



**SCOTTISH REGION**  
Peter Boyd  
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## East

Welcome to this month's column. I can't quite believe it's August already but it is and the season has been good to us so far compared to previous years, so long may it continue. There hasn't been much Section news over the last few months so that's why these pages have been blank. Also I have not had a lot of time due to my son, Christopher, being in Hospital in Birmingham having his second liver transplant at the beginning of June.

I am glad to say so far everything is going very well and we all hope that's how it carries on. The good thing about his transplant this time was before it he was reasonably fit and well which was good for him and is aiding his recovery. He had his transplant on the 2nd of June and was back home on the 11th, which is one of their quickest ever for Birmingham. We would like to thank all our friends in the Section for their best wishes etc as it's good to know that so many people are thinking about you in those tough times, so a big thank you to all.

Well down to Section business. The Section held its Spring tournament at Kingsknowe Golf Club on May 14. A great day was had by all with a number of new faces along on the day which is good for the Section and hopefully they all enjoyed themselves and we will see them at future events. I would like to thank The Captain and his Board of Directors for the use of their course and the courtesy on the day; all the Clubhouse staff for the way they looked after us (ps the fish was marvellous), Course Manager, Steve Dixon, and his crew for the superb condition of the course which was a credit to them all. We would like to thank the trade for bringing along raffle prizes etc once again

The weather was great with warm sunshine until the last four or so groups had a severe downpour which started just as I was walking into the clubhouse! What a shame! (Chairman sniggers). It is a number of years since we were at Kingsknowe and hopefully it won't be as long 'til we are back again. The last time we were there was for the Scottish National Tournament. If anyone knows when that was please write it on the back of a £10 note and send it to yours truly.

There was some very good golf played on the day which is reflected in the scores. They are as follows: Scratch Boyd Trophy. I. Elliot, 75 (bih), First class. Souters Cup. R. McCulloch, 80-9-71; 2, D. Murray, 75-3-72, 3. A. Holmes, 78-4-74, 2nd Class. Lothian Tractors Trophy. A. Campbell, 76-12-64; 2, C Yeaman, 78-12-66; 3, R. Prowse 84-11-73 3rd Class Turfcare Cup. J. Nesbit, 92-18-74; 2, J. Neilson 100-21-79 bih; 3, S. Gray, 104-28-79. Best Nett. Ocmis Cup. C. Yeaman 78-12-66. Veterans' Prize. J Robertson, 94-20-74. Trade Prize. Patrons Cup. M. Dennis 82-12-70, New Members' Prize. G. Burnett, 79-6-73, Highest Score. R. McDonald 133, Longest Drive. D. Murray, Nearest the Pin at 9th G. Burnett. Nearest the Pin at the 18th, S. Poole.

Well that's it all for the Spring Tournament, so a big thanks to the Match Committee for making the day run smoothly and Craig (Pennyquick) for his starting duties on the 1st tee. Cheers to you all for making the day run even more smoothly. Don't forget the Match Committee will be altering handicaps from the spring tournament in readiness for the summer outing.

Next tournament on the agenda is the Summer Tournament at the Glen at the end of July so let's see a big turnout for this one. As the tournament will have passed by the time you read this, a full report will be in next month's column.

A notable new member last month is Willie Blair who has just rejoined the Section after a few years away. Willie is the Head Greenkeeper at Lundin Ladies Golf Club in Fife. As most of you will know Willie was the Section Secretary for a number of years, so it's good to see him back and hopefully he will be at the summer tournament at the Glen GC, as that is where he attended his last outing a few years back. Welcome Willie and also a warm welcome to all our new members and we hope to see you at future Section events.

The membership of the Section is increasing all the time which is good for us and the Association. As you are reading this the summer tournament is passed. You will have received your summer entry form and also your fixture card for this year and

the start of next. Sorry they are slightly late but we had a few technical problems but you have now all got one so let's see you all at the future events throughout this year.

At the Spring Tournament the Section invited Jackie Dalrymple along as guest of the Section to celebrate his retirement after 44 years at Baberton Golf Club on December 13. In recognition of all those years at the one club and his support of the Section the committee made him guest for the day and during the prize giving presented him with a golf bag, an umbrella and a nice pair of golf shoes. Jackie, we know you enjoyed your day and all your gifts so all the best in your retirement from everyone here in the East Section and we hope to see you at the up coming events. Ps with all this free time for golf I can see Jackie's handicap heading downwards.

