

# Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

## SCOTTISH REGION

Elliott Small  
Tel: 01259 731445



### North

My first report of the summer yet, while I am writing this, there is a blizzard outside and I am wondering if I will make Stirling for the Scottish Executive Meeting tomorrow! After quite a good spring we do seem to have gone back to winter instead of forward to summer. Fingers crossed that this is just a blip and good weather is round the corner.

This month we have the Scottish National at Craigmillar Park in Edinburgh and the North is going for the Team Trophy for the third year in a row. So a good turnout of members is needed. Talking of golf competitions, next year Scotland hosts the BIGGA National Tournament and they will be in our Section at

Letham Grange so we can look forward to that in August 1998.

I have been organising some golf for a couple of friends coming over from the States and would like to thank the helpful colleagues that have fixed up times for me. In recent weeks I have played at Royal Birkdale, Royal Dornoch and Nairn which, if I had not been a BIGGA member, would have been a great strain on my wallet! Yet another great reason to renew membership to the Association.

A correction from my April notes – the Management Courses will cost £75 and not £50 – but this is still amazing value.

Last month I attended my first Board of Management meeting at Aldwark Manor in my capacity as Deputy Member for Scotland and I can honestly say I was really impressed how well the Association is being run by both

staff and Board Members. We are in safe hands as long as they don't call me in if Jim Paton can't make a meeting!

Finally, members take note, last month's outing at Duff House Royal (details to follow) was full up and some people did not get in! Make sure future entries are in quickly if you want to guarantee a place.

Iain Macleod

### West

Talk about election campaigning. Who has been out for the West Section? Someone has obviously been pushing BIGGA. New members this month are Donald Robertson, Scott McLeod, both Ralston GC; Ken Siems, Loch Lomond GC; John O'Donnel, Kenneth Love, both Cowal GC; Stuart Taylor, Gleddoch CC, Stuart Pirie, Higgs Castle GC; Colin MacFarlane, Mount Ellen GC;

John Caldwell, Stewart Donald, both Renfrew GC; Stuart Crossan, Craig Winters, both Pollock GC; James McNicol, Blairbeth GC; Brian Forrest, Andrew Priestley, both Dumbar-ton GC; and finally Lee Jenkins, Kilmacolm GC. A couple of famous names there – nice to see such an encouraging intake of new members and long may it continue. Hope to see you all at future events and don't forget we are open to activity sugges-tions.

The results of the Spring Meeting held at Eastwood GC are as follows:- Gross – S. Taylor, Killermont, 72; Cat 1. 1. C. Goodall, Balmore, 77-4-73; 2. C. Wyllie, Killermont, 81-8-73; 3. I. Smith, Drumpellier, 80-7-73. Cat 2. 1. A. Wilson, Kirkhill, 87-14-73; 2. I. Wilson, Hamilton, 90-15-75; 3. S. Brawley, East Kilbride 92-16-76. Cat 3. 1. R. Grainger,

## TAKE A LOOK AT THE WORKMAN 3000 SERIES.



Cawder, 86-20-66; 2. G. Shearer, Balmore, 90-22-68; 3. N. Gibb, Hilton Park, 95-21-74. Trade prize. R. Bruce, Ritefeed, 85-16-69. Visitor. G. Mulloch 109-24-85.

All these people will qualify for the Hayter Challenge along with G. Dingwall, Crow Wood, and M. Corey, Balmore. Best wishes to all at the Lochgreen Course.

Many thanks are due for this recent outing – firstly to the catering staff and Club Master for the attention given and their ability to make everybody feel important; the Captain and Committee along with members for allowing courtesy of the course and for presenting the prizes on the day and last, but certainly not least, to Donald McLellan and his staff for presenting a course which was absolutely beautiful. You are all complimented on your presentation and hard work.

Remember to submit your entries for the five-a-side tournament as entries will close quickly this year. It is hoped 16 teams can compete. Certain rules apply, only two clubs can join forces, players are restricted to a maximum of seven players, strips must be worn, shin guards are to be worn and referees will control

events on the pitch! Let's hope the weather is as good as last year. This time Camsie/Russells will have a fight on their hands for the trophy.

Remember all those people wishing to help at Loch Lomond should contact Cecil George or the Secretary to make sure you don't miss out.

Finally, can I wish all members a good season. Please don't forget to inform me of any interesting information – births, deaths, promotions or retirements. A note for future reference, Brian Hillan, Drumpellier, is now dealing with matters regarding 11-a-side football and Loch Lomond, I believe, are interested in a challenge!

