Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 318 3400

Ayrshire
The section Spring outing was held at Ballochmylie Golf Club on Thursday 6 May where a good turn out of over 40 attended. The day saw a change from the recent spell of dry weather with some overnight and early morning rain. It didn't dampen the spirits and the team of A. Clarke, D. Armstrong, both Loudon; B. Inglis, Greentech, and J. Paterson, Port Bannatyne, came out victorious in the morning Texas Scramble. The weather brightened up for the afternoon and the following prize winners came out on top.

North
The Spring outing was a great day with blue skies and a hot sun shining all day. As predicted Brian Fraser and his staff had the course in excellent condition. In fact everyone at Inverness made us very welcome. The lucky prize winners were as follows: Scratch, Bowen Trophy, Mike Wilson, Fortrose, 71; 2. Bradley Wood, Westhill, 74. Class One and Frews trophy winner Scott Williams, Inverurie, 72-6-66; 2. Robert Patterson, Royal Aberdeen, 74-5-69; 3. Richard Roy, Garmouth, 74-4-70.

Qualifiers for the National Tournament at Carden Park are Keith McCartney and William McMeikan.
Chairman, Duncan Gray, conducted the presentation of prizes and thanked the Captain and the Committee of Ballochmylie Golf Club for the courtesy of their course and facilities. He commended Head Greenkeeper, Ross Wilks, and his staff for the presentation of the golf course and thanked Mr and Mrs Wilcox for a splendid service of food and refreshments throughout the day. Duncan finished with a special thanks to our secretary. Derek Wilson, for all his efforts in organising the day and hoped to see everyone again at the Pines Golf Centre on the 30 September for our Autumn outing.
That's all the news for this month. Any snippets, give me a call on 01505 685278.
Iain Barr.

Technical Information
Toro's all-purpose Reelmaster trim mowers offer the total solution for a matchless performance around bunkers, tees, collars and approaches, and over sports fields and amenity areas too.
Featuring the exclusive L-T-N-K-S™ suspension system for enhanced ground contour following, both the 2300-D and 2600-D are ideal to give a superb quality of cut and will tackle most kinds of turf and terrains, and over sports fields and amenity areas too. The two lucky winners of the expenses paid entry into the Charterhouse/Scotts National Tournament at Carden Park are Mike Wilson, Forres, and Scott Williams, Inverurie. All in all a great day and a big thank you to all at Inverness.
A couple of new appointments in the Section. Scott Williams has moved from Peterculter to Inverurie and Stewart Robertson has been made up to Head Greenkeeper at Craighall Hill. Rejoining the Section is Jim MacCormack, Kirriemuir, and one new member to welcome is Scott Pettigrew, Iain.
This month we have The Open at Carnoustie and the BIGGA Support Team will have four members from our Section, that I know about, along with myself are Stuart Hogg, Fortrose, Gordon McKie, St Andrews, and Paul Pettigrew, Tain.

Any snippets, give me a call on 01505 685278.
Iain Barr.
Murphy, Downfield. I will be driving a bus again, so keep clear of the Dundee to Carnoustie road that week, you have been warned.

I A Macleod

East

I hope we find everyone fit and well and you are all getting some good growth on your courses as the weather is very good just now! Long may it continue.

Down to Section business. We had our Spring tournament on 27 April at Goswick Golf Club, Berwick Upon Tweed. We would like to thank the Captain, Council and the Club Secretary for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse facilities for what was an excellent day.

We would like to thank George Thompson, Head Greenkeeper, and his staff for the condition of the course which was in superb condition considering the week before the course had four inches of snow, which was followed by frost. Well done lads. Last but not least thank you to the Steward and Stewardess and the clubhouse staff for looking after us very well on the day. Once again, thanks to everyone at Goswick Golf Club. On the day we had 60+ members, Guests and Trade members in attendance for our first major of the 1999 season. The weather was not too kind to us on the day with very thick fog, sea haar, mist or whatever you want to call it, making visibility very bad. It forced some people to retire after 9 holes and head for the clubhouse, myself included, but around half the field continued and some very good scores were returned in testing conditions. Some of the people who only played 9 holes and headed for the bar were people who travelled on the bus, so speaking personally, I think the bus was a great idea as the bar did a roaring trade that afternoon. Some of the people who only played 9 holes and headed for the bar were people who travelled on the bus, so speaking personally, I think the bus was a great idea as the bar did a roaring trade that afternoon. Seriously though, everyone enjoyed a great day out so I hope it's not too long until we are back at Goswick. One more thank you to the trade for bringing along raffle prizes, it is very much appreciated.


