Scottish

The Scottish Region once again offers members a subsidised package deal for BTME 1999. The package includes coach to Harrogate, entry to all seminars and exhibition, three nights' bed and breakfast in en suite twin rooms in the Moat House Hotel, Harrogate on 19, 20 and 21 January 1999. Package costs £142. Partners are welcome at a cost of £102 for travel and accommodation. For booking forms call or fax Peter Boyd, Scottish Regional Administrator, 10 Meadowburn Avenue, Newton Mearns, Glasgow, G77 6LA, Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440.

Ayrshire

Thanks to Chairman Jim Paton for deputising last month. As I pen these notes the October magazine has not yet arrived so I am obliged to the committee. I'm sure Jim was able to deliver some points of interest. I had an enjoyable holiday and with only one 9 hole course on Menorca I was able to give the sun, sea and San Miguel my utmost attention. It was nice to return to some predominantly dry weather which I'm sure all of us are extremely grateful for after the excessive rainfall during July and August. The Autumn outing was played on September 22 at the one and only Golf in the world at Louden. A good turnout of over 40 enjoyed the day with the prizewinners as follows: 1st String Scramble, Winners, Gordon Naugha; Roland Blackburn, Lee Blackburn and Neil Shuttleworth all Southwestern. Runners up, Jim Smith, (Ardeer), Derek Dutchie, (Aldie), Martin Kay, (Birken Bodge) and David McGlinchey, (Barassie). Afternoon Medal, Scratch, Lee Blackburn, (Southwestern), Cat 1; 1. Andy Clark, (Louden). 2. Martin Kay, (Aldie), 3. Finlayson, (Barassie), 4. Derek Wilson, (Birken Bodge). Cat 2; 1. John McLaughlan, (Prestwick St Nicholas). 2. Jim Smith, (Ardeer), 3. George Morrison, (West Kilbride), 4. Gordon Haughey, (Southwestern). Trade, Kenny Hunter, (Huxleys). The section would like to thank the captain and committee of Loudon Golf Club for their hospitality, Head Greenkeeper, David Armstrong and his staff for presentation of the course and the Clubmaster/Mistress for the catering and refreshments service. The sound of wadding bells are ringing loudly again, so the grapevine informs me with the latest recruit to the ranks being none other Mr Harry Diamond who tied the knot in Las Vegas. Congratulations from the Section. Scuttist is yet to upon which gives the trade an opportunity to display their wares and also a chance to meet old new acquaintances. Maybe I'll see you there. Any news, call me on 01305 652878.

Iain Barr

Central

It appears that the "Boys", and I use that word loosely, from the Leven Links Sporting Club, are off in search of new sports/pastimes. This time they seem to have succeeded in convincing the man in charge being Stuart Sime, I don't know if this is before or after he has competed in the stock car racing at Cowdenbeath, but as far as I can gather the first try at life in a caravon proved pretty good. Stuart can vocuah for the comfort of the bedhead, and they assure me that their next trip will include getting the caravan out of the sheds and onto the open road, if they can find someone to tow it. We extend a warm welcome to the section to Alistair MacFadyen from Glenfield Hydro Golf Centre and also to Andrew Crawford from the Green Hotel Golf Courses at Kinross, who is rejoining. I keep saying that we hope to see. Now members in some of our section events but very few bother attending, and yet if a trade company has an open day or such like there are plenty Section members in attendance. Is there because there are "freebies" on offer and Section events have to be paid for? Roy Auld, formerly of SGAM, is back on the road again with Geo. Henderson and it's nice to see his cheery face again (huh!), even if it does cost me for the coffee and biscuits every time he calls in. The entry forms for the 1999 Inter Club Tournament have already been circulated. If you are part of a team, please return them as soon as possible in order that the draw can be made and the tournament started earlier than in previous years, provided in each case that your team is complete. I have just received a phone call from former Section member Brian Inglis. Brian was at Callander Golf Club before moving abroad and is now in America, and I am looking for two enthusiastic assistants who fancy working abroad. It appeals to you, Brian can be contacted on 050 2238 4664 and he will give you full details of what seems a pretty good package. With the Autumn Tournament not being held until the first week in October I have missed the deadline for the results for this month. I am writing to update you next month, along with a report from the AGM, for which five members have returned their forms intimating their intentions to attend. Not bad out of 212 members still we live in hope.

