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AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

COMING UP


March 26th-29th: Golf Asia '92 – World Trade Centre, Singapore.


April 8th: BIGGA Annual General Meeting, Royal York Hotel (immediately adjacent to York Railway Station), York. Commencing at 2.30pm.


April 29th: BIGGA South West and Wales Region Trade Show WESTURF '92 – Long Ashton GC, Bristol.

June 3rd-4th: Landscape Industries '92, Trade Show – National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire.

July 16th-19th: The Open Championship – Muirfield, Scotland.

August 10th-12th: BIGGA National Golf Tournament – Littlestone GC, Kent.

September 8th-10th: IG0 Trade Exhibition – Peterborough, Northants.

September 24th: ISEKI Championships Final – Coventry GC, Warwickshire.

● Pictured at the recent GCSAA Conference and Show in New Orleans are GCSAA outgoing President, Steve Cadenelli and BIGGA Chairman, George Malcolm. Neil Thomas reports that: “BIGGA's booth at the Exhibition was exceptionally busy with much interest in membership, magazine subscriptions and exhibiting at the 1993 BTME. Relationships with the GCSAA were further strengthened and productive discussions were held with both Steve Cadenelli and the GCSAA's Executive Director, John Schilling. The event proved to be excellent marketing and public relations exercise for the Association.”

● Will section reporters please note that final copy date for inclusion of Around The Green material in the May issue is April 1st.

NORTHERN

I hope everyone enjoyed the show at Harrogate, where it was good to see so many Northern section members present. Special thanks to those who gave up their time to man the doors and perform special duties.

With spring quickly approaching, now is the time to tell you of the golf events planned for 1992: SPRING TOURNAMENT over 27 holes, Wed. 15th April at Kirkbymoorside GC (Iseki Qualifier). PRESIDENT'S DAY Wed. 3rd June at Bradford GC. INVITATION DAY, Wed. Aug 19th at Northcliffe GC (Shipley) n.b. guests must be officials from your Club. AUTUMN TOURNAMENT Wed. 30th Sept at Scarborough (South Cliff) GC.

The Roses Match for '92 will be in Lancashire and details will follow when available. Please note that all bookings must be accompanied by a 10% deposit and that entries close one week before the event. Most venues have a 40 limit so early booking is advised to avoid disappointment. Unfortunately the proposed trip to Lloyds of Letchworth has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

The Annual Dinner Dance will take place at Tinos Restaurant/ Wharfedale Public House, Arthington, Otley on Friday 3rd April, commencing at 8.00 pm. Tickets are £15.00 and the event is open to members and guests. Please call 0274 590463 for reservations.

BOB LUPTON

SURREY

The winter lecture held recently proved to be a huge success, with over fifty members present. A superb presentation on chainsaw safety was given by Brian Mills and Alistair Scott from Brinsbury College. Thanks were extended to them, along with gratitude to the Walton Heath Artisans Club for the use of their clubhouse and to Ted (James) Bond for manning the bar!

Congratulations are due to David Whittaker of Wisley GC on his election as Greengkeeper of the Year and a warm welcome is extended to new member, Gary Martin of Ashford Manor.

Our Spring meeting will be held on Thursday April 23rd at Foxhills GC. Entries are limited so please apply promptly.

ROGER TYDEMAN

BUCKS, BERKS AND OXON

Thanks to all who attended our first winter lecture at Sonning GC, featuring what may have been a long-winded and boring subject – COSHH – but which actually turned out to be one of the finest lectures I have ever attended. Those who were present now realise just how important the subject is and a warm welcome is extended to new member, Gary Martin of Ashford Manor.

Our Autumn meeting will be held on Thursday August 29th at the Roses Golf Club, Sonning. The speaker will be from the National Conservation Council and the topic is indeed most topical - so I hope to see you all there!

Not too many reminders this month (I can visualise the sighs of relief!) but a prompting that we will be looking for entries for the Rigby Taylor Fourball Trophy soon, so sort out a good partner before they all get snapped up and keep watching this column for details. That wraps it up for this month, but I hope to see you all at Sonning.

