

# Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

## SCOTLAND

### West of Scotland

Once again this time of year approaches, winter greens construction programmes courses closed. What a lovely time.

A few pieces of news congratulations to our Chairman Steve Hogg, who has been appointed Course Superintendent at Quinta de Lago in Portugal. Steve has been a stalwart member of the association putting vast amounts of spare time into the running and organisation of the section. We thank him for his efforts over the years and wish him well at his new course.

Brian Hillan will take over the reins at Drumpellier. Before working at Easter Moffat, Brian was first assistant at the club. I hope everything goes well and we look forward to him contributing at committee level also.

Since the Chairman is leaving the Vice will take charge until the AGM. John Scott is looking forward to the challenge, a wee bit earlier than anticipated. His new Vice is myself and I will be taking notes for my time in office.

Annual dinner tickets will be out soon so get in their quick or you'll be to late. Venue is the Admiral Bar once again and the comedian is Clem Dane. From all accounts he is very good so here's to a successful, enjoyable evening.

A vote of thanks to Cecil George for organising the back up at the Loch Lomond invitation this being the first time problems always occur, but it will get better with practice. Thanks Cecil especially as you were called in at short notice. New members, afraid only one this month Gary Kenny from Kirkhill Golf Club. Hope to see you at the events.

Finally two items to mention the five-a-side tournaments had a poor response, 52 entries sent and only 10 returns. The tournament will be played on Sept 15 and a full report in next month's issue.

The circular sent to all members (180) with only 18 people replying. The committee are trying to organise events which the members want, but this shows we must be doing things correctly.

Last, but not least, if there are any pieces of interest for the

magazine then please contact myself at 0141 942 5554.

JS Taylor

## North

Jocky Urquhart, Deputy Head at Tain, rejoins the Association. While on the subject of membership, we have 208 members in the North Section, almost the same total as this time last year and yet we have had around 30 new members! It seems each year we lose as many as we gain, which is better than a dropping membership, but still worrying. Anyone who knows a colleague who has not rejoined, please try and find out why, or better still, get them back into the fold. The more the merrier.

We should be holding the section AGM later this month, unfortunately as we go to press, details have not been finalised. It will probably held in the Moray area and we hope to have one or two guest speakers in attendance. Members should receive details any day.

Well done to Steve Sullivan, Craigie Hill, for Flying the Section flag at the BIGGA annual tournament and winning a trophy.

It's that time of year again, when the Scottish Sections nominate members to receive the Patrons Awards. The lucky winners will be able to use their grants to go to Harrogate for BTME, buy books or pay for an educational course. So if you have supported your Section, Region and Association throughout this past year, you could be a winner. The nominations will be announced next month.

As we go through Autumn I hope the weather is kind for all the aeration programmes going on all over the country. After all the early season problems, most courses are finishing the year with superb greens, how many of you have had a member complain, why are you putting holes in the green just when they are in great condition. Happy hollow coring.

Iain MacLeod

## NORTHERN

### Northern Region

The Northern Team arrived at Fairhaven for practice in determined mood – the loss of the tro-

phy last year to the Scottish team had to be avenged.

As our team of nine went to the tee singing "it's coming home, it's coming home." it brought a lump to the throat. Nine holes of practice was all the boys needed and then back to the hotel for refreshments and in bed with cocoa and digestives by 8.30 (am!)

The big day arrived and began with an early breakfast. Gamesmanship was practised by Robin Smith who blocked up all the car park and had our opponents rattled before we got to the course.

Photo call at 8am and Paul Neve was hyping his team up – "Come on! Come on!"

Single figure boys our first – Paul Pearse striding forward confidently, Ireland's Brian Mulholland was still clearly jet lagged (unless it was alcohol). Mark Hodgson was next followed by "The Beast of Bedale", Alex Russell.

The middle order of Robin Smith, Alan Allsop and Colin Hopper did their bid and Tony Cheeseborough, Paul Neve and John Jones all scored well to give us a total of 642 – 12 shots clear of the Midlands team.

So the trophy did indeed "come home" to the Northern Region again. Well done and congratulations to the team and everyone who played.

This was an excellent tournament, as usual, and thanks must go to our generous sponsors Hayter, Fairhaven Golf Club and all who made the event such a success.

Congratulations also to two of my members Derek McJannet and Ian Buckley who played for the Rest of the World team in the International Cup.

It was good to see so many internationals there this year but a shame we did not have more time to meet them.

