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Putting on the style ancient and modern

Fred Hawtree looks at the basic design of rights and wrongs

Last month we touched on the matter of a difference between British and American styles of golf course architecture. Then I read in Cornish and Whitten's book, 'The Golf Course', which we also touched on, 'American style became the dominant influence on course design after World War II.' Now Gilbert Hanse, who spent a working winter and Spring with us at Woodstock, has written from Cornell University to which he has returned to complete the final year of his course in golf course architecture. 'Is there a difference?', he asks.

Being assured of at least one reader, I can now set to and in one of those pithy maxims which stud the Hawtree prose like blue diamonds give you the answer. It is 'Yes and no'. Perhaps, before you return to grinding those cylinders (if you still do), I should explain.

The answer is No! if you mean the basic principles of design. It is Yes! if you mean the trappings, the landscaping and the hype.

Every golf course architect, whether over there or over here, gets something like the following into his quotables when quizzed by Press or Committee.

'My aim is to produce a golf course on which pars are difficult and bogies (if he is American) are easy. If he is British, you will hear something like 'I aim to design a golf course fair and enjoyable for all classes of player. While it will be testing to the scratch man, higher handicaps will always find a suitable option, though it may well cost them an extra stroke'.

Nothing controversial or contradictory in those two statements. I have used them myself since the year Dot and they always elicit a low rumble of approval ('Sound stuff that') and get you off the hook.

Other favourites common to both sides of the Atlantic include the popular 'The layout should call for every club in the bag' and the terms, 'strategic and penal' applied to bunkering and design generally. Although 'heroic' as a third classification gets more

currency on the west side because the terrain is often more dramatic and inspiring. Over the basic rights and wrongs of design there is, in fact, no schism amongst golf course architects like that which divides the senior profession although the junior one has also produced its quota of prima donnas of whom there are still a few around now.

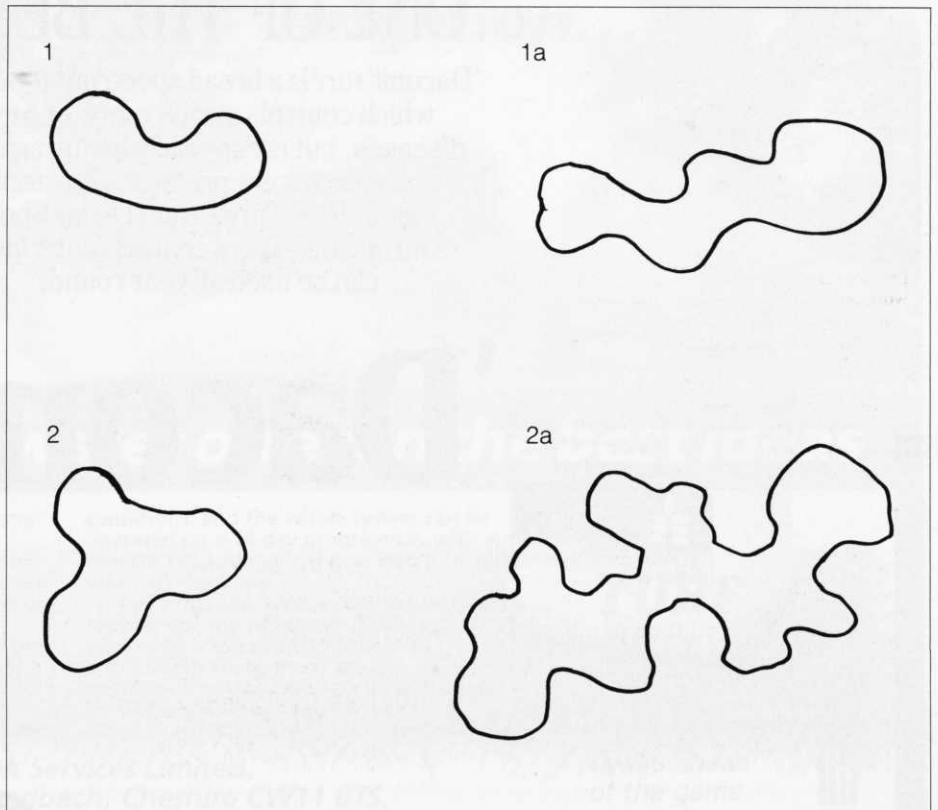
But when we come to the full frontal view, the façade or elevation, we can detect the divergence; nothing like the carbuncle on the National Gallery (though rocks in the bunkers take some digesting) nor like a glass stump next to St Pauls; but significant and general enough to constitute a declaration of 'style'. Here are some comparisons.

2a, of course, is a Romantic revival but because it looks well in colour pictures, British architects have taken it into their repertoire and gone very big too. Unfortunately, one or two have gone big but not beautiful and we are back where we started but buying ten times more sand.

