

SECTION NEWS

A nationwide round-up of news from the branches

with their opinions and perhaps we could get a permanent quiz going in the journal.

Let's hope that we have more than twenty-five members at next month's meeting at the Whitbreads Brewery social club, Moorgate. The snacks are cheap and the beer is good, so there's quite an incentive for a start!

By the way, our January lecture will be given by J. R. D. Palmer of Supaturf Products.

New Members: M. Butrymdwicz, Cottismore; D. R. Baker, Walton Heath; G. Taylor, Walton Heath; R. Blackmore, West Middlesex; M. P. Fitzimmons, Beckenham Place Park; L. J. Neal, Surbiton; H. W. Cave, Wycke Green; A. R. Holt, Bulcleuch.

Obituary: It was with regret that we learned of the death of Frank Mace of Hartsbourne Golf and Country Club. Our deepest sympathies go out to Mrs. Mace on her sad loss.

Secretaries Match

A grand day was had on Tuesday, October 7th at Beaconsfield Golf Club in our Annual Match (Battle) with the Golf Club Secretaries.

Once again we came out on top, thanks mainly to Bob Plain and his staff for the excellent state of the course and putting the holes in the right places, he must have known we were coming!

Our thanks to the indoor staff for the excellent meals and service at the 19th. Special thanks to Major Adair for providing the wine with our lunch.

Southern Section Match

Result of the annual greenkeepers

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Southern Section

Chairman:

D. S. GOULD
Langley Park G.C.
Beckenham, Kent.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. D. MAJOR
36 Tynedale Road,
Strood Green,
Betchworth, Surrey.

THE FIRST of the winter lectures got off to a very quiet start due to the lack of attendance of members who preferred to stay at home and watch the big fight on the 'box'.

However, it was not a wasted evening for those who did bother to turn up. A stimulating quiz took place hosted by a small team of experts consisting of a welcome regular visitor, Jock Glass from Thorpe Hall G.C., and equally welcome relative newcomer, John Campbell of Foxhills G.C. The bulk of the questions fired at them consisted mainly of queries concerning their opinions on Triplex mowers. Young Jock shot out of his seat in agreement when asked if he thought the Triplex mowers encouraged a quicker build up of fibre and it was thought by both our panel of experts and quite a few other members, that more turf problems were emerging with the 'Triplex age'.

If anyone has any comments on Triplex machinery, irrigation or any subject concerning greenkeeping I would be pleased if they would write to me

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v. Secretaries match.

Morning Foursomes:

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. D. Mercer | D. Major | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| A. J. Acres | R. Plain | 0 | 1 |
| J. R. Marshall | B. Payne | 0 | 1 |
| J. E. Ritchie | P. Fitzjohn | 0 | 1 |
| M. E. Dorney | G. Brown | 0 | 1 |
| J. M. Price | W. Machin | 0 | 1 |
| J. B. Sinnott | G. Payne | 0 | 1 |
| J. Crowther | J. Newman | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| J. E. Miller | H. Brown | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| H. Tullow | S. Taylor | 1 | 0 |
| F. A. Pearce | D. Gould | — | — |
| J. Adair | P. Taylor | 2 | 4 |

Afternoon Singles:

| | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------|---|
| A. D. Mercer | 0 | B. Payne | 1 |
| A. J. Acres | 1 | G. Brown | 0 |
| J. R. Marshall | 1 | D. Major | 0 |
| M. E. Dorney | 0 | R. Plain | 1 |
| J. E. Ritchie | 0 | J. Newman | 1 |
| J. B. Sinnott | 0 | P. Fitzjohn | 1 |
| K. M. Price | 1 | S. Taylor | 0 |
| J. Crother | 0 | G. Payne | 1 |
| J. E. Miller | 0 | H. Brown | 1 |
| H. Tullow | 0 | W. Machin | 1 |
| F. A. Pearce | 1 | P. Taylor | 0 |
| J. Adair | 1 | D. Gould | 0 |
| | — | | — |
| | 5 | | 7 |

MATCH RESULT :

| | |
|--------------|----|
| GREENKEEPERS | 11 |
| SECRETARIES | 7 |

Sheffield Section

President:

S. K. ARNOLD

Hon. Secretary:

B. V. LAX

153 Kilton Road,
Workshop, Notts.

WE HELD our first winter meeting at Abbeydale Golf Club on October 2nd.

On this occasion we were shown some of the Ryan Turf care equipment and also, for the first time for many of us, we were able to see the new Cushman Turf Care System.

