



Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

Ayrshire

This column has been blank for the past couple of months with holidays and no news to report. Jim Paton, from West Kilbride, called to say that two greenkeepers had played the final of their club championship with Barry Crawford, of Old Prestwick, defeating defending champion local man Brian Aitken. Is this a unique occurrence?!

A man on the move is my old apprentice from Beith, David Blair, who moves to Lochwinnoch Golf Club to be Alastair Law's First Assistant. Congratulations and good wishes with your new job David. Over the town in Largs, at Routenburn, First Assistant, Colin Sutherland, has been promoted to Head Greenkeeper. Congratulations and good wishes with your new job Colin also. That's all the summer news, well at least the weather has been good.

I was at St Andrews for The Open Championship with the Support Team which was again superb and a most enjoyable event. The highlight for me was being drawn with Tiger Woods on the first day and apart from being an awesome golfer he didn't bother going in any bunkers which he repeated for the entire Championship. I would like to pay a tribute to Jimmy Neilson and Cecil George who retired from the Support Team at St Andrew's, where it was started in 1984 with Jimmy and Cecil, among others, in the days of SIG-GA. They had been present ever since. Well done lads you have carried out a fantastic job and can now become full time ambassadors in the hospitality marquee. The autumn outing is on September 21 at Largs (Kelburn). Secretary, Derek Wilson, will be in touch soon with the final arrangements if you don't already have them. To book your entry give Derek a call on 01294 276177 or just return your entry form. I look forward to meeting you there. Any news give me a call on 01505 683278.

Iain Barr

Central

Sorry about the blank last month but I had very little news for you. Nobody thought to tell me that only nine members of the Section played in the Scottish Tournament at Newmacher, and that four of them were in the prize list! So they will just have to miss out on having their names in print. While I am on about the 'Scottish Tournament,' why was there so little support from the

Section? Was the venue too far away? Is it the wrong time of the year? Are there too many events being held? If you have any thoughts on the aforementioned, please get in touch with any committee member or Peter Boyd on the usual number.

Another three members have joined the Section and we welcome Adam Head, from Auchterarder GC, Alan Green, from Dunblane New GC, and John Forrest from Canmore GC. A man on the move this time is Abe Torrance. Abe has left the Green Hotel Golf Courses, at Kinross, where he was employed as an assistant and has taken up a similar position with Joe Oliver, at Pitreavie GC, in Dunfermline. Best wishes for the future Abe, you'll be able to get an extra half hour in your bed in the morning!

The entry form for the Autumn Tournament at Stirling GC on September 21 should be with you by now. So if you wish to play in the final golf event of this year, it is also the first qualifying round for the 2001 National Championship, please get your entries in as soon as possible. On August 24 we will have held a football tournament at Forthbank Stadium, Stirling.

The proposed visit to the seed trial ground at Loch Lomond has had to be cancelled due to circumstances outwith our control. Sorry if you are disappointed, but there was nothing we could do about it.

Richard Walton, of Scotts, is organising a visit to their fertiliser plant for next month and he is also hoping to include a visit to the STRI at Bingley on one of the two day programmes. Anyone interested should return their form quickly as numbers may be restricted.

We are hoping to hold this year's AGM in the St Andrews area, with a talk on golf course machinery prior to the meeting and a visit to the maintenance complex following the AGM. That's another form for you to fill in!

The winning numbers in the 'Club 2000' draw for the past two months were No. 388, Joe Oliver from Pitreavie GC and No. 260 which was sold by Alex Robertson from Grangemouth GC. This year's 'Club 2000' tickets should be arriving with you soon and you will notice a difference in the monthly prize, instead of one winner of £50 we are making one of £30 and one of £20. Once again your support in this venture will be very much appreciated by your committee.

As in previous years, the Inter Club tournament has fallen behind schedule with a number of first round ties still to be played. It will be difficult for the committee to take any action on this one as four of them have teams participating in the event!

John Crawford

East

Welcome to this month's column. There's not a lot of news around just now so here we go.

