

# AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

Will section reporters please note: Final copy date for inclusion of 'Around The Green' material in the August issue is July 1st.

## NORTHERN

Everyone should now be flat-out cutting, slitting, dressing etc., and I guess you must all be too busy to play in our golf events, for they are not filling up very well. I'll give you a further reminder of these: Invitation Day at Shipley Northcliffe GC on Wednesday, 19th August (members must be accompanied by one of their Club officials). Autumn meeting at Scarborough Southcliffe GC on Wednesday, 30th September.

We also need names of those wanting to play for the section in the Roses Match. This is fully sponsored so all you have to do is get there (and win!). The venue for this is Stockport G.C. on Friday, 28th August. Names to me by 'phoning 0274/590463 please.

A recent event was our annual dinner dance where 26 people enjoyed a fine evening with good food and wine and excellent company. Of those attending, 12 were colleagues from the trade; so only 14 greenkeepers and wives out of almost 600 greenkeepers and wives on my list turned up. Come on you guys out there, this is your section, please support it. A lot of work goes into planning events for your benefit and if BIGGA didn't exist we would all be back to square one with poor wages, poor opportunities, poor education and poor conditions. We have come a long way, but support is needed to keep the momentum going.

I am trying to organise a first aid training course for the autumn. I'm sure it must be useful (not to mention possibly life-saving) to have at least one trained first-aider on every Club staff. The course can be undertaken in a few ways, either at your own Club or at one venue. Also, a number of options are open with half day, one day, two day and four day courses all available. Please give this matter some thought and ring me if you are interested. I need to know numbers as soon as possible to enable me to organise what you want. Certificates will be issued on completion of the course whilst those aiming for Master Greenkeeper certification will gain 3

credits - all useful additions to your CV.

There are a few moves around the section: Gary Dyson takes over at Darrington and Adrian Holroyd moves from Lightcliffe to Ripon. I hear they are both about to join us and I look forward to seeing them soon. I am also losing my own right-hand man, Robert Gee, who is moving just up the road to Lightcliffe as head man. I suppose he will be forever on my doorstep borrowing tackle, but best of luck anyway to Robert, Gary and Adrian. More very good news is that Bradford's Ralph Smith has returned to work after long illness. Hope to see you soon Ralph, back amongst your friends in the section.

A potential disaster was averted when the location for our spring 'do' was cancelled just 12 hours before tee-time. Fortunately, Ganton GC kindly agreed to let us play at short notice and we thank them for accommodating us so very well. The qualifiers were: Div. 1 - E Walsh, R Gee, M Hannan and M Lealman. Div. 2 - E Paley, L Nelson, C Garnett and R Johnson. Div. 3 - L Kirkbright, A Gamble, D Cockburn and M Bryant... all of which means that last year's 'champ', Telford Jarvis, is out!

Cleckheaton GC have appointed Andrew Fowler as deputy course manager to replace Robert Gee and 'yours truly' is resigning as section secretary to take on the post of regional administrator. My thanks to everyone who helped me during my time in office.

BOB LUPTON

## EAST MIDLANDS

Firstly, a belated note of thanks to Peter Jones and Phil Helms at Collingtree Park for entertaining the section back in March. I'm sure this well attended visit was an eye-opener to many, seeing such good surfaces so early in the season.

Thanks are also due to Chris James of Erringtons, and to Toro for providing lunch.

Our Spring Tournament at Wollaton Park on April 28th attracted 54 entrants, and a competitive day of golf produced some excellent scoring. Winners in each section were: Greenkeepers - (handicap 0-9) 1st Russell Allen, 2nd Phil Refin, 3rd Glen Miller. (hcp. 10-18) 1st Phil Jennings, 2nd Jamie Bedford, 3rd Clinton Hare. (hcp. 9-24) 1st Adey Porter, 2nd Ian Dunmore, 3rd Mark Bindley. The trade/associate winner was Mike Franklin. Many thanks to all the staff at Wollaton, and to those section members who helped to organise an enjoyable day.

We are pleased to welcome the following new members: Paul Sumpter, Kibworth G.C. Barry Gostinshie, Western Park G.C. Jeffrey Cassidy, Western Park G.C. Steven Linthwaite, Western Park G.C. Matthew Buckley, Oakmere Park G.C. and Andrew Richardson, who is a student member at the Lancashire College.