Sturdy conservative green-keepers, pressed for time, will look in some dark corner for a spade and set about converting No 2a into No 3. But one can see No 3 on new courses in France. Their design tradition missed out on the Classic period and they are trying to make up for it. However, do not trust these stereotypes entirely. Augusta National bunkers are often closer to the old fashioned style. I will not try to describe to you what they are doing in Japan but if you think that 2a is going a bit far, you are in for a surprise next time the Annual Tournament goes to Nagasaki.

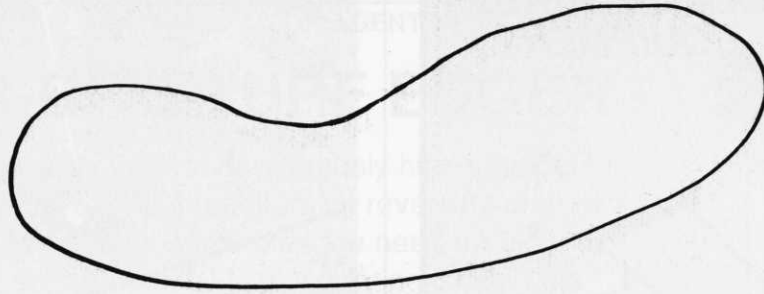
My own favourite rebound from the far west is the lengthwise fairway bunker.

A gradually rising floor shows up the sand, delivers surface water to one end whence it can be easily drained away on heavy soils and provides a variety of shots. The Ancient Britons could do



OPINION

3



4



nothing like this and had to content themselves with three small ones.

If you wish to observe the differences between UK and US styles, you had better be quick about it. Architects are not slow in meeting the challenge of contemporary environmental factors, which is their 'in' phrase for nicking other people's ideas.

I suppose, finally, that we can also generalise on differences in tee

and green design but these features reflect individual taste rather than national boundaries, being tailored to the needs of the particular landscape and budget. But it is interesting to see how at least one American installs moundwork on inland sites which is reminiscent of a style popular over here in the Twenties and earlier.

More of all this next month when, for the first time in any international publication, this magazine will

print a key to the styles of British Golf Courses. You will at last be able to identify the man to whom you have so often wished to speak in moments of desperation. You will not unfortunately be able to tackle him direct because he will have passed from amongst us to even higher things. I shall not be discussing the styles of my contemporaries as the agm of the British Association of Golf Course Architects is not so far off.

PENSION UPDATE

Time is running out to take advantage of the Government's special offer to people in work who opt for a personal pension.

All you have to do is sign a simple application to contract out of SERPS, the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme.

The Government is offering rebates of National Insurance contribution to employees currently covered by SERPS with the money being invested in a personal pension scheme.

To take maximum advantage of the Government's offer you must backdate the rebates to April 1987. The deadline for doing this is April 5th this year, but for pension providers to get an application through the official procedures it must reach them by mid March.

Leaving it any longer could mean an average earner missing out on two years rebates amounting to over £1,300.

The bonuses do not apply to members of employers schemes already contracted out of SERPS. They too can opt out if they wish, but in most cases it is not advisable. Male employees over the age of 45 and females over the age of 40 will probably be best to

remain members of SERPS and not seek to contract out.

The contracting out decision will not cost either employer or employee anything whatsoever but will provide an opportunity to secure a better pension at state retirement age.

Benefits can of course be enhanced by payment of additional premiums by just the employee or indeed by both employer and employee and generous income tax relief is available. The main attractions of a personal pension are as follows:

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Further information can be obtained by contacting G N Kingdom, Fenchurch Financial Services Limited, Grosvenor House, Anlaby Road, Hull HU1 2NT (telephone 0482 25177).

