



Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

North

I think I should start this report with an apology for the weather. During a dry spell in April I fitted a rain gauge at Tain and, only some two and a half months later, it has a reading of 170mm which is not far off half the average rainfall for our area! Apparently we are going to have a great summer. We shall see.

Tain boys flew the flag for the section at the Scottish Championships at East Kilbride in June. Gavin Neill won the trophy for the best nett score of the day and Iain Cowper won the third class trophy. Jocky Urquhart, who recently joined the Section, pitched in with a third place in class one. Congratulations to the West Section who won nearly everything else.

At the end of the month we have the Norrie Whytock Trophy and the North Section team hoping to win it this year are, Iain Macleod, Tain (who?), Scott Williams, Peterculter, Iain Cowper, Iain and George Aitken, Peterculter. Apologies to Colin Mackay, Elmwood, who was told he had qualified at the Section outing, but our Sections are different to the ones for this competition. If you are wondering how I qualified, I didn't, but as Section Chairman I get to go to make up the numbers.

Finally, next month we have our 50th Anniversary outing at Downfield in Dundee, a fine parkland course under the stewardship of Paul Murphy. Paul has hosted The Open qualifying this year and now faces the daunting prospect of hosting 80 or so greenkeepers! As this is a special occasion the fee for the day has been reduced to £10 per member so get your entries back quickly. Any past Committee men no longer in the Section who would like to attend would be most welcome. Please phone Dougal on 01224 740329 for details. Andy Wilson left Carnoustie after The Open to become Head Greenkeeper at Brechin GC - his home town.

Iain Macleod

West

Welcome to another round up of Section news. Just a few items to inform you of this month. Firstly, the PC basic user training course, funded by BIGGA, will be taking place at GOSTA HQ on 4 and 5 August. Six places have been reserved for the two day training. Similarly, a course will be taking place on 10 and 11 of August, if you are interested please contact Sandy Bulloch.

A challenge match, Greenkeepers v Club Stewards has been arranged and will take place at Lenzie GC on

Tuesday 24 August. It is anticipated that there will be two teams of 14 and the format will be four ball better ball.

Hopefully, by the time you are reading this I will have some confirmation on the venue for the annual dinner. It is hoped that we can book Victoria's again as this was by all accounts a great success last year.

Stuart Taylor and Kevin Brunton are trying to arrange an 11 a side game against the Central section. If you are interested in taking part contact Stuart on 0141 956 5554.

And finally, welcome to some new members this month. A. Mcleod, P. Hamilton and D. McMillan all from Raiston GC. C. Gordon, Lenzie GC, C. Maxton, Cathcart Castle, Francis Gallagher, Loch Lomond, and last but not least N. M. Stevenson. We look forward to seeing you all at future outings.

Once again if you have any news to offer, please contact me on 0141



Have you heard?

776 1532 M. 07050 173080.
G V Jarvis

East

Well, here we are, August already. Where has all the year gone. We'll soon be thinking of end of season work, hollow coring, venti draining etc, so only a couple of months left of the season. What a quick year this has been. Time fairly flies by the older you get!

The Section Committee held its Annual Committee Day out at the Hirsell Golf Club, Coldstream, recently and a great day was had by all the committee members who attended. Thanks go to the Captain and Council of the Hirsell for courtesy of the course, the greenstaff for the great condition of the course and also the clubhouse staff for looking after us superbly on a nice day so vast amounts of liquid had to be consumed, that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it! Also a big thanks to local Toro dealer A M Russell for sponsoring the event again this year. It was also good to have along for the day Brian Goudie and Dougie Jeffery of A M Russell and, as a guest of the sponsors, Dave Kerr, of East Lothian Council. This year we had a new name on the individual winners trophy, that was Graham Wood, Dunbar GC. Craig did not win the trophy this year for the third time as he had to play blindfolded, just joking! Well done Graham and we look forward to you defending it next

year, wherever it may be. We are looking forward to it already.

