

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

EAST SCOTLAND

The 'Willie Wood Memorial Trophy', held at Swanston GC on 6 August, brought with it a smaller than usual entry. Normally held in October, the competition was brought forward as an experiment and I regret this decision backfired on us. However, our grateful thanks to the captain and committee; to the catering staff, and to head greenkeeper Chris Yeaman and his team for the excellent condition of the course. Our grateful thanks also to our sponsors, Sports Turf Services, with our apologies for the small turn-out. The trophy was won by Dunbar GC.

An old friend of the section, Laurence Pithie, graded our company with his presence and though it's a number of years since Laurence left his native Scotland he hasn't lost his Scottish touch. He presented the section with a bottle for our raffle and won it himself! Needless to say, he sportingly asked for it to be re-drawn.

As yet I cannot confirm the rumour that Richard Dugan is retiring from Glencourse GC. Dick has been a stalwart of the section and attends all of our events. As soon as I have confirmation (or denial), I shall let you know.

One person confirmed as retiring is Duncan Herd from Longniddry GC. Duncan has been a member of the section for many years and under the SIGGA flag was committee member, section chairman and Scottish chairman. During the past few years he has kept a low profile due to back injury and the ill-health of his beloved wife. Naturally, our best wishes go to him for a long and happy retirement, as also they do to another retiree, Jimmy Renton from Gifford GC. Our heartiest to you both!

A sub-committee has been set up to organise the social side of the BIGGA National Tournament to be held at Dunbar in 1993. We are looking at accommodation; the organisation of day trips for the ladies and, of course, planning the banquet festivities.

Those planning to attend this tournament may be assured of a very warm East of Scotland welcome, for we shall do everything in our power to ensure that lasting memories of the event remain with every visitor and competitor. The course at Dunbar is of the highest category: forget about Muirfield; Gullane; Luffness etc., Dunbar is number one. Players will not be disappointed and they may bet that the accommodation and social side will be every bit as good as the golf.

Membership in the East of Scotland is at its highest ever, though nevertheless it could be still higher. The question must always be asked 'why, with so many new members joining us, are we still losing past members'? I would be delighted to know the answer to this puzzle, for BIGGA is the finest thing ever to hit greenkeeping! Let's hear from past members, who are invited to call me on 031 443 3214, or write, explaining reasons why.

Forthcoming events scheduled include the skittles night; AGM on the 25 Nov.; the Annual Dance and winter lectures etc. etc. A full programme will be in your hands shortly.

WILLIE BLAIR

AYRSHIRE

My apologies to section members/readers for the absence of published news over the past few months. To begin, may I take this opportunity of thanking Duncan Gray for being our magazine co-ordinator for the past couple of years. With Duncan's move to a new job in the south of England (and again a time for good wishes for his success), I shall now be handling the magazine contributions. Needless to say, if you have anything of interest for the magazine,

'phone me or write: Jim Paton 1 North Road, West Kilbride, Ayrshire KA23 9AQ Tel: 0294 823210.

On the move is one of my staff members, Stuart Hogg, who having completed his apprenticeship at West Kilbride GC has been appointed first assistant at Fortrose and Rosemarkie GC. Stuart will be missed by us and I'm sure he will be a great asset to his new club.

Just along the road from me at Ardeer GC, Neil Turner has taken the head greenkeepers role, moving back to Scotland from England. Good luck to them all.

I have received 'phone calls from two young greenkeepers looking for employment. One is presently employed by a council (working on bowling greens), and wishes to return to golf course work. The other youngster has just completed a full-time greenkeeping course at Elmwood. If you can help either, please call me and I'll put you in touch.

I was talking to Turnberry's esteemed course manager recently and I'm glad to say he has completed his abdication. He has renounced his English citizenship and become a Scottish International - yes, George represented Scotland (playing for Turnberry) in the Ford National Team Championship. This was staged at The Belfry and George contributed to an outstanding Scottish victory - vanquishing all comers to lift the title. Nice one, Mr Brown! Now all we need to work on is the accent, we'll have him saying "it's a braw bright moonlicht nicht the nicht" in no time. Seriously, congratulations on the Ford result, George, and on your success at the BIGGA National Tournament. You must have won enough to keep your 'tour card' for this year - beware the veterans tour!

I would like to thank all members who sold raffle tickets - the efforts made were greatly appreciated by the committee, who are now looking into the possibilities available for winter events. The winner was George Morison from West Kilbride - George worked for me during the summer and I bullied him into buying two books - he won first and third prizes!

