



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

**North**

At the time of writing the forms for the Section Autumn Outing were going out to all members, and by now the event at Keith GC will have probably been played. Results will be in the October magazine as will be the report from the Norrie Whytock Trophy at Auchterarder GC. Next month is the National Championships at Royal Birkdale and Southport & Ainsdale GC, I will be playing and hope to see a few members if you can make the trip.

I have a few details of the Seminar we are running in November. It will be held at McDonald GC Ellon on Friday November 9 in the early evening, confirmed speakers are Gordon Moir, Links Manager at St Andrews, Ronnie Bunting, Course Manager at Kilmacollm GC and Peter Boyd, BIGGA Regional Administrator for Scotland. One more speaker will make up the programme and we hope to be able to provide refreshments for delegates. All in the Aberdeen area are urged to support this Seminar and bring Greens Convenors etc. along as it should be very interesting and educational. A full programme and application form will be sent out in due course. Thanks must go to John Geddes and Hugh MacLachrie for setting this up.

Next month I hope to reveal the two lucky members of the Section who have won this year's Patrons' Awards of a trip to BTME 2002. Watch this space.

The Open Championship was great again this year and the Support Team did a great job as usual, I hope George Mitchell, Newmacher enjoyed his first experience of being a part of it.

This year has been one I will be glad to see the back of workwise as it took us so long to get going with the weather and such, so let's hope for a good Autumn to get all our end of season work done.

Iain Macleod

**Central**

This month we extend a warm Section welcome to Bruce Summerton, Bruce is Head Greenkeeper at King James VI Golf Club on Moncrieffe Island in Perth and as there are quite a few Section events taking place over the next few months, he will get a chance to meet some of his fellow members.

Here's a list of dates to add to the one you already have for the Autumn tournament on September 27 at Murrayshall, the Grand five-a-side Football Tournament will be held at Forthbank Stadium, Stirling on Sunday October 14, the AGM will be held at Celtic Park, Glasgow on Tuesday October 23. Incidentally no one came up with the answer to the puzzle set in the July magazine regarding the venue. Was the clue too cryptic or did no one really want to win a Club 2000 ticket? Tell the truth now! Surely with a venue like Celtic

Park for the AGM we will get a better turnout than the usual 10 to 12 stalwarts who always give us their support, just think about it some of you really staunch football supporters will get the chance to see the European Cup at close quarters for the first time! The first really social golf tournament or Turkey Trot, as Gordon Mitchell keeps calling it, will be held on Saturday, December 1 at Pipersdam Golf Club in Angus. As before if you are going to attend any of these events would you please return the reply form at the bottom of the letter by the date given, it makes it a whole lot easier for catering etc. Thanks. Two men on the move are Stuart Smith, from Lundin Links, and Fraser Wright, from Lundin Ladies. Both have moved to the new course at Kingask, St. Andrews. Best wishes and every success for the future from everyone in the Section.

Stuart, I gave your bottle of vodka (from the Spring Tournament) to the "Heroes From Fife" and they have promised to replace it if they can get "Deek" to cash in some of the dollars he never spent in Florida!

A man who has been in the wars recently is one of our Patron's representative on our committee, Kevin Brunton. Kevin sustained a broken ankle while attempting to unload something from the rear of a trailer and ended up in hospital. Best wishes from everyone for a speedy recovery, Kevin! I thought because he was laid up with a broken ankle that I would get peace from his usual sales patter for a while, but no, he came hobbling in on crutches the other day "Just to see if there is anything you're needing." You can't keep a good man down!

John Crawford.

**Phone a friend?**  
[www.bigga.org.uk/contact.html](http://www.bigga.org.uk/contact.html)

**Ayrshire**

Just a brief note this month to remind everyone that our Autumn Outing will be played at Brighthouse Bay Golf Club on Thursday, September 27. The format will along the usual lines. Our Secretary, Derek Wilson, will have a letter with you soon to confirm all the final arrangements and I hope to see a better than average turnout especially from our southern members with the venue in their locality. See you at Brighthouse. Any news call me on 01505 683278  
Iain Barr



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

**Northern**

Only a few days ago at the time of writing this report, it was with shock and great sadness that I was informed of Roy Spencer passing away. Roy will be sorely missed by the Northern Section members. He was a Past Chairman of the Section and main-

tained his links and supporting the Section right upto his passing away. As well as being well loved by the Section members Roy left behind a wife, Sylvia, eight kids and 15 grandchildren. A full tribute will appear in next month's magazine.

A couple of weeks ago the annual Roses match was played at Sandmoor GC. A match report and hopefully a happy one to follow next month.

September is busy month on the old calendar with Invitation Day next week and the Cumbria Cup at Penrith GC on the 19th.

Important changes to your diary concerning the AGM At a recent committee meeting it was decided to move the AGM to coincide with the financial year and also make the winter golf more of a fun day. Notice is hereby given that the Northern Section AGM will be on Thursday, October 18 at 11.30 am at Woodsome Hall GC.