RAY CLARK

MID ANGLIA

The BTME at Harrogate goes from strength to strength and congratulations must go to all concerned. It was particularly good to see our section so well represented, with many members supporting the event. The section has been relatively quiet since Christmas, though we have had one lecture – being entertained by Chris Brook who talked of his experiences in bringing a new golf course into play from seed. It was an extremely interesting talk (even though there wasn't a projector!) but a prompting that we should all get there!

Well done, Chris. Elsewhere in 'Faces & Places' you'll see the news of Andrew and Ann Kennett's new addition (Elizabeth Helen) and I'm sure you'll join with me in wishing them lots of happiness together.

Finally, you should have all received your entry forms for forthcoming competitions. Chris Brook would be very grateful if you send the appropriate forms for forthcomings competitions. Chris Brook would be very grateful if you send the appropriate forms for forthcoming competitions.

Gerald Bruce

MIDLANDS

Following our AGM held at Edgbaston GC our committee remains the same; as follows: President: R Pugh. Chairman: A Kite. Vice Chairman: M Hughes. Secretary: D S Cleaver. Treasurer: P Hinge.
**Around the Green**

**KENT**

As we gear up for the coming season, I would first like to offer comment to Gary Mills letter which appeared in January Greenkeeper International. I think we all appreciate that not all green staff play golf or indeed wish to play golf, but nevertheless the term 'apathetic' could most certainly be levelled at the response received for the programmes. We attempt to organise within the section in order to try to improve our section. I well remember the very poor response we received two years ago when we organised a series of three informal afternoon education lectures. The numbers attending the final lecture were almost embarrassingly small for the speaker - Danny Godfrey of Inter Seeds - as they were for those who took the time and effort to organise the lecture. That is why we have no winter educational programme, favouring in future the repeat of a semi-regular session (every other year) of the type and scale successfully held at Woodlands, Swanley. The same argument could be applied to the attendance at our section AGM last December, when all members were welcome to come along, indeed to actively participate in the running of their section, but again the response came from only about 20% of our registered membership. If Peter Biscoe dares venture over to Barnehurst I can assure him that our resident chewing cow is not so obliging as to drop the ball it steals. Our specimen undertakes a brief game of teasing the golfer, urging him to come and retrieve the ball, before disappearing with it into the nearest field. Its record so far is five balls in one afternoon, all of varying colours!

Best of luck to David Goodhew as the new man in charge at Lullingstone. David left Gillingham to fill that position at Golf Equipment Ltd, whose maintenance division won the recent round of competitive tendering to secure the maintenance contract for Lullingstone. It will be interesting to hear of the different challenges created by working in this way, as opposed to those of a normal contract. A reminder that our Spring Meeting and Iseki Maintenance by John Franklin. A conference update for our November seminar in Dundee is that three further speakers have been confirmed, bringing the total to eight. By the time you read this report in March the brochure will have gone to print, final details having been ironed out at a meeting with the sponsors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chemical Spraying Company, Frews, and M&M Turners for assisting us in this project. In the next two reports I will profile the conference speakers. Although I did not make it to Harrogate, I got a full report from one of our competition winners, my assistant, Gordon McKie. It was good to hear that quite a number of North Scotland members attended this year, as I believe I was the only one in 1991. It sounds as though it was another successful week and I'm glad that Gordon had such a good and educational time, especially as he was sharing a room with our illustrious chairman, Dougal Duguid. Our first outing this year will be to Monrose GC on Thursday May 7th and I urge as many members as possible to enter. I hear that Monrose is a fine links course and well worth a visit. Entry forms will be sent out in early April - so enter quickly!

Finally I would urge all members to send any snippets of news from within the section: career movements, births, marriages etc., so that I can vary my reports a little and spread news of our section activities to all members countrywide. I don't want you to get bored with my reports just yet!

**Tony Howarth**

**SOUTH WEST**

It was a case of "there's no place like home". How well I remember my old home Club. All those rows with the secretary. The first letter of warning. The week. Happy days! Seriously, it made a very pleasant start to the '92 season to return to Cirencester GC for the Modern Maintenance International Golf and Lecture day.

