A Sad Start to the Month

It is with much sadness that I start to write this report but for those who don't already know. Douglas Bell, the Northern Regional Administrator, died recently after a short illness. BIGGA will certainly miss him, as will all those who knew him personally.

On a brighter note, and having left Muirfield, and the Open Championship behind, I headed straight on to St Andrews to attend the World Scientific Congress of Golf. While there were presentations on agronomy from speakers including, James Bearden, one of the makers and attendees were concerned with the development of equipment of clubs and balls. Most of these lectures were comprehensive with the speakers having a background in physics and aerodynamics. Having listened to most of these and spoken to many of the people, it concerned me greatly as to the future development of equipment and the game of golf as most courses have limited room for lengthening their courses. Hopefully the R&A and USGA will soon put limitations on the development of this equipment.

During the week I had the opportunity to play Kingsbarns. I am sure most of you will have heard of this golf course with stunning views, but unfortunately it took me six hours to play! But it was time well spent. I also played the Old Course which was another tremendous experience and having started with eight pars and a birdie I thought the game was easy. Not so.

As for the future. Well SALTEX is the next major event and to see that the Section was alive and kicking. As for the future. Well SALTEX is the next major event and to see that the Section was alive and kicking.