Next Tournament is the Summer tournament at Murrayfield Golf Club, Tuesday 8 June. Hope to see you all there.

People on the move are Richard Mullen, formerly Assistant Greenkeeper at Murravfield GC, who has moved to my club Swanston GC! as my Deputy Head Greenkeeper and we wish him success in his new position. The Section is running a fund raising prize draw this year which will be drawn at the Annual Dinner Dance in December. There is some very good prizes to be won, so we would like everyone to take some books of tickets to sell. If you haven't got any yet, get in contact with Craig Pennycuick who is dealing with the tickets and he will send you some. So, come on, we need your help to make this a success. Craig can be contacted on his mobile 07979 432097, home 0131 654 2913. That's it. See you next month.

Chris Yeaman

Central

It's a warm welcome to the Section to Grahame Taylor, from Leven Links, and Simon Crawford, from Gleneagles Hotel, who is rejoining us. As I have said before, hopefully we will see them at some of our events in the near future.

We also send best wishes for a successful future to Kenny Duncan, who has taken over at Dunfermline Golf Club, and to Ronnie Cunningham, who has moved on from Dunfermline to a new venture on the outskirts of the town.

Within the next few weeks you will be receiving your tickets for our new Section fund raiser, "CLUB 2000", the tickets will cost you £6 per year and there will be ten draws for £50 starting in January 2000, a bonus
draw in July for £100 and another in December for £150 which isn’t bad for less than 2p per day. Even less in a leap year.

Hopefully every member will give this venture their support as it will go towards providing a wider variety of educational events and enable us to organise events which are of interest to every member and not just the golfers in the section.

A prominent member of the Section was put in a dilemma the night Manchester United were playing in the final of the Champions League as it fell on the same night as parent’s night at school and the only alternative date was the same night as the Section committee meeting. I won’t tell you which one he chose but let’s just say that he put in an apology and it wasn’t to Alex Ferguson and the committee was one man short. It’s just a pity that a week later the team which he supports lost itself had to be closed. The competition was then re-arranged to be played at Penrith GC on Wednesday 15 September and previous arrangements still apply. The competition will be sponsored by Course Care and be by invitation only. Sean Moon, previously Head Greenkeeper of Mersey Valley GC, informs me that the Legal Helpline certainly works as the Legal Helpline certainly works as well. Sean and his staff were all made redundant just before Christmas last year and they got in touch with the helpline right away. The outcome was that they took the club to a tribunal on the grounds of unfair dismissal and won their case, and the staff were each paid an undislosed sum. It is also nice to know that they have all found employment again.

That’s it for now, see you at The Open. Ring me if you have any information on 0131 724 5412.

Bert Cross

Northern

I haven’t had any little birds whispering into my ear about any exciting events/promotions/job changes this month and therefore I’ll keep it brief!

At the time of writing, the numbers listed for playing in the President’s Day golfing event were sadly very low.

I appreciate it’s an exceptionally busy time of year for everyone, me included, and we may well look at changing the dates to a different time of year in the future. Please let me know your thoughts.

As previously communicated, the remaining golfing events for this year are as follows:

Invitation Day, Shipley GC, 4 August; Roses Match, Holme Hall GC, 18 August; Autumn Tournament, Bradford GC, 20 October; Winter Tournament Fulflood GC, 8 December. If anyone wishes to be considered for the Roses Match, please contact me as soon as possible so that a ‘top class’ team can be selected.

Anyone who has any news from within the Section, please contact me at 1 Cockley Meadows, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield HD9 0LA or telephone 01484 317813 or 07788 442755.

Don’t forget to get your name and money to me in good time for any of the forthcoming golfing events.

Simon Heppenstall.

North West

This month we have no golf to report on, which also means the Section news will be short because no members have telephoned with any snippets for me to include.

