North

As I write this report the heavens are opening again, and this is turning out to be the wettest spell of weather since I began writing. No matter, talking to some greenkeepers from the east coast, it has been a very dry spell and in some cases it's making life difficult, I hope you get some rain soon.

Two new members to report this month, these are Ben Brookes, from Newmacher Golf Club, and Marc Geddes-Brown from Boat-of-Garten GC. Ben has been a member for a while now, so my apologies for omitting you from past reports. Anyway, welcome to the Section, lads.

The Glenmorangie Golf Club went very well and, with a really good turnout of 80 plus playing, combined with pleasant weather and a superb golf course, it turned out to be a really good day. Alister Angus and his staff deserve high praise indeed for the condition of the course. It was first class. Thanks also go to the catering and bar staff of Elgin Golf Club who prepared for all the food, and also a big thanks to all the patrons who supplied the raffle prizes and supported the event.

The prize winners for the day were as follows:

Scratch 1. and Bowen trophy Mark Ross, Elgin GC, 73-8-65. Congratulations are also due to Fortrose Golf Club, who received the Committee to Green Award for their substantial efforts on the environment of the course. They received this award because of their keen interest in improvement to the course, which is a model for other clubs, from other areas of the country. The green staff, led by Stuart Hogg, and the committee of the club deserve a lot of credit for this.

And also to be congratulated, as I was reminded by Hamish Stephen, Cruden Bay GC, are Michael Clark, C.A. Maxwell, Crown Golf, 71-3-68; 2. Robert Paterson, Royal Aberdeen GC, 73-3-70; 3. Brian McDonald, Newtonmore GC, 89-20-69; 3. M. Davidson, Newtonmore GC, 82-13-69; 2. Robert Paterson, Royal Aberdeen GC, 82-13-69; 2. Aberdeen GC, 73-3-70; 3. Grainger, Newtonmore GC, 92-20-72. Maxi Grant is now suspended from the next outing, unless pending from the next outing, unless the committee of the club deserve a lot of credit for this.

The first section of 200 Club Sweep Winners 1. Mark Ross, Elgin GC, 73-8-65. Congratulations are also due to Fortrose Golf Club, who received the Committee to Green Award for their substantial efforts on the environment of the course. They received this award because of their keen interest in improvement to the course, which is a model for other clubs, from other areas of the country. The green staff, led by Stuart Hogg, and the committee of the club deserve a lot of credit for this.

Central

I must begin this months news by making an apology to Jeff Ryce and Mark Thompson, both of Elgin GC, for omitting to welcome them to the Section in last months report Sony Labs, but somehow your application forms got mixed up with another Golf Club. It was at this time of the year's it's that pile of papers lying in the corner waiting to be attended to. Another new member joining us this month is Grant Davidson from Stirling Golf Club. I can hear you all saying "Aye, he did na' forget that one", but seriously a warm welcome to you all from every one in the Section.

The recent bad weather news I gave you the date of this years Autumn Tournament, have you all got it in your diary? Well hears another date, this year's Grand Football Tournament will be held on Sunday, October 13, again at Forthbank Stadium in Stirling. Hopefully the weather will be a bit drier than last year! You've all had plenty of warning to get yourself and your clubs arranged and ready for this event very seriously. Forms for both events will be with you in the near future, so, as before, please return them in plenty of time.

Winners of Club 2000 in April were A. O'Hara with ticket number 183 and S. Cornwall with number 251. May I also extend my congratulations to K. Benton with ticketh number 131 and K. Mitchell with number 036. Guess what's going to be dropping through your letterbox shortly. Yes you've guessed it, your allocation of club 2000 tickets for next years draw. It may seem a bit early to give you time to buy/sell/return or as most of you do "mislay" them.

The draw for this years Inter Club Tournament has been made and circulated earlier this month. The two league of five have been formed, with the winners of each league meeting in the final, hopefully ALL ties will be played on time in order that the event won't ever run over again. I've had a suggestion that there should be a Reunion Dinner of the founding committee of the Section, early in the New Year, 1994, at Stirling Golf Club. The committee elected on that night were: J. Oliver, J. Rees, R. Fleming, J. McAtamney, M. Batchelor, C. Steward, S. Brown, B. Frier, W. Stewart, G. Henderson, K. Vertigan, J. Armstrong, E. Small and auditors J. Souter and E. McNeill. I know that Jimmy Lees and Jock Armstrong are now in the big golf course in the sky and that Nick Brown and Craig Stewart are working abroad but if anyone is interested in attending this event (even if they are no longer members) please get in touch and we will get it organised.

North

Let me start this month's report by welcoming our new members to the Northern Section. They are Frank Davidson, from Lees A. Robertson; Stuart Earnshaw, from Clayton Golf Club; Ben Grayson, from Huddersfield Golf Club; Daniel Granger and Robin Cornforth, from East Lothian Golf Club, for omitting to welcome them to the Section in last month.

