



**Scottish Region**  
Peter Boyd  
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

**West of Scotland**

Well hello again, and after a few months of nothing, I'm back. Sorry about the absence but there wasn't a lot happening out there. There are a few things to bring to your attention this month though.

At the recent Scottish Outing over West Kilbride, the West Section tried in vain to retain their team trophy and although a reasonable turnout was evident, their performances were distinctly below par. Ayrshire came out easy winners, so maybe next year.

Jim Paton and his staff produced a very fine course, plenty of rough and out-of-bounds to which I fell foul. Thanks are extended to him for his efforts and the clubhouse staff for attending to our needs. Thanks also to the members of West Kilbride for extending courtesy of the course to the greenkeeping fellowship. Special mention must go to Peter Boyd for his hard work on the day completing the cards, starting and booking in. Well done Peter.

A new piece of news as well, my playing partner on the day was Elliot Small and we had an excellent game. I then discovered his new role due to the resignation of George Brown as Vice Chairman of BIGGA because of work commitments. Elliot is now the new Vice Chairman. Congratulations and I hope everything goes well for him. This year sees the retirement of another prominent member of the Association in Jim Nielson, Murrayfield Golf Club. Jim is at present the Chairman of the Scottish Region and has been Past Chairman and Secretary of the East Section. I hope he enjoys his retirement and his golf now. Best Wishes from the West Section.

Now for Section business. The outing at Cathcart may well have passed by the time this reaches you - if not it is September 10 and entries should be high as this is a new venue. I'm sure Robert Hogarth and his staff will be working all hours to have the course in trim, but it depends on the weather though, and I hope it is better than recently. The five-a-side tournament will have passed by now and a report will be in next month. Tickets for the Annual Dinner at Victoria's will be available at the Autumn outing - places are restricted to 60 and a £5 deposit is required. A different venue and format is planned so come along and enjoy yourself. The AGM for the section will be earlier this year although a date has not been set. Early October is likely. A game's night will follow as usual so be sure to come along as it is usually a good night. That's everything folks.

Stuart Taylor

**North**

Yet another three new members to the Section this month. We welcome Michael Carson, Caird Park; Ian Cowper, Tain, and George Clubb from Royal Dornoch. That is all five of my staff as members now, so anyone with non-members at their course get working on them as I did, they don't know what they are missing unless you tell them.

The two lucky winners of the Patron's Award this year are Stuart Hogg, Fortrose, and Ross Macleod, Tain. They win an expenses paid trip to BTME 1999 next January. All they had to do was attend more BIGGA events than other members, so next year it could be you if you attend events in the Section, Region and Nationwide. The first event to count was this month's Autumn outing at Alford, and the next one is the Section AGM at Moray GC, Lossiemouth on Thursday October 29 with golf laid on before hand, details will be sent out nearer the time. Another counting event will be the Section One-Day Conference, on Wednesday, November 25, at Craibstone, Aberdeen. Speakers lined up are Carol Borthwick, Elmwood College, on the role of the Assessor, Maurice Gray, SAC Craibstone, on the new golf course they have just built, Liz Thom an Archaeologist, a Representative from Envirogreen on the safe disposal of Pesticides etc, a Representative from Green-Releaf™ on beneficial microbes and how they can be utilised to assist the greenkeeper produce first class conditions, and, last but not least, one of our Scottish members is going to take us through the history of greenkeeper associations in Scotland. A wide and varied programme I am sure you will agree. The cost for the day, including lunch and coffee, has not been set yet but should be under £20 for BIGGA members, a bargain or what! We need a good turnout for this event to avoid losing money, so please come along and bring your Greens Convener, etc. Details will be in the post shortly or the programme and entry form will be in the October magazine, so let's make a great day of it. Finally, if anyone has seen the Summer, please tell it to come up North for a while!

Iain Macleod

**Ayrshire**

The Autumn outing has been confirmed for Loudoun Golf Club on Tuesday September 22 at a cost of £16.00. The day will consist of the usual format of morning coffee, Texas scramble, lunch, afternoon medal completed with high tea and presentation of prizes. Derek Wilson is on hand to accept your entry, he can be contacted on 01294 276177 so get your entry in for an enjoyable day.

As I pen these notes I am presently clearing out my desk at Beith Golf Club after enjoying a two week hand over period with my old colleague

from Routenburn Golf Club, Marshall Sloss.