The Section held their Summer Tournament at Melrose GC in the heart of the Scottish Borders. We had a good turnout on the day with 38+ in attendance and the weather was reasonably good which is very unusual these days. The way the weather is going, all I can say is roll on summer when it starts, I think that will be around October!

Thanks for the day go out to the Captain and Council for courtesy of the course, the clubhouse staff for looking after us very well and Head Greenkeeper, Stevie Dunn, and his staff for having the course in great condition for us, which is quite a daunting thought when you have 30+ greenkeepers going round your course. Well done to all. Also thanks to our trade members who provided raffle prizes and also gave a helping hand on the day.

Results of the day were: 1. S. Greenwood, S. Aird, M.O. Rourke, sec Melrose GC; 2. S. Gray, J. Robertson, E. Thomson; 3. T. Murray, S. Dunn, T. Scott.

The next tournament on the calendar is the Willie Woods Invitational at Winterfield GC on September 6, so hopefully you've got yourself a partner for this great tournament. If not, ask your Captain, Secretary, Vice Captain, Greens Chairman or anyone from your committee along for the day. If they have not been before, they will be pleasantly surprised, so we hope to see you there.

Following on from that will be the autumn outing, first qualifier for the BIGGA National Championship 2001. So we hope to see a big turnout at Duddingston GC on the 21 September.

Going back to the Willie Woods at Winterfield, having spoken to Craig, final preparations on the course are well under way for the tournament and he is looking forward to having us down in Dunbar.

People on the move this month are Iain Elliot, from Dalmahoy G & CC, who has moved down to the Borders to join my team at West Linton GC as First Assistant, third in charge. Welcome along to our team and all the best for the future.

I will have details of the Annual Dance and Section Raffle shortly and immediately I receive them I will put them in print.

Well, that's all this month.

Chris Yeaman

North

A couple of new members to welcome to the Section this month. Paul Fraser, from Brechin GC, and Robert Duncan, from Royal Dornoch GC, and rejoining the Section, now working at

Longside GC is Jonathan Lester. The Section continues to grow and grow and hopefully new members will remain with us for years to come.

The Open was another great experience at the home of golf, St Andrews. The Section was well represented as usual and full credit to Eddie Adams and his staff for the presentation of a fine links test for all.

The soccer match on the Saturday resulted in another Scottish win. If we win again next year we get to keep them! Ex-Section member, Gordon Mckie, nearly lost his gear when dropping off some of the London based lads at Edinburgh airport as they took his bags as well, but realised before boarding the plane, fortunately.

The Scottish Amateur Matchplay was held in the Section at Royal Dornoch recently and Bobby Mackay and his staff had the course looking superb as usual. This was a double for the North as the Scottish Strokeplay was at Letham Grange earlier in the year.

Are you remembering to send entries in for the Section's autumn outing at the end of the month at Peterculter.

David Marnoch and his staff will be wanting to show off their lovely course to as many as possible, so let's have a good turnout. We will have the next four draws for the Section's 200 Club, so if you're there you can pick up your cheque on the day, providing you win of course.

The two lucky members from the Section to win the year 2000 Patron Awards will be announced shortly with details in the next magazine.

So if you have been attending BIGGA events over the last 12 months, you could be one of the ones chosen for a trip to BTME next January.

Watch this space.

Iain Macleod



Northern Region
Douglas Bell
Tel: 0151 431 0433

Northern

A full report will be in next month's issue for Invitation Day. A date for your dairy is Wednesday, November 15, when, at Howley Hall GC, there will be a winter seminar during the day. More details of this event will follow.

The team for the annual Roses match against the North West Section is as follows:- Simon Heppenstall, Richard Smith, Jim Brown, Johnney Platt, Andy Smith, Nigel White, Alan Baxter, Eric Paley, Edwin Walsh, Alan

Court, Richard Harris, Roy Armitage, Dave Collins, Les Kirkbright, Alvin Fawcett, Peter Thompson.

Our next event is the Autumn Tournament, at Hornsea GC, 1.30pm, sponsored by F & G Adamson.