Finally, it gives me the greatest pleasure to offer congratulations to Graham Arnold on his completion this year of 25 years at Erewash Valley. I understand (from the king of the second helping, Mr Barsby) that this is also Graham's silver wedding anniversary, so congratu- → 32

## RECRUITMENT See also Pages 7, 39-41

### Hirst Priory Golf Club (South Humberside)

invite applications for the position of

## HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be experienced in course management in order to supervise the construction of greens on this new course.

This is a good opportunity for the right candidate to become involved in the early stages of construction.

Applications in writing to:

Mr P Fitzgerald

Saxon Willows, Carrhouse Road, Belton, Nr Doncaster DN9 1PG

### Garesfield Golf Club

Vacancy:

## HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications invited for a Head Greenkeeper of proven ability to take responsibility for all course management and future development.

Negotiable competitive salary offered to applicant with necessary experience and commitment.

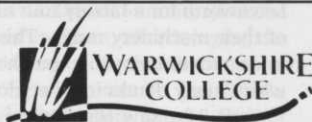
Apply in writing with CV to:

Hon. Secretary

Garesfield Golf Club, Chopwell, Tyne & Wear NE17 7AP

Closing date: Sunday June 21st 1992

## GTC APPROVED COLLEGES



Quality Day and Block Courses for Greenkeepers to give you technical and management expertise.

— Your career depends on it

— Write or 'phone for our Course Directory

The Registrar, Warwickshire College for Agriculture

◆ Horticulture ◆ Equine Studies, Moreton Morrell, Warwick  
CV35 9BL. Tel: 0926 651367

31 • lations are doubly in order. In recognition of his services, Graham is shortly due to fly out to Disneyworld for a holiday sponsored by the Club. Best wishes Graham, and don't worry about the flight, for after a few pints of Ilkeston anaesthetic, I'm sure all will be well!  
TONY HOWARTH

#### MIDLANDS

On April 7th the Midlands Section played their Spring Tournament at Stourbridge GC. The day started out with rain and though this continued for most of the day it did not prevent us from enjoying a well prepared course, for which we thank the Stourbridge green staff. Congratulations to Steve Wood, who won the nett prize with an excellent come-back in the afternoon; and to Paul Loffman, who was the low gross prize winner.

Our thanks to Stourbridge GC for the courtesy extended to us, along with our best wishes to them for a successful period of celebration in this their centenary year. I would like to also thank the many people – both individuals and companies – who again gave support and help in running this tournament.

Both our knock-out competitions were drawn at the Spring Tournament, revealing some interesting matches. These are scheduled to be played by certain specified dates and competitors are requested to keep to them. Should you have any queries, my 'phone number is 0789 762912.  
DEAN CLEAVER

#### NORTH WEST

Caldy GC on the Wirral peninsular played host this year to the annual tournament between the North West Section and the North Wales Section. Rick Fletcher and his staff had manicured this lovely and very testing course to perfection, and although the weather was not at its best the course certainly was. Many thanks to Rick and his staff and to Caldyc GC for allowing us the courtesy of their magnificent course.

The result of the match was 5-3 to North Wales, and our congratulations to Terry Adamson and his team. Enjoy your win, boys – it will be your last! I would like to thank everyone who played (even though some were dragged in at short notice), for making the day a very pleasant one. During the run-up to the match and due to unforeseen circumstances, our sponsor reluctantly had to pull out, leaving us with the problem of who would pay for the meals. There was no need to worry, for a knight on a white horse (in the form of Andy Hardie from Gem Professional) arrived to pick up the tab. Many thanks to both Andy and Gem for saving the day.

Howard McAddey, a former treasurer on the NW committee and regional administrator for the Northern Region, has had to relinquish his administrative post due to pressure of work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Howard for the sterling work he has put in during his term of office, and hope that once the pressure is off a little he might join us on the NW committee once again.