As I wrote earlier - please keep the information or gossip flowing for this column.

JIM PATON

NORTH WALES

Once again winter is upon us and it is time to organise those winter lectures. Times and dates for such events will be announced at our Autumn Tournament on 14 October at Chirk G&CC, but we hope to have our first lecture either on the second or third week of November. Members who are not playing in the competition may contact David Proctor or Terry Adamson for further information.

On 28 October Lindum Turf will be staging a demonstration at Abergele GC. All are welcome; so please come and support.

Many congratulations must go to Alan Sharp (and his staff) at Chirk G&CC for finishing second in the Northern Section of the I.C.I. Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award.

At the Welsh College of Horticulture prizegiving held on 9 July, four students received special awards: Graham Parker (Best 1st year on Phase II) The Gem Professional Prize, Martin Howell (Best 2nd year on Phase II) The Frazer Turf Prize, John Edwards (Top Phase III student) the Mommersteeg Merit Prize, and Matthew Horton (2nd year greenkeeper achieving the overall best marks) The Rufford Top Dress Cup. This year the C&G Phase II proved particularly successful, with two students awarded distinction in both exams and five others receiving

one distinction and one credit - well done to them all.

Finally on a more personal note, the committee would like to thank Mark Proctor for his help in starting our section some three years ago. We take this opportunity to wish Mark and his family the very best in their new venture in Germany.

DAVID PROCTOR

MIDLANDS

We are again holding our Regional seminar at the Warwickshire College of Agriculture, Moreton Hall, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, this time on Wednesday 25 November. Our speakers and their subjects this year are:

- Jeffrey Taylor of Johnson Seeds on 'Grass Seeds and Wild Flowers'.
- Andy Cole, formerly with the Warwickshire College and now returned to the STRI, on 'Agronomy, are we on the right lines'.
- David Golding, BIGGA's education officer, on "1992 - the most important year for Greenkeeper Training?"
- John Hacker of Professional Sportsturf Design Ltd on "British Specifications for the construction of golf greens?"
- Richard Minton of ICI on "The understanding of fertiliser".

Seminar programmes and application forms have been sent out, so if you have not received a copy and would like to attend, please contact me on 0455 283053. We are holding the cost of the tickets at last year's price of £20 per delegate, which includes coffee on arrival, a buffet lunch and afternoon tea. We are limited to approximately 120 delegates and with a Midland region membership of over 600 it would be wise to return your application forms as early as possible.

ROGER WILLIAMS



EAST ANGLIA

Just a quickie lads, for even greenkeepers have holidays (mostly, it would seem, in August, for only 15 turned up at Colchester!).

Well done to those who played on Keith Chinery's patch, which Sam tells me was in good condition. By the way, Keith won the Victa Autumn Cup and will now get a 'proper' handicap!

I'm told there was a bit of dangerous play, just the odd loose shot, no doubt.

However, the chairman of green was struck on the foot by a wayward ball whilst innocently driving from the tee some two holes away (I'll bet the culprit was Keith!).

There were only two prizes: first the aforementioned Keith Chinery with 37 points and second, Quitewaters man Phil Robinson with 35. Personally I think there should be three prizes, but I won't say who should have the extra award. (Nevertheless, it was a good shot from two holes away, if you ask me).

Many thanks to Colchester GC for their hospitality both on and off the course and to Parkers; Kings; ICI; CMW and Rigby Taylor for raffle prizes - hope there will be less holidaying next time.

Had an AARVARK aerating machine on the course recently - very good it was too. It's the latest controlled air-pressure aerator designed to relieve compaction and leave greens in one piece. I'm glad to say this machine did its work remarkably well and if you get a chance to see it in action, do so - it is very impressive.

As they say at the end of all good cartoons - that's all folks!

MIKE LATHROPE

CLEVELAND

Our Autumn Tournament will be held at Middlesbrough Brass Castle – details later.

Graham Pyle's course extension is being carried out by Graham (with the help of a contractor from his club) and the greens will be built to USGA Spec.

Ian Harrison, head greenkeeper at Darlington, reached the regional round of the ICI Greenkeeper of the Year award – congratulations, Ian.

Pleased to hear of Bob Upton's appointment at Romanby GC, Northallerton, N Yorks. This is a large acreage and I think water features are to form part of the course – details later.

Anthrax disease can be grown out in the growing season – more tricky later.

Autumn programme of events is being arranged for October; November and December and a newsletter (from Roger) will be sent to all members. Roger's recent addition to the family – a son, Andrew – was born on 23 March and weighed in at 8lbs 11 ozs.