All entries for the golf events are to be sent to myself and must be received along with the FULL amount of £15 no later than seven days before the event. Cheques to be made payable to "BIGGA Northern Section."

Entries will be on a first come first in basis, so book early to avoid disappointment.

We welcome this month new members:- John Burnside, Bingley St.Ives GC; Stuart Rogers, Philip Niven, Northcliffe GC; Andrew Slingsby, Hollins Hall H&GC.

You can be assured of a warm welcome at any of our Section events. If you have any enquires don't hesitate in picking the phone up and giving us a ring.

There is no other news at the moment, if anybody has any then let me know.

My address is 67 Asquith Avenue, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9QS or telephone at home 0113 2383188 / mobile 07790 678572, or my new email: andy_smith21@hotmail.com
Andy Smith

North West

I have just returned from The Open at St Andrews and feel completely jet-lagged, although we travelled by car. Long days without my evening's nap, while 'Neighbours' is on, catches up in the end. Back to The Open and what a finish by Tiger Woods. When he thought he was going to be caught on the final day, he shifted into another gear and left them all standing.

The course was in lovely condition and on the Wednesday the greens were reported to be 11 on the stimpmetre and the fairways measured 8. The bunkers seemed to cause problems for some of the players, and I must admit just peering into them made the mind boggle. Of course they posed no problem to Tiger who missed them all. I feel the reason for this is that he was able to out drive them all. As you all know, the weather could not have been better and it was a great week to remember, especially meeting up with old friends in the Support team.

Anybody interested in education can find plenty of information in the magazine about training courses at BIGGA HOUSE, also regional courses. If you require any further information, give me a ring.

The Cumbria Cup has been renamed 'The Whitelaw Bowl' and will be played for at Penrith Golf Club on Wednesday, September 13. Anybody wanting to play should ring Andy Vincent, of Course Care, on 07971 292 626. We have a match against the Golf Club Stewards on Monday, October 2, at Stand Golf Club and I require a team of 16 players. If you are interested, please give me a ring and you don't have to be the best golfer in the world.

That seems to be it for now, but if you have any news or require any information, you can contact me on 0151 724 5412.

Bert Cross



Midland Region
Les Emery
Tel: 0116 287 9036

East Midlands

It is with deep regret that I report the sad death of Gerald Darby. Gerald was a popular member of the Section during the 1970's while working at Birstall Golf Club. He then moved South to the Surrey Section before retiring about five years ago. Our

condolences go to Gerald's wife and two daughters. The Section was represented by two of our members, Dave Leatherland and Richard Barker at this year's Open held at St Andrews.

Finally, all members should be in possession of their autumn competition entry form. If you wish to play in this tournament please return your form before the closing date. If any members have not received a form, please contact me and I will gladly send you a copy.

Antony Bindley

Midlands

On July 19 the summer tournament was held at Walsall Golf Club. The day proved to be a great success with the English weather being very kind to us for a change. Many thanks to Steve Wood for presenting the course in such splendid condition and to all his staff, also to all the associated golf club staff for making the day such a great success. The results are as follows: 1. Gross, Mike Hughes. 1. Net, Eddie Stant. 2. Alan Roberts, 3. A. Lang, 4. Brian Nuttall. Nearest the Pin was won by Peter Holtham. Martin Sowerby won longest drive. Peter McCrainger won the trade cup.

Jonathan Wood

Your greens' quality is riding on it.



East of England

The Purdy's Golf Day took place at Kenwick Park Golf Club, Louth. As usual the organiser was late, but eventually the competition got under way.

Head Greenkeeper, Geoff Henderson, and his staff, were praised for the excellent condition of the course.

The winner of the Purdy's/Toro Cup was David Hornsey, of Woodhall Spa - 33 points; 2. Graeme MacDonald of Newark with 32 points; 3. Simon Gazda of Kenwick, - 31 points. The main sponsors of the day were Andy Hardie and Les Purdy, of Purdy's Grass Machinery, and thanks to them for the usual excellent prizes for the winners.