Allan Loththouse called me a few days ago to tell me he was taking early retirement from Fidgy Golf Club. No doubt most of you saw the advertisement in the last months magazine. Allan has supported the Section for many years and was also Secretary of the old BGGA. So from all your friends in the Northern Section may we wish you a long and happy retirement.

A little bird tells me that Telford will be played on time in order that we will get it organised. Another new member joining us this month is Grant Davidson from Stirling Golf Club. I can hear you all saying "Aye, he did na' forget that one", but seriously a warm welcome to you all from every one in the Section.

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Enjoy the rest of the summer,
Dave Thackray
6 Westwood Ave.
Eccleshill, Bradford.
West Yorks.
Tel: 01274 640739
Mobile: 07976876264
E-mail: Dthackray@sol.co.uk
Dave Thackray

North West

The beginning of June and no real signs of summer yet, but at least the finer grasses are beginning to take on. On course conditions are as opening again, and this is turning out to be the wettest spell of weather since I began writing. No matter, talking to some greenkeepers from the east coast, it has been a very dry spell and in some cases it's making life difficult, I hope you get some rain soon.

The course suggested was Cammanachea Cup, shinty's showpiece event very seriously. Forms for both events will be with you in the near future, so, as before, please return them in plenty of time.

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Our friends who were unfortunately born on the wrong side of the Pennines. A team will be picked by the committee based not on golfing ability alone, but on regular attendances over the last year. Invitation day at Bingley St Ives takes place on Tuesday 10th September. Bring a club representative and let them enjoy Joe Baxter's beer and the camaraderie of a section event. This event will be the usual format and cost £13 per person by cheque made payable to ROSA, NORTHERN SECTION. Any committee member will accept your cheque.

Any gossip or tittle-tattle you want to share with the section can be directed to ROSA, NORTHERN SECTION. Any committee member will accept your cheque.

Now I have that off my chest I will announce the winners of the 1994 Inter Club Tournament, which was played on the 10th April at Aladdin Hall Golf Club. The event was won by Simon Gant, from A. Robertson, and his better half are expecting their first child. The green staff deserve high praise indeed for the condition of the course. It was first class. Thanks also go to the catering and bar staff of Elgin Golf Club who prepared for all the food, and also a big thanks to all the patrons who supplied the raffle prizes and supported the event.

Veterns and Trophy 1. John Geddes, McDonald GC, 82-13-69; 2. Robert Paterson, Royal Aberdeen GC, 73-3-70; 3. Brian McDonald, Newtonmore GC, 89-20-69; 3. M. Davidson, Newtonmore GC, 82-13-69. Congratulations are also due to Fortrose Golf Club, who received the Committee to Green Award for their substantial efforts on the environment of the course. They received this award because of their keen interest in improvement to the course, which is a model for other clubs, from other areas of the country. The green staff, led by Stuart Hogg, and the committee of the club deserve a lot of credit for this.

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The first section of 200 Club Hundred Club draw also took place and the winners were as follows: Jan. A. Wood, Auchenhill GC, £30; Feb. J.A. Brown, Bo'ness GC, £30; C. Parkinson, Crabbington GC, £30; Apr. J. Whyte £100. Congratulations to all the winners and I hope to see you all at the Autumn outing at Mcdonald GC, Ellon in September.

The weather was as you would expect, but the course was in lovely condition, and I hope to see you all again soon.
were completed by May 1999 and
also thanks once again for their kind
views especially over golf tourna-
be essential if they wished any win-
greens to USGA specification and a
back in play.

were almost out of play through the
be spent on reconstructing these
Christmas, these has been talk about
the Cheshire stroke and
summer. At a general meeting in
sponsoring the day. By all. Thanks got to Simon,
match play
will not be invitations sent out for
Thatcher & Wayne Nott, home
The closing date
required will be covered in this arti-
have, please contact me on:
Head Greenkeeper at Pryor’s Hayes
the Secretary, Manager or Greens
in the realms of greenkeeping.
You are required to bring along
and Richard a call.
big 'four - oh' I said that I wouldn't
tell anyone.
The three Day PGA Pro-Am at Nefyn,
Littlefield, Ireland & Ball Bay was again
a classic event now in it's 20th year
so I am told.
Congratulations go to Hugh
Robert, of Valle de Llangollen, and
his wife, lanet, on the birth of their
done during

and for looking after us so
of you at the forthcoming events this
which he picked

depth of golf, requiring straight
the overall prize, which he picked

be held at Frinton GC on June 5. The qualifier is usu-
very well attended so make sure you get your slips in quickly.
Steve Crodale

