

AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

Will reporters please note that 'Around The Green' copy for August MUST reach the editor before July 1st.

LONDON

The Spring Tournament and Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifier was held at Highgate GC. The

response to this first event of 1993 was encouraging with a field of 41 players – the weather was superb and the course was in excellent condition. I would like to thank Derek Mason and his staff for preparing the course and Highgate GC for making us so welcome. RESULTS: 1st overall, Colin Forde 40 points.

Qualifiers for the next round: 0-9: Mick Sherris, Glenn Gibbons, Darren Burdis, Robert Phillips. 10-18: Russell Ling, Doug Smith, Peter Preston, Don Penn-Howard. 19-28: Colin Forde, Terry Colville, Dick Dunne, Pat Swinn. Nearest the Pin, Derek Mason and Colin Forde. Longest Drive, Craig Handyside. Good luck to all who qualified and a special thank you to the 'trade' for their support – your help is always appreciated.

The next tournament will be on 12 July at Muswell Hill GC, commencing at 3.00pm. The cost is £8.50 and entries are required before 7 July.

Congratulations to Don and Lu Penn-Howard on the recent birth of their baby son, Jack. We send our best wishes for the future. Finally, will members attending The Open make sure that they call into the BIGGA tent for refreshments and, of course, a chat.



TONY DUNSTAN

NORTH EAST

Over 40 members attended our annual Spring Competition at Ryton GC on April 22. Despite all the rain experi-

enced recently, Paul 'Pop' Robison and his staff had the course in excellent condition and our thanks therefore must go to the club committee for courtesies extended, to the stewardess for an excellent meal, and to Paul and his crew for great golfing surfaces. At a mere £6.00 (including the meal, raffle tickets and sweep entrance), that's what you might call good value.

Our thanks also to the captain of Ryton GC for presenting our prizes, to Steve Hitchcock from Hayter for taking time to travel from Mansfield to present the leading scores for the qualifying round of the Hayter Challenge Tournament, and to all those companies listed here for their donations: Hayter, Ryton Gravel Co., Wm. Thompson's of Prudhoe, Shorts of Whitburn, Inturf, Sisis, Fisons, Rickerby's, Fewster's, Aitken's, Stewarts of Edinburgh, David Dixon's, Bill Thompson (Top Dressings), and Turf Care Supplies. Last but not least, my thanks to Bill Lynch, sales and marketing manager of BIGGA, for attending our day out – I hope you enjoyed yourself, Bill – you know you can't beat Geordie hospitality!

RESULTS: Low Gross – M Latham (Hexham GC) 69. Low Nett – S Thompson (Arcot Hall GC) 76-14=62. Assistant's Cup – M Gunn (Tyneside GC) 72-6=66. Other scores: D Sharkey (Ryton) 73-4=69. C Parkinson (Pontiland) 75-6=69. R Black (Westerhope) 77-7=70. P Robison (Ryton) 76-6=70. B Hughes (Whickham) 91-20=71. S Cram (Slaley) 83-12=71. B Udberg (Tynemouth) 87-15=72. D Jennings (Newbiggin) 75-3=72. B Wilson (Stocksfield) 77-5=72. T Harrison (Stocksfield) 96-24=72. R Bell (Slaley) 89-17=72. G Baxter (South Shields) 83-11=72.

Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifiers: (0-9) – M Gunn, M Latham, D Sharkey. (10-18) S Thompson, S Cram, R Bell. (19-28) – B Hughes, T Harrison, A Wright. Reserves (0-9) – C Parkinson and P Robison. (10-18) – B Udberg and G Baxter. (19-28) – M Harvey and A Parkin. JIMMY RICHARDSON



SOUTH WALES

Our first competition of the season got underway on 15 April at Llanishen GC, where 32 golfers fought for the Cardiff Cup and a place in the Hayter Challenge Tournament regional finals. The attendance was good and the weather even better, producing some excellent golf over a short but superb and well manicured course. Congratulations to Colin and his staff for their efforts, we were told 'they have

BLEC LANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT



STONEBURIER



CULTIPACK SEEDER

SUPPLIERS OF A WIDE RANGE OF LANDSCAPING AND TURF CARE MACHINERY

73 Riverside, Deeping Gate, Peterborough PE6 9AR
Tel: 0778 342829 Fax: 0778 341098

AD
REF
98

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS ...

If you are over 30 you can probably remember when a bunker rake, in a bunker, was something of a rarity, even on our most prestigious courses. Nowadays we are approaching the point when a golfer expects to find a rake in every bunker on every course.

But there are rakes and rakes. Heavy steel (usually rusty), aluminium (often with broken teeth), even lumps of wood with a row of nails! Certainly few traditional rakes give members cause for pride in their club. Ours are different and very much better. Gleaming white 'RIGIDEX' heads which will never break. Even whiter tubular P.V.C. shafts for instant visibility and inherent flexibility. Topped with a comfortable one-handed grip. Guaranteed to improve any club's image. In accordance with R&A recommendations we no longer fit spikes as standard but they are available at modest extra cost.

