



Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

Northern

We have a new member this month in William Craig, who is a greenkeeper at Kirriemuir Golf Club. Welcome to the Section, William.

Well, the weather this year has certainly started with a bang, if anything the snow and frost has been worse than it was at this time last year and that was bad enough. I hope everyone's course looks well rested when the good weather finally returns and your greens come out unscathed.

One stalwart member of the section who will miss out on all the cold weather is Allan Grant, formerly of Fraserburgh Golf Club. Allan and his wife, Margaret, are heading for the States, Australia, New Zealand and a couple of other countries on a mini world tour. Allan, a die hard Celtic supporter, will unfortunately miss out on Celtic winning the league in March but he will be back to play in the Section golf outing in Elgin on May 16 this year. Allan maintains that the flights are paid for by his winnings from the Senior Section at the outings. His middle name begins with M and it stands for Modesty. Seriously though, I hope your holiday goes well and you and Margaret have a safe trip. It's thoroughly well deserved.

Application forms for the Scottish conference at Lauder College, Dunfermline, will be in the post shortly and if last year's conference is anything to go by it will be worth going down to attend. There are excellent speakers set up and I am sure it will be a very interesting day. The weather can have an effect on the attendance, from the North in particular, so I hope it has improved by then.

As was mentioned in a previous report, the system for awarding the points for the Patrons' Awards is to be looked at but at the time of writing it has not yet been decided. If any member has any particular views on this please feel free to contact me on 01997420155 as your thoughts would be very welcome. It is due to

be discussed at a Board of Management meeting this month and I will report on this in a future magazine.

200 Club renewals will be going out shortly and as it is the Section's only real way of making money and therefore keeping section outing costs down, it will be as well supported as usual.

Iain Gunn

Ayrshire

A good New Year to everyone and I hope you all had an enjoyable time over the festive period and 2002 is already treating you well.

After a blank couple of months I will bring this column up to date firstly with our AGM. A healthier than average turnout saw four members co-opted on to the committee with three members retiring from the committee. There was a good discussion on how to best take the Section forward and create more interest for the members. Some ideas are to be taken forward to the next committee meeting. The following committee was elected to serve for 2002.

Chairman - Iain Barr, Largs Kelburn; Vice Chairman, To Be Confirmed; Past Chairman, Duncan Gray, The Pines; Secretary, Derek Wilson, Irvine Bogside; Committee, Jim Paton, West Kilbride; Dennis Tweddle and Brian Aitken, both Turnberry; Robert Bruce, Stewarts. Newly elected, Martin Lothian, Turnberry; Marshall Sloss, Beith; George Morrison, Largs Kelburn, and Barry Crawford, Old Prestwick.

Retiring from the committee are George Brown and Jimmy Johnstone, both Turnberry, and Brian Finlayson, Barassie. A big thank you to all three for all your work and help over the past years.

Congratulations to Paul Tulloch, West Kilbride, and Wallace Mercer, Skermorie, on winning the Patrons' Award for Ayrshire. They received their award at the Patrons' lunch in Stirling along with the other Section winners. Part of the prize is a trip to BTME 2002 at Harrogate, and by the time this is printed it will all be over, so I hope you enjoyed your trip lads.

Any news or views please call me on 01505 683278, see you next month.

Iain Barr

Central

We are up and running again with new applications for membership of the Section and this month we extend a warm welcome to Jody Wilson, Colin McKay, John Henderson, Nicholas J-Torsfield, John Watson and Michael Petrie who are all from Crail Golfing Society, in Fife.

Six new members from the one club can't be bad although I don't know what Allan will do if they all want to attend the Spring Tournament!

The date for the Spring Tournament, which is being held courtesy of Kingsbarns Golf Club, is Wednesday, May 1, and this is sure to be a very popular venue. Please return your entry forms in plenty of time. The date for the Autumn Tournament, courtesy of Duluth Golf Club, has yet to be confirmed but it will be in late September.