As I said in my last report, the winners of the First, Second and Third classes would join the Chairman to make up the Section team for this year's Norrie Whytock Memorial Tournament at Auchterarder Golf Club later in the season. They are as follows: C. Yeaman, R. McCulloch, A. Campbell and J. Nesbit, so I look forward to playing with you lads to try and win back the trophy that the Section team won a few years ago.



Well, that's it once again for another month and I will speak to you all again in September (where does the time go?). If you have any news for the Section please let me know so that I can get it into print next time in Greenkeeper International.

Normal phone nos, Addresses, Fax and e-mails for any relevant info. So come on let's hear from you. 'Till next time.  
Chris Yeaman.

## Ayrshire

A warm welcome to a new member Mark Hodgson, Turnberry.

Ayrshire committee man, Barry Crawford, recently won the Ayrshire Matchplay at St. Nicholas Golf Club. Congratulations!

Michael Byrne returns to Ayrshire from Wentworth Golf Club after three years. He joins the team at Turnberry.

The Scottish Championship held at Turnberry's Kintyre Course fielded close to 80 players from courses all over Scotland and Northern England. A special mention to David Leith, St Andrews, who shot a level par 71. Duncan Gray, The Pines, won the Veteran's Section.

If you want your news included you have to call me on 01292 478606

Dennis Tweddell.



## NORTHERN REGION

### North West

Good news, we now have a Regional Administrator. Since Doug Bell died 12 months ago, the Northern Region have been without a Regional Administrator, making it difficult to hold a regional seminar, mainly due to finances being frozen. But now we are back on course. Peter Larter, the Midlands Administrator, has taken the Northern Region under his wing, and I for one welcome this move.

This weekend, July 5, we have a Regional Board meeting and Peter will be there where we can discuss what is required to keep the region running smoothly, and hopefully improve the Region's education programmes.

On Thursday, June 12 we played the Summer Tournament at Deanwood Golf Club and this time we were lucky with the weather, unlike the Spring Tournament. The day started not looking too promising but as the morning drew on the sun came out and we had a glorious day to follow. Arrangements for the tournament had been made when Chris Watson was Head Greenkeeper, but about a month before we played Chris had moved to the South of England as Head Greenkeeper. The club honoured the arrangements and the course was in excellent condition due to Steve

Owen and his staff. Steve was Deputy to Chris and he had done a great job in preparing the course. The newly appointed Head Greenkeeper also played with us on the day and met the guys from his new Section. He is Duncan Smith, and I believe he has moved up from the Gloucester area, welcome to the N/W Duncan.

I would like to thank Deanwood Golf Club for allowing us courtesy of playing their fine course and the caterers for the excellent meals.

The result of the Tournament was:

Winner of the Reg Vickers Trophy: Peter Hogan; Guest Prize: Andrew Acorn and Phil Dewhurst. Nearest The Pin: Mark Kofoed. Longest Drive: Peter Hogan.

The Longest Drive and Nearest the Pin were sponsored by Rufford Technology. The prizes stretched to 10th nett thanks to support from our sponsors: Oliver Brothers, Cheshire Turf Machinery, North Staffs Irrigation, SISIS, Joseph Metcalf, Andrew Acorn, John Greasley, plus Amenity Technology, Bathgate, Aitkens and Vitax.

The qualifiers for the regional final are: D. Wheeler, W. Merritt, P. Hogan, C.

Sheehan, M. Kofoed, T. Wilkinson

The final to be played at Middlesbrough on August 13.

I also require a team of 12 for the "Roses" match also to be played on the August 13 at Cleckheaton Golf Club so if you are available please contact me as soon as possible.

