

SECTIONAL News

SOUTH COAST

Hon. Sec: J. R. Dennis,
Hampshire College of Agriculture,
Sparsholt, Winchester,
Hampshire SO21 2NF.
Telephone: (096) 272441 Ext. 288.

For the Section's last winter lecture held in March, members had the pleasure of Geoff Yelland, Technical Manager for Rigby Taylor. Geoff showed a number of slides on turf diseases and also talked on the new pesticides legislation. Our thanks Geoff, for ending our winter programme of lectures and thanks also to Mark Wilton for his assistance.

The Section's A.G.M. was then held with the Secretary giving the Annual Report and Financial statement.

A report on the Section's Tournaments during 1986 was given, and a report from the Board of Management by our Chairman, Eric James.

I am also pleased to report that the vacancy of Tournament Organiser has been filled by Mr. Joe Burdett. Joe volunteered his services and in the absence of any other nominations was unanimously elected. Our thanks to Joe for taking on this job, and we look forward to meeting you at our various Tournaments and Meetings. For information, Joe is Hon. Secretary of the National Association of Public Golf Courses and joined the Section last year.

A tournament in which members can represent their Section is planned for later in the year. This is the Annual Match against the South West Section. The venue will be HIGH POST GOLF CLUB and the date is September 3rd, 1987.

Members who would like to take part in this tournament are invited to let Joe Burdett know, so that team selection can be spread among the Section's membership.

Details for the Spring Tournament are:- Venue: Stoneham Golf Club
Date: Thursday, May 28th, 1987

Competition: 36 Hole Medal Competition

Members wishing to play only 18 holes will be entered in a 18 hole Medal Competition.

Members aged over 50 can also compete for the Nita Stimson Trophy.

The entry fee is £8.50 per person (cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the B.G.G.A. South Coast Section).

Members who intend to play should send in a written entry, **giving name and address and their current handicap**, together with the **entry fee**. Please also state whether you wish to enter the 36 or 18 Hole Medal Competition, and the Nita Stimson Trophy.

**Entries to: Mr. Joe Burdett,
948 Castle Lane East,
Bournemouth BH7 6SP
(Tel. No: 0202 483017)**

to arrive not later than the 18th May.

Will trade members requiring meals also contact Joe by that date.

PLEASE NOTE:

No late entries will be accepted.

SHEFFIELD

Hon. Sec: G. Brammah,
302 Redmires Road,
Lodge Moor, Sheffield S10.
Telephone: (0742) 302526

As we emerge from the cold winter months we look forward to what promises to be a milder spring than of recent years. So, with the long hot summer days in mind, the Section enjoyed an excellent and informative talk given by Watermation's Service Manager - Mr. Jack Wheeler. Armed with a table full of equipment he demonstrated the workings and maintenance of various items including sprinklers, valves and controllers. Mr. Wheeler's presentation was practical and workmanlike, encompassing design, installation and fault finding and we look forward to a future visit perhaps on pump design and maintenance. Thank you again Watermation for your support.

Attendance at the winter lectures has been very good and I am sure the summer's golf events will be well supported, however there must still be some greenkeepers who are not members of the Association. So, come on you Head Greenkeepers encourage all your staff to join and support the new Association -

YOU KNOW IT MAKES SENSE!

Our April visit will be to Bingley Research Institute on 1st April.

CLEVELAND

Hon. Ass. Sec: Roger Shaw,
12 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill,
Co. Durham DL17 8AJ

Our thanks go to Allan and Dale from Gills, the Massey Ferguson dealers, who gave us a very interesting lecture using video's about the various tractor ranges from the compact to the larger machines.

The video on the 3000 series drew a lot of attention featuring the Auto-tronic and Datatronic range of tractors, showing that not in the too distant future computerisation will reach most greenkeeping machinery.

Also in February we had a lecture from Mr. Graham Munroe of Burtt's & Harvey featuring two video's which are probably very well known now, which helped a little to explain the complex problems that will be encountered with the new Pesticide Act. After the lecture, the jokes told from one table to another could be the subject for one lecture on its own!!

By the time you read this the seminar at Houghall College will have been held. There are over fifty greenkeepers chairmen and secretaries already booked so it seems as if there will be a good attendance.

The Spring Tournament is being organised along with our usual summer matches, details will be published later. So please make the effort to enter for these events, please contact either myself or Roger Shaw for your availability, otherwise what is a solid social side of our Section will founder.

MIDLANDS

Hon. Sec: Steve Wood
37 Holford Avenue,
Bescot, Walsall
Telephone: (0922) 611380

Fixtures for 1987 Golf Tournaments are as follows:-

Spring Tournament, Robin Hood G.C.
May 14th

Summer Tournament, Ladbroke Park G.C.
July 1st

Autumn Tournament, Brocton G.C.
September 21st

Christmas Tournament, Lilleshall G.C.
December 7th

The match against the Mid-Anglia Section will be played as an away fixture this year at Berkhamsted G.C. on July 9th.

Entry forms for golf tournaments will be sent out by Arnold Phipps-Jones.

The lecture scheduled to be given by Watermation in January at Moor Hall Golf Club was cancelled due to bad weather, when our speaker was unable to attend, however the members who did arrive spent a pleasant evening watching videos of our golf tournaments.

We were more successful with our February lecture with a good attendance by members to hear Mr. Dennis Mottram of Reaseheath College of Agriculture, Cheshire talk about Man Management and Health and Safety. Our thanks are extended to Moor Hall Golf Club for the use of their clubhouse.

