

News



from the Sections

SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Chairman:
C. A. MOORE
(Stanmore)

Hon. Secretary:
68 Salcombe Gardens
Mill Hill, N.W.7
Tel: 01-959 2847

Coach Trip

The 41-seater coach left Charing Cross almost full and almost on time for what proved to be a very interesting and successful day visit to Fisons Levington Research Station.

We arrived at 11 a.m. as planned and were welcomed by Mr Robert Morris, senior advisory officer, who jokingly said: "How did you manage to get so many here, did you pay for them?" Coffee and biscuits preceded a classroom talk on the setup at Levington and then we were escorted in two parties round the magnificent building, laboratory, etc. By this time we were hungry and joined the Levington staff in their canteen for lunch. They eat well at Levington. Perhaps they do not have beer on the table as we did, but the food was very good.

An interesting afternoon followed, visiting the trial plots, etc., and this was the moment of truth for most of us Southern softies, confirming that it is one pullover colder on the east coast, and I think that most of us were grateful to join those fat, healthy cucumbers in their warm greenhouses. These experimental "cues" were doing very nicely in their regimental rows of Levington compost-filled pots, set in shallow filled polythene trays and hanging like tempting bundles of grapes. Not having a penknife, and knowing that Paul Thomas had probably counted them, I wasn't tempted.

After tea—in the canteen again—our chair-

man thanked Bob Morris for entertaining us for the day, and Mr Morris said it was a pleasure to have the Southern Section and hoped we would come again.

The journey home proved that coaches were not welcome at pubs. However at Wanstead we all enjoyed a friendly drink together at "Jock Rennie's George".

Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament was played at Hadley Wood Golf Club on Thursday, 6th May, and 53 competitors out of the original entry of 61 turned out. Pat Ainsworth and his staff are to be congratulated and thanked for the amount of work they put in to get the course in such a condition on our behalf. Thanks also to the steward and staff for looking after the "inner man" so well, the professional for the free trollies, and Ian Muir, the captain of the club, for presenting the prizes to the lucky winners. These were as follows:—

Best a.m., I. P. Smith (Limpsfield Chart), 71, knife and fork set. Best p.m., S. Kilby (Finchley), 69, travel alarm clock.

Over 60 (18 holes)—1st. G. Piggott (Henley), 72, Wills Cup and Parker pen. 2nd, B. Fordham (Tandridge), 73, Parkers tankard.

Scratch (36 holes), after a sudden-death play-off with D. Major—F. W. Corner (East Barnet), 154, Cup and canteen of cutlery.

36 aggregate—

1. A. Collis (Sonning), 135, Cup and Ransomes watch.
2. W. Machin (Addington Court), 142, Cup and Moulinex mixer.
3. F. Corner (New Barnet), 142, Cup and holdall.
4. D. Major (Betchworth), 144, Patissons Ronson lighter.
5. H. Emery (Walton Heath), 145, Clan rug.
6. R. Plain (Beaconsfield), 146, sprinkler time switch.
7. P. Ainsworth (Hadley Wood), 148, cuff links.
8. L. Coyte (Romford), 149, getaway bag.
9. F. Hayter (Enfield), 150, half-dozen balls.
10. E. Hall (Ealing), 150, vacuum jug.
11. R. Claydon (West Middlesex), 150, desk calendar.
12. W. Cavanaugh (New Malden), 151, Parker ball pen.

1st-year competitors off scratch—

1. S. A. Kilby (Old Ford), 164, transistor.
2. R. Hargreaves (Effingham), 172, one dozen balls.
3. C. Ryan (Boyce Hill), 177, blanket.
4. H. Aston (Burnham Beeches), 179, two household door mats.

Vice-Presidents—B. Huxley, steak knife and fork set.

Last but not least our sincere thanks to David Craig, Philip Marshall, John Field and Bill Holloway. What would we do without them!

We are grateful to the following firms who contributed to the prize giving: Messrs David Craig, Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies,

H. Pattissons & Co. Ltd., Sutton & Sons, Flymo Ltd., T. Parker & Sons. C. H. Pugh Ltd., Maxwell Hart Ltd., May & Baker Ltd., Huxleys Garden Machinery, Kingston House Mowers Ltd., and Wright Rain Ltd.

