

# AROUND THE GREEN

## Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

### DEVON & CORNWALL

The section congratulates Tony Gooch, head greenkeeper at Torrington GC., on being runner-up in the 1992 Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the Year award, held recently at Aldwark Manor. Tony's prize includes a visit to Portugal for the 1993 PGA European Tour seminar for head greenkeepers/course managers, plus working with the PGA greenkeeping support team at two Tour events next year. Congratulations to Nick Rigden and his staff for the support they have given Tony and also to Torrington GC. Though Torrington is only a small nine hole club, the members have encouraged and supported Tony's greenkeeping education. Hopefully some of our larger clubs will follow suit.

Our first meeting of the season was held at the expertly prepared Warren GC., which I am sure all will agree is a credit to Lauchlan Millar and his staff. It was nice to see so many members at this meeting – and to welcome especially our most westerly located member, Peter Stringer, who is head greenkeeper on the Isles of Scilly. We hope you enjoyed your day, Peter, and we look forward to your next visit.

Following an excellent lunch, our president Don Hunt presented the prizes to our lucky winners, prizes he had kindly donated for the D O Hunt Trophy :- First: Buster Lewer (Dainton Park) 37 pts, Second: Norman Gagg (Churston) 33 pts Third: Trevor Pipe (Honiton) 32 pts. A mention now for Richard Minton of ICI who finished with 36 points. Richard declined a prize for a mere mention in this report, so here is a mere mention!

Our educational talk was on 'Medical emergencies on the golf course', presented by Dr Peter Stanley. The talk was most informative and posed many questions from the audience. The raffle rounded off a most successful day and our thanks to all the trade who donated prizes for the raffle, especially to Maxwell Hart, who donated £30. The section thank the Warren GC for allowing us use of their facilities and their staff for making us feel so welcome. Our thanks finally to Don Hunt for donating the prizes and to Dr Peter Stanley for his excellent talk. I wish you all a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. See you all at Fingle Glen on Wednesday 13 January.



RICHARD WHYMAN

### NORTH WALES

Our Autumn Golf Tournament held at Chirk G&CC on 14 October was a great success, with 103 players (must be a record for any section?) attended. The winners were: 1st Peter Gabriel (The Gem Professional Shield & Tankard, an umbrella and a bottle of whisky) 96-28=68. 2nd A. Kift (Hayter sweater) nett 75. 3rd D. Rowlands (body warmer) nett 75. 4th C.M. Davies (putter). 5th N. Tower (holdall). 6th Gareth 'Bronco' Williams (holdall). Best Gross Alun Lewis 80. (ski coat donated by Major Owen). Guests: 1st Colin Bather nett 75 (Rolrake). 2nd Ted Roberts (holdall). Nearest the pin on the 12th, John Humphreys 11'6", (stainless steel spade + shield). Two's sweep: three people shared 20 golf balls: A. Lewis, J. Westcott, J. Humphreys. First raffle prize (a golf bag) went to John Moss. There were many other prizes, too numerous to mention.

We now have our own flags, poles and tee markers with BIGGA N. Wales Section printed on them, donated and supplied by A. Cornes of ACORN.

Many thanks to all the sponsors: Gem Professional, ACORN, Major Owen, Mommersteeg, R.J. Campey, I.C.I., Martin Brothers, Walker Engineering, P. Hughes (Mowers), J. Osman, High Speed Oils and Hayter, plus many more prizes donated – apologies if any name has been omitted from the list.

A very special thanks to Chirk G&CC for allowing the section to stage the Autumn Tournament on such an excellent course, prepared so well by Chirk course manager Alan Sharp and his staff, plus the catering staff for a superb meal.

I had the privilege of playing with Alan and 'friends' and have no doubt that the jokes told over 18 holes were enough to make me forget why I was out there in the first place (but the jokes were very good)!

A Christmas venue has been kindly offered by Abergel & Pensarn GC on 9 December 1992. Our thanks to secretary Mr. E Richards, Mr. D Prys-Jones (green committee) and course manager Mr. B Anderson.