I know I keep going on about "Club 2000" and the number of members who do not buy their allocation of tickets (1 or 2 maximum), but this fund raising venture is the only means of income for the Section. As we do not get any funding from HQ it is vitally important that we generate our own sources of income so please try and give us some support by buying your allocation of tickets. To this end I will wait until next month before asking you individually to return your unsold tickets. I'm all heart really!

Remember all trophy holders please arrange to return them to me as soon as possible.

That's all for the moment, not much I know but I am sure there will be a much longer column next month.

John Crawford



Northern Region
Douglas Bell
Tel: 0151 431 0433

North East

A recent seminar for the Northern Region was held at Longhirst Hall GC and a good day was had by all who attended though only a small percentage of members were there. This was a bit disappointing considering it was on the doorstep.

Still it was their loss as we had excellent speakers and I was assured that everyone enjoyed the day.

It was good to see Graham Chambers, Course Manager of the host club, make his debut as a speaker giving us the short history of Longhirst and its development over the last three years. Well done Graham, perhaps we will see you standing up at a future BTME at Harrogate.

Plenty of news from Slaley Hall just come in. Firstly, education is happening there. Brian Clark and Ian Millar are both going for NVQ Level 3 and Pete Geddes is finally going for NVQ Level 2. Good luck lads.

Brian Clark has also been promoted to First Assistant and M. McKenna recently moved from Matfen Hall up to Slaley Hall.

Ian Hutton, Head Greenkeeper at Garesfield GC, tells me he has a wild boar roaming around the course. Apparently it's dug up one of the greens and is causing havoc elsewhere. He assures me it's definitely one of them and he is looking for help in trying to catch it.

Jimmy Richardson

Northern

Coming up later this month is a seminar at Howley Hall GC on Wednesday, February 27. You should have already got the details about the day in the mail shot. If not, then get in touch with me and let me know if there is any subject you want covering either as part of a seminar or as an intensive one day course.

Other dates for your diary include:- Spring Tournament, Wednesday, April 24, Bedale GC; President's Day, Wednesday, June 19, Otley GC; Invitation Day, Tuesday, September 10, Bingley St. Ives GC; Autumn Tournament, Thursday, October 17, Thirsk & Northallerton GC; Winter Golf, Tuesday, December 3, Crosland Heath GC.

That's all for now, if anybody has any news or ideas then let me know. My address is 67 Asquith Avenue, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9QS; Tel: 0113 2383188; mobile 07790 678572, Email: andy@northernsection.co.uk
Andy Smith

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North Wales

A big thanks to Dave Goodridge for the last 2 years of writing the Section notes. Dave is taking a well earned break and we wish him well.

Hope all those of you who took the trip up to the BTME 2002 show had a good time, both on the educational side and, all the new products on display around the stands. Also not forgetting Harrogate's vast range of local hostellers where many of you were spotted enjoying the cups of tea in Betty's tea shop?

On to business. The AGM was held after the Christmas Golf Tournament at Conwy (Caernarfonshire) GC and thanks once again to David Lewis and his team for preparing the Links course to a high standard. The newly elected Committee is as follows;

Stuart McCall, Chairman; Andy Campbell, Secretary; Trevor Johnston, Treasurer; Terry Adamson, Education; Andrew Acorn, Press; Jez Hughes, Match Sec; Steve Roberts & Don Pemberton, Members.

Our golf venues for this year, spring at Andy Campbell's Carden Park Golf Complex (Soft Spikes Only) autumn is at Steve Jones's Pwllheli GC and the Christmas Tournament is at Ian Farrell's Caldys GC.

We are also pleased to have Bill Lawson as our official starter for the competitions. This may be scrutinised at our first event by official Carden starter, Mal Edwards. However, we look forward to the 'crack' anyway.

The delegation of Section members visiting the GCSAA show in Florida this month 3-10 will be Pat MacAteer, Nefyn GC, Andy Campbell, Terry Adamson & myself and if we do see any of you there we will buy you a waffle.