The team event was won by the Chairman's team, so well done to Stuart Greenwood, Chairman, and the rest of his team. Stuart has got his name on this trophy so many times that if he wins again we might have to let him keep it. Well done to everyone for a great day.

The East Section held its summer tournament in early June at Murrayfield Golf Club. As usual it was teams of three playing a Texas Scramble format which always goes down well. Some excellent scoring was seen on an excellent day with no rain until the last few holes, so we were very lucky. A big thanks to the captain and his directors for courtesy of the course, the clubhouse staff for the food and refreshments which made the day even better. Also thanks to Stuart Townsend, Head Greenkeeper, and his staff for the superb condition of the course and also thanks to Craig Pennyquick for looking after the cards and starting duties on the 1st tee.

The results for the summer tournament at Murrayfield are as follows.

1. The three amigos, bandits or something along those lines with a score like this. J. Neilson, retired Murrayfield Scottish Chairman, P. Boyd, Scottish Regional Administrator, J. Walker, Managing Director Ritefeed. Score 57.5, par of course 69; 2. G. Thompson, Goswick, D. Wilkinson, Goswick, C. Pennyquick, Winterfield. Score 61. best last 6 holes. 3. C. Gilholm, Muirfield, R. Mullen, Swanston, D. McGinley, Swanston. Score 61. Once again a great day was had by all who attended.

Hope to see you all back again next year for the new Millennium Summer Tournament 2000.

The Section's best wishes go out to John Geddes, Stewarts & Co. and his wife Jackie on the birth of their son Scott who was born on 16 May. Mum and baby are doing well, but if you see John coming into the course looking a bit tired and bleary-eyed, the reason was not a best of 21 ends at Pilrig Bowling Club, as John likes his bowls, but an addition to the family keeping him awake at night. Well done to you both and best wishes from the Section to all the family.



What's all the noise about?

Through this column I would like to thank Ocmis (Scotland) Ltd, especially Nick Lawson and Piers Walsh for inviting myself, Graham Wood and Kenny Anderson to play for the Ocmis Scotland team recently in the BIGGA Tournament at Aldwark Manor. We were extremely well looked after for the entire three days and offer our thanks once again. It is the first time I have been down to HQ at Aldwark Manor and I was thoroughly impressed by the new offices which will benefit all members of the Association.

The tournament was superb, well organised and thoroughly enjoyable to play in. The barbecue at night was superb, but alas our golf was not as good and we finished well down the field. None of us played to our best, especially me, as I lost 12 golf balls and a total of 24 between the four of us. If anybody has any spare ones, stick them in the post, they will be much appreciated. Thanks again for a great time chaps. It was excellent.

Well, that's it until next time around. Next on the Agenda is the Willie Woods Invitational at Willcourse at the beginning of September, so get asking your captains, secretaries or committee members along to this great tournament and let them see what BIGGA and the East Section are all about. Entry forms will be with you soon so we hope to see you there.

Chris Yeaman



Northern Region
Douglas Bell
Tel: 0151 431 0433

Cleveland

The season is flying over. Most of our big competitions are over. Like most other courses in our area we are turning into a wetland trust with oyster-catcher, cublons and ducks ever present. We have even put the watering system on to suck it is that wet. However, enough about my course, everything in the Section seems calm.

We have a new member from the Northern Section, Darren McGee, Head Greenkeeper from Crook GC. Fellow Head Greenkeeper Tony McClure won the Durham County Championship here at Brancepeth GC in very hard conditions. Very well done. Once again, any news, give me a call.

Kevin (Scoop) Heslop.

North West

I was just about to start the Section notes 1.7.99 with the radio on in the background when the news came through that BIGGA President Lord Whitelaw had just died. He had been ill for some time but when the news came through it was still quite a shock. Lord Whitelaw had, during his



Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

time as President, been a great asset to the association and, I am sure, will be sadly missed. Over the last few years he never refused an invitation to join us at Penrith GC and present the prizes for the Cumbria Cup tournament sponsored by Course Care. Also at Keswick GC for the N/West tournament. He will be a hard act to follow.



