

East Midlands

This year’s Spring Tournament was held on April 25th at Rothley Park GC, on a fine spring day 47 members competed for the chance of qualifying for this years Hayter Challenge Tournament. Category winners were:

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<tr>
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<td>19-28</td>
<td>J. Dallow</td>
<td>73</td>
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THE UNIQUE VERTI-DRAIN: REDEXIM

- Unique patent adjustable parallelogram forced heave
- Simple tile design
- Leaves playing surface in superb condition

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES
Bucks, Berks and Oxon
At last a Golf Day to report on, and what a day it was with the weather throwing everything at us, rain, hailstones and the occasional bit of sunshine. We must be a hardy bunch to carry on in that sort of weather (possibly slightly mad). At one stage it looked like a scene from Cadbyshack when the Priest is playing in the storm. Bob Gilbert of Rigby Taylor, who sponsored the day, Hayter, and all the other members of the trade who supported us were in excellent shape for so early in the year, and our thanks go to Colin Robinson and his staff for all their efforts. Also thanks to John O’Gault GC Bob Gilbert of Rigby Taylor, who sponsored the day, Hayter, and all the other members of the trade who supported us on the day. It was also nice to see Scott MacCallum our editor of the magazine on the day. It was also nice to see Scott MacCallum our editor of the magazine on the day. It was also nice to see Scott MacCallum our editor of the magazine on the day.

The results on the day were as follows:


The top trade member was A. Mr bin, Wakefield 66 (Local knowledge helped), 2nd – D Eldridge, 67, 3rd – S Adby 69.

The next golf day is at Henley Golf Club on the 15th July. If anybody still hasn’t updated us on what is available on the market, please get in touch and I will post one off to you.

Deep aeration on an intensively used golf course is vital if the grasses which we require are to survive. Our guest for the day was Ken Richardson, BIGGA Education Officer, who updated us on what is available on the education front in the future. We would like to remind you about sending money and confirmation letters in on time. For all future tournaments nobody will be admitted after the deadline.

The top trade member was A. Turb – nett 85. Nearest the pin winners were 2nd hole – M. Fance, 10th – R. Hiddick, 12th – A. Sheeban.

Finally I would like to welcome the following new members to the Section: Ian Cropper, Steven Gransby, Edward Long, Lee Fotilig, Phil Spencer, R. Stildon, A. Randall, G Mair, D Balar, James Pedder, P. Goddard, J. Parsonson, Lee Hudson, S. Kane, K. Armstrong. R Childerley, R Preece, J. Jenkins, D Ritchie, G Grass and A Parsons.

Paul Lockett

Kent
Our first tournament of the year – the Hayter Qualifier was held at Sene Valley GC. On a windy, dry day conditions were very tricky. The course was in good condition for the time of year and we thank Sene Valley for courtesy of the course. The scores were as follows: 0-9. 1. P Belton, 2. H. Morgan, 3. S. Suttle, 4. N. Gillham. 10-18. 1. P Biscoe, 2. D. Mclell, 3. W. Banks, 4. M. Malt. 19-28. 1. J. Silcock, 2. C. Moore, 3. N. Stapley, 4. J. Poos. The above 12 people qualify for the next round of the Hayter Tournament. All the above qualify for the next round of the Hayter Tournament.

Our guest for the day was Ken Richardson, BIGGA Education Officer, who updated us on what is available on the education front in the future. We would like to remind you about sending money and confirmation letters in on time. For all future tournaments nobody will be admitted after the deadline. There will be no exceptions.

On a lighter note I would like to thank somebody at Sene Valley for the stripogram that appeared on the 4th tee just before dinner. We will not be charging extra for this entertainment but we will supply telescopes next time for you.


Trade and Association – Ivan Toon 81-12-69; 2. Donald Blacker (Manor) 83-12-71; 3. Martin Hopkins (Kirby Muxloe) 84-15-69.

Our first golf event of the year took place on the 29th April, at John O’Gaunt GC, Beds. As is usual, our Spring Tournament was the qualifying event for the team which goes to the Regional Final at St. Andrews Links Golf Course supervisor

excellent results and utilising only a minimum of spare parts.

Deep aeration on an intensively used golf course is vital if the grasses which we require are to survive. Which the Priest is playing in the storm. If anybody hasn't seen the film it's a must for all greenkeepers.

If for any reason, any members who have qualified cannot attend, please let me or Roger Willars, our regional administrator know as soon as possible. Finally I would like to welcome the following new members to the Section: Ian Cropper, Steven Gransby, Edward Long, Lee Fotilig, Phil Spencer, R. Stildon, A. Randall, G Mair, D Balar, James Pedder, P. Goddard, J. Parsonson, Lee Hudson, S. Kane, K. Armstrong. R Childerley, R Preece, J. Jenkins, D Ritchie, G Grass and A Parsons. Paul Lockett

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short sighted greenkeepers.

That's all for this month but watch this space for future events etc. I can be contacted on 0800 260 240. 

**Kenneth A. Antolik**

**President**

**Kent Greenkeepers' Association**

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**Around the Green**

**South West and Wales Region**

**Meeting and Cornwall**

With section events completed for another winter our section's thoughts turned to the Region's Trade show West Surf.

The show allows our Region to offer its members reduced cost educational events and in the past our local Colleges have received grants towards greenkeeper education.

With it is important that Westsurf continues to thrive, this year's show will take place on a Saturday and is due to the unexpected heatwave so spent. The course was brilliant, if challenging.

The show opened with the rain pouring down at that stage it crossed our minds that the show may have to be cancelled but within minutes of the show opening the rain eased to just a few showers and was that the rain? Numbers around the stands changed all day with the stand taking place it gave all who attended a chance to walk away with a prize, the new model is now going to be run at regional level.

**South Wales**

Wales section seminar recently took place at Pencoed College and was deemed a great success by the 36 who attended.

As from now our section is running a new Handicaps for those who are ban- (discs, see above) and for those members who have not got club Handicaps. This means there is no need for anyone to feel left out. All members are welcome to attend these meetings.

As you are all probably aware some of the courses held at Adlwyd are now going to be run at regional level. This is to cut down on expenses. If you have any ideas as to what sort of courses and subjects you would like covered please contact Kerran Daly on 01722 742897.

We are still looking for assessors within the section. If you are interested in obtaining your D25 contact Kerran who will fill you in on all the details.

As the seminar rounded off this series of educational events I'd like to thank all of those who have given so freely of their time to help in the organisation of these meetings, but especially Peter Gillard and Malcolm Davies for their outstanding efforts and a special thanks to the principal Mr JDB Thomas for allowing us the use of the college facilities.

Lastly (thank god I hear you cry) to all the contributors for allowing me to write this report.

Gladwin. Dave recently completed his second London marathon, although his finishing time around was not as fast as the first. Also an unexpected heatwave of 75 degrees. Crossing the finishing line itself an achievement, well done!

On route, Dave reckons that he considers his efforts in running a change from beer) and he’d like to personally thank the fire services for their efforts in cooling people down with their hoses. To those, they know who they are, who doubted his ability to run the race. I believe him, although he does have a second bide for sale.

**South Coast**

The Spring Golf Meeting was held on Monday 15th April at Crane Valley GC. Martin Summers, the Course Manager had prepared the course in good order for us, he and his staff at the Crane Val- ley were most helpful on the day and they even managed to supply us with fine weather. Our thanks must also go to management for allowing us the use of the course, the catering staff for keeping us fed and watered. But last but not least our thanks to the 64 people who were present.

The results were as follows:-

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