

51 → all tournaments have been arranged for 1994. The spring outing will be held over Gunnane number 2 on 12 April. This of course is also the Hayter qualifier. We go to Uphall GC in the autumn. A full list of events will be available shortly.

Please remember your subscriptions are now due – you could miss out by paying them late. Why not this year endeavour to recruit at least one new member each? I am sure you all must know someone who is not a member. The Association is strong, let's make it stronger.

WILLIE BLAIR

#### NORTH SCOTLAND

A welcome to the section to Bruce Forsyth, (no, not that Bruce Forsyth) who has come up to be Assistant Head at Peterhead after 13 years at Gleneagles, where he worked on the Kings and Queens courses. Bruce also attended Elmwood College.

The section AGM took place, with thanks to Nairn Dunbar GC, at the end of November. During a week of terrible weather it was heartening to see 24 worthy souls make the journey through frost and snow to attend. After our coffee a convoy of cars took us out to view the new holes, which our sponsor for the day, Souters Sportsturf, had constructed. They are superb and I can't wait until they are open for play later this year. The short par three, 129 yards, is a beauty but beware the deep bunker in front of the green, go in it and a three will be hard to get.

We then moved inside to the warmth for a very informative talk by John Souter on rootzones for tees and greens and then a look at some great slides of golf courses around the world. After lunch 15 brave men ventured out into the mist and frost for nine holes to contest the annual Chairman versus Vice-Chairman match. The more sensible settled things on the pool table! The end result was a tie, so two matches of dominoes were played and Chairman Sam's team triumphed. The AGM passed smoothly ending with the final 1993 200 Club draws, the winners of which are as follows: September £30 no. 109 – Elliot Small, Kincardine. October £30 no. 167 – David Henderson, Ardgay. November £40 no. 94 – Jim McCormack, Kirriemuir. December £100 no. 51 – Steven Frost, Aberdeen. The two £150 education grants were won by no. 103 John Milne, Elgin and 141 Eric Pickard, Ellon. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets. 1994 tickets will be out soon and I hope you will support the section again this year. If anyone does not want their ticket then please send it back immediately. Unfortunately last year we were let down by six members who said they would buy but never paid and it cost us unnecessary time and money in letters and phone calls. Eventually we had to sell them at a reduced price after the first four draws.

To remind members, the section library has the following books available: Turf Management for Golf Courses by James Beard, Turf Management Handbook by Freeborg, Golf Course Presentation by John Hacker and George Shiels, All Year Round Golf by Jim Arthur, Greenkeeper Training Manual, COSHH Pesticide Regulation Books, and Greenkeeping by John Campbell. Phone me on 0862 894402 or Gordon Moir on 0334 74021. All donations to the library gratefully received.

Finally, I hope to see as many North members as possible at Harrogate this month for what I'm sure will be a great week.

IAIN MACLEOD

#### SUSSEX

How time flies! It only seems like yesterday that we

# Around the Green



were playing the links at Littlehampton GC for our annual turkey trot. With another year passed, 59 brave guys and one brave lass weathered the worst storms since the '87 hurricane and what better place to be battered by 70mph winds than by the sea in Littlehampton!

Once again Dave and the boys did a grand job in preparing the course and setting up the alcohol and mince pies at the halfway stage.

The morning started well at 8.30am with a cooked breakfast and coffee, with the first teams teeing off at 9.45.

The format was the ever popular Texas scramble and considering the appalling conditions, the teams of four all came in with respectable scores.

The results were as follows: 1st: C Allen, M Ring, P Wright, C Tate. 2nd: M Chalmers, M Dale, T Collier, L Bennett. 3rd: P Ray, J Warner, P Wright, C Tate. 4th: W Francis, D Lawlor, D Haste. 5th: G Barr, P Negus, T Jones, E Docherty. Nearest the pin(s): Chris Allen, Jon Budd, Duncan Haste and P Dunbar. Longest drive(s): Raymond Day and M Saunders.

