

39 • place went to David Low (Northamptonshire) with 70/68 = 138.

Our thanks must go to Gerry Healy for the time and hard work he obviously put into the course to prepare it so well. Gerry has only been at The Bedfordshire for a relatively short time, but the improvements are there for all to see.

Our thanks also to the Club for an enjoyable day – we were only sorry that the captain, secretary and green chairman were unable to participate in the golf competition and subsequent social event.

Full details of the spraying course (which I mentioned last month) can be obtained from Martin Lay of St. Neots GC. Please 'phone Martin at the Club between 10.00 am and 10.30 am, on 0480 472363 if you are interested. It will be a three day course on PA1, PA2(A) and PA6(A) with testing immediately after the training. The cost is £195 per person plus VAT. Test fees are PA1: £30.00, PA2(A) & PA6(A): £50.00.

David Murphy, territory sales manager for StaBrite Supplies, recently underwent a kidney operation. I am sure everyone will be wishing David a successful convalescence and return to work!

The Iseki Regional final was held on July 17th at Brockton Hall GC. Unfortunately we lost some of our qualifiers, who went to The Open at Muirfield instead. Alan Grew from Berkhamsted and Brian Piggot from Buckingham qualified for the national final later in the year. Our team came an overall second.

The Autumn Tournament will be held at Woburn G&CC on Oct. 27th. If anyone needs an entry form please contact Chris Brook on 0462 442488 or Paul Lockett on 0525 402550 - we will be happy to send these to you.

PAUL LOCKETT

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

Once again it is time to think of a trip to the arctic North. If you haven't received a booking form yet, you soon will. I refer to your invitation to join us for a trip to the 1993 BTME at Harrogate. Apart from the exhibition itself, the extensive seminar programme promises to be highly educational, offering something of interest for everyone.

We want your support for this major event in the BIGGA calendar and know that if more greenkeepers join us, there will be more able-bodied to push the coach if necessary! Seriously, we promise that no one in January 1993 will suffer the hypothermia inducing conditions which prevailed last January. Far from it, for an inner glow can be achieved and the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting BIGGA, learning your trade, and enjoying the camaraderie is really well worth while. Those who were brave enough to venture forth last year will, we know, be amongst the first in the queue to meet the challenge once again. Contact me, Gordon Child, on 0803 844056 for details.

GORDON CHILD

DEVON & CORNWALL

Once again autumnal activities in the 'new' season are upon us, with the first meeting being held at Dawlish Warren Golf Club on Wednesday 14th Oct. Please make sure you send your entries back to me by the closing date, as meals have to be booked well in advance. As you will be representing our profession at each meeting,

AROUND THE GREEN



please make sure you keep up your standard of



RICHARD WHYMAN

dress as previously: jackets and ties worn at lunch, no jeans to be worn at all – ever! I look forward to meeting old friends and hopefully creating many new ones throughout the year.

NORTH EAST

July 22nd saw the annual battle between secretaries and greenkeepers at Whickham GC, the event going in favour of the greenkeepers, who won by 4-2. The NE section would like to thank Mr Arnie Evans for kindly donating a salver and presenting this to the winning team – this fine trophy will be played for annually.

Our Autumn Competition will be held at Stocksfield GC on Sept 10th. Though this issue of Greenkeeper International is unlikely to reach you before the event, I will list some changes: The format, usually 27 holes, changes to a nine hole (optional) sweep a.m., followed by 18 holes (drawn) stroke play. Arrive early, say 9.30-10.00am.

Stewarts of Edinburgh have kindly asked us to visit their turf nurseries in the autumn. Transport will be arranged and the date will be at the end of October – beginning of November. Interested participants should discuss this with Stewarts rep. at the Stocksfield GC event.

The match against SE Scotland will again be held at Goswick, with the date yet to be arranged.

Congratulations to Tony McLure, assistant greenkeeper at Whickham GC, on winning the Durham County Stroke Play Championship. Also to Craig Kilgour, assistant greenkeeper at Ponteland GC, on retaining the Durham County Matchplay Championship.