Stewart Taylor

#### **NORTHERN REGION**

Bob Lupton  
Tel: 01782 750539

#### **Sheffield**

Yes, I am still doing the Section notes even though my name has not been appearing at the foot of the notes recently (apologies from the Editor).

On April 7 we held our Spring Competition at Wath GC which was also the qualifier for the Hayter Tournament which gave us a very good turnout of 56



players.

Wath was in excellent condition and our thanks go to Dean Abdy and his staff for all the hard work they have done on the course.

We would also like to thank Wath GC for the courtesy of their course and to the steward and his staff for providing an excellent meal which I think was enjoyed by everyone.

Our thanks also go to Alan Dyson, from GEM, for sponsoring the competition and providing an excellent prize table. Our thanks also go to Steve Burroughs, Peter Fell and Les Purdy who also provided prizes and thanks to Hayter for the prizes for the division winners.

Congratulations go to everyone who won prizes at Wath and well done to Kevin Lock, who won the competition with a very good score. Well done Kevin!

Results:- 1. K. Lock; 2. B. Bonring; 3. D. Norton; 4. G. Marsh. The nearest the pin prize was won by G. Marsh and our guest prize was won by our President, Ken Arnold.

All the qualifiers for the Northern Region Final are:- Cat 1:- 1. K. Lock; 2. D. Norton; 3. D. Chappel; Res. J. Darroch. Cat 2:- 1. B. Bonring; 2. G. Marsh; 3. M. Coltas; Res. R. Ward. Cat 3:- 1. P.

Neve; 2. M. Crawshaw; 3. I. Clark; Res. S. Hurd. Good luck to you all in the final.

Our next golf competition will be held at Silkstone GC on July 7 at 10 am.  
John Lax

#### **North Wales**

Our annual North Wales v North West competition took place at Hill Valley Country Club on April 16 and our thanks are due to Andrew Mitchell and his father for providing us with a wonderful venue for this event. Thanks also go to Bert Cross for organising the North West Team and most especially to Terry Adamson for his hard work in supervising the day and to GEM for their sponsorship. The match resulted in a draw and therefore we get to keep the trophy for another year.

Over 80 members and guests took part in our Spring Tournament at Frodsham GC on April 30. Our thanks are due to Eric and Sheila Roylance for their generosity in providing us with a wonderful venue and courtesy of the course for the day.

The course, which is in a beautiful location on top of Frodsham Hill was in excellent condition and superbly presented, a credit to Paul Massey and his team.

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Our thanks must also go to Frodsham GC's President, Rob Andrew and Lady Captain, Hilary Welsh for taking part in our tournament and for making us feel so very welcome. Congratulations go to Russell Lewis, of Northop, who was the winner of the Hi-Speed Rose Bowl for the best gross of 74 and also to Haydn Jones, of Chirk, who with a best nett of 70 was the winner of the Richard Campey Trophy. Colin Davies was the worthy winner of our nearest the pin competition on the 5th being only 14 inches from the cup. In fact if there had been two nearest the pins Colin would probably have won both since he was only four inches from a hole-in-one on the 9th! The winners and runners up of the three divisions are listed below, however, at the time of writing I have not been able to contact all concerned to confirm which three from each division will be representing the Section at the Regional Final on July 9 at Matfen Hall, Northumberland.

Cat 1:- Andy Peel, Russell Lewis, Darryl Davies, Steve Roberts, Dave Parry, Trevor Johnston. Cat 2:- Dave Evans, Graham Timmis, Les Parry, Matthew Pooley, Ken Jones, Dave Proctor. Cat 3:- Haydn Jones, Don Rowlands, John L. Jones, Emyr Rowlands, Peter Sproston.

Our thanks to our sponsors on the day, Hamish Macfie of Hayter, Acorn, Gem Professional, John Osman, Mommersteeg, Walker Engineering, Richard Jones of Motrac and especially to Richard Campey and Paul Shaw of Hi-Speed Oils whose trophies we played for.

We can now look forward to our Autumn tournament which is now confirmed at Abersoch GC on October 8. Our Section has now grown to 146 with the addition of 3 new members, Carl Rogers, from Chirk GC, and Gareth Hughes and Ellis Mostyn,

## Around the Green



from The Plassey GC.  
Trevor Johnston

### Cleveland

A meeting of assessors was held at Middlesbrough Municipal GC in April, chaired by Internal Verifier, Tony Mears. In attendance was Tony Milan, lecturer at Houghall College, Durham, who was very helpful in explaining about training and assessment and how to judge your young trainees with evidence. He made it all sound so easy. We are now preparing for another assessor training day so if anyone is interested please contact Tony Mears.

