



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

As in previous years the Scottish Region once again offers members a subsidised package deal for BTME 2000.

The package includes, coach to Harrogate, entry to all Seminars and Exhibition, three nights Bed and Breakfast in en-suite twin rooms in the Moat House Hotel, Harrogate on 18th, 19th and 20 January 2000.

PACKAGE COSTS £156.00

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For booking forms call or fax Peter Boyd, Scottish Regional Administrator, 10 Meadowburn Avenue, Newton Mearns, Glasgow G77 6TA.

Tel/Fax: 0141 616 3440.

### Arshire

The sections autumn outing was held at the Pines Golf Centre, Dumfries on the 30th September. A reasonable turnout was in attendance ready to brave the forecasted heavy rain and showers. Fortunately the severity of the forecast did not materialise and apart from one horrendous shower, which threatened the afternoon Stableford, the day remained mainly dry.

The Pines is an 18 hole course and driving range which was the initiative of our Chairman Duncan Gray who designed, constructed and now manages the complex. The presentation thank you speech was delivered by our Vice Chairman, whoever he is, with our chairman being mine host.

Duncan was congratulated on his achievements at the Pines. Much sterling work has been done and with extensions and improvements planned, the Pines has a big future. I will not elaborate as our Editor Scott McCallum was in attendance with his notepad and camera. The greenstaff were thanked for the preparation and presentation of the course and the catering/barstaff were thanked for keeping everyone well fed and refreshed throughout the day. Chairman Duncan Gray replied by thanking everyone for attending and hoped everyone enjoyed their day despite the weather and extended an open invitation if anyone wanted to return for another game. Secretary Derek Wilson then invited Scottish Chairman Jimmy Neilson to present the prizes to the following winners:

Morning, 12 hole Texas Scramble: 1. Keith McCartney, Dumfries & Galloway, Charlie Pickhall, Gatehouse, Jim Smith, Ruffords, and Iain Barr, Largs, 34.8.

2. Kevin Hills, Thornhill, Lawrence Foley, Thornhill, David Woodbyrne, Southernness, and Daniel Waddell, Thornhill, 35.6

Afternoon, Stableford: 1st Class: 1. Brian Aitken, West Kilbride, 35 pts (gross 71 and a new Pines Course record) 2. Lawrence Foley, Thornhill, 34 pts, 3. Scott McLean, West Kilbride, 33 pts, 4. Kevin Hills, Thornhill, 32 pts.

2nd Class: 1. Roland Blackburn, Southernness, 33 pts, 2. Marshall Sloss, Beith, 26 pts, 3. Stephen Brown, The Pines, 24 pts, 4. Ian Donaldson, Routenburn, 24 pts.

The patrons award winners for this year are Roland Blackburn, of Southernness, and Scott McLean, of West Kilbride. They will receive, among other things, a trip to Harrogate 2000. Congratulations to both on this achievement.

That's all the news for this month, any news or views call me on 01505 683278 or maybe I'll see you at Scotsturf.

Iain Barr

### North

The section autumn outing and 50th Anniversary at Downfield, Dundee was a great success with a big turnout, wonderful weather, superb golf course and a great welcome from all. Paul Murphy and his staff are to be congratulated on the condition of the course and the clubhouse facilities were also first rate. We were delighted to welcome 95 people on the day with 86 playing golf. Guests included BIGGA Vice Chairman Elliot Small, Scottish Chairman Jimmy Neilson, Regional Administrator Peter Boyd and previous Section stalwarts John Flint and Willie Milton, who incidentally was Head Greenkeeper at Downfield for many years until retirement.

All who attended received a 50th Anniversary lapel badge, but the actual prize winners were as follows. Scratch K. Peace, Inverurie, 76, 2. S. Herd, Strathlene, 77, Class One 1. S. Williams, Inverurie, 78-6=72, 2. B. Cruickshank, Garmouth, 78-5-5=73bih, 3rd P. Murphy, Downfield 79-6=73. Class Two 1. C. Mackay, Elmwood 80-7=73, 2. I. Gunn, Strathpeffer, 82-7=75, 3. C. Ogilvie, Boat of Garten, 85-9=76. Class Three 1. I. Grant, Strathlene, 90-14=76, 2. G. Aitken, Peterculter, 97-17=80bih, 3. A. Wilson, Brechin, 98-18=80. Veterans 1. D. Patience, Tarbat, 93-13=80, 2. J. Taylor, Retired 89-7=82. Apprentice 1. A. Stewart, Royal Aberdeen, 81-6=75, 2. I. Cowper, Tain 88-11=77. Guest E. Small, Tulliallan 84-7=77. Trade P. Allan, Stewarts 81-4=77. The winner of the card draw for the BIGGA blazer was A. Wilson, Brechin. The winner of two tickets to a Dundee United home game presented by Rigby Taylor was Robert Patterson, Royal Aberdeen. Thanks to other trade members for donations to, what was, a large table of raffle prizes.

I had a bad back at the time so was unable to play, which was just as well because we were missing our hard working Secretary, Dougal Duguid, who was otherwise detained and we hope all has been settled satisfactorily in the matter by the time you read this.