Until next year's competition – Well done Northern lads.

Bob Lupton

## North West

The 'Roses' match between the North West Section and the Northern Section, was played at Whitefield Golf Club on August 15. This was the 17th year of this annual competition played for the Patisson Trophy, and

although the Northern Section have the edge in wins, this year the North West Section took the honours. Edwin Walsh had the course in beautiful condition as always, and the weather was good, although a little to hot. Some excellent golf was played, and the result was 6.5 -1.5 to the North West Section. I must thank Patissons for sponsoring the day, especially in their Centenary year. Whitefield Golf Course for allowing us the courtesy of the course, and the welcome we received from the members in the club house, and the caterers who arranged the catering at short notice. Also, of course, Edwin Walsh and his staff for preparing such an excellent venue for the tournament.

This year in order hopefully to increase the numbers at the AGM, we will be having a Christmas competition prior to the AGM. The competition will be at Wilmslow GC on Tuesday October 15 followed by the AGM. and dinner. Even if you don't play you can attend the AGM and support your section. This year's National Tournament was played at Skegness, and a very enjoyable few days we had. The North West was represented by only four members and although the team did not win a team prize, John Berry from Penrith GC returned home with a car load of prizes, well done John.

I have been informed that John Lennard from Merrydale GC has not been very well of late, and I am sure everyone who knows John will wish him a speedy recovery. Bert Cross

## Cleveland

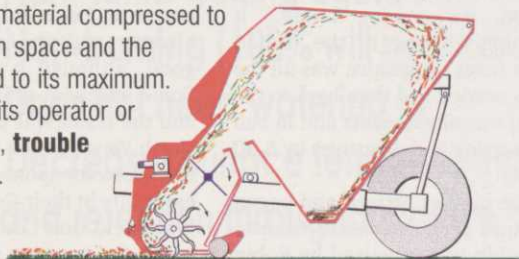
Hartlepool GC's greenkeeper's shed was struck by lightning recently causing a roof fire and received minor structural damage. Head Greenkeeper Alan Evans and his staff were thankful for the work done by the local fire brigade and the electricity board. Fortunately no machinery was damaged.

Future events will include lectures by Ocmis Irrigation; D&E Stephenson, the Toro dealer; Rules of Golf and how the greenkeeper can help. There will also be visits to Jacobsen at Kettering organised by Brian Skeen of

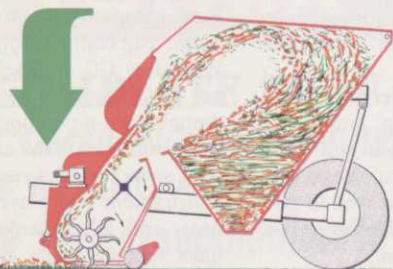
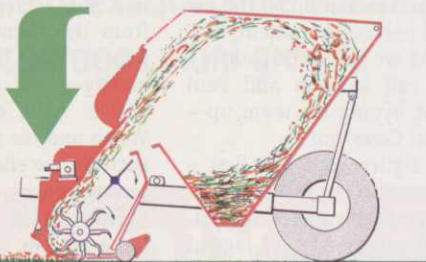
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Billingham and Ransomes at Ipswich organised by Rickerby's of Hexham.

Since the Teeside Development Corporation built the tees barrage to prevent tidal water from coming inland to Worsall the river is now clean with fresh water. Leisure users include anglers and pleasure boat rides from Stockton via Preston Park to Yarm while canoeists have a purpose built slalom course near the barrage for major events at Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland. Much pleasure has been derived from this £54 million development.

For BTME in January we are planning to cooperate with Jimmy Richardson of the North East Section to use one coach to pick up Cleveland members at Scotch Corner Hotel on the way to Harrogate.  
Bruce Burnell

### Northern

Congratulations to Mr Mel Guy of Greentech Amenity on being elected President of the Northern Section at a recent committee meeting. I am sure Mel will devote a lot of time and effort into helping the section run smoothly.

Now Mel is in the position of 'authority' the crude jokes may wear a little thinner? I don't think so!

This year's Roses Match with the North West Section was held at Whitefield Golf Club near Manchester. Many thanks to Edwin Walsh and his team for presenting the course in excellent condition. Thanks also to the 'Lancashire Lads' for being great playing partners and hosts. Well that's enough about that day! No seriously we got hammered and not only in the bar. The North West were in top form and came out clear cut winners, finally winning 6.5 to 1.5. Well done North West, we thought we would give you a chance this year.