I'm sure Marshall will continue to further develop the course at Beith and our best wishes go to him in his new position. I am moving back over the B760 road this time to the Kelburn course with Largs Golf Club. I am thoroughly looking forward to meeting some old and new acquaintances in Largs and the challenge that awaits me in my new position.

I send my apologies to Mark McBride at Beith Golf Club that I was unable to attend the Beith outing there due to my job move. I look forward to catching up with you soon Mark.

Next month's notes will be from our Chairman, Jim Paton. He can be contacted on 01294 823210. I shall be somewhere on the island of Minorca. What did you say! New job and foreign holiday as well. I'm glad my wife had it all booked prior to my appointment. See you soon.

Iain Barr.



**Northern Region**  
Douglas Bell  
Tel: 0151 431 0433

**North West**

I can't let this month's news go by without mentioning The Open at Royal Birkdale. This must be one of the best Open venues for viewing and with the removal of many pine trees and scrub, this has improved the course immensely. The course was in perfect condition, with slick greens cut at 1/8th inch, firm but receptive. The fairways were exceptionally green for the time of the year, (due to the excessive amount of rain) and how nice it was to see them cut in traditional style, lengthwise, instead of looking like a patterned quilt. Chris Whittle, the Head Greenkeeper and his staff, worked hard on creating the rough which had been allowed to grow, creating a further hazard for the players and making the fairways look narrower than they were.

The course proved itself in more ways than one. Firstly, none of the players ran away with exceptional scores, which proved the difficulty of the course. Secondly, and most importantly, the course stood up to the heavy rain that we had for three of the days. The greens showed no signs of flooding, even though squeegees were at the ready and this can only reflect the great work done by Chris and his staff in preparing the course to perfection. I would like to thank the Greenkeeping Support Team for their help, especially the guys who turned out early for raking bunkers and the guys who stayed late for divoting.

Steve Hopkins is on the move from Knutsford GC. Steve will be taking over as Head Greenkeeper at Stand GC in September when Eric Palin retires after, I believe, about 35 years.

Just a reminder that we have the Autumn Tournament at Dean Wood GC, on Thursday September 17. You will need to register no later than September 10. Any entries after this date will not be accepted. All entries including a cheque for £15 must be sent to Bill Merritt, 225 Utting Avenue, Walton, Liverpool L4 9RB. Lunch will be served between 12noon-1pm. The tee is available from 1.30pm and tee times will be allocated on the day. That's it for now, any news or queries ring me on 0151 724 5412.

Bert Cross.

**Cleveland**

Once again very little news for last month. Brancepeth GC Green keepers' shed was broken into and £9,000 of gear was stolen. The thieves stole the gear at 2.45pm on a very sunny afternoon. Of course, the police said you can forget about getting any of it back. Now there's faith in the system. Up here the police are still looking for Dick Turpin. On a much lighter note, congratulations to Roger Shaw, Course Manager at Ramside GC and his lovely wife Olwyn, on the birth of their second child, a little baby girl who is called Helen and is a healthy 7lb 14. She'll make a nice playmate for Andrew. Both mother and daughter are fine. Roger told me there will be no more now. Of course this was said in confidence but I know it will go no further. Just don't mention shears when he's there.

Well the next time you read my column we will have played our Autumn Tournament which is at Teesside GC on October 13, tee off time 10am. I hope some one will have some news for me, as its hard enough trying to find something to write about.

Kevin (Scoop) Heslop

**North Wales**

Summer, what's all that about then! It's now the beginning of August and I think we've all had drier winters, I think my mowers have done the equivalent of two seasons cutting this year, I haven't used the irrigation except to see if it still works. Wetting agents? I need drying agents! Fusarium on the greens in July and August, well there's a novelty, I mean I've been in the profession 25 years and never witnessed that before. The only "furse" I usually see on the greens at this time of year is ex-police on index-linked disability pension! Ooh er social comment!

As you can most probably tell, I ain't got much to write about this month, no one's been in touch with any information except the Welsh College. In line with GTC policy for personnel development the college will be offering guidance and support to mature experienced greenkeepers wishing to progress to Level 3 to enable a higher level of work place assessment. This course would be specifically designed for the individual greenkeeper to bring forward evi-



dence from the work place for accreditation of prior learning. Anyone interested should contact either Phil Davies or Graham Wright at the college on 01352 841000.