The Autumn Tournament will follow with bacon sarni and coffee following the AGM from 12.30 with a tee off at 1.30 followed by the evening meal. Closing date for entries is October 10 with payment in full (cheques made payable to BIGGA Northern Section) and sent to my address please.

Tickets are now being sold for the Section's annual dinner dance on Saturday, November 10, at Bradford GC, Carvery + Disco 7 pm till late. This is an open event so bring along family and friends for a fun night out. The price for this is only £17. To book for this event contact our social man Dave Thackray on 01274 640739 or 07976 876264 or 16 Westwood Avenue, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD2 1NJ

Congratulations to John Studdard on making it through to the final of the Toro Student of the Year. John, from Leeds Golf Centre (Wike Ridge), will be going to the final in October after coming through the regional heats.

Matt Booth, from Howley Hall GC, along with his wife Alison are expecting a baby in January to add to their clan including Jack (8) and Matthew (14).

The Section website is now up and running, to log on just send me an e-mail and I'll give you it, as it is not yet registered at the time of writing this.

We welcome new members in Robert Herrero, Heworth GC; Paul Brown, West Bradford GC; Michael Dealtry, Skidby Lakes GC; Paul Gledhill, Halifax Bradley Hall GC.

That's all for now, if anybody as any then let me know.

My address is 67 Asquith Avenue, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9QS; Tel: 0113 2383188; Mobile 07790 678572, E-mail: andy\_smith21@hotmail.com

Andy Smith

**Section Event?**  
[www.bigga.org.uk/events.html](http://www.bigga.org.uk/events.html)

**North West**

I have not long returned from a very enjoyable week at The Open at Royal Lytham and feel I must congratulate

Paul Smith and his staff on the fine condition of the course. Most of my time was taken up either in the porta-cabin, or at the 1st tee, so not seeing a lot of the course I decided to go divoting a couple of nights with a few of the Support team. This is the best time to see the course, as you are able to meander across the greens, which are in great condition, and see probably the best constructed bunkers in the country. Certainly none of the players took the course to pieces, even though the strong winds which were forecast never arrived. Last time The Open was played at Royal Lytham, Jim Macdonald was Head Greenkeeper, and although many years younger, Paul Smith has kept up the tradition of producing a first class course for The Open.

In the July issue of Greenkeeper International all members of BIGGA were given the opportunity to submit a personal profile to win a trip to Florida and the GCSAA Conference and show. The profile had to be submitted to me by July 31, and although the North West Section has 600 members I only received three applications. The trip is sponsored by Bernhard & Company, and two BIGGA members will be selected from each Region. This was a rare opportunity to go to America completely free of charge, and to find out what greenkeeping is like on the other side of the pond. Three out of 600 is not good enough, and I am sure that many of you would love to go but did not apply, well remember these opportunities are open to all members of BIGGA, so if the chance comes again, lets have a better response.

The next golf meeting will be the "Stewards" match at Hazel Grove Golf Club on Monday, September 10, and we need a team of 16 to retain the trophy. This will be followed by the "Whitelaw Bowl" to be played at Penrith Golf Club on Wednesday 19th September. If you are available for any of the above matches, or have any news or job vacancies please ring me on, 07761 583387 or 01517 145412.

Bert Cross

**Latest news?**  
[www.bigga.org.uk/news.html](http://www.bigga.org.uk/news.html)

**North Wales**

Apologies once again for lack of notes but I have moved house and for the last month have had no fixed abode, all my belongings are spread around North Wales and my life is a bit upside down at the moment.

Apologies go to Darren Anderson, who has been trying to track me down without much success. In saying that though he is the only one who has tried (C'mon committee, I need dates etc. of things to relay)

It is the first week of August and I should be moving into my new house this week when normal service should be resumed. I can still be contacted on my mobile on 07787 586084.

Dave Goodridge



**Midland Region**  
Peter Larter  
Tel: 01480 437507

The first of this year's Midland Region Golf Management Trophy events was held at Verulam Golf Club on Tuesday, August 7 when 16 teams comprising a greenkeeper, Club Secretary, Club Captain and Chairman of Green competed for a tonne of fertiliser for the winning golf club and other team prizes.

Many readers may not be aware that Samuel Ryder, a local seed merchant, Mayor of St. Albans, Club Captain and the instigator of the Ryder Cup, was a member of Verulam Golf Club at the time he had the idea of playing a match against the USA for which he donated the trophy, which is in everyone's minds in the lead up to this year's Match at the Belfry.

The event was sponsored by Scotts who in their fourth year of supporting these competitions, represented by Mike Jupp who was attending his first BIGGA golf event. Despite a dreadful weather forecast, most of the teams completed their round in the dry and the course was superbly presented by Head Greenkeeper Geoff Smith and his staff.