Everybody went home with a prize even if it was only a raffle prize.

The day was also capped off with a super donation from Toro towards the meals for which we are truly grateful to Andy Hardie and Toro for organising.

Other sponsors on the day were Rigby Taylor, Tower Sports, Green Pride, Barenbrug, Scotts and Aitkens.

Unfortunately the Scotts fertiliser/chemical factory tour on August 2 had to be cancelled due to poor support, but thanks to David Truby for his support in organising the day.

Look out for other events which are in the pipeline - ie seminar in November.

G A MacDonald

Mid Anglia

Our autumn golf tournament will be held slightly earlier than usual this year, on Wednesday, September 27, at Mid Hert's Golf Club. Please have your entries in on time to Richard Saunders at the usual address should you wish to enter.

The golf event will be followed by the Section AGM, which is open to all BIGGA members of the section, so please feel free to attend.

I'm sure the Section Committee would welcome input from the members on how the Section is run at present and would consider any new ideas for the future.

The final of the Lodgeway 4 Ball Tournament will be held on October 5, hopefully over the two courses at Brocket Hall. Good luck to all the participating finalists.

For those of you who did not photocopy the entry form for golf events, Richard's address is 55 Leys Road, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs PE19 1EP. Please enclose a cheque for £23.

Paul Lockett



South East
Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 260956

East Anglia

The day was warm and overcast when teams from Essex and East Anglia came together for the biannual golf match at Stoke by Nayland Golf Club. My guest, Peter Bevin, stated on the first tee "That this is a young man's Golf Club." Personally I preferred to think that a few genetic characteristics of a mountain goat may have come in handy.

Kevin King and his staff had made a splendid effort in producing a first class course for the lads to play on, 45 in all, and the staff in the clubhouse went out of their way to provide excellent service, our thanks go out to everyone at the golf club. The Sponsor for the day was Tuckwell Ltd and Neil Peachy and Ian Willett made sure that the day ran as smoothly as possible. Our thanks go out to Tuckwells for their continual support and sponsorship.

On to the winners:- 0 - 9

handicap 1. A. Kirwan 39 points; 2. D. Beale 35 points (on countback); 3. P. Howard 35 points. 10 - 18 1. S. Curtis 44 points (Steve also won best of the day and had his handicap cut by two shots); 2. G. Nash 41 points;

3. S. Townsend 40 points. 19 - 28 1. J. Pymer 32 points; 2. K. Chinnery 28 points,

3. M. Forrester 25 points. Guest and Trade prize was won by W. Assenheim 41 points. Longest Drive - A. Kirwan, Nearest the Pin - G. Bird.

Now onto the coveted Tuckwell Cup, where it was agreed to take the eight best cards from greenkeepers from each Section. Essex accrued 274 points and East Anglia 299. It gave me great pleasure to accept the trophy as Captain of the East Anglia Team. Many thanks to all those who took part in the competition and well done to all the East Anglia Team. A splendid effort.

Ian Willett

Kent

The Section's second golf day was held on July 25 at Broke Hill Golf Club.

A total of 60 members, members of the trade and guests



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BRINGS QUALITY TO THE SURFACE

played in this invitation stableford competition. 1. Andy Pearson and Ken Robinson with 67 pts (BIH); 2. James Duncan and Graham Collins with 67 pts; 3. Chris Marsh and M Young with 65 pts (BIH). Trade Prize - Peter Leeves and J. Moir.

Longest Drive - Terry Edwards.

Nearest the Pin - J Moir.

It has come to our attention that the tee shot of J. Moir finished approximately five feet from the hole, beating the previous nearest (held by Gary Ogilvie, a four handicapper from Avoncrop) by only a few inches. Congratulations on a fine shot Mr Moir, but Gary, would like you to talk us through the three putts!

Out thanks to Barry Jackson and the rest of the staff at Broke Hill for a great day.

The course was in excellent condition and the evening meal was first class.

