

REGIONAL NEWS

BGGA NEWS

Surrey

Hon Sec: F. Brittin, Farseen, 13 Lawday Link, Farnham, Surrey. Tel: Farnham 713753

Members enjoyed a most splendid day at the section's spring tournament which was held at Tyrrells Wood Golf Club. This Leatherhead course is always in good condition and a tribute to Bert Watson and his staff. Two trophies were being played for and we were most grateful to all the firms who helped with prizes. Bill Mitchell, the well known professional from Selsden Park, presented the prizes. The leading ones were: Scratch prize and Ransomes Gold Watch—D. Johnson; first handicap—D. Fernie; second—P. Lucas; third—P. Wright; fourth—G. Beesley. A special prize was given to Nevil Shande for his hole-in-one.

The section expressed their gratitude to Tyrrells Wood for making us so welcome.

The next event will be played at the Royal Wimbledon Golf Club on Monday, August 10. Play will commence at 4.00pm. The trophy will be the McMillan tankard. All entries should be sent to N. Shade, 30 Brookhurst Road, Addlestone, Surrey. Tel Weybridge 41096.

BGGA NEWS

Wales

Hon Sec: Roger Bird, The Gatehouse, Cowbridge, South Glamorgan. Tel: 044 63 2001

We are now in the midst of our golfing competitions and only poor attendances so far, which is most disturbing. It hardly seems good manners to write to golf clubs for the courtesy of their courses when only a handful of members turn up.

The latest competition was an extra one in our schedule—the special prize being the Waycott Cup.

We made one big mistake, or at least I did,

because all entrants should have been told of the committee ruling that the handicap limit was 18. The result was that first prize was taken by a 24 handicapper, Steve Hunt. Second place was taken by local boy Roger Thomas, who had the same score as Steve but lost on a count back over the last nine.

The section thank everyone who turned out and we hope to see you at Southerndown where the meal will be provided by the Golfing Union of Wales.

News has reached me that Bryan Owen is unwell and we are sorry to hear this and our wishes go to him for a speedy recovery. Also our old friend Henry Stead visited the area recently and I was sorry that work prevented me from meeting him. I understand he and Gill are on the move again, this time to Great Yarmouth. We hope all goes well and wish you all the best, Harry.

Our gratitude goes to the Captain and all the staff at Pennard for allowing us the use of their course for the Waycott Cup. A special thank you goes to the greenstaff led by head greenkeeper Colin Lacey for preparing the course and for providing us with a prize. Results of the Waycott Cup were: S. Hunt nett 70 first prize, B. Thomas, second prize. G. Cox third and M. Jones fourth.

BGGA NEWS

Southern

Hon Sec: D. Gould, The Bungalow, Langley Park Golf Club, Beckenham, Kent. Tel: 01 658 4791

A successful day was had for our Spring tourney at New Zealand Golf Club with the following results: 1st Scratch & Handicap—M. Smith, 135; 2nd—D. McIndoe, 141; 3rd—G. Brown, 143; Under 25's—R. Tydeman, 144; Veteran—P. Whitehead, 78.

The work from the staff at New Zealand Golf Club and the annual donation of gifts and help from the trade members was gratefully accepted.

Bonzo Ryan has decided to retire from greenkeeping and also from the committee

of our section and our best wishes go to him with thanks for his support in the past which was always 100 per cent. He was also a founder of the Benevolent fund.

At this year's AGM which was held in the Artisan Club house after the Spring Tournament, Hugh Brown unfortunately resigned as Chairman and from the committee, this means that I am now Chairman which is a position I am not really over the moon about but will see how it goes. The following new members to the committee were elected, Tom McDonald, David McIndoe, Stuart McMillan, J. Kirkpatrick, and G. Brown, were re-elected to the committee and P. Fitzjohn was made Vice Chairman. Any news please should be sent to me, B. Newcombe, 39 Malling Gardens, Morden, Surrey SM4 6JG.

BGGA NEWS

Sheffield

Hon Sec: B.V. Lax, 15 Sheaf Place, Workop 83588

Our section AGM was held this year at Lees Hall Golf Club and the following are some of the most interesting points which came up for decision.

It was decided the rule banning all golf trollies at our tournaments should be lifted and from now on members can use trollies if they wish.