All the equipment was brought along for us by Mr. L. A. Bedwin of Horwood (Manchester) Ltd. Many thanks to both Mr. Bedwin and Horwood Ltd.

As we decided at the A.G.M. there will be no winter meeting in January 1976. Happy Christmas and New Year to all members and their families.

East Midland Section

President:

R. BAILEY
147 Mere Road,
Wigston Magna,
Leics.

Hon. Secretary:

S. FRETTER
4 Queens Drive,
Leicester Forest East,
Leics.

OUR Annual Autumn Golf Tournament was held at Birstall Golf Club on Wednesday, 1st October, by kind permission of the Captain and Committee. We had a very good entry, the course was in good condition. Our thanks to the Captain and Committee, the inside and outside staff for making it a very enjoyable day. Our thanks to David Bentley Ltd., May & Baker, H. Pattisson Ltd., Cannock Fertilisers, Tilcon Construction, Mr. Goddard, for prizes. Our thanks to Mrs. Mott, Mrs. Welch for doing the cards, also to Mr. & Mrs. R. Willars for the buying of prizes.

N. East Section

OUR Autumn Tournament was held on Thursday 28th August, at the Gosforth Golf Club, by kind permission of their Captain and Committee.

Best Scratch score over 27 holes: D. Faulder (Blyth GC) 106—Joseph Miller Salver and camera. The Ransomes Cup and Watch was won by W. Bewick (Whitburn GC) for the best nett score of 99½.

2nd J. Grainger (Durham City GC), 102½—Alarm Clock; 3rd B. Skipper (Eaglescliffe GC), 105—Bed Spread; 4th C. Moseby (Blyth GC), 105½—Nylon Sheets; 5th B. Wilson (Stocksfield GC),

East Midland Match

Prize winners in the East Midland Section's Annual Autumn Tournament:

Greenkeepers

| | | | | |
|------|----------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------|
| 1st | G. Arnold (Erewash) | 85 gross | 22 handicap | 63 Nett |
| 2nd | M. Lake (Northampton) | 91 " | 24 " | 67 " |
| 3rd | D. Jack (Leicestershire) | 87 " | 16 " | 71 " |
| 4th | P. McCarron (Leicestershire) | 95 " | 24 " | 71 " |
| 5th | I. Toon (Kirby Muxloe) | 79 " | 6 " | 73 " |
| 6th | B. Mott (Rothley) | 84 " | 10 " | 74 " |
| 7th | D. Bagshaw (Stanton on the Wold) | 87 " | 12 " | 15 " |
| 8th | S. Fretter (Kibworth) | 88 " | 12 " | 76 " |
| 9th | J. Goddard (Mapperley) | 91 " | 14 " | 77 " |
| 10th | A. Shaw (Radcliffe on Trent) | 88 " | 11 " | 77 " |
| 11th | R. Spurr (Erewash) | 89 " | 12 " | 77 " |

Vice Presidents

| | | | |
|------------|------|------|------|
| T. Dauccia | 86 " | 18 " | 68 " |
|------------|------|------|------|

Visitors

| | | | | |
|-----|---------------|------|------|------|
| 1st | Mr. Vincent | 87 " | 18 " | 69 " |
| 2nd | Mr. Smith | 86 " | 16 " | 70 " |
| 3rd | R. Tattersall | 74 " | 0 " | 74 " |

The Shield presented to us by Machin & Hartwell, Nottingham for best scratch for our Spring and Autumn Tournament has been won by I. Toon (Kirby Muxloe).

The Toro Cup for best nett for Spring and Autumn Tournament has been won by G. Arnold (Erewash).

106-Set Spoons: 6th J. Richardson (Tynemouth GC), 107½-Blanket: 7th K. Barrs. (Ravensworth GC), 108-Table Lamp; 8th W. Holden (Warkworth GC), 109-Lighter: 9th T. Nutman (Tynemouth GC), 110-Towel Set; 10th J. Jeffcock (Stocksfield GC), 112-Holdall.

The over 50 Cup was won by J. Carss of (Dunstanburgh Castle GC, with a score of 110.

Our Chairman, Mr. J. Simpson thanked the Captain and Committee for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse, thanks was also due to Michael Runnacles and his staff for the splendid condition of the course, our thanks are also due to the following golf clubs,

and members of the trade, who kindly contributed to our Prize List.