Castle Eden GC are rebuilding a bridge at the par 3 6th hole. They have also reconstructed the 14th green on a porous base root zone and laid their own turf. They have also planted 800 trees. Glenn Baxter, Head Greenkeeper at South Shields GC, and his staff, have reconstructed the 3rd and 9th tees plus a number of greenside bunkers.

Hartlepool Head Greenkeeper, Alan Evans and his staff, have been busy improving paths using red track material which looks beautiful. He also told me that his greens have been disease free for the past seven years and he has used no fungicide. Congratulations Alan, I wish I could say the same!

Bruce Burnell

### North West

Our annual tournament with the North Wales Section was played at Hill Valley GC on Wednesday April 16. The weather was great with sunshine from start to finish. The course was in lovely condition thanks to Andrew Minshall and his staff. The result was

a halved match which means North Wales retain the GEM Trophy for a further year. I would like to thank Hill Valley GC for allowing us courtesy of the course and their excellent facilities. Thanks also to GEM for sponsoring the day once again.

The next golf competition is the summer meeting at Longridge GC, on Wednesday June 25, and all applications must be received by Friday June 20. Send your cheque for £15 made payable to BIGGA N/W to:- Bill Merritt, 255 Utting Avenue, Clubmore, Liverpool, L4 9RB, telephone 0151 284 4416. Soup and sandwiches will be served between 12 noon and 1pm and the tee is available from 1.30 pm. The evening meal will be followed by a prize presentation. The draw for the support team at The Open has now been done at HQ and obviously some will be disappointed but it was all done on a fair basis. To those of you who have been lucky enough to be picked out of the hat I am sure you will enjoy the experience and I will see you at Troon on July 16.

Anyone with any news, views or queries please contact me on 0151 724 5412.  
Bert Cross

### Northern

This year's Spring Tournament was held at Wakefield GC. Although the forecast was not too good, the rain held off apart from a quick shower around early afternoon.

Many thanks to County Crops for providing sponsorship for this event and to Glen Hardcastle for attending on their behalf.

Thank you to Wakefield GC for kindly hosting the event at a time when finding clubs that will give courtesy to greenkeepers is becoming more difficult to find.

Thanks also to Stewart Marston and his staff for presenting the course in such good shape and to the catering staff

for feeding us so well.

The results for the day were as follows:

Cat1: 1. Need I say the name! Dave Collins, 68; 2. Dave Spurdun, 69; 3. Tony Gerrard, 7. Cat 2. 1. Gerald Smith, 69; 2. Alan Baxter 70; 3. John Waite ( El Chair) 73. Cat 3. 1. Richard Smith 73; 2. Alan Gamble 77; 3. Les Kirkbright 80. Trade Prize. 1. Alan Cordingley, Ritefeed, 69; 2. Alan Dyson, Gem, 73.

Well done to all the lads for qualifying and good luck in the Hayter Regional Finals at Matfen Hall on Wednesday July 9.

Again may I remind people wishing to play in future golf events that if I have not received their deposit at least seven days prior to the event we can not allow you to play. Unfortunately this is happening too frequently by people who put their name down with a rep or somebody else and expect to pay and play on the day. It will not be accepted any longer. At the Spring Tournament the section lost out by people who said they were going to come, then on the day sent an excuse along with a third party. Meals that have been booked still have to be paid for.

Finally anyone with any news or information that may be of interest for future magazine inserts please contact me on Tel: 01484 - 519829  
Simon Heppenstall

### MIDLAND REGION

Peter Larter  
Tel: 01480 437507

### East Midlands

This year's Spring Tournament and Hayter Qualifier was played on General Election day, May 1 at Cosby GC. On a fine Spring day 44 competitors competed for the Hayter Challenge Tournament with the successful qualifiers listed below.

Cat 1: 1. A. Duncan, Kettering, 76-8-68; 2. R. Barker, Kirby Muxloe, 74-3-71; 3. A. Foulds,



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Manor, 85-8-77; 4. D. Leatherland, Kedleston, 87-9-79. Cat 2: 1. A. Porter, Greetham Valley, 86-13-73; 2. A. Shilcock, Lutterworth, 90-15-75; 3. I. Needham, Beedles Lake, 90-14-76; 4. D. Bagshaw, Stanton, 89-11-78. Cat 3: 1. S. Heap, Rothley, 89-22-67; 2. M. Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 94-21-73; 3. G. Arnold, Erewash Valley, 101-20-81; 4. W. Bevan, Greetham Valley, 105-23-82. Trade & Associate:- Kevin Kinzer 94-24-70.