BRUCE BURNELL

DEVON & CORNWALL

Our Christmas meeting will again be staged at the very popular venue of Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday 9 December. As is usual, members will play a greensome format for the PJ Flegg Trophy during the morning, with the usual course inspection offered to non-playing members. This year our after luncheon entertainer will be Tank Sherman, who comes very highly recommended by our local talent spotter! Numbers will be restricted to 80, so please make sure you return your entry form to me as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. All members who plan to travel on next year's regional trip to

BTME at Harrogate should have returned their forms (with deposits) to Gordon Child. If this has slipped your mind, call Gordon tonight – there may be a few places left.

RICHARD WHYMAN

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES

Regional news of great importance concerns our forthcoming seminar, which will be staged next month (Tuesday 3 November) at Cannington College. This well established annual event is sponsored by Avoncrop Amenity Products, the cost being £10 for members and £15 for non-members, inclusive of lunch.

A packed programme will begin at 9.25am with an introduction by Rod Feltham, of Avoncrop Amenity Products, followed by ICI's Richard Minton on 'Understanding the use of fertilisers'.

This year sees an earlier and highly satisfying trend extending still further with the presentation of papers by no less than three of our own greenkeeper members, all making their appearance on the Cannington rostrum for the first time.

In order of appearance they are Jason Hampton (at Sparsholt College on a National Diploma course), who will talk on 'The golfer – making him less green', Neil Macintyre (at Cannington taking Phases II and III) talking of 'Wear and tear on the golf course', and Guy Woods (Finalist, Student of the Year 1990) on 'Managing *Poa annua* greens successfully'.

Additional speakers – each an acknowledged master of his chosen subject – include Roy Brighton of Time International, discussing 'Management'; our own education officer, David Golding, talking on 'Greenkeeper Education – what is available', and the famous golf course architect, Donald Steel, discussing 'Golf Course Architecture'. In both morning

and afternoon sessions ample time will be allotted for questions.

This is an event not to be missed and places may still be booked by calling me on 0803 844056.

GORDON CHILD

SURREY

Billy McMillan, already celebrating the recent birth of his daughter, kept 'it' in the family by winning the trophy that carries his family name – The McMillan Tankard – at Sunningdale GC with a Stableford score of 37 points. Jeff Chambers finished second and Cameron McMillan (yes, another one!) placed third. Cameron also made the costly mistake of achieving a hole in one and afforded the tradition of

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drinks all round in the clubhouse!

Thanks go to Sunningdale for granting courtesy of the course, to the green staff for course presentation and to Sunningdale Artisans Club for their hospitality.

Will any section member interested in the proposed free transport to BTME at Harrogate please contact a committee member.

Dates for the diary: Autumn Tournament at Worplesdon on 29 October (closing date for entry – 16 October). South East Regional seminar at the Embassy Conference Centre, Colchester on 2 November.

Congratulations to Ronnie Christie of Addington Palace GC on his recent marriage. We will be watching to see if this new status affects his 3 handicap rating!

ROGER TYDEMAN

SOUTH EAST

The South East Region seminar will be staged at the Embassy Conference Centre, Balkerns Hill, Colchester on 2 November, commencing at 9.30am. The seminar is open to all members and to those who have an interest in modern golf course maintenance and management.

The meeting will be chaired by Roy Kates, BIGGA's national chairman, and the following speakers will present papers: John Dyer on 'Trees on the golf course', Ray Burniston on 'The relationship between golf club secretary and course manager'; Ian Merrick on 'A broad look at greenkeeper education'; a staff member of the NRA on 'Water resources'; and Robin Burton on 'Fertilisers and other things'.

Ample time will be provided to pose questions and an Open Forum will form the finale of what promises to be an extremely interesting and informative day.

The cost is £11.50 and includes morning coffee and lunch. Those interested in participation should contact Michael Peters, 18 Saxmundham Road, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5PE (tel 0728 452143), or Sam Sylvester, 7 Park Lane, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5HL (tel 0728 452215).

MICHAEL PETERS

SOUTH WEST

It is my sad duty to inform members of the sudden, untimely death of Nigel Gange, 38 year old deputy head greenkeeper at Enmore Park Golf Club, near Bridgwater, Somerset.

Nigel was the victim of an unfortunate accident at work – an innocuous slip – which led to him falling down a grassy slope, hitting his head as he fell and drowning in a shallow stream. Despite being resuscitated he slipped into a coma and passed away ten days later in Musgrove Park Hospital. Our sincere condolences go to his family.