With regard to the Roses Match, may I thank Peter Marshall and Pattissons for kindly supporting the event, also Brian Welbourn for providing all Northern Section team members with a Course Care baseball cap.

I would like to welcome Richard Barley of Alwoodley Golf Club to the section.

Diary dates Autumn - Malton & Norton G C - October 9; Winter Golf - Selby G C - December 11; Annual Dinner - Wetherby G C - March 15, 1997

Any member who has any problems or requires information, please do not hesitate to contact me at: 1 Cockley Meadows, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, HD5 0LA, Tel: 01484 519829  
Simon Heppenstall

## Around the Green



### North East

On behalf of the section we would like to congratulate Tommy Harrison, Course Manager at Stockfield GC, on becoming a dad again we hope both mother and baby are well.

The end of August sees the retirement of Steve Pope, Head Greenkeeper at Tyneside GC, who has been there for over 30 years. On behalf of myself and others who worked under Steve we wish you the very best for the future.

A party for Steve will be arranged sometime in the Autumn details will be available soon.

The section now has 120 members yet there are potential members are still there.

The autumn competition is at city of Newcastle G C on Sept 19 and not the 25th. Tee off 9.34 to 11.05. Members please note jacket and tie must be worn in clubhouse.

J S Richardson

### Sheffield

On September 2 we held our Autumn competition at Hickleton GC. The course was in excellent condition and our thanks go to Bob and his staff.

Our thanks go to the Hickleton Golf Club for the courtesy of their course and to the steward and his staff for providing an excellent meal. Also thanks to all the trade members who provided prizes.

The afternoon started dry and cloudy but that soon turned to rain and conditions became very wet, despite that there was some excellent golf played and congratulations go to all the prize winners, especially Dave Chapell who with an excellent score of 37 points won the competition. Well done Dave!

Results: 1. D. Chapell 37 pts; 2. P. Mason 36 pts; 3. G. Marsh 36 pts; 4. N. Morrison 35 pts; 5. P Hill 35 pts; 6. I Whitehead 33 pts.

Congratulations go to Mick Cottas on his new job at Worthley Golf Club, Mick recently moved from Bondhay Golf Course to Worthley, good luck Mick.

The following dates are for our winter lectures to be held at Rotherham Golf Club at 2.30pm. October 3 Mr R. Taylor (STRI) followed by AGM; November 7, Mr J. Le Mar (Bio Lube Uk Ltd); December 12 Mr C. Peel (ADAS); February 6, Mr R. Moore (Levington); March 6 Mr G.

Brudy (Rhone – Poulenc); April 3, Mr D. Godfrey & Mr M. Franklin (Boughton Loam Ltd).  
John Lax

## MIDLAND

### East of England

The Hayter Regional Final played at Peterborough Milton saw John Hewson (Market Rasen) and Graeme MacDonald (Ryston Park) qualify for the National Final at Fairhaven. They will now represent the Midland Region, Graeme qualified in category one and John in category three. John Donaldson, Head Greenkeeper of Milton, set a tough test of golf over a very well conditioned course.

At the National Tournament held at Seacroft Skegness only four golfers came from EoE. This excellent valued four days saw James Dair (Oundale GC) take the 54 hole gross and Graeme MacDonald take the 36 hole competitions. Both players also picked up individual day gross prizes and Macdonald took the longest drive on day one. The EoE team came a credited third in the team event, just a pity about Kevin Hodges first round, he lost four balls on the par three 12th which cost Kevin and the team. Try again next year in Sussex.

The match EoE and our neighbours East Midlands played for the Toro Shield at Greetham Valley saw East Mids win 4-1. Valley Head Greenkeeper Adrian Porter had the hilly course in excellent condition, but did not use his local knowledge too well, he and his partner were the only loss for East Midlands. They went down to the EoE pair Andy Brown and Peter Down. Thanks to Bob Bevan Toro Area Manager, Jim Carr Chandlers Toro Dealer and Andy Humble Erringtons Toro Dealer for their usual Support in sponsoring the event.  
Graeme MacDonald

### Mid Anglia

Our annual match against the Midland section took place in August at Copt Heath Golf Club in the Midlands. By all accounts the golf course was in excellent shape and we managed to secure a win 71/2 to 61/2. Foursomes were held in the morning, notable winners being Steve Mason with Chris Brook, and John Wells with Mark Ellis, who managed to win their matches by 5 & 4. In the singles matches in the afternoon there were successes for Ken Bunting, Steve Mason, John Wells Mark Ellis and Jason Hatton. Ronan Mckeown managed to halve his match which was enough for victory. Well done to all the players for

taking part and representing the section so well. We look forward to the return match next year on our own turf! The Hayter Regional Final was also held in the summer at Peterborough Milton Golf Club. Neil Whitaker from Woburn was the only one from our section to qualify for the National final which I believe is being held this month. Our team finished third overall out of all the sections.