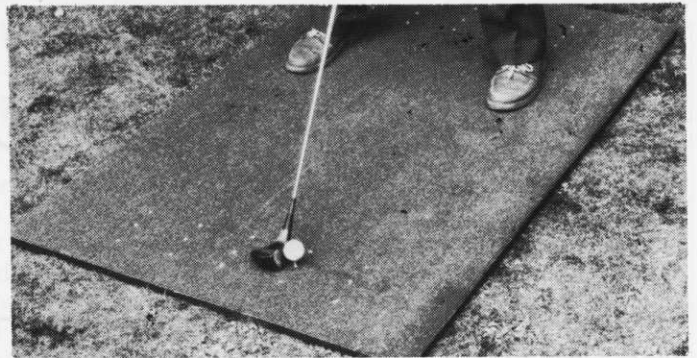
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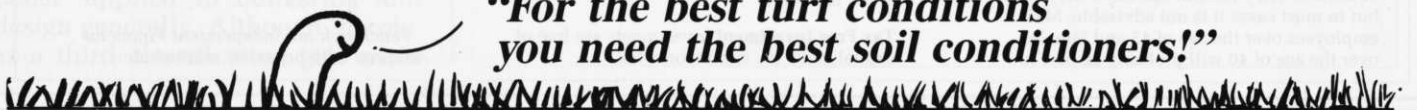
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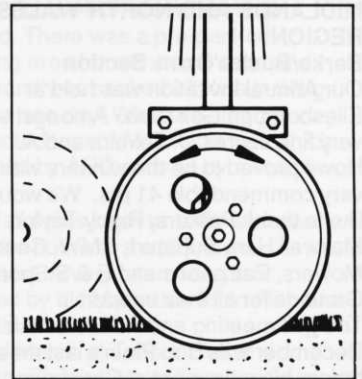
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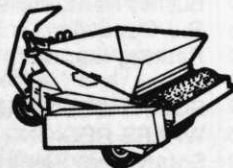
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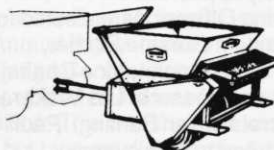
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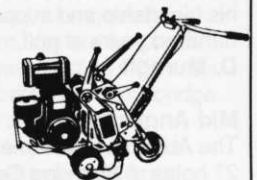
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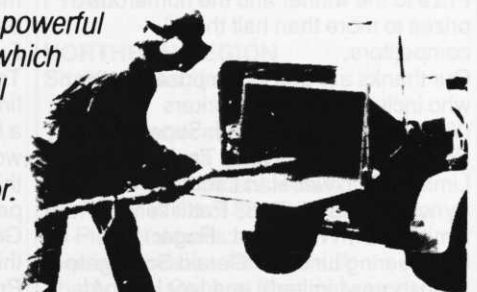
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AROUND THE GREEN



BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

MIDLANDS AND NORTH WALES REGION

Berks/Bucks/Oxon Section

Our Annual Invitation was held at Ellesborough Golf Club. Amongst some very fine scores, J. Teixeira and A. Howe proved to be the winners with a very commendable 41 pts. We would like to thank Parkers, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart, Supaturf, CMW, County Mowers, Patissons and E & S Sports Grounds for all their support. The golf meeting and AGM on 12th December was Bob Plain's last meeting before his retirement at Christmas. A presentation was made to Bob as a memento to show our appreciation of his friendship and support over the past hundred years of golf.

D. Muragh

Mid Anglia Section

The Autumn Tournament was held over 27 holes at Ashridge Golf Club, during a brief interval in the monsoon season on 10th October. With almost 2 inches of rain during the previous 48 hours the course resembled a swamp! A few dry spots were found to position the holes and with the rain abating for the day an enjoyable game was had by most competitors.

Phil Quamby had few complaints as he put together a fine score of 40 points and 20 (9 holes afternoon) for a total of 60 points, and won the President's Cup and Glass Tankard.

Second with a score of 59 points was C. Toms, while Chris Brook on 58 points filled third place.

We were delighted to have our President Greame Pitcher, present his Prize to the winner and the numerous prizes to more than half the 36 competitors.

Our thanks are due to the prize donors who included Messrs. Parkers (Worcester Park) Limited: Supaturf Products Limited: Rigby Taylor South Limited: Maxwell Hart Limited: Synchemicals Limited: Patissons Limited: CMW Limited: Roger Engineering Limited: Gerald Southgate (Ransomes Limited): and Ivor Ludford. We are grateful to the Members of Ashridge for their courtesies of the course to Mr. Len Walker and the House staff for an enjoyable lunch and ample liquid refreshments and the Greenstaff whose efforts made the course just about playable.

Retirements: Two well known and most respected stalwarts of our profession have retired at the end of 1988. Bob Palin and Dick Bowey contributed nearly 80 years

between them to greenkeeping.

It has been my extreme pleasure to have known Bob and Dick for many of those years and I am sure I will be joined by many other greenkeepers and trade representatives in wishing them both a long and happy retirement with their families. We also hope to see them swinging around our golf courses for many years to come where they will always find a warm welcome.

The Annual General Meeting was held at St. Neots Golf Club on Tuesday 22nd November at 2.15 pm. Thirty four members attended. The minutes of the 1st AGM together with the Secretary's Report and the Balance Sheet were unanimously approved.

The following Officers were elected for 1989. President Greame Pitcher, Chairman Paul Fitzjohn, Vice Chairman Gerald Bruco, Treasurer Les Wakerell, Match Secretary Ken Bunting. Paul Fitzjohn agreed to take over as Secretary as the retiring Secretary, R. Goodwin, would not be seeking re-election. Regional Representatives are Paul Fitzjohn and John Wells, and the above mentioned together with Neil Whittaker agreed to form a Committee.