On a much happier note, our congratulations go to Kevin Green of Filton GC., Bristol, on winning through to the national final of the I.C.I. Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award. Nominated by yours truly, who was very impressed by the high standards found at Filton since Kevin's appointment, Kevin is now down to the last five greenkeepers and will be grilled at Aldwark Manor by judges later this year.

Finally, let's have some replies to those invitations for the spraying and first aid courses.

PAUL WORSTER

NORTH

I said in my last report that winter lectures were in the process of being formulated. Here are some that can be penned into your diaries: • Wednesday 14 October (start approx.7.30pm). Eddie Seaward, N.D.T.; F.Inst.G. Head Groundsman The All England

Lawn Tennis Croquet Club. Wimbledon. Venue:- West Bowling Golf Club.

• Wednesday 18 November: Nu-Trel soil analyst, also Boral Lytag. Venue:- West Bowling Golf Club. I shall enlarge on the above in the next report. • Wednesday 2 December: visit to the John Deere tractor plant (in association with Mitchells of Nottingham). • Christmas golf competition, followed by AGM at South Leeds GC. • Wednesday 13 January 1993: A first aid course. • Tuesday 16 February: Joint IoG/BIGGA meeting and quiz, plus David Hanan talking of his experiences in Switzerland. Venue: Yorkshire CC County Ground, Headingley, Leeds. • Wednesday 17 March Lloyds Workshop. Venue, Cleckheaton GC. All evening meetings start around 7.30pm.

We wish Les Kirkbright a long and happy retirement following his work with Scarborough College and at South Cliffe GC. Les is an active member and represented us in the Battle of the Roses.

The only move I am aware of is that of my ex right-hand man, Nigel Graham, who has moved on to take the head greenkeeper post at Sedburgh GC up in Cumbria. The best of luck to you, Nigel.

Invitation Day at Northcliffe G. C. was a great success and even the sun came out for us, ensuring that those attending had a very enjoyable day. This event was again sponsored by our friends Yorkshire Mowers, to whom our many thanks for their continued support. I must also thank our colleague Ken Christie and his team for preparing an excellent course for this event and the committee of Northcliffe GC for making us welcome and granting us courtesy of the course. The results:-1st R Emley/J Fletcher, 2nd K Christie/R Bell, 3rd R Smith/C Harland, 4th G Potter/A Hayo, 5th G Wilson/GD Wilson, 6th C Garnett/JG Jeffs. Putting competition: 1st R Spencer, 2nd R Emley. Booby prizes: G Walker and A Hardie.

The Battle of the Roses took place at Stockport GC., Cheshire, though despite my four or more hours of 'phoning members in attempting to raise a team, I was unsuccessful. Thus I must thank the nine players who represented our Northern section, playing for Yorkshire against Lancashire. The players were Gary Potter (Skipton), Colin Robinson and Norman Towse (Scarborough South Cliffe), Les Kirkbright (Retired), David Collins (Pontefract), Colin Geddes; William Binner and Kevin Townend (all Moor Allerton), and Andrew Smith (Woodsome Hall).

Despite losing the match we had a enjoyable day at Stockport, with both teams offering compliments on both the condition and preparation of the course, for which we extend thanks to Paul Pearse. Thanks also to Patissons for their sponsorship of this event.

Two seminars have been arranged: 14 October at Askham Bryan College and 16 October at Reaseheath College. Details: Bob Lupton (tel: 0274 590463).

If members can contribute news, will they please 'phone me on 0274 568128, or write to 49 Cornwall Rd, Gilstead, Bingley W. Yorks. BD16 4RL.

PAT MURPHY

BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

Not much going on, but thanks again to Mark Barthelmie of Risborough Turf for putting on an excellent invitation day at Maidenhead GC. Results were: 1st Les Witham (West Berks) 2nd Brian Woodhouse (Little Chalfont) 3rd Tony French (Lambourne GC) Wooden Spoon Ian Lupton (Lyneham GC).

The Rigby Taylor Fourball Trophy is well under way, with most first rounds played. Results so far: J Textiera and D Buckley beat S Robinson and S Grass. J Bevan and R Kates beat A Thomson and T Brown. J Nudds and S Horwood beat H Tribe and R Fletcher. D Porter and S Aldrich beat D Hurworth and M Long. B Holt and S Richens won (by default) against B Woodward and C Mitchell.

