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Scottland
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Northern
Cleveland
An excellent talk with slides was presented by Bill Twaddle, from British Seed Houses, at Eaglescliffe GC, in March. There was special interest in new Bents for golf greens, also Lex 86 the new dwarf Rye grass with its fine leaves, good colour, for hard wearing and good recovery value.

Our Internal Verifier Tony Mears recently organised a one day course on assessment D32/33 at Haughall College, and the tutor was David Golding. It was attended by G. Munro, P. Millard, G. Border, R. Ord, I. Pemberton, C. Powley, R. Shaw, R. Bell, A. Naisbit, G. Manuy, B. Kelly, J. Turner, W. Rank, I. White, T. McGuire.

The new Chairman for Cleveland BIGGA is Roger Shaw, Course Manager at Ramside Hall Hotel, Durham.

James Braithwaite spoke well of his recent visit to America as Toro Student Greenkeeper of the year prize at Eaglescliffe GC.

Shaun Carroll and Nick Dawson completed their First Aid course.

Sheffield
On March 7 we held our winter lecture at Rotherham GC. Our thanks go to Bill Oliver, Amenity Sales Manager of Hardi Sprayers Ltd, for his lecture on sprayers which was attended by a good number of our members.

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THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES
North Wales
You should by now have received and returned application forms for the Hayter Qualifier to be held at Bull Bay GC on May 14.

One amendment which you should be aware of for the event is that the tee times have changed from 10am to 1pm.

I will not be there to share the day with you due to my commitment at the Nine of Clubs Club, Caerwys, but I wish you all the best for an enjoyable day and hope to see you soon.

T.P. Evans

Midland Region
Midland
The last winter lecture was held at Telford Golf and Country Club with Richard Minton, Miracle Professional, talking on nutritional requirements for turf and Simon Hannah, Inturf, talking about turf production.

The Committee and members present would like to thank both speakers for their talks and Telford Golf and Country Club for the use of their excellent facilities. I would also like to thank R. Thomas for introducing the speakers and making sure that the event went smoothly.

As with previous lectures, only a small percentage of members attended. With this in mind the Committee may decide that it is not worthwhile to hold any seminars this autumn/winter, unless the members tell us differently and support us with their numbers.

On April 17 Dave Franks telephoned me after reading his magazine to say thank you to all the members who have sent him get well messages etc while he was recovering from his illness. Dave is feeling a lot better and is hoping to return to work shortly.

The results of the first golf tournament will be in June's magazine.

New members to welcome this month are as follows: John Campbell, Michael Clark, Ronald Elson, Edward Elson, Philip Green, Jules Chesner, Robert O'Mullan, Keith Donnelly, Nick Martin, Robert Jones, Nick Worral and Robert Shaw.

Finally I would like to wish John Wilkes every success in his new job at Harborne GC. John has worked for me for four and a half years but the appeal of learning the new hole changing technique, pioneered by S. McDade (April 95 issue of the magazine) was too much to resist.

Good Luck.

Kim Blake

East Midlands
Not a lot to report this month but I will start by congratulating the following greenkeepers who have made a move this month.

Dave Sankey on his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Cosby GC, Chris Butlin, Head Greenkeeper at Kilworth GC and Tony Burgoin in the position of Head Greenkeeper at Kilworth Springs GC. I would like to wish all three greenkeepers all the best in their new positions.

I would also like to wish James Robson, of Henton & Chattell, a speedy recovery from his recent illness. I'm sure all members will be pleased to see James back on the road again.

The Section's next outing is on August 14 at Greetham Valley for the annual East Midlands V East of England golf match. This year we shall be looking for revenge after last year's very narrow defeat.

Finally spare a thought for Trevor Bennett, one of the Section's best sponsors. Recently at his home club of Forest Hills, Trevor had taken the money from his playing partners for the first time only to be pulled up on the 18th green for a penalty shot losing everything. Watch out for the double greens, Trev.

Antony Bindley

B, B & O
Firstly I would like to wish Martin Jones and Staff the very best of luck for the forthcoming Tour event to be held at the Oxfordshire on May 16-19. Hopefully I will be there as part of a support team to assist with bunker raking. It's nice to have a big event on our own doorstep.