Any Other Business: Members were pleased to hear that 'the Golf Course' magazine would be published 12 times next year. A general discussion developed over the BIGGA uniform after Gerald Bruce voiced his opinion that more members should make every effort to wear blazers and ties. Some of the younger members were hard pushed to find £69.00 for a blazer. Ken Bunting was afraid that the Prize Fund for Section Tournaments may shrink now that Trade firms were being asked to contribute to a Central Fund and asked if the Section Tournaments may shrink now that Trade firms were being asked to contribute to a Central Fund, and asked if the Section would receive money to buy prizes from this source. The meeting closed at 3.30 pm with a vote of thanks to St. Neots Golf Club for the facilities provided for this meeting.

Prior to the AGM a most interesting talk was given to a good turnout of greenkeepers by David Jenkins, Managing Director of Charterhouse Turf Machinery Limited on Soil Compaction and how best to relieve the situation with the Verti-drain. Considerable interest was also shown in the Charterhouse slitter which was shown on film during the commercial break.

The January Lecture on the 23rd of the month at Beadlow Manor Hotel, Golf and Country Club featured a look back over

40 years in the working life of Bob Plain and a short film of the first Ryder Cup presented by Mr. S. L. Ryder.

Welwyn Garden City Golf Club will be the venue for the February lecture on Monday 20th at 2. pm with a talk on Trees and Woodland Management on the course.

New Appointment

Paul Fitzjohn moves to Mill Hill Golf Club as Course Manager at the beginning of January. Our best wishes go with you Paul. This also coincides with Paul taking over as Section Secretary and members should note that all Section correspondence should go to:- Paul Fitzjohn, 272 Park Avenue, Bushey Herts. Tel: 991 228 703

R J Goodwin
Retiring Secretary

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

South West Section

On November 29th, the Section met for the purposes of the Annual General Meeting for which we gratefully return to our Section Headquarters, namely Lansdown Golf Club, Bath.

Unfortunately, the dense morning fog did little to entice all competitors out onto the course but six of us, throwing caution to the winds, did venture out and found conditions challenging but enjoyable nonetheless.

More problems were encountered upon returning to the clubhouse a small fire during the night had put the recently refurbished kitchen out of action but the Stewardess rose magnificently to the occasion by spiriting up sandwiches (smoked ham of course) and gateaux, seemingly out of nowhere and saved the day.

After lunch, David Jenkins of Charterhouse Turf Machinery gave a very interesting and informative talk on Verti- Draining, which together with questions and answers proved to be extremely beneficial to all.

Prior to the AGM Bob Gates presented the prizes for the golf competition saying that the competition deserved a medal for going out.

1st P. Worster 33 pts. 2nd J. Wane 31 pts. 3rd J. Thomas 30 pts.

Bob Gates was re-elected Chairman. Nigel Pring as Vice-Chairman. Paul Worster as Secretary. Laurence Pithie and Jock Millar as Regional Board Members and Adrian Stiff as Match Captain and Prize Procurer.

The outgoing Match Captain, John Kane expressed his thanks to the members for their support. Following a resolution from Les Johnson it was decided to

AROUND THE GREEN

draft questionnaires to be sent out to members and non members alike in the South West in an attempt to encourage new members and boost attendance to the local meetings.

Paul Worster.

South Coast Section

The Section's Christmas Turkey Trot was again held at the Royal Winchester Golf Club. This has become an annual event sponsored by J. T. Lowe and Rigby Taylor. The competition took place on a dry and sunny December day with 30 members taking part. At the end of the day, the winners were: 1st Rigby Taylor Shield, Peter Marsh 39 pts. 2nd J. T. Lowe Cup, Kevin Unsworth 38 pts. 3rd Phil Ryder 38 pts. Nearest the Pin, Bob Walker, 17th hole 128 yds.

The main prizes were donated by our sponsors J. T. Lowe and Rigby Taylor. In addition, extra prizes were provided by Huxleys Grass Machinery and Parkers. Our thanks to all our friends in the Trade for their support.

Without the support of the Secretary and Officials of the Royal Winchester Golf Club the tournament would not be possible and I would like to thank Reg Varlow, Head Greenkeeper and his staff for the way in which the course was presented.

The competition was followed by a traditional Christmas Dinner at which Neil Thomas was able to join us and enjoy a superb meal. Our thanks to the club's catering staff and our President, Mr. Jim Fry, who very generously provided ample supplies of wine for each of the tables.

The Section's Annual General Meeting was then held at which reports on various matters for the previous year were given. After fourteen years in harness, both our Chairman Eric Hames and our Vice-Chairman Ian Greenfield had decided that "enough was enough". Our new Chairman is Ken Lodge and Vice-Chairman Paul Drodge, who both ably represent the Section at Regional Board Meetings.

