



Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

North Section

We've done it again! The Section won the Norrie Whytock Trophy at Craige Hill GC, Perth. The team was slightly changed from the original due to work and holidays so well done to Section members Stevie Sullivan, Stuart Robertson, Craige Hill; George Aitken, Peterculter, and Colin Mackay, Elmwood. Captain Stevie Sullivan led the team to a two stroke victory over the other Scottish Sections.

New members this month to welcome are David Murdoch, from Buckpool, and rejoining us after a few years away is Robert Hardie now working at Craibstone. The two lucky Section members who have won this year's Patrons' Award are Gordon Moir, St Andrews, and John Geddes, McDonald GC, Ellon. Their reward for attending the most BIGGA events over the last year is an expenses paid trip to BTME 2000 on the Scottish bus.

Congratulations to you both.

This month is the Charterhouse/Scotts National Championship at Carden Park, near Chester, where BIGGA members from all over will be competing for the BIGGA Challenge Cup and I will be there to report on any Section success... I hope.

This month is also when our AGM will be held, final date and venue is not quite confirmed but will be towards the end of the month in the Aberdeen area and we hope to have a talk as well as the golf prior to the meeting. While I am talking about outings, two dates for your year 2000 diary.

Spring outing at Buckpool GC, Head Greenkeeper Martyn Cameron, on Thursday May 25, and Autumn outing at Peterculter GC, Head Greenkeeper David Marnoch, on Thursday September 28. As I go to press we are contacting Downfield GC for more tee times as this year's Autumn outing is oversubscribed.

Iain Macleod

Central

The Inter-Club Tournament should have been completed by now but one team got their dates mixed up, and, at the time of writing, it looks like the final will be delayed slightly. It's amazing how they could make such a simple mistake as they take the event so seriously that they carry a mobile phone with them when they are playing and report the result of

each hole back to the clubhouse, or some "central" result gathering centre. At some holes they even attempted to send it by "carrier club." Only joking D.Mc!

I have discovered the whereabouts of a certain A. O'H. He is alive and well and playing in the aforementioned tournament, trying to do an impression of Jean Van de Velde. While competing against one of the Kinross teams, at Kinross, his ball landed in one of the many burns which zig zag across the course. Undeterred he promptly walked into the burn, shoes and all, and attempted to play out. Needless to say he lost the hole, lost the match and was last seen running towards Leven with his playing partner (D.S.) in hot pursuit. Still, that's what the tournament is about, having a bit of fun!



BIGGA's got something to shout about!

You will have noticed that I have used a lot of initials rather than full names, the reason being to protect the innocent.

We have one new member to welcome to the Section this month and he is Graham Winter from Kingsbarns Golf Links in Fife. Graham is an apprentice at Kingsbarns and he is a golfer. Perhaps we will get the chance to meet him at one of our tournaments in the not too distant future. The Spring Tournament is at St. Andrews on Tuesday, April 11 next year, so you won't have too far to travel Graham.

Tickets for "Club 2000" are selling well, with only a few having been returned so far. So if you don't have yours yet you had better hurry as time is running short. An interesting point about those who have returned their allocation of tickets (2) is that they don't support any event which is organised by the Section for their benefit. So what do they want from BIGGA?

Mark McHendry has left Thornton GC, where he was assistant greenkeeper, to take up a new career with the Lothian and Borders Police Force. Mark was a member for over eight years and we are sorry that he has left greenkeeping, but we wish him every

success in his new career.

Details of the section AGM, which we are hoping to hold at Drumoig next month, should be with you shortly, so if there is anything you want to say, for or against the way the Section is being run, then you will have your chance. Hopefully numbers will be higher than the eight who turned up last year!

John Crawford.

West

Welcome to another round up of Section news. Hopefully by now all of you should have received your entry forms for the Autumn outing taking place at Windyhill GC on October 22. Remember this will be the second draw of the '100' Club and there is £100 up for grabs. The final draw is for £50 and will take place at the AGM later in the year.

Tuesday August 24 was the day of the challenge match, Greenkeepers v Scottish Clubmasters, venue Lenzie GC. The day was most enjoyable with a close result for the Greenkeepers winning the day by one match up.

