

# SECTION NEWS

## A nationwide round-up of news from the branches



### South Coast Section

*Chairman:*  
E. R. JAMES

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

THERE was a very good attendance at Alresford Golf Club on Tuesday, 2nd March 1976, when members enjoyed the generous hospitality of Huxleys Garden Machinery. The topic of the evening was "Further Thoughts on Hire". Eddie Fox concentrated on aspects of drainage and showed a series of slides illustrating the method used to improve drainage on the 1st green at Alresford using a turf cutter and AF trencher, and he also drew attention to the use that had been made of other machines in experiments to cope with particular drainage problems. Paul Huxley referred to the other machinery which was now included in their Hire Fleet and there were many envious sighs when the various attachments to the basic Cushman turf truckster were shown! Our grateful thanks to "Huxleys" for a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

Many members were given the opportunity to inspect at first hand the work which had been done on the 1st green. On Monday, 22nd March, Huxleys Garden Machinery held a display of their "Modern Maintenance Machinery for Purchase or Hire" at Alresford Golf Club.

A few of our Greenkeepers were also

given the opportunity of another day out when they accepted an invitation from A. Brewer & Co. Ltd., of Salisbury to a Golf Tournament held at High Post Golf Club. Almost eighty representatives from various Golf Clubs and Trade firms took part and it was most unfortunate that the weather that day was diabolical

We welcome to the Section Mr. M.D. Webb of Alton Golf Club and hope that his association with us will be a long and happy one.

### North West Section

*Chairman and Hon. Secretary:*  
H. M. WALSH  
34 Kingsfold Close,  
Broughton,  
Bolton, Lancs.

#### Lectures

OUR sincere thanks to Mr. R. Young of Chipmans Ltd., for the very interesting talk which he gave on the importance of correct drainage. This concluded this winter's series of talks, and my thanks to all the speakers concerned, and to the members who turned up in quite good numbers to give their support.

#### Spring Tournament

Monday, May 17th. Tee off times from 8.15 a.m. at the Hillside Golf Club, Southport. Details in the previous issue of the journal.

#### In Memoriam

It is with deep regret I have to inform members of the sudden passing away of our friend, and fellow greenkeeper, John Pearson, a stalwart member of the Association, and will be greatly missed by his friends in the North West, who extend to Mrs. Pearson and family their deepest sympathy in their sad loss.

## Welsh Section

*President:*  
J. BIRD

*Secretary:*  
D. C. OLIVER  
Lwynpia,  
Rhondda,  
Glam.

### Our 1976 Fixtures List:

15th June Southerndown Golf Club  
21st Sept. Swansea Bay Golf Club  
13th Oct. St. Pierre Golf Club

On the 4th March, 1976, Mr. Tom Jones died, who had been the Head Greenkeeper of St. Mellors Golf Club for the past 43 years. We all knew Mr. Jones had been ill for quite some time. He will be sadly missed by all.

## Midlands Section

*Chairman:*  
V. W. SMITH

*Hon. Secretary:*  
A. KITE  
5, Lillington Close,  
Sutton Coldfield,  
West Midlands.

ON Wednesday, 9th March, 1976, at the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, a lecture was given to the members of the Midland section by Mr. Derek Brown, the Sutton division officer for the Birmingham City Council Recreation and Amenities Dept. The lecture was on the subject of trees. Mr. Brown talked for several hours on what turned out to be a very interesting and absorbing subject. He also answered the questions put to him by the people in attendance. Like myself I am sure, most people present were not aware of the many aspects that could be attributed to even the most common tree.

We would like to offer our most sincere thanks to Mr. Brown for entertaining, and indeed educating us with his lecture. We also offer our thanks to the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club for the use of their facilities, and finally to Bernhard's Rugby Nurseries Ltd., for their invitation to look around their many acres of young trees in the coming autumn.

I would like to remind all the Midland members that your Subs. are due

on the 1st May, 1976, and should be received by the Treasurer Mr. E.V. Thomas, 78 Hillmorton Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, W. Midlands, by no later than the last day of May, failure to do so will result in loss of privileges i.e. entering of golf tournaments, receiving of journals etc., also as a result of you failing to pay your subs. on time extra expenses are incurred by the section, expenses that we can ill afford, so PLEASE Pay up, no excuses.

## Southern Section

*Chairman:*  
D. S. GOULD  
Langley Park G.C.  
Beckenham, Kent.