Ponteland GC., Chester-le-Street GC., Tyneside GC., City Newcastle GC., Dinsdale Spa GC., Hartlepool GC., Ravensworth GC., Wearside GC., Whitley Bay GC., Tynemouth GC., Alnmouth GC., Morpeth GC., Brancepeth Castle GC., Northumberland Union of Golf Clubs., Sisis, Ransomes, Flymo, Bland Short, Brian Skeen, Rigby Taylor, May and Baker and our President, Mr. C. N. Storey.

Tom Oliver had a few holes too, at 80 years young I don't think that was too bad at all, it was nice to see Tom out and about after his illness over the last winter.

South Coast Section

Chairman:
E. R. JAMES

Hon. Secretary:
MRS. J. STIMSON
North Wilts, G.C.
Devizes.

SIXTY-FOUR members and guests attended our Autumn Meeting which was held at Lee on the Solent Golf Club on Thursday, 2nd October 1975. Play started promptly and everyone hoped the day would stay fine but by late morning the rain arrived and water-proofs and brollies were required. After a delicious Ploughman's lunch, several fainthearted players decided to forgo the afternoon nine hole competition in preference to a wetting of a different kind. However, the weather was the only disappointment, the course was in good condition and we were well looked after by the indoor staff.

Mr. Jim Fry, our President and a member of Lee on the Solent Golf Club, thanked the captain and committee for the courtesy of the course and clubhouse facilities and also complimented the green staff and catering staff on the results of their hard work. Mr. Fry also paid tribute to Eddie Fox, Allan Jeffery and members of the trade who had all helped in the organisation of the meeting and he also thanked the contributors to the generous prize list. He was delighted that the meeting had been such a success and thanked all those present for their support. Mr. Fry then called upon Mr. John Hunt, the Chairman of the Green Committee, to say a few words and present the prizes.

Prizewinners:— (Morning) Special prize for visitor guest and partner, Bob Plain and D. MacIntosh 39 pts. golf ball bag; glove and six golf balls. 1st C. Burke and K. Arnold 37 pts. Toro Cup; two cut glass jugs; 2nd P. Marsh and H. Toole 37 pts. two pairs of cuff-links; 3rd J. Stimson and P. Hough 36 pts. lighter and pen. (Afternoon) 1st I. Greenfield and R. Longwill 16 pts. two bottles of whisky; 2nd T. Watts and J. Hewlett 15 pts. Poly post fencing;

3rd D. Walker and J. Flailes 14 pts. two penknives.

Immediately after the prize giving, Mr. Eric James took the opportunity to remind members that Mr. Phil Marsall had finally decided to retire from his appointment with Ransomes. Eric paid tribute to the welcome assistance Phil had given the Section on past occasions and he felt that his retirement was one occasion which should not go by unacknowledged. As a result of an impromptu committee meeting which had taken place at teatime, he had much pleasure in declaring Phil Marshall an Honorary Life Member of the South Coast Section. A decision which received the unanimous approval of all the members present. Phil Marshall then thanked the Section for the honour which they had bestowed upon him. All good wishes for a long and happy retirement, Phil!

A talk on "Toro Equipment" will be given by Tim Mortimer of J. T. Lowe (Longham) Ltd. on Tuesday 6th January 1976 at Alesford Golf Club at 7 p.m. Start the New Year well and attend our lecture evening!

Our very best wishes to John Dodds on his new appointment with Hockley Golf Club and congratulations to Terry Patchin on his promotion to fill the vacancy created at Ampfield Par 3 Golf and Country Club.

We welcome to the Section the following members and hope their association with us will be a long and happy one.— J. R. Hughes, Bramshaw G.C.; C. R. B. Broom, Bridport and West Dorset G.C.; M. D. Webb, Alton G.C.; P. Payne, Fisons (Hon. Member). A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members.

North East Section

President:
C. N. STOREY
11 Holywell Avenue,
Whitley Bay,
Northumberland.

Hon. Secretary:
G. JEFFERIES
55 Brackenfield Road,
Framwell Gate Moor,
Durham.

THERE are a number of subscriptions overdue, I would like these to be paid before the New Year otherwise the

defaulters will be taken off the list of our membership.

The following are new members of the section, and we hope their association with us will be a happy one: R. Grieve, (Whickham GC), S. Hooper (Ponteland GC), T. Brown (Whickham GC), R. M. Shaw (Billingham GC), G. Palmer (Whickham GC), J. R. Wright (Wearside GC), T. Collins (Brancepeth GC), and K. Rutherford of the City of Newcastle GC.