Write on club notepaper for a FREE sample rake. Dept I G3



BOB ANDREWS LTD

1 BILTON IND. EST., LOVELACE ROAD, BRACKNELL, BERKS RG12 8YT.
Phone 0344 862111 or FAX 0344 861345

AD
REF
381

31 → been at it like (Hayter) Beaver's for the last three days". The competition was won by a new member, Robert Johnston (Newport GC), with a 65 (which was one shot off the course record). Robert was presented with the Cardiff Cup, wine and silver wine goblets. Second was Andrew Jenkins (Southendown GC) with a 67, (cut glass rose bowl, wine and silver wine goblets). Qualifiers for the Hayter Challenge Tournament regional finals are: 0-9: R Johnston. A Jenkins. T M Jones. P H Thomas. I Morris. 10-19: M Norfolk. P Lacey. P Lloyd. J B Jones. P Swain. 20+: R Kitchner. D Williams. L Hallett. P Huish. I Ellis. Reserves are V Northey, D Jones, B Price respectively. Our thanks to Llanishen GC (especially Bill Huff) for a gracious welcome and to the caterers for an excellent meal. Also GEM Professional, Ted Hopkins, Avoncorp, Peter Hampton and, especially, Robin Boyes of Hayter's, who witnessed everyone putting out on the eighteenth.

To finish on a sad note, Tony Howard, Maxwell Hart's South Wales representative, recently passed away. Tony, always a jovial fellow, was well known in our region and will be sadly missed. Our sincere condolences go to his wife and family.



PETER LACEY

SHEFFIELD

For those members unable to attend the National Conference at Keele, I must report a tremendous success. This was the first time I have attended such an event and I found it both worthwhile and extremely enjoyable. The talks, food, accommodation and entertainment, together with the welcome and hospitality shown to all delegates, all were excellent.

Those lectures that stayed in my mind afterwards were Prestbury's Anthony Davies with 'I Did It My Way' and Gordon Child's 'Past Present And Future'. Anthony kept us attentive with his excellent delivery and humour and Gordon gave a good talk based on a common sense approach to greenkeeping. Gordon made an important point, one which we should all take notice: 'don't take your work home with you!' Notwithstanding the aforementioned, my favourite was that given by George Brown on 'Being 'Open Minded''. George was so natural with his delivery. I think he took the same attitude about public speaking as that when using his new computer - **** it! I found it so interesting to have an insight into Turnberry and how the club operates, with all the pluses and minuses that go into running an Open Championship course. George's slide presentation and humorous delivery was one to be emulated. All of which reminds me of a joke David White told me: A speaker noticed that a delegate had fallen asleep on the front row and asked the gent sitting next to him if he would kindly wake him up. The gent replied, "No way - you sent the bugger off, you wake him!"

Well done to all the speakers; especially our own members, who did us proud. The atmosphere, company and entertainment was very relaxed and even the shyest of characters would have found it difficult not to join in the fun. Speaking of fun reminds me of another joke told by the after-dinner speaker - "that Neil Thomas had streaked through a flower show and won first prize for the dried flower arrangement!"

On a more serious note, thanks to Neil, David Golding, Sam Flint and Debbie Savage for all the arrangements made on our behalf - what a team. Thanks also to our editor, David White, whose presence always makes such occasions enjoyable; and to Huw Parry for chairing the conference in such a professional manner.

NEW MEMBERS: The section welcomes: Glynn Hancock (Abbeylea GC), George Croft (Doncaster Town Moor GC), Craig Duncan (Sickleholme GC), James Pryop (Sheffield Recreation Dept), Anthony Booth (Hickleton GC), Andrew Rouston (Hillsborough GC) and Eric Chambers (Mitchell Industries Ltd).

RETIRED MEMBER: The committee is pleased to announce that the Board has approved Mr Eric Palmer as a retired member, this after 50 years of service to greenkeeping.

RULES OF GOLF: The February lecture on the Rules of Golf proved popular with 44 attending. Sincere thanks to Peter Greenhaugh, captain of Brough GC and a member of the R&A Rules Committee, for coming along to educate us on an important subject.

AROUND THE GREEN



GEM TRIP: Thirty greenkeepers attended the outing to Gem Chemicals, Accrington, Lancs. The outing was most worthwhile and interesting. Thanks to Graham Walker, Gem's area representative, for arranging the day.

1993/94 LECTURES: If any members have a suggestion or contact for the next lecture programme will they please call me. We are hoping to print a fixtures leaflet and mail-shot everyone in order to keep them informed. If you don't let me know your views, I cannot arrange things for you. Tel: 0298 813374 anytime.

The section would also like to take this opportunity to thank Rotherham GC for their generous support throughout the year. For the past five years Rotherham have hosted our winter lectures, which is very much appreciated by BIGGA and its members. The club are well recognised for putting something back into the game by supporting the education of greenkeepers. Thanks also to David Milbourne, Rotherham's course manager, for his liaison with the club on our behalf.

ANNUAL GOLF FIXTURES

Annual Tournament: 21 July - (Lindrick)

Autumn Tournament: TBA - Stocksbridge GC.

The competition secretary is Mr Barry Heaney. If any member requires information regarding fixtures they should not hesitate to contact him. Tel: 0742-884063.

All BIGGA golf fixtures require smart appropriate dress on the course and jacket and tie in the clubhouse. I wish you all a 'dry patch free' season.