A big thank you also to Alistair and Bernie for their help on the day, starting people and organising the nearest the pin and longest drive.

The next golf day will be held at Kings Hill in October, hope to see you all there.

Congratulations to John Noyce, of Scotts Fertiliser

Company, on his forthcoming wedding. A lot of you will know John from his time at Parker Hart and I am sure you'll join us in wishing them future happiness. Sorry John, but we don't know the name of your good lady.

As always, the Section is open to offers for courses for next year's golf events.

If any of you would like to put your club forward or if you have any information for this Section, please contact me on 01277 750281.

James Duncan

Surrey

As there have been no golf competitions since last month's edition and the September edition's deadline, today August 5, there are therefore no results to report.

I will take this opportunity, however, to remind all members that on September 27 we are playing our autumn tournament at Laleham Golf Club and the Turkey Trot and AGM at Tyrrells Wood. By the time you read this we will have played the McMillan Tankard on August 21 and Addington Palace on the 30th.

Results will be shown in

October's edition.

A number of our members have been, or are about to move and I ask you all to welcome Ian Wylie, the new Head Greenkeeper at Selsdon Park Golf Club. Congratulations to Stuart Patterson, who is leaving Woodcote Park to become First Assistant at Westerham GC. Stuart has been at Woodcote for three years and previously at Selsdon Park, also for three years.

Ian McMillan is, as I am sure you all know by now, leaving Hankley Common to take up his position as Course Manager at Queensland Golf Club, Ottershaw, a new exclusive course still in the development stage.

Gareth Roberts will be stepping into Ian's shoes at Hankley and Paul Hutton will take over as Assistant Course Manager, well deserved after 17 years service.

Well that's it for this month except to inform you of the danger when Roger Tydeman is off road at Croham Hurst.

His pick up has a blind spot when he is watching juniors in his side mirrors and drives straight into unsuspecting trees!

Brian Willmott



South West and South Wales
Paula Humphries
Tel: 01288 352194

South Coast

Autumn will be upon us by the time you read this. Several excellent golf days have been enjoyed by the Section this year. Firstly, the match against the secretaries was played at Basingstoke Golf Club with the greenkeepers winning easily 5-1. Thanks to Course Care for sponsoring the day and Basingstoke for allowing courtesy. Well done to Harvey and his team for the excellent course conditions.

The summer tournament was our guest day played at High Post Golf Club sponsored by Rigby Taylor and again Course Care. Well done to Lauchlan Millar and his team for the super conditions.

Winners with an obscene 48 pts was Joe Newman and his Guest, from Downshire GC.

Second was Ian Noble and guest, from Moors Valley GC, 45 pts. Third was Alan Rideout and guest, from Bournemouth Services, 44 pts.

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ment Trophy sponsored by Scotts Charterhouse was played at Salisbury and S Wilts Golf Club on August 2. An excellent turnout of 26 teams with the winners coming from the Isle of Wight. Well done the team from Freshwater Bay. Thanks must go to Paula Humphries for organising the day and everyone at Salisbury for making the event so successful.

Don't forget, come down for the autumn tournament on October 4. Payment in advance please to Chris Sturgess, 40 Kinsbourne Way, Thornhill, Southampton SO19 6HB. Telephone 07773 138409 before 8pm. Cost will be £17.

Lastly, the annual match against the S West will be played at Marlborough Golf Club on 5 September and the Turkey Trot and AGM will again be at Hockley Golf Club.

Thanks for your support.
Tony Gadd

Devon & Cornwall

I start my report this month by wishing Mick Oliver, of Oliver Seeds, a speedy recovery from his recent operation.

We hope to see him back to full fitness shortly. Also I would like to report that Bill Pile,

Course Manager at Fingle Glen Golf Club, will be retiring from his position during September. Bill was a founder member of the Section and was Section Secretary, taking over from Brian Summers, way back in the 70s, until handing over to Jim Wood in the late eighties.

Bill also served the Section on the Regional Board and on the old national committee of BGGGA. Bill's hard work over the years has made our Section what it is today a strong and active section, without his effort I wonder where we would be today? Thanks Bill.