Thanks go to Scottish Clubmasters for providing the trophy on the day. I hope you enjoyed the day and would hope we can have a return match next year? Thanks to Lenzie GC for use of their course and facilities and also to the Steward Alan and Morag for their super efforts. The chicken was great. I must say the course was in great condition and I can only recommend to the Lenzie GC Committee that the greens staff deserve a huge wage rise. Well done chaps!

Two days later, August 26, and the Norrie Whytock Trophy was played for at Craige Hill GC sponsored by Rhone-Poulenc. The North Section won the Trophy with 97 pts and the West Section was runner up with 95 pts. Well played guys, that was close. The West Section was represented by Douglas McIntosh, Cathkin Braes; Joe Bell, Kilmacolm GC; Iain Smith, Drumpelieir GC, and John Scott, Kirkhill GC. Thanks go to McKenzie Munro the Scottish Area Managing Director of Rhone-Poulenc.

One final piece of news I heard from Peter Boyd today is that congratulations are in order for Robbie Bunting as Kilmacolm Golf Club's policy of care for wildlife on the course has been recognised with the National Crystal Trophy in the Green Apple awards for environmental best practice. The club was chosen out of 120 businesses and organisations throughout the British Isles which had been nominated for the award. I am sure that an article will be published in the 'Greenkeeper'

featuring Kilmacolm and how they achieved this fine accolade. Well done to Robbie Bunting and staff and Kilmacolm GC from all of the West Section.

So that wraps up another section news. Please call me if you have anything to mention, promotions, births etc. H: 0141 776 1532 M: 07050 173080

Gavin Jarvis

Ayrshire

The Section would like to pass on its congratulations to Derek Wilson and his wife Jacinta on the birth of their twin boys.



Northern Region
Douglas Bell
Tel: 0151 431 0433

North West

The N/W Section currently has 562 members and is the largest Section in the Association. This is good news, but when it comes to getting a team of 16 together for a match against another Section, nobody seems interested. I struggled to get a team against the N/Wales Section in April and only just made it after many phone calls. This month, August, it was a struggle once again to find a team to play in the "Roses" match against the Northern Section.

We finished up eventually with 14 players instead of 16. A lot of work goes into organising these matches, and it is embarrassing to arrive short of players, especially when the sponsor has attended expecting to see a good turnout. I hope in future more interest is shown. Anyway we had a great day, even though we were hammered six and a half to one and a half.

The venue was Howley Hall, the course of Simon Heppenstall, and he and his staff had the course in great condition considering the amount of rain prior to the match. The match was once again sponsored by Patissons, who have sponsored this competition for 21 years. I would like to thank Patissons for their sponsorship and hope it will continue for many years to come.

On 25 August we had the Regional Final at Macclesfield Golf Club. Each Section had six qualifiers from their spring tournaments to go through to the final. The course was in great condition thanks to Steve Worthington and his staff and the standard of golf played was equally as good. The winners were the Sheffield Section with a score of 348, being the best five scores from six games. The difference between the winners and the last Section being only six shots made it a very close match. The sad thing was the N/East section could only muster

half a team, but at least the three who turned up enjoyed themselves and played well. The final was sponsored by Richard Campey Ltd of Macclesfield, who presented the winners with a shield and each member of the team received a medal. Many thanks to Richard Campey for sponsoring the day and also thanks to Macclesfield Golf Club for allowing us courtesy of the course.

The next golf will be the President's Cup and AGM at Wilmslow Golf Club on Thursday November 25. The tee will be available from 10am and everyone will need to bring a bottle in order for all competitors to take away a prize. All entries to be sent to Bill Merritt, 225 Utting Avenue, Clubmore, Liverpool L4 9RB. Tel: 0151 284 4416. Please include a cheque for £15 made out to BIGGA N/W.

That's it for now. Any news or views, ring me on 0151 724 5412.

Bert Cross

North East

On 22 July we held, for the first time, a summer competition at Garesfield Golf Club. Our thanks to the committee for giving us courtesy of their course. Sadly a very poor turn out, only 15 bothered to play, but everyone enjoyed themselves. Let's hope next year we get a better response as it is going to be played most likely the last Monday of July, 3pm to 4pm.