A presentation of a silver tray was then made to Eric for all his efforts over many years in looking after the interests of greenkeepers. Well done Eric and Ian, who remain on the Section Committee as Committee members. Following the Annual General Meeting, the Section was pleased to have Neil Thomas as guest speaker who outlined the progress Association had made since 1987.

Neil was able to meet a number of our members and answer many questions on the affairs of the Association and I am very grateful to him for making the long journey south to our Section. He

tells me the weather is warmer down here! Thanks Neil and for your support for the ETME Exhibition and Cambridge Conference that you are busy organising on behalf of the members.

J. R. Dennis

Midland Section

This month we begin by reporting on a busy golf calendar of events.

Firstly, our competition at the Worcester Golf Club on the 22nd September saw P Woodward using his modest handicap to help him win the first prize with Rhys Thomas from Enville Golf Club coming a close second, and R Lowe, a new member from Drayton Park taking the gross prize. The course was in fine condition and a pleasure to play, even though there was a downpour in the afternoon.

On Friday 7th October, we did battle against the East Midlands Section in the Annual Rigby Taylor's Team Challenge Competition at Moor Hall Golf Club, which I heard was in beautiful condition. This was the third win in a row, but by a smaller margin 5 1/2 to 9 1/2. Many thanks to Dave Morgan and his supporting staff plus Dave's wife Jill who attended the evening meal. Special thanks to Steve Eilakeman for organising the day.

The following Tuesday 11th October, 8 players from the East Midlands and 8 players from our section played over 18 holes at Walmley Golf Club and Breakwell was the boss on this occasion with Keith Fitzhenry organising the day where N Woolfry took first place with P Woodward second.

If any members in our section would like to host any of our future golf competitions ('89, '90) please get in touch with me, we are always looking for different courses.

I forgot to say well done to Rhys Thomas for winning Division Two in the Iseki Tournament and congratulations also to Tony Kelsal this time winning the Senior Midlands Open at Church Brampton.

How about those giant killers Steve Wood and Tony Lesson getting pipped at the post in the final of the Rigby Taylor Greensomes Match at Hoylake Golf Club, beaten by one hole. Congratulations to Thomas and Trevor Morris. Who said they couldn't do it? On 11th October, 18 members were entertained by Alan Souttram. Dennis Catrill and their colleagues at ARC Quarries at Middleton Hall. We were taken in two groups around the plant, firstly to the digging head where a giant excavator loads the material onto a conveyor belt. It then travels 2 miles to the main sorting and sifting machinery

where after going through various stages, it is sorted into about 10 different grades of sand and stone. Also at the quarry was a concrete mixing plant which we were shown around. There was a pre-packed bagging area for stone and sand and one man there sacked 10 tons in 50kg bags in one day! We were also given a conducted tour of Middleton Hall which is owned by ARC and run by a social trust.

The Hall dates back to 1086 and was once the home of a well known Naturalist. A very interesting tour enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Alan and Dennis and ARC.

On 3rd March at Telford Golf and Country Club between 2pm and 5pm, we have a lecture on the latest Pesticide Law and how it affects you. Also, how to attend the various training modules and testing for them. We are fortunate that Mr Richard Maw, Testing Officer for the Region who works from Stourbridge College Horticultural Unit will be covering this most important subject. On 29th March, we have invited our Executive Director, Neil Thomas down to spend the day in the Midlands, visiting various golf clubs and meeting the membership. We are the first section to arrange something like this and hope the day will be beneficial to both Neil and ourselves.

The day will finish with Neil giving a talk at Moor Hall Golf Club at 7.00 pm. This will be your chance to come along and listen to him, put forward your points of view and have all your queries answered, so come along and help produce a good turnout.

Lastly, well done to Robin Bryson for promotion to Head Greenkeeper at Willesley Park Golf Club from his previous club.

I Toon

NORTHERN REGION Sheffield Section

The December meeting was held on the first of the month at Rotherham Golf Club with an excellent lecture from Professor Willis of Sheffield University on Plant Nutrients and their requirements in relation to turf.

The Annual General Meeting was also held on the first of December, at which Mr Gordon Brammah the Section Secretary resigned. I am sure members will join me in thanking Gordon for the hard work he has put in over the years on behalf of the Section, and we look forward to seeing him at future meetings. The following members were elected to the Committee.

A Renshaw - Secretary/Treasurer, B V Lax - Chairman, K B Heaney - Vice-

AROUND THE GREEN

Chairman/Competition Secretary, E Palmer, R Hayhurst, R Graham, P A Unwin and H Middlebrook were elected as Committee members.