The day was rounded off with a superb turkey dinner with all the trimmings, prepared by the caterers of Littlehampton GC. The prizegiving and raffle were presented by the comedy double act of Barr and Day (I think this is going to be a regular spot lads!) with impromptu comedy routines by Brian Gazard and the captain of the club. The prize giving and raffle took just over an hour and a half, which is not surprising considering that nearly 200 bottles of wine and spirits were handed out!

The section would like to thank the captain and committee of Littlehampton GC for allowing courtesy of the course, to the caterers and bar staff and last but not least to Dave Wood and his boys for the preparation of the course. Once again a memorable day was had by all and it is on this note, that at the last AGM, the committee decided that in order to "qualify" to enter the 1994 turkey trot, members have to play in at least one of the other three tournaments played throughout the year – so get your entries in for the spring meeting which will be held at Willingdon GC on 28 April.

It was nice to see Andy Fillery, over from his course in Norway, playing, and it was mooted that Andy is exempt from having to "qualify" for next year's Christmas competition as it's just a bit too far to come each time!

It is with sadness that I have to report the sudden and untimely death of Hugh MacGillivray.

Hugh was a past member of the Sussex section and a founder member of EIGGA. Hugh was best known for his role as course manager at Worthing GC before leaving to join Fulwell in 1992. Although dogged by ill health, in 1990 he overcame those problems to continue an active lifestyle outside the golf course, namely pursuing canoeing, sailing and rock climbing. Our condolences go out to his wife, Angela, and his two children Kirstie and Louis.

On a happier note, congratulations to Alan Butrymovicz and his wife on their marriage last October.

Finally, with legislations as they are concerning

health and safety, George Barr is organising three separate first aid courses at Ham Manor Golf Club. Each module will consist of 15 participants and the cost of each session will be £25, which will include lunch and certification (if you pass!). Further details will be available shortly. Happy New Year!

MARK WILTON

#### SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

The South West and South Wales regional seminar at Cannington College on November 23 turned out to be another arctic expedition for some members. Winter wonderland came early to Somerset and looking out of the window, one almost expected the reindeers appear. All but a few delegates arrived to enjoy a very full and successful day.

We thank our speakers for braving the elements and giving us an educational treat, also our sponsors, Rugby Taylor for their support. It must have been gratifying for them to see, along with students, 150 delegates present.

The day opened with Kerran Daly's paper on the "Taking of the Master Greenkeeper Certificate", followed by HND student Graham Martin on his views of greenkeeping from a student's point of view. No-one would have known that this was Graham's first paper – a measure of his fine delivery.

After a break for coffee, the excellent start was maintained by Hugh Murray, Head Greenkeeper at Cannington College, who spoke about the maintenance of "Training Golf Course". He fully justified the region's policy of introducing first time speakers. The final speaker of the morning was Barry Cooper, who somehow made a talk on drainage very interesting. After a lively question time, lunch was served.

The afternoon session was always going to be informative with an excellent paper on The Belfry, which has become known in recent years as the home of the Ryder Cup. Derek Ganning's first class description of the work of his team in the preparation of major events kept everyone awake – a no mean feat after a lunch break!

Last but certainly not least was Derek Green, Course Manager at Royal Liverpool Golf Club. He had an amusing twist to Dry Patch, interspersed by the inevitable steam engine story. This was followed by questions.

The day was closed by Huw Parry, who presented Ivor Scoones, the retiring Regional Chairman, with a clock barometer for his services to the region. In his closing of the seminar Huw gave thanks to everyone concerned.

GORDON CHILD

## EVENTS DIARY

**January 17-21: BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition (BTME), Trade Show and Educational Seminar Programme, Harrogate, North Yorkshire**

**January 19: BIGGA Annual General Meeting, The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate, 5.15pm. Membership cards must be produced.**

**February 4-7: GCSAA Conference and Show, Dallas, Texas**

**March 5-8: Canadian Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Calgary, Alberta**

**March 8: Scottish Region Annual Conference, Elmwood College, Cupar**

**April 27: Westurf, Turf Care Trade Exhibition, Long Ashton Golf Club**

**June 29: Southurf, Turf Care Trade Exhibition, Mottspur Park**

**September 6-8: Saltex (previously IoG) Trade Exhibition, Royal Windsor Racecourse, Berkshire.**



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