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to our new vice-presidents whose names are listed below:

K. Thomas and V. L. Waeland of Boyce Hill Golf Club.

New Subscription Rate

Will members who have paid their 1971-72 subscriptions at the old rate please remit to me the difference.

SOUTH-WEST

By A. Cockfield

Hon. Secretary:
10 Clarence Terrace,
Claverton Down, Bath.

Chairman:
L. MILLAR

The Somerset County Golf Championship played over the Burnham and Berron Links was won by the local greenkeeper, L. Millar. Runner-up was his assistant, M. Ham, one stroke behind. Congratulations to both on a very fine performance.

MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Hon. Secretary:
4 Burton Old Road,
Streethay, Lichfield,
Staffs.

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Annual Spring Tournament

The Spring Tournament was held at Whittington Barracks Golf Club on Tuesday, 4th May.

On a gloriously hot summer's day, 35 greenkeepers, a record number for this event, set out from the first tee of this interesting heathland course. George Hart, one of our older members, completed the morning nine holes in an excellent level par "36". Although losing his grip a little in the afternoon, he still had enough in hand to win the Scratch Championship with a score of 120 gross for 27 holes.

Bill Boyce, of Ladbroke Park Golf Club, played steadily throughout the day for a score of 35 net and 71 net — 106 — to take the Ransomes Cup and gold watch.

The heather destroyed many hopes and the only players to beat par during the afternoon were Tony Cutler, with 66 net, and Alan Kite, 67 net.

Leading scores were as follows:—

Best gross (27 holes), G. Hart — 36 + 84 = 120 (Sutton Cup).

1st net, W. Boyce — 35 + 71 = 106 (Ransomes Cup and gold watch).

2nd, A. Cutler — 33 + 74 = 107.

3rd, T. Cutler — 42 + 66 = 108.

4th, A. Kite — 41 + 67 = 108.

5th, T. Morris — 35 + 75 = 110.

6th, D. Haynes — 38 + 73 = 111.

7th, J. Bevan — 40 + 73 = 113.

8th, G. Bunting — 35½ + 79 = 114½.

9th, W. Barton — 38½ + 78 = 116½.

10th, V. Smith — 44 + 73 = 117.

George Hart, the section chairman, expressed the thanks of all greenkeepers to the captain and committee of the Whittington Barracks Golf Club for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse throughout the day.

He also expressed appreciation for the generous donations made by the club who paid for the greenkeepers' meals and provided a number of valuable prizes.

The chairman thanked Mr and Mrs Charlton, the steward and stewardess, and Chris Charlton, the chef, for the splendid meals and service throughout the day. He also thanked Adrian Sadler, professional, for the use of caddie carts, and added a few kind remarks for the ground staff, who, in spite of leaving a little too much rough, had endeavoured to produce a course in good playing condition.

Mr Bill Payne looked after the score cards throughout the day, and was assisted by Brian Chapman, Peter Wyatt and Frank Cashmore. We are most grateful to these gentlemen who worked so hard to ensure the success of the tournament.

The prizes were presented by the captain of Whittington Barracks Golf Club, Mr J. Johnson, who extended a warm welcome to all greenkeepers to Whittington and hoped to see everyone there again in the not too distant future.

Prize Donors

We thank the following prize donors who ensured the success of the tournament:— Whittington Barracks Golf Club, Ransomes Ltd., Synchemicals Ltd., Flymo Ltd., Fisons Ltd., Suttons Ltd., Stewart Ltd., F. W. Lees Ltd., Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co. Ltd., Mr A. Onions, Mr Carl Bretherton, Mr Jones, Mr F. D. Brown and Mr J. R. Greenhalgh of Warmley Golf Club and Mr A. R. Sadler, the professional.

President's Match

I do hope to see a very good number of greenkeepers come along to this very fine match at Handsworth Golf Club on Thursday, 24th June.

A.G.M. and Summer Cup

The Summer Tournament will take place at the Habberley Golf Club, Kidderminster, on Monday, 19th July, by kind permission of the captain and the directors.

The Annual General Meeting will take place after the Summer Tournament, at 4 p.m. in the Habberley Golf Clubhouse.

Will all members taking part in this event please let me have their names by Saturday, 10th July.

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament will be held at the Stourbridge Golf Club on Tuesday, 14th

September, by kind permission of the captain and committee.