The winning club was Hartsbourne Golf & Country Club with a superb team score of 133, 11 under par, with the Mid Herts Golf Club a close second on 134 and Mill Hill Golf Club third on 136, on a count-back from the host club. An excellent day was had by all and our thanks go to all at Verulam Golf Club for their hospitality and cooperation in staging the competition.

Peter Larter

### Phone a friend?

[www.bigga.org.uk/contact.html](http://www.bigga.org.uk/contact.html)

### Mid Anglia

The Section's autumn golf tournament is to be held at Letchworth Golf Club on October 11th. The format will be 18 holes of golf in the morning, followed by a meal and the Annual General Meeting in the afternoon.

Those wishing to attend the AGM only, should arrive for 4.00pm. Entries to the golf tournament should be sent to Richard, using the usual form.

Paul Lockett

### Section Event?

[www.bigga.org.uk/events.html](http://www.bigga.org.uk/events.html)

### East Midlands

Not a great deal of news to report on this month. At the E.T. Breakwells golf day on July 25 several members were invited courtesy of Len Breakwell for a business day's game of golf. The winner was BIGGA Vice Chairman himself Richard Barker. Unfortunately the East Midlands team could only finish in third place. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kevin Kinzer, of E.T. Breakwells, for helping to organise

this event. Please remember that this year's Autumn tournament is to be held on September 14 at Lingdale Golf Club. If you wish to confirm your Tee-Off time then please give me a ring.

Antony Bindley

### East of England

Woodhall Spa was the setting for the Burdens Golf Trophy.

The members played over the new Bracken Course, which was in superb condition. It was well defined and manicured and an excellent test of golf. Sam Rhodes and Peter Wisbey were thanked for their efforts and asked to thank all of the EGU Headquarters for courtesy on the day.

Prize Winners:- 1. Richard Owen, Boston West, 39 pts; 2. Jodie Forster, Thorpe Wood, 38 pts; 3. David Hornsey, Woodhall Spa, 37 pts; 4. Brett Cornelious, Seacroft, 35 pts. Nearest The Pin, Richard Owen. Trade prizes went to Duncan Beall and Gary Cooper, the prizes were presented by Peter Warner and Chris Lee, of Burdens, and many thanks to them and all other sponsors on the day.

The Peterborough Garden Machinery Trophy was played at Spalding Golf Club. A good turn out of members played an excellent conditioned course prepared by head greenkeeper Tony Ward and his staff.

The winner on the day was new Head Greenkeeper to the section Ian Batty of Sleaford GC. Welcome and well done on winning the PGM Trophy.

1. Ian Batty, 35pts, Sleaford GC
2. Les Howkins, 34 pts, Cleethorpes GC;
3. Graeme Macdonald, 33 pts, Newark GC.

Trade Prize. Gary Cooper 34 pts  
Longest Drive. David Hornsey, Woodhall Spa  
Nearest the Pin. Simon Hedley.

Thanks to all sponsors on the day, especially Keith from PGM.

Others were:- Tower Chemicals, Greenpride, Aitkens, Boughton Loam, Alpha Amenity, Lincsgreen, Rigby Taylors, Mansfield Sands, Burdens and Midlube.

After the prize giving Gary Cooper, of Tower Chemicals, presented David Hornsey and Les Howkins with their BIGGA Blazers. Tower are now the Order of Merit sponsors which first prize is a new Blazer. Thanks to Gary and Tower Chemicals.

G Macdonald

### BBO

Humblest of apologies for missing the last few months. It must have been all that sunshine going to my head - just not used to hot sunny weather especially down here at Costa Del Caversham. Anyway straight onto business and it seems that Colin Hutt is trying to do his own impression of Tiger Woods by winning all the Section competitions. Not satisfied with success at Caversham Heath back in April, he then went on to win at Maidenhead with 43 pts, closely followed by Carl Small with 41 pts and myself in the prizes (at last) with 37 pts. Many thanks to Maidenhead Golf Club for their hospitality and also to David Winterton and his team for producing