North Wales
North Wales lost their match against North West, the final score was 3-5. This was after the 18 holes that had by all. Thanks got to Simon,
Be Had Greenkeeper at Pryor’s Hayes GC, for the preparation of the course and the catering staff for the food. Also any thanks once again for their kind
the lead up to the event explains
in recent years, tournaments was, in recent years,
the main sponsor,

which is placed on top
at a general meeting in
September of 1998 the Greens com-
monthly for David Lewis of Conwy
At a general meeting in
September of 1998 the Greens com-
in the realms of greenkeeping.
The Essex Golf & Country Club

a new lease of life for all year round
golf, requiring straight
the overall prize, which he picked
on 01925 263394 - Fax 01925
Belgium & Wayne Nott, home

and for looking after us so
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Sussex
So with the winter behind us, and a glorious summer to look forward to we should all start reap the benefits and to assist with the smooth running of
to assist with the smooth running of
to assist with the smooth running of
to assist with the smooth running of
to assist with the smooth running of
Surrey

Monday, June 27 was the date and Foshills Golf Club the venue. Surrey Section’s Spring meeting had arrived and 69 hopeful members were attempting to qualify for the National Tournament. The weather conditions were kind: it was a dry, warm day with sunny spells and the course was presented in truly excellent condition by David Wybourn and David Langhein. The greens were very fast and very true and the consensus of opinion amongst the players was that the course was an absolute credit to all the greenkeeping team at Foshills.


The congratulation paragraph this month belongs to Simon and Yvet Osborne who on May 8th became the proud parents of Luke Allen, a bouncing baby boy who weighed in at 10lbs, 7oz. Simon is the Course Manager at Wildwood Golf Club and is at this very moment still trying to convince his staff that, as he is awake at 3 am, maybe they should all make an early start together. The replies, I understand, were not encouraging. Brian Willmott.

South West

South Coast

After a dry start to the year, the inevitable rain has come in the last month. Coupled with the warm weather many greenkeepers are struggling to keep on top of the growth spur. We have certainly had some stormy weather, which seems to be the pattern at the moment; still it makes life as a greenkeeper interesting (I think).

On the Section front it has been a quiet month. The Committee are busy preparing next year’s section seminar. We will be using a different venue next year and if you know of a particular speaker then please contact one of the committee members as we are now about to approach possible speakers. This month sees the retirement of one of our sections great supporters. Ted West is to retire from Broadstone Golf Club after 40 years of service. I will report on his retirement in full next month but as a D32/33 Peace Prize wish him a long and happy retirement. Our next section golf day is on Thursday, August 8, at Brockenhurst Manor Golf Club. The day, which is sponsored by Huxley’s and includes a prize fund, is an invitation meeting. Ideally your guest will be a member of your golf club. The cost for the day is £18 per person and please forward all monies to Organiser Chris Sturgess. Entries are limited so I would suggest you contact him quickly. I am sure Ed McCabe and his team will make the course in its usual superb condition and it will a great day out for us. If anyone has news that they wish to have published in next month’s section then please contact me.

Until next month, Alex McCombie

Devon & Cornwall

The Section’s first match play competition sponsored by Vitax has reached the last sixteen, after forty members entered the club qualifying round. The section would like to thank Adrian Masters and Vitax for their support. We are delighted to announce that Phoenix Irrigation will be sponsoring the fixture cards for the second year, hopefully the new fixture cards will be with you during late August. Dates and venues will be announced next month.

Richard Whymann

Kent

The wettest May for sometime and now everything is growing like mad. And so to the long bank holiday and everyone of us are up against it. Well, that’s how I like it anyway. Because of the long hours you are all putting in, I assume that you have been too tired to drop me a line with any news from your clubs or indeed anything that might help fill a few more lines. It is nice to hear that so many of you look forward to reading this column every month, in truth after you scan the job pages that is.

News and results from the spring meeting at Kings Hill will be in next month’s section.

At last I received my certificate for passing my D32/33 which I took back in November. So now I can sign off my staffs work - if it is good enough that is. If anyone else has passed exams or achieved anything of note give me a call and I will give you or your colleagues a mention.

So back to the regular bunch of us who always seem to be there at all events supporting the section. The committee put in a big effort into organizing these days, which are for the benefit of every member of BIGGA in the Sussex section.

Believe it or not there are 220 members in Sussex, and yet at the AGM, which is held at Hayward’s Heath, each year, which all the members are, informed about by post, we are still only seeing about 10% turning up. I led to the long bank holiday and everyone plays golf, and that not everyone is all that interested in BIGGA, other than a magazine (and then only for the job page), but if we continue with the effort we may come up with a way to function successfully, and it will be the members who will suffer. As your Chairman I feel that it is every member’s responsibility to put at least some input into their Section whether it be attending a golf day or the AGM, or even a two day seminar, or may be dropping me a line on anything at all, because this is happening to you or your club.

If you feel strongly about something concerned with Greenkeeping you can put pen to paper (or e-mail) the Editor or me and there is a fair chance can put pen to paper (or e-mail) the Editor or me and there is a fair chance...