Iseki qualifiers for the North East did us proud again at the regional finals at Bury GC. Steve Cram and Robert Bell, both of Slaley Hall G&CC, qualified for the final, as did Michael Gunn of Tyneside GC – Good luck, lads!

JIMMY RICHARDSON

NORTH WALES

To all section members I would like to say how disappointed I am at the response (or lack of it) to my call for information to put in the magazine. Members must realise that without such information it is very difficult to write reports – so please call me with any news, no matter how insignificant.

On a lighter note, congratulations to Caerwys GC on the opening of their new clubhouse and to Mr. K. Burt at Wrexham GC for the excellent condition of the course for the Welsh Boys Championship.

A date to put in your diary is Oct. 14th for our Autumn Golf Tournament at Chirk G&CC. Application forms will be available nearer the time from Terry Adamson.

Best wishes go to Jason Moody on his move from Royal St David's to first assistant at Chirk G&CC

Royal St. David's played host to a true professional indeed when Nigel Mansell and an R.St.D. member played a four ball better ball against Roger and John Kerry in a most competitive match. I think Roger and John must have given Nigel a few tips on how to drive, for he went on to win the British Grand Prix at Silverstone (Nice one lads).

DAVID PROCTOR

EAST SCOTLAND

This month's congratulations must go to Chris Whittle and his staff for the excellent condition of Muirfield, the venue for the Open Championship – it certainly was a credit to them. However Chris, I certainly wouldn't want the task of clearing up. It would break my heart to see so many people trudging over my course and leaving the debris that some of the punters left behind. It was my pleasure to have met you, Chris, and I hope to see you again shortly.

This was the first Open I have attended for many years, due to my being on holiday at this time – but it will not be my last. My eyes were certainly opened by the work and organisation of the BIGGA board and magazine committee, the office staff and members of BIGGA. Neil Thomas and his staff do a great job of flying the flag for the British greenkeeper.

It was so nice to meet people socially for the first time: Neil Thomas and the girls from head office; David Golding; David White; Bill Lynch; chairman Roy Kates and his family... Yes – you may bet I will return next year.

The BIGGA National Golf Tournament in 1993 will be held at Dunbar GC from Aug. 1st-4th and it is hoped that a large attendance will come from the section. Graham Wood, Stuart Greenwood and myself met Neil and David Golding prior to The Open and all arrangements were made.

Our grateful thanks go to Agnes Greenwood for all her help in organising hotels; visits for the ladies, etc. I will be contacting Agnes again shortly to finalise everything.

The annual Committee Match was held over North Berwick GC and was again sponsored by Scottish Grass Machinery, formerly Frew & Co. – our grateful thanks as always go to them. Thanks also to North Berwick GC and especially to course manager Stuart Greenwood for the first class condition of the course. The Winner of the E Holt Memorial Trophy was Peter Ormiston of Uphall GC. If I might make a suggestion, it is that Jim Neilson should swap his clubs for a fishing rod – he was in the burn so many times! However, it was a good laugh.

By the time this report appears the Willie Wood Tournament will be over, having been played at Swanston GC on Aug 6th, bringing together greenkeepers and Club officials.

The Autumn Tournament will be held at Newbattle on Sept 22nd, a very popular course which should attract a big entry.

The AGM will be held at Kingsknowe on Nov 25th, with Sports Turf Services as our sponsors.

Don't forget your tickets for the annual dance to be held on Friday December 4th at Turnhouse. Tickets are on sale now and the limit is 120.

Winter lectures are in hand and it is hoped that they will be well attended. A full list will be in your hands very shortly.

WILLIE BLAIR



KENT

Not a great deal of joy for the Kent representatives at the Iseki regional qualifying round at Chelmsford, with a good performance from Nigel Stapley of Darent Valley being our only member qualifying through to the final at Coventry. However, we all enjoyed the day, the course was in cracking order and I think we were all rather envious of the superb fescue approaches, aprons and fairways. We picked up a couple of raffle prizes and in general I don't think any of us played too badly. It was also nice to see some familiar faces amongst our greenkeeping colleagues in other sections and have a good chin wag. We also failed to pick up the team prize, the criteria being a pick of 11 best scores from 12. This went to the Mid Anglia section.