John Crawford

Windhill while Drumpheller and Loch Lomond had a penalty shoot out. Loch Lomond came out on top. The final really became a poor example with no real excitement. Loch Lomond eventually winning. The outing had been scheduled earlier in the month but was postponed due to the weather. I am very grateful to all the members who came in. My team obviously missed my contribution of skill and stamina otherwise they would have won and that's fighting talks folks, wait till next year. For their appetite for other golf courses other than the initial hiccups. As usual the referees did a fine job with a few red cards being shown.

Thanks are due to Brian Hillan for organising the Autumn outing held at Catcath Castle on September 10, and what a day that was. Before the tournament started Robert must have been worried whether or not the day would eventuate. Once you have a tight schedule phoning on a few occasions to see what the situation was. Courses all over were closed. I then tried to think about what the last time was when an outing was not played for all the reasons and well done. On the day of the tournament, I left Kilmerton where some heavy rain was falling. On my travels I reached Hagg Castle and the sun shone out, was that the story for the remainder of the day. Now for the results; Scratch Prize, S. Taylor, Killermont, 74; 1st Class, I. G. Beven, East Kilbride, 75-5-70, 2. C. Goodhall, (Barrassie), 82-9-73, 3. C. Cowglen, 77-6-71; 2nd Class; 1. J. Brown, Beasden, 80-13-67, 2. M. Kelly, Lenzie, 82-12-70, 3. I. Nicol, Catcath Castle, 85-14-69; 3rd Class, 1. A. Jack, Catcath Castle, 102-28-7; 2. J. Bell, Kilmalkin, 103-20-83; 3. N. Gibb, Bracelies, 102-18-84; Trade Prize, K. Hunter, Huxleys, 77-1390; 2nd Class; P. McConkey, Rostaing, 83-4-79; Hackers Prize, M. Carey, Balmoral, too bad to mention. Poor Martin after all the glory times, but as was said on the day he was brave enough to hand in his card. Well done to all the members who put in an appearance to all who played for such a successful day. Thanks also to the members for courtesly of the course, the captain for presenting the prizes, the catering staff, and especially to my committee choices and finally my own committee for running everything nice and smoothly. Peter Boyd needs to be thanked for his Jakarta skills, when the proverbial horse arse has been trodden unto, I have been there. Not bad out of 212 members still we live in hope.

Balmoral cruised past Clydebank with a 9-2 win.
North East
The Autumn competition was recently played at Consett GC, our thanks to the committee for giving us courtesy of their course and to Head Greenkeeper, John Devlin and his staff for furnishing the course in great shape. On behalf of the Section we would like to thank Rite-Feed on sponsoring the competition and also the following: Shorts of Whittingham, Atkents, Greenlay, Border Turf Services on sponsoring the lowest nett score on the par 5’s: Best Gross, D Cuthbertson, 71, Staley Hall; Ransome Cup Best nett, B. Hughes, 99-5 = 70, Whittingham; Greenlay Cup, S Gran, 76-5 = 71, Staley Hall on back nine; Fewster Shield, S. Pope; Leading scores: C. Parkinson, 75-2 = 71, Matfen Hall, J. Hutton, 76-5 = 71, Staley Hall, G. Baxter, 78-6 = 72, So Shields, A. Mcure, 72-0 = 72, Whickham; M. Lathan, 75-2 = 73, Hexham; J. Redhead, 55-12-73, City of Newcastle.
The next match is against SE Scotland at Staley Hall on October 6 and all players have been notified. Best of luck lads.

Northwest

Northern
The growing season is just about over; thank goodness as machines need a rest just like humans. I’m sure the machinery companies will be rubbing their hands at the thought of repairing or even replacing all that worn out tackle!
This year’s Invitation Day Tournament was held at Aldwark Manor Golf Club. May I thank Dennis Cockburn and Richard Gamble for sorting things out on the day in my absence. Many thanks also to the greens and catering staff. The results for the day were as follows: 1. Robin Smith, J Wilson; 2. Tito Araia, Richard Simpson; 3. Ken Christie, L Scrase; 4. Alan Baxter, Ian Summersgill; 5. Andrew Clarke, Chris Crossland; Finally: A big thank you to Rigby Taylor for their kind and ongoing support of this and other Northern Section events and to Norma Schofield for attending on their behalf. I hope Bernard, Peter, Andrew and all the lads are doing fine. Next year we have arranged another ten pin bowling evening on May 11 1999 at Keighley. More details will follow in subsequent issues. Anyone wishing to put their names down for the Christmas Golf at Keighley Golf Club on Wednesday, December 9, please contact me in good time as numbers are likely to be limited. Even if you cannot attend the golf please come along for the AGM, which will conclude Chiarlton around 3.30pm. If there is anyone from around the Section with any news, please contact me at 1 Cockeyle Meadows, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, HD3 0LA or phone on either 01484 317813 or 0811-601420.