The ISEKI regional final has been changed from Cleckheaton GC to Bury GC and the date is now Monday June 29th. All qualifiers will have been informed. The Summer Meeting is at Worsley GC on Thursday July 9th with the tee reserved from 1.30pm till 3pm. Soup and sandwiches will be served at 12.30pm with dinner and prize presentation in the evening. Proper dress is essential and you must also bring along

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your membership card. This competition is included with our spring and autumn tournaments for the aggregate trophy sponsored by Aitchens. All enquiries for this tournament to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynton, Stockport SK12 1HX. Tel: 0625 859258.



Finally, if you have any news, views or problems – please call me on 051 7245412.  
BERT CROSS

#### NORTH SCOTLAND

The section committee held a meeting at Nairn GC recently, with a full turn-out and a lively evening ensuing, thrashing out section business. Our thanks to Nairn GC for the use of their plush conference room.

Hopefully, by the time you read this report we will all have had some warmth to go with the recent rains – this to encourage life into the grass up here in the North. Late springs following on from relatively mild winters are becoming the norm; and at my Club – Tain GC – the course is getting much busier in the winter with week-end golf choc-a-bloc. The result is that greens get no rest before the new season arrives. Thus far we are coping, but maybe an enforced period of rest will need to be considered in the future. We are back to full staff with the return (from a 4 month working holiday in Switzerland) of John Urquhart, now an accomplished skier and sporting a bronzed look.

Next month will see The Open Championship at Muirfield, when I am looking forward to once again being part of the Greenkeeper Support Team. I hope to see a few more North members involved this year, for it really is a great week for renewing old friendships and forming new ones.

It has not taken Mike Wilson of Kingussie long to regain his place in the North District Golf Team since his return from Wales. He joins other regulars, Steve Macintosh (Muir of Ord) and George Paterson (Fortrose), to give us greenkeepers a good representation in the team. In fact 'yours truly' was invited to play last September, but only when someone else failed to appear and the game was being played at Tain. I hesitated to accept and my chance was lost, with one of the selectors standing in by using my clubs while his wife brought his own sticks over.

Congratulations to Willie Milton, long time North member and ex treasurer, on his election to life membership of BIGGA. This is a just reward for all the time he gave on our behalf. The July report will feature the section outing at Montrose and the first four winners of the 200 Club.

Finally, on a personal note, I would like to express disappointment at the content of some letters in recent issues of our magazine. It seems to me that 'slagging off' a previous contributor is no way forward for a professional association. Constructive criticism is one thing, but members

may be put off writing for fear of retribution in a later issue. I am sure it does not look good to non-members who read these letters.

AIN MACLEOD

#### SURREY

Foxhills GC were our hosts for the recent Spring Meeting, which consisted of 36 holes over the Longcross and Chertsey courses. Despite the excellent condition of both courses, coupled with fine weather, the scores were unusually high: Overall winner – D Barnes 143. 2nd – J Hunter 152. 3rd – N Whitaker 153. Scratch – R Christie 153. Trade – B Wilmott 164. Best a.m. – N Shade 72. Best p.m. – M Yolston 77.

Thanks were extended to Foxhills for their excellent hospitality and courtesy of the facilities, along with praise for Nevill Shade and his staff for presenting the courses so well. In addition, our thanks to those trade members who kindly contributed to the prize table. Iseki qualifiers will be notified shortly and are reminded that the regional finals will take place on July 6th at Chelmsford GC. If you cannot play on this day please notify Derek Walder in order that reserve players may participate.

By now the Huxley Bowl should be well under way and I would request that winners convey the results to Derek promptly, in order that the competition be kept moving.

ROGER TYDEMAN

#### CLEVELAND

Are you happy as a greenkeeper? Are you a member of BIGGA? Are you a qualified greenkeeper? Phase III is a supervisory block release course at college and even if you think Phase IV is too advanced, you should never stop learning or training. The colleges want students, so talk to a course tutor. Above all don't under estimate yourself, for college staff are very, very helpful. Try a greenkeeper training course and surprise yourself with success.

Golf courses need trained people to help them train others. Training never stops and the pleasure is both in individual success and in helping others to obtain success. Go forward now and contact your college with a view to improving your career – book in for September. Above all; talk to a BIGGA section secretary, your Club secretary, your head greenkeeper or someone who you know will guide you and help you to improve your professional status. Best of all be smart, clean, polite and create a good image. Polished shoes and the wearing of a BIGGA tie is a good way to start. Play golf and see if the course is as good as you prepared it. Finally, remember that Clubs pay college expenses and in Phase II you are trained for spraying qualifications as well.