Will members please note the following dates for their diaries:

February 2nd - Mr David W Jenkins of Charterhouse Turf Machinery Limited will talk on the use and benefits of Verti-drain on the golf course.

March 2nd - Mr Malcolm Petit of Alginure Products Limited and Mr Brian Robinson of Mommersteeg will talk on their relevant products and their place in a maintenance programme.

April 6th - Stewards of York will give a talk and practical demonstration on a range of machinery including the Verti-Drain.

A Renshaw

North West Section

1988 seems to have passed too quickly and yet as far as the North West Section is concerned, it has been a very eventful year with golf tournaments, the Mere Seminar and the "Open".

The Committee has worked hard at arranging half day lectures and educational evenings at both Cheshire and Lancashire. The first was an educational evening at Sandiway Golf Club with the Cheshire Union of Golf Clubs and second, a half day lecture at Reaseheath followed by the AGM. Both events turned out to be an embarrassment with no more than ten members turning up on each occasion and not even an apology from any member. A newsletter was printed and all 260 North West members had a copy posted to them, so there can be no excuses.

Please support your Committee with

future events and take advantage of all that your Association has to offer.

As I write these notes I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody a happy and prosperous New Year and may all your problems play on other peoples' courses.

B Cross

Northern Section

Well are you properly certificated? Mr Henry Gillespie our November speaker, made the observation that any greenkeeper who has or does not use the H & S and FEPA regulations as the current time to his advantage wants his head seeing to! This sentiment is heartily endorsed and could easily be applied to all greenkeepers to whom BIGGA membership means nothing. Our winter series of evening get togethers struck off with a trip in words and colours to Whitwood Golf Club, Normanton. With Ian Thompson at the reins the story of development on his ex-colliery site unfolded.

Budgeting and the greenkeeper formed the theme of Henry Gillespie's evening. Henry outlines his modus operandi on the financial front together with several 'old fox' hints and tips on committee psychology. Thanks to the aforementioned gentlemen for their time and trouble.

A very pleasant afternoon's golf transpired at Ilkley Golf Club on the occasion of our 1988 Autumn Tournament. Thanks Adrian and your lads for the lovely course. Also we had the pleasure of Ilkley's Chairman of the Green, Tom Spratt's company who kindly officiated at the prize-giving. Plenty of good golf in store this year - details on the way later.

During February and March, we are

going mechanical:-

February 2nd - John Croft Machinery Limited, the outfit that brought Kubota to the UK will showing us the possible way forward in golf courses traction - slides, videos, the business.

March 2nd - we are Verti-Draining with Charterhouse Turf Machinery - all the visuals and a bit on the side! Moor Allerton Golf Club, 7.30 pm.

The Northern Annual General Meeting took place on December 8th with the following results:-

President - W Mountain. Chairman - Robert Lupton. Vice-Chairman - Colin Geddes. Secretary/Treasurer - David Hannam. Committee - David Anderson, Philip Sutton, Eric Paley, Mark Seymour, Edwin Walsh, Dennis Cockburn, Alan Gamble and Gary Thistlewhite.

Naturally, we look forward to your continued support throughout 1989. Let's hope it turns out a kinder year, with some good success.

All the best see you around.

D Hannam

North East Section

On October 8th we held our Autumn 27 Holes Meeting at Prudhoe Golf Club. I would like to thank George Gainford and his staff for the excellent condition of his course considering the weather we have had. Also thanks to the Committee for giving us the courtesy and the catering staff for the meals. The leading scores were as follows:- Best Gross: B. Wilson, Stocksfield GC 121, Ransomes Cup and Watch Nett, G. Gainford, Prudhoe GC, 110, Greenlay Cup Handicap 0 - 11, A. Bowess, Parklands GC, 110, Fewsters Shield 12-28, J. Rippon, Whickham GC, 118. J. Cairns, Close House GC,

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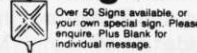
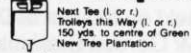
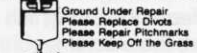


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AROUND THE GREEN

110 1/2, R. Black, Ponteland GC, 111 1/2, A. Hornsby, Vice President, 115, J. Richardson, Whickham GC, 117, S. Pope, Tyneside GC, 118.

In all 33 members were present.

The Section would like to thank the following companies for their donations: Ryton Gravel Co, Brand-Short, Ransomes, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart, Stewarts, Supaturf and Sisis.

On October 18th, we held our annual match against the East Section at Stocksfield Golf Club. The weather was not too kind but we managed to play without getting too wet. Once again, thanks go to Stewarts of Edinburgh for providing both winners and losers prizes and for lunch. Thanks also to the Committee for giving us the courtesy of the course and use of the club.

The results were as follows

B. Wilson, J. Shariff (NE) bt J. Paton, C. Hilcersley (East) 3/2. J.

Richardson, G. Garnford (NE) bt J.