Summer is now slowly drawing to a close which means autumn is once again around the corner and with it the start of our autumn and winter meeting programme which will start this year at Dainton Park Golf Club on Wednesday, October 25. The morning's golf competition will be a singles Stableford competition in the D.O. Hunt Trophy. Our non-playing members will be able to enjoy the usual course walk which will leave the clubhouse at approximately 10.30 am, lunch will be from 1pm followed by our afternoon educational talk.

Golfing members please note

entry details for our forthcoming meetings:-

After receipt of your completed entry form which will have been sent out to you or your Course Manager.

Golfing members to receive starting times before meeting with a draw for partners being introduced, pairings will be accepted for our foursome and greensome competitions.

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.

Regional educational dates to note:

22 November
Regional Seminar to be held at Cannington College

23 - 26 January
Regions trip to BTME at Harrogate

For more details on regional

events, please contact Paula Humphries on 01288 352194.

You should have received your new fixture card which has this year been kindly sponsored by Rigby Taylor. The fixture card has dates of all our forthcoming events, if you haven't received yours yet please let me know.

Richard Whyman.

South Wales

The summer tournament on July 5 was held at the picturesque Ashburnham GC. The day was glorious and the course in excellent condition thanks to Paul and his team. Thanks to Ashburnham GC for allowing courtesy of the course and to Birds of Cowbridge Grass Machinery for sponsoring the day and also to the caterers for the wonderful food.

Best Gross & winner of the Birdie Cup Andy Roach; 2. Best Gross Kerry Llywelyn, Best Nett and winner of the Jacobsen Cup J.B. Jones. 2. Best Nett Gareth Evans.

Peter Lacey returned for his second assistance at the Open Championship held this year at St Andrews. Peter again showing the world what us Welshmen are made of. Well done I'm sure it was great to be

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Around the green

In January I took the opportunity, through the pages of Around the Green, to thank those of you responsible for supplying Section Notes for all the great work that you do and to pass on some information regarding deadlines and production processes. This month I'd like to repeat this information for the benefit of any new scribes who have started recently.

I know it must seem like a thankless task when you have a deadline approaching and you've got nothing to write about but generally the pages do provide more than enough news and gossip to keep everyone interested.

I'd also like to remind long time Section Note contributors, and inform those who have been handed the task, of those deadlines.

The cut off point has always been around the 5th of the month - eg for the September issue Notes the deadline was August 5. There is a little leeway as I know there are sometimes events you wish to include and you hold the Notes back. That's fine but if you could use the 5th of the month as your regular deadline I'd appreciate it. You may wonder why it is so early as normally the magazine arrives on your door mats in the first few days of the month of issue. At our end to enable this to happen, and in the post as early in the month as possible, our printers have to be supplied with the entire contents - editorial and advertisements - two weeks before then, which takes us into the middle of the previous month. Then to give David, our designer, a chance to lay-out all of the pages in an attractive fashion he needs another full working week. This takes us back to around the 12th of the month.

Also Christine types up your notes which takes up additional time, but don't forget, those of you who use email, can send them to me on scott@bigga.co.uk thus saving on the typing time.

Invariably there are elements of the magazine that require me to work close to that deadline so it is beneficial to have bits that are not particularly time sensitive cleared early. Section Notes are one such element.

I hope this explains how we can need a full month to process your work.

As I said there is some leeway but the earlier you send them in, the more it will help.

It is also helpful if you can have them typed or in clear handwriting, to reduce the number of misspelt names we print, while a recommended word count for each Section would be around 500. (This column is 500 words long to give you a measure). Obviously, if you've had a particularly busy month, don't feel you have to miss anything out, just to keep it under 500.

As I said the Section Notes are a valuable element of the magazine and I do appreciate all the work you put into producing them. Thanks a lot and keep up the good work.

Scott MacCallum

part of the Support team.