I would like to thank E T Breakwells for their generous sponsorship on the day which was reflected well in the prize table. This is greatly appreciated by all members. Also I would like to thank Cosby GC for hosting our Tournament and allowing us courtesy of their excellent golf course. Thanks should also be extended to the steward for a superb evening meal and not forgetting Dave Sankey and his staff for setting up a challenging and well presented course.

The Autumn Tournament will be held at Chevin GC on September 3, hope to see you all there.

This year's annual East Midlands versus East of England Golf Match will take place on Wednesday August 20 at Melton Mowbray GC. The 1st tee has been reserved from 3.45 pm and the format for the day is a Four Ball Better Ball. A team of 10 members will be required and anybody wishing to represent the Section can contact me and I will forward you a entry form.

Finally I would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Eileen Hopkins whose birthday is on June 27. She is a very keen reader of this article and the magazine.

Antony Bindley

#### Midland

The Spring Tournament was held at Harbourne GC, on April 24. The day was an excellent success and a good time was had

by all. Many thanks go to Harbourne GC, especially the greenstaff who presented the course in such great condition under some diverse weather conditions leading up to the tournament.

The winners were as follows:- the Gross Cup went to Tony Cheese and the nett prizes went to M. Jones, J. Chesern and G. Hunt. The trade prize was won by Acorn Equipment.

I would also congratulate all the players who qualified for the Hayter Regional Final to be played at The Warwickshire on June 26. Good luck to you all. Can I also thank our sponsors for the Harbourne day - ET Breakwells, County Crops, Ruffords and Grass Roots Trading?

For those members who are playing in the Rigby Taylor Doubles or the Ritefeed Matchplay Singles may I remind you that the first round for the Doubles has to be played by June 27 and the singles by July 18. The Summer Tournament which will be held at The Worcestershire GC on July 7 requires those intending to play to get your applications in quickly as the demand for places is growing.

Finally I would like to welcome the following new members:- Trevor Askew, Andrew Smith, Nicholas Lewis, Wayne Smith, Robert Pain, Ian Robertson, Thomas Houghton, Patrick Teegan, Robert Benamore, Tracy Stephens and Patrick Cosby. Jonathan Wood

#### BB & O

At the time of writing this article we had received 40 entries for the first golf day which was the maximum allowed. It looks like we are carrying on where we left off last season. A full report of all the day's action will be in next month's article.

The draw for the Rigby Taylor Fourball has been made and I will be posting every competitor a full copy of the draw in due course.

Having nothing to report this month I will tell you a strange but true happening at Badgemore recently. For those of you who are squeamish, read no further!

During the prolonged dry spell back in April I was carrying out some irrigation with hose-pipes and static sprinklers. On this particular morning I was watering the practice green. I connected the hose to the irrigation point and cranked open the valve which was about 100 metres from the green. As I went to inspect the sprinkler there was nothing coming out, not a drop. It had to be a blocked nozzle so I turned the valve off and inspected the sprinkler. As suspected it was a blockage but not with a stone or debris, but with a small frog! The poor little blighter had only crawled up into the hose pipe for some sleep only for me to blast a few hundred gallons of water up its rear end! Needless to say it did not survive!

Anyway, back to business. I will be attending a Regional Board Meeting soon so if anybody wants details of subjects discussed then give me a call and I will oblige.

Finally if you have changed your address recently then don't forget to inform Head Office so as not to miss out on any mail shots.

Lindsay Anderson

#### Mid-Anglia

A talk was given to around 20 members of the Section in early March by Bruce Jamieson, former Director of Agronomy with the European Tour. By all accounts the talk was very informative and our thanks go to Mentmore GC for allowing us to stage the event. Also, Bruce waived his usual fee and donated it to Headquarters to be put towards the building fund so thanks for that Bruce.

Our first golf event of the year

took place at a golf club on the northern borders of our Section, at Wellingborough GC, in Northamptonshire. The course itself is set within the grounds of a country estate with a magnificent old country mansion as its clubhouse. A fine setting indeed to enjoy a days golf and although it was mid-April with not a drop of rain in the previous five weeks, the course was in super condition. Our thanks go to Ian Marshall, the Course Manager, and all his team for their efforts and to Wellingborough GC for the courtesy shown during a very enjoyable day. It was good to see a number of trade members taking the opportunity to play golf and our thanks to Rigby Taylor, our main sponsors and also Tacit, Patissons, Avoncrop, GEM, Boughton Loam and Driving Force Leisure for contributing towards the event. The event itself was the qualifier for the Hayter National Tournament and the following members will represent the Section at The Warwickshire GC on Thursday June 26.

Cat 1. J. Moorhouse; G. Boulton; R. Lawrence; G. Bruce; Res - F. Scullion. Cat 2. C. Brook; N. Whittaker; P. Judd; D. McGilvray; Res - S. Boyes, C. Robinson. Cat 3. L. Cant; J. Hatton; N. Phelan; P. Belton; Res - R. Saunders.