Well, I'm on holiday next month so don't expect any Section news, unless there is anything really important. As you read this I'll be in an alcoholic haze somewhere in Ibiza. Now where're my wellies. See ya.

Dave Goodridge

**Northern**

Due to the original President's Day Tournament having to be cancelled due to inclement weather, another date and venue was soon arranged by the Section's President, Mr Mel Guy. The competition was eventually played on July 29 at South Leeds. The weather once again started miserably with rain for the first few groups going out. Eventually the rain cleared up and the sun managed to show its face at times.

The results for the day were as follows; Division 1, 1. Richard Harris; 2. Dave Collins; 3. Glynn Hewitt. Division 2, 1. Robin Smith; 2. John Waite; 3. Alan Baxter. Division 3, 1. Richard Smith (winner of the Bill Mountain Trophy); 2. Andrew Smith; 3. Jim Brown. Trade Prize, 1. Andy Law. Many thanks to Mel for arranging the competition and also for sorting out the prize table. Thanks to everyone for playing at such short notice and making it into such an enjoyable day.

Only the Winter golf on December 9 at Keighley Golf Club remains to be played. This will be followed by our Annual General Meeting. Anyone wishing to book a place please contact me in good time, as these will be limited. Anyone with any information from within the section please contact me at 1 Cockley Meadows, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, HD5 0LA or phone on 0411 601420 or 01484 317813.

Simon Heppenstall



Midland Region  
Peter Larter  
Tel: 01480 437507

**Midland Region Seminar**

Midland Region Seminar, November 18, 1998 will be held at Mentmore Golf & Country Club, near Leighton Buzzard, commencing at 9am. The programme and attendance applications will be sent to BIGGA members in the Midland Region inside this issue of Greenkeeper International magazine.

If members want additional copies of the programme or do not get a copy, please advise the Midland Regional Administrator. The speakers and subjects will be; Eddie Seaward, Head Groundsman at Wimbledon Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Preparing Wimbledon; Billy

McMillan, Course Manager - Wildwood Golf Club, A Golf Course from Seed to Play; John Farrington, Bailey's of Norfolk - Soil Analyst, Soil Analysis in relation to production of compatible turf dressing; John Westrope, Groundscare Manager - Farming & Agricultural Finance Ltd, Budgeting for New Machinery; John Mullins, Supaturf - Regional Sales Manager, Water Management; Steve Lucas, European Product Manager - Fulcrum, Bacteria in the soil; Jon Allbutt, Health & Safety Expert, Risk Assessment - Where did we go wrong?; Tracey Maddison, BIGGA Membership Services Officer, Membership Services Explained.

Peter Larter

**BB&O**

The summer golf day at the Oxfordshire sponsored by Avoncrop Amenity Products proved very successful despite our continued bad luck with the weather. Although David was kind enough to allow us to play from the normal tees of the day, Brian was not so forgiving with some of his pin placements causing me much embarrassment! Somebody once told me you should never laugh at another golfer's poor shots. Well obviously my playing partners, Adrian, Brett & Vincent don't abide by this unwritten law because they were almost crying with laughter as I attempted to finish out on the 10th. Having almost holed my second shot from the fairway a solid par looked odds on, however, four putts later a 6 was the outcome I actually three putted from inside a foot! Despite my own misfortune there were some great scores posted and the eventual winner shot 77 gross which was fantastic golf in the testing conditions; 1. Paul Young, 37pts, 2. David Gower, 36pts (last seen riding a horse & wearing a sombrero)! 3. John Scoones, 31pts, 4. Justin Lee (speaks fluent Mexican)? 5. Jim Payne, L.D Paul Young, NP 13th Peter Critchley (superb golf shot over the water), NP 18th Bob Woodward, Wooden Spoon, Matthew Pullen (Pts withheld to save blushes), Best Trade, Tim Webb.

Many thanks to the Oxfordshire for their hospitality shown on the day. The course was fantastic as always which is great credit to David Gower and his team. The food was second to none, thanks to Penny for organising the menu, it really was first class.

Finally, many thanks to Colin White from Avoncrop Amenity for providing all the fabulous prizes, not only to the winners but every competitor was given a keepsake to remember the day, that was a nice touch indeed. Next event is at Harleyford (Marlow) on October 1.

