

46 → have ended by the time this appears, so I'd like to thank all the speakers, David Smart (Liquid-Turf), David Ward (Porthcawl GC), Doug James (Nomix-Chipman), Michael Williams (Glamorgan-shire GC), Huw Morgan (Southerndown GC), Dennis Archer (Whitchurch SC), Carl Crome, Jon Allbutt, Bert Mayberry, Allan Webb and Rhone Poulenc.

A plea goes out to our membership for greater attendances to these events if they are to continue. The average attendance at evening lectures was nineteen, and with a section total nearing 130 for 1993 surely we can manage more! Thanks must go to those involved at Pencoed College for allowing us the use of the college facilities to stage these events, with special gratitude to Peter Gillard for his major contributions.

For 1993 there have been some major changes to the running of the golf days, not only to the price but the fact that the total cost must be paid in advance, (not, as it used to be, a deposit and the remainder on the day). Note therefore that the payment is the entry fee and this must reach the secretary at least ten days before the event. No Payment – No Meal – No Competition – No Exceptions! Also note that all the competitions begin in the afternoon, this to encourage greater attendance during 1993.

Last but not least I'd like to thank all the folks at Aldwark Manor for making the two day administrators /secretaries meeting which I visited so very interesting. This was my first visit, though hopefully not my last, and it was nice to put faces to the names of those who I had spoken to on the telephone, though never met. Thanks again to all involved in making my stay both rewarding and enjoyable.



PETER LACEY

#### LONDON

The last few months have not brought good news to our section, especially with the loss of a valuable friend and member – Norman Exley. He contributed a great deal over the years and will be missed by us all. Our thoughts are with his family. The London Section has donated £200 to the Brompton National Heart and Lung Hospital.

Spare a thought also for Nigel Greenyer from

# AROUND THE GREEN



Highgate Golf Club. Last year he had a hip operation which unfortunately proved to be unsuccessful, this causing further treatment to be required. We send our best wishes for a speedy and successful recovery.

Doug Smith has been appointed chairman of the committee, with the committee structure being as follows: Doug Smith – Chairman, Barry Moggridge – Secretary, Craig Handyside – Treasurer, Martin Smith and Tony Dunstan – Education/Golf.

We are looking for two new committee members and anyone interested should contact Doug Smith on 0708-742148. Entries for the Summer Fourball Knockout are required, the cost being £5 per pair and the closing date 23 April. The contact, again, is Doug Smith.



TONY DUNSTAN

#### WEST SCOTLAND

The section has staged two social events since the start of the year, the first being a games night at Claremont Bowling Club. Some 24 members, traders and guests enjoyed an evening of indoor bowls, snooker, darts, pool and dominoes. The evening was declared a great success, the winners being Sandy Bulloch and Nick McComb from runners-up Danny Lauder and John Scott Snr.

Next came a football match held during February, a match staged between greenkeepers from either the north or south side of the River Clyde. As a player for the south, I can only imagine that our members from the north must have been overawed at playing in the shadow of Ibrox Stadium, for though involved in a ten goal thriller, they lost by nine goals to one! However, they have assured me that their 'away' goal will be crucial in the return match. A special thanks must be recorded to life-member Joe McKean for refereeing the match, it being good to see that with the result poised at one all, he was not 'conned' by Alistair Connell's dive in the box. Alistair is getting so slow these days that he shouted 'penalty' four times on the way down!

I am pleased to inform members that Hamilton GC will be the venue for our spring outing on 22 April. Thanks to Hamilton for courtesy of their course and we look forward to meeting the sponsors of the Hayter Challenge Tournament on the day. Entry forms have been posted and entries must be returned by the closing date.

Congratulations to Scott Ballantyne on his appointment as course manager at Cowglen GC and to Danny Lauder and Andrew McDowell on their moves as head greenkeepers to Strathendrick GC and Torrance House respectively.

Finally, this will be my last report as section secretary, as AJ (Sandy) Bulloch takes over the secretariat in

April. I hope every member continues to give the section his keenest support – such as I have enjoyed over the past four years – and that the section continues to grow from strength to strength.

GORDON KERR

#### MIDLANDS

I will start by thanking the staff at BIGGA HQ for again putting together a two-day package that allowed section secretaries and regional administrators the opportunity to get together – first to gain insight into the way our successful Association is managed and second to meet with other officials to discuss the running of the Association and the problems encountered in running our particular sections.

During the next month the Warwickshire College of Agriculture (GTC Approved) will be mailing to all



head greenkeepers and their golf clubs, seeking to establish if a need exists for the running of short courses. Included will be a comprehensive list stating what might be made available.

DEAN CLEAVER

#### CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The first social event of the year got off to a great start in February when 40 members and friends enjoyed a night at the ten-pin bowling centre in Falkirk.

Also in February, 30 members attended Souter's Sportsturf in Stirling and enjoyed seeing at first hand the facilities offered by John Souter to the green-keeping profession. Particular interest was shown in the CAD (computer aided design) of golf courses. Following lunch at Stirling GC, members were given a site visit to see the construction work carried out on the course over the past winter.

Our thanks to John Souter and his staff for staging a first class presentation and for delicious food and a little liquid refreshment to wash it down...

By now everyone should have received an entry form for the Spring Tournament at Falkirk Tryst on 28 April (note the change of venue). This will be the qualifying event for the Hayter Challenge Tournament, so if by chance you don't have a form – contact me now if you wish to play.

Section chairman Duncan Peddie and his committee extend a warm welcome to all new members and hope that you will take an active part in supporting the events currently being organised. It's a great way of getting to know fellow members.



JOHN CRAWFORD

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#### COMING UP

- April 21: BIGGA Annual General Meeting, Royal York Hotel, York
- 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, NAC, Stoneleigh park, Warwickshire
- July 15-18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, Sandwich, Kent
- July 18-24: International Turfgrass Research Conference, Palm Beach, Florida, USA
- August 2-4: BIGGA National Golf Tournament, Dunbar Golf Club, Scotland
- August 18-19: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA
- September 7-9: IoG Show, Peterborough, Northants
- September 24-26: Ryder Cup, The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire
- October 11-12: Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor, York
- October 12-13: Kubota Challenge, The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire
- December 6-7: ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor, York