Please note that Richard Coogan, a regular competitor in our Section events would have qualified in the 0-9 handicaps but unfortunately due to his retired status he is ineligible to proceed any further.

The overall results of the day were as follows:- 1. J. Moorhouse 38/34 72pts; 2. R. Coogan 35/36 71pts; 3. C. Brook 37/33 70pts. The nearest the pin was won by Richard Coogan and the longest drive by Mark Whittle. Winner of the best am score was Leon Cant and the best pm score R. Howson.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the

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St. Andrews Links Golf Course supervisor

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## COURSES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

## Around the Green



Section:- J. Smith, Rushden GC, M. Campbell, St Ives GC, D. Franklin, Great Hadham GC, M. Dunleavy, L. Rance, A. Howson, all Mentmore GC, G. Bullock, Lamerwood GC, G. Carter, St Neots GC, N. Burns, Windmill Hill GC, D. Greenfield, B. Kingston, both Ashridge GC, E. Burman, S. Kendal, both Dunstable Downs GC, A. Knowles, Mowsbury Park GC, S. Meehan, M. Wilson, N Smith, all Brampton Park GC, M. Osborn, Aspley Guise GC, J. Thresher, Mill Green GC, C. Smith, Stockwood Park GC, D. Mugford, Aldwickbury GC, and finally L. Turner and J. Orme, both Oaklands College.

Our next golf event is to be held on August 22 at Arkley GC over 27 holes.

Paul Lockett

### East of England

The Rigby Taylor Cup and the Hayter Qualifier took place at Holme Hall GC. This venue was much talked about within the Section and after my 101 mile drive to get there I was not disappointed. Jim Birkett, Head Greenkeeper, had the course in superb condition – helped by fairway irrigation.

Unfortunately Jim could not play as he is recovering from a car crash but he is well on the mend and back at work. Hope you are playing soon.

The winner on the very hot day was Brian Robinson, Belton Woods, 94-25-69; 2. was John Hewson, Market Rasen, 93-22-71; 3. Graeme Macdonald, Ryston Park, 75-3-72. Trade member winner was Phil Wilkinson, nett 62. Nearest the pin, Chris Colton 12".

All the competitors who have qualified for the Hayter Regional final at The Warwickshire will be notified in due course.

It was nice to see some fellow greenkeepers from other regions as guests on the day.

Our main sponsors, Rigby Taylors, laid on a great prize table and a big thank you to Stuart Jeffs, Sales Manager, for presenting the prizes. Other sponsors on the day were Oliver Seeds, Hayters, Aitkens, Fieldcare, Collier Turfcare and Roy Harrison.

Other news from around the Section. Market Rasen greenstaff defended the trophy against the committee in their annual match. They have now won the cup for the last two years.

### SOUTH EAST REGION

Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

#### London

The Hayter Qualifier was held at Wyke Green GC in April and the course was presented to a very



high standard. I would like to congratulate Tony Dyke and his staff for all their efforts and wish them the best of luck this month as they prepare the course for the Middlesex County Championship. The Tournament was well supported by our Section and the overall winner of the medal event was Chris Carpenter, from Brookmans Park GC. Runner-up was Peter Creeber and Darren Burdis was overall third. The guest prize was awarded to Johnny Johnson, from Wyke Green.

The qualifiers for the next round are as follows – Cat 1. Chris Carpenter, Darren Burdis, David Montgomery, Res – Robert Phillips. Cat 2. Peter Creeber, Benjamin Knowles-Jackson, James Lomas, Res – Malcolm Storey. Cat 3. Tony Dyke, Richard Elderfield, Clarke Williams, Res – Darren Davis.

The longest drive was won by Johnny Johnson and the results for the King's nearest the pin event were 1. winning a £50 voucher, was Darren Burdis, 2. winning a £30 voucher was Johnny Johnson and 3. winning a voucher for £20 was Chris Carpenter. I would like to thank King's for their support in providing the prizes and also for kindly paying for all the postage etc for the event. I would also like to thank Hayter for providing the category winner medals and Mike Lincoln Smith for presenting the medals. Rigby Taylor provided the overall first and second prizes and your help was very much appreciated. I would also like to thank all the other trade members not mentioned above for their support and help in providing prizes.