In future all entries for our competitions must be with our competition secretary, Peter Quartermaine, before the closing date with sufficient money to cover the entry fee and the meals. No member will be allowed to play in a competition if Peter had not received the entry form. To check that your entry has been received ring Peter on Workop 83040.

The winter lectures for 1982 will be held at Lees Hall Golf Club on the first Thursday of the month commencing at 3.00pm if possible.

The officials elected at the AGM are as follows: President—S.K. Arnold; Chairman—G. Herrington; Vice-Chairman—R.N. Maltby; Secretary/Treasurer—B.V. Lax; Comp Secretary—P. Quartermaine; Executive Committee representative—H. Herrington; Section Committee—E. Palmer, K.B. Heaney, F. Frost, H. Herrington, G. Mason, S. Platts, H. Gillespie

The President's prize this year was played at Tankersley Park Golf Club. The weather was fine and sunny and the course was in excellent condition thanks to the work of head greenkeeper, R. Graham and his staff. The prizes for the whole event were provided by our president, S.K. Arnold to whom we are most grateful. Winners of the 18-hole stableford were: First—Neil Maltby (34 pts), Second—Simon Wooley (30 pts) won over the back nine after a tie with Barry Heaney. Fourth, Phil Fielder (29 pts).

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Midland

Hon Sec: B.D. Ganning, 2 Fairdene Way, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 5JS. Tel: 021 358 1246

The spring tournament was held at Broadway Golf Club in May with the following results: First gross, M. Hughes (125); second best gross, D. Roberts (126). Best nett, A. Boraston (99); second best nett, V. Smith (109.5); third nett, S. Wood (110). Guest's prize, J. Woodfield (117).

Will all those with their results from the first round of the Matchplay Foursomes please send them to D. Keen without delay. If you have any problems arranging your fixtures in this event then ring D. Keen on 0952 461173.

We were particularly pleased to see the Captain who spent the whole day with us.

We are also grateful to head greenkeeper and his staff for the way in which they prepared a first class course. We were all impressed by the high quality.

BGGG NEWS

South West

Hon Sec: 1 Scoones, Failand Lawn, Failand, Bristol. Tel: Long Ashton 2676

The Greenkeeper-Am competition took place at Westonbirt in May with the largest entry so far for this competition. It's popularity seems to be growing and a great deal of fun was had by everyone who entered.

Results: 1st—P. Worster and R. Law (Circencester) nett 58; 2nd—D. Everett and C. Routledge (C. Sodbury) nett 59; 3rd—

B. Reeves and B. Cook (Clevedon) nett 61; 4th—G. Pearce and I. Scoones (Long Ashton).

The section thanks Westonbirt School for allowing us to play on the course and Bob Gates for putting up with us. Thanks also to the trade once again for their support and to Mike and Pat Bell for their hospitality and the cold buffet afterwards.

BGGG NEWS

North West

Hon Sec: D.F. Golding, 38 The Grove, Flixton, Manchester. Tel: 061 748 8592

Our now retired section Chairman, Mark Holmes, together with all the staff of Hesketh Golf Club gave us all a most enjoyable day for our 1981 Spring Tournament. With very little growth in early May the course was still in excellent condition and the closing holes certainly broke a few hearts, mine included!

Bert Scott (Shaw Hill) was the winner of the new Spring Trophy donated by D.B. Hargreaves of Sisis and we were also grateful to Roger Hargreaves for coming along to present the cup on its debut. Onto the over 55s and who else could step off an aeroplane at 6.30 am, travel to Hesketh without any sleep and win a cup but no other than our new Chairman Dick (Ballasteros) Lewis. The Spanish sun or wine must have done him good! His chauffeur, Edwin Walsh, took the gross.

Our thanks go to all our friends in the trade for furnishing our prize table. There are too many to list but once again gentlemen thank you for all your support.

Thanks to Nick Gray and David Royle for helping all day with the monies and cards and finally our thanks to the Captain and Hesketh

Golf Club for being so helpful to us and we certainly hope to return one day and master their course.