That seems to be it for now, any news ring me on 0151 724 5412 or 07761 583387

Bert Cross



## Northern

Hope you're all keeping ok. The Section managed to have another sunny day to play golf on for President's Day at Pike Hills. The day was sponsored again by our friends at Scotts, which was appreciated by all who played. Dave Truby was on hand to present the prizes. The course was in pristine condition and congratulations must go to Robin and his greens team for that. After the golf we all enjoyed a great meal and shared a few beers. Many thanks again to all at Pike Hills who helped us make the day go so well. The winners are as follow Div 1. 1. T. Arana, 37 pts; 2. A. Baxter, 34pts; 3. D. Collins, 33pts. 2nd Div. 1. T. Jarvis, 34 pts and winner of the Bill Mountain Claret Jug; 2. J. Walsh 34 pts; 3. A. Speight; 3rd Div. D. Cockburn (President) 34 pts; 2. D. Thackray, 34 pts; 3. J. Baxter, 33pts. E. Carter 37 pts won the trade prize with N. Schofield with 36pts in second. S. Heaton (off a tree and a rake stand) won the Nearest the Pin while the Longest Drive was a monster from J. Watts.

You will probably be reading this a week or so before the Roses match at Cleckheaton on August 13. At the time of writing there are 18 names down and only 12 places so I am afraid some of you will be disappointed. This has been done on the number of tournaments attended throughout the season basis only and not on the strongest team. Good luck to all involved.

Our next golfing event is Invitation day at Wetherby golf club. Tee off from 1.30 pm on September 10. This is on a first come first served basis, as there are only 60 places, with the criteria of your guest being one of your club's officials. The sponsors of this event are Rigby Taylors.

At the last committee meeting it was decided to run a trip to the dogs at Pontefract. The date of this event is Friday October 24. The price of this event is £18 which includes coach travel, first drink free, chicken and chips, and a race programme. The first pick up on the coach will be in Keighley at 5.30pm. If you are interested in going please get in touch with any of the committee. This event is also open to any of your friends if you want to bring them along.

Last but by no means least, a warm welcome to Shaun Drum from Bridlington golf club who has joined our Section this month.

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Dave Thackray



## North Wales

Well what about these colour photos of your Section columnists then, " what a handsome bunch we all are", I did ask BIGGA HQ if they could do a little bit of digital enhancement, so as the readers did not think it was Mel Gibson in the picture, I can say they have done a fair job. Good on you. It is a pity you couldn't help the others out!

Congratulations this month go to Richard Walker, from Royal Liverpool GC, and his wife, Rebecca, who has given birth to twin girls, Hannah and Charlotte. Ever so thoughtful of you, Richard, to get the baby business out of the way before the real business begins.

Simon Ashley from Carden Park has completed his HND in Golf Course Management and Douglas Neilson has returned from Royal Dornoch.

The Section team to represent North Wales in Middlesbrough has now been cancelled. The next date for your diaries will be October 1 for autumn at Wallasey GC and December 3 for Christmas at Abergele GC.

Vale of Llangollen have a new assistant starting this month called Dillian Dullan.

At a recent Regional Board meeting at BIGGA HOUSE it was passed that the new Administrator for the Northern Region would be Peter Larter, a man with a fine rugby background and a vast knowledge of the greenkeeping industry. He will be available for an informal meeting at Carden Park in August, (date to be confirmed). If you can make it along, Peter would like you to tell him just how good are the Welsh at this national sport. 'Rugby' that is.

We currently have no dates in our diary for the 2004 season so we would like anyone with proposals to host a BIGGA golf day at their respective clubs to please give the committee a ring.

Richard Littler has raised a point, that while he backs education 100% he would like to see these courses and seminars on during the autumn and winter months and not have to let assistants go on day release during the busy competition season especially during major events. Richard will be glad to know North Wales are doing just that and our education classes start in the autumn.

I would just like to give praise to Royal St David's and Carden Park for hosting the European Tour Seniors' events last month and a credit to both courses for their presentations.

Just one final note across the borders as I would like to congratulate all the greenkeeping teams at the Regional Open qualifying courses. I personally went across on the day to Stockport GC which was a credit to Course Manager, Warren Bevan and the lads who, incidentally, slept over a couple of nights within the maintenance dept so they were all on hand at first light to prepare fully the course for the day's play. Well done guys.

Any news or views give us a call

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Mesen Cymru

Andrew "The Squirrel" Acorn



  
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**MIDLAND REGION**  
Peter Larter  
Tel: 01476 550115

## East of England

The Section's second golf day took place at Kenwick Park in Louth. The event was sponsored by Burdens and Norman Burden was on hand to oversee the prize giving. Thanks to Burdens and Kenwick Park for staging a well attended day.

