

# AROUND THE GREEN

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

*Section secretaries and correspondents should note that the closing date for 'Around The Green' copy is the first day of the month preceding publication - eg. copy for March issue must be received by February 1st. This means that section reporters must think ahead by at least one clear month and send relevant new copy before the appearance of the current issue. All out-of-date announcements will be spiked. Co-operation in meeting these deadlines will be appreciated.*

### EAST MIDLANDS

The AGM meeting for the Maxwell Hart Shield was held on November 25th at Lingdale GC, Woodhouse Eaves. An enjoyable and well attended day resulted in honours going to Ian Marshall, with Adrian Porter and Maurice Emery second and third respectively. The trade section winner was Chris James. Well done and many thanks to all at Lingdale.

At the AGM, the following were elected to represent the section for the coming year: CHAIRMAN: Richard Barker, VICE CHAIRMAN: Dave Perkins, SECRETARY: Tony Howarth, COMMITTEE: Graham Arnold, Mark Bindley, Walter Cole, Steve Goode and Paddy McCarron. REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES: Richard Barker and Tony Howarth, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE: Paddy Mc Carron.

The 1991 season saw considerable success for the section's golfers at both regional and national level. Congratulations to all those who contributed, especially Richard Barker, Steve Goode and Maurice Emery. Let's hope the coming season offers as much for us to look forward to!

Finally, it is with pleasure that I pass on the section's thanks to Gordon Mitchell, our retiring secretary, for the hard work he has done for us. Best wishes Gordon, and good luck in your new position at Leek.

TONY HOWARTH

### WEST SCOTLAND

The turn-out for the 1991 West Section AGM, at Renfrew GC, was attended by some 32 members, who came to learn how their elected committee had been faring on their behalf throughout the year. The year was an exceptional one, as the Spring and Autumn golf outings were supported by more than half of the total section membership. Lenzie and Cowal Golf Club's are to be thanked for their personal invitations to the section to come and play over their courses. It is a pleasure to us all to receive an open invitation and to know the hand of friendship extends to the greenkeeping fraternity.

The Annual Dinner was once again held at Sloans Restaurant and was well attended, though grumbles were heard concerning the venue and the quality of meals served that evening. Your committee will give this serious consideration well in time for next year. There was nothing but praise for the three guest speakers: Peter Lloyd, Assistant Secretary PGA Scottish Region, Stuart McCartney, Chief Reporter of The Daily Star, and our own Jim McKenzie, Head Greenkeeper, Wentworth Golf Club.

Alistair Connell, the section's new chairman for 1992, presented Cecil George with crystal glass on behalf of the section, whilst congratulating him on his recent retirement. Cecil is one of the few characters left in greenkeeping, as anyone who has ever attended any meeting he has chaired will vouch, for not only has he been a

great stalwart of the West Section but also to greenkeeping in general. He has served on the BIGGA Education Committee and quite recently was involved in the organising of the new HNC courses for greenkeepers.

I would point out to you all that despite Cecil's immense involvement in the Association, there is no truth in the rumour that he arrived on Monday morning to give instructions to his assistant for the week ahead and arrived back on Friday evening in the gentlemen's bar to discuss with the committee how difficult the week had been! Cecil did not 'get where he is today' without doing his fair share of hard graft, especially in trying to drain Lenzie over the past 37 years! On behalf of Cecil's many friends exiled in the South, Jim McKenzie presented a further gift to him.

Lectures for greenkeepers and students at Langside College Horticultural Dept. have been arranged as follows:

14th January: Kenny Hunter (Frews Grass Machinery) on Machinery for the Golf Course.

13th February: Robert D Bruce (Stewart & Company) on Turf Manufacture and Production. All lectures will commence at 2.15 pm at Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Glasgow.

Drew McKechnie, the new vice-chairman, arranged a games night at Claremont Bowling Club in December, claiming that if successful there is no reason why more of the same cannot be organised in the coming months.

As can be seen from this report, the West Section committee has been working hard on your behalf and ask for nothing more than your unswerving support. Happy New Year to you all.

GORDON KERR

### EAST ANGLIA

Our AGM on November 13th at Bury St Edmunds GC was well supported and ran fairly smoothly until someone decided to reduce the size of Norfolk! He was over-ruled because Norfolk has always been 'that big' and as he was a fellow 'foreigner', he didn't have a vote anyway!

Most of the officials were elected en-bloc, the exceptions being our faithful president of many years, John Moyce, who has been replaced by Ernie Hart. We wish John well and thank him for all the hard work he did for us, especially in the early years. I am sure Ernie will carry on in the same vein. Our new vice president is big Bobby Chesham, who is also vice chairman (how many more vices has he got?), and our chairman is again the evergreen Sam Sylvester, who is also the treasurer. We've got more double acts than the Crazy gang and come to think of it, we are the Crazy Gang. Our secretary is Mike Peters and the handicap secretary is Steve Freestone, a man it is wise to keep in with!

The scribe, yours truly, tried to lose his job by being late, but it didn't work.

DIARY DATES FOR 1992: April 22nd, Bungay GC, Iseki Qualifier. June 3rd, Woodbridge GC. July 6th, Iseki Regional at Chelmsford. August 9-12th, ICI/BIGGA National at Littlestone (accommo-

dation list from Sam.) August 14th, Colchester GC. October 7th, Eaton GC. Watch out for an editorial invasion on October 7th, for David White is threatening to bring his unpredictable left-handed swing to these parts! Happy New Year!

MICK LATHROPE

### MID ANGLIA

Though David White reported in December on the Autumn Meeting at Woburn, he was unaware that a competition within the competition was taking place, this being the final of the four-ball sponsored by Lodgeway Tractors. The event, now part of the rich history and lore of Mid Anglian golf, revealed Geoff Smith and Gerald Bruce as the eventual winners at the fifth extra hole, finally winning a fine battle waged against Ronan McKeon and Ken Bunting.

Our AGM took place recently, which was preceded by a lecture on Top Dressing given by Peter Jefford of Rufford Top Dress Supplies Ltd. At the meeting, Geoff Smith, Ken Bunting and Les Wackeral all retired from office and we must thank them for all the work they have done for the section. John Wells was elected as chairman, Paul Lockett as vice-chairman, Chris Brook as match secretary, Gerald Bruce as secretary and Richard Saunders joins the committee. We offer a warm welcome to them all.

The committee have decided that to aid in the smooth running of our golf competitions we will issue entry forms for each event. I know that the match secretary will be overjoyed when he receives entries from you two weeks before the competition, as opposed to a frantic 'phone call 24 hours prior to tee off! If you haven't already had these forms, they will soon be dropping through your letter box.

To golf again now, with hot-off-the-press results of the Christmas Turkey Trot held at South Beds GC: WINNING TEAM: J Champion, J Norman, C Midgley and P Robertson (winners of Sta-Brite Turkey Vouchers). SECOND: P Robinson, E O'Hanlon, J Marvel and P Marvel. THIRD: J Wells, C Brook, C Snell and C Asprey. Nearest the Pin was won by Stuart Boyes, who rode away with a mountain bike presented by Kingston House Mowers!

Finally, may I remind all section members that subscriptions are due and you know how much the staff at Aldwark HQ like receiving your cheques... so if you haven't yet done so, pop your cheque in the post, you know it's worth it. A happy New Year to you all.

GERALD BRUCE

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