Neilson, W. Blair (East) 8/6. M.

Simpkin, G. Atkinson (NE) bt S. Mellor,

R. Bullock (East) 3/2. A. Bewas, R.

Black (NE) bt J. Easton, K. Rutherford

(East) 1 up. C. Baxter, J. Cairns (NE)

bt S. Dixon, O. Yeaman (East) 1 up. S.

Pope, J. Redhead (NE) bt A. Nimmo, E.

Hood (East) 7/6.

Personal note

I would like to thank Graham Forbes of Stewarts of Edinburgh for presenting me with the lead crystal whisky decanter as an extra prize for my 'hole in one' at Belleisle Golf Club during the National Tournament.

J. Richardson

SOUTH EAST REGION

East Anglia Section.

Not before time I hear you cry! Two matches to report on. Firstly, a massive turnout at Cambridge Moat Hotel back in August. Seventy-odd turned up and we received a warm

welcome and first class hospitality from the Captain and members. The course was up to scratch thanks to Uncle Eddie and the boys.

The spoils went to the following:

Scratch 0 - 18 J. Coady 44 pts; I.

Dennis 42 pts; 18 + h'cap Uncle Eddie

Spittlehouse 38 pts: S. Painter 35 pts.

There was a competition within a

competition as the Square and

Compass challenged the six top

greenkeepers to a match which the

greenkeepers won. The Square and

Compass hope to have a return match

when they have practiced a bit more!

The second match was against the

Captains in September at Rushmere.

The Captains won 5-3 but we won't dwell

on that! The course was in good nick

and I understand Wally Mann, the Head

Greenkeeper is waiting to go into

hospital for treatment on an injured hip.

I am sure we all wish him well and a

speedy recovery. The prizes went to

the following:- Scratch - 18 P. Howard

37 pts / Steve Freestone 32 pts.

18+ R. Mitchell 31 pts / C. Huddleston

30 pts. Guest P. Whire 35 pts / T. D.

Drake 33 pts.

Our thanks to Rushmere for their

hospitality.

See you all soon.

M. Lathrope.

Kent Section

Over 160 people attended the first BIGGA Regional Seminar at The Woodlands, Swanley recently. The day was a great success and many thanks are due to the excellent speakers from the STRI. And Neil Thomas for coming down to talk to us on the progress of our Association, and John Millen for organising a great day and a superb venue. Also thanks to the members of the trade for their support and even though the stands were in a separate room, they were very popular with the

delegates.

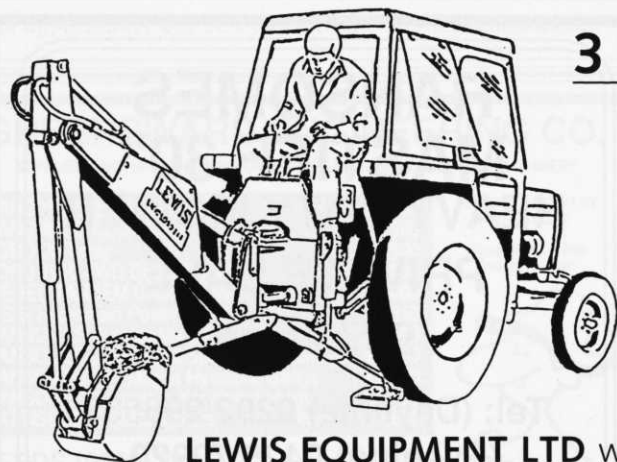
On a personal note, I must say that it was the best seminar I have attended for years although the exhaust on my car was not quite up to the round trip.

On the golfing front, 30 members played in the Kent Section Autumn Tournament. The morning medal scores were :- 1st Andrew Lund of Leeds Castle with a net 73, 2nd Ian Rawlison of Mid-Kent with a net 75, 3rd Colin Lusher with a net 77.

The afternoon stableford was won by Willie McConville of Ashford with 37 pts. George Brown of Edenbridge second on 36 pts and Andy Toomy of Bexleyheath third with 34 pts. The trade prizes went to Kelvin Reay in the morning with a net 67 and David Hawkins in the afternoon with 37 pts. Our two representatives at Hunstanton in the Jacobsen

Tournament, Chris Mardon and Chris Latham did not feature in the prizes, but had a great day on a well-prepared course. Chris Mardon did, however, pick up a prize at the Regional Golf Tournament at Ifield when four of our members attended on 31st October.