The evening meal was very welcome and enjoyable indeed and many thanks for the organisation and enjoyment of the day go to Iseki.

I personally enjoyed playing in the company of Simon Marsh and Sam Sylvester, the main topics of conversation being the numerous new golfing developments under construction and the demise of the many 'luxury' and 'championship' developments in our respective areas.

We also talked of the ever spiralling advances in club and (especially) golf ball technology that appear to threaten the basis of the traditional game of golf. Not only do we see continued attempts at many old championship courses to build new tees further and further back to try to accommodate mighty hitting, but also new courses being built of 7,000 yards plus. Does Joe Average really want a five hour slog?

I read recently that the new Heaven course boasts the longest par 5 in Europe at over 600 yards. Let us just hope that some of the other holes provide a fair and interesting tactical challenge of skill to players of all abilities. I have to admit that I cannot keep pace with all the new golfing developments in Kent and I am sure that there are a great many new green-



keeper members working at these developments, so why not let us know who is doing what and where, and I will be glad to put it in this section report and let the rest of Kent know.

PAUL COPSEY

SOUTH COAST

Little news of Association members has come my way so just a reminder regarding our Autumn Tournament: Venue Bulbury Woods Golf Club, Lytchett Matravers, Nr. Poole, Dorset. Date Monday 5 Oct. Format AM 18 hole Foursome PM 18 hole Greensome. Each member is requested to bring along either a non-greenkeeper amateur partner from their club, or a fellow greenkeeper from another club. Fee: £14.00 per person. Closing date: 25 Sept.

Applications to play with handicap details and fee to - Joe Burdett, 23 Jacobs Ladder, Child Okeford, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 8EA.

Fixture cards listing all section and regional events for 1993 are available upon request. Please let me hear from you so that you can

DON'T MISS OUT

There has been a fantastic response to the new Greenkeepers Training Committee Training Manual, announced last issue. Enquiries and orders have been pouring in for the 120-page, personal organiser. For details, turn to Page 59.

AROUND THE GREEN



fully participate in your Association's activities.

One event which is very worthy of your support and attendance is the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate on 18-22 Jan. 1993. Gordon Child is arranging a package deal for members to attend from our region. The total cost of return transport, 3 nights bed and breakfast, plus passes to all seminar sessions and exhibition is £99.00. Please support this venture (which is subsidised by the region) by completing an application form - obtainable from either myself or Gordon.

BOB DENNIS

MIDLAND REGION

Brocton Hall GC., Stafford, was the venue for the Iseki Regional Final, held on Thursday 16th July. Graeme Patrick, our regional chairman, thanked the captain and committee of Brocton Hall for giving us courtesy of their course and for the hospitality that was shown to us, Eddie Denton, head greenkeeper and his staff for a course well prepared and in a most excellent condition, and the catering staff for a meal that was second to none. Cath and Grace also received thanks for their sterling work in doing the cards/raffle etc. Tony Snaith of Iseki presented the winners with their prizes, the team prize going for the second year running to the East Midland Section.

Results: Category 1: 1st. M.Finney EOE 75-7=68. 2nd. C.A.Macdonald EOE 72-4=68 3rd. R.Allen EM 76-7=69. Reserve M.Hughes M 73-4=69. Category 2: 1st. S.Goode EM 77-12=65. 2nd. A.Grew MA 78-10=68. 3rd. D.Childs BBO 83-15=68. Reserve M.Wood EOE 81-11=70. Category 3: 1st. I.Dunmore EM 92-28=64. 2nd. D.Piggott MA 91-20=71. 3rd. K.Hodges EOE 95-23=72. Reserve J.Cassidy 91-19=72.