Geoff Henderson and staff prepared the course in excellent condition and all who attended played a testing and attractive course.

The Burden's Trophy went to Graeme Macdonald, of Newark GC, 75-5-70. Second on countback Simon Bossett, of Burghley Park GC, 98-28-70 and third went to Derek Beba, of Tydd St Giles GC, 87-16 71. Nearest the Pin. Russ Moody Lincoln GC and Longest Drive went to Daniel Wells, of Burghley Park GC.

The medal scores of Kenwick added to the medal scores at Burghley gave us the members who will represent the East of England Section and Midland Region at the National Championships to be held at Hollinwell and Coxmoor. They were split into handicap categories. Div 1 winner G. A. Macdonald 74+70=144. Reserve Div 1 R. Welford 76+73=149. Div 2 winner D. Salisbury 79=80=159. Reserve Div 2 G. Poole 82+87=169.

Div 3 winner F. Cobb 74+74=148. Reserve Div 3 B. Hicks 75+78=153.

The golf day at Market Rasen GC was sponsored by Toro and we would like to thank Nigel Lovatt for putting up a new trophy which will be played for annually. The winner was Alan Buckley, of Newark GC, 38 pts, second on countback Graeme Macdonald 38 pts and third Tim Robert, of Boston GC, 36 pts. John Hewson and staff had the course looking great and the four new holes blended in superbly.

The Amenity Technology Plate was played for by the East of England Section of BIGGA at Norwood Park golf club in Southwell where a good turnout enjoyed a challenging new course in excellent condition.

The weather was sunny and the food was great, so all in all everybody had a superb day.

Thanks to Henry Starkey, Course Manager of Norwood, for their friendly welcome and courtesy of the course.

1. Russ Moody, Lincoln GC, 37 pts; 2. Bruce Hicks, Boston GC, 36 pts; 3. Graeme Macdonald, Newark GC, 34 pts 4. Daniel Wells, Burghley Park GC, 33 pts; 5. Alan Buckley, Newark GC, 32 pts; 6. Adrian Kitchinson, Lincoln GC, 31pts. Longest Drive was won by Stuart Clayton. Nearest the Pin was won by David Smith. Trade prize went to Peter Larter 35 points.

On the education front Bob Bean of Humberstone has successfully passed his NVQ 3 exams at Myerscough College. Any ideas of talks/ visits you would like for the Autumn, please call me. Ideas always welcome.

Garry Cooper has also moved jobs, from Tower Chemicals to Turfcare. Good luck in the new job.

Graeme Macdonald

## BB&O

I am pleased to write that after printing last month I had some interest in the training courses that can be arranged through BIGGA at local Section level. It is quite likely that all the allocation of funds for this coming autumn will be gone. Bookings can now be arranged for the Spring, 2004 so please contact me if you have any training requirements at your golf club and I will help as best I can. With the current weather conditions giving excellent growth I know everyone is now flat out keeping their own backyard in order for great golf. Luckily a few of us managed to find time to attend the Summer competition held at Donnington Valley Golf Club on July 1. This was a resounding success with the miracle of the day being heavy rain passing over before play and not returning until the last players were in the showers. It was our lucky day! Thanks go to Clive Parnell, from Gem Professional, for his time and support on the day. The prizes sponsored by Gem were excellent so well done to the winners. Thanks to Alec MacIndoe and his staff who presently face a huge up-hill battle to bring on this new course but conditions were excellent on the day. The



results of this Stableford were as follows: 1. Ross Wilson, Parasampia GC, 34 pts; 2. Brian Payne, Burnham Beeches GC, 33pts; 3. Carl Small, Ellesborough GC, 31pts; 4. John Bowness, Deanwood Park GC, 29pts; 5. Ray Tapper, Retired, 26pts; 6. Alec MacIndoe, Donnington Valley GC, 26pts. Nearest the Pin. Alec MacIndoe: Longest Drive. Carl Small. Trade Prize, Mark Day, Tacit, 31pts. Many thanks go to the great organisation at this club on the day with great food to end a marvellous day.

