

Easing the burden

As many readers are aware, Neil Baldwin has recently entered the world of industry to continue his work on turfgrass diseases from a commercial viewpoint. Whilst Neil was a regular writer for *Greenkeeper International* in the past, this is the first in a series of articles in which he describes current research and development in industry on products to combat turfgrass diseases.

During the winter months, two principal diseases of fine turf may cause particular problems for the greenkeeper. These are fusarium patch and anthracnose, both primarily diseases of *Poa annua*. In the earlier part of this century fusarium patch was described by the scientist who first discovered the disease and gave it its name as "the most common, most disfiguring and damaging disease in fine turf during the winter months." It is a measure of the endemic nature of fusarium patch that despite over 80 years of research and development, it is still the number one disease with which greenkeepers have to contend. The reason for this is that essentially fusarium patch is favoured by cool, wet conditions (ie. the British climate) and to which *Poa annua* is extremely prone to attack. As *Poa annua* is present in virtually all established fine turf, often comprising the major part of the sward, it is not surprising that the disease may cause severe problems.

In contrast to fusarium, anthracnose is a more recent problem. This disease was first seen on a cricket square in the 1950s and has become a problem on golf greens over the last few years. Anthracnose is favoured by low fertility, poor drainage and heavily worn, compacted surfaces. Given the low fertility programmes that are currently in fashion, the exceptional play and wear to which courses are subjected, and the ever present *Poa annua* which is highly susceptible to the disease, it is no surprise that anthracnose has given problems.

One feature of the 1993 season has been the high rainfall in most parts of the country for most of the season. Whereas fusarium patch and anthracnose are usually confined to the autumn, winter and early spring, disease attacks in this exceptionally wet year have occurred on many courses throughout the playing season. This is especially true on inland parkland courses, where greens are built in the traditional way and surface drainage has not been able to cope with the longer than normal rainfall patterns. One result of this has been the use of fungicides on a routine preventative basis in an attempt to combat both diseases. Whilst preventative spraying is not normally recommended, this season has proved an exception to the rule and good results have generally been produced in this way. In the UK, greenkeeping is perhaps 10 years

behind agriculture in the range availability of effective modern fungicides, though this situation has changed slightly and 1993 saw the introduction of fenarimol for control of fusarium patch, red thread and dollar spot diseases. This highly effective material has already seen widespread usage and won many favourable reports.

Currently several UK agrochemical companies are developing new fungicides for use on turfgrass. These experimental materials are highly effective at lower dose rates than those products currently available. In particular, certain new fungicides appear to have curative properties, ie. they can clear up established disease infestations, a property current fungicides lack. It is hoped the new fungicides will clear MAFF registration procedures in the next couple of years, for new and effective products are certainly needed.

In these environmentally conscious days, increasing attention has been focussed on non-chemical means of disease prevention and control. Whilst such methods are not intended as replacements for fungicides, recent research has shown that they can certainly reduce the incidence and severity of disease in fine turf situations.

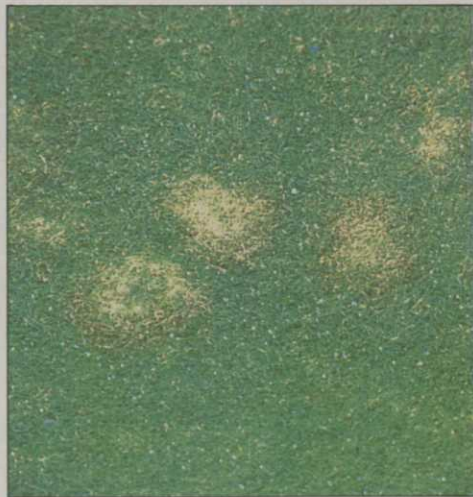
In the USA there has been several research studies on the potassium situation of turfgrass. Currently these requirements are usually determined by soil analysis, with adequate potassium applied as part of a fertiliser programme. However, when excessive potassium is applied, less disease and increased wear resistance has been observed. It is this observation that has led to current research on the dis-

ease implications of supplying excessive potassium. This hopefully could be incorporated into fertiliser programmes and therefore is of obvious interest to fertiliser manufacturers.

Another technique for disease prevention in the UK is the recent launch of cosmetic or green-up products, based on chelated iron and iron sulphate in combination with wetting agents. It is well known that iron sulphate, through its acidification properties, will inhibit fusarium patch. Now cosmetic treatments combine this effect with the dew dispersal properties of the wetting agent component and can therefore help prevent disease.

Another interesting advancement is the development by BIGGA of a disease identification manual, the most up-to-date available on the subject, which it is anticipated will be available in the new year.

In conclusion, there are several promising avenues of research in industry that aim to develop new treatments for turfgrass disease. Whilst progress in this area is never quick, it is hoped that new fungicides in particular will soon find their way to the greenkeeper.



Remote controllers are highly effective

Greenkeepers are finding the new remote version of the CIC range of controllers highly effective. The unit provides remote operation of the solenoid valve, avoiding the need to lift a valve box lid to operate the sprinklers manually. The CIC range has the facility to change the EPROM as new functions are available, for example the latest issue has the remote facility together with a global percentage key. The greenkeeper enters the 'remote' mode on the controller, then all decoders are active. By entering the decoder number, or entering 'OO' on the hand-held unit, if the decoder number is not known, the decoder will then be activated, which in turn operates the solenoid valve and sprinklers. Existing CIC systems can be upgraded by fitting of remote decoders - all CIC decoders are programmable and interchangeable between models. Details: 0858 463153.

SISIS on the up

Orders started flowing in almost as soon as the deal was done on SISIS Equipment's acquisition of the worldwide licence for Squier land clearers and beach cleaners.

Squier machines are used for stone removal prior to golf course construction, among other uses. They will now be produced by SISIS at their plant in Cheshire.

Two thirds of the Squier range is used in the landscape market. Call SISIS on 0625 503030 for details.