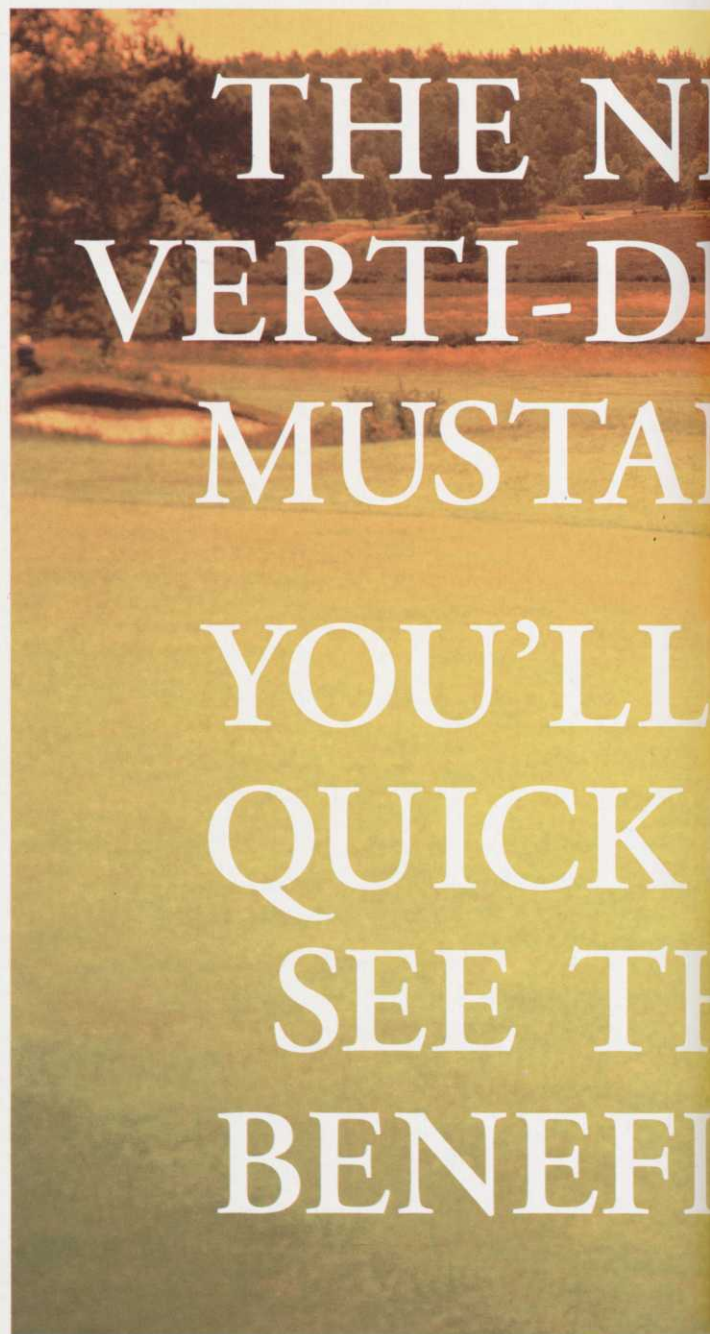
such an impressive course.

We would also like to thank Bernie Wall, of Gem, for sponsoring the competition. You may also be aware that the Rigby Taylor Pairs is in full swing at the moment, (no pun intended, honest) and at the time of writing is at the semi-final stages, which consists of the following pairings: Alastair Higgs & Simon Robinson, Calcot Park, v David Goodchild & Charlie Wright, Ellesbrough. Ian Robins & Carl Small (Defending Champions), Ellesbrough) v Tony Steven & Andy Reason, Castle Royle. Chris Lomas & Mark Hancock, The Berkshire. v Gary Armstrong &

Mark Steels, Cherwell Edge. Lee Bishop & Brian Payne, Burnham Beeches. v Lindsay Anderson & Simon Austin, Badgemore Park. Good Luck to those involved as soon as I can find out the results I'll try and get them in a report.

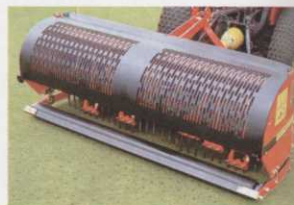
Well that's about it for this month. You would have thought that after three months or is it four? that I might have something interesting to write about but unless you want to hear about shooting myself in the thumb or the episode with Steph and the tattoos... no I'll stop there. Hopefully more next month.

Jon Scoones Tel: 01189 723334



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**South West  
and South Wales**  
Paula Humphries  
Tel: 01288 352194

North Cornwall GC who will report back from his trip to Canada where he was a part of BIGGA's Bernhard's Scholarship earlier this year. The afternoon will hear from Dave Sammels, Courses Superintendent at De Vere Belfry, who will speak on preparing from the Ryder Cup. Question time will involve the listed speakers plus Neil Thomas, Executive Director of BIGGA and Past Chairman of the Association, Gordon Child.

Attendance at the seminar counts for three CPD points and cost is £17.50 for members and £25 for non-

members inclusive of lunch.

Further information is available from Paula Humphries Tel: 01288 352194

### South Wales

The summer Competition was recently held at the Llanwern Golf Club in Newport. We were made to feel extremely welcome at the club by everyone and we had an excellent day all round. It was a first time visit to Llanwern for many of us and we found the golf course to be in excellent condition thanks to A Panks and his team. It's great when someone

goes out of their way to provide that little bit of something more, something different, something special!! Course Manager Adrian Panks certainly did this for us at Llanwern, I don't know how many noticed but for us the greenkeepers, Adrian cut the greens in backlap mode, yes really! Thanks!

Thanks Ade for this special treatment, you know what they say about a craftsman blaming his tools?