The four lucky winners of our 200 Club draw were as follows: May £30 No. 4 B. Anderson, Aberdeen, June £30 No. 112 W. Morrison, Aberdeen, July £30 No. 132 A. Holmes, Blairgowrie, August £100 No. 163 J. Neilson, Edinburgh. I would like to thank all who supported the section by buying tickets this year as we sold them all once more and raised

much needed funds to help run the section. There are still four draws left, so you still might win!!

Finally, I feel I must say how disappointed I am that the Golf Course Design workshop due to be held in Aberdeen has been cancelled as only one member applied to attend. This is an excellent course and was available in the North at a much reduced cost. Apathy rules ok!

Iain Macleod

### Central

The final golf tournament of the season was held at Balbirnie Park Golf Club, Markinch, Fife on September 21, when 40 members enjoyed playing on a course in excellent condition and sunshine, following what must have been the heaviest couple of days rain this year.

Our sincere thanks go to Craig Stafford (pity about the tie) and his staff for all their hard work. To Heather and the clubhouse staff for the first class service and meals, to club administrator Steve Oliver for all his support and to Vice Captain Dr. Krishnaswamy, who presented our prizes in the evening.

With a special thanks to all our Patrons for their continued support. Thanks go also to section Chairman Archie Dunn and Phil (five to reach the ladies' tees) Langdon for all their work in starting the tournament and checking the cards. Prize winners on the day were as follows: Best Nett Aggregate spring/autumn D. McAllister, Ladybank, 143 pts, Best Scratch D. Leith, St. Andrews, 71 pts, Best Nett S. Sime, Leven, 63 pts, 1st Class 1st H/cap D. McAllister, Ladybank, 69 pts, 1st Class 2nd H/cap A. Dunn, Auchterarder, 70 pts, 2nd Class 1st H/cap G. Taylor,

2nd Class 2nd H/cap T. Harris, Cupar, 71 pts, 3rd Class 1st H/cap A. Robertson, Grangemouth, 66 pts, 3rd Class 2nd H/cap A. Arnott, Dunnikier, 75 pts, Patrons K. Brunton, Greentech, 71 pts, Guests D. Walls, Grangemouth, 69 pts, Special Prize, donated by Rigby Taylor A. Crawford, Green Hotel, 71 pts, 1998 Inter Club Tournament S. Sime/A. Herd, Leven Links.

The reason no tee off times were allocated prior to the tournament was that at the closing date for entries I only had 13 names. So please return your forms in plenty of time in future.

I suppose I had better apologise to Stuart Sime from that Sporting Club in Leven as, even in spite of our usual immaculate planning, we managed to give him the wrong trophy and he has bet me (not a lot!) that I wouldn't put it in the magazine. Where's the money Stuart?

We welcome new member Kevin Rogalski, from Auchterarder Golf Club, to the Section and it was nice to meet him at our autumn tournament. That's what I call support; join, then attend the first event available.

The members at Grangemouth Golf Club, (the course is owned by Falkirk District Council) held a Greenkeeper's Day recently to show their appreciation for their staff who were presented with over £400. This is indeed recognition for

Head Greenkeeper, Alex Robertson, who only took over this year. It seems he is putting the same effort into his work as he can be seen at every event, no matter where it is taking place. Well done Alex.

Could you please make sure that you have either bought/sold or returned your allocation (2) of "Club 2000" tickets by the middle of next month. There appears to be a mixed reaction to the committee's attempts to raise funds for the Section as I have had some tickets returned, in one instance it was by all the staff from the same club and some members have even put them in the bin. We are giving you the chance to win £50 a month for less than 2p per day!

John Crawford

### East

The East Section held their annual Willie Woods Invitational Tournament courtesy of the captain and Council of Glencorse Golf Club. There was a good attendance on the day. The weather was very good as prior to the tournament we had some very heavy rain. We wish to thank Ian Bell, Head Greenkeeper, and his staff for the great condition of the course and also the clubhouse staff for looking after us so well on the day. The scoring on the day was very good as the results will show: 1. S. Millar/B. Oliver, Glencorse, 78-14-64, 2. G. Rodgers/I. Mackay, Glencorse, 70-4-66 bih, 3. S. Nichol/J. Findlay, Winterfield, 66-0-66.

Well done to the Glencorse team with a fine 64 and also to the other trophy winners, also thanks again to tournament sponsor Ian Henderson, Ian Henderson Finance, for his continued support of this event. Next year's tournament will be played over the links at Winterfield GC, Dunbar so we hope to see you there. The reason that we are not going back to the winner's course as normal is you can only hold it at the winner's course for two years. As Glencorse have done this and they were also second it then goes to Winterfield who were third, so we look forward to meeting you and your club officials next year.

The autumn Tournament and National Tournament qualifier 1st round was held at Newbattle GC. This is the first time we have been to Newbattle for about 8-10 years. We didn't actually think the tournament would go ahead as we had torrential rain on the Monday, so myself and Steve Dixon paid a visit to see if it was going to be playable on the Tuesday as on the Monday the course was closed due to the rain.