DAVID PROCTOR

### NORTH SCOTLAND

As we near the year end it is pleasing to report a healthy increase in section membership. Total membership is 186, of which 162 are greenkeepers. Next year, let's aim for 200 greenkeeping members, and if staff at your club are not yet part of BIGGA, let them know the benefits and get them to join – the more the merrier.

All section events have been well attended and the last for 1992, our AGM, takes place this month. Royal Aberdeen is the venue and prior to our annual Chairman versus Vice-Chairman golf match we have a talk on top dressing by Peter Jefford of Rufford Top Dress. We welcome him and look forward to his words of wisdom.

We are currently in the seminar/demonstration season. This gives members the opportunity to learn of new products or machinery and also meet old and new friends in the business. One I attended recently gave us details of a new herbicide that will kill just about all weeds in fine turf, even when turf is at the seeding stage. The sooner it gets approval, the better!

Next month sees BTME at Harrogate. I have enrolled and hope to see plenty of North members present, as well as friends from other sections. The attendance of a member of the Royal Family is quite a coup and H.Q must be congratulated on this achievement.

Any greenkeeper now deep in salary negotiations may care to know that I have copies of BIGGA wage scales for 1993. I will post these to anyone interested. I am currently trying to put together Pesticide Spraying Courses of two days tuition, followed by a third day of examination at a college in our area. The package will include accommodation and course fees. Interested?, please call me on 0862 894402, for by the time you receive this magazine I hope to have something organised. A minimum of ten will be required for each course.

Well, all that remains is for me to wish all members a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

I hope 1993 brings you all you wish and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the year.



IAIN MacLEOD

### CLEVELAND

Our Autumn Tournament was held at Brass Castle GC, Middlesborough, on 29 October, the format being a Fourball, Betterball Stableford. Prizes were presented by the captain to the winners, Graham Pyle and H Wilson, with second place going to David Crocher and R Derby. Twenty four players took part. Our thanks to Norman Shedd of Aitken's for making the score cards.

We offer a warm welcome to the latest new member to join our section, Paul Millward, greenkeeper at Bedale GC.

A Christmas Social and Quiz, sponsored by Turf Care of Consett, Co. Durham, will be staged on 15 December at Billingham GC, starting at 7.30 pm. I close by extending my personal Christmas greetings to you all.

BRUCE BURNELL

### NORTH WEST

The final golf fixture of 1992 was held at Dunham Forest GC on 8 October, and proved to be the biggest turn-out of the year with no less than 50 competitors. I must admit I was pleasantly surprised at such a large attendance until I realized the reason. Dunham Forest are at present without a head greenkeeper and this was a perfect opportunity to reconnoitre the course. I don't think there will be a shortage of applicants when the job is advertised, and with such a good attendance it might be advisable to choose our golf venues from the Sits. Vac. columns! The day was a great success with everybody enjoying the course and the hospitality. The winners were: Best Gross. P. Pearce. 72. Best Nett. M. Sheehan 76-6=70. 2nd. J. Pearson 80-10=70. 3rd. J. Farrimond 76-2-74. 4th. F. Platt 84-9=75. 5th. M. Davey 87-12=75. 6th. P. Solski 90-15=75. Vets Prize J. Wright. 98-20=78. Guests Prize 76-8=68. Aggregate Prize J. Pearson. 215.

Many thanks to our trade friends for helping to swell the prize table; the caterers for a superb meal and Dunham Forest for allowing us the courtesy of their lovely course.

A series of winter lectures has been arranged during the coming months and all members will now have received a newsletter with lecture titles, dates etc. Please make every effort to attend and support your section. The Toro workshop at Reaseheath College on 16 October was very poorly attended, with only nine of an estimated forty attending, despite every effort being made to advertise this in your section news and at Haydock Park. The day turned out to be excellent value for money; and I would like to thank Robin Hume and the Toro team for their presentation.

That appears to be all, other than to take this opportunity to wish you a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

BERT CROSS



### BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

'In the bleak mid-winter', or so the song goes, is about right for some of the weather we have been experiencing at the moment, but have no fear for you can still rely on the trusty greenkeeper to go out and toil against the elements for a meagre crust (send donations for the Ray Clark Appreciation Fund to the usual address!).