BIGGA's got something to shout about!

The summer tournament at Longridge GC was a great day. 44 competitors enjoyed good weather, good food and drink and a great course produced by John Nicholson and his staff. The "Reg Vickers Trophy" was won by Tom Wilkinson with a 67 nett. We must do something about Tom's handicap. The longest drive and nearest the pin were donated once again by Rufford Top Dress. Richard Atkin won the nearest the pin and Mike Davie had the longest drive. The prizes went as far as 11th place, thanks to donations from the trade and the N/W patrons.

The N/W patrons are Burrows GM, Cheshire Light Machinery, Acorn Equipment and Rigby Taylor. Other companies donating prizes were Cheshire Sand and Top Dressing, SISIS, Bathgate Silica Sands, White Moss Amenity, Ritefeed. Many thanks to Longridge Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course and for their

hospitality. John Nicholson and his staff for a great course, Ray and Pauline for a great meal and Bill Merrit for his hard work and the members for making a great day.

Keep checking your fixture list for golf dates and I still require players for the "Roses Match" on Wednesday 18 August at Howley Hall. Any news or views would be welcome and you can contact me on 0151 724 5412. The North West Section would like to thank The Grass Roots Trading Company for the support given to seminar at Mere Golf and Country Club in April. Such support is always valued.

Bert Cross

North East

On 22 April we held our Spring competition at Seahouses GC. On behalf of the section I would like to thank the committee for the use of the course and thank the stewardess and Alistair Holmes, Head Greenkeeper, who went out of their way to ensure we had an enjoyable day. Best Gross, David Cuthbertson, 72. Slaley Hall. Best Nett, Ken Rutherford, 67, City of Newcastle. Best Nett for Assistants, Neil Irvin, Slaley Hall.

We would like to thank Terry Charlton, of Turf Care, for his prize of a colour portable TV for nearest the pin at the 10th hole. This was won by Russ Black of Westerhope GC. Thanks also to the secretary of Seahouses for donating free golf for four people. This was won by Malcolm Lathan who had the longest drive at the 5th hole. Thanks also to Aitkens, Border Turf Services and Ritefeed for their kind donations.

Qualifiers for the Northern Region Competition are as follows. Cat 1. R Black, N Irvin. Cat 2, G Wright, R Williams. Cat 3. A Parkin, R White. All will be notified in due course.

Congratulations to Brian McArdle and his wife Lynn on the arrival of a baby boy. Guy Melvin recently moved from Parklands to Hexham as assistant greenkeeper.

The Section would like to welcome the following new members. D. McLean, Longhirst Hall; B. McArdle, Slaley Hall; J. Rippon and S. Richardson, both Birtley; M. Watson, Stocksfield; I. Rourke and A. Gunn, both Matfen Hall; G. Martin, Elemore; J. McKenna, Tyneside; T. Foggin, Rothbury; D. Jennings and J. Hutton, both Whickham and G. Gray, Tyneside.

By now the Carburol knock-out will be in full swing. Good luck to all.

The qualifiers for the National Championship are as follows. Best Gross, David Cuthbertson of Slaley Hall and Ken Rutherford of City of Newcastle.

If any member would like to see any of the BIGGA workwear, give me a ring as I have several samples for viewing.

Jimmy Richardson

Northern

This year's President's Day Tournament was held at South Leeds Golf Club. As usual, the weather was not in our favour. Part way around the heavens opened and people were trudging up the 18th like drowned rats! Thankfully this did not seem to spoil the day for the majority. Thanks to the greens staff for providing us with a South Leeds track which is the best I personally have seen it. Thank you also for the excellent food and the warm welcome, as always, from the steward and stewardess.

A big thanks to our President, Mel Guy, for his efforts in helping to organise the day and the welcome 'bevy' at the half way point.

The main prize table was sponsored by Greenpride and PBI. Many thanks for the excellent prizes on show and also to all trade contributors to the raffle prizes. Results for the days golf were as follows:-

Division 1. A. Court, winner of the

Bill Mountain Trophy. D. Collins, J. Platt.