Lindsay Anderson

**Midland**

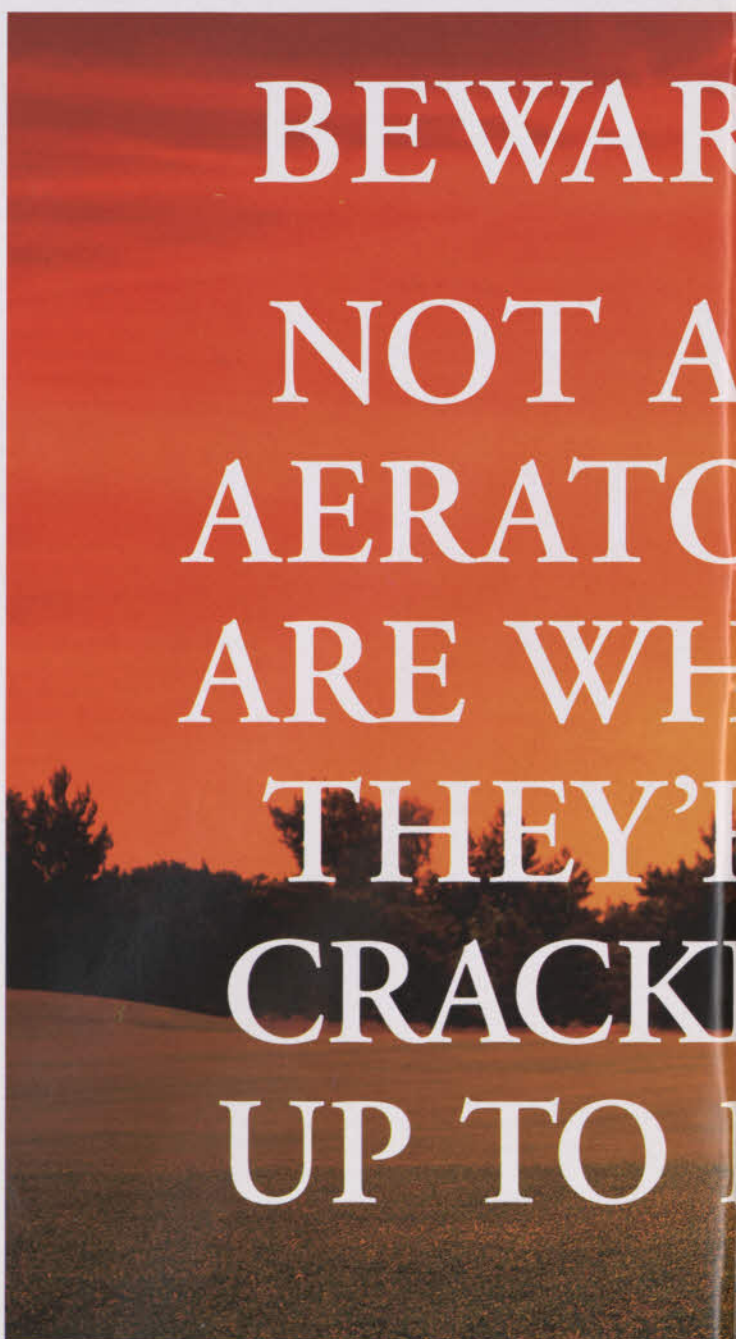
The summer tournament proved

to be a great success, held at the Wrekin Golf Club which was a very demanding course with, in some cases, amazing undulating countryside and views over Shropshire to match. The course was in great shape and many thanks go to all the greenkeeping staff. The evening meal was a real feast and I could safely say it was the best meal the Midland Section has received in a

very long time. Again many thanks to all the members of staff.

The results are as follows- 1. (Gross) Mike Hughes. 1. (Nett) Vince Lee; 2. Rod Hunter; 3. John Hooper; 4. Mike Gash. John Mullins, of Supaturf, won the nearest the pin - he was the only person to get the ball on the green!

The planned trip to the Massey Ferguson went ahead and 19 green-



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keepers went along and I am told a very good day was had by all. A big thanks to Mitchell's who sponsored the food at lunch time especially to John Fawkes and John Proffit. I will take this opportunity to remind you that anyone who wishes to play in the Christmas tournament on the 10th December must get their entries in by November 9. You may think this premature but there is

always a full entry very early for this tournament.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform all the members of the Midland Section and anyone who knew Trafford Stonebridge of his sad death on Saturday August 8. Trafford passed away in his sleep after a fight against cancer.