Next month we will focus on the trials and tribulations Allen Lewis, at Lianynymech GC, went through when 'sodium chloride' was poured on his greens.

Any news, views or information you have please contact me on Home: 01925 263394 Fax: 01925 269622 Mobile: 07778 162162

E-mail: acorn@supanet.com. Job's a good'n.

Andrew Acorn

North West

December 6 was the date we had the AGM and the President's Cup Tournament at Wilmslow Golf Club. Once again we must thank Steve Oultram and his staff for preparing the course. The day started with a hard frost, and when we arrived at Wilmslow at 10am the whole of the course was solid white with frost, and the greens staff were standing by with warmed up hand mowers ready to cut the greens by hand as soon as the frost abated. Well, the frost did melt shortly after 10am and true to form the staff cut the greens before we commenced play. The rest of the day was very favourable, with a warm winter sun all day, and the last of the 56 players finishing just before the sun dipped and the night enveloped the course. The golf was followed by the AGM which was short and sweet, and that was followed by the Christmas dinner. The Presidents Cup was won by Paul Walker, and was presented by the new N/W President, Peter Jefford, and of course everybody took away a bottle of something. I would like to thank Wilmslow Golf Club for once again allowing us the courtesy of the course, Steve Oultram and his staff for arriving for work in the dark and having to hang about in freezing conditions until the frost melted. Also many thanks to Gwen and David Chason for a lovely Christmas dinner and keeping the bar open all day & night. Gwen and David retire in early spring and we all wish them a long and happy retirement.

John Wright, from Southport Municipal Golf Course, has just retired and tells me he has worked for the council for 44 years. He told me he does not know what he will do to fill his time. I must have a talk with him as I have been retired eight years and I am busier now than I have ever been.

The fixture list for the year's events is now completed so you will receive your copy soon, anybody not receiving a copy contact me on 0151 7245412 and I will send you one immediately. Also you will receive an application form for the Mere Seminar in March. Please support the section and attend if possible. Any news, contact me.

Bert Cross

Cleveland

The Section AGM was held at Darlington Golf Club recently. The meeting was reasonably well attended but could have been better. Minutes of the meeting will be sent to all members in the near future. Thanks to Darlington Golf Club for use of the clubhouse and providing the supper.

The annual quiz against the groundsmen was held at Mount Oswald Golf Club before Christmas. We were beaten by just one point this year and a great night was had by everyone. Thanks to Mount Oswald for allowing us to use their facilities and a special thanks to our President, Terry Charlton, and all at Turf Care for organising and running the event. Speaking of quizzes section secretary, Barry Walker, has organised a general knowledge quiz at Darlington Golf Club on February 21 at 7.30pm. The quiz was great fun last year and was won convincingly by a team of three very intelligent people and Ian Pemberton, Kiss the Pope's ring, came second and will be looking to go one better this year. There will be prizes and a Pie and Pea supper so get yourself along. Barry has also provisionally booked Darlington Golf Club for the spring tournament on the 24th April, and anyone interested in playing should contact Barry on 0191 5650691 or 07968 308892.

A news letter will be sent out shortly with more details. Anyone not attending any of the social events can expect a visit from Chairman Tony Smith and his brothers!

A bit of staff movement in the Section recently. Chris Powley has left Dinsdale Spa Golf Club to become First Assistant at Stress Holme Golf Centre and has been replaced by Ian Dunable, from Blackwell Grange Golf Club, who is now First Assistant under Tony Mears. Sean Corroll, Deputy Head at Eaglescliffe Golf Club, has left to demonstrate grinding equipment. Liam McGough has become Greenkeeper/Mechanic at Eaglescliffe. Liam has moved from Richmond Golf Club. Good luck to everyone in their new positions.

Any news contact me on 0771 9193381

Steven Jaques



Midland Region
Peter Larter
Tel: 01476 550115

Midland

Welcome to the New Year everybody, I trust you all had a great festive period.