Results of the day: Winner of the Birdie Cup with a best gross was Peter Holmstrom from Newport GC; Winner of the Jacobsen Cup with a



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best nett was J B Jones from Dinas Powis GC; 2.nett. Chairman Adrian Panks; 3.nett. Steven Lloyd from Burghill Valley GC; 4.nett. Brian Jones from Pencoed College.

Longest Drive and Nearest the pin both went to Andrew Roach, of Haverfordwest GC.

Our sincere thanks to the committee at Llanwern for granting us courtesy of the course and to R S Bird Ltd our sponsors of the Summer Competition, to Steven Clifford, Julian Driver and Jeffrey Bird who all attended the day. The prize table was superb as always and we thank them for their continued support of what is our most established event/trophy.

On the 25th at the Grove GC, near Porthcawl our annual match Greenkeepers versus Secretaries took place. The weather was once again superb and the golf course was in excellent condition. This was our first visit to the Grove GC and everyone was pleasantly surprised at how good not only the course is, for it's only five years old, but the facilities that they have there are really top class. We were made to feel extremely welcome by all at the Grove but especially Directors Tim Jones and Mike Thomas, our sincere thanks to them for their splendid hospitality.

Grove Golf Club Captain, Mr David Jones paid special praise to Head Greenkeeper Henry Stead for his efforts in ensuring that the Grove GC is presented at it's best at all times and this was reiterated by everyone who was present. Well done Henry to you and your team!

The overall result of the day was a friendly half with the Greenkeepers retaining the Shield. My thanks to Ray Howells for organising the Secretaries team and for his kind words at the presentation.

Longest Drive went to - yes you guessed it? Andy Roach; Nearest the Pins went to: Steven Lloyd, Burghill Valley GC; Brian Jones, Pencoed College; Herbie Prober, Pontardawe GC and Jim Graham, Secretary.

Many thanks to Alan Abel, of Complete Weed Control, South Wales who kindly sponsors this annual event. It was pleasing for him (and me) to have a two full teams present after last years poor showing. Thank you Alan!

The Rigby Taylor Matchplay Doubles Competition is well underway. Through to the next round go :- Peter Lacey and Robert Hanford; Daryl Bray and Steve Mills; Robert Frater and John Borja; Henry Stead and David Morgan.

Kerry Jones and Daryl Jones; Jamie Probert and Herbie Probert; Adrian Panks and Julian B Jones and Russell Anderson and Angus Macloed.

The next round draw will have taken place and you will have been notified by now. Good Luck!

On Friday 13th of July, Paul Robinson, Head Greenkeeper of Pyle & Kenfig GC, officially retired. Paul was a greenkeeper at Pyle & Kenfig for over 35 years and was Treasurer for the South Wales greenkeepers for over 14 years. On Tuesday 17th I was privileged to be invited along to Pyle & Kenfig along with other BIGGA representatives, colleagues, friends,

greenkeepers and club members/officials to attend a retirement party for Paul. Our President, Colin Murphy, was invited to say a few words (if you know Colin, you know it won't be only a few) on behalf of our Association and Section.

Many kind things were said to Paul that evening and all were sincere, deserved and truthfull. Thanks to P&K and Steve Anthony for inviting us along. To Paul, we wish you well for a long, happy, healthy and well deserved retirement. See you soon!

Royal Porthcawl Golf Club greenstaff are just about recovering from a hectic fortnight of intense competitions. Firstly they hosted the Ladies European Tour event and then went straight into the Welsh Amateur Championships. I'm sure all went well for David Ward and his team and that Richard Hatcher will be fully recovered and ready to write next months notes.?

The Section would like to wish Jim McKenzie and the Celtic Manor Resort all the very best for the Wales Open which will have been played over the Wentwood Hills Course by the time you read this. Hopefully there will have been some very good news in relation to the Ryder Cup bid for 2009 for them and for Wales by then also.

On a personal note, I was unable to attend the Open Championship as a member of the Greenkeeper Support Team at Lytham this year due to the fact that Pennard Golf Club was opening its new clubhouse and there was a weekend of Competitions, frolicking and festivities. (those with keen hearing will have heard Peter Alliss mention the fact a few times throughout the duration of the Open). The Guest of honour was Open Champion Max Faulkner who opened the official plaque on the 50th Anniversary of him, winning the Open at Royal Portrush in 1951.

Gus Faulkner, Max's father was club professional at Pennard golf club and this is where Max Faulkner played his first golf and learned links golf.

One of my team members, Bob Hanford was present at The Open and had a marvellous time amid the sahara of bunkers around the Lytham golf course, (let alone Blackpool).

Congratulations to Paul Smith and his team for the brilliant golf course that they presented to the players. An excellent Open and I would recommend to everyone that to be a member of the support team is something that every working greenkeeper should do at least once, it's a great experience and one that you'll treasure.