Our next golf fixture comes around very quickly and I hope that by the time you read this you are already booked to be a part of this special day held at the Buckinghamshire GC on August 11. This must be pre-booked before the event as I am sure this establishment will not take kindly to any major shift in player numbers on the day of the event. I have no Section news from around the block so I bid you well in the height of summer and hope all is well in each and every camp.

David Haskell-Craig



## Midland

As I sit here considering what to include in this month's Section notes, I find myself thankful that I am no longer contemplating the outcome of college exams. I hope that all awaiting results shall be victorious. Please let me know if you or your staff have been so. It would give me no greater pleasure than to praise such achievements within our lines. With such in mind: Congratulations to Robert Writtle (Penn) on passing his NPTC spraying test. Now all you have to do Rob, is learn how to spray!

Well friends, did you spot last month's error in our notes? My personal secretary is obviously far too used to golfing related English. I must however confess that I also made the same embarrassing error many years ago, but the other way around. So if you did spot the mistake, then I hope such gave you the same wry smile as it did me. If not, then please let one enlighten. "Course Fishing" would be somewhat difficult, if not impossible. However, angling for "Coarse Fish" is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding pleasures to be experienced. I've been lucky enough to have done so in five different countries, and am looking forward to our fishing event at Middleton Hall, near the Belfry on 21-9-03. The event is, as you know, being sponsored by Allen Southam, of Hanson Aggregates. After speaking with Allen, he informs that the Fishery has over the last few years undergone an extensive restocking programme. Following the fishing, in the on site Club House, there shall be a buffet with a few beers during the prize giving ceremony. All of which is sponsored. Free private fishing, grub, beer and prizes. What more do you want? Please remember such is open to all greenkeepers, not just BIGGA members. To book your pegs please call me on: 07816-410552, or: 01902-338569 to leave a message.

It gives me great pleasure this month to welcome Graeme Stevenson to our fine Section. We all look forward to meeting you at our many differing events Gream.

Now for a further event for your diaries, on both an educational and socially enjoyable aspect. It's great when the two go hand-in-hand. Alpha Amenity in conjunction with Johnsons Sport and Amenity Grass Seed are holding an informal education afternoon at their plant in Inkberrow, just south of Redditch. The afternoon shall start with a short introduction and tour of Johnsons seed production plant and trial areas. Following such, lunch shall be provided with a clay pigeon shooting event after. I've never tasted clay pigeon, but I am assured by Nigel Tyler that such makes fine eating. All interested please call Nigel on: 07989 548058.

Until next month folks, sharp shooting and tight lines.

Sean McDade



**East Midlands**

Not a great deal to report on this month, other than to say if you would like to renew your number for the 100 ball draw please get in touch with Gavin Robson and Jeff Dickinson. There are several numbers still available at £6.00 a number. This year's AGM will take place at Kibworth GC on November 12, 4:30pm. The Christmas Tournament will be held on December 11 at Kilworth Springs Golf Club at 10:30pm. If you would like an entry form please contact me nearer the date.

Antony Bindley



**SOUTH WEST &  
SOUTH WALES**

Tel: 01288 352 194

**South West**

Dear Members, Hot, dry, wet, hot, dry, wet, if my predictions are correct by the time you are reading this it should be Hot, Hot (scorchio) and we are expected to keep immaculate surfaces under these conditions. I wonder if golfers back at their desks are constantly judged as harshly as we are on a day by day basis. Unfortunately my moaning is not going to stop here. More of that later.

Summer tournament, venue Minchinhampton. Has anyone heard the story of the golfer in America whose ball missed the fairway, landed in the river on a piece of driftwood and continued on its merry way. So did the golfer. He grabbed a nearby canoe paddled along side the driftwood swiping madly at it until he finally connected with it two miles down stream managing to hit it onto a nearby road, he then proceeded to play the ball back to his golf club and finally down the hole he was originally playing and putted out, with a final total of 137 for the hole - the most shots ever played on one hole. It's at this point you are most probably wondering where this is all going. Well a certain person who shall remain nameless. Yeah you wish Matt (The Badger) Hawker. Twenty bloody one on the 2nd, six packets of Hamlet later he is in the hole. Needless to say this poor performance was in no way a reflection upon the course, which was in truly outstanding condition (see scores below). I personally loved seeing the bunker faces kept long, getting away from the norm of perfect lies in and around bunkers. A true links style challenge. Our thanks go to Paul and his team.

