Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

North

Another new member to welcome this month with Keith Dinwoodie, from Invergordon GC, joining the Section. There is a drive on to increase the membership of all sections just now and our Regional Administrator, Peter Boyd, should be in the area soon to visit clubs and try to recruit new members, while also raising the number of existing members to find out ways we can improve our Association for the benefit of all.

The Scottish Greenkeepers' Championship at West Kilbride, Ayrshire is on the 23rd of this month. I know this is a long journey for our Section but hope there will be a good turnout of North members. The trip will be worthwhile as West Kilbride is a lovely course and I am sure Jim Paton will have it in great condition. I hope to be there depending on the Board of Management Meeting I will be attending around about that time.

I was watching the football on Sky television recently and thought it was great to see the Groundsman for the home team being interviewed before the game, talking about the pitch and his preparation for matches etc. Wouldn't it be good to see Course Managers at European Tour events getting the same air time to raise the profile of Greenkeepers, who, after all, are among the most important people during the week. I was also interesting that when asked if players came to complement him on the pitch at all, he said, no, they only speak to him if there is a problem and if the pitch is in good condition, he knows because there will be no comments. Sound familiar?

Finally, I was looking through my Section notes for June last year and noticed that snow was reported to be falling at the time. Well we just had quite a bit of snow again this year, but the warm weather is back again as I write this year's report. Here's hoping it is here to stay.

Iain MacLeod

Ayrshire

The Spring outing was held at Stranraer GC on April 28 and around 40 members enjoyed the good weather and avoided the torrential thunder showers which hit the north of the county. The course was in good condition and the hospitality was very well received in the impressive new clubhouse. Our grateful thanks go to the Stranraer committee and staff for a most enjoyable outing.

The course proved a good test of golf as befits one which was, in 1952, the last James Braid ever designed.

The men on form were as follows:

The morning Texas Scramble was won by Ian McNab, William McMeechan, Martin Lothian and Steven Carmichael.

Afternoon Medal:

Scratch - W. McMeechan
Trade: Kenny Hunter.
Congratulations go to all prize winners.

Thanks go to our Secretary, Derek Wilson, for the organisation of the outing.

I've heard no news this month so if...
Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

you have anything to report call me
on 01505 683278 evenings, or
0498 634122.
Iain Barr

Central

The first golf event of the season
was held in April when Ladybank
GC was the venue for our Spring
Tournament. We couldn’t have cho-
sen a better day for the 58 members
and guests who attended, with the
course in excellent condition and the
sun shining throughout the day,
everyone was able to forget about
the cold weather of the previous cou-
ple of weeks.

Prize winners were as follows;
Best Scratch: K. Stirling, The
Dukes, 74 bih
Best Nett: D. Scott, Scoonie, 67
Cat 1: D. McAllister, Ladybank,
70; 2. E. Small, Tulliallan, 73
Cat 2: 1. S. Sime, Leven, 71; 2. A.
Torrance, King James IV, 73
Cat 3: 1. A. Arnott, Dunnikier, 72.
2. G. McRae, Ratho Park, 84.
Stewart’s Quaich E. Small/S.
Raeburn, Tulliallan, 148.
Patron’s: C. Horridge, MAC, 75
Guests: S. Head, Leven, 76.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone
at Ladybank, especially Head
Greenkeeper, Ian Menzies and his
staff, for their presentation of the
course, the clubhouse staff,
Secretary, Mr. Sproule, and to Club
Captain, Joe Lonie, who joined us
for the day and presented the prizes
in the evening. Thanks also to the
Scottish Patrons, Chris Langdon, for
all his work in issuing and checking
the score cards and to everyone who
contributed to the raffle.

A member on the move recently is
Scott Robertson. Scott has left
Elmwood to start as an assistant at
Strathmore, we wish him all the best
for the future in his new employ-
ment and hope that he will still be
able to attend our events. Another
two members we hope to see at our
events are Fraser Wright, from
Lundin Links, and Michael Lindsay,
from Scoonie, who join us this
month. Welcome to the Section lads!