BRUCE BURNELL

#### MID ANGLIA

On March 10th our members visited Lloyds of Letchworth for a factory tour and demonstration of their machinery range. This proved to be an informative, enjoyable and hospitable day, for which many thanks to all at Lloyds.

April 21st saw the first of our golf tournaments, a 27 hole Iseki qualifier played at Verulam GC, St Albans. Although the date chosen was difficult (the first day following the Easter break) some 28 members entered with the following results: Handicap 0-9 R McKeown, G Boulton, G Bruce, C Brook and A Freeman (reserve). Handicap 10-18 A Grew, E O'Hanlon, N Whitaker, G Smith and J Chapman (reserve). Handicap 19-28 M Ellis, J Cassidy, R Saunders,

D Piggott and I Jones (reserve). Those who qualified will compete next at Brockton Hall GC, Stafford, on July 16th. The event was won by Alan Grew with a score of 107-12, Neil Whitaker was second with 108-14 and third was G Boulton with 108-8. The longest drive was Geoff Smith with 260 yards and nearest the pin on 17 was G Boulton.

Many thanks to Geoff and his team for preparing the course and to the officers and staff at Verulum GC, particularly the vice-captain, who bought wine for us to enjoy along with an excellent meal. Cheers! Let us hope this occurs at all future events! Many thanks also to Colin from Rigby Taylor for his hard work and organisation, not forgetting their sponsorship of the tournament.

Two of our members have moved Clubs recently: Phil Quarmby has left Beadlow Manor to become head greenkeeper at Mentmore GC, while Mark Ellis, who was previously at Woburn G&CC has joined Phil as his deputy. I'm sure all members wish them every success in their new positions.

Finally, a reminder about the Summer Tournament at Bedfordshire GC (Biddenham) on July 7th. All entries must be with Chris Brook by June 15th by entry form only. His telephone number printed in April was incorrect and you should note the correct number: 0462 442488.

PAUL LOCKETT

## SOUTH WEST

"Shut the gate and keep out the draught" was the cry, only to fall on deaf ears. The early warm spring weather took a nose-dive at Swindon GC as a gale lashed the course for our section Iseki Qualifier. All competitors deserved a prize just for finishing, never mind the scores, for it was not a round I would care to repeat too often. Still it all goes to prove one thing: if you're going to buy an Iseki tractor, make sure it has a cab! The course was extremely well presented, which is more than I could say for some members of our party. Please, please remember when you are out with the Association, you are representing the profession of greenkeeping and the right image is all important. Our grateful thanks to Swindon GC for their hospitality, and apologies for the one or two problems encountered during the day. Thanks also to Iseki, the main sponsors, also to ICI & Avoncrop for prizes. The results were: 1st A. Johnson (Saltford) 96-28=68. 2nd D. Summerell (Castle Coombe) 88-16=72. 3rd L. Johnson (Saltford) 96-22=74.

The team for the South West Regional Finals on 17th June is: Division 1 - P Godwin (5), J Kane (6), K Millar (4), C Fudge (3), and P Thorne (4). Division 2 - M Swales (10), M Gray (11), S Montacute (15) S Earl (12) and J Scoones (18). Division 3- A Johnson (28) L Johnson (22) M Powell (26) J Leigh (23) and P Cox (24). Reserves are L Millar (4) J Farley (16) and C Sealey (28).

All good wishes to David Summerell as he takes up a new post in Spain, after bringing the prestigious Castle Coombe course almost up to its opening. Congratulations to Pat Smith, Grasscare Manager, T H White, on the birth of his daughter, Hannah, also to all twelve of our first FEPA trainees on successfully completing the foundation module training day and the subsequent exam. Grateful thanks to Bristol & Clifton GC for generously allowing us the use of their clubhouse and machinery shed for this purpose.

I look forward to receiving more applications for similar courses during the autumn. Also on

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the training front will be Extended Emergency First Aid and Safe Use of Chainsaws. All training days carry certificates and qualify for M.G.C. credits, further details on application to the secretary (home 'phone number 0285 651908).