Results: 0 - 10 1. Marc Haring, 70 - 65; 2. Shaun Richards, 71 - 67. 11-19 1. Wayne Vincent, 82 - 67; 2. Graham Percival, 81 - 69. 20+ 1. Mathew Lesson-Magri, 94 - 66; 2. Mathew Worster, 91 - 71. National Championship Paul Jenking, Gross 69.

Do you remember earlier in the article I mentioned moaning? Well here I go. For a start all of the above article is only relevant to a small percentage of our membership. For instance there were 40 at Minchinhampton one sixth of the Section membership. One of the reasons for non-attendance used to be if you didn't play golf there was nothing else. Well, that has been rectified with the course walk and if truth be known it was a complete failure. For example at Minchinhampton the agronomist Robert Laycock was on site along with Roger Davey, of Irritech, for all you irrigation queries and Paul Worster for a walk and Q & A session. It is also an Open qualifying course. Attendance zero, walk was cancelled. Now is it me, or is it lack of information, apathy, or you are all so busy you can't get away, but after all this is what the Association is all about Education AND Learning or have I got it all wrong?

Another example the day here at Bath Golf Club. Toro, Agronomist, Aboriculturist free lunch just turn up and be entertained and educated. Enquiries so far - four. Doesn't exactly inspire me. Golf days are nearly always fully booked for those playing, it's the education side that is lacking. Devon and Cornwall for instance get as many on the walk as they do the golf. I personally learnt a lot at Minchinhampton far more than if I played the course. For example I visited both courses, chatted to the agronomist, Roger, the lads, the Mechanic, know their aeration programme, top dressing, fertilisers, machinery, water system and how they implement all these factors to become an Open qualifying venue. I wonder how apparent all this was to those playing golf?

I am not going to apologise for the tone of this article. All I want for this Section is

some conviction to at least ask or tell me what you want and perhaps stimulate some discussion and feed back. I am not prepared just to be a results service for a few elite members.

Good luck to Duncan Smith whom I wrongly accused some months ago of employment at Weston super Mare GC. He's off up north to Deanwood GC. from Cotswold Hills; John Keenaghan moving from the Kendleshire to Chipping Sodbury as Deputy Course Manager and also Nick Wilson leaving Kendleshire to set up his own landscaping business. Robin Greaves is back into sales again selling turkey s\*\*t.

Our thanks to T H Whites Nigel Howe and Mike Harris for the sponsored team polo and sweat shirts.

No replies yet for that free trip to Harrogate, Just a note to say why you think you should go, don't be embarrassed someone's got to win, It might as well be you rather than the idiot sat next to you. Guy Woods 078123 80936, 01225 483486, 01225 333928 e-mail greenkeepers@bathgolfclub.fsworld.co.uk

Guy Woods



**Devon & Cornwall**

Our Summer meeting, sponsored by Symbio, was held at Trethorne Golf Club on Tuesday, June 17. There were 40 members present, with 30 contesting the afternoon golf match and the remaining members attended our customary course walk.

After a superb evening meal our sponsor, Martin Ward, from Symbio, presented the prizes for the Stableford competition to: 1. John Roberts, Woodbury Park, 38 pts; 2. Jeff Mills, Taunton and Pickeridge, 36 pts; 3. Simon Coombes, Dainton Park, 34 pts

The Section would like to thank Symbio for their support and Trethorne Golf Club for allowing us the use of their excellent facilities. The golf course was in excellent condition and a big thank you to Mike Davey and his team.

The Vitax Matchplay competition is now well into round three and if you have any outstanding results, please pass them onto me as soon as possible.

Congratulations to Alan Gawman, of St Mellion GC, who is the new South West Counties Champion and also to Mark Evans and the Devon County Team who "cleaned up" at the recent championships held at Burnham and Berrow.

I would like to assure all our members that the problems at Cannington College have now been resolved and the outlook is very good for the future. If anyone has any queries you can contact our GTC liaison officer, Jeff Mills or David Golding at the GTC.