I was hoping to have some news of
the activities of the world famous
Leven Links Sporting Club but
unfortunately their player/chief
coach, Andy Vialli? O’Hara sus-
tained an injury in pre season train-
ing (I think there was a spirit
involved!) so has been unable to get
started this season, and he says that
“If I can’t play, nobody plays”. So we
will have to wait a bit longer for
news. In the meantime though, his
much sought after A.O’H. tee shirts
are again available following their sell
out at Harrogate. If you want to
obtain a collector’s item just get in
touch with Andy on his usual 0898
mobile number.

John Crawford.

West

Recently the Section has been
quite quiet with only really the out-
ing to report... but boy what an out-
ning. A multitude of weather condi-
tions were experienced starting nice
and sunny with us dressed in tee
shirts; then light rain, hail and finally
thunderstorms. Sorry to say, after
losing my ball, plugged at the 16th,
I succumbed to temptation by walk-
ing in to avoid the lightning. Within
minutes the course was unplayable.

Never mind there’s always next
year.

On the day the results were:
Scratch: K. Stirling, East Kilbride,
73-5-68.
Cat 1: 1. Smith, Drumpellier, 75-5-
70; 2. S. Richardson, Williamwood,
78-7-71; 3. C. Goodall, Balmoral,
78-4-74.
Cat 2: P. Yates, Balmoral, 86-14-72;
2. T. Hyndmarch, Erskine, 89-16-
73; 3. M. Kelly, Lenzie, 87-12-75.

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Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections


Trade Prize: D. Duthie, Aitkens, 76-3-71; Visitors’ Prize: J. McCulloch, Cawder; Putting Competition. 1. Nearest the Pin, J. McCulloch, 2: J. Stokoe; Cat 3: No Winner; 76-5-71; Visitors’ Prize: J.

North West

After a slow and fairly stressful (for me) start, we eventually received 90 applications for the Mere Seminar on March 19. People always seem to leave things until the last minute and 10 days before the seminar the numbers were 40. Please in future if you intend playing in any of the tournaments or attending any other Section events be early with your application so that I can keep my sanity. A total of 600 application forms for the seminar plus fixture lists were posted to NW members and out of the 90 delegates there were only 35 green-keepers, the remaining 37 being members of the trade and local authorities. Many hours hard work went into arranging the seminar and many members have requested more educational days, so please try to support your committee in future by attending organised events.

The seminar “Construction and Management of Sports Turf” by PDA Agronomy Ltd was of the highest quality with excellent speakers. David Stansfield started with “The Role of the Agronomist”, and the scientific approach to the management of grass. He stressed the point that the agronomist is there to advise where there is a problem, not to query the green-keeper’s skills. John Hacker followed with “Golf Construction in the Middle East”. This was an excellent talk with plenty of slides showing the problems of building a nine hole golf course in the desert of Saudi Arabia. David Stansfield spoke on “Traditional Golf Links Construction” once again with plenty of interesting slides of the various stages of construction work, showing the difficulty of germinations of seed through the movement of the sand.

After an excellent lunch Mike Harbridge spoke on the “Construction of Sports Stadiums”. Once again the talk was highlighted with slides showing the construction of football pitches and how synthetic materials are inserted in the sand. It is hardly visible! Jay Dobson covered “Management of Diseases in Turf”. A subject close to all our hearts and one which haunts us all. A couple of interesting points were made, how physical damage to turf can also appear to be disease and pH disorders likewise. The day was rounded off with Gary Owens talk on “Materials testing and Site Monitoring”.

I would like to thank all the speakers for a very interesting educational day. Also Mere G&CC for their hospitality and use of their excellent facilities, Sisis, Acorn Equipment, Rigby Taylor, Rufford Soil Technology and Cheshire Turf Machinery for their support. The National Chairman Gordon Child and then the NW President John Walker for taking time out to attend the seminar and all those who attended making the many hours worthwhile.