But we shouldn't have worried as Tuesday morning greeted us with warm sunshine and blue skies which led to some great scoring on the day. There were a lot of new faces at the tournament which was good to see and we hope this continues. Some handicaps will seriously need to be looked at. (These people know who they are, so beware. The axe is due to fall).

The scores are as follows: Best Scratch - S. Nichol 68, Best Nett - M. Ewing 81-17-64. 1st Class: 1. S. Greenwood



71-6-65, 2. J. Gallagher 69-1-68 bih, 3. I. Bell 72-4-68. 2nd Class: 1. M. Ewing 81-17-64, 2. K. Anderson 77-11-66, 3. R. Mullen 80-12-68 bih. 3rd Class: 1. J. Robertson 90-19-71, 2. J. Lockerbie 95-19-76 bih, 3. M. Keough 101-25-76.

Veteran I. Aitchison 80-11-69, Trade J. Darling 72-3-69, Guest G. Davidson 80-9-71, New Member A. Jinks F/H 78 SCR, Aggregate Trophy S. Greenwood 73-65-138, Highest Score of the Day C. Moffat - 120.

The Section would like to thank the Captain and Council of Newbattle Golf Club for the courtesy of the course on the day, the caterers and barstaff for keeping us well looked after, the Head Greenkeeper Billy Hudson and his team for having the course in pristine condition, considering the weather we had been having prior to the tournament and Peter Boyd, Scottish Regional Administrator, for keeping the tee running smoothly and letting me get off second and not last as usual. Also thanks for the prizes for our raffle from the trade members who were present. So we hope to see you at the spring Tournament 2000 at North Berwick Golf Club which will be the second qualifying round for the National Tournament at Carden Park 2000.

The annual dance is just a few weeks away now and there are just a few tickets left so if you want some, also hotel rooms, get in touch with Steve Dixon on 0131 443 0235 (work) or 0131 660 3965 (home) ASAP. If you still have raffle tickets for the annual draw get them sold ASAP as they will be drawn at the dance on the night at Kilspindie House Hotel on the 4th (Saturday) of December, so hurry and sell all your quota and get ticket stubs and money back to Craig Pennyquick as soon as you can.

Well, that's it all this time. If anyone has anything of interest eg. marriages, births, people on the move etc or anything, drop me a line or give me a call or fax me on the usual numbers.

PS: On October 6 the East Section entertained the North East of England Section in the Annual Stewart's match. This year we played the match over the new course at Eyemouth Golf Club. The new layout is a good test of golf with the greens in good condition also fairways and tees considering it is only two years old. The Clubhouse which sits in the middle of the course, is also superb, high up overlooking the full 18 holes, so if you haven't played it yet get yourself down to Eyemouth because you won't be disappointed.

Down to the match which was well contested by both teams and ended in a two and a half-two and a half draw, so the North East lads retained the trophy they won last year. Well done to them but look out next year, at Slaley Hall. We will be better, bigger and ready to win the trophy back for the first time in a few years. Hopefully!

A big thanks goes out to Stewart & Company for sponsoring the day, the Captain and Council of Eyemouth GC for courtesy of the course, our bus driver for doing an excellent job of ferrying us around, Head Greenkeeper, Allan

Campbell, and his staff for the condition of the course which was excellent.

Also the clubhouse staff (catering/barstaff) who were excellent, the meals were superb, especially the battered haddock which nearly everyone had. If you are ever in Eyemouth give it a try. The refreshments were much appreciated.

Last, but not least, to the members of both teams who made it a great day and one we all look forward to each year. So cheers see you all next year.

Report from the Section AGM and patrons award winners next month.

Chris Yeaman



Northern Region  
Douglas Bell  
Tel: 0151 431 0433

#### North West

In September we had two golf tournaments, the autumn tournament at West Lancashire Golf Club, and the match against the Golf Club Stewards at Burnley Golf Club. I will leave the reports on the golf until later but first I would like to congratulate one of the most respected greenkeepers in the country on his retirement. Jim Macdonald, Head Greenkeeper at Royal Lytham & St. Annes, retired on 1/10/99 after serving 35 years at Royal Lytham.

He started at Royal Lytham in 1964 having been a teacher at Preston College teaching ceramics. In 1966 he became deputy and eventually became Head Greenkeeper. Jim has quite a record having prepared the course for five Open Championships, the Curtis Cup and the Ryder Cup. His dedication to greenkeeping has not gone unnoticed either by his club or by the professionals who have played at Royal Lytham. His club have made Jim an Honorary member, of which Jim is very proud and he has received letters of congratulations from Seve Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and Gary Player.

I asked Jim how he would keep himself busy in his retirement and he tells me he is involved in two nine hole courses in the north of Scotland, and he will be keeping his eye on them from time to time. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Jim a happy and long retirement.