Trafford will be remembered as a great man with a massive sense of

humour to match. He was serving Chairman of the Section and had given many years of service to the Midland Section and to Maxstoke Park where he has left behind many dear friends. Everyone who knew him will find this news a great loss and on behalf of the Midland Section I would like to send our sympathy to his family and friends at this time. Thank you Trafford for

all the amusement and commitment you have given greenkeepers of the Midland Region.

Finally, I will introduce some more new members- Michael Milinczuk, Stephen Marsden, Michael James, Trevor Smith, Terence Finney, Shaun Sutton, Sally Doherty and Christopher Stilgoe.

Jonathan Wood

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**South West  
and South Wales**  
Paula Humphries  
Tel: 01363 82777

**Devon & Cornwall**

With the summer drawing to a close, our thoughts turn to our Autumn and Winter meeting programme which starts with the Roffey's meeting at Saunton Golf Club on Wednesday, October 14. The morning's golf competition will be a singles Stableford for the D.O. Hunt Trophy. For our non playing members there will be the usual course walk which will leave the club house at approximately 10.30am. Lunch will be from 1pm followed by our afternoon educational talk with the golf presentation and a short Company presentation by Roffeys, our day's sponsor, concluding the day.

As in previous years the Section will hold raffles at its October, December & March meetings with the first prize at our October raffle being a pair of Hi-Tec golf shoes. Please note the changes to our meeting programme listed below; 1. Golfing members to receive starting times before meeting with a draw for partners being introduced to avoid same old groups play-

ing together. This will be done for all meetings including foursome competitions etc. 2. Company & Golf presentation to conclude the day; 3. A levy of £2 will be added to each entry received after the closing date; 4. As some members have problems paying before meetings, they will be able to continue to pay on the day without being levied as long as the entry has been received before the closing date.

Any member who doesn't attend after entering will be invoiced if no payment is received.

Regional educational dates; November 25, Regional Seminar to be held at Cannington College. For more details contact Paula Humphries on 01363 82777.

December 8-9, Golf Course Design to be held at Borringdon Hall Hotel, Plymouth. For more details contact Ken Richardson, BIGGA HQ on 01347 838581. January 19-22, Region's trip to BTME at Harrogate. For more details contact Paula Humphries on 01363 82777. You should have received our new fixture card which has once again been kindly sponsored by P J Flegg. The fixture card has dates of all our forthcoming events.

If you haven't received yours yet please let me know.

Richard Whyman.

**South Coast**

Our Summer Tournament was held at Bramshaw on Thursday, July 23. The results were as follows; 1. Phil Wentworth and L Hopper; 2. John York and Joe Cooper; 3. Bill Davis and Steve Pellat. Thanks must go to Bramshaw Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course and granting us the use of all their facilities. The course was in excellent condition thanks to Adrian Wiltshire, the Course Manager. Also thanks to Clive Lovell the Head Greenkeeper of the Manor Course. His team did a superb job in preparing the course for us. Our main sponsors for the day were John Deere, New Forest Garden Machinery. They were represented by Nick Clarke. They presented us with an excellent prize table. To our sponsors we thank you for your support. Last but not least, a big thank you to Trevor Smith our tournament organiser. He did a great job in organising the event.

At the prize giving a presentation was made to Gordon Paine. Gordon has recently retired as Head Greenkeeper at Maidenhead Golf Club. Gordon has been a keen supporter of the South Coast Section for a great number of years. I think I can safely say he was one of the Founder members. We have received a letter

from Gordon thanking all members of the South Coast Section for the Tankard that was presented to him. On behalf of the South Coast Section I would like to wish Gordon a long and happy retirement.

Another reminder for the Regional Seminar to be held at Cannington on Wednesday November 25.

The main speaker will be Frank Newbury, who will be speaking on Communications, in particular "Making Committees Work For You." He will also be conducting a Workshop. All applications and enquiries to; Paula Humphries, Truants Cottage, Zeal Monachorum, Crediton, Devon, EX17 6DF, Tel: 01363 82777.

Paula would also like applications and deposits for BTME as soon as possible. As I said in last month's report, "If we can get the support we will run a coach from the South Coast Section."