The Cumbria Cup that was to be played on 12 May had to be cancelled due to heavy flooding causing the course to be closed. The rain had been so heavy that I think Penrith itself had to be closed. The competition has been re-arranged to be held in the future. Please let me know your thoughts.

Without doubt, the new Verti-Drain Mustang is the fastest, most effective aerator on the market today. Whilst it still features the unique, patented ‘heave’ action, there are many new improvements, including single point arm adjustment, a stronger tine support system and fewer working parts.
the next Section event on 22 July. Remember the more the merrier. We hope to see you there.
Ross Wilson 01635 821333

East Midlands
This year’s Spring Tournament was held on 13 May at the excellent venue of Longcliffe GC. The weather forecast was sunny intervals and heavy showers, and true to form everyone required umbrellas and waterproof clothing at some point in their round. However, this did not deter anyone from enjoying a great day. The course was presented in great condition by Walt Cole and his staff who found some testing pin positions.
Unfortunately Richard Barker, due to other commitments, was unable to join us on the day, this giving others a chance of taking the best Gross prize. One concerning factor was the poor turn out on the day, 29 members only. What do we need to do to encourage more members?
The scores for the day were as follows. Best Gross: Dave Leatherland, Kedleston Park: Winner of the

It can drive its 6" tines, solid or hollow, at a faster rate than any other aerator, which makes it the perfect machine for high speed runs down the fairway and for even shorter work on the greens.
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But one word of caution.
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Scotts/Charterhouse Qualifer: Best Nett: Steve Tolley, Longcliffe 84-20-64; Winner of the Scotts/Charterhouse Qualifer:
Category 1. 1. Pete Billings, Cotgrave Place, 90-8-82; 2. Alex Hawkes, Cotgrave Place, 89-4-85.
Our Spring tournament was held at Aldwickbury Golf Club at the end of March, over 36 holes. The course was in excellent condition, so thanks to Steve Hesk and all his staff, as well as the club officials who allowed us courtesy of their fine course and to Sir Martin on 01245 603131. See you at Colchester. For all Committee Members our next meeting is on Tuesday 27 July, 2pm at Thornford Park GC. Please make every effort to attend or contact Martin on 01245 603131. See you at Colchester. PS. I see a few other London clubs have joined West Ham in Europe this coming season! Dave Wells 01702 522202.
August Around the Green. While writing about Effingham Golf Club we can congratulate Peter Broadbent and his lovely wife Karen on the birth of their fourth child Alfie who weighed in at 9 lbs and in Karen’s own words “at that size they make your eyes water!"

Another Golf day that I’m sure will produce a large attendance is the McMillian Tankard which will be played for on 6 August. If you have not got an entry form please contact me and I will be pleased to send you one.

Kent

Our first golf event was held on 24 May at Chalk Hills GC and this was the Section qualifier for the National Championship. Before I list the results I would like to say a big thank you to all of the trade companies who sponsor these events and make it all possible and secondly to thank Chart Hills GC for the courtesy of the course and the excellent meal which was provided. Also I’d like to personally thank Paul Hobden and his staff for the excellent condition of the course which I know they all worked very hard to achieve.

The results were as follows: Best Net, N. Gillem, Best Gross, D. Kelso, 2. Net, P. Cooper who also won the nearest to pin competition. 2. Gross, J. Fullager, 3. Net, G. Dehnam, 3. Gross, J. Nolloth, 4. Net, K. Diamond and the trade guest was G. Ogley. There was an excellent turn out of 58 entrants, which was very good to see and it was an enjoyable day, especially as the weather held out.

Now I’m afraid I’ve got some very sad news as Trevor Hindmarsh, our Chairman, has been taken seriously ill with some form of cancer of the blood. So from everyone who knows you, I’d like to send you our best regards and wish you a speedy recovery.

Lastly I’d like to know how many people would be interested in a golfing card which is quieted away at the end of the summer. The destination is unknown yet but if anyone is interested or has any suggestions, then contact me and leave me your name, number and any preference of a venue.

Also if anybody has any news or comments for the magazine, then please don’t hesitate to contact me on 01474 879200.

Kneale Diamond

South Wales

South Wales has been provided the section, the finest floating rotary mower deck in the world. Our unique patented belt-driven articulating deck design gives you unsurpassed quality and accuracy of cut.