Now, once your heads have stopped nodding in

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ing, and new EEC Directives concerning such issues as lifting of heavy loads and articles at the work place. Obviously, all were concerned by the implications of these requirements, and I feel it is important that we all bear in mind that though somewhat complicated and intrusive, they are all directed towards a safer working environment and are for our protection and benefit – not something to be frightened of.

It perhaps highlights the past unwillingness of some golf clubs to invest in the proper training, education, staffing, delegation of staff job descriptions and facilities, that these matters seem to touch such a raw nerve. However, as Jon suggested, we are all playing our part by simply keeping abreast of requirements, by attendance at seminars, reading articles in our magazine and grasping opportunities to take proper instruction, etc. Perhaps if you do feel in difficulty and sense the hot breath of the Inspector over your shoulder, it may help to pass the legal responsibilities for such matters up the club committee ladder, simply by photocopying the articles that appear in our magazine, even Jon Allbutt's own 'News & Information' leaflet (tel 0959 575575) and making sure that the club is aware of such matters and that your presentations are recorded in committee minutes. As Jon pointed out, the inspectors are not adverse to prosecuting every serving member of a committee. After all, it is the club that is responsible for financing proper training and safe working conditions. If they require a member of their staff to be responsible he must be properly trained, and have this position of responsibility properly recognised by his employer.

Jon also touched on the safety of some of the rather old machinery still seen in use. I would suggest that if every club had a proper capital machinery replacement budget, perhaps on a five year cycle, more modern equipment featuring the latest safety features would become more common. Perhaps when looking to replace a machine, it may be wise to highlight not only the machines performance, but also safer features such as power steering, interlock switches etc.



Any way, far too much rambling this time, perhaps next I will recount the sorry tale of our Iseki star, Nigel Stapley, and his fall from the heavens – into a pint glass! Merry Christmas to you all.  
PAUL COPSEY

## SOUTH WEST

The historic city of Wells, in deepest darkest Somerset, was the venue for our annual match against the South Coast section. The day dawned fair, and with a course in good condition under the recently appointed head greenkeeper, Maurice Pearce, a close result seemed on the cards. After a number of matches going 'to the wire' the eventual result was a very diplomatic halved match, largely thanks to our 'super-sub', gleaned from the Wells green staff at the very last minute. Many thanks to this friendly club for hosting this match, and thanks also to the steward & stewardess for the superb meal.

Diplomacy was far from the minds of the Welsh team for the final match of the season at St. Pierre. There has always been a great sense of friendly rivalry at this fixture and this year was no exception. The final result was a win for Wales by four matches to two. Many thanks to St. Pierre, yet again, for selflessly playing host to the Association: I cannot overstate our gratitude for their courtesy. Thanks also to Steve Gent and Sierra U.K. for their very generous contribution by way of drinks at the bar.

The first 'customers' on our Pesticide Training Scheme are now becoming qualified and we have received nothing but compliments from all concerned. I find the numbers taking this training, and the interest shown, extremely gratifying. Some dozen Clubs in the area have also been able to take advantage of our COSHH assessment offer. This sensible practice is available at a very reasonable cost, care of our resident expert, Mr. Noel Stevens. Noel is available for consultation, Tel: Gloucester (0452) 526111.

We have also 'broken the ice' by running our first extended Emergency First Aid Training course. Again, this was found to be an extremely useful day, with the potentially difficult subject being well put over. We hope to repeat this in the Bristol area early in the New Year.



The full fixture list for the coming year will be circulated very soon. In the meantime, I'll wish you all 'Warmest Seasonal Greetings and Happy Green-keeping in 1993'.

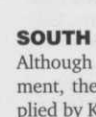
PAUL WORSTER

## SHEFFIELD

The section would like to thank our chairman, Mr Roy Kates, for coming along to present Rotherham Golf Club with a gift from the Sheffield section in appreciation of their support for BIGGA. The Rotherham Golf Club has hosted our winter lectures for the past five years and the gift, an antique barometer, was received by the club captain at a special presentation made to them on their Invitation Day.