Our summer meeting was held on August 21 at Berkhamsted Golf Club, over 36 holes. A great day was had by all those who participated, over a superb golf course. Our thanks to Gerald Bruce and his staff for producing an excellent course, the Captain and Greens Chairman, who both attended the meal, prize giving, and our sponsors for the day, Boughton Loam, represented by Mike Franklin. The hospitality shown to us was exceptional as well, all of which are shown below;

Results: 1. Steve Cherry 35/43 78pts; 2. John Moorhouse 33/41 74pts; 3. Philip Judd 34/37 71pts. The trade prize was won by Nick Baldwin; Nearest the pin – Dick Coogan; Longest Drive – Steve Cherry; Best am round – Dick Coogan 38pts; Best pm round – Mark Richardson 38pts

A final note of thanks to all the other trade members who attended on the day and donated prizes.

Two notable events are coming up this month, which should be of interest to all section members. Our meeting for Autumn at Collingtree Park on the 25th of this month, followed by the AGM.

The regional seminar at Sketchley Grange on October 30. Both John Wells and David Golding are speaking at the seminar so let's try and offer our support on the day.

Entries for Collingtree, should you wish to play, should be in by the time you read this.

Looking ahead, the Texas Scramble Christmas Tournament is being held at Dunstable Downs Golf Club on December 3. You should be by now thinking about entering your teams for event.  
Paul Lockett

### Midland

Sorry I missed last month's Around the Green. I was very busy, plus the fact that I had not received any news or information.

Firstly I would like to congratulate Cedric Gough of Broadway GC, who has been successful in reaching the final of the Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year. Also thanks to

all the other contestants for entering. On a personal note, I hope Cedric takes the top award as a lot of my knowledge came from him.

The Midland Section played the annual match against the Mid Anglia Section at Copt Heath GC on August 12. Unfortunately our team lost after a closely fought contest. Congratulations Mid-Anglia Section.

The committee would also like to thank Copt Heath GC for the courtesy of the course and congratulate Harold and all the staff on the condition of the course. A big thank you to Bob Pilsbury of Alexander Mowers and Toro for sponsoring the day.

The Midland Section will be holding its annual seminar at the Sketchley Grange Hotel, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire on Wednesday October 30.

Finally in next month's magazine will be the date and venue of this year's AGM. If any of you would like to stand for the committee then this is your chance to do so. The Section is looking for someone to take on the job of Secretary as I will be standing down at the AGM as I have decided that with my other interests I have not enough time to dedicate myself to this post. If you are interested in taking on this post, please give me a ring so we could meet for a chat to see if the job would be as you imagined. My home telephone number is 01527 524217. Mobile 0378 981165.  
Kim Blake

### Bucks, Berks and Oxon

There has been one golfing tournament which has been running all through the season and that is the Rigby Taylor Fourball Knock-out. At the time of writing this report we are at the semi-final stage.

There have been some cracking games played along the way. The biggest upset was the defeat of D. Goodchild and I. Rose in round two (twice winners in the past). They were beaten in a close match by O. Cassie and N. Baker on the last green. The tie of the second round had to be between B. Holt and N. Weedon verses T. French and G. Wheeler. The experience of Barry was no match for the raw power of the young 'uns and the birdies were flying all over the place (pardon the pun) with Tony and Geoff winning with ease.

The quarter finals through up a needle game between R. Clark and C. Jacobsen verses P. Reeve and myself (three from Harleyford famous for their turkey trot victory last year). The game turned out to be a battle between

Ray and Paul with Charlie and I spectating (I enjoyed the walk – nice scenery). The game went to the final green were Ray finished us off with a solid par four on a tough finishing hole.

I have to say the turning point was when Paul stood on a wasps' nest and was stung trying to retrieve his ball. He had to strip off on the green to shake out the culprits and thankfully there were no ladies in sight. In the last of the quarter finals P. Critchley and J. Thorne beat A. Wakefield and T. Hookham 3&1.

