SOUTH COAST SECTION

I am indebted to Joe Burdett, our tournament organiser, for the following report of our spring tournament.

At Hayling Golf Club, by kind permission of the captain and committee, were the hosts for the annual spring championship tournament. The prize table was, again, sponsored by our sponsors, Roffey Brothers Limited and Huxleys Garden Machinery Limited, for which all greenkeepers in the area are most appreciative.

John Flavell (Parkstone) could not quite hold on to the Nita Stimson Award for the over 50s; Charles Burke (Queens Park), who scored a 71 to Phil Nason’s 70 at Southampton. In the nett section, Mark Diment (Knighton Heath) returned a 67, a very creditable performance from his 18 handicap.

Tregunnan Trophy (36 Holes Gross); Phil Nason, Southampton 79-155.

Detailed results: Nita Stimson Award (over 50s); Charles Burke, Queens Park 85-13-72, John Flavell, Parkstone 87-12-75, Gordon Payne, Maidhead, 83-7-76.

Winner best gross whole day: 1st Mr. D. Muirhead, 164, 2nd Mr. D. Goodchild 169. Winner best nett whole day: 1st Mr. L. Board, 87 pm gross, 1st Mr. D. Head 146. 1st Round am gross, 1st L. O’Brien 87, pm gross, 1st N. Fenwick 81, 1st Round pm nett, 1st N. Breden 70, 1st S. Wood 68.

The members of the BB & O Section would like to thank the trade members for their kind support as usual and the staff of West Lothian Golf Club, especially to Brian Lawrie and his staff for presenting the course in such excellent condition.

Nations on the move in.

AROUND THE GREEN

SCOTTISH REGION CENTRAL SECTION

The section spring tournament was held on April 19, courtesy of Elie Golf Club, when over 50 members enjoyed the summer weather and with the course in excellent condition a very successful day resulted.

The prizewinners were as follows: Best scratch, D. Leith, St Andrews. Best nett, C. McKay, Crail. 1st Class: 1st Handicap, I. McDougall, Crieff, 2nd Handicap, A. Dunn, Glenbarg, 2nd nett, 1st Handicap, S. Sime, Scoonie, 2nd Handicap, S. Mackie, Canmore. Trade: J. Robertson, Aikens, Guests: T. Frazer, West Lothian. Two Ball As: C. McKay/B. Cruikshank, Crail.

Our sincere thanks go to the Council and members of Elie Golf Club for granting us the courtesy of their facilities, the clubhouse staff for the first class service and catering and especially to Brian Lawrie and his staff for presenting the course in such excellent condition.

Members on the move include past chairman, Ian Ritson, who has moved from Ladybank to Ireland. Walter Garland from Falkland to Taymouth Castle and Duncan Peddie from West Lothian to Alloa, the best wishes of everyone in the section to these members and their families for a very successful future.

A sour note to end on. Due to the lack of support the section Inter Club Tournament will not be run during the summer. It is up to you ladies, either support events or you will simply not be organised for you.

JOHN CRAWFORD

BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON SECTION

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon spring tournament was held on May 22 at the West Berks Golf Club. This event was a 36 hole competition with the top players qualifying for the Ikei Tournament.

The weather was at its best and the well presented course made play very enjoyable with some very good scores returned.

The results are as follows: Winner best gross whole day: 1st Mr. D. Muirhead, 164, 2nd Mr. D. Goodchild 169. Winner best nett whole day: 1st Mr. L. Board, 87 pm gross, 1st Mr. D. Head 146. 1st Round am gross, 1st L. O’Brien 87, pm gross, 1st N. Fenwick 81, 1st Round pm nett, 1st N. Breden 70, 1st S. Wood 68.

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BOB LUPTON

Continued on page 19

GORDON MOIR

NORTHERN SECTION

I write this knowing no details of Invitation or Presidents Day.

I hope everybody who plays golf and the other half of us who don’t. Details to follow later, latest staff moves are South Leeds, new head man is Brian Carr who returned after getting homesick at Filey Golf Club.

If any members have any snippets of news or anything to mention please write or ring me, it’s difficult to find something to write about each week.

BOB LUPTON

Editor’s note: Bob’s plea for information is echoed by me, come on chaps put pen to paper or pick-up the phone.

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Continued on page 19
MID ANGLIA SECTION

The spring meeting was held on Wednesday May 2 at Leighton Buzzard G.C., and although I was not present, Ken Bunting informs me it was a most enjoyable day.

We would like to thank Leighton Buzzard G.C. for making us so welcome and allowing us the courtesy of the course, our thanks also goes to the catering staff for the fare provided, and finally Dave Pigott and his staff for the presentation of the course.

Once again we were supported by our friends in the trade who provided some of the prizes, and we thank: Kingston House Mowers, Rogers Engineering, Pattersons and Rigby Taylor.