The Autumn Tournament was held at Sitwell GC. and was well supported by 30 competitors. Thanks must go to Barry Heaney for his arrangements. Thanks also must go to Yorkshire Mowers for sponsoring the event and presenting the prizes. The course was in fine condition, thanks to head greenkeeper, Chris Colton and green chairman, Mr George Barnett – many thanks to you both. Lastly, thanks to Sitwell Park GC. and their vice-captain, Mr Mike Greaves, for making us so welcome – the day was a tremendous success and very much appreciated by the Sheffield BIGGA section. Winners: Yorkshire Mowers Trophy, Mrs Jane Ryan 32 points. Second: A Rhodes, Sherwood Forest G.C. 30 points. Third: M Coultas, Grange Park G.C. 30 points. Fourth: P Stain, Notts G.C. 30 points. Congratulations to all fourteen prize winners.

Many thanks to all the trade members who have supported the Sheffield Section events: Steve Boroughs (Amenity Turf Supplies), Les Purdy (Purdy's Machinery), John Price (Yorkshire Mowers), Brian Booth (Rigby Taylor) and Peter Fell (Atkins). A Happy Christmas to you all.  
JANE RYAN



## SOUTH COAST

Although I was unable to attend our Autumn Tournament, the following report is from notes kindly supplied by Ken Lodge.

The format was, as in previous years, a morning 18 holes Foursome and an afternoon 18 holes Greensome Stableford. Forty four members and their guests played over the Bulberry Woods course and the winners were: First – Phil Wentworth and Phil Ryan, Army GC. 67 points. Second – Shaun White and Eddie Robertson, Ferndown GC. 65 points. Third – Brian Newcombe and Derrick Todd, Woodcote Park GC. 65 points. Best surviving Foursome round: Alex McCombie and P Jeffries, Parkstone GC. 35 points. Best surviving Greensome round: Derek Cheetham and A Jones, Knighton Heath GC. 33 points

As on all of these occasions, thanks must go to our sponsors, which this year were Vitax Commercial Products and Jenman Engineering representing Jacobsen. Club officials were most helpful and our thanks to club directors, David Holdsworth and John Sharkey; green staff, Eric James and Tim Neighbour; and Dawn of the catering staff for an excellent meal. Section officials were thin on the ground for this tournament and I must thank Ken for all his efforts in checking cards and posting the scores as well as all the other duties he carries out on these occasions.

Congratulations to Bernard Emberley on ➤ 38

agreement, we can get down to the real business. Congratulations to all competitors who have made it through the tough qualifying rounds to reach the grand finals day of the Rigby Taylor Fourball Trophy at Frilford Heath GC. Having played on this stage myself, I can guarantee all qualifiers a great day out – may the best partnership win! The finalists are: J Nudds & S Horwood, D Childs & D Goodchild, J Teixeira & D Buckley, and S Edwards & P Wright.

What a great day was had at our Autumn Invitation, held at Burford GC. All the greenkeepers and their guests had a great time and our thanks for this go to head greenkeeper, Barry Holt, the captain, Mr J Shepherd, and the secretary and catering staff for a very well run and enjoyable day. The results: 1st nett-L.Robinson & C.Clifton. 2nd nett- B.Holt & J.Shepherd. 3rd nett- J.Bevon & D.Eagleton. Nearest the pin- (am) B.Woodward, (pm) M.Fuller. Longest drive (am) P.Snell. (pm) N.Fenwick.

Last but not least, thanks to the trade, especially for the TORO Shield donated by County Mowers; and Sta-Brite, Risborough Turf, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart and Patissons.

Congratulations to the Midland region on winning the team event at the ISEKI National Tournament and to Barry Holt for representing us at the Kubota Challenge, which as you all know resulted in the greenkeepers triumphing yet again.

On a sad note, it is with regret that the section committee says goodbye to our secretary, Bob Woodward, who has decided to call it a day after two years at the post. He leaves us in a strong position and his presence and organising skills will be sorely missed by the section. Unfortunately, this means he now has a chance to concentrate on his golf, and I think we are going to get sick of the sight of him picking up prizes! Good luck, Bob, and we look forward to seeing you back on committee once you have filled your trophy cabinet.