Simon Heffenstall

Provided some excellent prizes for the prize table and raffle. Thanks go to Henton and Chatells, Pete Temp, Steve Burroughs, Pardys, Atkents and also to Ping who provided some other prizes. There was some excellent golf played and I think the day was enjoyed by everyone who played. The overall winner was Adrian Rhodes who played some excellent golf and

finished with 39 points. Well done.
Adrian results: 1. A. Rhodes, 39pts; 2. R. Ullaboe, 37pts; 3. M. Colman, 37pts; 4. K. Kirkham, 36pts; 5. J. Donach, 36pts; 6. S. Currie, 36pts. The trade prize was won by Tony Dobson with 39 pts. Well done. Tony! Nearest the pin was won by Kim Kirkham. Well done Kim, I think it’s your speciality. Once again our winter

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Cleveland
Well done to Weirshead Head Greenkeeper, Barry Walker and his club pro, Doug Broderick, who went to the finals of the Lombard Trophy which was played in Portugal and won. This is a great achievement as it’s the biggest Pro Am in Europe.

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lectures will be held at Rotherham Golf Club starting at 2.30 pm; November 5, Twose Turf followed by AGM; December 3, Richard Walton, Scotts; February 4, David Stansfield, PSD Agronomy; March 4, A J Wallis, Force Limnograin. Please support your Section and try to attend as many lectures as possible.
John Lax

North West
I am writing these Section notes in the last week of September, and I am sure you will all be enjoying the break in the weather from the persistent rain we have had for some months. September is usually the last opportunity to Hollow tine and top dress, especially if you incorporate overseeding, before the possibility of winter frosts, so at least the dry spell has given you the start needed. If you have managed to carry out this work, a good idea is to go on holiday, so that you do not have to listen to the members moans about uneven putting surfaces. The “Autumn” competition at Dean Wood GC on September 17 was a great day, with 42 playing and a perfect day weather wise. The course was in lovely condition thanks to Chris Watson and his staff. Incidentally Chris had hollowtined and top dressed the first week in September, making sure he beat the frosts, and soon enough to have good fast greens for us to play on. I would like to thank Dean Wood GC for allowing us the courtesy of the course and for their generous

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November 1998 Greenkeeper International 35
welcome. Many thanks also to the caterers for a great meal, the bar staff for keeping the bar open until the last went home (me). Thanks once again to the trade companies who helped to swell the prize table.

A final reminder that we have our next open competition and Annual General Meeting at Wilmislow GC on Thursday, November 26. We will also include the competition for the Peter Drury Trophy, which has been donated by John Walker, N/W Section President. All you need to enter is: send a cheque to Bill Merritt 225 Utting Avenue, Walton, Liverpool, L3 9BB, and everybody bring a bottle, so that we all go away with a prize. The Tee is available from 10am. Richard Conless has moved from Sandbach GC to Mottram Hall as First Assistant. Any news, views, or enquiries contact me on 0151 724 5412. Bert Cross

North Wales

Well, hello, I'm back again. Firstly can I quash all rumours, it definitely wasn't my backside seen on TV on a beach in Ibiza. I'm 42 not 24, the British Consul did not leave because I arrived. The Brown Act in Action crew were not looking for me! Jeez, next time I go on holiday I'll keep my eye out for Kate Adie. One thing I noted was the local delicacy of squid for a plateful of fish you can tell the cook to write about 'cause again, no one's got in touch, except the college. Once again they are running a series of short courses which I know from experience are excellent, and superb value for money. The dates are Monday, November 16, 1998, 4-2 stroke; Monday, November 23, Diesel Systems; Monday, November 30, Brakes and clutches; Monday, December 7, Blade Sharpening and December, Monday, 14, Abrasive Wheels. The days start at 10am and finish at 3pm and the total cost for all five modules is £50 for N/W members, £65 for non-members. Phil Davies or Graham Wright on 01322 841035. Here's to a dry crisp winter season with enough snow to keep the course open and everybody free to enjoy round the course, no fusarium, no moans, no groans, everything you set out in your winter programme completed on time we won't need to put that pig flying over the course. See ya, Dave Goodridge

Midland

Midland Region Seminar 1998 - support your Region and attend the Midland Region Seminar at Mentmore Golf Club on Wednesday, November 18, 1998. Application forms for attendance were in the September issue of Greenkeeper International. Please do contact the Regional Administrator.