Best of luck to all our regional winners in the National Iseki Final to be held at the Coventry Golf Club on September 24th.

ROGER WILLIAMS

LONDON

The London section held its second competition of the year at Wyke Green GC on June 2nd. Thanks to John and his team for preparing the course for us and to Wyke Green GC for allowing us to play. The winner was John Jackson of Wanstead GC with 41 points off a handicap of 4 -some score! Runner-up was Steve Paterson of Abridge GC with 37 points off 17 handicap.

Competition number three was held at Panshanger GC on July 7th, the winner being Mick Sherris of Muswell Hill with runner-up Richard Dunne of Mill Hill GC. Both players scored nett 71's but Mick snatched victory courtesy of a better back nine.

Apologies to all members for the entry form mix-up for this event - those who played enjoyed the afternoon and found the course really enjoyable. Thanks to all at Panshanger GC for making us so welcome.

The South East regional Iseki final was played at Chelmsford GC on July 2nd with 12

players representing the London section. The course proved to be a real test for the players and two players qualified for the national final. John Jackson of Wanstead GC and Norman Exley of Northwood GC - Best of luck to them both in the final.

A few movements around the section, with Chris Carpenter moving from Porters Park to take up his first head post at Brookmans Park. Don Wilson takes over at Dyrham Park and Douglas Smith moves from Wanstead to become head greenkeeper at Thorpe Hall. Good luck in your new positions.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

SOUTH WALES

On July 2nd we held our annual competition for the Birdie Cup at Southerndown GC. The course was in good condition, especially when taking account of the dry conditions prevailing before the event and the fact that Southerndown's irrigation system had been 'playing up'. I'm sure quite a few of us know all about that problem - with irrigation systems being what they are: working one minute - broken the next!

The competition was played by twenty greenkeepers, which was a low turn-out - perhaps some of those missing were still trying to get their irrigation systems working! Nevertheless, it was good to see some new faces and we should all keep encouraging greenkeepers to join the Association.

Results/awards/donated by etc.: The Birdie Cup- P Lloyd (Tredegar Pk) Nett 71 on countback - Hip flask/Birds of Cowbridge. Low gross: H Morgan (Southerndown) 86 - Tankard/Gem Professional. Other nett scores /awards: 2nd Price (Maesteg GC) 71 - The John Duncan Cup & Hip flask/Birds of Cowbridge. 3rd M Davis (Cradoc GC) 74 on countback - Hip flask/Birds. 4th P Swain (Tredegar Park) 74 Brollie/I.C.I.

Thanks must be given to the captain and members of Southerndown GC for allowing us courtesy of their course and clubhouse, also to Huw Morgan and his staff for the course preparation and the caterers for supplying delicious food that satisfied our healthy appetites. In addition, my sincere thanks to Roger and Jeffery Bird for sponsoring the event and donating the wine (drunk by one and all) during our evening meal.

Mr Roger Bird presented prizes to the victorious winners, this being followed by a successful raffle which did much to swell our section funds and supporting educational and other section expenses. My thanks to all those who donated gifts to the table.

The recent match Greenkeepers v Secretaries, also held at Southerndown, resulted once again in a draw. My thanks to all players.

I recently heard that one of our longest serving members, Henry Fry, had undergone surgery, though he is now at home and well 'on the mend'. On behalf of all members, may I wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he may be fit enough to join us at our next meeting, which is at St Mary's GC on Sept 9th - details will be sent out by mail.

PHIL SWAIN

NORTH SCOTLAND

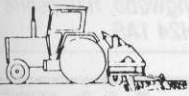
Five North members were in the greenkeeper support team at The Open this year: Gordon Moir, Gordon McKie, Paul Murphy, Eric Pickard and myself. A hectic week of long days and short nights ensued and a good time was had by all, I'm sure - roll on Sandwich

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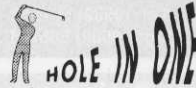


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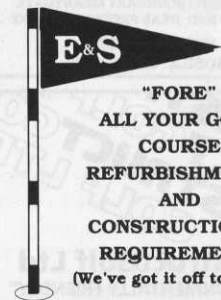
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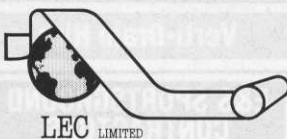


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require a

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52 ■ 1993. Gordon McKie even managed to get his photograph in the 'Independent'. We await the signed versions for general release!