Division 2. K. Purdy, A. Baxter, T. Arana. Division 3. R. Armitage, L. Kirkbright, J. Brown. Trade Prize: A. Cordingley (Ritefeed).

I would like to wish Roy Armitage, of Scarthingwell Golf Club, all the best on his recent retirement. I am sure Roy will keep in close touch with the Club, as he has been with them since the time of construction. I hope you will continue to support the golfing events in the future as much as you have done in the past.

Finally, but by no means least, I am delighted to announce the safe arrival of my daughter Aemilia Beth on the 21 June. Anyone free for a little baby sitting please contact me at the address below!

Anyone with any news from within the section please contact me on 01484 317813 or 07788 442755 or at 1 Cockley Meadows, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield HD5 0LA.

Simon Heppenstall



East Anglia

On 16 June, 45 members of the Section descended on Ufford Park Golf Club for our summer meeting. Under Colin Aldaus the Hotel and Course owner's watchful eye, Gary Cunningham and his staff had prepared an excellent course. The photographer for the Evening Star took a group picture for Neil Manning, Sports Editor, to write an article about BIGGA on the sport pages. The weather was great with temperatures in the high 70's and a cooling breeze. I must thank the hotel for giving us a wonderful welcome and an excellent meal.

The main sponsor for the day was Bartram Mowers Ltd. The winners were: Handicap category 1-9, 1.

The Articulator®

"Quality rotary mowers for a world that isn't flat"

Model 721X

124" wide

The finest Wide-Area Rotary available

The 721X Articulator® features seven individual 21" cutting decks which deliver a cut-path over ten feet wide. LasTec's revolutionary patented belt-drive system allows all seven cutting decks to articulate independently, but without messy, power-robbing hydraulic drives. The 721X Articulator brings you the best of three worlds - the unmatched cut quality of a single push mower, the high productivity of a wide-area mower, and a better price than any mower with its quality and capacity.



Marwood Limited

Court Lodge Farm, Forge Lane, East Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent ME15 0HQ
Tel: 01622 728718 Fax: 01622 728720

Robert Whiting 36 points; 2. Alan Carter 35 points; 3. Matthew Gill 34 points. Handicap category 10-18, 1. Greg McHugh 37 points; 2. Ian Willett 35 points; 3. Keith Titshall 27 points. Trade and Guest prize, 1. Colin Aldaus 36 points; 2. James Wright 34 points; 3. Mark Damant 34 points. Nearest the pin 5th hole Tim Russell. Nearest the pin 14th hole Peter Bevin. Longest Drive Peter Owens. Toilet seat won by James Holliday. Overall winner of the day Steven Davidson.

I would like to thank Colin Rushbrook and Brian Richardson for looking after the raffle and all the sponsors who were; Bartram Mowers Ltd., Rushbrooks & Sons, Rhône-Poulenc, Pattisons, Grass Roots, Turf Care, Rigby Taylor and Collier Turf Care.

Our next meeting will be at Bury St Edmunds Golf Club on the 10 August. See you all at the next meeting.

Ian Willett

East Midlands

On behalf of the Section I would like to congratulate our Section Chairman, Dave Leatherland, of Kedleston Park, on completing 25 years of service at Kedleston Park GC and 21 as Head Greenkeeper. I would also like to wish Dave many more happy years at Kedleston Park.

This year's Cosby GC Men's Invitation was won by Alan Roberts, who is a member of the Midland Section and myself with a Better-Ball Medal score of 64 on countback. There were many scores below par which was rather surprising in such windy conditions. Also playing on the day as guests were Ian Needham and Gary Thurman. On the same day Alan and I travelled to Radcliffe-on-Trent GC for the Open and finished second with a nett 66. Then on the 19 June, with a nett score of 143 over 36 holes, I won the Burghley Park Open. If any other members have any golf stories or anything of interest they would like



Have you heard?

to see in this article please let me know.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Paul Norton, of Longcliffe GC, a quick and speedy recovery after his recent setback.