I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas indeed. The section would like to thank 'The Trade' for their support this year and look forward to continued friendships next year – Merry Christmas.

RAY CLARK



## KENT

The first frost of the autumn greeted competitors for our tournament at Holtye on 13 October. Despite an early chill, we were blessed with a brilliantly sunny day and the privilege of playing on a gem of a course. Those of us with previous Holtye experience were to find it a little on the 'tight side', whilst those without found it somewhat tricky. During the morning we competed for the Sta-Brite Shield, and, as with our Spring Tournament, the competition seemed a little one-sided and we should have realised, by the choice of venue, that the result here was also to be inevitable with our host, David Wood, picking up the first prize with 39 points. The margin of victory calls into question both the degree of local knowledge needed and the shortcomings of the handicap system, as back in second was Mike Smith of Moatlands with 32 points, followed in third by Alan Page from Holtye (surprise, surprise!). The p.m.11 hole Texas Scramble was most enjoyable, but the winning team were Malcolm Arthur from Knole Park, Sandy Anderson from Moatlands, and, once again, David Wood. The only prize that seemed to elude David was nearest the pin, which was picked up by 'Big' Malcolm Arthur. The morning version of this prize was cancelled as a big, blonde, American bloke called Mr John Daly, who happened to be passing, said that he felt the target to be "somewhat out of range".

Thanks for a super day to our hosts at Holtye, the caterers did us proud, from the fine cooked breakfast through to a hearty evening meal, David and his staff for the presentation of a wonderful, well respected little course, and to our friends in the trade for again supporting our events, especially Chris Sharp from Sta-Brite, for supplying the shield.

We had a guest speaker in Jon Allbutt, who outlined to a somewhat uncomfortable audience the implications of the latest requirements of legislation regarding Health & Safety, COSHH, Pesticide Spray-

37 \* representing the region in the Annual Kubuto Tournament. Bernard was the sole region representative and I look forward to a full report when we next meet. Please support our January Meeting at Came Down GC on Wednesday 13 January. Our speaker is from Lloyds of Letchworth and the talk will start at 2.00pm with free refreshments at 3.15pm. Finally, to all Section members, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from your secretary and committee.

BOB DENNIS

#### EAST MIDLANDS

Congratulations are due to Ian Dunmore, Steve Goode and Russell Allen, who were members of the victorious Midlands team at the Iseki National Final held at Coventry GC in September.

The winner of the annual Breakwells match on 15 October was Matthew Buckley, who continues his storming start in section/region events. Thanks to Breakwells as ever for sponsoring and organising this event.

The Rigby Taylor East v West Midlands match was held at Whittington Barracks GC on 21 October. A promising start saw East Midlands leading after the morning greensomes, but the afternoon singles took their toll and we finished losers by ten matches to five. Notwithstanding the result, many thanks to Steve Blake-man and Brian Booth for organising the event. I am currently seeking a course for next year on which the East Midlands might stand a chance of winning. Please let me know if you can think of a venue that fits the following description: (i) all fairways at least 80 yards wide (ii) course devoid of trees, heather, gorse, long grass and water hazards.

Our singles knock-out competition was won by Mark Bindley, who triumphed over Dave Leatherland by five and three at Willesley Park in October. The successes of both Mark and Anthony this year have given rise to a new expression. No longer do you say you've been beaten, the word is you've been 'BINDLEYED'.

I can also report some success for us on the academic front, with Andre Woodings gaining a special award in the TORO/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper evaluation. His prize is a trip to Harrogate for BTME.

This month the section is pleased to welcome Frank Kempster, course superintendent at Glen Gorse GC.

Our next event is the Christmas Bring & Win competition at Birstall GC on 16 December - entry forms already supplied. I hope to see many of you at Birstall, and to the rest of my colleagues (and to greenkeepers everywhere) I send best wishes for Christmas and 1993.