The prizes were presented by the captain of the club Mr Brian Avery, who we thank for doing so.


Finally, I am sure you would like me to thank Ken.

The next competition options will be: Summer tournament July 4 at Cold Ashby G.C. over 36 holes, the cost is £15. Closing date for entries June 13. Autumn tournament October 30 at Woburn G.C. over 27 holes, the cost is £15. All competition entries to Ken Bunting. No. 1 Cottage, Old Park Lodge, Little Gaddesden, Herts. HP4 1LU. Tel. 044 284 3359.

Any late entries for the summer tournament should be made to me, tel. 0727 359084, as Ken is on holiday. All the winter lectures, that is 90/91, will be held at Beadlow Manor Golf and Country Club, further details will follow very soon.

ANDREW THOMAS

SOUTH WALES SECTION

On Wednesday, May 11 we held our competition for the Jacobsen Cup and Brown's Shield at Cardiff Golf Club.

We would like to thank the committee of the golf club for giving us permission to hold our competition at their club. We would like to thank Graham Cox and his staff for preparing the course for us. Also the caterer for giving us food in the evening.

There was a total of 29 at the meeting with 6 of these being members of the trade. We would like to thank our sponsor for the day: Keith Morgan of Usk, local Jacobsen representative, and Brown's of Bristol.

The day's best score was a gross 79 score by P. Swain and H. Morgan. P. Swain won the Jacobsen Cup with a nett score of 66 and also a holdall and a bottle of Whisky donated by D. Padfield Avmorrop of Bristol.

H. Morgan won the Brown's Shield for a gross score of 79 also a pair of trousers and a bottle of Whisky that was donated by R. Borrows Brown's of Bristol. T. Thompson won the Waycott Cup with a score of 70 and also a set of novelty headcovers.

T. King was third nett with a score of 71 and also won a set of novelty headcovers. Golf balls were given for birdies, T. King 3, P. Swain 2, H. Morgan 2, A. Clissitt 1, G. Cox 1. A raffle was held with prizes donated by Brown's, ICI, and Maxwell Hart. The raffle donated by ICI was won by T. Garland, pullover donated by Brown's was won by P. Swain, and the shirt donated by Maxwell Hart was won by M. Davies.

Our congratulations to Peter Lacey and his wife on the birth of a son.

If anybody has anything that can be used in the magazine please send it to me to be inserted in the section news.

PHILIP SWAIN

SURREY SECTION

The main news this month is of the National Education Conference held at Egham.

The conference was very good with a wide range of speakers from all over the world who all gave very interesting presentations which for me illustrated the facts that no two golf courses are the same and that people world wide are moving back towards a more natural style of course management at last.

I felt that these were two features of the conference that were rather disappointing. The first and main one was the fact that the attendances were low it taken as a percentage of the national membership, with a lot of the faces that you see at your annual, but very few of the younger greenkeepers.

WEST SECTION

The West Section (Scottish) held its spring outing over Lenzie golf course on April 26th which was very well attended.

I would like to thank the members for an excellent turnout and Lenzie Golf Club for granting the courtesy of their course for the event.

I must congratulate Cecil N. George for the condition of the course and the way it was presented. I would also like to thank the club officials, catering staff and bar staff for their help and co-operation on the day.

After some good scoring the following players were successful: Scratch, Sandy Bulloch, Mount Elen G.C. First, 1st Class Stephen Hogg, Drumpellier G.C. First, 2nd Class Jack Stenard, Douglas Park G.C. First, 3rd Class

Stuart Cameron, Drumpellier G.C. Trade Prize Robert T. Bruce, Stewart and Company.

The autumn meeting will held at Douglas Park G.C. on September 20 and again I would like to welcome a large turn-out of members and trade.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate three former West Section officials who have taken the road down South.

Chris Kennedy and Jim McKenzie who have both moved to Wentworth and ex-section secretary Robert Brewer on his move to Sunningdale.

I will always be interested to hear of their progress, and all three will be missed in the West Section.

GORDON KERR

Continued from page 18

THE SS100 ... FIRST ON THE GREEN

IT GRADES...IT SHADES...IT BLENDS...

Now from GRADEALL comes a new concept in greenkeeping. A unique combination of blending, shredding and grading in a single unit that gives you:

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Continued on page 19

the 40 present only a handful were either in collar and tie or smart casual wear.

The rest were in what I would term workwear. The club had dress rules as do most clubs regarding denim and trainers, fortunately these were not enforced.

However I don’t think it is too much to ask that if you are representing your club and/or BIGGA at whatever level, that you turn up looking semi-respectable.

This again would help to give people a less blinkered view of what golf course construction can achieve. If you wish to be treated as a professional you must first present yourself as one.

It’s a shame to fill Surrey’s notes with this sort of comment, but since I have no other news I thought I would get it off my chest.