Contacts in north

Standard Golf (UK) Ltd and Envirogreen Ltd have announced Kingston Leisure Services Ltd as distributors and agents in the north east. Kingston are at Brunswick Industrial Estate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE13 7BA, or contact Standard Golf/Envirogreen on 091 217 0070 for advice and details.

Lindum Turf

Colour reproduction on the Lindum Seeded Turf advertisement was not up to our usual high standard on a limited number of copies of the November edition. We apologise to Lindum for any inconvenience or embarrassment caused.

GREENKEEPER

THE COLLEGES AND THE

The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of colleges offering greenkeeper training courses.

The directory shows colleges offering courses to craft, supervisory and management levels, but it must be stated that until the GTC review is completed only the green coded colleges are approved to train greenkeepers beyond craft level.

The introduction of vocational qualifications into industries, has caused the colleges

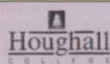
to re-think their training policies and the GTC will be issuing guidelines for the golf greenkeeping industry as to which colleges employers and their staff should be supporting.

Until the report is complete, anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF, telephone 0347 838640.

NORTH



ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 0904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2, City & Guilds Phase III and IV Greenkeeping.



HOUGHALL COLLEGE Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 091 386 1351. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture/Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship – 1 Year; National Diploma in Horticulture Turf Option – 2/3 years. *Part time courses:* Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management Level II – Day Release; C&G Phase III Enterprise Management – Afternoon Evening. *Short Courses:* Health & Safety Legislation; Turfcare; Machinery and Mechanisation. All courses contribute towards NVQ Levels I and II.



KIRKLEY HALL COLLEGE Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 0AQ. Contact Dr Ron McParlin. Tel: 0661 860808. NVQ Level II with greenkeeping option. Day release or block release – one to two years.



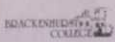
MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 0995 640611. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsground Management – 3 Years; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Turf Science and Technology – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; Phase III Supervisory Management; Phase IV Business Management; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTILA).



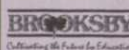
REASEHEATH COLLEGE Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF. Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 0270 625131. *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma in Horticulture (with Sports Turf Option) – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Landscape and Amenity Horticulture (with Sports Turf Option) – 2 Years (both subject to approval); BTEC Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management – 3 Years. *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 1 Greenkeeping – Day Release; NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day or Block Release; C&G Phase III Greenkeeping – Day or Block Release; C&G Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release; IOG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release; C&G Phase II Greenkeeping Machinery Maintenance – Block Release. *Short courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting and Manual Handling; Chainsaws, Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



CITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER Wythenshawe Park Centre, Moor Road, Manchester M23 9BQ. Contact Peter Riley/Martin Webb. Tel: 061 957 1526. Day Release and Full Time courses leading to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with the Greenkeeping option.



BRACKENHURST COLLEGE Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0QF. Contact Brian Osborne. Tel: 0636 812252. *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture; Nat Cert Horticulture, options in Greenkeeping & Sportsturf and Landscaping; BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture, options in Greenkeeping & Sportsturf, Landscape design, Woodland Management; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Landscaping. *Day Release and Short Courses:* NVQ levels 1-4. Technical, Supervisory and Management subjects. (Subject to approval/availability).



BROOKSBY COLLEGE Brooksby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Paul Greene. Tel: 0664 434291. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management. *Part time courses:* Day Release training to NVQ Level II in Amenity Horticulture – Greenkeeping option. The course is based around the GTC Training Manual. Short courses also available in Horticultural Machinery and Arboriculture.



BROOMFIELD COLLEGE Morley, Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 0332 831345. NVQ Level I and Level II Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping) Block Release course. Two years duration presented in 12 one-week blocks following guidelines of GTC Training Manual.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact David Haigh. Tel: 0223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences October 1994.



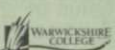
LINCOLNSHIRE COLLEGE Lincolnshire College of Agriculture, Caythorpe Court, Caythorpe, Grantham, Lincs. Contact Neil Rowbottom at Student Services. Tel: 0400 72521. Day Release NVQ Level II. NCH with Greenkeeping pending approval.



MOULTON COLLEGE Moulton, Northampton NN3 1RR. Contact Stuart Phillips. Tel: 0604 491131. *Full time courses:* BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with Turfcare Option) 2 Years; BTEC First Diploma in Horticulture with Turfcare Option, 1 year (subject to approval); BTEC First Diploma in Business and Finance with Horticulture Option, 1 year. *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture (Options include Turfcare (including GTC requirements), Hard landscaping, Interior landscaping and Arboriculture) – Day Release or Block Release; NVQ Level II Turfcare – Day Release. *Short courses:* Safe Lifting and Handling, Chain Saw Operation and Maintenance, Off-Road Vehicle Driving.



STAFFORDSHIRE COLLEGE Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 0785 712209. Courses offered: Craft Level NVQ Level I, II and III. Day Release. Duration: Over two years, each of weeks duration (September – June). Registration Date: Please contact the College.



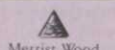
WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL. Contact Chris Gray. Tel: 0926 651367. *Greenkeeping courses:* NVQ Level I – Day Release; NVQ Level II – Day Release; NVQ Level II – Block Release; NVQ Level III/City & Guilds Phase II – Day Release; NVQ Level III/City & Guilds Phase II – Block Release. *New for 1993/94:* Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture with an option in Turf Culture (Subject to approval). *Professional updating courses include:* Groundsmanship, Machinery Maintenance and Repair, Managing Conservation Areas, Plant Identification, Hedgelaying, First Aid, FEPA Spraying Courses, Chainsaw Courses.