For members unable to attend our AGM I would like to list the new officials for the year 1981-82 and also list the points of interest to come from the minutes:

President—E. Staniforth; Chairman—R. Lewis; Vice-Chairman—A. Cross; Sec/Tres—D.F. Golding; Ex-officio—M. Holmes. Committee: S. Arrowsmith, J. Bond, M. Bottomley, B. Gregson, H. McAddey, J. Robinson.

A long serving and hard working member of the committee, Reg Vickers, declined to stand this year and the Chairman presented Reg with a tankard which we hope will be put to good use!

Points for discussion by the incoming committee arising from Any other business:

- 1) In future the cost of the day at the Spring/Autumn Tournaments will have to be paid for in *advance* to assist with catering etc.
- 2) At the Spring/Autumn Tournaments one guest per greenkeeper who does not necessarily have to be a member of your club.
- 3) The section to hold its AGM on the morning of the Sisis Tournament.
- 4) Starting times to be used at the 'Sisis Tournament'.

Points 1 and 2 were passed by the members at the AGM so please bear this in mind for future reference.

I also confirm that the 'Home & Away' Quizzes with the Manchester Branch of the Institute of Groundsmen was warmly welcomed and Barry Gregson will be our chief liaison with the IoG.

One of our Vice-Presidents, Russell Faulkner, has offered to arrange a day's visit to the Supaturf Works if sufficient members are interested. A joint trip with the Manchester IoG members may be arranged depending on members' response.

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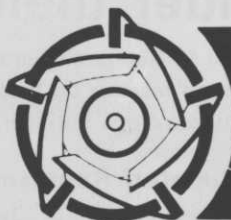
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Mid Anglia

Hon Sec: R.S. Morris, 41 Hampden Way, Eynesbury, St. Neots, Cambs. Tel: Huntingdon 213348

Our annual fixture against the Secretaries was held in May at Ashridge Golf Club and for the second year running our lads were pipped by the odd match. However, the occasion was enjoyed by all who attended and our thanks go to Sandy Heron, the Secretary at Ashridge who greatly helped with the organising of the event.

Thanks also to the club for allowing us courtesy of the course and for providing sandwiches for the players.

We are now well into the holiday season and so our next full golf meeting is not until September, but we have a home match organised on July 28 at Cold Ashby Golf Club when a team from the Midland Section will visit us for a 12-a-side, 36-hole match.

BGGG NEWS

Northern

Hon Sec: B. Freeman, Tel: 0937 832653

The orange colour of the Kubota tractors was seen at Moor Allerton during the spring when Alan Gray of Fearncro, Sheffield master-minded a display for greenkeepers. Two models were on display, the new 34hp L345 and the smaller tractor, the B7100 16 hp model which had a set of three hydraulically driven gang mowers mounted to a design of Alans. Though nifty in concept the tractor, which had four-wheeled drive would need to have turf tyres fitted to offset sward damage on the finer turf areas.

The L345 attracted lively interest and provided an opportunity for us to feel the built in luxuries of this model. This model won the more favourable comments although it was a pity no gangs or other implements were on hand to put the machine to work. After the demonstration the group moved indoors where films, slides and a question and answer period were handled most efficiently by Gordon Henry, Product Development Manager of Kubota Ltd.

At the section's AGM the following were elected as officers: President—W. Mountain; Chairman—D.C. Hannam; Vice Chairman—P. Taylor; Secretary/Treasurer—B. Freeman (Tel 0937 832653); Comp Secretary—J. Scott (Tel 0937 61668); Auditors—W.H. Bartle and D.C. Hannam; Committee—C. Geddes, I. Tomlinson, D. Roberts, A. Loft-house, M. Bryant, A. Gamble. Mr. Spencer, C. Garnett, A. Robertshaw, S. Bailes, W. Heeles ex-officio.

It was ruled that members who had not paid their subscription by June 30 would have their membership terminated and they would need to re-apply before being reinstated.—Stern news maybe to some!

Also there was overwhelming agreement for the resolution that anyone arriving at section tournaments in jeans etc or indeed anyone improperly dressed would not be eligible for play.

The section took the opportunity of thanking Walter and Betty Heeles for the unstinting help, to the retiring chairman Colin Geddes for long service and to Ben Freeman with suitable encouragement for the next leg!