Greenkeepers v. Secretaries

Mr Norman Russell has kindly arranged for the match between the greenkeepers and the secretaries to be played at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club on Wednesday, 15th September.

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to the following greenkeepers who have recently joined the section: J. Hughes, of Moor Hall Golf Club; J. P. Randell, of Robin Hood Golf Club; and D. J. Shortley, of Ladbroke Park Golf Club.

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:
T. BRENNAN.
(Royal Birkdale)

Hon. Secretary:
Horrobin Cottage,
Old Links Golf Club,
Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that I have to inform members of the death of two respected members of the association — Mr P. Campbell, of Stockport Golf Club, who was one of our oldest members both in years and as a member of the association; also Mr H. Ratcliff, of Rigby Taylor Ltd., who was known and respected by all members of the association. On behalf of all members I wish to express our deepest sympathy to their families.

Spring Tournament

Our thanks are due to the Captain and Council of the Romily Golf Club for their kindness in granting us the courtesy of their course and the facilities of their clubhouse on the occasion of our Spring Tournament and A.G.M. on the 11th May.

Once again we had a very good attendance; the weather could not have been kinder—plenty of warm sunshine; good golf, good food and good company. Our chairman thanked the captain, the steward, Mr Grazzia, the head greenkeeper for the condition of the course, Messrs N. Barlow, P. Wyatt, G. Vaughan for their valuable help in taking care of the cards and monies, to all the prize donors and our friends in the trade.

Prize Donors

Prizes were donated by the following:— Messrs Flymo Ltd., Supaturf Ltd., Rigby Taylor Ltd., Sutton and Son, W. Wilcocks and Son, W. Burrows Ltd., Fisons Ltd., Joseph Metcalf Ltd., W. Sowerbutt and Son, S.A.I. Horticulture, R. Fielding Esq.

Prize Winners (over 27 holes)

Scratch Prize: E. Walsh—117 gross.
Best Net, J. Leonard (C.P.)—107; 2nd, D. Macavoy—107; 3rd, A. Warhurst—108½; 4th, M. Owen—110; 5th, H. Summer—111; 6th, O. Jones (C.P.)—112; 7th, A. McAddey—112; 8th, J. Gillett—112½; 9th, G. Leonard—113; 10th, R. Vickers (C.P.)—115½; 11th, J. Ratcliffe—115½.

Visitors' prize was won by J. G. Parker—86 net over 18 holes.

Over-50 Cup was won by O. P. Jones—112 net over 27 holes.

A.G.M.

There was a very good attendance for the A.G.M. in the evening.

The election of officers was as follows:— Chairman: J. Gillett (St Anne's Old Links). Vice-Chairman: R. Vickers Esq. (Leigh Golf Club).

Secretary: H. M. Walsh (Old Links Golf Club, Bolton).

Treasurer: R. Janovskis.

Committee Members: J. Rhodes, E. Walsh, D. Pate (*ex officio*), E. Drage, O. P. Jones.

I would, at this stage, like to express on behalf of all members our very sincere thanks to Ted Macavoy for the 15 years' service he gave to the section and the 20 years as a committee man. Thank you, Ted

Subscriptions

All subscriptions are now due and should be sent to our new treasurer, Mr R. Janovskis, 303 Moorside Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 3PN. The new rates are as follows:—

Class "A" membership	£2.00
Class "B" membership	1.50
Class "C" membership	1.00
Class "D" membership	2.00
Class "E" membership	2.50

New Members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with the section will be a long and happy one.

K. M. Greenwood, Hesketh Golf Club; L. Cheetham, Stamford Golf Club; P. C. Alvey, Hesketh Golf Club; I. Ashton, Dukinfield Golf Club; H. N. McAddey, Swinton Park Golf Club; J. D. Evans, Padiwood and Buckley Golf Club; T. T. Wolfindale, 1 Farm Lane, Worsley, Lancs.; J. Doran, 43 Hatfield Drive, Tyldsley, Manchester; M. Tetlow, Manchester Golf Club; P. M. Mitchell, Cheshire Light Tractors; D. Loughlin, Childwell Golf Club; G. Corcoran, Lee Park Golf Club.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Fred Cooper on his retirement after 50 years as a greenkeeper and 40 years as a member of the association. Have a very happy retirement, Fred. At the last meeting of the section it was agreed to make him an honorary life member of the section.