BRINSBURY COLLEGE North heath, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1DL. Contact Keith Harrison. Tel: 0798 873832. *Full time courses:* New Entrant to Greenkeeping Course – 36 weeks. NVQ II Greenkeeping option plus core. Approximately a third of the course is delivered on college's and local golf course. *Part time:* Day Release to NVQ II level. Both full time and part time students with work both to the NVQ II work book and the Greenkeeper manual. NVQ Level II (National Technical Certificate) with Inst. of Groundsmanship manual may be delivered as an evening course. At present Phase III is offered in Greenkeeping Supervision and Enterprise Management. As this qualification is phased out, NVQ III and IV will be offered. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management).



HADLOW COLLEGE Hadlow College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 0732 850551. NVQ Level II Part time Day Release over two years with two periods of Block Release. Short courses in Golf Greenkeeping and Horticulture.



MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE Worpleston, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact the Academic Registrar. Tel: 0483 232424. NVQ Levels I and II Amenity Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Specialism. Part time... one day per week for 30 weeks commencing in September.

MIDLANDS

SOUTH EAST

ER TRAINING

E COURSES AVAILABLE

GREENKEEPER

International

KEY TO COLOURS

Currently GTC approved as Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only

Please note that all college details on these pages were provided by the colleges themselves.

Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for accuracy of information provided.

Contact the colleges direct for prospectuses and comprehensive information.

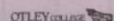
SOUTH EAST



NESCOT North East Surrey College of Technology, Reigate Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3DS. Contact Dr S Shaw. Tel: 081 394 3099/3111. NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options) Training and assessment for the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Part time, Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses.



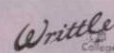
OAKLANDS COLLEGE Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 0727 850651. *Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management*: Two year part time, one day per week. Level II Year One leading to NVQ Level II. Level II Year Two leading to City & Guilds 022-4. *Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management* or NVQ Level II/III. *Amenity Horticulture and Greenkeeping Business Management*: Part time, one day per week. National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management: One year - full time. All courses commence September 1994.



OTLEY COLLEGE Otley College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact John Pearson. Tel: 0473 785543. *Full time courses*: National Certificate in Horticulture with options in Sports Turf Management. BTEC; GNVQ Level III. *Part time courses*: NVQ Levels I, II and III. Short Day and Evening courses.

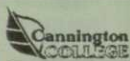


PLUMPTON COLLEGE Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 0273 890454. *Full time courses*: BTEC First Diploma (Greenkeeping Option). *Part time courses*: NVQ Level II - Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Sports Turf and Sportsground Maintenance - Block and Day Release; City & Guilds Phase III - Enterprise Management, Greenkeepers Supervision - Block and Day Release; City 7 Guilds Phase IV - Business Management - Day Release. NCH Full time with a greenkeeping bias. (Subject to approval).



WRITTLE COLLEGE Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 0245 420705. City & Guilds Golf Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management (Day Release); NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, Sports Turf, Sports Ground maintenance to include BIGGA Manual (Day Release); a Golf Course Management option is also included in full time three year HND landscape and Amenity Management Course. Courses for next academic year commence 4 October 1994.

SOUTH WEST



CANNINGTON COLLEGE Cannington Bridwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 0278 652226. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management (inc. European Studies). NVQ Level 1 and 2 Golf Greenkeeping. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management. NVQ Level 4 Greenkeeping Management. FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off Road Vehicle Certification, Golf Course Engineers Course.



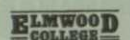
HARTPURY COLLEGE Hartpury House, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Contact Stefan Drew. Tel: 0452 700283. Fax: 0452 700629. Courses: NVQ I, II, III, IV. (part time). Higher National Diploma Land Use (Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management - 3 year sandwich (full-time)). All courses are September start.



SPARSHOLT COLLEGE Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Contact Bob Young. Tel: 0962 776441. *Full time courses*: National Diploma in Golf Course & Sportsground Management (3 Years); National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sportsground Management. *Part time - further training*: Level/Phase III and IV Courses. Short courses: ie. Sprayer Legislation, First Aid and Chainsaw Use. *Part time - New Entrant and Craft Level*: Level I: New Entrant, Level II: Craft Continuation. *Greenkeeper Training Committee - Manual*: All courses, according to the appropriate Level, will encompass the demands and requirements of the GTC Manual.



DUNDEE COLLEGE Old Glamis Road, Dundee DD3 8LE. Contact Graham Carr. Tel: 0382 819021. Fax: 0382 88117. Courses offered: SVQ Units at Levels I and II linked with GTC Training Manual. SCOTVEC National Certificate Modules for Greenkeeping. HNC in Golf Course Management (available as Distance/Flexible learning from September 1994) Duration 36 weeks from September each year. Attendance, Block Release and Day Release. Short courses including Use of Pesticides available on demand. Registration: June and August.



ELMWOOD COLLEGE Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 0334 52781. Fax: 0334 56795. SVQ Levels I and II, block release. National Certificate in Greenkeeping: available on a 3 year block release and full time course. Six week specialist modular programme including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures in the winter. National Certificate in Supervisory Skills: available as a distance learning course with one week at College. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management: available as full time, day release and distance learning. Progression into the Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management from September '94.



KYLE AND CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL Burns House, Burns Statue Square, Ayr KA7 1UT. Contact J Dudgeon. Tel: 0292 281511. SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping - Day Release up to three years. Students can enrol at any time.



LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 041 647 6300. SCOTVEC National Certificate - 3 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



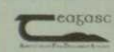
OATRIDGE COLLEGE Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 0506 854387. *Full and part time courses*: Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Greenkeeping; National Certificate Modular and Scottish Vocational Qualification Level I and II. National Certificate in Hort. Machinery. Short specialist courses - including safe use of chemicals, operation of greenkeeping machinery.

Northern Ireland



GREENMOUNT COLLEGE Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Antrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Geoff Jenkins. Tel: 08494 62114. Day Release course in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. Two Year course leading to NVQ and Certificate in Greenkeeping for those completing additional working practices as specified by the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Course runs from September-May.

EIRE



TEAGASC COLLEGE Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 0103531 371 636. Phase II Greenkeeping - Block Release two weeks, three times per year. Phase III Greenkeeping - Block Release, one week, three times per year.