The inaugural Midland Region Golf Management Trophy Competition was held at Cold Ashby Golf Club on September 24, 1998. The Region is extremely grateful to David Croxton and his staff at Cold Ashby Golf Club for extending the courtesy of the course and for their help in making the day successful and enjoyable for all. The competition was sponsored by Scotts Turf & Amenity and the Region's thanks go to Richard Minton for his support in getting this event off the ground. Twenty one golf clubs entered as four main teams comprising of the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper, the Secretary, Captain and Chairman of Green. The prize pool was £150 with £50 for each winning club, plus individual prizes to the leading teams. Lutterworth Golf Club, led by their Head Greenkeeper Gary Jukes, won first prize closely followed by Lichfield Golf Club in second place and South Staffordshire Golf Club in third place. The Region thanks all of the golf clubs for taking part and looks forward to holding a similar event next year.

Peter Larter

East of England

The fifth annual match between our Secretaries took place last Saturday at Toff Hotel Golf Club (near Bourne). The Chancellors Cup was retained, once again, by the Secretaries 3 1/2 to 2 1/2. Thanks to our team for all playing what was the secretaries home fixture. The talk, was, hopefully to play the secretaries at Stoke Rochford next year if it can be arranged. The Secretaries Association Secretary, Brian Harris, stood down this year and I wish him all the best in his retirement, The Head Greenkeeper, Barry Anderson, and his staff were thanked for providing an excellent state of the course, and the catering was first class. One player who could not make it was Tony Fox, of Blakeney. He was taken in Hospital, and we wish Tony a speedy recovery. East of England scores; G. Macdonald + L. Siddon, Halved; K. Hodges + J. Hewson, Lost; R. Hewitt + E. Cobb, Won; J. Scoones + B. Wilkinson, Lost; B. Anderson + A. Thomas, Won; G. Ogden + R. Harrison, Lost; P. Fell + A. Clarke, Lost; L. Purdy. Lost. Last bit of news from the East. Two of the East Midlands Hodges wife is to have a baby the day before we visit our course for our Section meeting, I will keep you posted as to whether its a boy or girl. If Kevin made it to the golf meeting.

Gaeme Macdonald

East Midlands

I would like to thank the following golf clubs in our Section all of whom have kindly contributed to the BIGGA Building Fund: Beeston Fields G.C., Erewash Valley G.C., Mapperley G.C. and Cinderford G.C. Your support is greatly appreciated. This year's Autumn Tournament was held at Scraptoft GC on September 2, with 30 competitors taking part. The winners were as follows: Category 1; L. A. Thomas, Manor, 69-5-6; 2: J. Dickinson, Leen Valley, 79-7-7; 3: A. Foulds, Manor, 80-8-7. Category 2; 1: A. Porter, Greetham Valley, 83-12-7; 2: J. Bedford, Birstall, 88-16-7; 3: D. Mitchell, Springwater, 84-11-7; Category 3: 1: M Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 90-21-6; 2: E. Kempster, Glen Gorse, 90-19-7; 3: G. Robson, Lingdale, 98-24-7. Trade & Associate Winner, P. Larter, Regional Administrator, 82-8-7, Nearest the Pin, P. Larter, Longest Drive, D. James. I would like to thank Scraptoft GC, Manor HC, and the Rufford, for providing a course and to the stewards & stewards for a really great meal, not forgetting Carl Chamberlain and the rest of the green staff for preparing a chairman's cake of golf. Finally a special thank you to Banks Amenity Products for their sponsorship of this event.

Next year's Autumn Tournament will be held at Erewash Valley on September 6. Finally on behalf of the Section, I would like to wish Martin Smith and his family, our best wishes for the future. Martin has been a keen member of the Section and was moved from Ramsdale Park to Burhill GC and will rejoin the Surrey Section. Antony Bindley