Best gross, J. Hutton, 72. Whickham. Ransomes Cup. C. Cooper 72-6=66, Slaley Hall. Greenlay Cup, R. Reid, 77-8=69, Prudhoe. Fewster's Shield, G. Wright, 89-15=74, Crook.

A final thank you to Head Greenkeeper, Ian Hutton, on the excellent condition of the course in the short time he has been there.

On 5 August at Beamish Golf Club, the reinstated match against the Cleveland section was played. The North East overcame our neighbours in a close game by 3/2. Looking forward to the replay next year.

At a recent Section meeting, it was agreed to have a repeat of winter lectures in January, February and March. Members will be notified in due course.

Jimmy Richardson

North Wales

A committee meeting was held on 24 August. We discussed, among other things, the autumn golf meet and the autumn/winter lectures. By the time you read this you should have received your entry forms and a programme of dates for the lectures. If you haven't please get in touch.

Last month I gave you some wrong information. The Christmas meeting is on Thursday 2 December at Royal St Davids. Sorry.

The lectures will all take place at the college, mostly afternoons. We felt that, the dress code etc., wouldn't be a problem and you could literally finish work and attend. There will be a nominal charge to non-members of £1 to cover refreshment costs.

The Match Secretary would appreciate it if you could provide official handicaps otherwise the max will be 18 medal, 21 Stableford. Please also remember golf related guests only, ie. Captain, Green Chairman, Secretary etc.

Marc Brute who is 17 years old and a MA at Old Colwyn Golf Club is now Denbighshire County Champion. A superb achievement, so we'll need your handicap certificate Marc and no, we won't accept a 24 provisional OK.

Our Section's only Life Member, Bill Lawson, has donated a shield to the Section which we decided will be awarded to the best gross score from a member under the age of 21 at our Christmas competition. I've got an idea who might win!

Rigby Taylor's Mike Whitehouse is organising a North vs South Wales match. I will keep you

informed about date and venue.

Finally, welcome new members Stephen Jones, Vicars Cross; Wendy O'Brien, Carden Park; Paul Davies, The Pleazey; Gareth Jones, Henllys Hall and a very belated welcome to Jamie Williams, Vale of Llanyollan and Lee Edwards of Hawarden.

Dave Goodridge

Cleveland

The Section had a very busy time this month. First the Cleveland Section played the North East Section at Beamish Park GC. The weather was great and the course was in excellent condition.

Keith Lough, Course Manager at Beamish had the greens tip top. The sponsors for the match were Ritefeed and Alan Cordingly, Ritefeed Rep, gave out some very nice prizes. Cleveland got beat 3-2.

The Cleveland Shield Knock Out competition was held here at Brancepeth GC. Both semi-finals and finals were played the same day.

Results: Barry Walker bt Ian Holoran. Alix Russell bt Tony Burge.

In the final Alix Russell kicked Barry Walker's a**e - Barry's words not mine. A good day was had by all. Thanks to Brancepeth GC, Deputy Head and greenstaff for the way the course was turned out.

Then Cleveland Warriors went down to Macclesfield in the National Finals. The Cleveland Section came second, lost by one point.

Other news. Martin Woods has been nominated by GLC for Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year at Hough College. Both lads work at Wearside GC.

Well, the Autumn tournament is on us again. This year it will be held at Weynard GC on October 12. Any further info call Barry Walker on 0191 514 5263.

Kevin(Scoop)Heslop

Sheffield

Yet again I have to apologise for the lack of notes in the September edition. Once again we have the Royal Mail to thank for this!

On 12th July we held our annual competition at Abbeydale Golf Club. The weather was absolutely glorious and very warm which made the golf very tiring but there was still plenty of excellent golf played.

Abbeydale was in excellent condition and our thanks go to John Coleman and his staff. Well done John.

Our thanks also go to Abbeydale Golf Club for giving us courtesy of their course and facilities.

Thanks also to Mansfield Sand for being the main sponsors of the day and to all the other trade members who provided prizes.