Looking back to last year's winter tournament which was held at Brocton Golf Club on December 13 the format of the day was Texas Scramble with 12 teams of four competing for the honours. Winners on the day were M. Gilkes, H. Grant, N. Tyler, M. Sanders with a net score of 58.9, closely followed by R. Hayhurst, R. Thomas, C. Lanchbury and Tony Cheese with a net score of 60.4. Our thanks go to Ray Hayhurst and his team for producing an excellent golf course (and blessing us with the weather) and much gratitude to the Captain, and Brocton Hall Golf Club, for allowing us to play their course and the excellent hospitality shown to us throughout the day.

Following the golf, the AGM was held and Alan Kite, our President and Committee Member for the past 35 years, was presented with a gift for his dedication to the Section and industry throughout this time.

Shortly you will all be receiving a fixture card for 2002 detailing the golf and education days. We hope you will continue to support and enjoy the section as in the past I hope you managed to attend BTME and enjoy the opportunities available. I look forward to seeing you all at Gay Hill for the Spring Tournament. Regards.

Phil Gates

Mid Anglia

Our final golf event of the year took place at Dunstable Downs GC in early December. The usual four-man Texas Scramble team format was used and weather conditions were favourable for some low scores. A total of 25 teams entered and the results were as follows:

1. G. Knight, G. Blum, M. Towler, M. Stidwell. 56.5; 2. G. Bruce, A. Grew, S. Proudfoot, N. Reece. 56.6; 3. T. Booth, S. Wooley, C. Sharp, C. Marsh. 56.6. Longest Drive was won by Darren Charlton, of Tilsworth

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GC, and Nearest the Pin by Gerald Bruce, of Berkhamsted GC. Mark Ellis was presented with the Lodgeway Four Ball prize and Adrian Dancer won "Golfer of the Year".

Our thanks to Frank and his team for an excellent course; to Dunstable Downs for allowing us courtesy and to the catering staff for an excellent meal. Our thanks also to Avoncrop, represented by Barry McCloskey, for donating the prizes and to all other trade members for their support. Finally, on a personal note, I would like to wish Dick Coogan, who was due to play in the Christmas tournament, a speedy recovery from a recent mild stroke.

Paul Lockett

East of England

2001 golf season finished off with a Texas Scramble at Boston West Golf Club. A good turn out of members played over a excellently presented course, maintained by Head Greenkeeper Richard Owen and his staff. Thanks to all at Boston West for an enjoyable day.

The day was sponsored by Lawn Mower Services and we were delighted to have Chris Overton, from LMS, to present the prizes. Other trade companies donated many other presents to the prize table.

Richard Owen's team consisting of Peter Fell and S. Boy faired well in the windy conditions to take first prize. Second was Tim Jones, Russ Moody, Adi Kitchener and John

Scotney.

After the presentation of prizes the AGM took place with a new committee being voted in for 2002.

The resignation of John Scotney will be a hard act to follow, as John has been treasurer of the Section since BIGGA was formed. We wish John all the best in his new venture.

The winter seminar took place at Newark GC with John Nicholson and Ken Moodie talking on golf landscaping and architecture.

The Section would like to thank the Golden and Silver Key education fund for allowing us to put on such a good education day. Without the fund we would not have been able to afford the calibre of speaker such as John and Ken.

The fixture cards and seminars are being put together and should be with you soon. Happy New Year to you all.