*Hon. Secretary:*  
MRS. D. MAJOR  
36 Tynedale Road,  
Strood Green,  
Betchworth, Surrey.

AT the Annual Dinner at Walton Heath Golf Club on Friday, 26th March, once again a most enjoyable day was had by all. The course — in first class condition, thanks to Fred and his Staff, and the dinner in the evening, our sincere thanks to Mr. T. Stanley and his

## PATTISON IN THE WEST

### DEREK RUSSELL

Handsome, debonaire, confident—some of the words used by him when we said we want to print something about you—actually he is not a bad looking chap in a rugged old fashioned sort of way, two smashing kids and a very charming wife, fond of the country and enjoys meeting people—in fact he is just the man to promote Pattisons new van sales delivery service.

Calling on Golf Clubs from his local centre in the west country Derek is able to offer immediate delivery from the wide range of our equipment carried by his van.

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Catering Staff and of course Mr. Jobson.

82 competitors played 18 holes of golf during the afternoon, the results being as follows:

- 1st 1st with 43 points – B. Streeter  
G. Channer.
- 2nd 2nd with 42 points – G. Brown  
E. Stillwell.
- 3rd 3rd with 38 points – J. Newman  
C. Mitchell.

Our thanks go to Mr. Holloway, Captain of Walton Heath who proposed the toast to the B.G.G.A.

It was a pleasure to have in our company, the Chairman of the Association, Mr. Vic Smith who spoke on behalf of the Association.

Our President, Mr. Jock Glass proposed toast to the guests and our further thanks to Mr. Ted Ray for his reply.

The guests included Mr. Dix, Mr. Michael Bonallack, Mr. Lynde, Capt. of the London Golf Captains, our Editor Mr. D.B. Hopkins and two of our oldest members Mr. Bert Dash and Mr. Stan Morton.

Our thanks also goes to G. Nurton, J. Field and B. Diddams for their work behind the scenes and also for the donations for the raffle given by members of the Trade.

Mr. B. Ryan once again made a great success of the Benevolent Fund Raffle – thank you Bonzo.

Our March lecture was given by Mr. Palin of Suttons Seeds Ltd.

We had quite a good turnout for what proved an interesting evening. Amongst the problems of turf culture discussed were the best methods of fibre control & eventual eradication. Mr. Palin stressed the difference between fibre and thatch, fibre being undecomposed grass roots and leaves, thatch the entanglement of growing tissue. In his opinion, it is more important to slitt with the close pattern type of aerators e.g. HAHN SPIKERS) as a weekly job than to scarify turf when fibre control is

desired, where as scarification is more beneficial in reducing thatch. The lecture continued with Mr. Palin explaining what soil is derived from and explaining the differences between what is termed top soil and sub soil.

Our thanks for most enjoyable evening.

## Sheffield Section

*President:*  
S. K. ARNOLD

*Hon. Secretary:*  
B. V. LAX  
153 Kilton Road,  
Worksop, Notts.

ON the 4th March, Mr. D.G. Gooding, the Technical Director of Syn Chemicals Ltd., came to Abbeydale and talked about the use of chemicals in turf culture. Mr. Gooding, sporting a really fine sun tan as he had just been on holiday abroad, brought along some slides to illustrate his talk. In these days of ever increasing use of chemicals in our work, Mr. Gooding gave us some very useful information about the various chemicals and the use to which they can be put. Mr. Gooding stressed that all precautions regarding their use should be strictly adhered to, although I am sure most Golf Clubs are not up to scratch as far as this is concerned.

I have now fixed up our summer golf matches which are as follows:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| May 25th   | Presidents Prize Day at Worksop G.C. Tee off 1.30 p.m.                              |
| July 20th  | Annual Tournament (section) at Sickleholme G.C. Tee off 9.30 a.m.                   |
| Aug. 23rd  | Autumn Tournament (Machin & Hartwell Trophy) Notts G.C., Hollinwell. Tee off 1 p.m. |
| Sept. 29th | Match against Northern Section, Hillsborough G.C. Tee off 9.15 a.m.                 |

I would like to thank the committees of the above clubs for their kindness in allowing us the use of their courses for our various competitions.