Talk about lucky with the weather. No sooner had the last competitor come in from the course than the heavens opened, with two inches of rain falling over the next twelve hours. It was certainly nice to see the Cirencester course in such good condition, and so hard to think that in less than three years there will be a four lane by-pass cutting right through it, causing the loss of four holes and shattering the peace and tranquillity for ever.

Thank you for your full co-operation. As an extra incentive in returning your reply, but many courses now require a more definite indication of numbers for groups and societies and we will be most grateful for your full co-operation. As an extra note I can announce that we will be playing for some very nice cut glass prizes, courtesy of Rigby Taylor. Please also bring your BIGGA membership card, complete with photograph, to all future events. We will be upholding the right of the host Club to refuse courtesy of the course to any person failing to produce his card.

Finally a note from our recently returned Welshman, Neal Carter of Birchwood Park. I recently visited his course and all seems to be progressing well. As you may know, he is a keen indoor cricketer and asked if any Kent members would like to help in forming a team. Unfortunately the team consists of just two at the moment - Neal and his former assistant at Cobtree Manor. The minimum number required is eight and Neal would be glad to hear from anyone interested. His number (evenings) is 0622 750564.

**Paul Copsey**

**EAST MIDLANDS**

Our Spring Tournament will be held this year at Wollaton Park GC on Tuesday April 28th. Entry forms have already been sent out and I would appreciate an early response to help with catering arrangements.

For any section members wishing to undertake training for PA1 and PA2 spraying certificates, the course at Brocksby Agricultural College, Melton Mowbray, has been scheduled for March 23rd. Please contact Brocksby direct if you are interested.

As has already been published in Greenkeeper International, the enrolment fee for the "Master Greenkeeper Certificate" has been reduced to just £10. A link has now been made with the time of writing (Jan 31st) our section has only one member signed up for MGC - me! I am therefore appealing to you all, especially younger members, to support the scheme and enrol.

Finally, the section is pleased to welcome Peter Forsow of Ramsdale Park GC within our ranks.

**Tony Howarth**

**PAUL WORSTER**

**NORTH WEST**

The programme of events for 1992 has now been completed and all members in the North West section should have received a fixture list. The committee would especially like to thank BIGGA North West President, Arthur Harrison, and SISIS for sponsoring us with the printing and postage for the programmes. You will see from the fixture list that our first golf event is the annual match against the North Wales section. This is to be played at the Cadlys New Club at 3.30 pm on April 14th. It will be interesting to see if the arguments over the proposed new by-pass falling over the next twelve hours. It was certainly nice to see the Cirencester course in such good condition, and so hard to think that in less than three years there will be a four lane by-pass cutting right through it, causing the loss of four holes and shattering the peace and tranquillity for ever.

Our thanks to the Club for their hospitality and the excellent venue of Fingle Glen Golf Club for allowing us the use of their clubhouse for the AGM.

Thanks are due to Middlewich GC for providing the venue for our first lecture, with Peter Jefford giving an interesting and informative talk on top dressing, followed by a second speaker from M.M.P., who gave us a very interesting insight into how their products can be used with small machinery repairs. We thank both speakers for their time and contribution.

Our next lecture will be at the Telford G&CC on March 20th, again with two speakers and beginning at 2pm with a talk on Trees by Martin Ford, followed at 3.15 pm with a talk on Maintenance by John Franklin.

Our first golf tournament will take place at Southport GC on Tuesday April 7th. Please remember the closing date for this event is March 11th. If you have not received an entry form and want to play - please contact me on 0798 762912 DEAN DEECLAVER

**NORTH SCOTLAND**

A conference update for our November seminar in Dundee is that three further speakers have been confirmed, bringing the total to eight. By the time you read this report in March the brochure will have gone to print, final details having been ironed out at a meeting with the sponsors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chemical Spraying Company, Frews, and M&M Turners for assisting us in this project. In the next two reports I will profile the conference speakers.