Skipton Golf Club hosted our spring tournament when players had the pleasure of playing on the doorstep of the Yorkshire dales amid lark song and curlew calls. The tourn-

ament was played over 27 holes, the first nine marking the inauguration of the Laurie Sharp stableford competition. Had it not been for the thunder and rain the event would have been a treat. The course had a lot on offer ranging from primrose bedecked ravines to railway lines. The variety of wild flowers appearing around the course was an added pleasure.

The section thanked the Skipton club for accommodating us at such short notice when the original venue, Bingley St Ives was unplayable because of heavy snow.

We are also grateful to Norman Sheddon who organised the starting and checking the scorecards.

The dwindling interest shown in a formal annual dinner has raised the idea of holding periodic gourmet evenings at provincial centres. Alan Lofthouse has this idea in hand and details will appear in these columns.

BGGG NEWS

Berks, Bucks & Oxon

Hon Sec: K. Munt, 77 The Croft, Sudbury Town, Wembley Middlesex. Tel: 01 904 2487

With rounds of 75 and 73 Ray Wotten of Burnham Beeches GC won the Presidents Prize and Ransomes watch at our 36 hole Spring Tournament. Ray's last round (nett) 73 clinched the solid silver salver on a last round count back from Seve Schmitz, who's last round 77 let him down after a fine 71 in the morning.

Sonning, in fine condition thanks to the hard work put in by Alan Collis and his staff, played to its full length from the back tees. The fact that nature's overhead irrigation system seems to be stuck on repeat did not help scoring either. This made Jack Brearley's 69 nett in the morning a very fine score indeed. John Teixeira of Hillingdon GC who was defending the Parkers Shield for the best low gross shot a 76 to be hot on his heels. The nearest nett score to Jack's 69 came in from Seve Schmitz of Ellesborough GC with a 71 while Brian Valentine (Goring and Streatley GC), Tom Foster (Maidenhead GC) and John Teixeira all had 72s.

The afternoon saw the leaders collapse with gross scores in the mid 80s. This left Neil Wichelow of Hillingdon GC with his consistent total of 159 (80), (79) the winner of the Parkers Shield. Ray Wotten won the nett prize, his total of 148 (75), (73). Brian Payne of Burnham Beeches produced the best afternoon golf with a 76 gross 71 nett. M. Gale of Hillingdon rounded off the Hillingdon and Burnham Beeches benevolent tournament, by taking the first year competitors prize with 173 gross.

The section are appreciative to members and staff of Sonning Golf Club for the work they put in to give us a nice day. We also thank the Ladies section at Sonning who gave up their Tuesday match to give us the freedom of the course. David Craig ensured the golf flowed smoothly and ironed out any starting problems with his usual efficiency.

Some 34 members played at Sonning which is nearly half the total membership of 70. One face it was good to see at Sonning was that of Bob Plain, back amongst us in fine health.

With the support our section is now receiving and with 15 single figure handicap players, we should have a good representation at the national tournament at Ipswich. Don't forget to enter!

If you have any news that would be of interest to the section don't wait until it makes the News of the World! Send it to me and we'll get it in the journal.

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BGGG NEWS

East Anglia

S.J. Noye, 71A Dale hall Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 4LW. Tel: Ipswich 216196

Well lads, time to stop cutting grass for a minute and put your feet up. Nothing much to report this time, except that our local club has put its gondolas away and started hiring trolleys again.

We had a nice quiet day at Stowmarket. It was nice to see some old faces that have been missing of late. I can't remember when I last saw a combine cutting the rough or the sunshine for one of our tournaments. I should imagine Michael Peters and his staff are working nights to keep that grass down, but keeping it down he is.

Our new handicapping system was used

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for the first time with staggering results. Guest prize was won by G. Storey, with 35 points. In the 1-7 handicap section R.J. Smith carried off the Kings prize with 26 points. Runner up was Smiling George Newson with 24 points. The 18-24 handicaps prize was won by Wally The Bandit, Mann, on 28 points. Runner up in this section was 'yours truly', Mick Lathrope with 26 points. I had a job to convince my wife that I didn't buy the prize, and then she said, 'Well, it makes a change from the Loo Seat!' (What ever happened to that Ron?)

The 'Triers' prize was won by Roy Gould. Keep quiet about the points Roy, I know how you feel, believe me.