The next event is the Summer Tournament at the Cotswold Hills GC., Cheltenham, venue for this years' Gloucestershire County Championships. I'll look forward to seeing you all then - well turned out, naturally.



PAUL WORSTER

## SHEFFIELD

The winter lectures have now come to a close. The section thank Rotherham GC for the support they have given so willingly in allowing us to use their facilities, also to David Milbourne, Rotherham course manager, for making sure everything was in order prior to us all arriving.

The April lecture was on the Rules of Golf, and for those members that did not attend, you missed a real treat. Mr Peter Greenhough, a member of the R&A Rules Committee gave us a superb lecture. Thanks must go to Derek Neve, the head greenkeeper at Brough GC, for innovating not only a worthwhile talk but also an enjoyable one. When Mr Greenhough had finished he said he would be pleased to answer any questions from the floor. The response was very encouraging, in fact you had to be quick to get your say. Oh, by the way, no cross out balls to be used in BIGGA tournaments, they are not on the list of approved golf balls. Penalty-disqualification.

**EDUCATION:** David Golding will help us arrange a day in our area to enable members to be trained in basic first aid. In view of FEPA and COSHH I feel we must take advantage of this offer. If any member is interested, please let me know so that I can make the appropriate arrangements. Tel: 0298 81337.

**COMPETITIONS:** Please note all entry fees must be paid for by the closing date on the entry form.

**RAFFLE PRIZES:** At each lecture or golf event a raffle will be held and any member wishing to donate a prize is asked to bring it along. Contributions will be much appreciated.

**TO THE GREEN CHAIRMAN:** The goals of our (BIGGA) members for the golf Club are the same as those of your members... a high quality course of which we can all be proud. With a little help from Mother Nature and patience and co-operation from the membership, we will obtain both our short and long term goals.

**TO THE GREENKEEPER:** Hold your head up high; and you will be calm, confident and assertive, whatever happens to you. Remember, what you think you will be you will become. **GOOD LUCK.**

JANE RYAN

## EAST SCOTLAND

A cold windy day greeted our arrival at The

Glen GC for the start of our annual Spring Tournament. This was the first time that many of our members had played this excellent course for until this year it had been a municipal. Our thanks as usual go to the captain and committee for the courtesy; the catering staff for the excellent meals and to head greenkeeper George Paterson and his staff for the condition of the course. Fifty six members, guests and trade attended and the lucky winners were: Best nett G Ferguson (Royal Musselburgh). 1st class C Graham (Goswick). 2nd class S Melville (Lothianburn). 3rd class G Hobbs (Torpin Hill). Veteran W Blair (Kingsknowe). Guest J Lockerbie (Baberton). Trade K Hunter (Frews). Knockout T Murray and S Crawford (Ratho Park).

Iseki Qualifiers.

1st class: C Graham, A Holmes, P Bowden and S Crawford. 2nd Class: G Ferguson, S Melville, J Neilson and R Bullock. 3rd Class: G Hobbs, A Gordon, W Armstrong and A Forrest. Reserves: 1st Class: G White. 2nd Class: I Bell and R Frame. 3rd Class: P Black. These players will be notified of future arrangements in due course.

Future Events:

Tuesday, June 23rd. Scottish at Kingsknowe GC. Thursday, August 6th. Willie Woods at Swanston GC.

Tuesday, Sept 22nd. Autumn Tournament at Newbattle GC.

Thursday, Oct 1st. Half day tournament at Gifford GC.

Wednesday November 25th AGM at Kingsknowe GC.

Friday December 4th. Annual Dinner Dance.

Section News:

Things have been very quiet over the past few months, with no movements on the job front. Membership has increased and we are hopeful that the trend will continue. Six committee members attended the Association AGM at York on April 6th and our own committee meetings are being held on a very regular basis, thus ensuring the smooth running of the section. The committee for this year is: Chairman, CJ Yeaman, Vice Chairman, P Ormiston, Secretary, W Blair, Handicap Convenors, G Wood and S Greenwood, Social Convenor, S Dixon, General Committee, J Neilson, T Murray and R Hogarth.

WILLIE BLAIR

## DEVON & CORNWALL

Our guest day meeting was held at Launceston GC on April 8th, with April showers turning into a monsoon just days before our meeting and making arrangements very difficult. My thanks to Clive Ralph for his sterling support and I hope he hasn't yet pulled out all his hair yet! Our thanks also to George Bailey and his merry men for all their hard work in making the course playable.