The autumn tournament was played at West Lancashire GC on September 9 and for once the weather was kind to us. The day was sunny with just a gentle breeze, and despite the perfect conditions, the course lived up to its reputation as one of the best and most difficult links courses around. John Muir and his staff had the course in great condition, despite the fact that they were involved with installing a new irrigation system. I would like to thank John for the lovely condition of the course, West Lancs for allowing us the courtesy of the course, the caterers for excellent food and the members for their hospitality. Thanks also to the Section patrons, Burrows GM, Acorn Equipment, Cheshire Light Machinery, Rigby Taylor, Bleeper Services. Also L.B.S. Group,

Amenity Technology, Bathgate Sands, Ritefeed and other companies who helped to swell the prize table.

The main winners were: Best Gross Neil Gravener, Best Nett Dave McEvoy, Vets Cup Bert Cross, Aggregate Trophy Dave McEvoy.

The match against the N/West Golf Club Stewards was played at Burnley Golf Club on Monday September 27 and this time the weather was shocking.

The rain had been lashing down for the past 24 hours and decided not to stop when we arrived. Eventually we plucked up courage and the match began. The rain did not ease at all, but everybody continued to the bitter end and we finished with a result, match halved. This means that the greenkeepers retain the cup for a further year. Many thanks to Burnley Golf Club for keeping the course open to allow us to play the match, the

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club steward for a fantastic meal and the stewards for organising the venue.

The President's Cup will be played for at Wilmslow Golf Club on Thursday November 25 with the tee times from 10 am. This will be followed by the AGM and an evening meal and prize presentation. All competitors are required to bring a bottle, so that everybody takes away a prize. All entries to be sent to Bill Merritt, 225 Utting Avenue, Clubmore,

Liverpool L4 9RB. Please remember to include a cheque for £15, made payable to BIGGA/NW.

Bert Cross

### Sheffield

On 15th September we held our Autumn competition at the Hallamshire Golf Club, and it was a very enjoyable day even though the sun didn't shine.

Hallamshire was in excellent condition

and our thanks go to Gordon Brammah and his staff. Well done Gordon!

Our thanks go to Hallamshire for giving us the courtesy of their course and facilities. Thanks also to the catering staff for the excellent meal which I think everybody enjoyed.

There was some excellent golf played and the overall winner with the help of local knowledge was Mark Crawshaw, who played some very good golf, well done Mark!

Results: 1. M. Crawshaw 40 pts, 2. P. Neve 37 pts, 3. G. Wells 36 pts.

Thanks also go to Henton & Chattells for being the main sponsors for the event and to all the other trade members who provided prizes.

Congratulations go to Jeremy Duffield on his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Cleckheaton Golf Club back in his beloved Leeds. He moves from Doncaster Town Moor. Good luck Jeremy!



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Finally a message for one of our Section members, "Red is for Stop", no names mentioned.

J.V. Lax

### Cleveland

This is my last news report so it will be brief. The Cleveland committee, mostly the Secretary, spend a lot of time and effort to get winter talks off the ground and when they are not supported by members it makes you wonder if it is worth it. Try to give a little time to attend talks and meetings as it's for all our good.

The next talk is November 11 at Darlington GC 7:30-8:00 pm start, the speaker is Par 4, so please try to attend.

Then the big one December 7, 7:30 Mount Oswald, Turfcare's Christmas quiz. We need a good turn out, as we have to beat the groundsmen this year to make it two wins in the last decade. Terry and his staff put on a very good night, let's give them the support.

### North Wales

Not a lot to write about again this month. If any of you haven't received your programme of events, please let us know. On November 17 there's a lecture on R&D of pesticides/CDA sprayers at 14:30-16:30 which is preceded by a moderation meeting for all you assessors out there which starts at 12 noon, both at the college.

Also remember our Christmas meet and AGM at Royal St. Davids, Harlech on Thursday December 2. If there is anything you want on the agenda please get in touch, all numbers on programme of events card.

One last point, after last year's AGM anyone not properly attired will be barred. It's your association, make the effort.

Dave Goodridge



Midland Region  
Peter Larter  
Tel: 01490 437507

### BB&O

The autumn event was held at the Springs GC on Tuesday September 21, but unfortunately I was not able to

attend. Thanks to Lindsay and Adrian for relaying the results of the tournament to me. 1. S Curley & M Walker, Stowe School 43 pts, 2. A Burnham & G. Clark, Donnington Valley 42 pts, 3. A Cooper & D. Greenfield, The Springs 40 pts. Longest drive Angie Bell, Caversham, Nearest pin Paul Chana, Huntercombe.

Paul was recently in the headlines when he managed to achieve two holes in one on the same day at Huntercombe.

Thanks also to the sponsors, Rolawn Turf, to Phillip Marsh for presenting the prizes and to Andy Church for organising all postage and prizes. Thanks to Adrian and his team, Lindsay tells me the course was superb.

New members this month are: Anthony Leinster, Bearwood, Matthew Evans, Oxfordshire, John Lister, Sonning.

Saltex has come and gone again and we are at the time of year when boats would be more appropriate than tractors, not to worry through it will soon be summer again (I wish!). Hopefully everyone is managing to cope with the dreary weather and I look forward to seeing everyone at the next outing.