April, not much happening this month other than rain, rain, rain. According to the Met Office, this month has been the wettest April for many years and I am sure that many of you have had problems due to the conditions. I feel sorry for the boys in the Midlands who suffered with severe flooding, but at least it kept the courses closed for a decent length of time.

North East

On April 24 we held our annual Spring competition at Warkworth GC. Our thanks to the committee for giving us courtesy of their course. A special thanks to Alan Davies and his staff, and the day was completed with an excellent meal. However, the result was an outstanding win for the North West Section with a 6.5 to 1.5 win over the N&W. The only winners for the N&W section were Bert Cross and Mike Bottomley who played out of their socks to win 7 & 2. Once again the N&W Section struggled for a team and we finished with 14 instead of 16.

Well played N Wales. I would like to thank Prestbury for allowing us courtesy of their course and use of their excellent facilities, also GEM Professional for sponsoring the day for the eighth time.

The next tournament will be the Summer Meeting, played at Haydock Park GC on Thursday, June 25, lunch will be between 12.30 pm and 1 pm. The first tee is reserved from 1.30 pm and starting times will be allocated on the day. The evening meal will be served around 7.30 pm followed by the prize presentation.

Applications including a cheque for £15 to be sent to Bill Merritt, 225 Utting Avenue, Walton, Liverpool, L4 9RB. Tel: 0151 284 4416. No applications to be accepted after Friday, June 19. Applications are due on or before the May 15.

Applications to be sent to: Stuart Taylor, 225 Utting Avenue, Walton, Liverpool, L4 9RB. Tel: 0151 284 4416. No applications to be accepted after Friday, June 19.

Applications are due on or before the May 15.
Charterhouse

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Comment From Walter Woods
St. Andrews Links Golf Course supervisor

East of England

The first competition of the year was almost cancelled due to lack of numbers, but with days to go enough members replied to warrant a competition.

All who attended played a course of the highest standard, manicured down to the last detail. Thanks goes to David Salisbury and his staff who produced a testing course (hope you enjoyed the whisky Dave). The Burghley Park Course withstood quite a downpour, but John Scotney, Sleaford GC, came through the rain for first place.

Second went to Graeme Macdonald, Newark GC, and third to Barry Anderson, Toft GC. Nearest the pins were won by Les Purdy and John Scotney. First prize for the trade merchant went to Peter Fell, Aitken's Everybody who played went home with a prize. This can only go to show that we have the best sponsors in the area.

A big thanks to Alisaid Brown, of Peterborough Garden Machinery, Howard Mulligan, Secretary, and the catering staff for a lovely meal. All of which made a great day out at Burghley Park GC.

Any news then please telphone Graeme Macdonald on 01636 626564, G.A. Macdonald

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections
**East Midlands**

This year's annual Trade v Greenkeepers golf match will take place at Morley Hayes GC on Tuesday, June 16. We require ten players for each side. Anybody interested can give me a ring for an entry form. The cost of the day is £20 with a.Tee-off prize of £200. On the same subject, the annual East Midlands v East of England golf match will be held at Oundle GC on Thursday, August 20. Tee off at 3.45 pm. For the day it is £59 which will include your evening meal. Any member who would like to represent the Section in this match can give a ring and I will send the required forms. The last year's tied match we will need to field a stronger side to enable us to retain the Terry Shield.

One of the new members who have recently moved golf clubs are Matthew Chambers, Charnwood Forest to Kirby Muxloe GC. On behalf of the Section I would like to wish both members all the best in their new employment.

Antony Bindeley

**Mid Anglia**

Back in March a Section visit to Brocket Hall GC took place to walk around the proposed layout for the new course. A very informative afternoon ensued and thanks to all those members who took time out to attend. Thanks also to Course Manager, John Wells, for providing the relevant facts. If it turns out as good as the existing course I'm sure we'll all look forward to playing it in future.