JANE RYAN

NORTH WEST

The first competition of the year for the NW section was the annual match against North Wales on 26 April at Llanymynech GC. Unfortunately, we could only muster a team of 12 and our opponents had to lend us two men. The final result was once again a halved match with three wins each and one halved game. This is the third year of this competition and the score stands at one win for N Wales and two halved matches, so lets hope that next year we can field a complete team and even the score.

Llanymynech GC is set in one of the most scenic parts of North Wales, with magnificent views and some fantastic golf holes. The course was in great condition considering how early in the year it was, the ground having not warmed sufficiently for much growth. During my game, and as usual seeing more of the course than most players, I was amazed at the wealth of wild flora in the semi-rough and further afield. I counted five types of orchid and many more wild flowers such as violets, cowslips, primulas and other species. I admit to being a great supporter of encouraging wild flora on golf courses and, lets face it, if your ball is a little wayward at least you are rewarded with the sight of a group of wild orchids in flower while searching for your ball. Many thanks to the North Wales section and Llanymynech GC for a great day.

Our next tournament will be the summer meeting at Warrington GC on Monday 5 July. All entries must be in by Tuesday 29 June, sent to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynton, Stockport. SH12 1HX, enclosing a deposit of £10.00. The tee will be available from 1.30 pm and teeing times will be allocated on the day. Smart dress is essential. If you require any further information or have any news, please contact me on 051 724 5412.



BERT CROSS

MID ANGLIA

Mid Herts GC was the venue for our first competition

of 1993 on 22 April, a 36 hole event attracting an entry of 40 greenkeepers and trade members. As a qualifying event for the Hayter Challenge Tournament, competition to represent our section was fierce.

RESULTS: 1st John Gentles (Griffin GC) 68 pts. 2nd Tim McCreadie (Royston GC) 67 pts. 3rd Gerald Bruce (Berkhamsted GC) 67 pts. 4th Nick Burchill (Weston Turville GC) 67 pts. (n.b.: second to fourth places decided on the best PM round). The best morning round was Nick Burchill with 36 points, but as he received fourth overall in the main section, the prize was taken by Frank Scullion (Dunstable Downs GC) with 35 points. Best afternoon round was Ken Bunting (Ashridge GC) with a very fine 37 points. Longest Drive was won by Chris Brook (Family Golf Centre) and Nearest the Pin by Gavin Simkins (Mount Pleasant GC).

Our main sponsor was Rigby Taylor, and our thanks must go to Colin White for his sterling efforts on the day and for providing such an excellent prize table. The golf course itself was in super shape for such an early time of the year, and credit must go to David Forsyth and his team for providing us with such excellent putting surfaces. I know that David and his staff had a 5.30am start to prepare the course, so thanks once again. Our thanks also to Mid Herts for making us so welcome and providing us with an excellent evening meal. It was nice also to see our loyal trade members in attendance yet again and we thank them for their support.

Qualifiers for the regional finals of the Hayter Challenge Tournament, scheduled for play over Northampton GC on 14 July, are: (0-9) Gerald Bruce, Tim McCreadie, John Moorhouse and Frank Scullion, (reserves Ken Bunting and Gary Boulton). (10-18) John Gentles, Eddie O'Hanlon, Mark Ellis and Lee Cox, (reserves Neil Whittaker and Gavin Simkins). (19-28) Nick Burchill, Paul Lockett, Ian Jones and Dave Piggott, (reserves Mark Hendry and Richard Saunders). Congratulations to all qualifiers, I hope you do well in the regional finals.

The first section match is against the BB&O at Harewood Downs on Tuesday 20 July starting at 2.30pm. Harewood Downs GC is in Bucks, the format being ten each side. Anyone wishing to play should contact me before 5 July as I am on holiday from that date, away for two weeks.

A match against the London section is arranged for Thursday 2 September at Knebworth GC, and we will play the Midlands section at Dunstable Downs GC on 10 August. Details of entry and arrangements for these matches will be published nearer the time.



PAUL LOCKETT

SURREY

Our Spring Tournament was held at Coombe Hill GC on Tuesday 20 April. Despite fine, sunny weather and a well presented golf course, the 36 hole format took its toll on the field as reflected in the scoring. **RESULTS:** Winner R Hook (147), Runner-Up S Haynes (150). 3rd I Hogg (151) 4th D Langheim. Scratch R Jacks (161) Best am - R Glazier (73) Best pm - N Whittaker (71) Trade - J Hobbs (161).

Our thanks to Coombe Hill GC for their hospitality and courtesy of the course, to Sandy and his team for the fine conditions, and to club captain Mr David Harris for presenting the prizes.

This event was also the qualifying round for the Hayter Challenge Tournament and the following qualified in their respective categories: (1-9) D Langheim, S Haynes and D Worsfold. (10-18) R Hook, D Wyborn, B Eastman and G Pitfield. (19-24) J Roberts, I Smith, T McGill and D Sullivan. Please note that the regional final will take place at Weald of Kent GC on 29 June. If you have qualified and cannot play, please contact Derek ASAP, who will then arrange for a reserve player to take part.

Forthcoming events include the Cresta Cup, due to take place about the time this magazine reaches your door (If you have not entered, don't go!), and the England V Scotland match on 21 July. Remember to keep a check on your handicaps, as they are liable to adjustment even though you may not have achieved sub-par scores.