All members should have by now received entry forms for the East of England Pairs Tournament and Autumn Tournament Golf matches. If any member has not, please call me and I will gladly send you an entry form.

Antony Bindley

Mid Anglia

The Summer Tournament will be held on Tuesday 31 August at Veralum Golf Club in St Albans, Herts. The format for the golf will be confirmed on the day, although it is likely that a 18 hole Stableford in the morning will be followed by a 9 hole Texas Scramble in the afternoon.

Please get your entries in early so that Richard Saunders has enough notice to confirm numbers to the golf club.

All Lodgeway 4 ball group matches should be completed by the end of this month, with the semi finals being played in September and the final in October.

Paul Lockett

East of England

The Rigby Taylor Cup was played at Seacroft GC, Skegness. Mike Love, the new Head Greenkeeper, had the course in excellent condition. Mike is a new member of the

Section, coming from a links background in Kent and is working wonders at Seacroft. Apologies were sent by Stuart Jeffs the sponsor, but he managed to send some great prizes. Other trade prizes were donated by UAP, Greenpride, Aitkens, Tower Chemicals, Lambs and Roy Harrison. The Rigby Taylor Cup went to Barry Anderson, 34 points, from Toft Hotel GC. Second on countback, Alick McKay, 34 points, from Woodhall Spa, and third on countback, Russ Moody, 34 points, from Lincoln GC. The Lambs Cup for Nearest the Pin also went to Alick McKay. Guest Prize went to Alan Bishop, 32 points from Belton Park GC.

People on the move - Karl Weston has accepted the position of Head Greenkeeper at Stapleford Park, a new Donald Steel project near Melton Mowbray, and is leaving the National Golf Centre at Woodhall Spa. Sam Rhodes has been promoted to Head Greenkeeper of the Bracken Course and Graham Bontoft takes up the position of Deputy Head Greenkeeper of the Hotchkin Course.

Computer courses are being run in the autumn. Some names are already in, anybody interested, please phone G. A. Macdonald. Telephone 01636 626564.

G A Macdonald.



South East
Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 260956

Essex

Our Summer Golf Competition was held north of the county on 23 June at Colchester Golf Club sponsored by P. Tuckwell Limited. Thanks as always to Neil Peachey. This time around, the weather conditions were much kinder to us than at our last outing in April. The course at Colchester was in excellent condition

as usual and congratulations to Keith and his staff. We thank Colchester GC for providing the venue along with Richard Jarvis who was our starter for the day, club captain Nigel Hilliard, Liza Chinnery and Bar staff, the catering staff for providing an excellent meal.

Now on to the prize giving. This time around our Chairman tried a different approach. After an exhausting day's golf and to save your energy carrying prizes to the car, he added the personal touch by delivering them personally some time in the future. In other words he left the prizes at home. Only joking Carl!

Overall winner: Tony Kirwan, 38 pts. 0 - 9. 1. Jeff Robinson, 37 pts; 2. Steve Cox, 32 pts; 3. Richard Pride, 31 pts. 10 - 18. 1. James Morgan, 34 pts; 2. Chris Ward, 31 pts; 3. Barry Speller, 31 pts. 19 - 28. 1. Martin Howard, 32 pts; 2. Keith Chinnery, 32 pts; 3. Martin Forrester, 29 pts.

Guest: - Nigel Hillard, 37 pts. Trade: Doug Smith, 38 pts. Longest Drive, Chris Ward. Nearest to Pin, Neil Peachey. Both sponsored by Greenkeepers Supply Company. Thanks to Bill, Liam and Mick.

We would also like to thank the following companies for their support. Rigby Taylor, GEM, Driving Force Leisure, Banks, Pattisons, CMW, Grass Roots Trading Company, Avoncrop, Does and UAP.

New members to the Section have dried up over the last couple of months but this month we would like to welcome Shaun Logan, from Fairlop Waters.

We finish on a sad note with the death of Reg Hooker's wife. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Reg and his family.

Dave Wells.