Our first golf event of the year took place in late April at a fairly new course, Lammerwood. Fifty three members attended in what was our Spring Tournament. On balance it was generally considered one of the best turnouts we have had for a Spring event and the change in format in the afternoon to a Greensome Foursome event made for an enjoyable day's golf. Hearing in mind the five or so inches of rain we had prior to the event, the course was obviously very wet in places but the greens were in fine condition and our thanks go to Sandy Anderson and all his staff for their efforts. Our thanks go to Lammerwood for allowing us to stage the event and their hospitality shown to us all is greatly appreciated.

Rigby Taylor was the main sponsor, along with Willmot Pertwee who ran the "Kinpin" competition. Our thanks go to Mark Stigwell and James Pertwee who, with their respective companies on the day and to all the other trade members for their continued support. The results from the morning round were as follows:

1. Mark Ellis, Mentmore GC, 37 pts
2. Chris Brook, Cheshfield Downs, 36 pts
3. David Wright, Brocket Hall, 35 pts

On a final note I would like to introduce you to some more new members: Jamie Askew, Joseph Wooley, Graeme Bagwell and Michael Webster.

Jonathan Wood

**B, B & O**

The first golf event of the season was held at Reading GC back in April. This was well attended with 36 competitors battling the elements as usual. With the requirement to play on the day we never have much luck with the weather, especially the Spring tournament. I hate playing in the rain but I felt I could cope with my weapon of choice at my disposal. How wrong can you be? Despite getting wet through along with everybody else it was an enjoyable day. My two partners, Steve & Liam deserve a mention here for their excellent condition and Course cious golf, at least it can only get better! Jim Sutherland and his team have to be congratulated on the condition of the course it was a credit to him and his staff. Thank you to the Club for making us welcome on the day, the evening meal provided was first class. A big thank you to Pattinsons (Phil Sharp) for sponsoring the competition and providing the many prizes it really is much appreciated by all especially the lucky winners. 1. Dan Schillaci, 66, 2. John Bowness, 69, 3. Jim Sockett, 69.

Thankyou to Walter Wilders for covering the cost of posting all the invites for the golf day. Finally I would like to thank Richard Haynes for all his support and help at many of the events over the past few seasons, even if he didn't play he would always come along to help out with the cards etc. Good luck from the Section in your new job.

Lindsay T Anderson

**London**

On Tuesday, April 21 we held the London Section Spring Tournament. Although three weeks into a very wet and difficult April, the course was in excellent condition and Course Manager, Derek Mason and his staff are to be congratulated on providing all the competitors with a first class venue. Results are as follows:

1. Richard Andrews, Highgate GC, 71
2. Simon Walley, Sandy Lodge GC
3. Richard Elderfield, Sandy Lodge GC

The Guest Prize was won by our Regional Administrator, Derek Farrington, and the longest drive was won by Daryl Jones.

The King Pin Prize for Nearest the Pin is this year sponsored by Willmot Pertwee, Chairman of the Section. The prize has recently been itself. Get well soon Triff and let's see you at the next golf day.

Mark announced that there was to be a roll-over for the trade prize because on this occasion he did not have a tape measure long enough!

Thanks again to the General Manager, the Catering Staff and Derek Mason at Highgate GC for providing the venue for a most enjoyable day.

While still in North London, news of another sporting achievement. Highgate's Deputy Head Coach Russell Lines turned out regularly as first team goalkeeper for Potters Bar Town FC in the Spartan South Midlands League. Russell has been the Town's goalie for two and a half years and has kept over 10 clean sheets, but the move was necessary to accommodate the increased need for defensive cover.

Quarter Finals of the FA Vase but despite Russell's heroic efforts, which won him "Man of the Match" they lost by two goals to Stoke on Trent. The Season's Honours haven't eluded him though because the "Town" have won the South Midlands Challenge Trophy for the second consecutive season.

Two new appointments in the Section. A warm welcome to Matt Smith who joined Arkley Golf Club in February as Assistant to Neil Whitaker and congratulations to Jeff Donovan, formally of Bridgedown GC, on securing the position of Head Greenkeeper at Brownmoor GC.