B, B&D

The Autumn Invitational golf day was held at Harleyford last month and for once the weather was kind to all competitors. There's only one snag with regards to playing on a nice day and that is the scoring can be blistering! This certainly was the case with some amazing scores at the top of the leader board. Neil Barlow, Matt Wilks finished with a total of 40+ pts you would expect to make a visit to the Trophy table, however not on this day. 43pts (-7) was not even good enough. I felt my partner Peter Larter and myself played some good golf but our 37pts fell well short of the target. 1. J. Scoones & J. Coley, 47pts; 2. A. Cooper & D. Herd, 46pts; 3. D. Goodall & K. Benton, 44pts. L.J. Scoones; NP, J. Coley. I had the pleasure of sitting next to John Coley at dinner and this gave me the opportunity to find out exactly how he managed to tear the course apart. They managed to score 26pts on the back nine alone the highlight coming on the 17th when he made Eagle which meant 36d. I believe that when John finished his round, he was seen taking his putter into the shower, just to cool it down! Many thanks to GEM for sponsoring the day. This was appreciated by all who took part. Well done Bernie Ray Clark and his staff are to be congratulated on presenting a first class course, also all the catering staff are to be thanked for laying on a superb feast which was a definite sight at the end of a long day. The next golf day takes place at Whiteleaf on November 26 and doubles as our AGM as well so if you have any thoughts for improving the Section then please come along and air your views. Finally the Regional Seminar takes place at Mentmore Golf Club on Wednesday, November 18, and your support is essential to make this a success. Lindsay Anderson

Mid Anglia

The Section's summer tournament was held this year in late August at Leighton Buzzard Golf Club; a lovely, compact Bedfordshire course. Bearing in mind this summer's weather, a fine day for golf was, we could be looking at quite a few tees to play. Thirty two members turned up for the day's golf, seven of whom were trade members. A Stableford was played in the morning, followed by a Par 3 Stableford Texas Scramble, after lunch.

The results from the Stableford competition were as follows: 1. Steve Mason, Mount Pleasant Golf Club, Stableford 37pts, 1. John Moorehouse, Brocket Hall Golf Club, 37pts. The trade prize was won by Tim Webb, from Tacht, with 45 points.

Mike Piggot, the Chairman, and Barton for running the Kingpin "nearest the pin" competition once again, which was won by Neil Pestle of Mid Herts. John Wells was second, Russell Horsen third and Colin White of Aronycop picked up the Trade prize. Neil Pestle also won the longest drive. A superb lunch was enjoyed, with everyone looking forward to the attention given to the excellent dinner table over nine holes. The results of this were: 1. P. Judd, J. Jones, A. Males, 28, 1.2. J. Donaldson, B. Buttry, L. Rance, 31, 3. Peter Garbutt, F. Coleman, 31.8. Our thanks go to Leighton Buzzard Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and the superb hospitality shown to us; also to John Bacheall, the Secretary, who attended our meal and presentation in the evening. Dave Piggot, the Head Greenkeeper and all his staff, must be commended on the excellent standard of the course.

Boughton Loam, represented by Mike Franklin, kindly sponsored the day and donated all the prizes, so many thanks to them and to all the Section members supporting the Section so ably.

I would personally like to thank John Wells for stepping in to say a few words in the absence of our Chairman and Vice, and to Richard Saunders for his organisational prowess.

I would like to congratulate John Moorman on his appointment as Head Greenkeeper of the Melbourne Course at Brocket Hall. The final of the Lodgeway Four
Ball Tournament was played in early October at John O’Gaunt Golf Club over 36 holes. Steve Hesk and Darren Mugford of Aldwickbury came out winners.

It was unfortunate that one of their opponents, Mark Hendry, was injured and Neil Robson therefore had to compete on his own. Our thanks to John O’Gaunt for staging the final, and to Chris Rock of Lodgemen for sponsoring the event.

Steve Mason has done an excellent job in his first year of running the event. We all look forward eagerly to next year’s event! The Regional Seminar is being held in our Section this year, at Mentmore Golf and Country Club, on November 18.

Please support the event; there are a wide variety of speakers lined up for the day. Our last golf event of the year, the Christmas Texas Scramble, will be held on December 4 at Ashridge Golf Club. Early team entries are vital, as this event is always extremely popular and is often over-subscribed.

Paul Lockett

Midland

On Monday, September 28, the Autumn Tournament was played at Edgbaston Golf Club.

The day was a great success considering the torrential thunder storms that occurred throughout the previous weekend. It was a great credit to Mike Hughes and his staff for preparing the course in such trying circumstances.

Many thanks on behalf of the Midland Committee.

The results are as follows; 1. M. Gash, 2. Clayton Lee, 3. Alan Cutler, 4. Dave Gibbons, 5. Jon Williams. 1st gross went to Tony Chesse. Longest drive was won by A Corns of Acorn Equipment.

I would also like to thank on behalf of the Section all our sponsors for the day who were Tacit, Acorn Equipment and Ruffords Topdressing. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tacit for sponsoring the summer tournament, as I forgot to mention them in last months report.