If in doubt, contact Mike Yorston, your handicap secretary.

ROGER TYDEMAN

AYRSHIRE

Our Spring Outing was staged at Southernness on 20 April. The trip down from Ayrshire to Galloway, normally a delight and most enjoyable with lovely scenery, was made a nightmare by torrential rain and although not too bad on arrival, it was an effort to get a few hardy teams out for the morning scramble. Thankfully the rain eased after an early soaking and before the 'main event', the sun actually showed its face for the first time in months (or so it seemed!). With typical greenkeepers eye for the weather, cars began to roll into the car park, eventually giving us one of the best entries in recent years. After an excellent round, Ayrshire chairman Derek Wilson thanked the club for granting us courtesy of the course, the steward for an excellent 'feed', and especially the greenkeeping staff for having the course in such great order. RESULTS: (scratch) Ian McNab (Dumfries & County) 77. (1st Class) Stephen Higgins (Ardeer GC) 81-7=74. William McMeikan (Turnberry Hotel GC) 83-9=72. (2nd Class) David Whiffin (Dumfries & County) 84-11=73. Derek Wilson (Irvine GC) 84-10=74. (3rd Class) Paul Rae (Brunston Castle) 93-19=74. Jim Paton (West Kilbride GC) 95-19=76. (Trade) Derek Duthie (Aitken's) 81-5=76. (Veterans) George Brown (Turnberry) - who nearly played to his age! (Texas Scramble) 1st - Messrs Drain, Rae, MacLachlan and Mercer. 2nd - Messrs Carruthers, Buxton, Ross and McCartney.

Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifiers - (0-9) Ian McNab, Stephen Higgins, William McMeikan and Neil Carruthers. Reserve - Keith McCartney. (10-18) David Whiffin, Derek Wilson, Sid Mercer and Gordon Heron. Reserve - Duncan Gray. (19-28) Paul Rae, Jim Paton, Stephen Knaggs and Gary Crosby. (no reserve).

One snippet of news concerns the feat of Calum Taylor, son of Powfoot head greenkeeper, Ian Taylor. Calum became the first player to hole in one during a medal round at Powfoot in over seven years. It came at the 270 yard fifth, well done, Calum!

Once again may I remind you that this is your column. Without your help it is difficult to find material to keep it going. Please 'phone me on 0292 70929 if you have anything to contribute.

CLEVELAND

The Spring Tournament and Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifier was staged at Bedale GC, to whom we offer thanks for use of their fine course. We also must thank Gary Munro and his staff for the fine conditions prevailing after heavy rain. RESULTS: (0-9) - D Croacher, T Mears and G Pyle. (10-18) - B Lee, R McCabe and I Holloran. (19-28) - C Powley, B Walker and P Tones. The Hi-Speed Trophy was won by D Croacher, Best Assistant Trophy by C Powley and Best Visitor by B Thompson. Our thanks to the clubhouse staff and to our sponsors.

The section will help fund a minibus to take the Cleveland team to the regional qualifying event.

WEST SCOTLAND

Hamilton GC was the venue for our Spring Meeting on 22 April. Our thanks to captain Alex Galloway and his committee for the courtesy of their delightful course; and to head greenkeeper Peter Hall and his staff for such excellent preparation, this despite the month being one of the wettest and duller in the record books. Thanks also to Mrs Scott and her staff for fine catering and to John Scott for keeping the games running on time.

The medal competition over 18 holes, which was also the qualifying round for the Hayter Challenge Tournament, was attended by 64 members, guests and trade associates. RESULTS: (Scratch) - Scott Ballantyne (Cowglen) 74. (1st Class) - Steven Hogg (Drumpellier) 75-4=71. Stuart Taylor (Killermont) 75-1=74. Sandy Bulloch (Mount Ellen) 78-3=75. (2nd Class) - David Montgomery (Cawder) 83-12=71 [best inward nine], Drew McKechnie (Douglas Park) 85-14=71. David Cole (Dumbarton) 87-13=74. (3rd Class) - David Mowatt (Killermont) 100-25=75. Neil Henry (East Kilbride) 105-26=79. Kevin McGuire (Drumpellier) 101-20=81. (Trade) - Derek Duthie (Aitken's) 80-5=75. (New Member) Simon Murray (Douglas Park) 108-17=91. Nearest the pin on 12th - Craig Wyllie (Killermont). Leading

AROUND THE GREEN



apprentice - Graham Smith (Cardross) 88-12=76. Football card winner - Andrew McDowell (Torrance House).

The North V South return football match was played on 14 March and following their first leg 9-1 defeat, the North team (following four weeks of intensive training under the critical eye of player/manager Alistair Connell) gained sweet revenge - with a 4-3 victory!



Finally, the Autumn Meeting will be staged at Drumpellier GC on 15 September and the Annual Dinner at the Admiral Restaurant, Glasgow, on 20 November. A good turn-out is anticipated at both events.