We welcome four new members to the section: Thane Lawrie - Aberdeen, David Scott - Westhill, Colin Burgess - Moray District Council and Alistair Angus - Elgin. Older members should remember Alistair, who was a regular to section outings before we he left greenkeeping. It's good to see him back in his old job at Elgin Golf Club.

I'm sure members are united in wishing Jim McCormack of Kirriemuir a speedy recovery from his accident.

Our autumn outing will be at Kingussie this month and I hope to see a big turnout. Mike Wilson is head greenkeeper and we look forward to meeting him and playing his course. See you all there.

IAIN MACLEOD

CLEVELAND

Belated congratulations to Roger Shaw and his wife on the birth of a son, now five months old.

The annual friendly match between the Eaglescliffe green committee and greenkeepers took place at Eaglescliffe recently. Thanks to all who made the evening game a success, also to Messrs G Munro; I Holoran; B Burnell; S Carroll; N Hamilton; N Dawson; D Cook and J Webster in representing Cleveland BIGGA. The result was a glorious draw.

Our autumn tournament is being arranged for late September and details will be available (via newsletter) from Roger.

I am sorry to inform members that Gordon White, ex head greenkeeper at Castle Eden GC, has died. We are sorry to lose an old friend.

Brian Hull is the newly appointed head greenkeeper at a new course at Bretton, near Saltburn in E. Cleveland. Congratulations Brian and welcome to this area.

BRUCE BURNELL

CENTRAL SCOTLAND

Your committee are in the process of arranging events for the autumn/winter period - what ever happened to summer? Some suggestions put forward include a return visit to the Monarch course at Gleneagles and a visit to Souters Sportsturf at Stirling. It is hoped to include a lecture or demonstration at each of these events.

Dates confirmed are: Thursday Oct 8 - The Autumn Tournament at Kinross GC, courtesy of the Kinross Estate Co. Thursday Nov 26 - section AGM and SISIS demonstration at Alloa GC. Friday Dec 4 - The grand prize draw dinner at Stirling GC, with guest speaker Mr Ernie Walker.

Tickets for the grand prize draw will be circulated shortly and it is hoped that members will make every effort to sell their allocation. Tickets will also be available for the dinner in December, so if you wish to attend please get your order in quickly. Full details of all events will be circulated in due course.

Having attended the Scottish Tournament at Kingsknowe and The Open, it was heartening to see a number of section members taking part in both events - well done lads!

Win a trip to BTME at Harrogate: All Central Scotland section assistants and apprentices will soon receive details of a questionnaire/short essay paper which they will be asked to complete - there's no obligation and it's up to the individual - with an award in each category

AROUND THE GREEN



being an expenses paid trip to BTME, Harrogate in Jan 1993 - sorry lads, the 'expenses' do not include beer or entertainment money!

Remember that points for your MGC award can be gained by attending section education events.

Membership: section membership has now topped the 150 mark, which is very encouraging; though there are still a great many greenkeepers in our area who are not members - they don't know what they are missing - so if you know any of them, try to encourage their attendance at some of our events and let them see at first hand the benefits to be gained from being a BIGGA member.

Who wants fifty greenkeepers for a day? Venues are being sought for future section outings in April and October each year. If anyone is willing to accommodate 40/50 greenkeepers 'on the staff' for a day, please get in touch.



The section are now proud owners of a plaque presented by headquarters in recognition of our £200 donation to the Education and Development Fund.