On the day itself, the sun shone for the first time in weeks and all 22 pairs enjoyed playing on the well presented course whilst competing for the Jacobsen Salver. Prizes were kindly donated by C R Willcocks and West Horticulture, both being dealers for Jacobsen turfcare equipment in

Devon & Cornwall. Following an excellent lunch Mr R Chitty of Willcocks and Mr P Smith of West Horticulture presented prizes to the lucky winners: 1st A Cann and I Downing (Bude Guests) 67 points and the Jacobsen Salver. 2nd B Ridgeway and K Broad (Greenkeeper & Guest) 66 points. 3rd R Parr and B Heggie (Greenkeeper and Secretary) 65 points.

Our thanks to Launceston GC and all their staff for making our day so successful, ➔ 34

33 also to John Mitchell, who spent most of the afternoon checking cards. As this meeting concluded our '91-'92 winter programme I would like to thank all our many trade friends who, as usual, have supported our meetings so generously. Long may they continue. I would also like to thank all members who attended our meetings over the winter, for without their support the section would be the poorer.



To those who were unable to attend, we look forward to seeing you next winter, when you may be sure a warm welcome awaits you all.

RICHARD WHYMAN

#### NORTH WALES

Our first competition of the season was held at Caldycote GC on the Wirral; where the North Wales section played the North West in some very spirited matches. The result doesn't really matter, but we won! Thanks to Caldycote GC and its committee and members for allowing us to play our match, and our congratulations to Rick Fletcher and his staff for a course which was in excellent condition. We hope to see Bert Cross and some of the North West lads on our patch again next year, and in the interim we wish you all a good season.

I would also like to wish Alan Sharp and his staff all the best on the opening of Chirk G&CC in April. Finally, I would like to hear from any members of the South Wales section who might be interested in a match against our section. Please write to me with your views to 33 Mill Lodge, Llandegfan, Menai Bridge, Anglesey. LL59 5YB or 'phone me on 0248 713490. Once again, I would welcome calls from any members who have any views or queries, or indeed anything they wish to say within these section reports.

D S PROCTOR

#### SOUTH WALES

St Mellons GC in Cardiff was the venue for our Spring Meeting, held on April 9th on a warm sunny day. Such was the weather that some of us might have cast our thoughts to all the work we could have been doing on our courses. That stated, the competition was not one of the best attended, which may well have been due to the weather plus those who cry-off with illness at the last moment. The event was our Iseki qualifier, with the following results: Winner (Cardiff Cup) Adrian Panks -71 (won on countback). 2nd Malcolm Davies 71. 3rd Leslie Hallett 74 (on countback) 4th Tony King 74. 5th Hugh Parry 75. Low Gross- Steven Price 79. Prizes were donated by Gem Professional, Steve Elms, Avoncrop Amenity Products and ICI, for which grateful thanks.

On behalf of the members I would like to thank the committee and members of St Mellons GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course and facilities throughout the day, also to the steward for attending to our liquid refreshments and Mr Gooch for providing the fine food which was enjoyed by us all.

Finally I would like to congratulate head greenkeeper Steven Price and his staff for the good condition of the course so early in the season.

ISEKI qualifiers: (0-9) S Price (4) M Jones (7) H Morgan (8) A Jenkins (9) M Davies (10) reserve P Swain (11). (10-18) A Panks (12) T King (12) H Parry (15) P Lacey (16) N Owens (18) reserve D Jones (12). (19-28) T Garland (19) S Lindsay (19) B Price (20) R Kitcher (20) L Hallett (24) reserve P Long (24).

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Will all members remember the handicap certificates and membership cards MUST be shown at ALL competitions. A £5 deposit must be sent for each competition, which will be set aside toward the entry fee and evening meal. Please take note: anyone not sending a deposit will not be allowed to play in the competition.

PHIL SWAIN

#### SUSSEX

The first section competition of '92 was held at Seaford (Blatchington) GC - what a treat! The course was in superb condition, the weather just perfect and the views over the English Channel and the South Downs were brilliant. Just a shame there were not more members to enjoy the day.