Our Autumn Tournament will be held at Tidworth Garrison Golf Club on Thursday October 15. It will consist of an 18 hole Stableford. The price for the day will be £15 per head. This will include an evening meal. All applications along with current handicaps, cheques for £15, name and address and telephone number to our Tournament

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Organiser; Trevor Smith, Manet, Horton Road, Horton Heath, Wimbourne, Dorset, BH21 6SB, Tel: 0410 835242. Closing date will be 10 days before the Tournament date ie: Monday October 5. To finish with, I have news of another retirement. Bob Parsons of Barton on Sea Golf Club has decided to call it a day after 45 years. I hasten to add, that is, 45 years at Barton on Sea Golf Club. I wonder if that might be a record. Bob has been a staunch supporter of the Section for a number of years. Hopefully we will still see his friendly face at some of our meetings. On behalf of the section I would like to wish you a long and happy retirement Bob.

Ken Lodge.

### South West

Yet more wind and rain greeted the South West Greenkeepers for the summer tournament at Filton GC. This event was particularly well supported with nearly 50 of us turning up to indulge in the delights of this Bristol course which was in totally immaculate condition thanks to Nick Wilson and his team. We then had an especially fine meal and diverted our gaze from the young waitress long enough for Chairman Chris Sealey

to read out the winners. (Just for the record our team captain Matt Hawker tried to chat up the waitress but was unsuccessful).

The scores were as follows, Head Greenkeepers; 1. Gary Cook, 77; 2. Nick Wilson, 78; 3. Marc Haring, 79. Assistants; 1. James Braithwaite, 67; 2. Craig Fudge, 68; 3. Peter Baynton, 70.

You will notice that the assistants' scores are appreciably better than the Head Greenkeepers. I can only put this down to the extreme strain we Head Greenkeepers are under and also to the fact that we get no time to practice our golf compared to the assistants.

Special thanks are due to Scotts UK who sponsored the day's event and who provided all the prizes and of course to Filton Golf Club who allowed us the use of their course and facilities. Don't forget the coach trip to BTME. Paula tells me that with such an incredible deal on offer this year, the places are going quickly. If anyone is interested then give Paula a ring. There are two matches coming up. The first is at Yeovil against the South Coast Section on September 16 and the second at St Pierre against the South Welsh section on October 7. If you have put your name down for

either of these then please ensure your availability.

Marc Haring

### South Wales

Firstly thanks to Chris Solman for his around the green notes. Unfortunately Chris has other commitments so you now have me to bring you up to date. The Spring Competition results played at Southerndown GC:- The Cardiff Cup, Richard Patterson; Browns Shield, D. Gladwin; John O'Gorman Cup, David Jenkins.

Thanks also to Gary Johnstone and his team for the excellent course conditions.

The matchplay results so far; Kerry Jones beat Angus Macleod, Mike Jones beat Adrian Panks, Dave Gladwin beat Andrew Hatcher, Malcolm Davis beat Andrew Phillips, J. B. Jones beat Richard Patterson, Rob Frater beat David Morgan, Peter Lacey beat Idwall Morris, Daryl Bray beat John Borge, Russell Anderson beat Gary Johnstone, Mike Norfolk beat Peter Edwards.

Another excellent Open day was held at Pencoed College on Saturday June 27 with a large attendance. This also was a good opportunity to view one of the colleges latest ven-

tures, their newly constructed 9 hole Golf Course. Hopefully an annual match us versus the college is being arranged, watch this space.

Rain on June 24 decided that the match v Secretaries was postponed at Creigiau GC - a new date has been arranged on Wednesday September 2. Please phone Peter Lacey if you are available.

Sounds early but it may be in your interest to contact Paula Humphries on 01363 82777 to book your place on a coach to the BTME, at a cost of only £95 per person with an assistant from the same club going for £85. Cannot be bad for three nights B&B.

Up and coming events include, the Regional Seminar featuring Frank Newberry & Ian McMillan at Cannington College on November 25.

A Regional training course is to be held again at the Marriott Hotel Swansea on December 10/11, on Golf Course Design Construction & Establishment.

Last but not least congratulations are in order for Meryl and Neil Smith and D. Thomas on the arrival of their baby girls. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any information on 01656 742761.