Paul Cairns, Captain of Bushey GC, has had an extremely busy 18 months with a remodelling of the course taking place. The 9 Hole Course has had 18 new tees constructed by Contractor, John Greening. The tees were seeded in November 1997 and should be in play by June or July this year. The land drainage on the Course has been enhanced by new swales being dug, these were constructed in conjunction with the existing drainage network. Steve Tingley's firm, Premier Sports Turf Services, were brought in to construct trolley paths and build bridges for the walkers but the final touch was to be for the existing navigation. Steve Tingley's firm, Premier Sports Turf Services, were brought in to construct trolley paths and build bridges for the walkers but the final touch was to be for the existing navigation.

Steve Tingley's firm, Premier Sports Turf Services, were brought in to construct trolley paths and build bridges for the walkers but the final touch was to be for the existing navigation.

**South East**

South East

Derek Farrington

38 Greenkeeper International June 1998
required was 340 metres long by 600mm wide. The chain trencher used was powered by a 260hp diesel engine and weighed 28 tons, so the trench excavation was completed in one and a half hours! The laying of the cable and initial backfill took a further week to complete. Once the Electricity Board moved out, Barry enlisted the aid of S & G Limited to construct a new metal tee, reconstruct a fairway bunker which had been flattened by the trencher, lay a new path from the new tee and turf the trench line with Rolaun turf. All the work was completed before the wet weather started and it all looks as good as new.

Dates for your Diary:
The Buckinghamshire GC, July 7; Brookmans Park GC, 20 August 1998.

Poulenc, Pattison, Atterton & Ellis, Torn, Cullen, and consultant Clarkson, whom, I am informed is no longer. Tart Actant as in a previous letter.

Derek Farrington tried to buy his raffle tickets with Dollars and Dimes. He must have thought he was in America, can't think why. Perhaps it was those burgers, steaks and cheesecake. Beautiful.

The course was in first rate condition thanks to Greg and his team. He wants us to go back late summer next time when the greens are like greased lightning (can't wait) especially if the pins are in the same place. The eagles won't be the only ones screaming.

We've all heard about American hospitality but when was the last time someone brought drinks to you on the course, ice cold at that on a buggy? When did you last see a butt on the course with two huge vending machines in it? And when did you last visit a golf club with an armed guard at the gate and F15's making sure no one nicked the flag? That's what I call security. Greg give me five man.

Mick Lathrop

Essex

Well, what a wet April, three and a half inches down my way so far.

The venue for our first Golf Day and Spring Tournament had to be changed owing to the weather and Burnham GC being unplayable. Step in Martin at Stapleford Abbotts with the offer for us to play there, gratefully accepted.

So to the tournament sponsored by Doc's, thanks to Andy and Adrian for all their hard work, got under way with 42 playing in glorious sunny weather. Thanks to Jeremy Wright, the General Manager, for allowing us to use the course. Thanks also to the catering staff and the bar staff.

Results.

Cat 1: 1. R. Pride 73; 2. S. Cox 74; 3. A. Toomes 75.


Cat 3: 1. N. Horgan 71; 2. I. Mitchell 74; 3. J. Shelton 76.

R. Clarke, Spring Trophy; N. Peachey, Trade Prize; N. Brewster, Guest Prize; G. Speller, Nearest the Pin; M. Fance, Longest Drive.

Thanks to all the companies who donated the raffle prizes.


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Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

Knock out pairs competition. Seventeen pairs are entered in four ball better ball match play which is really good.

Our next committee meeting is July 7at. Thornton Park GC. Captains v Greenkeepers is at Romford GC, on July 14. These are always very good days. Ask your captain for details.

Talking of Romford, The Open qualifier is to be held there on July 6. We wish Barrie Brown and his staff all the best.

Dave Wells

Surrey

The highlight of the day, however, was the three Club Captains v the Greenkeepers. Ex-Secretary of the Section and present Regional Chairman, Raymond Day, playing off 2, returned a magnificent 41 points - a 4 club Stableford which is a great result of the day and came fourth! The winner of the afternoon competition being John Luckhurst on a backcount from Charlie Messenger and Martin Broomfield, all with 42 points.

