



West

Since the last executive, a series of winter lectures has been undertaken by the section. Presented by D. Coleman, A. Connell and J. Kidd, they were also given to third-year students at Woodburn House.

The section wishes every success to D. McLellan on his appointment as head greenkeeper at Eastwood GC in succession to A. McDougall, who has become course manager at Stirling GC.

Finally, the committee wishes Bob Fitzpatrick (Whitecraigs GC), section vice-chairman, a speedy recovery to full fitness after his recent operation.

A. McDougall.

Ayrshire

Proposals by J. McKean were discussed at length during a recent committee meeting. The wording of a letter from P. Wilson caused concern and the committee wished clarification on the points raised.

It was felt that there should be an increase, on a sliding scale, in subscriptions for the new association.

Ayrshire finished 1985 with 70 fully paid-up members, an increase of some 20 on the previous year.

The spring outing is to Thornhill on April 17, while the autumn outing goes to Barassie on September 11.

Since the New Year, the chairman and secretary have been busy at meetings, the first of which was with Raddix Training, organisers of the Youth Training Scheme in Ayrshire. They are keen to make sure that students have the best possible training and, with this in mind, the chairman and secretary have been invited to sit on the programme revised team. At a further

meeting, the general secretary of SIGGA will also attend.

The same two representatives travelled on to Turnberry to welcome the new course manager George Brown. Arrangements for bunker rakers at the Open were discussed and plans formulated for discussion at the next executive.

The chairman and secretary then met the Ayrshire Golf Union to discuss methods for greenstaff and golf clubs to develop better lines of communication. It emerged that the clubs were unaware of the aims and aspirations of our association and it was felt that some detailed correspondence on this matter would assist them.

It was also stated that it would be possible for articles to be published in the Scottish Golf Union's magazine.

We have been in touch with the Northern Irish greenkeepers since they showed interest in joining SIGGA. They have been invited to our spring outing at Thornhill to play golf and discuss the subject.

We welcome new members G. Irvine, H. Logue and S. Rooney and hope they will take a full part in section activities.

Jim Grainger.

Central

Section events organised for the coming year include a spring outing courtesy of Lundin GC on Tuesday April 22 and an autumn outing courtesy of Muckhart GC on Thursday September 18.

Congratulations go to these members upon their new appointments: Craig Stewart, who moves from Stirling GC to become assistant links supervisor at St Andrews, and Douglas Mackinson, promoted from assistant greenkeeper to head greenkeeper at Braehead GC.

Agronomist Martyn Jones gave a talk to the section recently. Sixty members were treated to three hours of interesting, informative and, in his own words, at times controversial aspects of greenkeeping.

We are indebted to Martyn who, despite his father being

seriously ill, travelled up from Preston. Our thanks to Dunfermline Golf Club for the use of its clubhouse.

We are pleased to welcome five new members from Carnoustie GC, one from Crieff GC, one from Falkirk Tryst, one from Grangemouth GC and one from Souters of Stirling to the section.

Tulliallan Golf Club staged the section AGM, at which Sandy Brown retired as chairman and Elliott Small took his place. Jim Cameron (Callander GC) was unanimously accepted as vice-chairman.

John Crawford.

North

After a committee meeting at the Bon Accord club, a carriage clock was presented to Doug Grassick in recognition of his hard work and service to the section. Best wishes for his future were expressed on behalf of all north section members and Doug replied by saying how honoured he was to have served the section over the years.

We welcome N. Metcalf, K. Wood, K. McGrath, D. Wilson and M. Pearson as new members to the section.

I. Hamilton

East

The date of the spring tournament has been brought forward from Tuesday April 15 to April 8. Royal Musselburgh is the venue for the autumn tournament on Wednesday September 24.

It was gratifying to see a large turnout of the membership for an extraordinary general meeting recently.

W. Blair

Executive Report

The AGM of SIGGA will be held on Thursday March 27 at the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling at 2pm. A comprehensive agenda was set at an all-day executive meeting recently.