TONY HOWARTH

#### SURREY

Yet another first class day of golf was enjoyed by section members on 29 October at Worpleton GC. Scoring was good on such a fine day and even the bulging waistlines caused by a sumptuous luncheon did little to sabotage afternoon scores. The results: (over 27 holes) - Winner Jim Russell 57 pts. Second Steve Kirkham 50 pts. Third Doug Fernie 50 pts. Scratch prize Brian Turner. AM prize Ronnie Christie, PM prize Kelvin Reay. As ever, thanks went to the club for their first class hospitality and courtesy of their fine golf course, also to Brian Turner, Mike Yorston and all the green staff for presenting the course so well.

Members are reminded that our final golf event of 1992, the Turkey Trot, is at Effingham GC on 10 December, the event paired with the AGM in the evening. All members are urged to attend, if not for the golf then please try for the evening AGM, where views on running the section may be aired.

Please remember that any news for publication in this column should be sent swiftly to me - surely some interesting things must occur amongst a membership of 300 greenkeepers?

Finally, a reminder to contact a committee member ASAP if you are interested in complimentary coach travel to BTME Harrogate, along with subsidised accommoda-

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tion in Harrogate. A local travel company has expressed interest in helping cover travel costs, but the interest shown thus far has been extremely disappointing.

Having covered the 'heavy stuff', I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. ROGER TYDEMAN

#### MID ANGLIA

The Autumn Tournament took place once again at the Woburn G&CC on 27 October, and I'm sure all of the 53 entrants were looking forward to playing the excellent Dukes course. When play commenced the weather was fine, and one could really appreciate the autumnal appearance of the course. Then the rains came! It didn't really stop all day and the afternoon nine holes scheduled for play over the Duchess course had to be cancelled.

The putting surfaces were in excellent shape - true and fast - until the rain took its toll during the latter holes and made putting tricky, to say the least!

Many thanks to Neil and his staff for their efforts. The Woburn staff filled four of the first five places, so local knowledge was an obvious advantage. Results: 1st Charlie Harris (Woburn) 39 pts. 2nd Steve Cherry (Woburn) 35 pts. 3rd Lee Murdoch (Woburn) 34 pts. 4th Stewart Boyes (Hammonds End) 33 pts. 5th Neil Whitaker (Woburn) 32 pts.

Many thanks to Sta-Brite Supplies for sponsoring the main competition and to Dave Murphy for his time and effort during the day.

The 27 hole final of the Lodgeway Fourball Tournament was also played on the same day, with Chris Brook and Eddie O'Hanlon (Family Golf Centre) victors over Ronan McKeown (Arlley GC) by five and four. Unfortunately for Ronan, partner Ken Bunting was on holiday and couldn't make the final, resulting in Ronan taking on both players single handed. Well done anyway, Ronan! The prizes for each competitor was a portrait oil painting of themselves in golfing action, these provided by Chas. Ayres of Lodgeway. They certainly looked very good. Many thanks, Chas.

A special mention must be made of Lee Murdoch (Woburn) who achieved an ace at the sixth - only the second person to achieve this feat during our competitions. Also a mention for John Blair (Brocket Hall) who, having scored only four Stableford points, still submitted his card, when he could so easily have ripped it up. Finally, a thanks to all the staff at Woburn for making us so welcome and providing such a wonderful meal, also to the trade: Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart and Patissons for providing prizes for our raffle.

A match against the London section was played on 29 October at Porters Park. Unfortunately, all the matches save one were lost, our saving grace being a half. Still, it was a great day out on a magnificent golf course and we thank the London section for their hospitality. Maybe in the future we might actually win a match against another section, so to all good golfers in Mid Anglia we ask - where are you? We need you!

PAUL LOCKETT

#### MIDLANDS

It is with regret that I have to inform members of the sudden death of George Dolloch, head greenkeeper at Trentham Golf Club, who died following a heart attack,

aged 47. Our sincere condolences go to his family.