Devon & Cornwall

The Section would like to take this opportunity to thank P J Flegg Ltd, for their generous sponsorship of thefix

August 1992 at Bigbury Golf Club when Kerran presented his afternoon educational talk on computers. Kerran had spent some time preparing his overhead transparencies for his talk only to have a leak in the roof land directly onto them causing the ink to run. Kerran completed his talk like a true professional.

Best wishes Kerran from all your friends and we look forward to seeing you at Harrogate next year.

I finish this month’s report on a sad note after hearing that a fellow Head Greenkeeper within our Section has felt it necessary to resign from his position after extreme pressures put on him by his committee, including cutting the greens through the winter at an extremely low height of cut. We wish him well for the future.

Richard Whyman.

South Wales

Our thanks to Southenddown Golf Club and to Gary Johnstone and his staff for yet another enjoyable day for our spring tournament. Thanks to the sponsors: Softspikes, Spotsicks and Avoncrop. Thanks also to the caterers, Jan Williams and Vice Captain Geraint David.

Best Net and winner of the Cardiff Cup - Steven Lloyd from Burghill Valley GC, Nett 70. Winner of the John O Gorman Cup - Henry Stead, Net 72, 2nd Best Net - Alan Crichton, 3rd Best Net - John Borga. 2nd Best Gross and the Brown’s Shield - Gary Johnstone.

The best Net and Gross scores of the day - Steven Lloyd and Gary Johnstone both qualified for the Charterhouse/Scotts sponsored National Championships to be held at Carden Park from the 3rd - 5th October. Unfortunately the match BIGGA versus Pencored College was cancelled on 2 June but hopefully will be re-scheduled for another day.

On the 17 August BIGGA versus the South Wales PGA will take place at St. Mellons GC. Cardiff.

Richard Hatchet - 01636 742761

South West

Tall Pines Golf Club was the venue for the Greenkeeper Amateur event which was held on May 18. Despite conditions being rather wet underfoot, the course was still playable even though a number of local courses were forced to shut.

The erratic weather conditions also led to some erratic driving on the course, not so much in the golfing sense of the word but more the buggy driving. An unnamed source has informed me that Duncan from Chippenham GC was seen "bombing" down a hill at the wheel of a buggy in Formula 1 style.

Unfortunately he didn’t notice a large hole looming ahead of him until the last split second. Somehow he performed an incredible swerving manoeuvre and just avoided disaster. However, his rolling partner and passenger Keith Milton was not so lucky. Keith was catastrophically out of the side of the buggy and was seen tumbling out of control to the bottom of the hill. I hope he is OK as the scene but wasn’t able to offer first aid because he was still wincing himself with laughter.

Anyway the result of the competition was as follows: 1. J. Cooper & J. Hennes, 44 points; 2. C. Tozer & G. Fox, 40 points; 3. N. Kelson & C. Ashworth, 39 points. Thanks go to Mary Ruston and the rest of the greenkeeping staff for all their hard work in getting the course into great condition.

The next event is the Summer Tournament at Lilley Brook GC on July 22. This will also be the Section qualifier to see who will gain a place for the National Championship at Carden Park in October, so get your name down for that.

There is still no news on the disappearance of the Region’s team T-Shirts. However, brand new shirts have arrived which have been sponsored by Rolawn.
Turning to education and training. The one day first aid courses being held at Cumberwell Park on August 17 is almost full. Those of you that have asked to do the course should have received a booking form, which should be returned to me. Other courses taking place include a PA1 on September 22 and a PA6 on October 13. I hope to run a number of other courses shortly including abrasive wheel and fire safety. If you want any more information, please contact me on 01249 783382.

Paul Cunningham.

South Coast

Our Spring Tournament was held at Canford Magna Golf Club on 4 May. The results were as follows. Division One. 1. (Huxley Shield) Simon Ridland; 2. Mark Grogan; 3. Darren Miller. Division Two. 1. (Avoncrop Trophy) James Krzyzanowski; 2. Ian Noble; 3. Phil Wentworth. Division Three. 1. (Roffey Cup) Alan Rideout; 2. Sid Cutler; 3. Don Friend.