There was some excellent golf played but the eventual winner was Mick Coltas, with a net 68. Well played Mick!

Results 1. Mick Coltas 68 net. 2. J. Darach, 70 net, 3. W. Mannig, 71 net.

The gross prize went to M. Hayward with a 72.

By the time you read this we will have played our Autumn tournament at Hallamshire on September 15, so I hope you all enjoyed the day again.

John Lax



Midland Region
Peter Larter
Tel: 01480 437507

Northern

This year's Invitation Day Tournament was held at Shipley (Beckfoot) Golf club. The weather was excellent, matched by a course produced by Pat Murphy and his team. I am sure the comments from the players justified the hard work getting the course set up for us on the day.



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Many thanks to Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the main prize table and to Mike Brear for presenting the prizes on their behalf.

Thanks to Acorn Equipment for sponsoring the longest drive and nearest the pin prizes and to Lindum Turf for setting up and sponsoring the prizes for the putting competition.

The results for the day were as follows: 1. J. Baxter & R. Naylor, Bingley St Ives GC. 2. Ms M. Welch & R. Scott, Bingley St Ives GC. 3. N. Schofield & R. Spencer, Rigby Taylor. 4. A. Baxter & I. Summersgill, Bingley St Ives GC. 5. A. Corns & A. Brittain, Acorn Equipment. Nearest the Pin: L. Kirkbright. Longest Drive: A. Baxter. Putting Competition: S. Baxter.

Congratulations to Phil Mitchell of Shipley Golf Club and his wife on the recent arrival of their new baby. I was surprised to see how much hair he had lost due to the extra stress after only a week!

If anyone has 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 Midlands

This year's East Midlands v East of England Golf Match was hosted by Ramsdale Park Golf Centre on August 18. Despite a very heavy shower and some persistent rain to begin with, we were still able to play the match. All members from the East Midlands team were in fine form, winning four of the five matches by big margins and sharing the point in the fifth.

The team was represented by the following members. Jeff Dickinson, Peter Billings, Pete Larter, Steve Goode, Dave Mitchell, Ian Needham, Steve Levers, Antony Bindley, Gavin Robson and Steve Tolley. The result means that the

Section has now regained the Toro shield. The East of England Section did, however, win the Longest Drive, Phil Wilkinson, and Nearest the Pin, Graeme Macdonald. Thanks to all those members who represented the Section at short notice.

I would also like to thank Ramsdale Park Golf Club for offering courtesy of their course and the catering staff for an excellent meal. Also thanks should go to Steve Levers and his staff for providing a fine test of golf for the tournament. Not forgetting our generous sponsors, Chandlers, for their support.

Unfortunately, our Pairs Tournament, which was to be held on 23 August had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Only six members entered, with ten members for the evening lecture.

This year's Autumn tournament at Erewash Valley Golf Club on 6 September has only attracted 24 members. Scores and results will appear next month.

On a brighter note, I would like to congratulate Anthony Foulds and Thomas on winning the Best Gross prize in the Telford Golf and Country Club Open.

This year's AGM will take place at Raddcliffe-on-Trent Golf Club at 4.30pm on November 3. If you have not received your entry form, please give me a ring and remember to send your form back before the closing date. Also, this year's Regional Seminar will take place at Mentmore Golf Club on 17 November. For further details contact our Regional Administrator for what promises to be a great day.

Antony Bindley

Midland

There has been a trip arranged to the newly-formed Advantage Seed Houses at Sleaford, formerly Sharpes, Momersteeg, at the end of October. ALS have sponsored the visit and will be providing transport and lunch.



Have you heard?

The day will consist of a tour of the warehouses and laboratories and a look at the extensive trial plots. This will be interesting to see how cultivars, chosen from a brochure, finally look. Numbers are limited, therefore a first come first served basis will operate. Contact Andi Smith on 01676 530114.

The results from the Autumn Tournament will be in next month's report along with a full report on the Trafford Stonebridge Golf Day to be held at Maxstoke Park.