On a much happier note, the Midlands section beat their old rivals, the East Midlands, in the annual match sponsored by Rigby Taylor. Having gone in to lunch one match down, we certainly came out firing on all cylinders in the afternoon to win the match convincingly. It was good to see our old friend Trevor Morris again and we thank him and his staff for the fine condition of the course, with the greens being particularly excellent. Thanks to Rigby Taylor and indeed also to Steve Blake-man, who I know puts in a lot of time and energy into making this annual fixture the success it is today.

Greenkeepers recently had a nice day at Brockton GC, where Boroughs held their Open Day. The golf was won by Richard Quine, his inside knowledge believed to be the key, as Richard is a member of Brockton.

Steve Wood and Tony Jesson have once again got their hands on the Pairs Knock-Out Trophy sponsored by Rigby Taylor, beating Peter Holtham and Ted Evans in an entertaining final played at the Northamptonshire County Golf Club.

Following our last tournament, the winners of the Aggregate Shields were announced: Mick Hughes won the gross award and Steve Wood the nett award - well done to both players!

During October the Gay Hill GC played host to the Champion of Champions competition, sponsored by Breakwells and organised by Keith Fitzhenry. Players represented both East Midlands and Midlands and the winner, with a fine round of 69 off three handicap, was Matt Buckley.

DEAN CLEAVER

#### NORTHERN

Our first winter lecture was held recently at West Bowling Golf Club, and I am pleased to report that it was well supported, with an excellent turn out attending a superb presentation given by Eddie Seaward (Wimbledon head groundsman) on the year to year running of the Wimbledon complex. This was a joint meeting with our friends from the LoG and, yes, we did have the quiz as usual, though nobody told me who won. I am not going to give my opinion, as I may be accused of bias. My thanks to the LoG for running the quiz - we all had a good night. Your Christmas golf competition takes place at South Leeds GC on 9 December 1992. This is followed by our section A.G.M.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year

PAT MURPHY

#### EAST SCOTLAND

It is with sadness and regret that I announce the death of a well known and respected greenkeeper from Scotland, George Dolloch, who passed away in early October following a history of heart trouble. George, ex head greenkeeper at Ratho Park and Livingstone, left his native Scotland in 1983 to take over as head greenkeeper at Trentham GC in Staffordshire, though for many years he was chairman of the East Scotland section, as well as serving on the committee. He was the brains behind one of the first seminars we held, at Stirling University prior to our Scottish golf match, and though this was not well supported he certainly put a lot of work into it. Many meetings were held in his home at Livingstone and I often wonder how his wife, Nancy, put up with it. Here in his native Scotland, George's many friends are devastated by the news of his passing, for he was just 47 years old, a man in his prime. He will be sorely missed by us all and our thoughts are with Nancy and her three sons, Kevin, Grant and Neil, at this sad time.

I reported that the wife of Duncan Herd (head greenkeeper at Longniddry) was doing fine after her illness. Thus it is on another sad note I now must report that Mrs Herd died in October. Our deepest sympathies go out to Duncan, due to retire at the end of this year. On a personal note, I know just how Duncan, Nancy and her sons must be feeling, having lost my own dear wife at the start of this year. On a lighter note, I am pleased to

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### IRRIGATION CHECKLIST UPDATE Additional guide to manufacturers, dealers and distributors in the UK (not included in last month's checklist)

Company Name	System/s Supplied	Manufacturer	Dealer/Distributor	Area UK	Other Countries	Spares	Repair/Service Maintenance	Telephone/Address
T&G Turf Irrigation Services	All types, inc. Watermation		✓	All areas		✓	✓	0765 602941. Mobile: 0860 496608 8 Whitcliffe Grove, Ripon, N. Yorks HG4 2JW
Watermation	Watermation	✓	✓	All areas, Scotland, Ireland	Malaysia plus Agents and Distributors worldwide	✓	✓	0252 336838 (England) Tongham Road, Aldershot, Hants GU12 4AA; 0786 70252 (Scotland) 30 Bannockburn Road, St Ninians Stirling; (0103531) 2885504 (Ireland) Waverley Lodge, 61 Craysford Ave, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
		Pop-up sprinklers, 2-wire control	Hunter Richdell sprinklers Aqua-Master Pool aerators Imperial valves Nelson Controllers					

The information above and in our November checklist was supplied by the industry and for this reason we cannot take personal responsibility for its accuracy.