The prizes were presented by Mr. Dyball, past captain of Stowmarket, and we must thank the catering staff. At the end of a quiet summer's day, we rolled home at peace with the world, and watched the grass grow.

When you all receive your forms for your next tournament, please return them as soon as possible and if you say you are going, then for some unforeseen reason can't, then let Dave know. The next venue is Thetford, July 8. Then it's the Big One at Purdis, August 17-19. Be there if you can!

I'm going to write to Mr. Jim 'I'll Fix It' to see if he can stop my meadow grass seeding!

BGGA NEWS

East Midlands

Hon Sec: R.W. Willars, 27 Condor Close, Broughton Astley, Leics. LE9 6RR. Tel: Sutton Elms 283053

The Long Alley Skittles Night which was held in April at the Plough Inn, Littlethorpe, was such a good night that I have been asked to arrange a similar night for the Autumn.

Our Spring golf tournament was held at Birstall Golf Club, Leicester and we thank Captain and Committee of Birstall for allowing us the courtesy of the course. Our thanks also to the Ladies for doing the cards, raffle etc, to Mr and Mrs Walter Cole for buying the prizes and to all the firms, vice presidents and golf clubs who donated prizes. Mr W A Garratt Captain of Birstall, also one of our vice presidents, presented the winners with their prizes who were:- Greenkeepers. 1st S. Donogue 87 (13) 74, 2nd I. Simmons 97 (22) 75 on last nine. 3rd R. Allen. 81 (6) 75. 4th D. Bull 85 (8) 77. Vice Presidents: 1st R. Lead 83 (11) 72, 2nd G. Organ 99 (24) 75. 3rd M. Walker 84 (8) 76. Visitors: 1st A. Holwell 78 (5) 73, 2nd R. Liquorish 88 (12) 76, 3rd M. Elkington 86 (9) 77.

The agm was held at Longcliffe Golf Club and the officers elected were as follows:- President, R. Bailey; Chairman, S. Fretter; Vice-Chairman, D. Cleaver; Secretary, R.W. Willars; Treasurer, P. McCarron; Section Representative, P. McCarron; Committee—F. Kempster, B. Mott, N. Root, W. Cole and R. Holt.

BGGA NEWS

South Coast

Hon Sec: Nita Stimson, Caretakers Cottage, Breamore House, Breamore, Fordingbridge, Hampshire. Tel: Breamore 277.

The 1981 Spring Meeting was held at Hockley Golf Club, Winchester, on 20th May. Relentless rain soaked everyone at the start of their morning round but thankfully by mid-morning the skies cleared and the rest of the day was dry and sunny. Thirty-eight members

took part in the 36 hole Medal Competition and the prizewinners were:

Best Gross score over 36: A. Devlin (Dunwood Manor) 151 pts. 2nd Best Gross score over 36: B. Emberley (Knighton Heath) 160 pts. Best Nett score over 36: K. Unsworth (Hockley) 146 pts. 2nd Best Nett score over 36: S. Barker (Parkstone) 147 pts. Best Gross score morning: I. Stickley (Southampton Municipal) 79 pts. Best Gross score afternoon: G. Briggs (New Forest) 80 pts. Best Nett score morning: T. Patchin (Hockley) 73 pts. Best Nett score afternoon: R. Whyman (Lee on the Solent) 75 pts. Best Nett score over 36 for 24 handicap: S. Wedge (Southampton Municipal) 167 pts.

Eric James, our Chairman, thanked Hockley Golf Club for giving the Section the opportunity to play their course, complimented John Dodds and his greenstaff on its excellent condition, and thanked Mrs. Hollingworth, the Stewardess, for the meals she provided; she received a bouquet as a token of appreciation.

In reply, the Captain of Hockley Golf Club, Mr. Ball, said that the members were delighted that the greenkeepers had visited their course—it was always in good condition but now they would enjoy playing a course which looked immaculate. He felt that greenkeepers should be encouraged to play as it gave them a better understanding of their job. Mr. Ball presented the prizes.

Credit for the success of the meeting must go to Eddie Fox, ably assisted by Allan Jeffery and Roger Hanks, and also our thanks to Jim Fry, Barry Beckett, Nick Clarke, Richard Johnson, Jack Roffey, and Bill Smith, for their support.