Ross Wilson

### Midland

On September 15 the autumn tournament was played at Ross-on-Wye Golf Club. The day proved to be a great success and many thanks go to the greenkeeping staff and to the catering staff for making the day run smoothly. I have to be very conservative with what I say about the course, as most of you are aware I am the Course Manager, but it was a very good day and I do hope everyone enjoyed the day.

The results are as follows: 1st Gross Tony Cheese, 1st Nett Rhys Thomas, 2. Clayton Lee, 3. Rod Hunter, 4. Tom Haskett, 5. Mike Hughes, 6. Alan Roberts.

Nearest pin - Mark Cutler, Longest drive - Tony Cheese. The trade prize went to Andrew Corns.

The finals of the Toro Award for Excellence are to be held shortly and we have a member of our Section involved, he is Kim Blake from Fulford Heath Golf Club. We wish him all the best in the finals.

Early in September the Midland Section held what is hoped to be the first of many matches against the Midland Section of the Stewards' Association.

The event on the day was very professionally organised by Mike Moffitt, Steward at Sutton Coldfield Golf Club. The venue was Kington Golf Club on the Welsh border, with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside.

The result of the match was a well earned win of 3-2 to the Stewards, but don't worry we will be back next year with our first team. A singles Stableford was also incorporated of which the winner was Tony Denham, Steward at Stone Golf Club, with 46 points, second on a last 9 count back representing the Greenkeepers with 39 points was Nigel Tyler and in third place was our Chairman Peter Richmond.

The prize giving was carried out by Alistair Reay, Chairman of the Midland Stewards Association, and Steward at Robin Hood Golf Club. These comprised of a large shield awarded to the winning team and smaller memento shields to each of the team members, engraved winners and runners up respectively.

Thanks must go to Kington Golf Club for allowing us courtesy of the course, and to the Stewardess and Chef for the excellent catering on what is traditionally Stewards day off.

Thank you once again to the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Stewards Association for such a wonderful day out and to all the Greenkeepers who turned out at such short notice. Well played all of you.

Belated congratulations to Jim Ewing, First Assistant at Walmley Golf Club, on his recent marriage to Lorraine. Best wishes to both of you for the future.

Christmas tournament and AGM to be held at Little Aston Golf Club on Wednesday December 8. First tee time 10:30 am. AGM will be held at 4:40 pm cost £16.

Jonathan Wood

### East Midland

This years autumn tournament was held on September 6 at the delightful venue of Erewash Valley. With the

weather set warm, dry and fine some low scores were expected. The only disappointment on the day was the poor turnout of 24. The scores were as follows: Best Nett: A. Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 85-15-70, Best Gross: B. Fillary, Willesley Park, 76-5-71, Category 1: A. Hawkes, Cutgrave Place, 79-5-74, Category 2: A. Porter, Greetham Valley, 87-12-75, Category 3: M. Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 91-21-70, Trade: Kevin Kinzer, E.T. Breakwells, 94-20-74, Nearest The Pin: Jeff Dickinson, Longest Drive: Alex Hawkes.

I would like to thank Graham Arnold and his staff for presenting an excellent golf course for this tournament. Also thanks should go to the caterers for a fine buffet and to all those committee members who helped organise the day. Finally, a special thanks should go to Banks Amenity Products Ltd for the very kind and valued sponsorship. I would also like to remind members that this year's regional seminar will take place at Mentmore Golf and Country Club on November 17th.

It is with deep regret that I report the unfortunate death of Nick Webb. Nick was a trade member of the Section from Tacit and had supported Section events for the past two years. Our condolences go to all his family and friends.

On a much brighter note, congratulations should go to Ian Needham, of Beedles Lake GC, for winning the men's invitation at his home course with a nett score of 66 (6 under par). Ian's shot of the day came at the 18th hole, hitting a full 9 iron into the wind to leave a 4 ft putt and save par, winning the competition by two strokes! Thanks once again for the invite, and well played partner!

On September 19 Alan Roberts (he is an Assistant Greenkeeper at Sutton Coldfield, in the Midland Section) and myself finished second with a six under par score of 65 at the Hinckley Open.

If any other members can give me any information for future Around The Green articles I would be most grateful.

Anthony Bindley

### East of England

The Annual match against the East Midland Section took part at Ramsdale Park.



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The course was in great condition considering the torrential rain before we teed off. Thanks to Steve, Head Greenkeeper, and his staff for all their efforts.

The result of the game was a convincing win for a strong East Midlands Section 41/2 - 1/2. It took a great fight back by John Hewson and Graeme MacDonald to save the Whitewash. The E.O.E. pair were three down with three to play and then won the last three holes to get a needed half.

The shield was presented to Captain Anthony Bindley on behalf of the sponsors Jim Carr of Chandlers. The longest drive went to Phil Wilkinson and the nearest the pin went to G.A. MacDonald (both E.O.E. Section). Next year will be hosted at a venue in our section preferably on a flatter course.

The annual match between the association of Golf Club Secretaries and our section took place at Stoke-Romford.

The superb Chandlers Cup went back home with the Secretaries' Captain Brian Harris as we lost again 5-3 on a course which was in fantastic condition as usual.