The day was very successful and a big thank you must be awarded to Wyke Green GC for their hospitality and for the excellent service that was provided by all the internal staff. Tony Dunstan

### Kent

On April 29 we held the Hayter Qualifier at The Ridge GC. We had a reasonable turnout of 39 golfers including seven trade members and on a breezy, sunny day we played a course that is only four years old. Despite drought conditions the course was in excellent condition. Congratulations must go to Ray Malt and his staff for presenting the

course in such good condition. The scores for the Hayter were:- Cat 1. 1. D. Brown; 2. H. Morgan; 3. N. Gillham. Cat 2. 1. R. Malt; 2. M. Mewett; 3. D. Brown. Cat 3. 1. J. Waterman; 2. M. Haver; 3. B. Abbott. The trade/guest prize was won by Grant Elliott, a new greenkeeper from Wildernesse. The Kings nearest the pin results were:- 1. J. Wakelin; 2. M. Haver; 3. H. Morgan. The Driving Force Leisure longest drive results were:- 1. P. Belton; 2. P. Hirst; 3. A. Arthur.

Many thanks must go to Hayter for their continued sponsorship and to The Ridge and their catering staff for the hospitality inside.

The Section would also like to thank the following for their agreement to sponsor our golf and raffle prizes for the coming season:- Gem Professional, Parker Hart, Driving Force Leisure, Avoncrop, Rigby Taylor, Barmonset, Ritefeed, Farmura, Kings, Scotts, CMW, Paice and Sons, John Shaw, Bio-Lube, Bournes and Godfreys.

The next golf day is at West Malling in July, details will follow soon. If anybody has any news please contact me on 0860 260240.

Huw Morgan

### Sussex

The Spring Meeting was held at Cophthorne GC on May 1. Unfortunately I was unable to attend but I have been told it was a good day. The weather was glorious and Mike Gould has the course looking great.

The results were as follows:- Morning Round – 1. Mike Gould 2. Shaun Sturrock 3. Laurie Tremilit. Guest Prize. Gary Ogilvie. Afternoon Round- 1. Mike Gould (again!) 2. Laurie Tremilit 3. Alistair Cale. Guest Prize; John Davies. The prize for the longest walk was won by Dustin Houghton.

The summer meeting will be held at Haywards Heath GC on July 3.

Finally I would like to send best wishes to Chris Allen who was taken seriously ill and is in St Georges Hospital, Tooting. We're all thinking of you Chris. Colin Cathie

### Surrey

At last something to write about, and to crow about.

In last month's magazine you all read about the Regional Match at Princes GC. in Sandwich. What Derek did not put in the report was the fact that the teams had to be in Sandwich at 8am and that the cost was £30. Well the committee decided to

help them out a little on that score which I hope you will agree was the right thing to do. The team was captained by Roger Tydeman and consisted of Kevin Boxall, Jimmy Russell, Dave Murdoch, Gareth Roberts, Ron Christie, Paul Robinson, Gavin Kyle, Dave Langhiem, and John Mathis, I know that there are many of you out there saying why wasn't I picked? Well I say to you your turn will come. But the two teams that have gone out are a hard act to follow, plus the other sections will now be "gunning" for us.

One sad note to the day was that Ron Christie had his wallet stolen out of his golf bag while he was on the putting green, I am sure there is a lesson for all of us there, I understand that the boys had a whip round so he got some of the cash back.

Well we held the Spring Tournament at Dukes Dene GC on May 12, and we had a splendid turn out, over 50 playing, Derek still thinks that I left him out deliberately but he played anyway. We had the first lady at one of our events Stella Ingletolpe, from Symbio, came for the meal and she has promised that she will play in the Cresta Cup. "Down fella's". The course was turned out to perfection, and for a course that has only been open for a year it was a credit to Adam and his team. The in-house staff looked after us very well I understand that Julie Wilson had something to do with that. I had an easy ride on this one as Grant Dooley did most of the organising as he is our treasurer, and he works there ~ Thanks Grant. The event was sponsored by Rigby Taylor who put up some wonderful glassware. Our sincere thanks to them.

The overall winners were: 1. Ian Sutcliffe nett 65; 2. Grant Dooley nett 66 (some local knowledge there); 3. Gavin Kyle nett 71; 4. Dave Murdoch nett 72.

This was also the Hayter Qualifier and our thanks to them for the section prizes. The qualifiers were Cat 1. G. Dooley, D. Murdoch, J. Mathis and reserve N. Colley, just transferred down from Sheffield. Cat 2. I. Sutcliffe, G. Kyle, I Sellars, reserve M. Yorston. Cat 3. A. Carter, and the old fella, T. Stiles. We need two more in this section. Any offers?