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES,
23 Fenton Place,
Porthcawl, Glamorgan.

Hon. Secretary:
36 Clase Road,
Morriston,
Swansea, Glam.

Spring Meeting

Our Spring Meeting was held at St Mellons Golf Club on the 4th May 1971. The

weather was good and we had a very nice day. It was the first time at this club and we found the course in very good condition. We played our regular 27-hole aggregate medal competition and the scores were very good with some members. We played nine holes before lunch and 18 in the afternoon.

The following were the lucky winners:—1st, M. Jones, 104 net—Cardiff Cup and half-dozen wine glasses; 2nd, T. Finch, 107½ net—one dozen golf balls; 3rd, J. Martin, 108½ net—bottle sherry; 4th, D. Cheetham, 110 net—Pattison lighter; 5th, H. Fry, 111½ net—pair of towels.

24 Handicap, O. O'Rourke, 116 net—bottle sherry.

First-Year Competitor—J. Hill, 130 gross—half-dozen golf balls given by R. S. Bird, V.P.

A.G.M.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on 29th June 1971. Will all members who will be attending this meeting please let me know not later than 20th June as I have to let the secretary of the secretaries know the numbers for dinner in the evening and I also have to notify the steward as to how many there will be for lunch, so please make sure you let me know in good time.

Autumn Meeting

Our Autumn Meeting will be held at the Swansea Bay Golf Club on Wednesday, 8th September. Please make a note of these two dates. I have also fixed up a friendly match with the South-West Section for the 6th October at St Pierre Country Club course, Chepstow. This will be a team effort and we hope a yearly event, playing at a South-West Section course next year. You will hear more about this meeting at the A.G.M.

Mr J. C. Clay

On behalf of all members of the Welsh Section I would like to extend to Mr J. C. Clay, our vice-president, best wishes for a speedy recovery from a foot injury he received on the Llantrisant and Pontyclun course.

I would like to thank Colin Murphy for being so kind in doing all the accounts and cards for our meeting at St Mellons.

TRADE NEWS

JACOBSEN F-133

This is the new five-gang fine turf mower from Rolfe's Mini-Tractors of Romsey, Hants.

The Jacobsen F-133 is packed with many performance features. Designed for mowing commercial turf areas with minimum manpower in a few man hours, hydrostatic foot control provides variable speeds for close work and trimming usually done with a walking mower. Excellent carpet-smooth cutting

ability and low maintenance costs make the F-133 ideal for use on golf courses, schools, parks, cemeteries and industrial sites. It's stable and steady on side slopes and hills for extra safety. The five power-driven mower units are fully articulated to follow uneven ground contours. Cuts from 40 to 50 acres per eight-hour day in a big 133 in. cutting swath. Front mowing units are ahead of tractor wheels so there's no streaks of uncut grass. Constructed to take rugged use, it also features variable forward speeds for mowing and faster transporting between jobs at speeds up to 15 m.p.h., enabling operator to move between jobs quickly—saving time and money. All mowing units ride on replaceable skid shoes which provide added protection to bed knives and quick, easy height adjustment, while a dependable 18 h.p. engine provides reserve power for the toughest, roughest mowing. Twelve volt electric starting is standard equipment.

The Jacobsen F-133 is just one of the range of professional turf care machines from Jacobsen, probably world leaders in this field, all of which are immediately available for demonstration anywhere in the country from Rolfe's Mini-Tractors, Winchester Hill, Romsey, Hants.

GUIDE TO GRASS

A guide to grass for groundsmen, gardeners and contractors has been published by the Miln Marsters Group of Chester and King's Lynn—suppliers of seed for large-scale amenity schemes.

Copies are available, free of charge, from R. S. Cannell, The Miln Marsters Group, Waterloo House, Waterloo Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

RAMSOMES have extended their existing franchise for professional grass machinery to Eastern Tractors (Holdings) Limited to now cover the county of Suffolk through Eastern Tractors subsidiary, Anglian Garden Machinery Centre, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich.

Operating from extensive premises at Martlesham Heath, the Anglian Garden Centre provides extensive sales and service facilities for all Ransomes' grass machinery products.