The Rigby Taylor Qualifiers are well under way with the finals to be held at Royal Porthcawl GC on October 18; P. Lacey & B. Hanford beat A. Phillips & W. Benja; A. Roach & D. Gladwin beat L. Davis & D. Bray. P. Wilaby & S. Lloyd beat R. Patterson & A. Hatcher; S. Mills & K. Llywelyn beat R. Frater & J. Borja; D. Ward & R. Hatcher beat D. Morgan & H. Stead; Matches still to be played; A. Richards & J. Davis v K. Jones & Daryl Bray; A. Panks & J. B. Jones v G. Evans & A. Chricton also I. Morris & J. Carter v G. Johnstone & M. Norfolk. Thanks must go to all Golf Clubs for allowing us to use their courses for this event.

I must say our match was very close. After all, we were three up with three to play, and subsequently lost those which meant a sudden death play off with the first play off hole being the 10th at Pyle & Kenfig. This was halved, so on to the next we walked, a short way to the 18th at P & K. Myself & D. Ward won but it was a very close call against Henry & David, of the Grove GC. It was a great evening of golf with plenty of humour.

Congratulations to Steve Jones, of the Coed y Mwstwr, for taking up a new role as Head Greenkeeper on a 9 hole course in Germany. Well done!

On September 13 at Newport GC we have the autumn competition with a tee off time of 1.30pm. Also, on September 27, South Wales Section versus BIGGA South West at St. Pierre GC. 12 noon tee off. Catch up with the latest of the Rigby Taylor versus The Secretaries Match at Tredegar Park next month.

Richard Hatcher



Northern Ireland

I don't know about you, but I love the warm summer days and I could live in these conditions happily - the thoughts of wet gear and welly boots I find non-appealing.

It's very nearly hollow-tining time, which sort of brings the season to an end. I hope for all of you, as you look back over your main competitions, they all went well, and I'm sure thoughts are now turning towards winter work of construction and continuing course improvements.

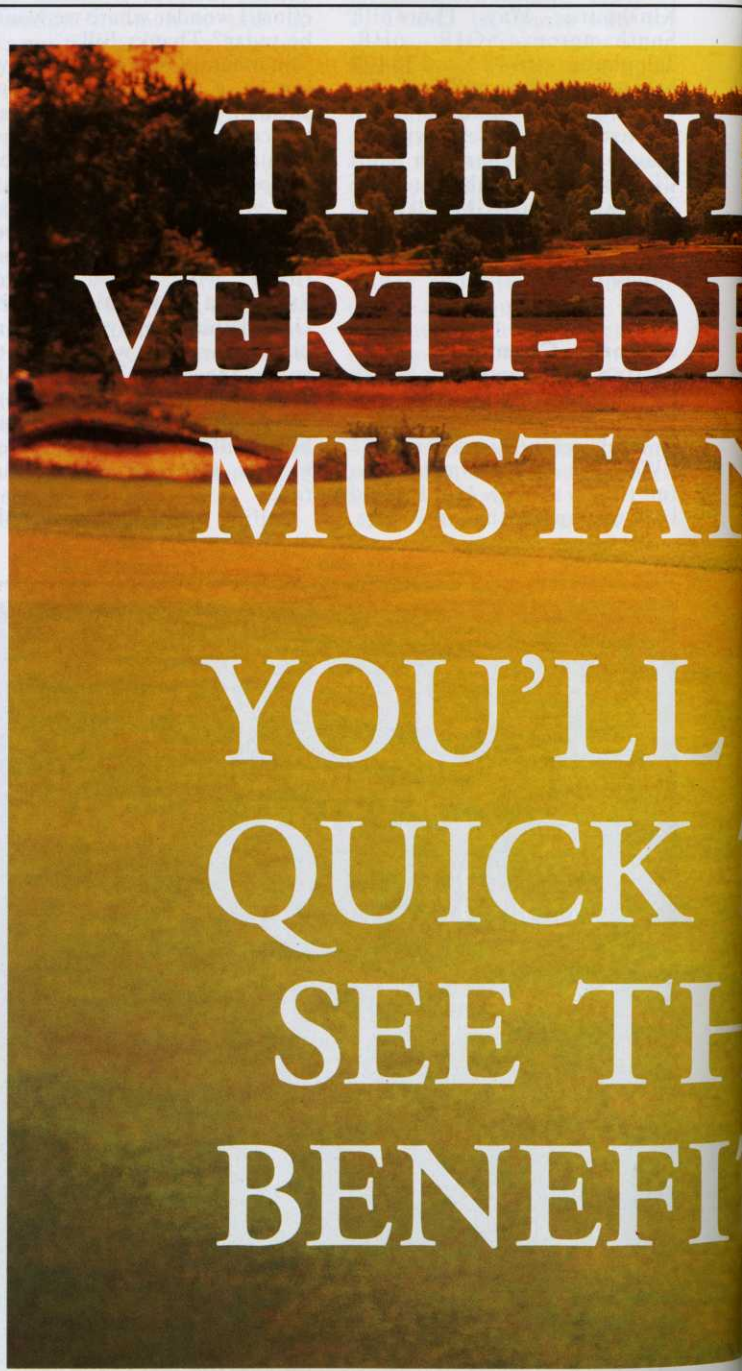
Our qualifying golf day was held at Castlerock Golf Course