The next event is the Cresta Cup at West Surrey on June 10, followed by the McMillan Tankard, at Sunningdale, on July 31, which brings me nicely on to the talk given by Jack McMillan after the meal at Dukes Dene. This is the first time that we

→ have tried this and I am sure I speak for all there that it was very informal just the right tone and I thank Jack most sincerely for his time and trouble for being there. We may try it again.  
Ted Stiles

#### Essex

Tuesday April 22, 1997, saw the inaugural golf day of the newly-formed Essex Section of BIGGA – the Spring Trophy at Chigwell GC incorporating the Hayter Qualifier.

A very successful day made all the better by the superb weather, the help of the young lady from the Secretary's Office who acted as starter, the presentation of the course by Alan Sharp and his staff and the quality of the catering provided on the day.

We were pleased to welcome our Regional Administrator, Derek Farrington, for the day and we hope that he will join us again soon.

Another guest was Nick Gadsby, the Captain of Chigwell GC, who joined us for the evening meal and kindly presented the prizes.

The results were as follows:  
Cat 1. 1. R. Pride, nett 72; 2. A. Sheehan, nett 76 (BIH); 3. S. Crosdale, nett 76. Reserve A. Toomey, nett 77. Cat 2. 1. J. Sel-

## Around the Green



wood, nett 72; 2. J. Winters, nett 79; 3. B. Speller, nett 80. Reserve C. Ward, nett 82. Cat 3. 1. L. Adams, nett 73; 2. G. Speller, nett 76; 3. M. Stopps, nett 79 (BIH). Reserve, P. Clark, nett 79. Trade prize R. Green 33 Stableford points. Nearest the pin on 10th hole M. Stopps. Longest drive on 18th, R. Pride. Overall winner and winner of the Spring Trophy R. Pride.

I would personally like to wish the best of luck to all our qualifiers in the Hayter Regional Final at Ham Manor GC on Friday June 27.

Once again our thanks go to Hayter for their continued support of this tournament, Avoncrop Amenity for their sponsorship of prizes for the day, the many trade members for their donations for raffle prizes and everyone at Chigwell GC for making us feel most welcome.

Wednesday May 14 saw a good turnout for another evening lecture at Writtle College. Roger Levett and Jeff Tay-

lor, of Johnson's Seeds, and Andy Cawley, from Dow Elanco, gave very informative presentations and the subsequent question and answer session and continuation of conversations in the student bar is always productive.

Congratulations to Dave Rand, who has moved from Thorpe Hall GC to Rochford Hundred GC as Deputy Course Manager, and to John Sinclair, who has returned from Burnham GC to Thorpe Hall as Head Greenkeeper where he was previously Assistant.

Finally the results from studying those questionnaires that were returned have now been correlated and I can assure you that these will be most helpful to the Section committee in the future running of our Section. The Section has made a good start, let's keep it going.  
Mick Fance

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#### South Coast

Our Spring Tournament was held at Broadstone GC on Monday April 28. At the time of writing this report I have not got the




full details of the results. What I can tell you though is that B. Emberly won the scratch prize and trophy and J. Martin the handicap prize and trophy.

The qualifiers for the Hayter Regional Final to be held at Burnham and Berrow GC on June 11 are as follows:- Division 1:- G. Payne; P. Fitzjohn; L. Millar; B. Emberly; T. Gadd. Division 2:- J. Martin; D. Norman; P. Wentworth; N. Stephenson; S. Privett. Division 3:- A. Doolan; A. Archer; A. Ridout; D. Friend; S. Cutler. Congratulations to all the qualifiers.

The weather at Broadstone was perfect and we had a fine summers day in Spring which can't be bad. The course was in fine condition and thanks go to Andy and his team for all their hard work. Thanks also to the caterers who did a first class job in keeping the players well fed and watered during the course of the day. Our thanks also go to the Captain, Committee and members of Broadstone GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse for the day. Last but not least our thanks go to the sponsors for the day namely Huxleys Grass Machinery and our very own President, Jim Fry.

Mark Webb has stood down from the post of Tournament




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Organiser. His place has been taken by Tony Gadd. Our thanks to Mark who has done a grand job over the past two years.

Our next golf meeting will be the Summer Tournament at Bramshaw GC on Wednesday August 6. All applications along with current handicaps should be sent to:- Tony Gadd, Cherry Trees, Lymington Road, Milford on Sea, Hants, SO41 0QL, telephone 01590 643746. The format for this Tournament will be a Four Ball Better Ball Stableford. Members may play with another greenkeeping member from another course or he can bring a golf member from his own Club ie Captain, Committee Member, Greens Chairman, Secretary etc. All entries are to be with Tony 10 days before the Tournament ie first post on Monday July 28. Details of the price for the day are not known as yet.