The winner of the Best Nett under 55's was David Lyons. The winner of the 25's for the Christopher Fry Trophy was Simon Ridland. Both Mark and Simon go forward to the Charterhouse/Scotts National Tournament. Well done to all those who took part and congratulations to all the winners.

We would like to thank the owners of Canford Magna for allowing us the courtesy of their superb golf courses. Also to Pete Level and his staff who presented the courses in such pristine condition. Thanks to the bar and catering staff who kept us well fed and watered. Last but not least, thank you to our sponsors for the day. They were Avoncrop, Roffey and Huxleys. They provided us with the prizes and trophies. We are very grateful to you all. Lastly, thank you to all of you who participated in the Tournament.

Just a reminder for our Summer Tournament at Rowlands Castle on 22 July. All details were in the June magazine. For those of you who have not yet got your entries in, get them in to Fred as soon as possible.

We had a very happy event on the 14 May Fred Deamen's wife, Susan, gave birth to a baby boy, Luke Bernd Oldake. I hope I have got those names right Fred. Mother and son are doing well. As far as I know, father isn't doing too bad either. Congratulations to you both. What a nice way to end July's report. Ken Lodge.

North East

Sorry for nothing in last month's issue, but I had nothing to write about. So come on, anyone who has any news or has anything they think deserves a mention, give me a ring 01574 276001. It has been a very busy time for us here at the moment with the opening of our new Golf Course, which is called The Golf Club at Stakis Park. We expect this to change any day now as we have been taken over by the Hilton Group.

We would like to wish Royal Portrush and their staff all the best for the staging of the up-coming of the seniors. Finally, Massereene GC has recently signed a deal and has taken delivery of £110,000 Toro machinery kit.

Eamonn Farrell.

South East

The Section would like to pass on best wishes to Tommy Bradshaw on his retirement after many years service at Malone Golf Club. Welcoming new members to the South East Section, joining this month are: Ian Harrison, Head Greenkeeper at Bangor GC and Paul Lappin, Assistant Head, also at Bangor GC. Also joining as Associate Member is Joseph Paulin from Golden Eagle Agronomy.

Our Summer golf event will be held at Bangor GC on Thursday 8 July. Tee-off at 2.30 pm and we would welcome all members to attend.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Ken Henderson, Allen Park GC, and Alison Sloan, Ballymena GC, on being selected to the Greenkeeper support team for the Open Championship at Carnoustie GC. Well done.

Jonathan McCabe.

BIGGA also has two Sections in Northern Ireland

Peter Boyd - Regional Administrator for Scotland. Tel. 0141 616 3440

Douglas Bell - Regional Administrator for Northern England. Tel. 0151 431 0433

Peter Larter - Regional Administrator for Northern Ireland. Tel. 01400 437307

Derek Farrington - Regional Administrator for the South East. Tel. 01903 260956

Paula Humphries - Regional Administrator for the S West and S Wales. Tel. 01228 352194

Tel. 01249 783382
Congratulations to all the qualifiers so far in the Charterhouse/Scotts National Championship for the BIGGA Challenge Trophy. Keep those results coming in, and we’ll highlight the winners every month.

Qualifiers to date...

The following members have so far won places in the Charterhouse/Scotts National Golf Championship at Carden Park, October 3-5

William McMeikan
Keith McCartney
Shaun McMillan
Kenneth Mail
Craig Pennycuick
Scott Williams
Mike Wilson
George Barr
Tony Bremer
Dave Cuthbertson
Kenneth Rutherford
Richard Castle
Michael Nolan
Dave Collins
Roger Bielby
Andrew Wood
Anthony Burge
Andrew Lomas
Paul Neve
John Humphreys
Robert Lewis
Dave Leatherland
Stephen Tolley
Robert White
Graeme Macdonald

Tony French
Ross Wilson
Simon Clark
Mark Whittle
Brian Turner
Gareth Rogers
Duncan Kelso
Neil Gilham
George Barr
Tony Bremer
Larry Eden
Ian Semple
Nicholas Brewster
Terry Moreton
Steve Cox
Chris Ward
Mark Grogan
Simon Ridland
Alan Gawman
Anthony James
Gary Johnstone
Steven Lloyd
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