The day started with an 18 hole medal round sponsored by John Shaw Machinery, with the following nett results: 1st Stuart Shelford (Ifield G&CC) 67. 2nd Chris Reed (Crowborough GC) 69. 3rd Peter Ray (Haywards Heath GC) 71. The trade/guest prize was won by Geoff Yelland of Rigby Taylor with 72.

Following lunch our golf continued with a Stableford round sponsored by Rigby Taylor, the results being: 1st Duncan Haste (East Brighton GC) 40 points. 2nd George Barr (Ham Manor GC) 33. 3rd Andy Paynter (East Brighton GC) 31. The trade/guest prize was won by Gary Ogilvie of Parkers with 34. Iseki qualifiers will be notified by post in due course.

Many thanks to Seaford GC for the courtesy of their course; and to Bob and his staff for their splendid efforts.

The next section event will be on June 10th, an 18 hole afternoon match at Copthorne GC.

MARK WILTON

#### EAST ANGLIA

Our 1992 season got off to a good start when 41 players dusted off their clubs for the medal round at Bungay, which is a pretty little place (if you stay straight) kept in good shape by Mick Mean and his men.

We had three handicap sections (good, not so good and keep practicing) for the Iseki qualifier, with the nett results being: (0-9) 1st Dave Wilkinson 68. 2nd Alan Carter 69. 3rd Peter Howard, 4th Mike Fance. (10-18) 1st Dave (HG) Wells 2nd Mike Verlay. 3rd Steve Norris. 4th Sam Sylvester. (19-28) 1st Tom Smith. 2nd Toddy Huddleston. 3rd Mike Stead. 4th Ernie Hart. A good day out was had by all and our thanks to Bungay and Waveney Valley GC for a lovely day.

'Uncle' Sam would once again like all replies regarding golf tournaments back on time please, and NO 'phone calls at 10.30pm the night before - I am NOT joking! Alan Carter is now the man to moan at when your handicap is mutilated, for he has taken over the job from Steve Freestone (with Steve's blessing, I might add).

Something to smile about or cringe over if

you are on the receiving end, with the best news always coming from the bar when talk gets to the nitty-gritty regarding our beloved green committees. The latest is the story of a head greenkeeper who found his pay frozen until the rest of head greenkeepers in East Anglia catch up with him. A bit like saying to the manager at Sainsbury's 'you've got to wait until the manager of The Happy Shopper catches up!' - Who says communism is dead? What will they think of next... answers on a postcard please.

On a sad note I must report the death (just before Easter) of Russell Allison, groundsman at Norwich City FC for 40 years. On behalf of all members of the East Anglian section I extend our deepest sympathy to his family, especially to his son (also Russell) who is himself a groundsman (third generation) at NCFC, following both father and grandfather. Russell's stories were legendary, he was a fine man and will be sorely missed.

MICK LATHROPE

#### CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The section's Spring Tournament was held recently by courtesy of Crail Golfing Society at Balcomie Links, Fife, and despite the atrocious weather some 46 members and guests had an enjoyable day. Some were merrier than others and perhaps this was due to 'liquid insulation' against the cold and rain - which helped. Prior to our tournament, the east coast of Fife had been experiencing its driest spring for twenty five years: then the following day the weather returned to normal - perhaps someone up there was trying to tell us we should have been working instead of enjoying ourselves.

The prize winners were: Scratch and M.&M. Trophy - R. Wilson, Kinross, 72. Nett and Souther Trophy - D. Peddie, Alloa, 67. First class: 1st. (handicap) C. McKay, Crail, 69. 2nd. N. Ballingall, Lundin G.C., 72. Second class: 1st. A. Robertson, Grangemouth, 70. 2nd. N. Rawlinson, St. Andrews, 74. Trade: I. Thomson, Provan Chem. 73. Guests. A. Howson, Grangemouth, 70. Stewart's Quaich, A. Purdie & C. McKay, Crail 143.

Our sincere thanks go to the secretary and captain of Crail Golfing Society for presenting the prizes in the evening, to the club steward and staff for looking after us so well in the clubhouse, and to Allan Purdie and his green staff for having the course in such excellent condition so early in the season.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to John Henderson, formerly of Dunfermline GC, who was taken ill recently. Hope to see you back at section events very soon, John.