on August 2 and for a change it was dry. We had a good turnout at 23 and I would like to thank everyone who was there and made the effort to travel up. It was worth the drive as this is a simply beautiful course. The setting, the condition and hospitality at this course make it a real gem. Special thanks to Castlerock GC for granting us permission to play and also to Charles Edgar and staff for presenting us with a real good test of Links Golf.



The qualifying winners with the combined scores from previous golf outings were Michael O'Neill and Noel Crawford - Best Gross, Eamon Crawford and Nick Webber - Best Nett. Good luck lads and well done. I hope you enjoy your trip, and play well at St Annes Old Links and Fairhaven Golf Courses.

Next month, on October 25, the Northern Ireland region will



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SEE THE
BENEFIT

Without doubt, the new Verti-Drain Mustang is the fastest, most effective aerator on the market today.

Whilst it still features the unique, patented 'heave' action, there are many new improvements, including single point arm adjustment, a stronger tine support system and fewer working parts.



be holding an educational seminar at Greenmount College. A great line up of speakers has been attained, with the likes of Jim Arthur, Chris Kennedy, from Wentworth; David Garland, the European Tour Director of Tour Operations; John Quinn, from Elmwood College; David MacIndoe, Joe Paulin, of Golden Eagle Agronomy and our own Frank Ainsworth.

This seminar is open to all,

from Greenkeepers to Secretary Managers and anyone else involved in the Golf Course Industry. An approx. cost will be £25 for members and £30 for non-members. Booking forms will be sent to every club in the next few days. Don't leave booking your place to the last minute as this, I'm sure, will be very well attended. Lunch is included in the price and it is requested that a respectable dress code is adhered to.

We also have secured sponsorship from all the main suppliers of machinery and fertiliser in the province who will be showing their wares on the day. Also sponsorship from the GUI and enormous help from BIGGA headquarters will no doubt make this a great day and one definitely not to be missed.

Finally, Head Greenkeeper at Shandon, Jeffery Lamb, got married on August 5. I was at the reception and it was pleas-

ing to know that your new wife has a better singing voice than you Jeffery. Congratulations and best wishes to you both for the future.

Iain Harrison.

Around
the green

See you all next month!



It can drive its 6" tines, solid or hollow, at a faster rate than any other aerator, which makes it the perfect machine for high speed runs down the fairway and for even shorter work on the greens.

The new Mustang joins the market-leading range of Verti-Drains that have

outsold and outperformed all competitors for the past 20 years.

And, with an aerator to suit virtually every application, it's the widest range available anywhere.

But one word of caution.

The new Mustang is fast; so fast that you may get done in a flash.

Contact us now for further information or a demonstration of the new Verti-Drain Mustang on 01428 661222.

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