The semi final draw is: O. Cassie and N. Baker v T. French and G. Wheeler and R. Clark and C. Jacobsen v P. Critchley and J. Thorne.

Results of the above matches and the autumn tournament in next month's article.  
Lindsay T. Anderson

### East Midlands

Congratulations go to Dean Cooper on his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Park Hill GC Dean formerly worked as Deputy Head at Rothley GC.

Again in golfing news is Richard Barker finishing second in the Leicestershire Fox held at Willesley Park with score of 71&70, also Richard finished runner up in this years National Tournament for the best Nett Score, also in the prizes was Ian Needham of Beedles Lake GC.

This year's annual East Midlands Versus East of England section golf match held Greetham Valley GC was won by the East Midlands by 4 games to 1 advantage. Thanks go to all members for making up the side at such short notice. Also I would like to thank Greetham Valley GC for hosting our tournament and Graeme MacDonald (EoE Section Secretary) for organising a wonderful day. Our winning team consisted of the following members, Carl Chamberlain, Anthony Foulds, Steve Goode, Jeff Dickenson, Adie Porter, Ian Needham, Anthony Bindley, Martin Smith, Mark Bindley and Dean Cooper.

For the third year running Dave Leatherland and Paul Tatlow have made it to the final of the pairs & singles K/O. The section wishes both players the best of luck on each day's final.

This year's Christmas Tournament is on Thursday December 12 and is hosted by Charnwood Forest GC.

Antony Bindley

### East Anglia

What a day 60 people turned up to play at Bentley GC. Special thanks to Dennis Smith of Parker Hart who put up the money for the prizes, thanks Dennis.

Thanks go to John Vivers for

making us so welcome. Thanks also to the bar staff and catering staff for their hard work and the Green staff. Thanks Andy for having the course in such good condition must be all the rain we have had?

Nice to see Derek Farrington the Regional Administrator in evidence. Thanks for the raffle prizes from Tuckwells, Avoncrop, Patissons, Turf Actant, Does, Kings, Grasshopper, Greenkeeping Supply company, Bourne Amenity.

Two more thanks to Steve Newton for doing the cards and Ian Willett for doing the raffle.

On with the prize winners: Longest drive, M. Virley; Nearest pin at 8th K. Titshall; Nearest pin 17 P Hurrell.

0-9 Handicap. 1. A Toomey 37 pts; 2. J. Cook 36 pts; 3. C. Crotcher 34 pts 10-18 Handicap. 1. R. Mitchell 38 pts countback; D. Wells 38 pts 3. D. Smith 36 pts

19-28 Handicap. 1. K. Titshall 34 pts; 2. C. Steggalls 34 pts; 3. T. Huddleston 33 pts

Guest Prizes. 1. R Clark 34 pts; 2. M Stopps 33 pts

Thanks to Dave Parsons, the Bentley Captain, for presenting the prizes.

The overall prize goes to R. Mitchell and will be presented at the AGM on December 12 at Alderburgh GC this is a very important date for the New Sections so make sure you have the date noted.

Two more dates for your diary September 24 Writtle College same time same place with two more interesting speakers.

October 9 for 18 holes at Stapleford Golf Club.  
David Wells

## **SOUTH EAST**

### **London**

Our autumn tournament was held in August at Finchley Golf Club. The afternoon event was well supported and the course was prepared to a high standard. I would like to thank the Course Manager, David Montgomery, for preparing the course.

I would also like to thank the Finchley Golf Club for their hospitality and for the use of their facilities. The evening meal was excellent and I would like to thank the catering manager for providing such excellent service. The results for the day were as follows. The winner was David Montgomery with 40 points and the runner up was Peter Creeber with 37 points. In third place was John Jackson with 36 points. The guest prize was won by the club captain, Mr Budgeon, with 41 points. The nearest the pin prize was won by David Montgomery and the longest drive was

## **Around the Green**



won by John Jackson. I would like to thank all the trade for their support and especially, Johnny Beck for providing the refreshments at the half way point.

## **SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES**

### **South Coast**

Our summer golf meeting was held at Stoneham Golf Club. The man above looked down and supplied us with a lovely dry summer's day. The course was in superb condition. Our thanks must go to Peter Marsh and his staff for all the hard work they put in for us.

First prize went to B. Emberley (Bernard and not Barry as appeared in September's magazine. Apologies Bernard.) and P. Hecton with 47 points, 2. A. Doolan and A. Doolan Snr also with 47 points. (Decided on the back 9) 3. C Sturgess and F Flood with 46 points.