Thanks to Gill, Roy and Brian for all their hard work put in, to make the day enjoyable, apart from the golf result. Thanks to all the E.O.E. section players for playing. Better luck next year.

The sponsors were Jim Carr of Chandlers who put up some great prizes which saw John Scotney take the nearest the pin and Graeme MacDonald take the longest drive. Phil Wilkinson of Greenpride donated a bottle to the raffle.

East of England Section Team: Kevin Hodges, John Scotney won 3/2, Peter Fell/Fred Cobb lost 3/2, George Venable/Bill Watkin lost 2/1, Graeme MacDonald/John Scotney won 3/2, Jim Carr/Brian Slater won 3/2, Adrian Kitchinson/Russ Moody lost 6/5, Roy Harrison/Gill Ogden lost 5/4, Josh White/Phil Wilkinson lost 4/3.

#### Mid Anglia

The summer Tournament was held at Verulam Golf Club, St. Albans, on the last day of August and twenty-one people entered. An 18 hole Stableford was played in the morning and was won with 36 points by Kevin Armstrong of John O'Gaunt Golf Club. Richard Saunders was second with 35 points and Chris

Slimm, also of John O'Gaunt, was third with 33 points. Longest Drive was won by Steve Mason of Mount Pleasant Golf Club and "nearest the pin" by Pete Robinson of Knebworth. The Kingpin competition was won by Colin Robinson of John O'Gaunt Golf Club. An 11 hole Texas Scramble was held in the afternoon, which was won by Gary Boulton, Kevin Armstrong and Pete Robinson.

An enjoyable day was apparently had by all, with particular praise for the course and excellent food. Our thanks to Verulam Golf Club for their hospitality and particularly to Geoff Smith and his team of greenkeepers. Mike and Simon from Boughton Loam also need to be thanked for their continuing support and sponsorship of the Section's summer event.

We are looking to hold next years summer event at Aspley Guise Golf Club, which has never been used as a venue before. This will be subject to Gerald acquiring a definite booking (hopefully in July). Our other plans are to hold the spring 2000 event at Hammonds End, with Mid Herts Golf Club in line for the autumn meeting.

Everyone should have received an entry form for the Midland Regional Seminar in the September magazine, which is to be held at Mentmore Golf Club on Wednesday 17th November, 1999. Please give the event your support as there will be a broad range of speakers and topics to appeal to all interests. If you cannot find the entry form, please give me a call and I will send another. It is essential for the financial security of the Section and Region that this event is successful - this can only happen with your support. The cost of the day is £25, which includes lunch, teas and coffees.

Our next golf event is the Texas Scramble at Brocket Hall Golf Club on December 2. Entrance fees are listed on the forms already sent to you by Gerald.

It has been disappointing that entrants in the Lodgeway Four Ball this year have failed to play matches by the agreed deadlines, particularly the quarter final/semi-final stages. This causes real problems for Steve Mason in trying to organise the smooth running of the event.

John Wells has tendered his resigna-

tion as Treasurer of the Section, although he will continue to be an active member of the committee. I'm sure everyone will support me in thanking John for his hard work in the post for the last five years.

Colin Robinson, Course Manager at John O'Gaunt Golf Club, has organised a demonstration of Juno and Jupiter grinders by Eric Hunter Grinders Ltd. on the 24th November 1999, at 10:00 am. Anyone who wishes to attend, or who needs further details, please contact Colin on 01767 261416.



South East  
Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

Paul Lockett

#### Surrey

Royal Mid Surrey played host to Surrey section on September 14 and we say thank you to Alan McDougall for the pleasure of playing the shorter inner course which for myself and many other members was a first time experience. Although to some golfers shorter can mean easier, here the scoring showed that the inner is a tight course and one that deserves respect. Sponsored by Mommersteeg Grass Seed.

The results were: 1. Nigel Colley, 36pts on countback, 2. with 36 pts Tony Shaman, 36 pts 3. Alan McDougall, 35 pts

Please will all members make a special note in their diaries that the AGM for Surrey section will be held at West Hill Golf Club after the Turkey Trot on the 30th November. Contact Ian Sellars if you have not had the info, his mobile number is 0976 709146.

On one of the few dry days at the end of September, over 45 keen young golfers, myself included, met at Richmond Golf Club to do battle for prizes at the autumn tournament. Lee Strutt, Course Manager and fellow committee member, must have had his team cutting grass 24 hours a day to have been able to present the course in such a well manicured condition. Thank you Lee and thank you Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the event.

The results: 1. Mathew Lovett, 40 pts

on countback 2. John Davidson, 40 pts 3. John Mathis 39 pts on countback.

I hope that when John Mathis, our Handicap Secretary, cuts the first two his chopper also descends on his own handicap and that of Keith Pinks and Bob Rogers who also got 39 pts. The putting competition was won over 18 holes by Darren Lee with 33 pts, nearest the pin only 9' 4" away was Dave Jones and the longest drive was Cameron McMillan.

Unfortunately there have been two deaths in Surrey recently. The first on August 25 was Ken Collins, Course Manager at Chobham Golf Club, and then on September 29 Bill Lipscombe, from Coombe Hill Golf Club.