Our Section Committee met on Wednesday, March 11th to discuss the formation of B.I.G.G.A. and how it will affect the Midland Section as we know it.

SEMINAR SUCCESS

The Seminar at Houghall College was a great success, thanks to Jack Macmillan for chairing the seminar and to the various speakers, and also to all the greenkeepers who travelled from all over the region from as far as Alnwick and Carlisle to show that we are on the way to achieving a more united association. I am sure that those who did not attend missed a very educational and informative day. It is hoped to hold it again next year.

A total of 68 greenkeepers, chairmen attended.

Future Dates:

June - Billingham

July - Dartington

August - Eaglescliffe

September - Brancepeth

Actual dates are to be confirmed

Spring Tournament

Saltburn Golf Club,

Guisborough Road,

Guisborough

Tee off 1.00 p.m. Monday April 27th
Please arrive early

FORTHCOMING GOLF TOURNAMENTS

<p>APRIL 16 St. Mellion G.C. (Welsh) 27 Saltburn G.C. (Clev) 30 Moor Allerton G.C. (Rufford Top Dress Invitation)</p> <p>MAY 14 Robin Hood G.C. (Mid) 20 Vitax Tournament Ferndown G.C. 21 Bury G.C. (N.W.) 28 Stoneham G.C. (S.C.)</p> <p>JUNE 3 Keighley G.C. (Northern) 16 Horsforth G.C. (Northern) 17 Arkley G.C. (Mid Anglia) 18 Southerndown G.C. (Welsh)</p>	<p>JULY 1 Ladbroke Park G.C. (Mid) 9 Berkhamsted G.C. (Mid Anglia versus Midlands) 13 Welwyn Garden City G.C. (Mid Anglia) 16 Lee on Solent G.C. (S.C.) 22 Saddleworth G.C. (Roses Match)</p> <p>AUGUST 17-18-19 NATIONAL TOURNAMENT Verulam Golf Club</p> <p>SEPT. 3 High Post G.C. (S.C.) 21 Brocton G.C. (Mid) 23 Woodlands G.C. (Mid Anglia) 24 Cowdray Park G.C. (S.C.)</p>
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Contact Sectional Secretaries for entry forms

DEVON & CORNWALL

Hon. Sec: Bill Pile,
 33 Knowle Drive,
 Exwick, Exeter EX4 2DF.
 Telephone: 214053

Once again without the benefit of yours truly the section managed to come together for our penultimate meeting of the season at St. Enodoc G.C.

I am reliably informed the course was in superb condition with weather to match. Two trophies were in contention and the results were as follows:

May & Baker Assistants Shield

1st P. Newcombe (Exeter G.C.) (1)	34 pts.
2nd A. Woolnough (Teignmouth G.C.) (12)	12 pts.
3rd J. Parr (Exeter G.C.) (5)	33 pts.

Supaturf Cup (For Head Greenkeepers & Trade)

1st G. Hargrave (Sidmouth G.C.) (16)	37 pts.
2nd M. Pike (Elfordleigh G.C.) (18)	31 pts.
3rd R. Battisill (St. Mellion G.C.) (16)	30 pts.

I have been asked to thank Stuart Dymond, the head greenkeeper, for giving the non-golfers an informative tour of the course and a first class history lesson.

After a sumptuous lunch the afternoon was taken up by an update of the progress of the B.I.G.G.A. from Gordon Child and a general discussion.

I would like to conclude by congratulating Richard Wisdom of Okehampton Golf Club on gaining a distinction in his City and Guilds exam at Bicton College.

SECTION SECRETARIES

The Editor would appreciate all items for the Sectional News Pages for inclusion in the May issue to be submitted not later than 18th April.

Please give details of Golf Events to be published in the **TOURNAMENT DIARY**

The Scottish Sections are also invited to submit details.

ROMAN CITY VENUE FOR FIRST BIGGA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Mid Anglia Section of BIGGA are pleased to welcome members to Verulam Golf Club for the Annual Tournament over 54 holes on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 17, 18, 19th August.

The Verulam Golf Club is situated just outside St. Albans, the Roman city of Verulamium.

The Catuvellauni Tribe had a 'oppidum' or settlement at Prae Wood extending down the hill to the banks of the River Ver.

The original timber fort built by the Romans, around which the first town grew, was destroyed in Boudicca's Revolt in A.D. 60-61, but afterwards the town was rebuilt in grand style.

In 1905, the Verulam Golf Club was opened. Among the early members was Samuel Ryder, the St. Albans Corn-Merchant who presented the Ryder Cup for the professional golfers of Gt. Britain and U.S.A. to compete for bi-annually.

While the Course measures just under 6,400 yards, the 71 S.S.S. is a fine test and many of the approach shots to the Par 4 holes need to be

played with a degree of precision if a good score is to be achieved. Head Greenkeeper, Geoff Smith, and his thoroughly competent staff, provide excellent greens - always a pleasure to play on.

Most of the Green Staff are keen golfers and very hard to beat, especially when a friendly wager is at stake on the outcome.

Hotel accommodation and Guest Houses are plentiful in and around St. Albans. A list of addresses and approximate cost has been compiled and is available from Tournament Organiser, Ken Bunting, Telephone: Little Gaddesden 3359 or write to the address (to be found on Entry Form), or contact the Tourist Information Centre, 37 Chequer Street, St. Albans, Herts. - Telephone: 99264511.

The centre of London can be reached by car or train in minutes and a wide range of entertainment is available with very little travel.

It is intended to hold a Dinner on Tuesday evening, 18th August, and further details will follow.

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