WALES



PENCOED COLLEGE Pencoed, Mid Glamorgan CF35 5LG. Contact Peter Gillard or Richard Browning. Tel: 0656 860202. Day Release courses in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf at Introductory, Technician, Supervisory and Management Levels, incorporating the Training Manual of the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

A BIGGA Thank you



**BIGGA
GOLDEN KEY
and SILVER KEY
CIRCLES**

...to the following
companies, in recognition of
their continued support for
the Greenkeeper Education
and Development Fund



Professional Products

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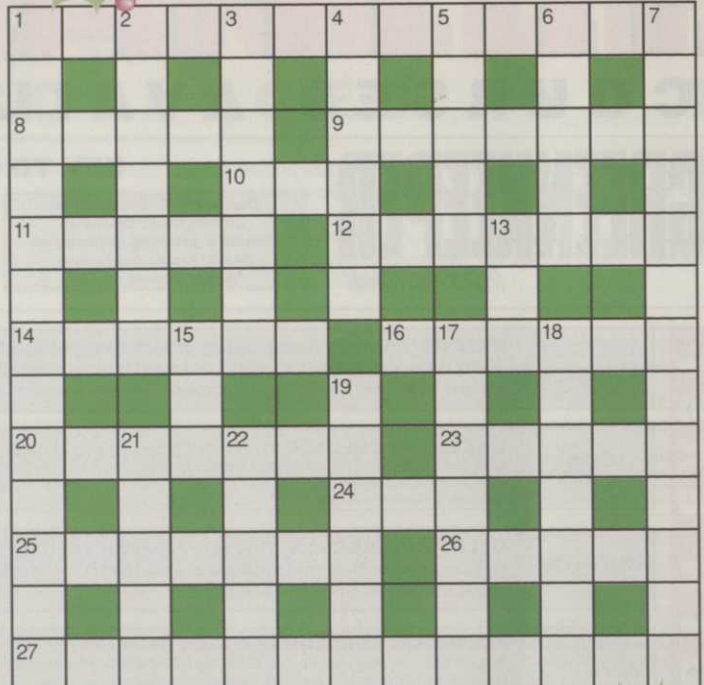


Together, we're building a
great future for golf club,
greenkeeper and game

For details of how you can support the
Education and Development Fund,
Contact BIGGA at Aldwark Manor,
Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF.
Telephone: 0347 838581 Fax: 0347 838864



GREENKEEPER'S CROSSWORD



Compiled by Mark G Smith

WIN A BIGGA BLAZER OR £50 IN CASH!

CLUES ACROSS

- 1 A round of golf (8, 5)
- 8 Surname of the 1989 US Masters champion (5)
- 9 What a clutch does when converting engine power to drive (7)
- 10 Receptacle for parts or garbage (3)
- 12 Where the final drive is played from (4, 3)
- 14 See 5 down
- 16 Western phenomena near closing time of course (6)
- 20 Try for a birdie (7)
- 23 _____ William (L. Dianthus Barbatus) (5)
- 24 To putrefy or decay, as in grass clippings (3)
- 25 Latin generic term for the Broom family of shrubs (7)
- 26 _____ Acids, chemicals compounds basic to all proteins (5)
- 27 Inter club golf competition without reference to handicaps (7, 6)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Bring about movement, of pin placements perhaps (6, 7)
- 2 Users of clubs (7)
- 3 A pair of golfers (3, 4)
- 4 How top dressing should be spread (6)
- 5 and 14A Fortified venue of the Scottish Open from 1983-1986 inclusively (5, 6)
- 6 Energy source converted to plant food by photosynthesis (5)
- 7 An unreliable putting action (7, 6)
- 13 Hole number on the Old Course at St Andrews named after Bobby Jones (3)
- 15 That part of the face of a golf club furthest from the heel (3)
- 17 Relative position of the 1995 Ryder Cup venue, Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N.Y., in relation to the 'Big Apple' (7)
- 18 Alternative to turfing as method of establishing grass (7)
- 19 Surname of The Open champion in 1865 (6)
- 21 Hollow _____, a device for aerating a green (5)
- 22 Must I relocate, in fence through which animals pass (anagram) (5)

★ Solve the crossword puzzle and you could win either a BIGGA blazer (worth £87.95) or £50 in cash! Send completed entries to: Crossword Competition, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF.

Closing date January 10, 1994. First correct entry drawn after the closing date will win the prize. Photocopy your entry if you don't want to cut up your magazine.

Name:

Address:

If I'm the winner, please send me £50 cash or BIGGA blazer, size

Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

SURREY

Another good turn-out of over thirty section members gathered at Epsom GC on 21 October for our Autumn Tournament, played over 27 holes. With a cold wind blowing over exposed areas of the course, plus Epsom's tricky undulating greens, a real test of golf ensued.

RESULTS: 1st overall R Christie 49 pts, 2nd D Fernie 48 pts, 3rd D Walder 45 pts. AM - J Roberts 37 pts, PM - M Haynes 17 pts. Trade B Willmott 46 pts.

Following a superb evening meal the club captain presented the prizes; kindly donated to the winners by Rigby Taylor. Thanks went to the club for having us, the catering staff, to Doug Fernie and all his staff for presenting the course so well, and to Ron Jobson for all his help on the day.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of qualifying players, the Veterans Cup has been held over until the Turkey Trot, which is our next golf event on 14 December at Ashford Manor GC. Following the golf, but before the evening meal, our AGM will take place - remember, this is your chance to air your views on any business - and to elect committee members for the new year.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish all our section members and readers a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

ROGER TYDEMAN

LONDON

The autumn meeting was held in October at Brookmans Park GC. RESULTS: 1st. Darren Burdis 42 points. 2nd. Jimmy Jay 34 points (back nine playoff). 3rd. Barry Moggridge 34 points. The longest driver was Craig Handyside, with nearest the pin prize going to Robert Washbrook. The course was in excellent shape and we thank Chris Carpenter and his staff for their hard work. I would also like to thank Brookmans Park for their hospitality and the catering staff for providing an excellent meal.