NORTH WALES

Once again Curzon Park GC was the venue for the North Wales Spring Tournament and Hayter Qualifier. RESULTS:- Members - 1st. A. Golding 79-12-67, 2nd. J. Westcott, 3rd. J. Humphries. Guests 1st. Mrs. Val Mee 91-27-64, 2nd. B. Dickens, 3rd. D. Lomas. Best gross went to Aled Hughes of Porthmadoc with a score of 77-3-74. Nearest the pin on the 8th was sponsored by ACORN, and the winner was P. Gabriel. The Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifiers were (0-9) A. Hughes, J. Hughes and J. Moody. (10-18) A. Golding, J. Westcott and J. Humphries. (19-28) J. L. Jones, H. Jones and P. Jeffries.

The day was a huge success with 115 players competing for over 40 prizes in total. Many thanks to the sponsors: Hayter, R Campey, Hi-Speed Oils, Gem, Grace Sierra, Acorn, Bruera, Mommersteeg, LP Gas, J Osman and D P Williams. If I have missed anyone, please accept my apologies.

May I also congratulate P Sproston and his staff for presenting a course in such excellent condition, and the caterers and bar staff for a superb meal. Last but not least, our thanks to the captain, committee and members of Curzon Park for allowing us the courtesy to play our Spring Tournament at their club. Once again, many, many thanks.

Llanymynech was the setting for our match against the North West on 26 April. What a good match it was, with three wins apiece and one halved game, so once again North Wales gets to keep the shield. (Sorry lads and best of luck next year). Congratulations to course manager Allen Lewis and his staff for an excellent course, and to the catering staff for a fine meal and service.

Would members please note - regarding future events, make sure that entrance fees are returned before the closing date as any sent after the closing date will in future not be

accepted. As you may appreciate, these competitions take a lot of organising, so please send those forms back early.

DAVID PROCTOR

EAST MIDLANDS

The Spring Tournament was held this year at Breadsall Priory G&CC. A windy day made for a testing game on the Moorland course - a new addition opened only last year. Gordon, the course manager, summed it up when he said 'you'll see no flies up here!'.

The roll of honour reads as follows: (0-9) Russ Allen 78-8=70, David Johnson 79-6=73, Dave Leatherland 82-9=73. (10-18) Stuart Swann 87-17=70, Richard Fletcher 82-10=72, Martin Hopkins 89-17=72. (19-28) Brian Baldwin 90-28=62, Mark Bindley 92-21=69, Ian Dunmore 96-22=74. Trade & Associate - Peter Fell 82-11=71.

I would like to offer the section's thanks to Pat Wolf and all the staff at Breadsall Priory for giving us such an enjoyable day.

The section is pleased, as ever, to welcome new members - Martin Johnson from Hinkley GC and Stuart Swann from Ramsdale, who has already made his mark!

Finally, particular congratulations to Brian Baldwin, the only player not to have been 'Bindleyed' for some considerable time, and thanks to all the committee for their help on the day - also to Grace Fretter. Our tournaments would not be the same without you!



TONY HOWARTH

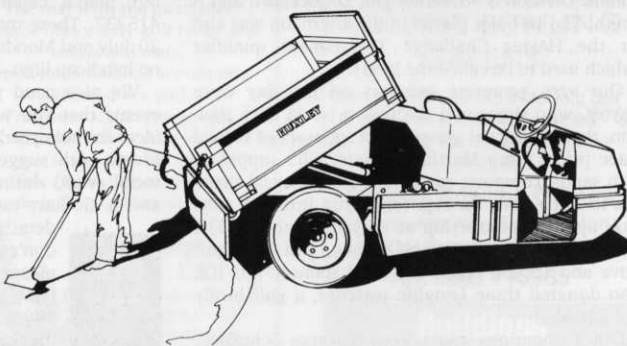
NORTH SCOTLAND

The section's membership drive must now be in full flow as we welcome the following new members, Andrew Tait, Ellon GC, Douglas Boyle and Colin Forbes, Aboyne GC, Neil Kidd, Keith GC, Colin Mackay, Forres GC, Barry Britton, Caird Park, Dundee, George Rollo, Gairloch GC and Scott Cruickshank, Murcar GC, Aberdeen. It is great to see so many new members joining and we hope they will play an active part by attending section out- → 34

HUXTRUK

Turf Maintenance Vehicle

The best of British from Huxleys



Diesel powered. Hydrostatic drive.
Power steering. Live hydraulics and rear PTO.
Suitable for use with a wide range of turf-care and transport attachments.

For full information and a no-obligation demonstration on your surface, please contact:



Huxleys Grass Machinery

The Dean, New Alresford,
Hampshire SO24 9BL. Tel: 0962 733222

AD
REF
60

33 → ings etc. We especially welcome Colin Mackay, who contacted me in January to see if I could help him in his quest to get into greenkeeping. Unfortunately, I was unable to help but it was good to see that he has managed to get himself a job at Forres. In addition we welcome Gary Blyth, latterly of the Central Scotland section, who has transferred to take the head greenkeeper's post at Blair Atholl GC, Perthshire.

I attended this year's AGM in York and must say I was disappointed by the turnout. Considering we now have 5,000 members I would have thought there would be more than 36 at the AGM. Maybe holding it during BTME next year will ensure a better turnout. Congratulations to John Crawford on taking over as chairman – we wish him all the best during his year in office. I certainly enjoyed the train journey home!

