



## North West

The branch recently held a one-day seminar at Helsby Golf Club—the speaker for the day was Archie Pattison, contracts manager of Watermation. Mr Pattison brought with him an impressive array of some of the latest irrigation equipment which, combined with his vast knowledge and experience, gave us all a rewarding day.

Our thanks to him and Helsby GC for the use of its clubhouse and catering facilities.

Following the seminar, the AGM was held. Bill Lawson was elected branch chairman; Terry Adamson, administrator and Guy Cannings, treasurer.

The spring meeting was held at Caldycote GC on the Wirral. Our thanks go to sponsors J. Mealar (Grass Cutting Machinery) and Eurotec and also to the captain and secretary of the club for the use of its superb facilities. Ricky Fletcher and his staff are praised for the magnificent presentation of the golf course.

Terry Adamson received the Mealar's Shield for the best gross score. Cliff Lunt had the best nett score and Allun Roberts the best visitor's score.

We welcome Derek Green to the North West branch and wish him every success in his new post of links manager at The Royal Liverpool Golf Club.

As one of the North West members who attended the EIGGA conference at Warwick, I would like to congratulate the board of management and Danielle Jones in particular for an excellent educational conference.

Finally, congratulations go to North West chairman Bill Lawson who, as members are now probably aware, has been appointed national chairman of EIGGA. I am sure members would agree this is an honour not only for Bill, but also for the North West.

*Raymond Hunt.*

## Surrey

The branch held its annual dinner-dance recently at the Drift Golf Club, East Horsley and although everyone had an enjoyable evening, it was noted with regret that the majority of those present were representing trade organisations or EIGGA members from other areas.

The spring meeting of the society was held at Home Park Golf Club. The results were: best am score—J.Jennings 66; best pm score—G.McNiven 67; best overall score—J.Jennings 134; second best overall score—A.Cale 140; third best overall score—G.McNiven 141; fourth best overall score—S.Gudge 141; best scratch (to 12 handicap) score—B.Pearse 147 and best scratch score—B.Turner 154.

The branch would like to express its thanks to the event's sponsors Dimex and to Home Park GC for its generosity in granting courtesy of the course.

*M.Hale, Branch Administrator.*

## The 1985 Kubota Golf Challenge

This year's Kubota event takes place at The Belfry on October 17-18. It is now a four-cornered match with a team from The Association of Golf Writers entering the fray. Each association is responsible for selecting eight players. The timetable is:

### Thursday October 17

Arrive at midday; practice round, 1pm; team photos, 5.30pm; cocktails, 7pm and dinner at 7.30pm.

### Friday October 18

Breakfast at 7pm; semi-finals, 8am-9am; buffet lunch, midday-2pm; final and third-place play-off; 1pm-2pm; cocktails, 7pm and dinner/prize-giving at 7.30pm.

Departure is after breakfast on Saturday.

## Now We Know

Members may be aware that, at a meeting towards the end of last year, certain matters, including EIGGA's membership and education at some colleges, were discussed by the Greenkeepers' Training Committee.

In order that the exact current position be known, *Greenkeeper* contacted Mr W.N.S. Bisset, administrator and secretary of the GTC. He replied:

'Thank you for your recent letter regarding the work of the Greenkeepers' Training Committee. At that meeting, EIGGA was admitted to full membership of the GTC.

Just before the meeting, the committee organised a conference to which all colleges offering greenkeeping courses were invited. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the problems that exist in England and Wales with the college/City and Guilds part of the training scheme. The colleges were made aware of the worries that exist, the mechanics of the training scheme and the situation in Scotland, where the college part of the scheme has been less troublesome.

Although the conference reached no firm conclusions (not unexpectedly), the committee reaffirmed its aim to reduce the number of colleges offering courses to those with suitable resources. How this is to be achieved is currently being examined and further discussion is to take place with the City and Guilds.

Financially, the GTC is now much sounder with donations of substantial sums having been given by the four home golf unions, the LGU and the R&A. A great deal of progress has been made with the training of greenkeepers over the past few years, despite a lack of support and the apparently inevitable apathy. Progress will continue to be made in an evolutionary, rather than a revolutionary sense, because the general feeling is that a sound foundation has been established on which to build.'

**EIGGA AT WARWICK—  
PHOTOS OVERLEAF...**

## EIGGA'S WARWICK WEEKEND REVISITED...



Peter Wisbey (right) made a presentation to outgoing EIGGA president Jack McMillan.



The University of Warwick and its campus grounds provided excellent and modern facilities.



A relaxing atmosphere for the educational sessions was created in the lecture theatre.



Association chairman Bill Lawson makes a point to colleagues from the North West and London board member David Lowe.



Effingham GC course manager Kenny McNiven (right) received a gold diploma from outgoing EIGGA chairman Peter Wisbey.