Jonathan Wood

BB&O

First of all I would like to thank everyone who took time to visit us at Donnington Grove in July for the summer meeting. The results were as follows: 1. Nigel Ely, 36 pts. 2. Geoff Wheeler, 36 pts. 3. Lindsay Anderson, 35 pts.

I had the pleasure of playing with Lindsay and his fears about the length of the course never showed in his scoring. Thanks to Phil Sharp, from Pattisons, who sponsored the day and ETT and Richard Fontmeuller who donated the raffle prizes.

A welcome from the Section to Carl Small and Charles Wright. We hope to see you at the rest of the season's events.

Finally, the Autumn Meeting was held at The Springs Golf Club, Wallingford on 21 September and the results will be in the next article.

Numbers for the golfing events appear to be steady but we appeal to those still not taking part. Please come along, it really is a good day out.

Any information within the Section would be gratefully accepted. You can contact me on 01635 821333.
Ross Wilson

Mid Anglia

Demonstration of the Juno and Jupiter grinders by Eric Hunter Grinders Limited is to be held at John O'Gaunt Golf Club, Sutton Park, Sandy, Bedfordshire on 24 November 1999 at 10am.

Please ring Colin Robinson, Course Manager, on 01767 261416 regarding numbers for catering.

Colin Robinson



South East
Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 260956

South East

Firstly I would like to draw to your attention the Regional Seminar due to be held at Writtle College, Chelmsford on 16th November. You should have, together with your copy of "Greenkeeper International," a programme for the day which includes an application form for reservations.

This seminar has been carefully put together by the Essex Section and promises to be a great day, and at £13 to include lunch and coffee, incredible value as well. This is due entirely to the generosity of our Sponsors (please see programme for the full list).

Should you have not received the programme with your magazine then please give me a ring on the above number.

Secondly on a personal basis, I would like to thank all of those Members, (Greenkeepers and Trade) who enquired after my health when I was "laid up for most of the summer. I am now on the road to recovery and hope to make up for all that lost golf, by attending the Turkey Trots! But thanks for your thoughts, it meant a lot to me, at a time when I felt very low.

Derek Farrington

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Around
the green

Essex

Well gentlemen, after last month's feast of golfing reports, October has given the chance to cover other items.

First of all, on behalf of all Essex members, I would like to welcome to the Section two new members from the London Club. Geoff Smith and from Manor of Groves, Adrian Blackaby. Hope to see both Geoff and Adrian at one of our events in the near future.

On to the South East Regional Conference to be held on Tuesday 16 November at Writtle College, Chelmsford. Please gentlemen, support this event. We have a great line up of speakers some you will know, others will be new names but we will guarantee you they will be names, once heard, never forgotten!

Alan Gange, Biostimulants; Tim Lodge, Top Dressing & Root zones; David Kidd, Architect, Mark Hunt, Fertilisers; Brian Robinson, Grass Seed Technology, and Giles Wardle, Irrigation.

Further information and costs will be sent through the post shortly.

During November, the first of a two day management course (second day in March 2000) with Uncle Frank Newberry and a two day computer course with Ken Richardson, Middle of February 2000, will all be held at the Burstead Golf Club. Members who applied for these courses will be contacted. Any problems please telephone Martin Forrester 01245 603131.

Those who enjoyed the Go-Karting will be given the chance to challenge present champions Stapleford Abbotts GC on November 26. Details to follow.

By the time you read this report both Steve Cox and Chris Ward will have attended the National Championship at Carden Park. Let's keep our fingers crossed that they both bring home plenty of prizes.

Our next meeting is at Wanstead G.C. 19th October sponsored by GEM. Hope to see you there.

Dave Wells

PS. When was the last time there were two West Ham players in the Full England squad? September 1999.

Kent

The last golf event held in the Region was on 26 July at Brokehill GC. The results were as follows: 1. P. Belton & S. Bates, 42; 2. B. Farnham & D. Clark, 42; 3. I. Jarman & P. Rudkin, 41; 4. T. Southwell & G. Nicholl 41; 5. B. Deacon & R. Cole 41; 6. Mrs J. Walton & P. Walton, 39; 7. R. Buckley & N. Young, 39; 8. B. Ramsey & H. Wignell, 38, and the booby prize went to J. Shaw & G. Sidders with a massive 26 pts. Sorry guys.