Congratulations and every success in their new appointments go to Graeme Downie and Ronnie Cunningham, who have taken over at Braehead and Dunfermline respectively.

The annual prize draw dinner has been arranged for December 4th at Sterling GC, with Ernie Walker, former secretary of the SFA, as our guest speaker. More details will follow in the coming months.

JOHN CRAWFORD

#### BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

Now that summer has arrived I expect you will all be too busy to read this column, so this is my golden opportunity to put in anything I choose! Seriously, the busy time is probably just as well, for there is not too much happening at the moment - which leads me nicely into my first duty - an apology for the absence of a BB&O report in May. This was simply a mat- ➔ 42

34 → ter of there being little to report (again), this because your section is run efficiently by a great committee (and knowing my luck, none of them will read this!). Now on to business.

We will require names of greenkeepers who would like to play in our section matches. These include fixtures against Mid Anglia, BB&O secretaries & captains, and including one or two others in the pipeline. So – don't delay, rush your name forward together with Club and handicap, to Dave Porter, c/o Ray Clark, Flat 1, Temple GC, Henley Rd, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 5LH.

On behalf of all section members I congratulate Roy Kates on becoming the national chairman of BIGGA and on receiving the fine red blazer. I'm sure we'll see him sporting it at many of our golf days and section functions. Last, but not least, a little note from Bob Woodward requesting that those wishing to make contact should call him at home after 6pm on 0628 664512. Please, don't call him at work as it is difficult to get messages on time – thanks.

RAY CLARK

#### AYRSHIRE

Our spring meeting was held on April 30th at Irvine Ravenspark, where we were welcomed with a persistent downpour upon our arrival at 9am. After long deliberation (about five minutes!), it was decided to dismiss the morning round in favour of some welcome discussion and a few rounds of pool and dominoes. A wise decision, as it turned out to be at least playable in the afternoon, although not for 'yours truly'.

Many thanks for the efforts of the bar and clubhouse staff for altering things to suit us, to Cunninghame DC for the use of their course; and to the greenkeepers for their sterling work in keeping the course open. Also to the young

# AROUND THE GREEN



greenkeeper who warned us about the 'gators in the everglades at the bottom of the course!

Prize winners: Scratch -G Brown, Turnberry, 75. Handicap 1st class: – 1st J Devlin, KCDC, 82-12=70. 2nd W 'Arthur' McMeekin, Turnberry, 79-7=72. 3rd H Diamond, KCDC, 79-6=73. 2nd class:- 1st J Johnstone, Turnberry, 93-20=73. 2nd S Wilson, Western Gales, 93-18=75. 3rd D Whiffen, Dumfries & Country, 89-14=75. Trade D Duthrie, 77-6=71. New member, A Gallagher, Skelmorlie.

It is with regret that I report the death of Jock Robertson, ex head greenkeeper at the Troon Municipal courses. Jock was a real character and will be sadly missed by his many friends in the greenkeeping world.

On the move: John Kinder is coming to us; moving from the Bushes in Paisley to Dumfries and Galloway. Robert Johnstone is moving from Ardeer to Newport and John McLaughlin is moving from Turnberry to assistant head at Dumfries & County.



Finally, we all wait with bated breath for the invitations to arrive for the grand opening dance at George's new 'mansion' at Turnberry.  
DUNCAN GRAY

#### COMING UP

July 16th-19th: **The Open Championship** – Muirfield, Scotland

August 10th-12th: **BIGGA National Golf Tournament** – Littlestone GC, Kent

September 8th-10th: **IOG Trade Exhibition** – Peterborough, Northants

September 24th: **ISEKI Championships Final** – Coventry GC, Warwickshire

October 12th: **TORO/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award** – Aldwark Manor, York

October 14th-15th: **KUBOTA Challenge** – The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire

October 19th-November 27th: **BIGGA Management Courses (six weeks)** – Aldwark Manor, York

November 11th-12th: **IOG Scotsturf Trade Exhibition**, Edinburgh, Scotland

November 12th-14th: **Golf Course Europe '92 Show** – Monte Carlo

November 24th-26th: **Golf International 2000** – Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey

December 7th – **ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals** – Aldwark Manor, York.

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