The final of the Rigby Taylor doubles, will be played by the time you receive this report so I will keep you informed. The finalists are Mark Cutler and Alan Cutler against Paul Loffman and Trevor Morris. Briefly I would like to remind you of the Christmas tournament at Copth Heath Golf Club on Thursday, December 10, the AGM will be held after the golf so those of you who are not playing in the golf please come to the AGM.

Finally I would like to introduce some new members; Daniel Jones, Jamie Wilson, Jamie Griffin, Mark Allen, Francesco Polino, John Hughes, Andrew Dalton and Steven Harvey.

Jonathan Wood

East Anglia

With the onset of Autumn our Nomadic band decided to go to Sheringham. Not a wise choice at that time of year you may think. Well, you would be wrong, only just, as it was a bad day the day before and a day you wouldn’t send a dog out the day after, but our day with a slight breeze, well dry anyway. About 40 turned up as it was a restricted field, so the privileged few finally got to play Sheringham. I don’t think many of us had played there before judging by the scores either, however someone has got to win. The scores were as follows; Andrew comfortably then I shall begin. 0-9 Section; 1. R. Whiting, 39pts (overall winner); 2. P. Howard, 37pts; 3. R. Plummer, 36pts. 10-18 Section; 1. M. Broughton, 33pts; 2. J. Willitt, 32pts; 3. D. Childs, 32pts. 19-28 Section; 1. S. Crab, 38pts; 2. T. Russell, 35pts; 3. M. Mison, 33pts. Guest prizes were won by Messrs Bray and Carr, Captain and Chairman of Greens respectively. The loo seat was won by yours truly not for the least points I might add, far from it. No, the loo seat has returned to Lathrope after many years not for poor golf as in the past but for the most bizarre event of the day; I was playing one of several bunker shots when I was hit smack on the top of the head with a ball. The Anglo Saxon was about to flow when I noticed my so called friend and playing partner Brian Lenton rolling around in fits of laughter. It was then that I realised it was my bull that had caught the top of the bunker shot straight in the air and wallap, straight on the nut.

Of course, once this tale had spread around the clubhouse, afterwards, I was presented with the seat to remind me of the day, long after the headache has gone. Thanks lads. The main sponsors for the day were Bartram Mowers. Other prizes were donated by Colliers, Barenbrug, Rushbrooks, SISIS, Rhone-Poulenc, Willmot Perree, Lely Consultant Clarkson and Tomlinson Ground Care. Our thanks to Sheringham GC for a great day. The course was in super nick right from the fairway from that bunker on the fourth fairway.

Mick Lathrope

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November 1998 Greenskeeper International 37
holding an indoor Go-Karting endurance race along with the help of Great British Trading Company. The venue, Indicket Racing Club, Colchester, Friday, November 20, arrival 1.30pm. There will be eight teams of four, £20 per man, with the race lasting 3½ hours. For further details contact Richard Pride 01268 752381. An important date for your diary is your AGM to be held at Ongar GC on Tuesday, December 1. There will be a golf competition in the morning followed by a Supply Company AGM after Details will be sent out soon. Any enquiries please contact Richard or Martin Forester (01245 603131). One or two positions need to be filled on the committee. Anyone interested, please ring Martin. The 1996 SE Region Education Conference will be on Tuesday, November 24, 7pm, Stock Brook Manor GC. Anyone interested to help please let us know on the night or better still ring our Secretary Martin 01245 603131, who will let you have further information.

On to our latest news. Addington’s ever growing Section, we would like to welcome both Graham Hipkin and Alan Smith from Chelten-on-Sea GC. From the Mandycote Valley Club Centre Daniel Fairlie and Joe Broderick from Stapleford Abbotts GC.

Our last event of the year and a very pleasant one, was at Mayland’s Golf Club. Please, I haven’t played for years. Can I thank Phillip Taylor for letting us use the course. Paul Farrow, Head Greenkeeper and his staff for getting the course ready. Pauline and staff, catering at the bar to spoilt for the event. Avoncroft, thanks Wayne.

The winners were: Cat 1, Andy Sheehan, 36pts; Mick Fable, 34pts; Carl Croucher, 31pts; Cat 2, Ray Clark, 35pts; Tom Pullen, 33pts; Cat 3, Gary Farrow, 32pts; Cat 3, Jack Shilton, 33pts; Ian Mitchell, 30pts; Malcolm Smith, 28pts; Trade price, Richard Lewis; Guest Prize, Phil Terry. Thanks to Club Captains and committee who sponsored, nearest the Pin, Neil Peachey; Longest Drive, Richard Pride.