Surrey

Effingham Golf Club played host on the 2 July when an impressive field of 80 members turned out to do battle for the Cresta Cup. The day was sponsored by Gem Professional

Model 425D 96" wide

Manoeuvrability, Safety and Accuracy

The 425D Articulator® features four articulating 25" cutting decks combined with a unique hydrostatic drive unit, and a Kubota 38hp water-cooled diesel engine. The result is a revolutionary, zero-turning radius, wide-area, contouring mower. The 425D has a wider wheel base, and lower centre of gravity to provide greater side-hill stability and safer cutting on severe terrain. A mulching kit can be added to dispose of leaves, and height of cut can be changed in just 5 seconds, giving you the finest finish mower in the world.



Our unique patented belt-driven articulating deck design gives you an unsurpassed quality and accuracy of cut

The Articulator®

"Quality rotary mowers for a world that isn't flat"

FREE DEMONSTRATION

Call for a free demonstration in your area NOW!

Scotland: Double A Trading: Sandy 01382 330556
North: Greenlay Ltd: David 01670 822857
Midlands: MGM: Dean 0116 289 2595
Wales: Major Owen: Andy 01766 770261
South West: PJ Flegg: Paul 01404 815666
South East: Marlowood Ltd: Keith 01622 728718

Marlowood Limited

Court Lodge Farm, Forge Lane, East Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent ME15 0HQ
Tel: 01622 728718 Fax: 01622 728720

who not only supplied the prizes but also arranged the glorious, cloudless and very hot weather. Teeing off commenced at 1.30pm giving all members an opportunity to see to their own course work before arriving at Effingham. The course was in supreme condition, beautifully manicured and with greens that must make Peter Broadbent and his team proud to be greenkeepers. Following the 18 holes and cold showers we relaxed on the sun drenched terrace drinking the odd pint or two and then to finish an exceptional day we were provided with a delicious Barbeque. Thank you Effingham Golf Club. The results were 1. T. Edwards. 2. A. Locke. 3. M. McLoughlin. Nearest the pin J. Russell. J. Ross and R. Tydoman.

Please put in your diaries that on 14 September we have a golf day at Royal Mid Surrey on 30 September at the Richmond Golf Club and the Turkey Trot will be played at West Hill so that we can all see what Terry has been up to over the past few months.

Unhappily I have to report that one of our members at Abbeymoor Golf club, Chertsey, James Drennan has had a very serious motor cycle accident and is at the moment in a paralysed condition. James, we all pray for your recovery.

Brian Willmott



What's all the
noise about?

Kent

I'm afraid I don't have a great deal of news for you this month but I will start by telling you about the next golf event, which is a Stableford event at Brokehill GC on 26 July. Coffee and bacon rolls at 11.30am for a 1pm tee time. Don't forget, soft spikes only. Whilst I'm on the subject of Brokehill I'd like to say that there has been an improvement with regard to Trevor Hindmarsh. I don't have any other details but as soon as I receive any, I will let you all know.

There are several people on the move that I am aware of. Firstly Bill Farnham has recently taken over the position of Course Manager at the London Beach GC and secondly, Don Clark has taken up the position of Assistant Greenkeeper at Chart Hills GC. I would like to wish them both the best of luck in their new positions and look forward to seeing

you both at future golf events.

You should all have received your Regional Training Programmes for 1999/2000 which I hope you will all agree look very interesting. I know that, previously, some of the courses haven't been supported as well as we would have liked, so hopefully we might see an improvement, and I look forward to meeting more of you there this year.

Any news, views, moves or any other gossip, then please contact me on 01474 879200.

Kneale Diamond



South West
and South Wales
Paula Humphries
Tel: 01363 82777

South West

Enmore Park was the venue for the match against the secretaries which was held on 16 June. Without being biased, the South West greenkeepers gave the secretaries a hell of a good beating, with the final victorious score being 5-0. The match was sponsored by Avoncrop and team shirts were sponsored by Rolawn. We would like to thank the Head Greenkeeper, Gary Cook, for an excellent course and also the caterers for the meal. Thanks also go to the secretary, Mr Weston, for allowing us to play the match against the secretaries.