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**Iain MacLeod**

**DEVON AND CORNWALL**

Some 68 members and 21 students attended the Devon & Cornwall section seminar, held this year at the excellent venue of Fingle Golf Club.
plex, near Exeter. The morning started with Devon taking on Cornwall in a nine hole match, the winning team (as usual) being Devon, retaining six cards totalling 110 points to beat Cornwall with 103. The best score from Devon was John Brealey with 21, this gaining him a pair of cut glass goblets donated by Rigby Taylor and the best Cornish score was that of Richard Minton — also with 21 — but declaring himself out of the prizes and allowing J Bullen to collect the prize of a video presented by — guess who? — Richard Minton! As is usual, the course was presented in excellent condition by our chairman, Bill Pil, and his staff.

Following a superb lunch the 'Dry Patch and Wetting Agents' seminar got underway, with Dr Neil Baldwin presented his paper on Dry patch. Neil, who is a plant pathologist with the STRI, told of his research into this problem, funds for which are being provided by the R&A.

Neil's talk was most informative and I am sure he has made all of us more confident when dealing with Dry patch. We thank him for presenting his paper and for making the long journey West.

Neil also with 21 — but declaring himself out of the competition for making the long journey West.

In addition, the section thanks Mr Breading and Flegg and Ransomes, Devon Garden Machinery and Toro, Rigby Taylor, Rytons, Fisons, and Willcocks. We hope they found the day successful.

S. WEST AND S. WALES 'ARCTIC EXPEDITION'

On the clear frosty morning of January 21st, our coach arrived promptly at 9am to begin our 'journey into the unknown'. All seemed well at the first pick-up point — Exeter G&CC — and with half our party on board we proceeded to the MS.

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For further information and an application form please apply to the Manpower Services Section, Civic Centre, George Street, Corby, Northants NN17 1QB or telephone (0536) 402551 ext. 1106.
Closing date 20th March 1992.
Applications from disabled people are welcome.

DONNINGTON GROVE COUNTRY CLUB
Newbury, Berks
Applications are invited for the position of
HEAD GREENKEEPER
For a newly constructed Golf Course by Dave Thomas
The suitable applicant will be responsible for the overseeing of seeding and the bringing in to play period with a view to opening in SPRING 1993.
Only candidates with proven ability and experience in all aspects of course management should apply.
This is an exceptional opportunity for the right candidate.
Salary negotiable according to qualifications and previous experience. This is a live-out position.
Applications in writing enclosing CV and other relevant details should be received NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 27th MARCH 1992.
Please apply in first instance to:
F W COCKSEDGE & SONS
25 Hampstead Avenue
Mildenhall,
Suffolk IP28 7AS
Marked for the attention of Mr S B Greenacre

HENLEY GOLF CLUB
Applications are invited for
COURSE MANAGER
Applicants must be experienced in all aspects of course management, greenkeeping, machinery maintenance and computerised irrigation systems.
A proven ability to train, supervise and motivate staff together with formal qualifications up to Phase Four are a pre-requisite.
Package circa £25,000 including rent-free, three bedroom bungalow on the course.

Written applications in strictest confidence to:
The Secretary
Henley Golf Club
Harpden
Henley on Thames
Oxfordshire
RG9 4HG

COURSE MANAGER
Meon Valley
For over 15 years Country Club Hotels have successfully operated quality golf courses and country clubs alongside first class hotels.

We are now seeking an experienced Course Manager to play a key management role at the Meon Valley Hotel, Golf and Country Club. Within the overall brief of maintaining and improving our reputation for the highest quality golf, you will have responsibility for a dedicated team of experienced staff and control of a maintenance budget.

You must have a thorough knowledge of modern greenkeeping practices, wide experience of equipment, machinery and irrigation systems and have good leadership qualities.

In return, you can expect a competitive salary, pension scheme, meals on duty and other benefits associated with working for a major hotel group. To apply, please call Tanya Clay on 0329 833455 for an application form or send a cv to her at Meon Valley Hotel, Golf and Country Club, Sandy Lane, Shedfield, Southampton SO3 2HQ.