On behalf of the members of the North East Section, may I take this opportunity to wish all Members of the Association and the many Golf Clubs and firms who kindly support us throughout the year, a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Northern Section

Chairman:

J. SCOTT

Wetherby Golf Club

Hon. Secretary:

W. HEELES

7 Tentergate Close,
Knaresborough, Yorks.

Tel: K'boro 3851

ON MONDAY the 6th October, 38 Members took part in the Section's Autumn Tournament at the Lancaster Golf and Country Club. We were favoured with good weather, good food, and very good company.

Our thanks to the Committee and members of the Lancaster Golf Club for their generosity in allowing us the courtesy of the Course and Clubhouse, also many thanks to Brian Umpleby for having the course in good condition.

Prize winners were as follows: Scratch Prize S. E. Oddy. Gross 79; 1st Division 1st. E. Paley Nett 69; 2nd. C. Geddes. Nett 73; 3rd. W. Heeles. Nett 75. 2nd Division 1st. J. L. Greirson. Nett 68; 2nd. D. Carter. Nett 72; 3rd. P. Marshall. Nett 76. On Last Nine. Vice Presidents. 1st. W. Mountain, President. (Would all V. Presidents please take note of this up and coming star in their ranks. eh eh eh!) 2nd. E. Armitage, 3rd. P. Duncan.

The Farrods Irrigation Trophy. This Trophy was donated to the Section by

Farrods of Ripon Ltd. (The best Gross score over three rounds, i.e. The Spring Tournament, the Presidents Prize, and the Autumn Tournament.). The Winner was D. Roberts with a gross score 290, second W. Heeles. gross 297. Third E. Paley. Gross 303. Mr. P. J. Duncan presented the Trophy on behalf of the company.

October 20th, 7.30 p.m., Moor Allerton Golf Club saw the first event of our 1975/76 evening Lecture Season. A rather small but enthusiastic number of 39 members listened intently to the guest speaker, Mr. F. W. Hawtree.

With the theme, the History of Golf Course Architecture, Mr. Hawtree revealed the origins of the golf game, how it seemingly began in Scotland's North East coastal region in the 1600's and how in 1869, Westward Ho became the first Course in England. Mr. Hawtree's account progressed from these basic beginnings among the sand dunes, to Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton, mentioning their influence in bringing about artificial naturalness to the landscape scene. He also spoke of the five basic elements a golf architect has at his disposal—grass, trees, water, sand and contour; really a limited range of resources with which to work.

With the aid of transparencies we were taken on a whirlwind tour of golf courses both in Europe and the U.K.

Books on golf, fungi and flowers were offered in a raffle, the proceeds of which amounting to £2, were credited to the section benevolent fund. Both Mr. Hawtree and our secretary Walter Heeles won prizes: there is no truth in the rumour that our raffles are fixed!

A visitor on Northern Section territory attending a one-week course at Bingley St. Ives, October 20-24 was Neil Smith, grandson of Mr. Frank G. Smith. Neil works at Maldon Golf Club under his father Frank G. Smith junior. It is heartening to see three generations of the same family finding fortune from this noble profession of ours.

Because no one else seems bothered

we would like to point out that the disease *Ophiobolus Graminis* is now reclassified as *GAEUMANNAMYCES Graminis*—just a small point!

Every good wish goes to Kenneth Bennison on his recent appointment as Head Greenkeeper to Otley Golf Club, from October 1st. Kenneth, brother of Gordon Bennison, Head Greenkeeper of Scunthorpe Golf Club, takes on his new task with a range of modern equipment and a staff of 3.

On the international front, in the United States bureaucracy has decreed that by October 1976, any person concerned with the application of poisonous substance must hold a certificate. This involves the passing of an exam by

either the Superintendent or other key personnel of the club. Anyone not certified will be regarded ineligible to use pesticides associated with Turf.