Congratulations to Donal Penn-Howard and Paul Cooper on their recent win in the Summer Knock-Out. They defeated Chris Carpenter and Darren Burdis in a very exciting final. The match was played at South Herts, won on the first extra hole! I would like to thank South Herts for allowing us to use their course. Please contact me with any news on 081-959-5629.

TONY DUNSTAN

KENT

October 27 saw the Kent section host the South East Conference at Hadlow College, a very popular venue which attracted some 110 delegates to listen and join in discussions on our topic of "Golf 365 Days A

Year". After the very wet weather experienced during the early autumn, some were perhaps looking for answers to their problems. Following introductions from a representative of Hadlow College and our SE Region chairman, Chris Mardon, the first speaker was Gordon Jaaback, with a very topical presentation on the influences of the weather in the southern part of the UK, the methods and benefits of recording details and how they apply to our situations. Mike Travers, Lamberhurst GC, followed, presenting his experiences of winter golf. Following Mike's article earlier this year, this generated great interest and debate. Our special thanks to Mike for coming along, especially as he is currently not in the best of health. The last speaker before lunch was the London Golf Club's soil scientist and irrigation expert, Colin Sainsbury, with a very interesting presentation on soil characteristics and conditions and their effects on plant growth.

A brief question and answer session preceded lunch, delegates then able not only to demolish a superb buffet and partake of liquid refreshment, but also to visit the assembled trade stands. Hadlow College again kicked off the afternoon session with an introduction to NVQ qualifications in greenkeeping, plus a brief outline of some of the very good courses they are running.

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Around the Green



➔ 35 The post lunch speakers were Jack McMillan and Brian Pierson. Jack's presentation could best be summed up as a cautionary tale concerning the detrimental effects of winter golf and general over-play and traffic on our courses, with well known golf course constructor and contractor, Brian Pierson, outlining some modern aspects in design and specification to try to cope with some of these problems. The rest of the afternoon was given over to a rather heated debate, the topic of which, once more, revolved mainly around our old friend *Poa annua*.

I think we all enjoyed our day, but to sum up my personal appraisal of the day would take more space than allotted here. At this point, I am still digesting it, but cannot escape the feeling that in general some of the attitudes discussed were somewhat defeatist and negative. I am still of the belief that given a certain set of problems, materials, machinery and techniques exist to solve them. Yes, some compromise and understanding is needed from our golfers during winter play, but the overriding problem appears to be higher up, with direction to our golf clubs and courses regarding adequate budgets to implement maintenance works desperately needed, plus congestion and pure bad planning of golf fixture lists, not enabling works to be carried out at the correct, optimum times of the year. A bit of give and take would go a long way.

Finally, I'll sneak in details of our annual Turkey Trot and AGM at Darenth Valley GC on 16 December. Please bring along a prize between the value of £5-£10 (no bottles of booze please!). The cost will be around £14, with an 18 hole Stableford teeing off circa late morning, followed by Christmas dinner and our AGM. This is your chance to have your say – even get yourself elected to the committee and do your bit for our Association. Some of you must by now think that you could do this (scribes) job. All you need is the back of a fag packet, a broken Biro, a vivid imagination (no one ever provides information to enter in), no sense of humour, and a large chip on your shoulder. That could possibly



narrow the field down to 100 likely candidates – I wonder how many will turn up on the day?
PAUL COPSEY

SOUTH COAST

Although I was unable to attend our

Autumn Tournament in October, which had a record entry of 56 members and guests, I am pleased to include the following report provided by our chairman, Ken Lodge.

The Autumn Tournament was held at High Post GC on 5 October. Scheduled originally as a 36-hole greensome, due to atrocious weather only eleven holes were played in the afternoon. The stars of the show were Nick Weller and his staff, the course being in superb condition. The greens were out of this world and a number of members and guests said they were the best greens on which they had played this summer. Well done Nick!

Results: 29 Holes. 1st Prize & Jacobson Trophy – Don Friend and Roger Searle (High Post GC) 56 points (better p.m. score). 2nd Ian Rickman & R Allison (Basingstoke) 56 points. 3rd Bernard Emberley & Paul Hector (Knighton Heath & Broadstone) 55 points. 4th Brian Newcombe and Derrick Todd (Woodcote Park) 54 points. Best Surviving Score a.m. Derek Cheatham & M Cummins (Knighton Heath) 34 points. Best Surviving Score p.m. (11 holes), Rob Bailey & Dave Reed (S Wilts & High Post) 21 points. Longest Drive: Graham Bungay (Wellow). Nearest the Pin: Paul Hector (Broadstone).

The weather did not deter members and guests from enjoying themselves. Thanks must go to the host club for making us so welcome; to the captain and committee who granted us the courtesy of their wonderful course; to Maureen Illingworth and her helpers who made sure we were well fed; and to Bill Goodwin, the club manager, who helped out with the score cards and in general looked after us all day.

Lastly, thanks to our main sponsors, Vitax Commercial and Amenity Products, represented by Alan Stow, and Avoncrop Amenity Products, represented by Brian Stephens. Also thank you to all other people who made donations to the prize table.

The next winter lecture will be on Wednesday, 12 January at the Dorset College of Agriculture. Our speakers are Ed McCabe and Arthur King from Brokenhurst Manor GC and the talk will commence at 2.00pm. Refreshments will be available.