The next official event is a regional team event against the South Wales Section at St Pierre on 6 October. This event is sure to attract a lot of interest. The National Championship also takes place in October at Carden Park. I will be able to give you the results and qualifiers from this region in next month's Greenkeeper International.

Turning to education and training, there may still be time to book a place on the First Aid course being held at Cumberwell Park on 17 August. Spraying courses have also been arranged for September with the Kendleshire a likely venue. If you are considering a PA2 course, contact Noel Stevens direct to arrange a time and venue. Noel can also arrange tractor driving courses. His telephone number is 01452 526111. By next month I hope to have some dates for Chainsaw and Abrasive Wheel courses.

If you would like me to pass on any bits of information that you feel other members in the region would like to know about, please contact me on 01249 783382.

Paul Cunningham

South Wales

Sorry folks not much to report on again, although it gives me the role on behalf of the South Wales Section to mark the retirement of Peter Gillard. During the years we all knew

Peter to be very supportive of our friends in the IOG and to us in BIGGA. Many of his working days were spent lecturing at Pencoed College where they will obviously miss his knowledge and experience. Peter, you're still welcome to come along to any of our meetings, so hopefully I'm sure it's not the last we will see of you and your mine of information. On behalf of the section, thank you for all your help and encouragement in the past. Have a happy retirement.

Alan Walker, Head Greenkeeper from Carmarthen GC, has finished and we wish him every success for the future.

Richard Hatcher

Devon & Cornwall

As in previous years the section will be holding six meetings during the winter which are listed: The Roffeys meeting, 20 October, Trethorne G.C. The Devon Garden Machinery meeting, 17 November, Manor House GC. The P.J. Flegg meeting, 8 December, Okehampton GC. The Barenbrug meeting, 26 January, The Warren GC. The Avoncrop meeting, 24 February, Trevoze GC. The Rhone Poulenc & Supaturf meeting, 28 March, Yelverton GC.

Please note the following booking terms and information listed below for Section meetings.

Golfing members to receive starting times before meeting with a draw for partners. For our foursome & greensome events you may enter with a partner with your opponents being drawn. Company & golf presentation to conclude the day. A levy of £2 will be added to each entry received after the closing date. 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.

For information on booking your place on the regions trip to BTME at Harrogate and the region's seminar, please contact Paula Humphries on 01288 352194.

Richard Whyman.

South Coast

You may think me a little premature when I mention the Section AGM which will be held in December. The reason I mention it now is that Kerran Daly has moved out of the Section and is no longer on the committee. At the AGM I will also be standing down. There will be notification of the AGM in a later report. All we ask at the moment is for anyone who would like to serve on the committee to give it some thought and put your name forward. I have been on the committee for 13 years and have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. Any interested

parties contact Tony Gadd or Jef Drake.

Our Regional Seminar will be held at Cannington on Wednesday 24 November 1999. The speakers have yet to be finalised, however, I'm sure that Paula will soon have all the information that you required. Looking at the possible topics and speakers that have been suggested, it looks like being a good day. Don't miss it.

Your committee would like to organise a get-together for the Millennium. We have come up with some ideas but we need your input as well. This is my own personal suggestion. 18 holes of golf followed by a dinner and dance. Whilst the golf is taking place, a coach trip be organised for wives, girlfriends and non-playing guests. On completion of the dinner dance, an overnight stay at a hotel B&B etc. The big question is how many of you would support this type of function. We really do need your input and suggestions as soon as possible so that the necessary arrangements can be made. We also need to see how much support we have got.

Our Autumn Golf Tournament this year will be held at Shanklin and Sandown Golf Club on the Isle of Wight. The date, Thursday 14 October. Play will consist of 18 holes Stableford. The cost of the day, to include evening meal, will be £16.00. All entries complete with current handicaps, names, addresses and cheques for £16.00 to be sent to: Fred Deamen, Golf Club Bungalow, Alton Golf Club, Old Odiham Road, Alton, Hants. GU34 4BU. Please get your entries into Fred as soon as possible. Don't leave it to the last minute. The venue being on the Isle of Wight means Fred will have the extra task of arranging transport.