Before I go any further I would like to thank Geoff Rolstone for his hospitality and the trophy. June Clark the Secretary and David Rolstone and his staff for the presentation of the course. A big thank you also to the catering staff, bar and restaurant staff and the pro-shop staff and starters. Many thanks to our main sponsor, Barreffield,

and all of our other sponsors who made this day possible.

During the last week or so we would have held our golf event at Tandridge GC on October 4. Hopefully everybody who attended this event enjoyed themselves and the results will be in the November issue along with any points of interest that arise from the next committee meeting which was held on 15 September at Wildernesse GC.

Any news or comments, please pass them on to me on 01474 879200 or 0402 573994. I have received a total of two calls all season with news for the magazine, so if you would like to continue to read this then give me a call.

Kneale Diamond



South West
and South Wales
Paula Humphries
Tel: 01288 352194

South West & South Wales

The 1999 South West & South Wales Regional Seminar will be held at Cannington College on 24th November and the theme will be RESEARCH. We have some tremendous speakers including Dr Mike Canaway of STRI, Dr Danny Thorogood of IGER, Prof Bill Adams, Stephen Bernhard, Dr Bob Daniels and Steve Jones of the London Club.

The speakers will be talking about genetically modified grasses, shortcut, rootzone formulations, impact of sharpening blades etc.

Do make the effort to come, it will be well worth it. Cost £15 members £22.50 non-members. Apply to Paula Humphries.

Devon & Cornwall

The Devon Garden Machinery meeting and Section AGM will be held at Manor House Golf & Country Club on Wednesday November 17. The morning's golf will be of foursome format for the Toro Trophy with the prizes being kindly donated by Devon Garden Machinery and Lely.

As usual the non golfers course walk will leave the club house at approximately 10.30 am, lunch will be from 1 pm onwards followed by the golf presentation by Devon Garden Machinery, our sponsor for the day. The Section's AGM will conclude the day.

I'd like to remind you that the Region's annual seminar will be held at Cannington College on Wednesday November 24. Also, you should all have received details of the Region's package to Harrogate for the BTME show and seminar at the very low price of £95 per member. If you haven't already booked your place for the seminar or BTME package and wish to attend, please contact our regional administrator, Paula Humphries, on 01288 352194 to reserve any places remaining.

Richard Whyman

South Coast

On the 10th November 1999 a trip to Hankley Common Golf Club has been organised. A coach is provided and the day has been sponsored by Rigby Taylor. The programme for the day is as follows. Coach to Hankley Common. On arrival Ian MacMillan, the Course Manager, will give an informal talk on his beautiful heathland course. This will be followed by a tour of the green-keeper's complex. A light lunch is then provided. After lunch Ian will be taking us on a grand tour of the course. Having heard about all the conservation work that has gone on I am really looking forward to the trip. This is definitely a visit not to be missed. All of you wishing to attend should contact Jef Drake our secretary on 01635 846575 as soon as possible. He can then book the coach, the route pick-up points and times.

By now you should have all received the information on the Regional Seminar. This is to be held at Cannington College on November 24 1999. Looking through the list of speakers that Paula has got together we are in for a real treat. All that remains to be done is for you to get your cheques and forms in and put the date in your diaries. See you all at Cannington.

Our Section AGM and turkey trot this year will be held at Hockley Golf Club on Wednesday December 8. Hockley always used to be known for its long rough. However, I have been told it has been cut down to a reasonable height. There will be 18 holes of golf (first tee off at 9am). This will be followed by the Section AGM. On completion of the AGM we will sit down to our Christmas dinner and prize giving.

Any items you would like included in the Agenda, please forward to our secretary Jef Drake, to reach him no later than Wednesday November 17. That is three weeks before the AGM. Anyone who would like to serve on the committee should get their names into Jef. If you require any information as to what is involved in being a committee member contact any of our committee members. We look forward to hearing from you.

At the time of going to print I do not know what the cost of the day's proceedings will be. I've no doubt Fred will be finding out shortly. I will make sure that it is in the November Around The Green report.