The region is providing a 'feeder' coach from various points in the section to connect with a coach travelling to the BIGGA Turf Management Seminar and Exhibition on 17-21 January. Please take advantage of this facility and let Ken Lodge

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Finally, after nine years in the post, I shall be standing down as your secretary at the section's AGM. I would like to thank all members for their support and assistance.
BOB DENNIS

NORTH WEST

In the October issue I asked members to give more support to section events, and with the Autumn Tournament coming up on 21 October, I expected the usual 25 to 30 members and guests. Well, what a surprise, I was completely gobsmacked when eventually 89 members and guest turned up to enjoy a superb day at Mere G&CC. I will admit it caused me some anxious moments and sleepless nights, as the numbers built up during the last two weeks and with the realisation that we needed a good bright day and possibly the use of two tees to get everybody back before darkness, especially as we were not teeing off until noon. No need to have worried, the weather was perfect, and with all the NW committee and the very professional staff at Mere working together, the day progressed very smoothly.

Mike Sheehan and his staff had the course, which is in some of the most beautiful Cheshire countryside, in pristine condition, the staff fully deserving all the kind comments uttered on the day. Many thanks to Mere G&CC for allowing us the courtesy of their fine course, also the catering staff for looking after us so professionally.

RESULTS: Best Gross. Mike Sheehan. (Sisis Cup). Best Nett. C. Leeming. (Ransomes Cup). 2nd C. Hulme. 3rd N. Wolfrey. 4th W. Horvath. 5th A. Peel. 6th J. Pearson. 7th P. Pearse. 8th F. Platt. Over 55's B. Cross. (Wm Hargreaves Cup). Aggregate Trophy. N. Wolfrey (Superturf Trophy). Putting Competition. M. Sheehan (Acorn Trophy). Four Ball Knockout: P. Pearse, M. Davey (High Speed Lubricants Trophy). Once again we were blessed with a well stocked prize table, for which we thank our friends in the trade. It is hoped to visit the GEM professional factory in January. Members wishing to make this visit, please contact me ASAP on 051 724 5412, so that arrangements can be made for transport. That appears to be all for now, other than to wish you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
BERT CROSS



NORTH WALES

On Wednesday 6 October the North Wales section held its Autumn Tournament at Pwllheli GC, with over 100 players taking part. RESULTS:- Members: 1st Jason Moody (79-10-69) - The Gem Shield, a tankard and a bottle of wine. 2nd Paul Jeffries (91-20-71) - a Major Owen Trophy and cut glass tankard. 3rd Dave Proctor (85-14-71) - a windproof top. 4th Chris 'the Socks' Davies, also 71, - a putter. 5th Pat 'Curly' Valentine, 73, his prize - a hair-net - sorry, I mean a putter. Guests: 1st Mr. P. Williams (77-10-67) - a golf bag. 2nd Mr. G. Perks (74-6-68) - bottle of whisky. 3rd Mr. N. Kelly, 68 - an umbrella. 4th Mr. E. Roberts, 69, a golfing hat. 5th Mr. D. B. Williams 71, a set of head covers. Low gross (members) Alan Lewis, 74, a Major Owen Trophy and set of waterproofs. Nearest the pin on the 12th hole, Mr. J. Fullard - bottle of whisky.

Many thanks to Pwllheli GC, its committee and members, for allowing the section to stage its Autumn Tournament, also special thanks to president Charles Jones, club captain, Dennis More, and club secretary, Eric Williams. The run up to our golf tournament was not an easy one for head greenkeeper Dewi Hughes and his staff, with heavy rain hampering work, but I know I speak for all those

Around the Green



who played, the course was in excellent condition. Thanks also to the steward and stewardess, Wilf and Jane Childs, for an excellent meal and service.

A big thank you to our sponsors for all the prizes donated: GEM PROFESSIONAL, MAJOR OWEN, ACORN EQUIPMENT, RICHARD CAMPEY, MARTIN BROTHERS, RIGBY TAYLOR, BRUERA. PRO-TURF, JOHN OSMAN.

A special thanks to the 'Mighty Midget'; our Terry Adamson, for all the hard work he puts in to make our golf events successful. I hope that I have not missed any sponsors off the list, but if I have, my apologies.

On behalf of your committee, may I take this opportunity to thank all greenkeepers and guests who have supported our tournaments this season, especially our sponsors, without their kind donations to our competitions, it would be difficult to make them so successful. May we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Nadolig Llawen - Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.
DAVID PROCTOR



BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

A great day was enjoyed by all who attended the Autumn Invitation at Calcot Park GC. Greenkeepers and their guests all had a fine time, none more than Terry Jackson, who walked off with two prizes, also head greenkeeper Simon Robinson, who with benefit of 'local knowledge', picked up third prize. Our many thanks to Simon Robinson and his staff, to secretary Alan Bray, and to the catering personnel, for a very well run and enjoyable event, also to our trade friends: County Mowers for donating the Toro Shield, plus Sta-Brite, Risboro' Turf, Rigby Taylor, and Driving Force (Europe) Ltd.

RESULTS: (nett) 1st R Woodward & T Jackson. 2nd D Goodchild & K Benton. 3rd S Robinson & J Leach. Nearest the pin: T Jackson. Longest Drive: P Clark.

Winter Lectures: May I remind members of our winter lecture programme, as follows: Dec 14: "Use of modern turfgrasses on a golf course" - Jonathan Franks. Jan 11 'Use of chemicals in the environment' - Graham Pawl. Feb 8: 'It's here, 'weather' we like it or not!' - Gordon Jaaback. Any queries, contact me on 0628 - 829208.

Rigby Taylor FourBall Trophy: Once again the section would like to give sincere thanks to Roger Bowles and Rigby Taylor for providing an excellent day of golf for our finalists.

Never having heard other than good things said about this event, praise was again heaped upon Roger for his masterful handling of a hugely popular tournament. RESULTS: Semi-finals (a.m) D Childs & D Goodchild beat G Irvine & P Wier. B Payne & R Wooton beat J Teixeira and P Clark. Finals (p.m) B Payne and R Wooton beat D Childs and D Goodchild.

Thanks to Frilford Heath GC, and David Heads of course, for producing wonderful playing conditions.