I would like to point out that following the President's Prize match we will be holding our A.G.M. in the evening at Worksop Golf Club, and I hope we shall have a good turn out at this. People who do not play in the golf match will be very welcome at the meeting afterwards (about 7.30 p.m.) so please come along.

Section members would like to offer their condolences to committee member, Mr. Brian Lunn. whose wife passed away in February.

## Northern Section

*Chairman:*  
COLIN CEDDES  
Moor Allerton  
Golf Club

*Hon. Secretary:*  
W. HEELES  
7 Tentergate Close,  
Knaresborough, Yorks.  
Tel: K'boro 3851

'YES, I will spend the livelong day  
With Nature in this month of May;  
And sit beneath the trees, and share  
My bread with birds whose homes are  
there;'

extract from: In May,  
W.H. Davies.

## New month, new members

A warm welcome from the section to two new members, Martin and David Shaw, both of 30, Virginia Road, Marsh, Huddersfield. The brothers are employed at Woodsome Hall Golf Club, Huddersfield and share the distinction of working under their father, Mr. Harold Shaw — see April Journal.

## When and where

Our summer season of events offers the usual endless variety and scope for you golfers.

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| May 26th  | Spring Tournament<br>— Keighley Golf Club           |
| June 24th | President's Day<br>— Cleveland Golf Club,<br>Redcar |
| Aug. 5th  | Invitation Day<br>— Ilkley Golf Club                |
| Oct. 14th | Autumn Tournament<br>— Bedale Golf Club             |



May the one with the highest handicap win – he usually does do!

Once again the B.G.G.A. is staging a one-day Turf Symposium. This will be held on October 5th at the Burford Bridge Hotel, Tadworth, Surrey. Interested parties should contact the secretary for further details: S.A.E's please.

### The Economy

One small but sensitively key point which must be publicised is that all subscriptions are now due for renewal. Our members' record for overdue payment is remarkably minimal. Please be kind enough to maintain this standard. Your Secretary would appreciate prompt attention.

### Block release

Several of our members have lately attended the one-week courses arranged by S.T.R.I. at Bingley, between March 22nd and April 9th.

They are:

Mar. 22nd – 26th R. Johnson, Ganton G.C.  
P.W. Lehmann, Otley G.C.  
M. Wilcock, Bradford G.C.

Although very intensive, these courses of instruction have a lot to offer turfmen in the way of supplementary knowledge. Lecture material is constantly being brought into line with advancing technology, and concurrently, every effort is made to ensure that practical demonstrations relate to and amplify the classroom theory.

### We think you are great too!

As regards Ray Tempest being a treasure to the Southern Section of whatever the B.G.G.G.A. is, how can this be refuted?

See March Journal, P.5.

### Immigrant

Mr. Gordon Bennison is now back in the nucleus after a period spent in the remote regions of South Humberside. Erstwhile Head Greenkeeper of Scun-

thorpe Golf Club, Gordon has returned to fulfil the role of Head Greenkeeper at the picturesque Pannal Golf Club. Mr. Bennison took up his new position on March 29th and plans to settle in Otley.

### Emigrant

Mr. Arthur Tucker, former Head Greenkeeper at Headingley Golf Club, has relinquished this position and has moved back over the border to his native Wales. Mr. Tucker has been at Headingley since the mid 1950's.

### March meeting

Our thanks to Mr. Jonathan Mann of Chipman Ltd., for his interesting dissertation on soil and slit drainage, on March 25th, at Moor Allerton. Over ninety per cent of the 'on site' slides shown were of football fields. This created a not unacceptable divergence from the green.

One personality present on this date, keeping the question-time up to scratch was Mr. Jeffrey Mawson. As mentioned in the March Journal, Mr. Mawson has been on the sick list, but is now recovered. Good to hear you back the other night, Jeff!

As this was most probably the last instructional meeting of the winter season, the committee and members of the Northern Section would like to thank most sincerely the committee of Moor Allerton Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the club facilities for our gatherings.

### Obituary

With sadness we record the death of Mr. John Downs, a former head greenkeeper to Moortown Golf Club.

At the age of sixty-six, Mr. Downs a Life Member was part of the Section for many years and will be remembered by all who knew him as a quiet, tolerant, hard working gentleman.

A tribute of flowers was sent from the Section and the funeral was attended by Mr. C. Geddes and Mr. B. Barnes, on behalf of the B.G.G.A. Our sincere condolences to Mrs. Downs on her sad loss.