Finally, I am sad to report that we are losing Miki Wells as our Section Secretary. He is moving on to pastures new, working for GPI in golf course construction.

He has done a lot of hard work for the committee over the past year and has always been a great ambassador to greenkeeping.

So thanks Miki, all the best for the future.

If anyone out there is interested in helping to run the Surrey Section please contact me as we are short handed at the moment.

It does not take an awful lot of time and you may even enjoy yourself. My number again is; for the moment.


Davi Millar

June 15 marked the end of Davie Millar’s career in greenkeeping when he officially retired from his position as Head Greenkeeper at Glenbervie Golf Club.

Davie started in greenkeeping in 1938 as a young lad at the Royal Burgess in Edinburgh, from there he moved to Kingsknowe also in Edinburgh and then to Canmore in Dunfermline.

His next move was to Paisley Golf Club or ‘The Bushes’ as it is more commonly known in the West and in 1959 he moved to Glenbervie to begin 31 years service to that club as Head Greenkeeper.

In his time there Davie has seen a lot of young lads come and go most of them moving on to be Head Greenkeepers in their own right. Under Davie’s supervision, Glenbervie has always been known as a top class course and has been one of the Open Championship pre-qualifying courses for many years.

It has also hosted the British Boys Championship and Boys Internationals and the Scottish Professional Championship on more than one occasion. A low handicap golfer in his day, Davie was a long-time member of the Greenkeepers Association and attended many East of Scotland and Scottish National Tournaments.

Glenbervie Golf Club have arranged various events in Davie’s honour culminating in a dinner and presentation on June 18.

We in the Scottish Region wish you Davie a very happy retirement.

Continued on page 21
Continued from page 20

NORTH-WEST SECTION

The spring tournament at Withington G.C. on May 30 turned out to be an excellent day.

Firstly the weather was very kind to us. After a few early showers the sun shone and gave us a perfect day for golf.

Secondly, it was probably the best attended golf day for many years, with 50 greenkeepers, plus guests attending and enjoying the superb condition of Withington G.C.

Stuart Bridge, the head greenkeeper and his staff had produced a course that could not be faulted. These boys obviously know their trade, and it must have been very reassuring for them to hear the kind comments of both their fellow greenkeepers and the members of Withington G.C. would like to thank Withington G.C. for allowing us the courtesy of their course, our friends of the trade for their contribution towards the prize table, the catering staff for the great meal, and to the greenkeepers themselves for helping to make the day a success.

Apart from prizes to be won the competition was also a qualifier for the ISEKI regional tournament. We would like to thank ISEKI for allowing us the opportunity to compete for the tournament.

DEAN CLEAVER

SUSSEX SECTION

HIGHWOOD Golf Club was the venue for our spring tournament on May 30. It was a very hot day and the course was in excellent condition. Our thanks go to the secretary and head greenkeeper and all those who helped to make it a successful event, including Rigby-Taylor, John Shaw, Parkers and Farmer who very kindly donated the raffle prizes.

There was a very good turnout of greenkeepers, however. Must do better next time!


DEAN CLEAVER

DEVON AND CORNWALL SECTION

As I am writing this newsletter the rain has started to fall for the first time in ages which is a relief to me and must be to all of us after the dry cool spring and the hot start to the summer.

Since our last meeting many events have taken place in our region which, first of all, saw the top pro’s visiting our area to play in the Benson and Hedges tournament held at the superbly presented St Mellion course. It was a credit to Roy and his boys who had put in unlimited hours of work weeks before the cameras arrived.

Also I hear on the grapevine that during the tournament one night Roy decided to have a candlelight dinner in his irrigation pump house?

And during the last few weeks our region held its second annual Westurf Trade Exhibition at the very popular venue of Long Ashton Golf Club.

This being my first visit to Westurf I found everything I needed at the show and was very impressed with the demonstration areas which included a putting green which must be unique.

Also I would like to congratulate Gordon Child and his wife who had organised the show superbly and are now probably hard at work on next year’s show, which I hope everyone in our section will be attending.

RICHARD WHYMAN

LONDON SECTION

Two points of interest.

Congratulations to Jackie and Alan Greu, who have had their first child a baby boy named Andrew at 7lb 4oz.

Bradwell Golf Club, our section secretary celebrates 25 years service to Hainault Forest Golf Club this year and will be honoured with a presentation of a stereo record deck. Congratulations Brian!

Our first summer tournament was played at North Middlesex Golf Club on May 8. The afternoon was badly attended yet again (where are you all) but those who did play enjoyed themselves. The results were: 18 Hole Stableford Competition: 1st Chris Carpenter, Porters Park 40 points. 2nd Andrew Phillips, Hadley Wood, 36 points (back nine). 3rd Gareth Roberts, North Middlesex 36 points.

ANDREW PHILLIPS