Finally, a 'get well soon' message to Bob Morton of The Berkshire. We all look forward to seeing your colourful self at our next event.

RAY CLARK

MIDLANDS

On 14 October our section travelled to Willesley Park GC to play against East Midlands, an event generously sponsored by Rigby Taylor, now in its ninth year. This year's match was no different from others, both teams being highly competitive. Our team displayed some new faces, however, with some 'old faithfuls' being disappointed not to qualify for this enjoyable event, organised so capably by Rigby Taylor.

The morning matches were close, but events took a change in the afternoon - with our lads doing 'the business' in convincing style. The evening once again proved to be most enjoyable, an excellent meal fully backed up by 'entertainer' Dave Leatherland. Our many thanks go to Willesley Park GC and their staff for looking after us so well, in particular Tony Howorth, who presented the course in such good condition under difficult weather conditions.

The following week saw the final of the Green-somes Knockout, contested over the delightful Coxmoor Park GC, Nottingham. Mike Hughes and I took on the very strong pairing of Paul Loffman and Trevor Morris, the match a tremendous battle going to the final hole, Mike and 'yours truly' winning the match by a single hole. Again, a superb day was enjoyed by the players. Many thanks to Rigby Taylor (and staff) for sponsoring this event, also for working hard to support BIGGA. Also many thanks to Coxmoor Park GC and their staff for making our day so enjoyable.

The final of the Singles Knockout, played over the Walsall GC course during October, was won by Mike Hughes, who beat Paul Loffman in a close match. Many thanks to Walsall GC for allowing us to use their course for this important final.

Finally, you may remember a couple of months ago my mentioning the raising of money (at our Autumn Tournament) for little Amy Nonn, whose grandfather is head greenkeeper at Kidderminster GC. Amy's mum and dad wrote a lovely letter, thanking us for our generosity. The money raised will be used to purchase a talking computer that hopefully will aid Amy in her education.
DEAN CLEAVER



SUSSEX

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Autumn Meeting at Cooden Beach GC, though I understand from 'the lads' that the course, looked after by Stefan Antolik, was in superb condition, with the weather - surprisingly - staying dry for most of the day (all save the last group, who got rained upon!).

The meeting, sponsored by Parker Hart, was a 36 hole event. RESULTS: (medal round a.m.) 1st Roland Hughes 69 nett, 2nd Robert Short 77 nett (back nine), 3rd Robert Hudson 77 nett. Trade & Guests: 1st C Myers, 2nd D Taylor. (Stableford p.m.) 1st Andy Ford 30 points. 2nd Alistair Cale 28 points. 3rd Chris Reed 27 points. Trade & Guests: 1st B Willmott 37 points, 2nd D Taylor 30 points. A nearest the pin competition was also held, winners being Chris Reed (7th), Jim Coppin (16th) and Stefan Antolik on the 18th (after three shots). The section wish to thank sponsors, Parker Hart, the green staff, committee and caterers of Cooden Beach GC - all contributed toward making the event a memorable one.



MARK WILTON

MID ANGLIA

The Hayter Challenge national final was held in September at Sandmoor GC, Leeds and produced a good performance from Jon Moorhouse of Brocket Hall GC, who finished third in the individual event, category one. The Midlands region (of which the Mid

Anglia section forms a part) came second overall in the team event.

I was lucky enough, with my partner Dick Coogan of Stockwood Park GC, to reach the final of the Lodgeway Fourball final held in October at Brocket Hall. We were matched against Tony Freeman and David Low from Northants County, both of whom played the more consistent golf and came out worthy winners by three and two. Unfortunately the weather was appalling, which probably accounted for only two spectators turning up for the final nine holes! The bad weather could not however detract from the enjoyment of the whole day, which was superbly arranged by Chas Ayres of Lodgeway. Many thanks, Chas. It was a sheer pleasure to play on such a superb golf course, which under John Wells' guidance is developing into something very special indeed. Thanks to John and his green staff for their efforts.

Woburn Golf and Country Club was once again the venue for the section's Autumn Tournament. With the chance to play one of the country's top golf courses, the entry list was obviously full with fifty members attending. The course was in first class condition and our thanks go to Neil Whittaker and his team for their efforts. This year the golf was reduced to eighteen holes on the Dukes, followed by a superb meal, finishing in the afternoon with the section AGM and the presentation of prizes. The top three places all went to Woburn players, Lee Murdoch being first with 38 points, P Squire second with 36 points, and on a count-back, Chris Toms third with 36 points also. Our thanks to Woburn for the hospitality afforded us. Also thanks to David Murphy of Driving Force Leisure for sponsoring the day and donating the prizes and to all other trade members who attended and donated raffle prizes.

The AGM followed and it appears from what was heard that the section continues to flourish. The balance sheet is healthy and membership has gone up from 151 last year to 180 this year. To succeed as a section, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee; Gerald Bruce, Chris Brook and John Wells in particular, for their sterling efforts, as well as support from Stewart Boyes, Ronan McKeown and Richard Saunders.



Finally I would like to wish all members a happy Christmas. I hope that 1994 will be a successful and happy new year for all.

PAUL LOCKETT

DEVON & CORNWALL

Our first meeting of the season was held at the excellent venue of Bowood Park GC, by kind permission of the owner, Mr Ross Cobbledick. Also our thanks to club secretary, Tony Japes, and all the staff at Bowood Park, for making our day such a success.

The day started with 40 golfing members playing a Stableford for the D O Hunt Trophy over the superbly presented course, whilst non-golfers took their usual walk before lunch.

After an excellent lunch our president, Don Hunt, presented the prizes he had so kindly donated, the winner of the D O Hunt Trophy being Malcolm Bosley (St Enedoc) with 38 points, 2nd Kevin Piper (Holsworthy) 37 (on back nine) 37 points, 3rd Chris Pine (Churston) 37 points. Our congratulations to Clive Browning and his team, who had the course in excellent condition.