Congratulations to all the prize winners. Our thanks must also go to the Captain and Committee for granting us the courtesy of the course to M H. Mulligans, the caterers who provided us with a very tasty meal. Our tournament organiser, Mark Webb, was on holiday during the run up to the competition his place was taken by Tony Gadd who did a great job. Thank you Tony. Last but not least a big thank you to our sponsors for the day, Parker Hart and Roffey Brothers who supplied the prizes.

Once again after continuous reminders about returning the trophies the Parker Shield was conspicuously absent. This trophy is given to the section by Parker Hart. It is in very bad taste that it was not at the prize table this is the sort of thing that gives the section a bad name. By the time this report is printed in the magazine your committee will have decided what action to be taken.

Our first winter lecture will be held at Bramshaw Golf Club at 2pm November 7. The speaker will be our Executive Director Neil Thomas. Neil will be updating us on what is going on at Headquarters. He will also be answering your questions. So come on gents make a big effort to be there. Let's have a record attendance this time the venue is as central as we can get, in fact,

it is the central point of our section.

Just another reminder that our regional seminar will be held at Cannington on Wednesday November 27. All applications and any other queries to Gordon Child. Previous seminars at Cannington have had some very good speakers. This year should prove no exception. Among the speakers will be George Brown the course manager at Turnberry. The cost of the day is £12.50 this includes lunch, if there is enough support a coach will be provided.

Seats for the regions BTME coach are going fast so get your bookings in now or it might be too late.

The 1996/1997 programme of Section and Regional events is at present being processed you should be receiving them very shortly if you haven't already.

Ken Lodge

### **Devon and Cornwall**

Roserrow Golf Club was the venue for our August Summer Meeting on Wednesday August 21. The venue gave our Cornish members a chance to look around the newest club in Cornwall which at present is growing in, our thanks to Richard Smith and his staff for showing us around their new course and for providing the refreshments.

Our November Meeting will as usual be the section's AGM and will be held at Launceston Golf Club on Wednesday November 6, the morning's foursome golf competition will be for the Toro Trophy with prizes kindly being donated by Devon Garden Machinery.

The Region's annual seminar will be held at Cannington College on Wednesday November 27, by know you should have received details of the seminar programme, if you haven't you would like to book your place or wish to know more about the programme please contact Gordon or Marion Child on 01803 844056.

Finally a reminder that bookings for the Region's package of transport, accommodation and entry to the BTME show and seminars are now being taken and are going fast. To avoid disappointment you are advised to return your booking form as soon as possible. That's it for this month I'm going on holiday.  
Richard Whyman

### **South West**

This year's match against the secretaries was held at Holsworthy GC in Devon Where two teams of 12 competitors each played six football games on a matchplay basis. After a light lunch the

matches commenced at 1.45 pm with a showery afternoon in store for those taking part. In a change to the previous two years it was this time the turn of the Secretaries to win back the Shield after a convincing victory by five matches to one. The day was concluded with an evening meal provided by the steward and stewardess of Holsworthy which was highly complemented for its quality. Prize giving followed the meal with thanks being given to Avoncrop Amenity Products for their generous continued sponsorship in providing both a prize for each member of the winning team and for putting wine onto the dinner table. Thanks also to Martin Townsend of Avoncrop for his help and organisation in the event, to Barry Megson Secretary of Holsworthy for allowing us course courtesy, and Derek Holloway and his team for their hospitality. Last but not least to the Greenkeeping Staff of Holsworthy who presented the course in such good condition.

Paul Jenkins, from Lilleybrook GC, will be this year's representative for the Region in the Premier Greenkeeper of the year competition sponsored by Miracle Professional. We wish Paul the best of luck as one of five in the final to be held at Aldwark Manor later in the year.

The regional seminar for 1996 will take place at Cannington College on November 27. As previously mentioned George Brown from Turnberry will be speaking as will Paul Clifton from Rhone Poulenc and Bill Lawson. Please register early for this popular event.

Another reminder to book BTME in January 1997 at Harrogate as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If a booking form is not available to your self then please contact Gordon or Marion Child on 01803 844056

Finally I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this year's AGM at Bristol and Clifton Golf Club on Thursday November 14.

Kevin Green

**WHEN I'M NOT AT WORK  
I LIKE TO:**



**"Try to play golf"  
Huw Morgan, Wilderness GC**