### Devon & Cornwall

The evenings are now slowly drawing in which can only mean autumn is once again around the corner, this year our Autumn and Winter meeting programme starts a little earlier than usual with the first meeting taking place on Wednesday 3rd October at China Fleet Golf & Country Club. The morning's golf competition will be a singles tabledoff competition for the D O Hunt Trophy, our non playing members will be able to enjoy the usual course walk which will leave the club house at approximately 10.30am, lunch will be from 1pm followed by our afternoon

educational talk presented by Richard Whyman on his experiences on the Bernhard sponsored Canadian Trip.

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 meetings, pairings will be accepted for any foursome & greensome competition.

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.

Richard Whyman

### South Coast

It's been quite a busy month with two golf fixtures being played!

The first was the Invitational Summer Tournament, which was played at a very well presented Broadstone GC.

The day received a good turnout, with 60 people taking part in the competition. Everyone was impressed with the standard of the course, so a big pat on the back to Adi Archer and his gang.

The day finished quite late, I didn't get back into the clubhouse until 9:30pm! So the meal was definitely needed by that time. A big thank you must go to the catering staff, who stayed on late to feed us all.

The results for the day are as follows;

1. 43pts Simon Ridland/Mark Davis. Rigby Taylor Trophy;
2. 40pts Alan Magee and Father. Course Care Trophy;
3. 40pts Bernie Emberley/P. Hector;
4. 39pts R.Wills and Father;
5. 38pts James Martin/Mike Cartwright. (Yes, that is me...)

The second event to take place was the Bigga Management Trophy, which was played at a truly magnificent Salisbury and South Wilts GC. (That's where I work!)

Twenty-five teams from around the Section took part. The teams comprised of The Course Manager, The General Manager, The Greens Chairman and The Club Captain.

The winning teams were; 1. Moors Valley GC; 2. Another GC; 3. Alesford GC. Some of you might not have heard of "Another Golf Club", I think it's one of those pseudonyms. I will investigate and reveal their true identity next month. I do apologise to all those at "Another GC".

So that's what has happened, now for what is yet to happen. The first is the Autumn Tournament, which is to be played at Petersfield GC, on Wednesday, October 3. The price for the day is £18. This includes 18 holes and a meal.

Cheques should be made payable to BIGGA and sent to Chris Sturgess at; 40 Kinsbourne Way, Thornhill, Southampton, Hants, SO19 6HB.

Starting times for the golf and the meal will then be sent to you once Chris has received your details.

Don't forget that if you need to cancel, you must give Chris at least 7 days notice. If you don't, you will lose your £18.

The second event is the Regional Seminar at Cannington College.

Everyone should receive details of prices and how to pay for the day in the post. But I will give more details in next months article, when I have more information myself.

Well that's it. See you at Petersfield. Mike Cartwright.



South East  
Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

### Kent

July 26 saw the summer Stableford at Chesterfield Golf Club. It was a rather hot day but the standard of golf not so hot. Well that's what I was told anyway. I was unable to attend so I don't have too much information about the antics of the day but I do have the results and reports back by my staff who did play and thoroughly enjoyed their day out. Well they don't get out much because I have them working so hard.

Right to the results. First place went to Andrew Guy, second to Lewis Till and third to Paul Larsen. Longest drive went to Chris Wright and Nearest the pin went to Keith Porter. Well done to all you guys. Not forgetting the trade who we thank for their continued support once again. And the winner of the trade prize was Derek (NOT SO) Keen of John Shaw Grass Machinery. Many people remarked that it made a nice change to see you out and about Derek. So on behalf of everyone who played at Chesterfield I would like to thank all of their staff for making the Kent section welcomed and I'm sure everyone enjoyed their day.

As I mentioned earlier I was unable to make the golf day because I had already excepted the great honour of playing in the exclusive Bob Cook Memorial Golf Day at Kings Hill Golf Club. Those who don't know Bob, would not know that his golf swing passed away several years ago after a long illness. A great day was had with some of Mr Cook's more colourful friends and drinking buddies. I had the pleasure of playing with Bob's good friend The 'King' say no more.

I have not been inundated with calls or e-mails from you guys but I did here from one Head Greenkeeper who is fed up with some of you reps who just turn up at his sheds without an appointment expecting to see him and I do think he has a point. So all you reps who travel around Kent please phone to make appointments.

No other news to speak of this month so please get in contact with me and tell me what's going on at your clubs or in your lives something must be going on somewhere out there.

My number is 01732 875020 or e-mail me at jbatkhgolf@aol.com please, not that I am desperate yet.

I look forward to seeing you all at

the Greenkeeper and Guest Day meeting at Boughton Golf Club on the 13th of September and I'm sure Gary Debenham will have the place looking good for our visit.

Jason Bean.

### Surrey

Our summer tournament was held on July 27 in warm and sunny weather at Farnham Golf Club. Many thanks to Peter McMorran and his team for presenting the course in such fine condition and to Farnham Golf Club for allowing us courtesy.