The tenth Annual General Meeting of the South Coast Section was held later that eve-

Continued on page 26

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ning and it was a straightforward affair. One decision concerns next year's Spring Meeting—the draw will be such that players of scratch to 12 handicap will play together (in threesomes) and players of 13-24 handicap likewise.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members, and we hope that their association with us will be a long and happy one: Peter Reese (Weymouth), Colin Read (South-

amptonMunicipal); Keith Elsworth (Meyrick Park); Paul Cox (Hockley); John Bowers (Meyrick Park); Robert Lodge (Southwick Park); John Lawton (Tylney Park); Stephen Trew (Parkstone) and Simon Bowler (Liphook).

We are very sorry to learn that Trevor Pipe has decided to transfer to the Surrey Section now that he has settled in at Hoebridge Golf Centre, Woking, but we intend to keep in touch and take him up on his offer of a day's golf after its official opening next year!

Vancouver Conference report

Continued from Page 13

an inter-province boat race (beer drinking contest). Sixteen teams of 4 men and women raced to drink 4 pints the quickest.

The last evening saw a fitting end to a professionally run event—the Annual Banquet. Over 500 sat down to a four course meal and were entertained by a comedy duet and then a band. This banquet only served to further demonstrate how well organised the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association is.

If you have read this far and are wondering why I have so far only talked about the entertainment side of what is supposed to be a Turfgrass Conference and Show. It is because I wanted to show what can be achieved by a group of forward thinking people who wish to advance their profession. The superintendents of North America are not only achieving this in their own circle they are showing their golf clubs and the trade their Professionalism.

Professionalism was one of the many subjects covered by the 18 speakers. Other subjects covered were 'Replacing Poa Annua With Bent', 'Mechanizing Turf Maintenance', 'Tree Care & Maintenance', 'Control of Aquatic Plants', 'Water Options and Systems Available', and 'Recreation For The 80's'. All the lectures were well presented and most were accompanied for good slide presentations. One speaker by the name of Dr. Roy L. Goss presented an article on how to grow Good Poa Annua. He had a lot of explaining to do.

The lectures were held in a large ballroom in the hotel. Next door to this in an even larger ballroom was a machinery show. These rooms were four floors up in the thirty four floor hotel. In the show were two Kubota tractors, a full range of both Toro and Jacobsen machinery including their tractor mounted gang mowers. I could not believe the equipment that was in the hotel four floors up.

This trip came about because I attended our own International Symposium in 1979. There I met the members of the Canadian team who were to play in the International Match. I built up a friendship with Bob Wick who was the CGSA Director for British Columbia. He then invited my wife and myself to stay in Canada for three weeks taking in the Conference. So I would say to any greenkeeper in Britain who has the chance to attend any lecture or golf match and who wishes to improve his knowledge and make friends in the 'Profession' to jump at the chance. We all have our moans and groans about the BGGGA but none of us are beyond reproach and nobody knows it all. But a group of people who get together and share their ideas and views can only extend their personal horizons and become more in their chosen career.

The North American greenkeeper is not a better greenkeeper than a British greenkeeper but he does have a more professional outlook to his job and is thus better recognised by the people he is working for.

Editor's note. Kevin and all members of the BGGGA will be pleased to learn that an International Greenkeepers Conference is being held in Britain later this year. More details about this will be published in the next issue of the magazine.

Sisis competition

'I TOLD YOU SISIS WILL TRAVEL ANYWHERE TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR HYDROMAIN'

Congratulations to John Roots of Northfleet, Gravesend, the winner of the Sisis Hydromain Cartoon Competition. Sisis say that they were very impressed with the high standard of the entries and judging proved to be extremely difficult. However, Mr. Roots caption, printed above, was judged to be the best and a case of wines is on its way. Because there were so many witty ideas, Sisis have awarded two extra prizes of a bottle of whiskey to Mr. Bill Marshall of Benton, Newcastle on Tyne for his caption: 'Its British of Course!!! Far more advanced than

that stuff the Americans used to send up here' and to Mr. L. Nelson of York, for 'Its Lunar-sy to work without a Sisis Hydromain'. The following deserve a special mention:

a) J. Barnes; b) S. Lee; c) R.N. Maltby; d) D. Golding; e) C. Lunt; f) S. Richardson.

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