While writing this report I have just heard the sad news that our President, the Right Honourable Viscount William Whitelaw has passed away. It is a sad loss to the country, to golf and in particular to BIGGA. He became our President when BIGGA



The BIGGA
Silent Auction

Have you heard?

**Around
the green**

was first formed. During that time he has given us his total support and was always in attendance at BTME to meet everyone. The Section sends their heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family at this sad time.

Ken Lodge

**Northern
Ireland**

North-East

I would like to begin this month by wishing Sammy Malcolmson a very speedy recovery after his unfortunate accident. Through no fault of his own Sammy has to spend the next few months recovering from a broken leg.

On June 23rd Greenmount College held their prize day and it was good to see so many Greenkeepers achieving their qualifications on both level II and level III. The college and BIG-

GA in Northern Ireland would like to thank John Lindsay Professional Sportsturf for supporting the level III course by putting up The Perpetual Cup and Travel Award.

Congratulations to the winner, Allister McEwen of Spa GC. Allister said that his club had been very supportive towards himself while achieving this award.

Congratulations also to Samuel Hall of Massereene GC who was the winner of the Institute of Groundsmanship Perpetual Award for Greenkeeping. Finally, well done to all the Greenkeepers who achieved their respective qualifications.

Eamonn Farrell

**Around
the green**

See you all next month!



Congratulations to all the winners in the regional play-offs. Below is a list of qualifiers for the 1999 Charterhouse/Scotts National Championship for the BIGGA Challenge Trophy

Keith McCartney
William McMeikan
Kenneth Stirling
Shaun McMillan
Kenneth Mail
Craig Pennyquick
Mike Wilson
Scott Williams
Tony Bremer
George Barr
Kenneth Rutherford
Dave Cuthbertson
Michael Nolan
Richard Castle
Roger Bielby
Dave Collins
Anthony Burge
Andrew Wood

Paul Neve
Andrew Lomas
Robert Lewis
John Humphreys
Stephen Tolley
Dave Leatherland
Paul Loffman
Graham Wallace
Robert White
Graeme Macdonald
Tony French
Ross Wilson
Simon Clark
Mark Whittle
Gareth Rogers
Brian Turner
Duncan Kelso
Neil Gilham

George Barr
Tony Bremer
Larry Eden
Ian Semple
Nicholas Brewster
Terry Moreton
Chris Ward
Steve Cox
Mark Grogan
Simon Ridland
Alan Gawman
Anthony James
Gary Johnstone
Steven Lloyd
Alison Sloan
Nick Webber
Joel Crawford
Eamonn Crawford

Cheshire Sand & Top Dressings

Does your current supplier of Top Dressings, Root Zones and Sands:

- Own a quarry containing the highest quality Cheshire Silica Sand?
- Produce all products to BS EN ISO 9002?
- Carry out hourly tests of all of the grades of sand which they produce, to ensure the highest quality?
- Test every batch of Top dressing and Root Zone to assure you the consistency which you require?
- Have the productive capacity to produce 600 tons of Top Dressing per day, so that you will not be let down at the busiest times of the year?
- Use top quality hauliers to ensure that deliveries are in the right place, at the right time and without a mess?

If your current supplier cannot offer you all of these, we would be delighted to.

Please call 01270 762828 for prompt service and delivery

**Arclid Quarry
Congleton Road
Sandbach
Cheshire
CW11 4SN**



Ad Ref 543

**I·L·S
Irrigation
systems**

We provide

- irrigation system installation & service
- extensions & up-grades
- equipment sales

We offer

- experience
- an independent view
- your chance to become a customer and not just a computer entry

I·L·S Irrigation Systems & Equipment

**Oundle Road, Luton, Peterborough PE8 5ND.
Tel: 01832 272450 Fax: 01832 272191**

Ad Ref 525