Westurf has been and gone again. It was good time for meeting old friends again from the other Sections. Our National Chairman was there along with Neil Thomas and some of the attractive ladies from Head Office. However this day belonged to Gordon and Marion as this was their last Westurf. A presentation was made to them by the Chairman of the Region, Richard Whyman. This was in recognition of all the hard work they have put in over the years. Without them Westurf would never have existed. They are Mr and Mrs Westurf. Thank you Gordon and Marion. Enjoy your retirement and put your feet up, you deserve it.

Ken Lodge

#### Devon and Cornwall

Westurf was the place to be on Wednesday April 30 as visitors to the show were greeted with a lovely warm sunny spring day. It was nice to see so many of you at Westurf to support the Region and wish Gordon and Marion a happy and enjoyable retirement from their post of Mr and Mrs BIGGA in the South West & South Wales. Westurf is an important event for all greenkeepers within the South West and South Wales Region as it not only gives us the opportunity to view all the latest products available to maintain our courses in first class condition, it gives the Region the opportunity from the proceeds of Westurf to offer you its members a subsidised Regional seminar and trip to the BTME show and educational seminars at Harrogate. The Region has also given grants to all our GTC approved local colleges and grants to

members to complete their college course.

Unfortunately the English Golf Union held a workshop in Cornwall for Secretaries, Chairman of Greens and Head Greenkeepers on the same day as Westurf which could have jeopardised the show, so we are grateful to all who attended the show in your bumper numbers. Hopefully in the future BIGGA can work more closely with the EGU so events such as Westurf, Regional Seminar and Section events do not clash with the excellent workshops put on by the EGU. Surely it makes sense not to duplicate on educational talks, but work together to achieve the best greenkeeping education available.

Back to the show which saw an increase in exhibitors on last year. Many of the exhibitors were offering prize draws and of course there was the Region's holiday voucher to be won. Visitors to the show also enjoyed watching all the latest maintenance equipment being demonstrated in the brilliant sunshine.

There was a big Westurf welcome for our Chairman, Pat Murphy and the Executive Director, Neil Thomas and not forgetting the hard working HQ girls Janet and Jenny who helped in the BIGGA tent all day. Also we welcomed Paula Humphries, our new Regional Administrator to her first of many shows.

All in all Westurf 97 continued to consolidate its position as a superb local turfcare show with most of the trade delighted with enquiries on the day.

To mark Gordon and Marion's last Westurf in charge I presented them with a matching decanter and biscuit barrel as a thank you from the Region for all the hard work they have put into running the Region over the last 10 years.

Finally I would like to wish our Hayter Qualifiers the very best of golfing luck at this years Regional Final to be played at Burnham and Berrow GC on Wednesday June 11.

Richard Whyman

#### South West

The Hayter Challenge took place at the magnificent Orchardleigh GC on a pleasant Monday afternoon. A small but select group took part in this annual fixture to see who could reach the next round which takes place at Burnham and Berrow on June 11. With five people qualifying from three handicap groups, it was a keenly contested affair with

some people displaying a superb golfing prowess despite their handicaps. The said handicaps will of course be reviewed. The winners of the three divisions are:- Cat 1: J. Keenaghan, 68; Cat 2: A. Knight, 67; Cat 3: J. Coverdale, 61. James collected his prize without a hint of shame!

Our thanks must go to Sally Jane Coode, of Orchardleigh, for allowing us the use of their course and to Gary Cashman and his staff for presenting the course in its usual superb condition, with the pencross greens especially coming in for a great deal of praise. Our thanks also go to Hayters for their sponsorship and donation of the first prizes and to BS Mowers for providing the other prizes. A most enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Education now and anyone wishing to do a PA2 spraying course please could you contact Noel Stevens direct on 01452 526111. Noel, the course tutor, will arrange a time and location convenient to yourself and will also sort out the examination to follow.

Westurf took place on April 30 on a delightful day and reports were generally encour-

aging. There appeared to be quite a good turn out although greater numbers would always be appreciated. Congratulations to Marion and Gordon Child for their superb organisation of this, their last Westurf. Their expertise and experience will be sadly missed although let's hope their smiling faces will be seen at future shows. Gordon has helped the South West Region hugely over the years with his tireless enthusiasm and we are all greatly indebted to him. We wish him and Marion all the best for the future and hope to see them regularly.

The trade appeared to be very pleased with the way things went. It may not be quite as busy as Saltex or the BTME but there were many genuine enquiries about their products and future support looks assured.

Before closing and still on the subject of retirement, Peter Cox from Long Ashton, a stalwart of the greenkeepers tour and section committees retires after 25 years of loyal service. We all wish Peter a long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing him on a regular basis at future tournaments.

Marc Haring

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