JOHN CRAWFORD

EAST MIDLANDS

I am pleased to report that the East Midlands team has once again enjoyed success in the ISEKI competition. In the regional final held at Brocton Hall on July 16, our 11-man squad was successful in carrying off the team prize, with Steve Goode and Ian Dunmore both winning their categories and Russell Allen finishing a creditable third in the top category. Congratulations to all the team. I am expecting another interesting competition to see who keeps the shield.

Walter Cole tells me that he has lost one of his rising stars, so good luck to Steve Tolley in his new position at the Seagrave development.

It has been my pleasure every time I have written for 'Around The Green' to welcome new members, and this month is no exception. So, welcome to Barry Kiline of Notts Golf Club. If I have missed anybody out this year please accept my apologies. So as not to be seen to be painting too rosy a picture I must also advise that we have lost a few. To all those, doubtless reading a borrowed copy of this magazine, can I beg you to reconsider? The new half year subscription rates are very reasonable.

TONY HOWORTH

SUSSEX

Our third outing took us to Brighton for a visit to the Dyke GC. The weather was dry but extremely windy, which made play pretty difficult to say the least. Most of the time was spent looking at more woody areas of the golf course!

Anyway, the course was in good condition and very well presented considering the lack of rainfall of late. Well done to Dave Ranger and his staff.

The competition consisted of two 18 hole Sta-belford's the morning round sponsored by Farmura, the afternoon by Thameside Soils. The results were: AM - 1st Stuart Shelford (Isfield) 40, 2nd Peter Ray (Haywards Heath) 39, 3rd George Barr (Ham Manor) 37. Trad & Guests - Chris Meldrum 36, Gary Ogilvie 34. PM - 1st Duncan Haste (E. Brighton) 35, 2nd Chris Reed (Paxhill Park) 33 (on countback), 3rd Mike Butrymowicz (Lingfield Park) 33.

We also held two further competitions longest drive, won by Dyke greenkeeper, Robert Hudson (he obviously knew all the fairway contours) and nearest the pin, won by David Cole. He, incidentally, was the only player to actually find the green! Peter Ray thought the nearest pin was on the fifth and promptly sunk a hole-in-one! The day finished with a superb four-course dinner and prize giving. Our thanks to the caterers and Dyke GC for their hospitality.

Other news: Peter Ray qualified for the Iseki finals and we wish him luck - his prize from us was immediate election to the Sussex committee. Due to an extra workload as head greenkeeper at the newly constructed Welbourne GC, Les Shrubbs has found it necessary to stand down from committee and George Barr has succeeded him as chairman.

One final note: our next meeting will be at Bognor GC on Sept 30. All applications must be accompanied by payment - no payment, no entry!

We also need to stimulate larger turn-outs for our golf meetings, so more new faces please. For those regulars, why not chivvy-up your staff and get them to come along - it is in all of our long-term interests to keep the section thriving.

MARK WILTON

COMING UP

September 8th-10th: IOG Trade Exhibition - Peterborough, Northants

September 22nd-24th: Leisure Industry Week - NEC, Birmingham

September 24th: ISEKI Championships Final - Coventry GC, Warwickshire

October 12th: TORO/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award - Aldwark Manor, York

October 14th: BIGGA Northern Region Seminar - Askham Bryan College

October 14th-15th: KUBOTA Challenge - The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire

October 16th: BIGGA Northern Region Seminar, Reaseheath College

October 19th-November 27th: BIGGA Management Courses (six weeks) - Aldwark Manor, York

November 2nd: BIGGA South East Region Seminar - Colchester Centre, Essex

November 3rd: BIGGA South West Region Seminar - Cannington College

November 11th-12th: IOG Scotsturf Trade Exhibition, Edinburgh, Scotland

November 12th-14th: Golf Course Europe '92 Show - Monte Carlo, France

November 24th-26th: Golf International 2000 - Sandown Park, Esher, Surrey

November 25: BIGGA Midlands Region Seminar - Warwickshire College

November 27: BIGGA North Scotland Section Conference - Dundee College

December 7: ICI Professional Products Premier Greenkeeper Award: Finals - Aldwark Manor, York