The following words have been written in memory of Bill by Murray Long, Course Manager at Coombe Hill.

"Coombe Hill Golf Club in Kingston, Surrey, report the said loss of Bill Lipscombe, its most loyal and longest serving member of staff of over 40 years. He was a true gentleman who loved his job and the course. Nothing was a trouble for Bill, always smiling and giving the younger staff a run for their money up until his sudden death aged 63 years. He will be sadly missed by everyone at Coombe Hill Golf Club".

Our deepest sympathy to his wife Sheila, his son Michael and daughter Wendy.

Brian Willmott

#### Essex

With great disappointment I have to report that our treasurer Richard Pride is standing down. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the members to thank Richard for his hard work over the years, not only in setting up the Essex section, but also with his earlier contributions toward the old East Anglia section.

Volunteers are welcomed to take up this post, please contact any committee member for further information.

If you missed last month's magazine containing the application form to attend the South East regional seminar at Writtle College on November 16, please contact either Derek Farrington on 01903 260956 or Martin Forrester 01245 603131. We need your support for this function in order to make it a success.

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Our next event is a go-karting afternoon on Friday November 26 starting at 1pm, prices are £80 per team of four. Please contact Martin Forrester for more details.

The next golfing day is combined with our AGM at Rochford Hundred Golf Club on December 15, please make a note in your diaries as this is an important event to air your views. This is your Section. Details will be posted nearer to the date. Don't work too hard!

Dave Wells



South West  
and South Wales  
Paula Humphries  
Tel: 01288 352194

Regional Seminar November 24 Cannington College. The theme is Research and some excellent speakers including Dr Canaway of STRI, Dr Thorogood from IGER, Prof. Adams University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Stephen Bernhard of Bernhard & Co, Dr Daniels of the Levington Research Centre and Steve Jones, formerly of the London Club. Book your places at £15 per head with Paula Humphries now.

BTME Express 2000. Places strictly limited to 100 on first come basis. List filling up fast. If you want to come on this superb value trip get your application form in quickly. If you require a banquet ticket please state this on booking from stating your menu choice of A or B and include payment of £40. Entries of Paula quickly to avoid disappointment. The coach once again sponsored by Amenity Technology and the trip heavily subsidised by Westurf to give you this excellent value package of £95 pp with second from the same club at £85 pp. Student packages available at £45 pp. Paula Humphries

#### Devon & Cornwall

Once again Christmas is fast approaching and the year 2000, so what better way to start the festive season than by attending our P.J. Flegg sponsored Christmas meeting which will be held at Okehampton GC on Wednesday December 8 as in previous years numbers will be limited to the first 80 members, so to avoid disappointment please return your entry with correct money as soon as possible and before the closing date.

The day will start as usual with golfing members playing for the P.J. Flegg Trophy with the format being greensome, for those of you not wishing to play golf the now customary course walk will start from the clubhouse at approximately 10:30 with Head Greenkeeper, Richard Wisdom, showing members his fine work. Lunch will be followed by our afternoon cabaret and the day will conclude with the raffles.

I would like to remind you that the regions annual seminar will be held at Cannington College on Wednesday November 24 with the theme this year being on research. Places on the Regions package to BTME 2000 which includes transport, accommodation

and entry to the BTME show and seminars are going fast so to avoid disappointment you are advised to return your booking form as soon as possible. If you haven't already booked your place for the seminar or BTME packages don't delay call our RA Paula Humphries today on 01288 352194.

One member who has moved recently out of the section is Nick Rourke who has taken up a new post, we wish you well Nick and thank you for your support over the last few years.

If you have any news, you would like me to include in the monthly reports please let me know in writing, my address is on the front of your fixture card, reports have to be in one month beforehand (reports have to be in by December 1, for the January issue).

Richard Whyman

#### South West

Gloriously sunny weather greeted greenkeepers from the South West Section as they arrived to do battle with the Welsh greenkeepers at St. Pierre G&CC on October 6.

The Welsh were fired up for revenge following their drubbing from the encounter in the previous year. The South West team were equally fired up as they paraded their new team shirts sponsored by Rolawn. By the end of a long day however, the Welsh had emerged as the victors with a winning score of 4 points to 2.

It was still a great day however and many thanks go to St. Pierre for allowing us courtesy of the course and also the two team captains for organising the whole day. Thanks also go to Rolawn for kindly sponsoring the shirts.

The next event which is coming up very shortly for the region is the Autumn tournament, taking place at Bristol & Clifton Golf Club on Thursday November 11, followed by the AGM. The Christmas Tournament will take place on Wednesday December 8 at Kingsdown Golf Club.

I have already arranged a number of spraying and first aid courses to take place early next year. Once the dates and venues have been confirmed I will let you know next month. If you have already contacted me about attending a course, I have already written your name down on the waiting list. If you would like to attend a course next year, please contact me on 01249 783382

Paul Cunningham

#### South Coast

For those of you who have not got your application forms in for the Regional Seminar at Cannington, there is still time, so don't delay, get them in now. As you can see by your seminar agenda, there are some very good speakers. Any queries give Jeff a ring on 01635 846575.