Top of the points were;

**Greg Richards, Hankley Common, 42pts**  
**Douglas Stewart Fernie, Royal Epsom, with an amazing 41 pts and two ricrochets; Mike Gould, Copthorne, 40 pts a very welcome visitor from Sussex Section. Nearest the pin; Anthony Rudolf Bremer, Dorking, Longest Drive; Dave Guy.**

Finally the Booby Prize for most golf played we congratulate Dan Wheeler. Many thanks to Sheerwater for sponsoring the day and supplying such good quality prizes.

Anthony Freeman our Surrey Section Chairman has arranged a visit to the All England Tennis Club at Wimbledon. This promises to be a most interesting excursion that will take place on October 17 from 2pm until about 4.30pm. Please contact Anthony before October 10 as all visitors must be registered prior to the day. Now other items of news from your roving reporter from around Surrey. Garry and Nicola Bishop at Tandridge Golf Club have celebrated the birth of a son, Ethan James, 8 lbs 13 ozs on July 11 and from Hindhead Golf Club Steve and Kerry Holmes happily announce that their daughter Jessica Michelle 8 lbs was born on Sunday, July 29. Local moves from club to club include Gordon Bell gone from Woodcote Park to take up his new position at Copthorne Hotel Effingham Park as Estate Manager/Head Greenkeeper and the new Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Bramley Golf Club is Barry Smith from Shillinglee.

By the time this is in print we will have played the McMillan Tankard at Sunningdale. Results in October's edition. The autumn Tournament is at Croham Hurst on October 4 and the Turkey Trot and AGM take place at Malden on November 30.

Please remember to contact Anthony Freeman about the All England Tennis Club visit at Wimbledon and we thank Eddie Seaward in advance for an opportunity to see the inner workings of one of England's greatest sporting attractions.

Brian Willmott.

### South West

This year's summer tournament was held at the Dendelshire Golf Club. It was a very hot and sunny day with about 30 people and myself sitting on the patio sipping my Pimms. A very big thank you must go to Craig Fudge and his team who had the course in a truly excellent condition, with the greens like velvet and magnificent to putt on. Craig also put the boys off the white tee's just to make it more interesting,

also the catering staff for an excellent meal.

A big thank you to Roger Davey and Ocmis Irrigation for sponsoring the day and supplying the trophy and prizes. In first place with a score of 40 points and winner of not only the Ocmis trophy but also the Assistants' Trophy was John Bachelor, second was Craig Fudge with 39 points and third was Jon Jarvis with 35 points. The nearest the pin was won by Ceri Richards but seeming he was a rep, we decided to award it to Don Southey, and the longest drive went to Gary Cook. We raised £52 in the raffle and many thanks go to those who supplied the prizes. Again many thanks go to Craig and all the staff at the Kendelshire Golf Club.

The next dates to look out for is Sept 12 match versus South Wales at St Pierre. Anyone wishing to play in this match should contact K James who will pass your name onto the team Captain. The other date to look out for is 16th Oct the autumn tournament and AGM which will be held at Cumberwell Park Golf Club anyone wishing to play can contact K. James on 01934 627 143/07788 427 677 if you do not receive any notification through the post.

K. James

### East Anglia

Firstly may I congratulate Paul Smith and his team at Royal Lytham & St. Annes for putting on a great venue for the 130th Open Championship. The course looked in splendid shape and certainly caused some problems for the professionals, and well done to the BIG-GA team for their sterling performance of bunker raking during the Championship. Matthew Gill, from Stowmarket Golf Club, represented Otley College as their candidate in the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the year and got through to the interview stage. Well done Matthew.

Many Head Greenkeepers/Course Managers take pride in looking after their golf courses from year to year without any recognition, these are the backbone of the Association and I think that it is time to bring their names forward to the Section and others so they may feel that their hard work over the years gets the appreciation that it deserves.

This month there are three individuals that have accrued over 100 years of working experience between them, they are George Newson, Head Greenkeeper at Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club, with 39 years at the club; Roger Plummer, Head Greenkeeper at Royal Cromer Golf Club, with 36 years at the club and Roger Eade, Head Greenkeeper at Stowmarket Golf Club, with 35 years at the club. I hope you have enjoyed looking after your courses as much as your members and visitors have enjoyed playing on them, I know that it is one of the most difficult jobs to do because there is always someone there to criticise. My congratulations go out to you, you are an example to us all.

My little granddaughter is now ten weeks old and Christine and I were asked to baby-sit over the weekend on a Saturday night with my daughter picking Sky up on Sunday lunchtime.

After several bottles, Sky decides that she preferred to sleep being held, and would kick up a fuss if she was put down. Well granddad ended up carrying her around for the first five hours until 3:30am in the morning before Christine took her turn and I managed to get three hours sleep until Sky decided to wake the whole household. Then she decided it was time for another feed (Oh Joy), I thought that I had finished with all that 17 years ago. One thing she has her grandmother's temper and takes after me with a good set of lungs.