Unfortunately our trips to the Stewart Turf Farms were not a success. I suppose there was insufficient time for people to make arrangements. Undaunted, we plan to run them later in the year, when we hope to fill a couple of buses. It did not help that spring was a bit late this year and some severe weather had left inland courses with fallen trees to clear up, Perthshire courses with severe flooding; and some links courses with tons of sand covering them. It can only get better, can't it? Greenkeeping certainly is not a dull job!

This month sees the Scottish National Tournament at Brunston Castle, Ayrshire. I know it is a long trek to Ayrshire but I nevertheless hope to see a good turnout from the section. I'm told it will be well worth the trip, as Brunston is a fine new course.

Finally, I have a request to make on behalf of Neil MacDonald of M&M Turf. At this year's Scottish conference he was given an engraved glass for sponsoring an earlier North conference. He placed this at the back of his stand and at the end of the day it had vanished. I'm sure somebody picked it up by mistake, perhaps thinking it was a freebie as it was on the stand. There may some embarrassment about returning it and if this is the case, send it to me at 21 Hartfield St., Tain, Ross-shire IV19 1DH, or direct to Neil at 'The Muirs', Kinross, KY13 7AU. No name is required.



IAIN MACLEOD

NORTH

Sand Moor GC was the venue for our Spring Tournament on 21 April. Our thanks to the captain and committee for the courtesy of play on their delightful course and to Robert Barnes and his staff for preparing the course for us. The competition was held over 27 holes, nine holes Stableford in the morning and an 18 hole medal in the afternoon. The winner of the Stableford was A Smith. Other results: Scratch Cup winner – S Midgley. Division 1 – S Midgley, M Lealman and R Gee. Division 2 – T Jarvis, R Smith and D Collins. Division 3 – L Kirkbright, D Cockburn and A Smith. The 18 holes played in the afternoon was also for the Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifier (which used to be called the Iseki).

Our very generous sponsors on the day were Hayter, who sponsored the first prize in each division, these being cut glasses. The sponsors of second place prizes were Martin Brothers, who supply us with sands, composts etc. I must say a special thank you to Andy Law, the rep. for Martin Brothers, who took up this sponsorship at very little notice. The prizes donated were a golf trolley, golf bag, golf glove and 15 golf balls. Our third sponsor was ICI, who donated three Longlife watches, a golf brolley and a holdall.

Other donations came from Norman Schofield, S.T.S., Graham Walker, GEM, Peter Marshall from



Pattissons and Norman Shedden from Aitkens. I must also thank Norman once again for marking the score cards for us. There are still a few places left for our golf days, please forward your deposit of £10.00 to me.

PAT MURPHY

SOUTH WEST

Simon Shipley of Henbury GC used skill, local knowledge, good luck and anything else he could lay his hands on to win the section Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifier at Henbury GC in April. Simon's win was, in fact, a record six shots over the rest of

AROUND THE GREEN



the field, and represented his first success in many years of trying. (I did the decent thing and sent his card to the club secretary by recorded delivery – he was promptly cut by four strokes!).

Henbury was a credit to its staff, both indoors and out, with the course in spectacular condition so early in the season. Our thanks go to Alf Neale and his staff for the preparation, to the steward for the excellent meal, and to the committee for having us.

The full list of qualifiers for the regional final is: (Div 1) – P Godwin 71, C Fudge 74, J Kane 75, S Rattenbury 76 and Paul Worster 78. [reserve N Wilson]. (Div 2) – S Shipley 61, P Burrows 67, J Scoones 70, P Connert 72 and M Pearse 74. [reserve S Framcom]. (Div 3) – P Baynton 75, A Johnson 78, C SEaley 80, L Johnson 82 and J Cooper 84. [reserve T Humphrey].

Another score worthy of note was that of Martin Samuel of Rigby Taylor. As an associate member Martin was not eligible for the Hayter team, but his nett score of 71 (off 28) was good enough to win a BIGGA tie bar as a memento. Well played, Martin!

Thanks also go to Messrs Hayter, Roffey Bros., Avoncrop, Farmura and Rigby Taylor for prizes.

Finally, many thanks to all our dedicated helpers before, during and after Westurf. Robin Greaves, Chris King, Kevin Green and Robin Williams spring to mind, to name but a few. Well done also to those who made the effort to attend, it was a super show and well worth a day out. Thanks for your support.



PAUL WORSTER

BUCKS, BERKS AND OXON

A big thanks to all who made our recent Gentleman's Dinner at Beaconsfield GC such a great success. To secretary Peter Anderson, to head greenkeeper Bill Paterson and his talented staff for preparation of a fine course in such excellent condition, and in particular to our guest speaker, David White, who made sure that everyone had a marvellous evening.

We would still like to see more eager members representing the BB&O in golf matches, specifically against Mid-Anglia and the big grudge match against the secretaries! If you are interested please contact our match captain, David Goodchild, on 0296 415337. These matches are scheduled for Tuesday 20 July and Monday 26 July respectively and there is no handicap limit – so all are welcome.

We also need your ideas for any future social events that you would like us to stage – and any ideas for next year's lecture programme. Call or write to me with suggestions. We will be running two social events during the summer – Ten pin bowling and a Go-kart racing evening. A letter outlining details will be mailed soon and if you don't receive it by the end of June, please contact me.