At our recent meeting at Trethorne Golf Club on Tuesday, June 17, a presentation was made to mark the retirement of Paul Bullen, of Newquay Golf Club. Paul has been at Newquay for 42 years and has been an ardent supporter of the Devon and Cornwall Section since 1981. Paul was presented with an engraved claret jug from the Section and a petrol strimmer from the Section and trade companies. The Section would like to wish Paul a long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing him at our education/golf days.

Steve Evans



**South Wales**

Our summer tournament was played at Cardiff GC on June 20, the sponsors of the day was RS Bird's and it was good to see Heather and Steve (cliffy), who attended the meal and presentation. Winner of the Birdie cup was Peter (Tiger) Lacey; 2. Richard Pattison; 3. Emyr Lewis. Nearest the Pin prizes went to Adrian Panks, Russell Anderson, and Phil Thomas. Longest Drive went to Peter Holstrom.

Our thanks go to all at Cardiff GC for a very enjoyable day, especially Russell and his staff for the first class preparation of the course, and to the caterers for an equally good meal. Thanks again to Birds for sponsoring the day.

On Saturday, June 28 I attended Pencoed College open day, along with Dave Ward and Julian Bartlett Jones. We took over one of the classrooms and set up the BIGGA boards in the hope of attracting some interest from students and passers by. Although we were not particularly busy some people did pop in for a chat and were made aware of BIGGA and the South Wales Section.

Adrian Panks

## Around the Green



**SOUTH EAST**  
Derek Farrington  
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### Kent

On my travels, I can see that everyone is well into their summer maintenance programme. Most of you are busy preparing for competitions and battling the elements to produce a course that will meet the expectations of the ever demanding golfers!

On the news front, Lee Sayers has moved from The London Golf Club to take up the position of Course Manager at Mid Kent Golf Club. The Section wishes you well at your new club.

I must congratulate Melvyn Tassell, Deputy Head at Sittingbourne Golf Club on the successful completion of his NVQ Level 3 at Hadlow College, well done.

Now a momentous achievement. Terry Lord, Deputy Head at Westerham GC, has finally passed his NVQ Level 3 at Plumpton College. As anyone that knows Terry will tell you, he has been studying for a long time. Not only did he pass, Terry has been awarded The Cup and Tankard that is sponsored by the Sussex Golf Union for his achievements.

Please don't forget that the Kent Section's next golf day is on August 21. This is the guest day and will be held at Lydd Golf Club.

If anyone has any other news, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Phil Belton



### East Anglia

Here we are again then Happy New Year, 70+ turned up at Bury St Edmunds Golf Club. This time we had some posh Nomads with us as it was Greenkeeper Captain Competition played in the usual jolly manner on a very well presented course. Thanks to Steve Millard and his crew. The winners were: Bob Boyce and Tony Harvers with a combined score of 70 points. The rest were as follows: 0-9. 1. Nick Brewster, 40 pts; 2. Mike Virley, 38 pts; 3. Bob Barnes, 33 pts. 10-18 1. Kevin Hodges, 35 pts; 2. Sam Sylvester, 29 pts; 3. Glen Rayfield, 29 pts. 19-28 1. Chris Murphy, 35 pts; 2. Martin Mison, 31 pts; 3. Keith Titshaw, 30 pts. Trade. 1. Tony Harvers, 39 pts; 2. Gary Turner, 37 pts; 3. Mark Day, 34 pts. Longest Drive. Chris Murphy. Nearest The Pin - 8' 4" (if you want metric I'm not the one to ask) Geoff Holmes. Then came the loo seat bringing up the rear, as it were, which was won and not forgotten by Richard Fulford. He did actually forget the hole-in-one prize, which was a workman's twister. He did however travel a considerable distance to go and get it and for that noble act we won't mention his score (which was four points). All the prizes were presented by Jim Cole, the Club Chairman, and donated by Toro and Lely UK.