A little word of warning to Messrs Tribe and Fletcher about bad sportsmanship. In their match against Messrs Nudds and Horwood they delivered an early in the round crippling shot with a wicked 3 iron to John Nudds, which caught him sharply on the knee.

Apparently it didn't matter, for he seemed to play better after being hit (they breed 'em tough at Gerrards Cross!).

Congratulations to Dave Childs of Ellesborough GC, the only qualifier from BB&O section to win through to the Iseki finals – play well, Dave.

RAY CLARK

NORTH SCOTLAND

We welcome two new members to the section, Ian Wakeman from Brora GC and Caroline Ross (our second lady member) from Royal Dornoch. In writing of Dornoch, now that Robert Patterson and his staff have the famous links back in top condition, major work is under way on the second course – The Struie. The greens are being returfed, with fairways Vertidraind and overseeded. Remaining in the area, work has begun on Peter De Saveray's course at Skibo Castle, just south of Dornoch. The main problem here, perhaps, will be the control of a large rabbit population.

Congratulations to George Paterson, head greenkeeper at Fortrose, who has won the inaugural North Order of Merit for his consistently high places in competition throughout the area this season.

Older members will be saddened to learn of the death of retired member George Cranna, of Kemnay, near Inverurie. Our thoughts are with Mrs Cranna at this time and we wish her well.

IAIN MACLEOD

SOUTH COAST

In pride of place this month is Kerran Daly, head greenkeeper at Salisbury and South Wiltshire GC. Kerran successfully gained the Master Greenkeeper Certificate this summer and is the first member of the section to obtain this prestigious award. Congratulations, Kerran – no doubt other members will be inspired to follow your example.

Your secretary needs a response from section members! First aid training, now a vital part of staff development, can be provided by the section, this taking the form of (from) a half day to four days of training. Please let me know if you are interested, so that a programme of training can be provided.

Secondly, the provision of coaches to BTME at Harrogate in January and Westurf in April. A coach to both these events could be provided if required. Again, let me know if you are interested in making a trip to these events.

Summer Meeting – Basingstoke Golf Club

The South Coast section should be proud indeed of the support from our greenkeepers and their guests, for a field of 56 came to Basingstoke GC to participate in the Summer Tournament. Again, this year the prize table was sponsored by T Parker & Sons (Turf Management Ltd) and Roffey Brothers Ltd., with additional prizes supplied by Avoncrop Amenity Products, Sta-Brite, Rigby Taylor, ICI Professional Products and through the personal generosity of Ian Rickman, head greenkeeper at Basingstoke. Ian had manicured the course to a very high degree, which was appreciated by all who played and showed in the very high scores attained. The captain of the club, James Buchanan, joined the members for a wonderful meal supplied by Val Keddie and prizes were presented by chairman Ken Lodge and representatives of the sponsors with David Haskell of T Parker & Sons presented the Parker Shield to the winning pair.

Results: Parker Shield – John Flavell and Alan O'Neill (Parkstone) 47 points. Runners-up: Bob Dennis and Henry Janes (Alresford) 46. 3rd: Shaun White and Eddie Robertson (Ferndown) 46. 4th: Ian Rickman and Chris Maltby 44. 5th: Phil Wentworth and Barrie Pemberton (The Army) 44. 6th: Darren Miller and Steven Stroud (Alton) 44. 7th: Adrian Archer (Broadstone) and Eddie Hadgkiss (East Dorset) 44. 8th: Paul Jackson and Basil Oakley (Ferndown) 44 points. Nearest the pin (3rd hole): Derrick Todd (Woodcote Park), Ditto (17th hole): Fred Deamen (Alton). Longest drive (4th hole): Barrie Pemberton (The Army).

Section programme for winter lectures:

• 4 November '92 at Alresford GC (7pm) Mr A Betts on Trees and Grants. • 2 December '92 at Royal Winchester GC (4pm) Section AGM. • 13 January '93 at Came Down GC (2pm) Lloyds Grass Care Equipment. • 3 February '93 at Dorset College of Agriculture (2pm) Mr Jim Arthur on Commonsense Greenkeeping. • 3 March '93 at Alresford GC (7pm) David Harrison on 'The Way Forward'.

BOB DENNIS

NORTH WEST

Once again the Patisson Trophy is in its rightful place – with the North West section! The reason?

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The section beat the Northern section at Stockport in what has become known as the 'Battle of the Roses'. Not only did we win, we whitewashed 'em, and as the results poured in I do believe I could hear the ghostly sounds of Mick Hannam sobbing his heart out in the upper reaches of the M62!