Graeme Macdonald

East Midlands

This year's Christmas Tournament held at Wollaton Park GC was played on 4th December on a fine dry day. 27 members turned out for the competition, which was a Singles Stb 3/4 H/cap format. Several good scores were returned with the winners in each category as follows:

Category 1. 1 Antony Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 35pts; 2 Guy Boyd, Greetham Valley, 32pts; 3 Jeff Dickinson, Leen Valley, 32pts

Category 2. 1 Mark Bindley, Kirby

Muxloe, 36pts; 2 Gavin Robson, Lingdale, 27pts; 3 David James, Luffenham Heath, 27pts

Trade & Associate. 1 Russell Latham, Mansfield Sand, 36pts; 2 Simon Hedley, Boughton Loam, 32pts

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Wollaton Park for hosting our event. The course was closed for several months due to Foot & Mouth, but it was still presented in excellent condition by Roger Buchanan and his staff. I would also like to thank the Steward & Stewardess for a great meal and to our very generous sponsors, Rigby Taylor. May I once again remind members that if you wish to attend any Section event your entry

slip and payment must be returned to the Secretary before the closing date.

Antony Bindley



South West and South Wales
Paula Humphries
Tel: 01288 352194

Devon & Cornwall

The P. J. Flegg Christmas meeting was held at Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday, December 12. Members arriving were delighted to find the course frost-free as many had driven through heavy frost before reaching the club. As last year, two

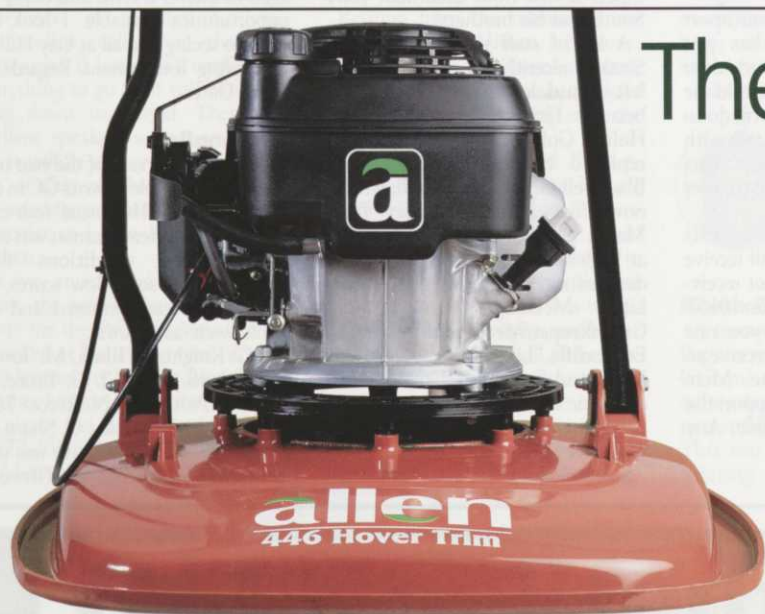
starting points were used for the P. J. Flegg greensome format competition. Our non golfing members were treated, as usual, to the guided course walk by Richard Wisdom. Both golfing and non golfing members were once again delighted to see the now traditional P. J. Flegg refreshment tent by the 6th green, where inside Patrick and his staff treated members to snacks and drinks which set the Christmas atmosphere for the day.

After an excellent Christmas lunch, the day continued with the morning's golf prizes for the P. J. Flegg trophy being presented by Paul Watson to

- 1 G. Tamblin, Mullion, & D. Manley, Mullion. 36pts
- 2 S. Getson, Tavistock, & R. Shapland, China Fleet. 35pts
- 3 R. Parker, Ilfracombe, & T. Clark, Crediton. 35pts

A special prize, donated by Laurence Davis, Deputy Head at Okehampton, for the best effort went to T. Martin & G. Calvert; the President's Prize for Longest Drive on 18th was won by Richard Parker, and the Nearest the Pin on 12th went to Steve Worrall.

The one and only Tank Sherman, back by popular demand, had us all laughing during his after dinner cabaret aided by Des, from P. J. Flegg, who spilled a pint of beer over Alan Dommett. After the afternoon entertainment, our raffles concluded one of the best ever Christmas meetings. The first raffle was for the Avoncrop



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hamper presented by Brian Stevens to Bill Mitchell, while the final raffle of the day consisted of more than 40 prizes donated by members and trade.