Have you received your fixture card for 1993? Call me if you've been missed off the list – my number is 0628 829208.

RAY CLARK

DEVON & CORNWALL

This year's Westurf Trade Exhibition, held at the popular venue of Long Ashton GC, Bristol, broke all records – with more trade companies exhibiting their wares and visitor numbers well in excess of last year.

The section would like to thank Marion and Gordon Child for all their hard work in running Westurf so professionally, for with yet another successful conclusion to Westurf the region will be able to continue to subsidise its educational programmes for you! Only your support of Westurf has made this possible. Westurf '94 will be on Wednesday 27 April, again at Long Ashton. Pencil the date in your diary today.

Our next meeting will be the Guest Day on Wednesday 7 July, with tee times reserved from 12.00 noon. Non-golfers are most welcome, with the traditional 'course walk' starting from the clubhouse at 4.00pm. The evening meal will begin at approx. 7.00pm, followed by David Golding, education director of the GTC, who will present his after-dinner speech on 'Greenkeeping Education'. As many of you may know, David has taken up the position of education director with the Greenkeeper Training Committee, which is backed by the R&A and the Home Golfing Unions. A large turn-out would be most appreciated.



Finally, may I wish all those players who have qualified for the Hayter Challenge Tournament regional final the best of golfing luck.

RICHARD WHYMAN

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

The second ten pin bowling night was held at Falkirk on 3 April and again everyone enjoyed a great night. With six teams competing there was keen competition for the 'superb' trophy.

Where are all the ten pin bowlers in the east of the section? So far there has been no response to the challenge from the Falkirk teams – to stage an East v West match at Glenrothes – so come on lads, let's see how good you are.

The Spring Tournament at Falkirk Tryst on 29 April saw our highest attendance yet, with 70 members and guests attending. An excellent day with kind weather (for a change!) and a warming sun – a complete contrast to the many previous weeks of rain.

Head greenkeeper Charlie Fotheringham and his staff had the course in superb condition and with the bar and catering staff continuing the same high standard, Falkirk Tryst really did us proud. Our sincere thanks to everyone at Falkirk for making us welcome, especially club captain Jim McAlister and secretary Don Wallace for joining us and also for accommodating us at short notice. Thanks also to everyone who donated raffle prizes.

RESULTS: Scratch - T Gilchrist (Falkirk Tryst), The M&M Trophy. Best Nett: J Cowan (Cumbernauld), The Souther Trophy. 1st Class 1st hcp – A Wallace (Dollar) The Russell/Toro Trophy. 1st Class 2nd hcp – D Peddie (Alloa). 2nd Class 1st hcp – B Docherty (Alloa), The Huxley Trophy. 2nd Class 2nd hcp – J Oliver (Pitreevie). Stewart's Quach – C Fotheringham & T Gilchrist (Falkirk Tryst) Trade – I Thomson (Provan Chemicals). Guests -D Wallis (Grange-mouth). Two Ball Foursomes – A O'Hara Jnr & A O'Hara Snr.

Unable as I was to attend the tournament until evening time, this report was compiled following a conversation with section chairman Duncan Peddie, who was so 'high spirited' that he forgot to invite the captain to present the prizes! His memory returned in time to invite him to draw the raffle – the most important part of any tournament.

I am in the process of organising lectures, visits, demo's etc, for the winter (1993 was a very short year!), so if you have some ideas for inclusion – contact me ASAP.

JOHN CRAWFORD

EAST SCOTLAND

Seahouses GC was the setting for our annual Spring Tournament and Hayter Challenge Tournament qualifying event. We arrived on a cold April day to find the hospitality excellent, and our grateful thanks go to secretary John Stevens, head greenkeeper Ralph Bullock, and chairman Ron Bewley for making this such a successful day.

When this tournament was first mooted for Seahouses it was thought that the long distance may have deterred many from going, though this certainly was not the case – with 47 members, guests and trade attending. How nice it was to see Bill Lynch there, but disappointing that no rep. from Hayter's attended. The only other hiccup was that recently retired Duncan Herd overslept and missed the coach! Duncan has done so much for the various associations over the years and a presentation was to be have been made 'For services to the Industry'. This however will be made at a later date. Another great piece of news for Duncan is that at the AGM he was elected a life member of the Association, ➤ 42

34 → the first in the section.

With the course in excellent condition, thanks to Ralph and his staff, the tournament began at 9.00 am. Scores were very good considering very few had played the course before. RESULTS: Best nett - G.Hobbs (Torphin). Scratch - C.Graham (Gowick). 1st class. G.Wood (Dunbar). 2nd class R.Bullock (Seahouses). 3rd class D.Marshall (Duddingstone). Veteran over 50 years. W.Blair (Kingsknowe). Guest J.Faucet (Lothianburn). Trade J.Robertson (Richard Aitken Ltd). Two Ball J.Neilson and G.Milliken.

Qualifiers for the Hayter Challenge are: 1st Class - C.Grahame, G.Ferguson, T.C.Roger & T.Murray. 2nd class - R.Bullock, S.Melville, J.Lockerby & C.Yeaman. 3rd class - G.Hobbs, D.Marshall, A.Forrest & R.Hogarth.