As I said in last month's report our section AGM and Turkey Trot will be held at Hockley Golf Club on Wednesday December 8. This will be followed by our AGM, Christmas Dinner and prize giving. All details can be obtained from Fred Deamen on 01420 86679.

Any items you would like to be included in the agenda please let Jeff have your

details no later than three weeks before the AGM. Anyone who would like to serve on the committee should also contact Jeff.

The last time we were at Hockley was for our Spring Tournament in the early 1980's. I can remember John Dodds, who was the Head Greenkeeper at the time, he was reputed to have said "If those xxxxxx want fast greens I'll give them fast greens". He did! They were like lightning, in fact some of the low handicappers were finding it difficult to keep their putts on the greens. How many members remember that day? I can think of Peter March, Ted West and Bob Walker. Still a good day was had by all.

On Monday September 27 our annual match against the South West Section was held at Hampworth Golf Club near Salisbury. I'm afraid the South West finished up as the victors. I'm sorry I can't tell you whose fault it was that the South Coast lost as I have not got any details to hand. Joking aside, congratulations to the South West. I'm sure it will be back in the South Coast's hands next year.

Ken Lodge

#### South Wales

On September 9th the Autumn tournament held at Swansea Bay Golf Club was yet again a great afternoon of golf, with the course in good condition the tournament results were: Best gross/President's Cup, Gary Johnstone. Best Nett/President's Shield, Richard Barnham. Best over 18 handicap, Richard Patterson. I'll bring you up-to-date with the October fixtures next month.

By the time you read this you might have received a flyer from our secretary or it may have already taken place but hopefully not. This year's seminar is to be held at Pencoed College on the 17th of this month, with the theme on Irrigation and Water Management. The day as usual starts with registration and coffee 9 - 9:30. Then the guest speakers begin. At Noon - 1pm it's lunch, the first speakers can sit back, while the other guest speakers will be chewing their nails by now and waiting for the afternoon session to begin at 1.10pm. At around 3pm question time begins and brings the day to a close. The day will cost members £13 and non members £16.

December sees the return of the Winter Tournament/AGM/Xmas Dinner at the Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club so as soon as your reminder and attendance form comes to your door fill it in hastily as it's a day you cannot afford to miss.

Moving into year 2000 we will have definite dates for the evening lectures next month but it looks to be the second week of the month on a Wednesday evening to be held at Pencoed College with Tony Home in January and Peter Johnstone in February.

A quick recap, do not forget the BTME at Harrogate International Centre on the 19th to the 21st of January 2000, it may be advantageous to book early.

Last but not least congratulations to Adrian Panks who has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at Llanwern GC, well done from all of the section.

Richard Hatcher

## Northern Ireland

#### South-East

The first annual Northern Irish Greenkeepers Charity Open day was held at Clondeboye Golf Club on Friday September 3. Over 80 competitors took part on the day playing the Dufferin course. A special mention must go to Course Manager, Terry Crawford, and his team for the course was in excellent condition and very well presented. Special thanks to Clondeboye for giving the competitors a courtesy round which enabled all entry fees to go to the charity Heartbeat. The sum of £1300 was raised which will go to this very worthy charity which treats children with heart problems. The charity day would not have happened without Terry Crawford's hard work organising the event and gathering an impressive array of prizes kindly donated by the many sponsors.

We would like to thank Clive Richardson and Horta Soils, John Lindsay, Adrian Eastwood, Coburns, Oneida Cutlery, Bill Donnell at Stakis Park, Terry Magee General Manager Spa Golf Club and Ken Graham General Manager at Clondeboye Golf Club for all the donations of money trophies and prizes. First prize went to Sidney Spence, Greenkeeper at Spa Golf Club, 2. Allister Harrison, WD Irwins, 3. John Lindsay.

Course Manager Alan Strachan and the greenkeeping team at Royal Co Down Golf Club and Section members would like to wish Walter Beattie Head Greenkeeper at Royal Co. Down a very happy retirement. Walter has been at Royal Co. Down for 28 years.

I would like to remind members of our regional training course on the 2nd and 3rd December 1999 at the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down. The course is on Budgeting & Finance and is presented by Brin Bendon.

Finally, it was nice to meet Tracey Maddison, Membership Services Officer again at the I.O.G. Show in Belfast on the 28th September. On behalf of all the members within the region many thanks Tracey for coming over to the show again this year.

The section would like to pass on best wishes to Walter Beattie on his retirement as Head Greenkeeper from Royal County Down G.C. after 27 years service to the club.

Congratulations to Eamon Crawford on his promotion to Deputy Course Manager also at Royal County Down.

Our charity golf day at Clandyboye G.C. on the 3rd September was a great success with eighty in attendance raising over twelve hundred pounds for Heartbeat (for children's) charity. Many thanks to the sponsors, Horta Soils, Coburns, John Lindsay's, Spa Golf Club, Stakis Golf Club and Eastwood Bookmakers. Also thanks to all those who made the effort to attend and give generously.

J. McCabe