The Section would like to thank Okehampton Golf Club and all their staff who made our day so special, with a special mention for Richard Wisdom and his staff who, as always, had the course in great shape.

A big thanks to Patrick Flegg and P. J. Flegg Ltd for sponsoring the day and providing the wonderful snacks and drinks on the course. Also thanks to our President, John Palfrey, who supplied the wine at lunch. Also to all of you who donated prizes for the day.

News Flash: Irrigation workshop, sponsored by Ocmis, will be held at Fingle Glen Golf Club on Tuesday, March 5 for more information please contact me on 01288 353438.

Richard Whyman

South Coast

As I write these notes many of us are finalising our plans for our annual trip to Harrogate and BTME. Those of you who have not made the journey will no doubt have missed a good week and I will report in depth in next month's issue. This month has been fairly quiet with many of us in the south experiencing an unusually very dry and cold spell which has lasted for some time now. Let's hope we don't suffer by having a wet spring.

The section AGM which was held at our Turkey Trot meeting at Barton-on-Sea ran very smoothly and was over in record time. Our Chairman, Tony Gadd, reported to those present that the Section had a very successful year in terms of support for our golf meetings and more importantly we also had a successful financial year. The only area of concern was the disappointing response for educational functions. As greenkeepers we are always busy but we should allow time to continue our professional development by attending lectures and seminars. Next year's AGM will be held at the autumn meeting to fall into BIGGA recommendations, which states that all AGM meetings should be held by the end of October. Your committee for this year is as follows:

Chairman, Tony Gadd; Vice Chairman, Phil Wentworth; Hon Secretary, Fred Deamen; Competition Organiser, Chris Sturgess; Regional Representative, Ian Noble; Around the Green, Alex McCombie; Trade Representative, Trevor Simmonds; Committee Member, Harvey Tribe.

As ever your committee will work hard to make this year as successful as last year. Wednesday, February 13 will see our Section Seminar held at Salisbury and South Wilts Golf Club, which you should all have received details of through the post. As ever there will be a good range of speakers and we hope you will all

take the time and effort to come along to what should be an excellent day.

This year will see the introduction of a new knock-out competition in our Section. The planned pairs event is currently being organised by Phil Wentworth and hopefully will be a great success. Other Sections run similar competitions and have proven to be hugely popular so watch this space for further details.

Lastly, I would just like to say a big thank you to our sponsors who helped make our Section such a success last year. Your continued support is much appreciated!

Until next month.

Alex McCombie

South Wales

The Winter Tournament held at the Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club was a great day out for all. Over 50 took to the links and enjoyed the summer-like conditions which the Secretary had arranged (he arranged everything else). The course was in excellent condition and I'm sure will be enjoyed by those competing over it for the British Amateur Championship 1st round, which is to be played there in June of this year.

Our thanks to Ray Hunt and his staff and our sincere good wishes for the Amateur Championships.

The AGM was a quiet affair for a change and main points arising were:

President, Colin Murphy, to stand down at next year's AGM after serving for over 30 years. Julian Bartlett-Jones elected Chairman and Angus Macleod elected Vice Chairman. Dismay at the cancellation/loss of Westurf. Change of golf competition format to Stableford for all competitions. Fixtures agreed and fixture cards have been ordered.

Members, remember to send your passport size photos to HQ with membership renewals.

Evening lectures finalised and are: Jan 16 - David Bates of Sportsworld;

Feb 13 - Stuart Ashworth of Amtec; Mar 13 - John Lindup, of Saama International; Apr 10 - BIGGA versus IOG Quiz/Social evening.

Our sincere thanks to all at the Pyle & Kenfig for making us so welcome. To Captain David Wooding, for his hospitality, and to WGU Vice President, Brian Andrews, for joining us for the day. The Christmas dinner was, as always, excellent and Jan and her staff feed us heartily year after year. The day was, as is traditional, sponsored by Vitax Ltd and their local distributor Celtic Mowers and we are indebted to Adrian Masters and Kim Davies for their continued support and sponsorship. Long may it continue.