The overall winner for the Autumn Trophy is Andy Sheehan. Thanks to these firms for the prize: Pigey Taylor, Tackwells, Banks, Grass Roots, CMW, Bourne, Driving Force Leisure, Willmott Pave. Our AGM and Golf Day is on December 2 at Ongar Golf Club. If you are able to attend, yes attend, your AGM. Where we all can help to continue our success. Dave Wells

Surrey

Welcome, everyone, to this months compilation of news and useful information. Firstly our congratulations to some new parents from the Drift Golf Club Mark and Suilville whose wife Deborah gave birth on September 1 to their daughter, Hannah, 8lbs 6ozs and from Worplesdon Golf Club, Ken Harding, and his wife Tracy, are celebrating the arrival of their son, Charley.

Effingham Golf Club will be running a Chain Saw Course in December and would welcome members from other Surrey clubs to participate and gain a Certificate of Competence. Please contact Peter Broadhurst for full details.

The annual clash between golfers from England and Scotland took place at Epsom Golf Club on September 18. The course was in magnificent condition and the greens having been rolled with a turf iron were very testing. Unfortunately, we have very few Scottish members at present as only three from North of the Border turned up. Still not minding the English contingent made up their numbers and the final result was a draw. The Parker Salver was saved for Reigate Heath Golf Club on October 1 and it was a pleasure to see the course in such excellent condition. Our thanks to Derek and Grant for the condition and our thanks to the club for the delicious food and hospitality. The results were: 1. Derek Cumilffe, 30pts, 2. Michael McLoughlin, 30pts, 3. John Machis, 37pts.

And now sadly the contents of a fax sent to me by Paul Crouch, Head Greenkeeper at Putterham Golf Club. We are sorry to report the sad loss of one of our members of staff, 28 year old Patrick Boyd, Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Putterham Golf Club, who died in tragic circumstances during a charity mountain bike ride. He leaves his wife Sara and 3 year old son, Callum, and will be sadly missed by all his colleagues at Putterham. Brian Willmott

South West & South Wales

Regional Seminar - Cannington College, November 25, £15 per head. Book your places quickly as spaces limited. Frank Newberry is speaking, don’t miss hearing him. Why not bring along your Secretary or Chairman of Green as well.

BTME - Coach places filling up fast. Reserve your places quickly - 595, 3 nights B&B, coach travel and entrance to seminars. Application forms from Paula Humphries, 01363 82777.

South West

November, what a delightful time of the year. The golden colour of the leaves as they fall to the greens, the fresh air, the sight of our native fauna foraging for food in readiness for the winter, the chronic outbreak of fusarium. Actually at the moment I am enjoying a little visit from our old friend. Take All Pach. Can anyone tell me the best method of getting rid of this? Come to think of it, can someone tell me any method of getting rid of it? I have read all the books and they say that I am stumped basically.

The members, despite patient explanation from staff and me are convinced Springs have a particularly virulent form of ringworm, and all the greens will a have to be dug up and incinerated on sight. But enough of my problems, what has been happening within the Section. Not a great deal, as far as I can tell, which brings me to the conclusion that all members within the Section are going to have to give me a ring and let me know what has been happening within the club, or our club. Anyone out there recently joined the matrimonial institution? Are spores imminent or recently materialised? Is anyone about to leave employment elsewhere and so require good wishes?

Or maybe there are people out there who have finally reached the period of their lives when they can sit back and take it easy. No I’m not talking about getting that OAP Manager job, but easier to retire. Please, please let me know the latest news so I can keep the section informed. Coming up on December 10, the Autumn Chipping Cup at Chipping Sodbury. Included in your details of the AGM at Saltford from Peter, will be five raffle tickets for the bargain price of £1.00 each. Send these back before December 1, and you may be up for winning a place at the BTME at Harrogate. This prize has been donated by HW to help the Section funds so please enter the raffle. The draw will take place at Chipping Sodbury so be there as this is always a great tournament to play in.

Marc Haring

South Wales

Thanks to Craiglia GC for their hospitality in granting courtesy of the course on September 2 for our annual match against the secretaries. The result was our 1st straight victory, John Patterson beat J Graham/D Fellows, J B Jones/R Frater beat D Richard/H Edmond, A Abel/A Hackett beat M Hughes/D Roderick, A Jenkins/ A Cosh beat E Jones/B Player, P Lacey/A Banks Halved with R Bradley/R Howells. An outstanding 4½ / ½ win for the ‘Greenkeepers’.