Away from the golf course some of our members find time to participate in other activities. One man whose work does not seem to tire him out is Sene Valley's Steve Suttle. As some of you may know, Steve is an accomplished long-distance runner and just recently has hit a great run of form. On September 11th Steve ran the Humber Bridge Marathon in 2hrs 47 mins 23 secs. beating his previous personal best by four and a half minutes. After this mere little stroll (!) he completed the London to Brighton Road Race in 6hrs 12 mins 25 secs. non-stop. This was good enough to earn 11th place in the 53 mile race. Just when you thought this might tire him out, I read in the local paper that in a race at Ringwood Road he polished off the 10



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AROUND THE GREEN

mile course in 58 minutes. The next stop for Steve and a team from Thanet (I can understand wanting to run away from there!) is Benidorm in the Spanish Marathon. I personally think this is only a training run to beat the German tourists to the sunbeds next year. Perhaps this proved that hand mowing does have other benefits and could help to keep more of us fit and healthy though we may have some trouble matching Steve Suttle. I hear he can hand mow a green quicker than I can with a GM3.

P. Copsey.

Surrey Section.

The Surrey Greenkeepers held their Autumn Tournament at Walton Heath Golf Club where a total of 48 compete in this popular fixture. For what looked to turn out a miserable day in the morning, the rain did keep away for us and eventually turned quite warm. On behalf of the section I would like to thank Walton Heath Golf Club, the bar and catering staff for the excellent cuisine and Clive Osgood and his team for presenting the course in superb condition. The day would not be complete without a real thank you to Bernie Tomlin and Rigby Taylor who have sponsored this tournament over the years and also to the companies who donated for the raffle.

Results: 1st - C Sopp, Leatherhead Golf Club 55pts. 2nd - M Wells, Walton Heath Golf Club, 54pts. 3rd - I McMillan, Hankley Golf Club, 51 pts back 9. AM - A Locke, Hindhead Golf Club, 21pts back 6. PM - D Johnson, New Zealand Golf Club 33pts. Best Scratch - W McMillan, Effingham Golf Club 120. During 1988 the section once again did well for itself, with a good turnout at all tournaments and functions. Since last January, the section has spent money on the following items:-

1. Subsidised half fare for the bus to the AGM in York. 2. Half price ties to members until September. 3. Free ties to members who have purchased blazers. 4. Bought a new computer word processor. 5. Bought a projector and screen. 6. Bought a flag. 7. In the process of buying educational videos to start a library, which will be available to members.

A total of 100 different members have taken part in all golf dates throughout 1988 which we hope to overtake this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all categories of staff at the following clubs for entertaining us throughout the year and hope we will be welcomed back in the years to come.

Hankley Common GC, New Zealand GC, RAC Club, Sunningdale GC, Addington Court GC, Walton Heath GC and Guildford GC.

Quiz Night

A Regional Quiz and Fun Night will be held in Surrey at the end of February beginning March in which teams will compete from London, Surrey, Sussex and Kent. A final venue and date will be given in the next issue.

Handicap changes:- from 27th October I McMillan 9, J Chambers 15, D Wall 9, M Wells 14, S McMillan 10, C Sopp 9, R Tydeman 13, J Summers 15, A Brown 20.

From the Committee, I would like to thank all members for making 1988 a great success in the Surrey Section.

J Russell

SCOTTISH REGION

Central Section

The Section's Autumn Tournament was held on Thursday 22nd September by courtesy of Alloa Golf Club, when 51 members and guests enjoyed a day's relaxation with the prize winners resulting as follows:- Nett Aggregate

(Spring & Autumn) - B Cruikshank. Best Nett - W Whitfield. Best Scratch - D Leith. 1st Class 1st Handicap - M Collins. 1st Class 2nd Handicap - T Ollchrist. 2nd Class 1st Handicap - A O'Hara. 2nd Class 2nd Handicap - S Massam. Stewart's Quaich - G Hampton, D Murdoch. Two Ball foursomes - A O'Hara, S Sime. Trade and Guests - W Chapman. Longest Drive - I Ritchie.

Our sincere thanks to the Council and Members of Alloa Golf Club for extending to us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse, to Jim Easton and his staff for the excellent condition of the course and also to the Clubmaster and his staff for the first class catering and service throughout the day. Thanks also to Ian Ritchie and Mark Collins for donating prizes to the raffle. Congratulations to Mr Gilchrist who holed his tee shot at the 18th.

Our Congratulations are due to the Scottish Team who were victorious in the Ransomes International Tournament at Ipswich, and in particular to Section Chairman, Ian Ritchie who was a member of the Scottish Team. Well done lads.

I have various items of the Association uniform in stock, anyone wishing to purchase any item should get in touch with me, or better still come along to some of the Section events at which they are always available.

So far, I have not received any article from members for inclusion in the magazine. Now that another season is nearly over surely someone will have time to put pen to paper and come up with something.

It is your Association, so help to make it better by contributing to it in some way, even criticism is welcome, so long as it is constructive.

J Crawford

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