# A big Thank you



**BIGGA  
GOLDEN KEY  
and SILVER KEY  
CIRCLES**

*to the following companies, in  
recognition of their support for the  
Greenkeeper Education and  
Development Fund during 1992.*

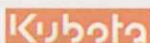


Professional Products

The Toro Company  
International Division  
Irrigation



Lely (UK) Ltd.  
UK distributor for Toro  
Commercial Products



**RANSOMES**



**ISEKI**



*Together, we're building a great future  
for golf club, greenkeeper and game*

For details of how you can support the Education and Development Fund, contact BIGGA at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Telephone: 03473 581 Fax: 03473 8864



## AROUND THE GREEN



38 → announce the annual match East Scotland v North East England (sponsored by Stewart & Co.), played at Goswick, resulted in a well deserved victory – this after a loss and a draw in the last two clashes. I am delighted to have the trophy back where it belongs – in Scotland. Grateful thanks, as always, to Stewarts and Goswick GC.



The dance tickets are going well, so if you haven't yet obtained yours you may be too late. Let us hope that my next report will bring glad tidings. Until then, on behalf of your chairman and committee, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a good New Year.

WILLIE BLAIR

### CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The final golf tournament of the season was held in October at Kinross GC., where 50 members/guests had an enjoyable time on a sunny day. Results: Best aggregate (spring and autumn) – David Leith, St. Andrews. Best nett – Richard Sharp, Kinross. Scratch – Athol Purdie, Crail. 1st class – 1st Ross Wilson, Kinross. 2nd Tommy Gilchrist, Falkland Tryst. 2nd class – 1st Fraser McNeil, Braehead. 2nd John Crawford, Haggis Castle. Trade – Ian Thomson, Provan. Guests – Robert McHale, Kinross. Two ball foursomes – Graeme Downie and Fraser McNeil, Braehead.

Our sincere thanks go to Sir David Montgomery of the Green Hotel Golf Courses for the courtesy of their course, Kinross GC for the use of clubhouse facilities, Mr and Mrs Aitken for first class catering and service, and to course manager John Bashford and his staff for preparing the course in such excellent condition, despite the atrocious weather experienced in the weeks prior to the tournament – well done, lads!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: The Spring Tournament will be held at Gleneagles in April, date to be finalised. Visit to Souter's Sportsturf and Stirling GC, 13 February. Autumn Tournament at Glenbervie GC, 12 October. We also hope to stage an STRI lecture, given by David Boocock, in March. Topics for future lectures/demonstrations are welcome, so if you have any suggestions on subjects you would like to see included, please write to me and your committee will try to arrange them.

I would like to wish everyone the compliments of the season, and thank everyone who has supported us in 1992. Every success in 1993. JOHN CRAWFORD

### COMING UP

- December 7: ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals – Aldwark Manor, York**
- 1993**
- January 18–22: BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme, Harrogate, North Yorkshire**
- January 23–30: GCSAA Show, Anaheim, California, USA**
- March 25–28: Golf Asia 1993 – Third International Golf Exhibition and Conference, World Trade Centre, Singapore**
- March 26–28: BIGGA National Education Conference, University of Keele, Staffordshire**
- April 28: Westurf Trade Exhibition, Long Ashton, Bristol**
- May 25–30: Amateur Championship, Royal Portrush, Northern Ireland**
- June 9–10: Landscape Industries '93, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire**
- July 5–8: Royal Show, Stoneleigh, Warwickshire**
- July 15–18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, Kent**
- August 2–4: BIGGA National Golf Tournament, Dunbar Golf Club, Scotland**
- August 18–19: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA**
- August 19–22: Planetarium '93 (specialised tree cultivation fair) Booskop, Holland**
- September 7–9: IoG Show, Peterborough, Northants**
- September 24–26: Ryder Cup, The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire**
- October 2–5: Golf '93 Trade Fair, Düsseldorf, Germany**
- October 11–12: Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor, York**
- November 23–25: Golf International 2000, Sandown Park, Surrey**

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