Because there are no golf events to report on I shall take this opportunity to inform you of various topics discussed at several committee meetings of late. First of all the purchase of a new computer and printer has been thrashed out recently. This will help me to keep on top of the administration, mailing list -- the forever changing list. Because of the rolling renewal system the mailing list has to be updated every month. This is crucial when the time arrives to send entries out for the golf events.

Before I could purchase anything, Mark, from Risboro Turf, donated a computer to B, B & O for our own use. So a big thank you to Mark for helping us out. Hopefully I should have purchased a new printer by the time of the next mailshot which means you will be able to read the damn thing!

One of the other topics to be discussed is the putting together of a local education seminar for this coming winter. Mark Cheslaw is putting this together so I will keep you posted on any developments.

Lindsay T. Anderson

South West and South Wales Region
South Wales
Our final winter evening lecture recently took place at Pencoed College where Alan Sinclair, British Seed Houses' Midland and South Wales Region Technical Advisor, gave a presentation on "Grasses for Golf Course Renovation". An excellent presentation with many facts and figures relating to the percentage of seed germination from overseeding, different depths for drilling, ideal soil temperatures for germination etc.

Our thanks to Alan, who stood in for Bob Scott who was taken ill -- we hope he's fine now -- at such short notice.

As was the last in this series of lectures I'd like to thank all of those people who make presentations and gave so freely of their own time. To both Peter Gillard and Malcolm Davies for their sterling work and also to the Principle Mr J.D.B. Thomas for allowing us the use of the college facilities.

On Wednesday March 27, the Devon and Cornwall Section held its spring meeting and Hayter Qualifier at the Churston GC, Cornwall, home of Course Manager and Assistant Administrator Gordon Child. Philip Swain and our President Colin Murphy and I had the pleasure of representing our Section on a day when the efforts that Gordon has made to their Section were recognised. For after having first earned his crust by showing off his course on the traditional course walk and then presenting a lecture on "Greenkeeping Past, Present and Future", Gordon was presented with a colour portable teletext television in recognition of those efforts. A wonderful day was had and a sincere thanks to the Devon and Cornwall Section for making us so welcome.

To Gordon we wish you well in retirement.

Peter Lacey

South West
Welcome to several new members who have joined the Section over recent months, among them Matthew Deer of Vvy Park GC and James Elliott of Wells GC. Those and other new and existing members now make a total of 239 in the Section. However, there are still 45 people who have not renewed as of this month and those people will by now have been contacted by Janet Adamson, the Membership Officer, with a reminder.

Following approval for the revised membership categories at the AGM, the Board of Management has approved new subscription rates for students in full time education who will now be classed as Student Members and for Retired Members.

For £15 a year Student Members will receive a monthly copy of Greenkeeper International, be eligible to take part in any BIGGA events and benefit from member's reductions on course merchandise, publications etc and have the use of BIGGA's library. The membership card for students will be pale yellow and will indicate clearly that it
Around the Green

June 12 are:


The winners in each category were presented with a silver ewer by Mike Lincoln-Smith of Hayter. Our Congratulations and good luck to all who qualified.

Also our thanks to Peter Bridge-water, Paul Clifton and Mike Lincoln-Smith for presenting the prizes.

We couldn't let Gordon off too lightly at his last meeting before he retires so we invited him to present our afternoon educational talk on "Greenkeeping past, present and future" which he did, as always, very professionally. During question time Gordon was asked what was one of his most frightening experiences. After a few moments Gordon recalled the day a jet fighter flew so low that when it had to climb to miss some trees it blew him off his feet and burnt his eyebrows with the heat of the engines. Now back to the competition.

For this summer it was decided to extend our evening summer meetings to courses in Devon as well as Cornwall with the first being held at Yelverton GC on May 22. Members will meet in the car park at 6.15pm before walking the course with Head Greenkeeper, Steve Peters, returning to the clubhouse at around 8pm for a drink and a bite to eat. By now you should all have received the fixture card for these events which have been sponsored by Devon Garden Machinery. For more details and dates of venues please phone Steve Evans on 01280 863647.

Richard Whyman