I did manage to watch Castaway and The Secret of My Success on video while walking around the room with her in my arms.

On our ramblings through East Anglia this year, we found ourselves at Eaton Golf Club near Norwich on August 1. The weather was perfect, warm and sunny with a slight breeze. Mick Lathorne and his team had worked hard to produce an excellent course, Mick was advised to take a fortnights holiday as the course looked better than it did on Captain's Day and that there would be plenty of flack from the members. (Ha Ha)

All the staff at the golf club made us most welcome and coupled with an excellent meal it rounded the day off perfectly. Jim Cook the club captain welcomed us to the Eaton Experience and everyone agreed it was well worthwhile.

Our main sponsor of the day was Toro (Lely UK) and Larry Pearman and Ian Willett worked tirelessly throughout the day to ensure nearly everything run as smooth as possible and Roger Plummer and Robert Whiting sat and patiently worked out the score cards and calculated the results. Results as follows:

#### 0-10 Handicap Section

1. Robert Whiting, 34 pts
2. Peter Howard, 33 pts
3. Mark Keysell, 28 pts.

#### 11-17 Handicap Section

1. Lawrence Wright, 38 pts
2. Paul Gould, 37 pts
3. Steve Millard, 33 pts.

#### 18-28 Handicap Section

1. Steve Crabb, 40 pts (Overall Winner),
2. Robin Baker, 38 pts
3. Ian Richie, 38 pts

#### Longest Drive - Mark Day

#### Nearest the Pin - Mark Turner

#### Captain & Club Official Shield

1. Glen Rayfield & Chris Pearsons 66 pts
2. Ian Willett & Robin Baker - 65 pts

For the first time in ten years one of our band got a hole-in-one. Keith Titshall holed out on the 9th hole - 194 yards with a 3 iron, one bounce and in. (Well done Keith.) The toilet seat was won by Pat Swinn from Rushmere Golf Club, only Pat could wear large light blue check shorts with matching shirt in attempt to put off every other golfer on the course.

The section sends its thanks to Jim, the Captain and all at Eaton Golf Club for a great day out.

I would like to thank all the other sponsors for their contributions to the day. Aventus, Rushbrooks, Prime, Turf Care, SISIS, Tacit, Atterton & Ellis, John Deere, Ben Burgess, Tomlinson Groundcare, K.B. Leach, Stalham Engineering.

I have confirmed all bookings for 2002 and Colin is working hard on the

venues for 2003. Our next meeting will be held at Purdis Heath on October 10th, see you there.

Ian Willett



I would like to first of all pass on my congratulations to Alan Strachan and his greenkeeping team at Royal Co Down Golf Club, for another successful British Seniors Open. After the installation of a completely new irrigation system at Royal Co Down last winter, it is nice to see all their hard work come to fruition with the excellent presentation of the course. This year's British Seniors Open was another resounding success boosted by the presence of Nicklaus, Palmer and Player.

The latest Section golf competition was held at Royal Belfast on July 6. This is a quite magnificent parkland golf course between Holywood and Bangor overlooking Belfast Lough. The afternoon competition was played in bright sunshine, light wind, with temperatures into the seventies. Head greenkeeper Jim Eager and his staff had the course in outstanding condition. Many thanks to Royal Belfast Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course. The competition was generously supported by our sponsor Graham Prosser of Tacit. The top four prizes went to

1. Andrew Wray, Castlerock Golf Club, 37 pts.
2. Gary Murphy, Silverwood Golf Club, 37 pts.
3. Noel Crawford, Royal County Down GC, 34 pts.
4. James Eager, Royal Belfast Golf Club, 34 pts.

Visitors prize went to Peter Smith, Royal County Down Golf Club, 34 pts. I would also like to thank all the members who attended, many travelling a considerable distance from City of Derry, Castlerock, and Portstewart.

Our Section qualifying competition for the National Championship will have been played at Royal Portrush on August 28 on the Valley course. The result will be in next month's magazine.

Past chairman Graham Wylie has just returned from The Open Championship at Royal Lytham and St Annes. Graham was part of the BIG-GA support team at this year's Championship, and was featured on BBC television during the Saturday afternoon session talking to the Duke of York. He has informed me that the trip was a brilliant experience and would like to thank everyone at BIG-GA for giving him the opportunity to be part of this year's Support team.

Well that's all my news for this month but I would like to welcome new members Rodney McKay, Galgorm Golf Club; Jim Eager Head Greenkeeper, Royal Belfast Golf Club, and Harry Greighton, Deputy Head Royal Belfast Golf Club, to the Section this month.

I will feature the charity golf day at Clandeboye Golf Club and Championship qualifier on the Valley course in next month's notes.

Ken Henderson