Bad luck to Raymond, what a great round that was and the Section is confident that he will be able to repeat it at the Summer meeting to be held at St Albans Park on July 2.

Neil Cleverly

South West

As I write this we are just coming to the end of the wettest April since the world began. Cities of Closed course and it’s ruined, the whole course is ruined and a lot of the older greenkeepers enjoyed by most, but that many would like to see more team events eg. Texas Scrambles. The consensus of opinion was that the number of competitions per year was about right but to include a four club competition and possibly an individual knockout on the Huxley Bowl principle. Friendly was the description of the atmosphere on competition days and an evening barbecue was preferred. A set meal was second choice.

More information was wanted in ‘Around the Green’ and this you humble correspondent does try. Any news and views will be gratefully received. Quiz nights also proved very popular with those who replied and so one will be arranged in November. Well that’s what 36 of you think. The remaining 42 agree with them! The Spring Meeting was held on Friday, May 8 at the superably presented Farnham Sands GC. We thank Peter McNeilan and his staff for excellent afternoons golf and his club for the delicious evening meal. The results were as follows: Cat 1: 1. J Mathis, 72; 2. R Christie, 75; 3. R Glazer.Cat 2: 1. C Webb, 72; 2. A Holthouse, 75; 3. K Pickard. Cat 3: S Johnson, 70; T Stiles, 3. L Snрутt. Our thanks to Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the Medal competition and congratulations to Dave Wall for having the lowest nett score in the trade section. The overall competition was won by Steve Johnson nett 66. 2nd was John Mathis nett 69 and 3rd but not least Ron Christie nett 71.

Brian Willmott

South Wales

Westurf has again come and gone, thankfully this year we had some reasonable weather, which in turn, led to good attendances especially from our side of the bridge. Nice to see so many familiar faces. Congratulations to Paula for organising such a good show. Also thanks to the trade for supporting it.

Congratulations also to Rob Freiter, from Brougham GC, on his recent marriage. All the best!

The Cardiff Cup at Southerndown looks like being hotly contested this year with 53 entrants already.

And, finally a good luck in the future to Fred Smythe, from Cardiff GC, who has recently left to pursue another career.

Chris Solomon

South Coast

On April 7 we had our annual match against the Secretaries. This was held at Highcliffe Castle GC. The Secretaries won 3.5 to 2.5. Trevor tells me that the weather was good, the course was good, the food was good and the company was good. You can’t ask for anything more than that. Thanks must go to the Captain and Committee for allowing us the use of their course. Also thanks to the Greenkeeping and Catering Staff who looked after everybody so well.

But not least, thank you to Course Care in particular John Wood and Paul Dwyer who sponsored the day’s events.

Our Spring Tournament was held at Knighton Heath GC on April 22. It was contested by 47 players. The results were as follows:

Best Overall Gross, Bernard Emberey; Best Overall Net, Bernard Emberey


Nearest The Pin: Under 50s: Dave Gidd

Nita Simpson Under 50s: Joe Newman

Trade Trophy: Phil Greenaway lawn Long & Horgan (Jackson)

Nearest The Pin: Tanya Gadd

I am told that the course was in excellent condition and played very well. Thanks must go to Derek Cheetham and the Greenkeeping staff at Knighton Heath for allowing us the courtesy of the course for the day. Congratulations to the catering staff who produced an excellent meal. At the evening meal we were honoured by the presence of the Club President, who also presented the prizes. I hear that Eddie Fox was looking after the score cards again. This seems to be a habit that you can’t seem to get out of Eddie. A lot of the older members will remember that Eddie will be our Tournament Organiser for a number of years.

Peter Greaves, thank you for all your help on the day. We must not forget John York who organised the raffle and managed to extract a few hard earned pounds from the members. The money raised from the day’s events was Fred Deamon He was well assisted by a good team but overall he was the one who was at the helm. Congratulations Fred for a job well done. Last, but not least, where would we have been without our sponsors for the day. Our thanks to Raffles, Sheerwater Leisure, Huxleys Grass Machinery and D J Scott. Between them they have provided us with an excellent Prize Table.