Our afternoon educational talk on 'The first steps to preparing a course policy document' was given by regional administrator, Gordon Child, who gave a 'hand-out' of his club's policy document before explaining each section. I'm sure in years to come we all will be called upon to deliver such a document to our own club, and after listening to Gordon's talk

Around the Green



I'm equally sure we now can set out the basis of a policy for our committee to consider.

The raffle rounded off a most successful day, with our thanks to all the trade for donating prizes to the raffle table, also to Don Hunt and Roffeys for donating the golf prizes, and to Gordon Child for his excellent talk.

As many of you will know, head greenkeepers of venue courses are asked not to play golf on the day, as many of our non-golfers enjoy looking around their course, suitably escorted by the head greenkeeper.

With this, the last section report David White will receive from me before he leaves his job as editor, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing him every success in the future, also of wishing members and friends a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I hope to see you at Fingle Glen on Wednesday 12 January 1994.

RICHARD WHYMAN

CLEVELAND

Irrigation closing down and draining of pipework, valves, pumps, etc. is necessary, indeed vital, as a frost precaution here in the north east. Potential weaknesses in pump and/or motor need testing after five years. Winter is the time for tests, for we don't want failures next summer. I feel happier with a main agent carrying out servicing.

With the return of wormcasts, fairway gang mowing is virtually impossible on banks after rain. We really do need an effective and lasting worm control. The course is becoming messy, with tractors skidding on grease-like surfaces.

Paul Moore is confirmed as head greenkeeper at Darlington, whilst Stuart Vickers is now first assistant at Brass Castle GC. We also welcome Anthony Hodgson and Geoff Ward, both at Blackwell GC. Brian Skeen of Billingham is now dealing in Jacobsen and Massey Ferguson compacts, also Sabo Roberine, whilst Dick Lawson of Piercebridge is confirmed as the Toro main dealer.

The October meeting, presented by Par 4 Irrigation, featured modern irrigation techniques. They suggest a three-wire system, with controls of various programmes tailored to suit. We live in a modern world of technology and must admire the kit available for golf course maintenance. Thankfully, a good installation can last many years.

The Autumn Tournament staged at Castle Eden GC in September was a great success, with members coming from as far afield as Bedale, N. Yorkshire and Carlisle. Gary Munro reported the course as 'immaculate', with warm, sunny weather and hospitality second to none. Thanks to all at Castle Eden, especially David Crocher and his staff, and to Allan Goodchild, Par 4 Irrigation, Aitkens and Claytons for valued support.

RESULTS: 1st D Crocher and P Robinson (Castle Eden) 66 nett. 2nd R Ord and G Watson (Castle Eden) 68 nett. 3rd K Dyson and P Docherty (Seaham) 68 nett. 4th G Munro and G Wellens (Bedale) 69 nett.

BRUCE BURNELL



EAST ANGLIA

Once again, Sam is our correspondent for the day out at Yarmouth & Caister GC. This time I wasn't on holiday or fishing, rather my absence was due to a full field, me being number 44 in a field of 37! Apparently you all had a good (or better) day without me, so I'll go fishing next time.

High wind and threatening rain greeted 37 bandits as they battled their way around our 'Energ' patch, which was in excellent condition. No one hit a horse or jockey, as someone had the good sense to call off the racing. Another 'someone', however, ran a 'book' on how long it would be before one of a constant stream of helicopters landed on one of Henry's temporary greens and just to liven things up, someone took long odds and painted an 'H' in the middle of Henry's white circle!

The results, amidst all the shenanigan, were: (0-18) 1st Mike Virley 35 pts, 2nd Ian Willett 31 pts, 3rd Roger Plummer 31 pts. (19-28) 1st (winner of the Parker Shield) Kevin Bunn 36 pts, 2nd Steve Piggett 35 pts, 3rd Steve Davidson 33 pts.

Many thanks to Yarmouth & Caister for their kind hospitality and Henry Stead for the excellent course condition. The day was slightly marred, however, by people not turning up and not notifying the secretary (I could have come after all - ML). The culprits will be billed for the day and I hope it doesn't happen again - You haff bin varned!

Steve Millard has sent me a report on the West Suffolk Greenkeepers Challenge. Now in its second year, it consists of teams of three from Gog Magog, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, and Newmarket, playing home and away evening games, each teams' Stableford points added together over the season. The winners this year were Gog Magog, represented by Lyndon Upham, Julian Hill and Peter Mallons, who amassed 718 points to beat second place Haverhill, with 679 points.

The Atterton & Ellis-Toro Trophy will be presented by Roger Denson (Atterton & Ellis) and David Cole (Toro) at an evening to be arranged.

Finally, our best wishes to Paul Seago on his appointment at Gullane. Paul must be one of the last real apprentices, from an age when 'blessed were they that knew not what to say, but knew what to do instead'. Well done, Paul, and all the best to you and your family.



Goodnight Cockneys, wherever you may be.

MICK LATHROPE

SOUTH WEST

What a peculiar October has been. For the first ten days, rainfall was sufficient to break yet another record, leaving us all wading around our courses (and in some cases, our homes). Just when we thought all was lost, along came the high pressure, leaving the remainder of the month so dry that watering systems were hastily re-commissioned, construction and maintenance programmes re-commenced, and everything in the garden was lovely.

Back to the floods. The section's annual match versus S Wales at St Pierre on 6 October foundered for the first time. Repeated torrential storms caused extensive flooding, and although the old course looked in excellent condition (thoroughly inspected by Merv Gray and myself in the afternoon), exactly the right decision was made to keep it closed. The Welsh team went off and played somewhere else, (thanks, lads), while the South West team went home in dribs and drabs to lick their wounds. There's always next year!

On a sunnier note, the section First Aid Training day at Saltford was a great success. The good offices of Medical Training Services, combined with the bonhomie of Dick Burleigh, made a difficult subject very palatable indeed, all nine candidates ➔ 50

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