Richard Hatcher







**South East**  
Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

**Essex**

Date Tuesday November 16, 1999. Time 9am. Place Writtle College. No, I have not gone completely mad, well not quite yet. But this will be when we, the Essex Section, will have the honour of staging the 1999 South East Region Regional Seminar and the committee are looking for ideas, topics, helpers and sponsors for this important event in next year's diary. So anyone interested please contact Martin on 01245 603131. Over the last few months we have had two committee members stand down from their posts. Andy Sheehan and Reg Hooker. Vice Chairman and Education Officer. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their services, especially Andy who has held a number of positions for many a year. Anyone interested in helping on the committee please contact Martin (01245 603131). Next month we will have a total update on the outstanding golfing days (this due to cut off dates for publication). On to the pair's knock out competition. Michael Fance and Scott Reeves are into one semi final where they will play either Barry Brown/Stuart Jenkins or Lee Adams/Gary Speller. While Jon Selwood and Steve Cox wait in the other semi final for the winners of the Andy Sheehan Jack Sholton/Nick Horswell match.

The Essex Captains held their annual match against the Greenkeepers at Romford Golf Club with the Captains winning as usual. The individual winner of the Greenkeepers competition was Weald Park Golf Club's Doug Mackison. On behalf of all the Greenkeepers who played, we would like to thank Romford Golf Club, their staff and all the captains for their kind hospitality. To Barry Brown and his green staff for all their hard work and on the excellent condition of the course. If you did not receive an invite this year, why not drop a few hints to your Captain Elect for 1999, so you will not miss out on an excellent day out.

On the new members front welcome aboard to Richard Cook, Frinton Golf Club and Lee Squires, The Fairways, and hope to see you at Maylands Golf Club.

That reminds me, our next golfing outing will be on Wednesday, October 7, at Maylands Golf and Country Club. For further details ring Richard Pride 01268 752281. See you there, Dave Wells 01702 522202

**London**

No London Section Column last month, due to a lack of sufficient news to fill the space. After a very damp June, keeping the exceptional

grass growth under control and preparing the courses under difficult conditions seemed to keep everyone fully occupied. However, here is a brief round up of new appointments.

Firstly, congratulations to Duncan McGilvray on securing the post of Course Manager at Potters Bar Golf Club. I am sure Letchworth Golf Club will find Duncan's boots difficult to fill, but their loss is Potters Bar Golf Club's gain, and I am sure we all wish him well for the future. Simon Bolden has left Enfield Golf Club to take up the job as Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Crews Hill Golf Club - Simon had been at Enfield for nine years and his old boss John Kerr and the lads wish Simon good luck. Nick Heller and Tim Phillips, of Grimsdyke, have moved on to gain further experience. Tim to Bushy Golf & Country Club and Nick to Moor Park. Dave Knight, ex Aldenham, and Scott Walker have replaced them on Chris Gravestock's team at Grimsdyke. Kerry Jarman has moved from Sandy Lodge to Moor Park (watch out for grease everyone), and Steve Nicholson has moved from Old Fold Manor to Sandy Lodge.

News from Mervyn Downing - Head Greenkeeper at Aldenham. The car park improvements are complete - after a new entrance was constructed and landscaped last year, the whole area has been surfaced with tarmac, car parking bays permanently lined out and the erection of security lights completed the project.

A few years ago it was "Ally's Barmy Army," but during this summer's World Cup, it has been more like "Monty's Mad Marauders," as part of the North London Greenkeeping contingent became the "Tartan Hordes." Pubs in Barnet waited in fearful anticipation and anxiety to see whether it would be their turn to be invaded prior to the Scotland World Cup games. Landlords were not worried about violence, nor were they worried about profits (quite the reverse), no, it was Monty and Don's interpretation of Braveheart for which they waited in trepidation. I am told by a shocked survivor that the Highland holocaust washed over them in full regalia, kilts, claymores, flags, faces painted with the Cross of St Andrew, Tam O'Shanter's worn with ginger wigs - but it was those legs - those horrible scary legs - that was the worst bit.