To be fair, the Northern section was unable to field a full team, but we made up five matches and everyone enjoyed a good day of golf. The course, a magnificent parkland creation, was in perfect condition – thanks to Paul Pearse and his staff.

I would like to thank Stockport GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course, also the catering staff for looking after us so well. Last but not least, thanks must go to Patissons for sponsoring this tournament each year, as indeed they have for many years.

In August I managed a few days away to compete in the BIGGA National Tournament at Littlestone on the south coast. I had a great time and can heartily recommend participation in the next one (at Dunbar GC) if you get the opportunity. The North West was well represented and Peter Solski (Daveyhulme GC) found himself deservedly amongst the winners.

The section AGM will be in late November and full details will appear in the November issue.

BERT CROSS

KENT

You will all probably have read the report of the National Tournament at Littlestone in Greenkeeper International. No words are adequate to describe the quite horrendous weather conditions on the last day. I can quite honestly say that I hope never again to venture on a golf course – if venturing means I must play under such howling gales and torrential rain!

The gales of the first two days seemed to pale into insignificance compared to the final day. The course was superbly presented by Malcolm Grand and his staff and many felt it was quite possibly the highest quality turf they had the privilege to play on.

The golf from our meagre band of Kent stalwarts was in the main fairly unremarkable, though we all completed card scores every day – some achievement. To put this into perspective, the first (and probably easiest) day of blustery conditions saw seven 'no returns' from other competitors. Many of us cringed as Lord Deedes informed us at the dinner that 'mere slips of gels' playing in the Ladies Amateur Stoke Play Championship the week before were shooting gross 66's!

There was considerable success for two former Kent members however, from George Brown (formerly of Prince's and Broome Park) and Andy Toomey (formerly of Bexleyheath).

If putting up with the weather conditions on the course during the day was not bad enough, Andy, yours truly and our families had to put up with it overnight too – in a caravan on a wet and windy site at Dymchurch – what fun!

On the whole it was a super event and our thanks to our gracious hosts.

Our AGM and Turkey Trot will this year be held on 9 December at West Malling, commencing at 11.30am. When you receive entry forms do please come along and air your views – or just for the pleasure of a meal and good fellowship. With this in mind we also hope to send a questionnaire in order that we may establish some idea of the needs of our 'sleeping' membership. At the last count we had 116 members. A First Aid course to be held at Weald of Kent GC on 18 November. Full details are available by 'phoning David Wood on 0342-850875.

Many have pulled my leg over the 'plugging' of BIGGA Financial Services man, Howard Evans, but was it my imagination, or did I see photographs of

David Wood advertising tee mats and Willie McConville astride a motorised fine turf roller? I wonder if they receive royalties for such appearances? Finally, I have now moved house and would ask that you note my new 'phone number – 0322 664547.

PAUL COPSEY



SHEFFIELD

The season is now coming to a close, with skies looking ominous and the leaves beginning to fall. We shall all be soon Vertidraind and hollow tined and, no doubt, incurring the wrath of our members.

The greenkeepers have seen yet another year of competitions pass – and all credit to the teams of dedicated staff who make such events possible. Hallamshire G.C. have been host to the first Sheffield Amateur Scratch Open, with a full field of 72 top players from around the country. The competitors were complimentary about the course and condition – well done Gordon Brammah and his team.

The section welcome new members and look forward to meeting them at the winter lectures held on the first Thursday of each month at Rotherham GC (from Oct-April) at 2pm. Please try to support these lecture meetings, for they offer an opportunity to meet other greenkeepers and trade members in a very relaxed atmosphere.

The Committee are very impressed with the effort our members have made in conforming to the dress rules – especially the younger members who have excelled themselves.

If any Trade member is interested in sponsoring a mail shot to the members – please get in touch with me 0298-813374.

Many thanks to Rigby Taylor and John Holt for arranging a most enjoyable day of golf at Whitefield GC, Manchester, in August. The day was a tremendous success with good company; good food and a superb course. The bloody par threes were hard? Thanks to Brian Booth for his invitations.

JANE RYAN



COMING UP

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

October 14th: **BIGGA Northern Region Seminar – Askham Bryan College**

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

October 16th: **BIGGA Northern Region Seminar, Reaseheath College**

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

November 2nd: **BIGGA South East Region Seminar – Colchester Centre, Essex**

November 3rd: **BIGGA South West Region Seminar – Cannington College**

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

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

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

November 25: **BIGGA Midlands Region Seminar – Warwickshire College**

November 27: **BIGGA North Scotland Section Conference – Dundee College**

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