Seoul Nassau (Mike Fance gave me his card I hope it's not a rude word), Norfolk Turf Machinery, Bartram Mowers, Rigby Taylor, Rushbrooks, C.M.W., Atherton and ELS Consultant Clarkson and anyone else who knows me. I must admit I lost the list of sponsors and apologise for anyone missed out. As my probation officer used to say "Try harder next time" (Sorry). It was good to see Lyndon Upham the Wesley Wizard after a few years of absence. His golf was not effected by the break, he's still naff. But he did win the raffle. And finally (nearly) contrary to popular belief Mark

Day is not pregnant but his wife gave birth to a bouncing baby girl who weighed 6lbs 10 oz. (No metric) whose name is Christina, Ah ain't that nice. Congratulations to them all. Did Mark and Larry drink from the same tap? I ask myself. That's nearly all folks except to thank you, Bury St Edmunds Golf Club, for a super day and Kevin Leech for the halfway house pub. To all the cockneys everywhere "Cheers mate".

Mick Lathrope



### Essex

Well here we are August already. Wimbledon and The Open have been and gone with a new football season starting early for the first time for some teams (especially for those West Ham supporters).

Time also to catch up on Section events. First back in April we held our Spring Tournament and a belated thank you to the following:- Benton Hall GC, Scott Clark the General Manager and his staff; Graeme Gallimore and his Green staff and our main sponsor Vitax and Joe Crawley. Also for his personal input Craig Brisley. Overall winner on the day was James Morgan.

Despite the windy conditions there were some excellent scores with our representatives at this year's National Championship coming from Channels GC, Dominic Rodgers best gross and Ray Clark best nett.

The main sponsors for the day were Tacit and a big thank you to Tim Webb and Mark Day for providing the prizes. Our thanks also to Bishops Stortford GC, Barry Collins the Club Secretary, their staff, Keith Rowley, the Course Manager and his team for having the course in excellent condition despite a difficult season.

Overall Mick Dillaway, Nett 70; Cat 1 1. Richard Hare, 72; 2. Anthony Kirwin, 73; 3. Steve Crosdale, 75. Cat 2 1. Martin Forrester, 74; 2. Mark Stopps, 75; 3. Martin Guy, 76. Trade. Richard Lewis, 73. Nearest The Pin. Ray Clark. Longest Drive. Ian Denny

We would also like to thank the following trade for donating raffle prizes: - Banks Amenity, Collier Turf Care, Driving Force Leisure, Gem, Rigby Taylor, Tuckwells and Sheriff Amenity Services.

Enjoy your summer holidays.

Martin Forrester



### Surrey

With hot sunny weather sprinkled here and there with warm showers it must be that summer has arrived and the majority of greenkeepers that I have met over the past weeks are the happiest that I have seen them for a long time. I use the word majority because there are always exceptions and in this case it was Paul Weston. Paul's team must have worked hard at this year's venue for the Surrey Section's Summer Tournament to get The Drift Golf Club in such an excellent condition. The whole course was beautifully manicured and with fast and true greens it was a pleasure to be among the 45 members who turned out. Mark Bellamy, Head Greenkeeper at The Drift, told me that Paul had been practising every day over the past weeks and was expecting to copy Derek Cunliffe's home win at Old Thorns Golf Club the previous month.

Unfortunately it was not to be and after the game I spoke to one of Paul's threeball, Pete Broadbent, who informed me that although Paul was playing well enough as soon as the electrical storm reached the area Paul's compass went haywire and it was not until the prize giving was over that he managed to find his way back to the clubhouse. We all thank Ted Styles for volunteering to head the search party but by the time a new compass was found, Paul had followed the sounds of clapping and arrived back safely just in time for dessert. Hard luck Paul but good luck to the winners.

1. Tony Bremer, Dorking GC, 40 pts; 2. Paul Bacon, Petersfield GC, 40 pts; 3. Brian Willmott, Tacit, 38 pts. Nearest the Pin, Nigel Colley, Roehampton GC. Longest Drive. John Mathis, Southwood GC. Sponsors for the day were Gem International and we thank them for the very good quality prizes.

The next golf competition is the McMillan Tankard at Sunningdale on August 6 followed, on September 25, at Richmond Golf Club.

Please let me know of any news for the congratulation paragraph and as this month it is empty I would like to give a personal Thank You to Tony Worsfold RAC GC for his expert driving skills when chauffeuring my youngest daughter, Celia, and my new son-in-law Peter on a tour of Epsom Downs after their marriage on June 21.

Brian Willmott