Our Summer Tournament will be held at Branshaw GC on Thursday, July 23. All applications along with current handicaps and cheques for £15 per person should be sent to Trevor Smith, Manor, Horton Road, Horton Heath, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 6SB, Tel: 0410132421. The format for this tournament will be a Fourball Better Ball 18 Hole
Stableford. Members may play with another greenkeeping member from another course or he can bring a golf member from his own club i.e. Captain, Committee member, Greens Chairman, Secretary, Club Owner etc. All entries to be with Trevor 10 days before the Tournament. ie first post Monday July 13. The main sponsors for the day will be John Deere.

I have just got back from Westurf’s 10th Anniversary. The weather wasn’t bad but in the afternoon we did have some heavy showers. This sent everybody scuttling to the beer and refreshment tent and the BIGGA tent. Jim Arthur, along with our National Chairman, was on hand to sign his new book for those who had the foresight to purchase one. They were in great demand. There was a glass of wine for everyone in the BIGGA tent. Judging by the amount there it looked like more than a glass. The show went very well and was quite well supported. However, more support would not have gone amiss, especially from our own Section. On your first Westurf Paula did a grand job. Thank you Paula and also thank you to all of your helpers.

Ken Lodge

Devon and Cornwall

The Rhône-Poulenc and Supaturf meeting was the last of our winter programme and was held at West Cornwall GC on Wednesday, April 1. With the sun on their backs our golfing members played over the excellently prepared course for the Supaturf and Rhône-Poulenc Trophies.

Our own golfing members were treated to an excellent course walk by Head Greenkeeper, Brian Trevena, before lunch.

After a superb lunch Peter Bridgewater, Supaturf, and Paul Clifton, Rhône-Poulenc, representing our sponsors for the day both gave a short presentation on their respective companies before presenting the golf prizes.

Supaturf Trophy for Head Greenkeepers & Trade:
1. Gordon Tamblin, Mullion, 38 pts;
2. Tony Ramroden, Badock Vean, 37 pts;
3. Richard Sheldon, China Fleet, 35 pts

Rhône-Poulenc Trophy for Assistants:
1. Peter Kendell, West Cornwall, 37 pts on back 9;  2. Graham Fitzpatrick, Dainton, 37 pts on back 9;  3. Tony James, Tehidy, 37 pts

Our afternoon educational talk round-off the day with Sion Brackenbury, from the Cornwall Wildlife Trust, presenting an excellent talk on ecological management plan for golf courses. The Section would like to thank Sion for his superb presentation.

Also the Section would like to thank the day’s sponsors, Supaturf and Rhône-Poulenc, for their continued support and to West Cornwall GC and all their staff who made our day run so smoothly with special thanks to Head Greenkeeper Brian Trevena and his crew who had this wonderful links course in superb condition.

Westurf was the place to be on Wednesday, April 29, if you wanted to keep in touch with all the latest technology. It was nice to see so many of you at Westurf to support the Region.

Westurf is an important event for all greenkeepers within the South West and South Wales Regions as it not only gives us the opportunity to view all the latest products available to maintain courses in first class condition, it gives the Region the opportunity from the proceeds of Westurf to offer you, its members, subsidised Regional seminar and trip to the BTME show and educational seminars at Harrogate also the Region has given grants to all our GTC approved local Colleges and grants to members to complete their College course.

There was a big Westurf welcome for our Chairman, Gordon Child, and Executive Director, Neil Thomas, not forgetting Jenny and Ken who completed HQ’s team.

Congratulations must go to our Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries, on organising an excellent show on her first time. On behalf of all the Section I would like to thank everyone who helped to make Westurf ’98 such a success.

Richard Whyman

North East

We held our first Golf event last month at Greenscapes Golf Club. We would like to thank all those who attended, the owner, Stephen Crawford, for extending us the courtesy of the course and David Laird, of J.E. Coulter, for sponsoring the event. We had a very enjoyable day and an excellent meal after. The winners were:
1. Adrian Lagan, 38 pts

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