Results of the day are: 1. winning the Vitax Shield - Emyr Nickels, of Inco GC; 2. Herbie Probert, of Pontardawe GC; 3. Daryl Bray, of Morriston GC.

Longest Drive went to Ian Marx,

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of Carmarthen GC, and Nearest the Pins went to Adrian Panks, of Llanwrn GC, and Russell Anderson, of Cardiff GC.
Peter Lacey



South East
Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 260956

South West

Here is a list of the Section committee members and their phone numbers, don't be afraid to call on any subject.

Chairman: C. Sealey, 01249 462027
Vice Chair: J. Braithwaite 01275 874002
Fixtures Secretary: K. James, 01934 627413, D. Bougen 01285 720112
Team Captain: A. Knight, 01225 760684
Handicaps Sec: J. Keenaghan, 01454 616837
Education: G. Woods, 01225 333928;
National Board: P. Jenkins, 01242 674328

The Section is holding an informal evening talk, on February 12, at Sham Castle Golf Club.

The talk will be on Organic Fertilisers and The Illegal Use of Pesticides, and it will be given by Simon Barnaby, of the Scotts Company. Simon is an agronomist with the Scotts Company. Martin Townsend will also be present. It should be an interesting evening, so please come along.

Our next golf event is at North Wiltshire Golf Club on February 27. It's our winter tournament. Our events need your support.

If you are going to Harrogate have a great time and make sure you know where the hotel is.

Kevin James

Kent

A fair bit to report on this month with the turkey trot and the AGM in

December and the election of new committee members. I'll start with the golf news and a big thank you to all who made the effort to play at Royal Darenth Valley on December 6. I think it was one of the best turnouts for ages with 43 taking part. So someone must be reading this column and taking notice. The weather was superb with some people even playing in short sleeved shirts, it was that warm. It was a little wet under foot but Nigel and his team had made an effort for us and shaved the greens and the temps for some tricky putts and chips, which were best carried all the way to the pins.

A nice touch was the ball washing facility in each hole cup, a little more cleaning fluid maybe, Nigel. I think everyone had a good time even if their scores didn't reflect the smiles on their faces and laughs from around the course. It was nice to see a woman Greenkeeper playing in the form of Sarah Mardon. Hope we will see you next time and haven't put you off coming. Also a big thank you to our Prince Harry look alike Jamie Wright, from The London Club, for the roy-

al seal of approval - hence Royal Darenth Valley.

Onto the prize winners and yet again Duncan Kelso won with a great score of 41 pts off a 6 Handicap which I think should be lowered. Duncan won the Scott's Shield and a big thank you for their continued support. The runner up was Gary Debehm with 40 points, another dodgy handicap there. Trade winner was Derek Keen who has now left his job at John Shaws to get back into the golf industry. Best of luck Derek in your new job. Your visits around the region will be missed.

Thanks to all the staff at Darenth Valley for looking after us for the day and clearing up the mess made by some people after dinner. Enough said about that. Onto the AGM which was, mercifully, brief. Gary Debenham has stepped down from Section Secretary and massive thanks for all his efforts on behalf of the Section. In his place Duncan Kelso has stepped into the breach and best of luck to you Duncan for your years in office. Also a welcome to Jason Moody, from Canterbury GC, who takes up a position on the committee.

Thank you to Chris Sharpe, of Rigby Taylor, who brought up a point I made a couple of months ago about reps not making appointments with Head

Greenkeepers. Chris pointed out that, like himself, many reps do make appointments only for the

Greenkeeper not to keep it. So it works both ways so please keep to your appointments or make a call if you can.

I did hear from our Chairman Barry Jackson, from Broke Hill, where they had their water fountain stolen at the end of last year. So, if anyone has been offered a fountain for about £4000 let me know, it will be too big for your ponds. Congratulations to Tim Maynard on his engagement to his long time love, Donna Young. Best of luck, Donna, you will need it. Any other news please let me know your views and feelings on any matter. Contact details as always jbatkhgolf@aol.com or 01732 875020. Look forward to hearing from you.