Thanks to Bill Malcolm and Ken Jones who recognised Craiglia GC, to the Secretaries who participated in the day and to Alan Abel the sponsor of the day from Complete Weed Control. The prize winners were: Longest Drive on the 2nd / Eric Tose on the 2nd / Andrew Hatcher 6th / Ken Jones 10th / Jim Graham 16th, an excellent day was had by all.

Again we sprung into action at Allington GC for the Autumn Tournament, on September 9, albeit blowing a gale with cold heavy showers. Again a good day was had by all. Our thanks to the sponsors John & Ben Morgan for providing the drinks and Keith Morgan for his kind words and courtesy of the course. The changes that have been made to the course Keith since our visit in 1993 are for the better. Winner of the day was Adrian Panks who received the Jacobson Cup and a Golf bag for the best nett of 69 on the back 9, second best nett 69 on the front 9 was D Morgan. The following day, Best Gross of 75 Andy Reich winning the Presidents Cup and Golf shoes, winner of the Waycott Cup was Gareth Evans with a 74 on the back 9 from D Morgan. Thanks to our President Colin Murphy for making the presentations. Rugby Taylor match play singles update: R Frater beat D Gladwin, Kerry Jones beat D Bray, Brian Phillips beat J B Jones, Mike Jones beat P Lacey. Next round; R Frater v M Jones, G Johnstone v M Norfolk, one bye for K Jones.

Our congratulations to David Ward for becoming the Regional Winner for the BIGGA/Amazone Environment Competition, ( I might have a gold star for writing this) and for the major donation to the Royal Borthncow GC during the Home Internationals in September. The Golf Management Trophy held at the Celtic Manor Golf Club on Friday, 16th October with 20 teams attending, course in great condition, looking forward to next year.

Up and coming fixtures: This year’s AGM is to be held on Wednesday December 9. As always, at the Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club. See you there. There are still spaces available if you wish to attend the 1999 BTME so give Paula Humphries or P Lacey a ring to book your place.

Richard Hatcher

Devon & Cornwall

My report starts this month with the news that Jeff Mills has just started his new job as Course Manager at Taunton & Pickering Golf Club. Our congratulations and best wishes are with Jeff. In our autumn round of secretaries’ updates to Wyndham Potter on reaching retirement. We look forward to seeing you at our events Wyndham. Once again Christmas is approaching fast, so what better way to start the festive season than by attending our P J Flegg sponsored Christmas meeting which will be held at Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday, December 9. As in previous years members will be limited to the first 80 members, so to avoid disappointment please return your entry with correct money as soon as possible, and before the closing date.

The day will start at usual with golfing members playing for the P J Flegg Trophy with the format being greensome. For those of you not wishing to play golf, the now annual Greensome Stableford competition will be held at the club house at approximately 10.30 with Head Greenkeeper, Richard Wisdom, showing members his fine work. Lunch will be followed by our annual presentation where the day will conclude with the raffles. I like to remind you that the region’s annual seminar will be held at Cannington College, on Wednesday, November 25. Places on the Regions package to BTME 99 which includes transport,
accommodation and entry to the BTME show and seminars are going fast to avoid disappointment you are advised to return your booking form as soon as possible. If you haven't already booked your place for the seminar or BTME Package don't delay, call our Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries, today on 01363 82777. If you have any news you would like me to include in the monthly reports please let me know in writing, my address is on the front of your fixture card. Reports have to be in one month beforehand (for January issue reports have to be in by December 1).

Richard Whyman

David Jones. We would like to thank all the speakers for giving up their valuable time. It was a lively and highly entertaining session especially by some computer buff by the name of Fair Wanks North. We would like to remind all the members that the seminars like this count for credits towards their Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

We also held our AGM and the committee was voted in to carry on with its agenda. For any member who does not know it is Eamon Farrell Chairman and Liaison Officer, Mark Farrell Secretary and Neil McLoughlin as Education Officer. Members wishing any information or who have any ideas please contact any of the committee members. Eamon Farrell

Northern Ireland

We had our Sportsurf show at the beginning of October in the Kings Hall in Belfast. This year we also held a seminar at the show. Those who attended enjoyed a variety of speakers including the IOG, BIGGA, Force Limagrain, Elmwood College, Textron/ Ransomes, Frank Ainsworth and

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