Nine East section members took the long journey to York for the AGM on 21 April, this proving very successful as at long last AOB was added to the constitution. It was also a big day for Scotland in other ways when our Scottish chairman, John Crawford, put on the red jacket to become national chairman. All our best wishes go to John on his achieving this high honour.

What happened to our trade members on the quiz night? Did they think the questions would be too difficult, or can they only answer questions on their own products? Only three companies bothered to contact me, but despite this it was a very good night. Our thanks go to social convener, Steve Dixon, for his organisation and to those who took part.

The social side will take a back seat for a few months as, like me, you will all be busy on your own courses. In due course you will be notified of the forthcoming skittles night and, of course, the dance.

Membership in the section is again on the up, with many more realising the benefits of BIGGA. That stated, there are still a few who remain unpaid, though we are confident these will be paid soon!

We are all looking forward to the National Tournament at Dunbar in early August, where a large turnout is expected from the section. Everything has been organised; more about that in the next report.

WILLIE BLAIR

MIDLANDS

I start my section notes on a very sad note by inform-

AROUND THE GREEN



ing members that Trevor Howard died recently. Trevor, who recently worked for Maxwell Hart and before that for many years with ALS, was a good friend and colleague to all of us, as well as being a true supporter of BIGGA and, especially, the Midlands section. He will be sadly missed, though more importantly will be remembered for the fine person he was. Our thoughts are with his wife and family and we send our sincere condolences.

On 14 April we held our Spring Tournament at Moseley GC and, as normal, played this over 27 holes. The weather was kind after the recent wet period and made for good scoring. We thank Bob and his staff for a well turned-out course and also Moseley GC for the use of their fine facilities and for such good catering. The winner of the nett prize with a score of 102:5 was V Lee, second P Holtham (106) and third A Luckman (106). The gross prize was won by M Hughes with a score of 115.

DEAN CLEAVER

SUSSEX

The Spring Tournament this year took us across the border to the newly constructed Wildwoods GC, Surrey, for an 18 hole medal (AM) sponsored by John Shaw Machinery and a Stableford (PM), sponsored by Rigby Taylor Ltd.

The event got off to a nervous start with the first negotiated over water - complete with two wandering swans! The water hazard was the first of many and most of the 51 competitors lost a few golf balls.

Hazards overcome, the next problem was handling

the speed of the pure agrostis greens, and talking to Billy McMillan afterwards, he said to come back in a few weeks and see what quick greens are really about! The day progressed well, albeit slowly, with everyone enjoying the warm, sunny but windy conditions. Our thanks to Billy and his team for producing such excellent surfaces.

The day was rounded off nicely with a fine meal held in the restored oak-beamed clubhouse, followed with prize presentations made by George Barr in his inimitable fashion. Apart from issuing the prizes, George presented Derek Coomber with a case of wine, this in gratitude for all his work as our section secretary over many years.

RESULTS: John Shaw Machinery Medal: (Greenkeepers) 1st William Francis, 2nd Paul Kimber, 3rd Adam Envis. (Trade & Guests) 1st Bert Merriot, 2nd Brian Wilmott. Rigby Taylor Stableford: (Greenkeepers) 1st Rolan Hughes, 2nd George Barr, 3rd Brian Finn. (Trade & Guests) 1st Nick Silva.

In closing, we thank the following for their generosity and hospitality - the directors, professional, green staff and caterers at Wildwoods GC, and the co-sponsors, John Shaw and Rigby Taylor.

MARK WILTON

COMING UP

June 9-10: Landscape Industries '93, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warks

June 22: BIGGA Scottish Championships, Brunston Castle Golf Club, Ayrshire

July 15-18: The 122nd Open Championship, Royal St Georges, 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, Warks



The Name Behind Britain's Top-Rated Turf

When it comes to quality, we don't mess around.

Take, for example, our soils. We use the best soils in the country for growing turf. Selected to grow turf that's strong and easy to lay, with no wastage. Selected for free-drainage of rain and irrigation water. And then there's the grass seed. We choose only the top-rated varieties of grass from the STRI Merit Lists - to give you not only the best instant effect, but the best long term results, too. And with a range of different grades, you can choose the most suitable for your purpose.

Guaranteed delivery time.

With a guaranteed delivery time for single-drop

loads, you won't be paying your men to stand around doing nothing. And if there's no fork-lift on site, don't worry... our mechanical off-loading facilities will ease the burden.

Big or small roll.

As you can see in the photo above, you can have Tillers Turf in either big or small rolls. To give you even greater flexibility, we offer a laying service too. Which means that if your staff are flat out with other jobs you can rely on us to deliver the turf, off-load it, and lay it to a high standard of workmanship. Of course, you may want to lay the big roll yourself, in which case we can loan you a suitable machine free. For a prompt quote, or to find

out where our distributors are nationwide, give us a call on **0652 650555**. We will also send you a copy of our brochure. And to see for yourself why Tillers is the name behind Britain's top-rated turf we can send you a sample next day, as well.



TILLERS

Tillers Turf Company Ltd., Castlethorpe, Brigg, South Humberside DN20 9LG. Telephone: 0652 650555. Fax: 0652 650064.

AD REF 292