The summer golf tournament this year was held at The Buckinghamshire on July 7 and after weeks of rain and grey skies, the sky turned blue and sun came out - a good start to a great afternoon. The Buckinghamshire was constructed in 1991 by Southern Golf with the project managed by Kajima. Designed by John Jacobs, the 'Bucks' is already rated in the top 100 Courses in the UK by Golf World Magazine. Situated next to the River Colne, the Clubhouse is the historic Grade II listed Denham Court Mansion, which has provided very elegant surroundings for some of the top stars of

professional golf. The Bucks hosts the European Championship of the Andersen Consulting World Championship of Golf and also the closing Tournament of the PGA European Senior's Tour, namely the Tournament of Champions, so we were sampling what the Pro's are offered and very nice it was too.

A good turn-out of 46 entries produced the following results from the format of 18 holes of Stableford Golf. 1. Kenny Mackay, Hanbury Manor, 38 Points; 2. Ian Semple, Old Fold Manor (not quite 38 points); 3. Mike Harper, West Herts, 28 points. The Guest Prize was won by Les Clarke and the longest drive was won by Steve Little, of South Herts. The results for nearest the pin, sponsored by Willmot Pertwee Amenity were as follows; 1. Dave Kirk, Hadley Wood, 2. David Ede, West Herts, 3. Kenny Mackay, of Hanbury Manor. The top score by the trade contingent was by Clive Parnell.

Thanks must be given to The Grass Roots Trading Company who helped, in part, to fund the day and who gave us a most interesting talk on new products at a pre-dinner presentation. Managing Director, Jamie Bennett also led everyone in singing an impromptu rendition of 'Happy Birthday to You' to help celebrate Course Manager, Phil Chiverton's birthday. I would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate Phil on his marriage to Ann on April 15 this year, which took place in Australia and was followed by a five week honeymoon around 'Oz'. Thanks to Phil, his Head Greenkeeper, Steve Hook, for all their hard work preparing the course and to the management of the Buckinghamshire and all the catering staff for a marvellous day.

Late news just in. Well done to Lee Robinson, of Flackwell Heath, who is taking over from John Nudds as Head Greenkeeper at Gerrards Cross. John is retiring at the end of the year and Lee, who started his career at Gerrards Cross, is looking forward to his new appointment. Also congratulations to Trevor Smith, Course Manager of Welwyn Garden City GC who is the first Greenkeeper to achieve NVQ Level 4 through the Greenkeeping Training Committee. That's all folks - See you at Saltex, September 8, 9 and 10.

Peter Hopkinson.

**Surrey**

Congratulations to Ken Harding who is now in charge at Worplesdon Golf Club. We all wish him good luck, good weather and a co-operative Greens Committee.

Earnest Doe sponsored the Cresta Cup at Foxhills on June 16 and the prize winners were 1. Dave Wyborn; 2. Nigel Colley; 3. John Mathis. The McMillan Tankard was competed for at Sunningdale on August 5 and our thanks to Brian and his team for another excellent afternoon's golf. Thanks also to the Sunningdale arti-

sans for the use of their clubhouse. The results were; 1. Steve Johnston, 36pts; 2. John Mathis, 36pts; 3. Mike Yorston, 36pts.

Peter Broadbent and his team at Effingham Golf Club are still talking about an unwanted visitor who arrived with a bang at the end of May. A thunder bolt struck property within yards of the sheds at Effingham causing fire damage, shock and additional laundry expenses for the greens staff!

Stuart Dent, First Assistant at Croham Hurst, is leaving to take up his new position at Metro Golf Centre at Hendon as Head Greenkeeper. We all wish him the very best. Good luck Stuart. James Watson has told me of his intended move to warmer climes. Goodbye Clandon Regis Golf Club, Guildford, Hello Capderpera Golf Club, Majorca. Good luck James and if you need anything I'll arrange a visit immediately. Richard Evans from Addington Palace Golf Club and his partner Liz are celebrating the birth of their first born, a bouncing baby boy 8lbs 13oz. Congratulations Rick, very best wishes from us all, especially BW.

Brian Willmott.

**Northern  
Ireland**

**South East**

On August 1 we had our BBQ at Groomsport Golf Centre a great evening was had by all and winners of the chipping contest were, Terry Crawford, Jonathan McCabe and Ken Henderson. We feel it was beneficial to the Section to have a social event, along with educational and golfing events.

Many thanks go to Alan Boyd, (Boyd Golf Course Accessories) and to his wife Frances Boyd for preparing all the food and sponsoring the event. If there is anyone who has information within the section or would like anything mentioned they can contact me on 01247 472186

Jonathan McCabe.