Your programme for 1999-2000 should be with you shortly. They are in the process of being printed. One date you may like to put in your diary, is the Seminar to be held at Sparsholt on the February 8 2000. Jef has got one or two speakers. If any of you have a particular speaker you would like to hear, get in touch with Jef, he would love to hear from you.

As some of you may know, Paula has not been too well of late and has had to go into hospital. I am sure that the whole of the Section would like to wish her a speedy recovery. We all hope all goes well for you Paula.

Ken Lodge

South Wales

This year's summer tournament was held at Whitechurch GC Cardiff, on July 8. Match results, Best Gross A. Roach with a 78, Best Net P. Wilaby with a 69 and over 18's Net G. Evans with a 73.

The Match v Golf Club Secretaries held at Pontadawe GC on August 12 was successfully retained by winning three matches out of five. Match results as follows: A. Panks/A. Richards & J. Probert/B. Smith lost their matches with P. Lacey/B. Hanford; D. Don/R. Patterson winning their matches. The longest drive and nearest the flag was sponsored by Alan Able of Complete Weed Control. Thank you, with the prizes going to A. Panks - Longest Drive and Nearest the Pin - D. Fellows, H. Probert & K. Vin Hopkins.

A fantastic day was had by all and thanks must go to the secretaries for their continued support during the day. Thanks to J. Probert and his team for the superb condition of the course and not forgetting the kind words from the captain of Pontadawe Mr. Norman Hopkins.

Our sincere apologies to St. Mellion GC for the lack of support from the Section and the PGA for postponing the match on August 17.

On August 25 the Golf Management Trophy was held again at the Celtic Manor GC. Although this time we played the new Wentwood Hills course which held up superbly to the volume of rain that fell during the day. 25 teams had taken part with Llanwern GC coming up trumps to repeat their win last year. Thanks to Scotts for sponsoring the day and to Jim McKenzie and his staff for the condition of the course in such horrendous weather.

The Rigby Taylor results so far, R. Frater & J. Borge beat S. Lloyd & R. Barnham; P. Lacey & R. Patterson beat W. Benga & A. Phillips; I. Morris & J. Carter beat J. B. Jones & A. Panks; A. Roach & J. Phipps beat J. Probert & H. Probert.

Up and coming events; Match v BIGGA S. West at St. Pierre G&CC on October 6th. Tee off 12:30 pm; Rigby Taylor Match Play Finals at Royal Porthcawl GC, a theme of research, with the cost of £15 to members and non-members £22.50.

Winter Tournament/AGM/Xmas Dinner to be held at Pyle & Kenfig GC 8:30 am on December 8th. Just a reminder that you might like to start thinking of planning your visit to the BTME 2000 at the Harrogate International Centre from the 19th to the 21st January 2000.

Congratulations to Julian Bartlet Jones who has taken up the position of Course Manager at Dinas Powys GC, Cardiff.

Some unfortunate news. Our Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries, has been unwell. Paula we all hope you get well soon.

Richard Hatcher

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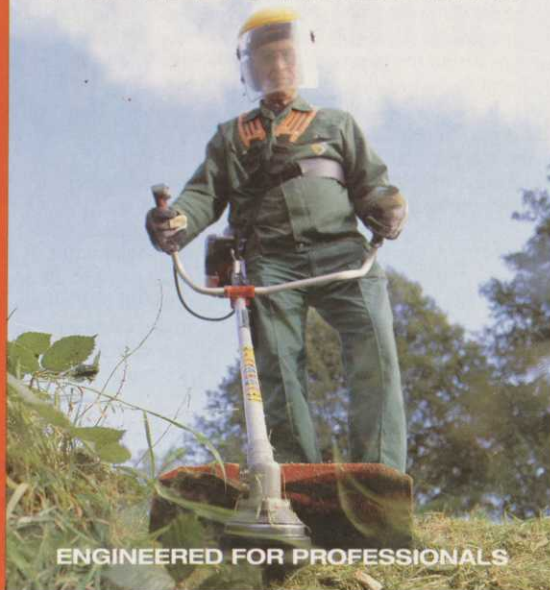
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