North-West Section

Chairman and Hon. Secretary:

H. M. WALSH
34 Kingsfold Close,
Brightmet,
Bolton, Lancs.

OUR thanks to the Captain and Council of Bury Golf Club for their kindness in granting us the courtesy of their course and facilities of the club house on the occasion of our Autumn Tournament on the 6th of October. Thanks to Mr. C. Bamford, Captain of

Prizes

Prizewinners in the North West Section's Autumn tournament. All over 27 holes.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------|---------------|
| Scratch Prize | E. Walsh | 114 | Gross |
| Over 60s | R. Vickers | 110½ | Nett |
| 1st Nett | D. Golding | 109 | |
| 2nd " | S. Edgerley | 110 | |
| 3rd " | R. Vickers | 110½ | |
| 4th " | F. Fletcher | 112 | |
| 5th " | E. Walsh | 112½ | |
| 6th " | P. Chapman | 113 | |
| 7th " | J. T. Holt | 115 | |
| 8th " | J. Robinson | 115½ | |
| 9th " | G. McDonald | 116 | |
| 10th " | J. Gillett | 116½ | |
| 11th " | M. Holmes | 118 | |
| 12th " | O. P. Jones | 119 | |
| 13th " | D. Robinson | 120 | C.P.O. |
| 14th " | W. Summer | 120 | " |
| 15th " | H. M. Walsh | 120½ | |
| 16th " | P. Shaw | 121 | |
| 17th " | H. Smith | 121½ | C.P.O. |
| 18th " | H. McAddey | 121½ | " |
| 19th " | P. Kelly | 122 | |
| 20th " | J. Wright | 125 | |
| 21st " | R. Janovskis | 127½ | C.P.O. |
| 22nd " | R. Lewis | 127½ | " |
| 23rd " | E. Drage | 131 | |
| 24th " | A. Dawson | 133 | |
| Visitors Prize | A. D. Purdy | 78 | over 18 holes |

Bury G.C. for his warm welcome and for presenting the prizes in the evening, to Mr. & Mrs. Purdy for the excellent meals provided, to Mr. A. Millburn and his staff for the very good condition of the course, to Mr. G. Vaughan for his help with the monies etc., to the weather for being so kind, and to all those who helped to make this day a success.

To you gentlemen for entering and turning up to play in such great numbers, and a very special thank-you to the following donors of prizes: Chairman of the Green Bury Golf Club, Professional Bury Golf Club; Messrs. Ransomes Sims & Jefferies; Toro (U.K.); Hargreaves 'Sisis' Ltd.; H. Patisson; R. Daniels; Garden Centre; Theo Wilson & Son; W. Barrows & Son; Supaturf Products; Cheshire Light Tractors; Chipman

Ltd.; Atcos Service Branch Longton; May & Baker Ltd.; S.A.I. Edinburgh; Dixon Brown & Tait; Joseph Metcalf & Son; Wilcocks & Son, Preston; Can-nock Fertilisers.

Our sincere thanks to Mr. B. Metcalf for the very interesting talk which he gave on various species of grass seed, also general fertilisers and also for the liquid refreshments provided, thank you Brian.

The January talk will be on the 12th by Mr. L. Hewitt of Atcos Service Branch, at the Swinton Park G.C., East Lancs Road, 7.30 p.m.

We welcome to the Section the following new members: A. W. Dawson, Hindley Hall Golf Club, Hindley, Nr. Wigan. B. Cooke, Dunham Forest Golf Club, Altrincham, Cheshire.

NEWS

STEWART & CO. Seedsmen Ltd., the amenity turf specialists, are currently involved in a new building programme to facilitate increasing business.

A 4 acre site at Mayfield Industrial Estate, Dalkeith, Midlothian is their choice for the construction of new works and offices. Modern plant for the production of compost, top dressing and fertiliser mixing is being installed in conjunction with a streamlined materials handling system to cope with their already comprehensive range of turf maintenance supplies and equipment. Production of their range of golf course accessories is also to be enlarged to cater for increased demand.

A regrettable effect of this development is the closure of their city centre garden shop in Edinburgh, only 20 yards from the world famous Princes Street. Parking problems and high rates plus the increased use of Garden Centres has meant the severing of the connection of 81 years in the retail garden trade.

THE beginning of further expansion into the British seed market by Mommersteeg International, plant breeders, has been marked by the opening of extensive new facilities at the company's Finedon, Northamptonshire, headquarters on Wednesday 15 October by its chief executive, J. W. Berkelbach.

The new facilities include a 4,500 square feet warehouse and office block at the company's Finedon trials ground, a warehouse and administration block totalling 30,000 square feet adjacent to the main offices which contain a 700 kg/hour grass seed cleaning plant.

The new seed plant, although designed primarily for grass, is also able to handle other seeds, including the oilseed rape and forage crop varieties for which Mommersteeg is well known. The plant has five cleaning stages plus an applicator for either liquid or powder seed dressings and an output weighter and bagger. The output can produce either bulk lots or packs.