Jason Bean.

East Anglia

At last I hear you cry!

Communications were not what they should have been last year. Someone kept shooting the pigeon!

In the deep midwinter, December 18 to be precise, our motley mob descended on Thorpeness for the annual bun fight and AGM. All went like clockwork as per... thanks to Ian and Steve. The golf wasn't bad either - teams of three in a Texas scramble. Results: Mike Virley, S. Bartram and W. King, 61; Mike Moss, I Wright and P Swain, 62.8 and Roger Plummer, S Plummer (uncle) and R. Whiting, 63.2. Nearest the Pin 2nd. Nick Ashman; 7th, Alan Elliott; 10th R. Whiting and 16th

Your greens' quality is riding on it.



Mike Virley. Longest Drive. 4th A. Sutcliffe, 18th I. Wright.

It was great to see Toddy Huddleston again and sad not to see Ernie Hart who we understand has not been too sharp but is on the mend. Get well soon mate.

Our thanks as usual must go to Thorpeness Golf Club, especially Robin Baker (he's my mate after that speech), the Club Captain. We must never forget our trade members who support us so generously over the years. They are Bartram Mowers; C.M.W; Rigby Taylor; Rushbrooks; Sisis; Aventis; Ben Burgess; Consultant Clarkson Nicholsons; Toro; Prime Irrigation; Collier Turfcare; Tacit; Greenkeeping Supply Company and Turf Care. Anyone else who has supported us, who is not listed, let me know I'll include you in the next list.

As we missed several reports last year this is where we went. April, Felixstowe Ferry with the rain, George worked hard but could not stop it, otherwise a good day and thanks to Mr Scuser for presenting the prizes.

Then there was Purdis Heath in October. A lovely course well presented by Norman and his staff.

All prizes were presented by Allan Busser, the Captain.

Our thanks once again to all the clubs that put up with us last year and I'm sorry that reports did not reach print. Hope to see you all in the spring.

Mick Lathrope



Northern Ireland

Our AGM was held at Rockmount Golf Club, Carry Duff on November 29. Before commencing the meeting, Secretary Allison Sloan had organised a quiz. Many of the questions, especially those on Roman Numerals proved too difficult for the majority of us.

The team of Terry Crawford, Michael O'Neill and Emmett Curran came out on top with a three point winning margin.

The following committee will represent the section in 2002. Chairman, Jonathan McCabe; Secretary, Allison Sloan; Treasurer, Michael O'Neill; Magazine Officer, Kenneth Henderson; Education Officer, Andrew Kerr, and Match & Handicap Secretary, Terry Crawford.

Many thanks to Rockmount Golf Club for letting the Section hold our AGM in their clubhouse.

I would like to remind members that the Section is organising another autumn seminar in 2002 which will be held on November 6, the venue being Massereene Golf Club, Antrim. An interesting list of speakers is presently being formulated so I will keep everyone informed on fur-

ther developments in the months ahead. At present our golf days are being finalised for the year, The Secretary will be sending out a letter soon confirming dates and venues.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate Chairman, Jonathan McCabe on being appointed Head Greenkeeper at Carnalea Golf Club, Bangor. Jonathan is moving from Malone Golf Club to take up his new position at Carnalea in February. Our best wishes go to him.

Well, that's about all my news for this month. I wish everyone a belated Happy New Year and wish you all good Greenkeeping in 2002.

Ken Henderson

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DETAILS ON PAGE 51

A promotional graphic for a competition. It features the word "WIN!" in large, bold, white letters on a dark green background. Below it, text describes a chance to win a £60 jacket. A photograph of a dark green polo shirt with "allen" and "Turfcare Engineers" logos is shown. At the bottom, it says "DETAILS ON PAGE 51".

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