

# Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

## Scottish Region North

This month sees the Scottish Greenkeeping Annual Tournament at Elie Golf Club in Fife. After last year's resounding success's at Royal Dornoch, the section will have to go some to keep up the standard set last June. Let's have a big turnout of North members to at least give us a chance and good luck to us all.

Good news concerning Gary Tough, Firstly congratulations to him for winning the prestigious Craigmillar Park Open with a 72 hole total of 6 under par. Also Gary has left Montrose to take up a position at Carnoustie Golf Links, we wish him all the best.

Another Macleod has been let loose on the Greenkeeping world. My son Ross has joined me at Tain as a trainee and will be shortly be joining BIGGA, you have been warned. While on the subject of new members, we have three new faces in the North to report. Malcolm Parsons, an assistant at Strathlene, Kevin Keith, a trainee at Fortrose, and Michael Reid, a trainee at Newmacher, with Derek Chisholm, Assistant at Kingussie, rejoining us after a one year break.

Last but not least I have pleasure in reporting that Newmacher's George Mitchell has become a dad, his wife giving birth to a little girl, we hope all are well.

Iain Macleod

## West of Scotland

Firstly a couple of good wishes and congratulations to two new appointments. Robert Johnson has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at Williamwood GC, nice to see him at the convenors match in March. Neil Cameron has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at Clydebank and District GC. The section wishes both men the best of luck and look forward to seeing them at various activities.

The Greenkeepers-Secretaries match at Falkirk Tryst proved a very exciting day even if the weather was dull and overcast. The Greenkeepers came through on the last green to win 6-4 after having been 4-1 down. An excellent recovery from the back end of the team. Falkirk are to be thanked for the course and catering. Without the club's support many of these occasions would not be possible.

At the last meeting of the Section various ideas were put forward for consideration with regard to health and safety, and social events. A letter should have been received detailing these, therefore the committee would like as much feedback as possible. Take the time and send back the forms, even suggest additional events, we are trying to cater for your needs.

The recent outing at Cawder was very enjoyable, and the course proved a good test of skills. Thanks to Neil McLennon and his staff for the condition of the course on the day and for some less trying pin positions. Thank you to Cawder members and committee for allowing the section the use of the course for the day, this is very much appreciated. Again thanks to the catering staff for their assistance with the bacon rolls and tea

time delights. The results were: Scratch - G Beven (E Kilbride) 74. 1st Class - 1st S Taylor (Killermont) 76-2-74, 2nd D Johnstone (Cardross) 81-7-74, 3rd K Forsyth (Cawder) 85-9-76. 2nd Class - 1st B Hillen (Easter Moffat) 87-15-72, 2nd T Hindmarsh (Erskine) 87-14-73, 3rd J Brown (Bearsden) 86-13-73. 3rd Class - 1st R Grainger (Cawder) 92-22-70, 2nd G Shearer (Balmore) 97-24-73, 3rd A Young (Douglstown) 95-21-74. Trade Prize - K Hunter (Huxley's) 84-12-72.

Well done to everybody, all these people qualify for the Hayter Challenge with the exemption of K Hunter.

The last item to mention is the five-a-side tournament, remember those wishing to enter need to let me know by July. Six or seven in a team and only two clubs can join forces. Entries to myself at 0141 942 5554 or Glasgow Golf Club. Stuart Taylor

## East of Scotland

Welcome to this month's report, sorry there has not been one for a while but there has not been a lot to report in the Section. So here we go, first of all back in April we had our Spring outing at Longniddry, so thanks to the Captain and Council for courtesy of the course for the day, Clubmaster/mistress and all clubhouse staff for keeping us all well fed and watered, some more than others (don't ask), the Pro for keeping the tee moving and last but not least Kenny Anderson and his staff for presenting the course in great condition which was a credit to them considering the very cold spring we have had to endure (or was it still winter).

So thanks from all who played that day. Also Kenny, welcome back to the East Section after your travels over the last few years. There was some good golf played that day but not by yours truly I am sorry to say, but here are all the results of a great day and night: Scratch - Tom Shephard - 72. 1st Class - 1st T Murray 74-2-72, 2nd I Bell 77-5-72, 3rd G Ferguson 77-3-74. 2nd Class - 1st G Purves 84-13-71, 2nd S Russell 84-11-73, 3rd K Anderson 87-12-75. 3rd Class - 1st D Melville 90-21-69, 2nd A Russell 93-18-75, 3rd G Hobbs 95-18-77. Veteran - Bob Smith 88-7-81, Guest - G Davidson, Trade - Ian Henderson (Ian Henderson Finance), New Member - Dougie Melville. This was also the 2nd round of the Hayter Qualifier (first round Prestonfield last Autumn) the qualifiers are: 1st section - 1 Tom Shephard, 2 Ian Bell, 3 Tom Murray, 4 Mark Pagan. 2nd Section - 1 George Purves, 2 Craig Pennyquick, 3 Allan Russell, 4 James Thow. 3rd Section - 1 Douglas Melville, 2 Graham Hobbs, 3 Andrew Forrest, 4 Robert Hogarth.

At the prizegiving at the outing we had a presentation to an old friend of the Section, none other than Bob Smith of Harburn who after a good number of years (could somebody tell me how many) has retired to concentrate on his golf, if he needs it (see outing results). The Section would like to take this opportunity to wish him all the best for the future and hope to see him at all section outings and all other events. The social section are putting the final

touches to a list of forthcoming events up to the end of this year which will be published in this column next month so keep your eyes peeled. If anyone has anything interesting let us know about it by calling or dropping me a letter and I will let the membership know about it. The next outing on the agenda is at Innerleithen Golf Club, home of our Hon Secretary Robert Hogarth, which is situated in the Scottish Borders. It is a nine hole picturesque little course on the banks of the river Leithen. This is a tournament that you pick yourself a partner and you play as a team for the resurrected Richard Aitken Trophy. So get you entries in quickly as there are only a limited number of places available. So we hope to see all of you at the Summer outing.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Nat Beggs (Standard Golf) a speedy recovery from his recent accident and stay in hospital, we hope to see you up and about soon and getting about the courses, all the best from all your friends in the East Section. Congratulations also to George Thomson (Goswick) who recently got married, so we can all look forward to your handicap going up now and we hope to meet your new wife at the annual dance on the 7th December 1996 at the Kilsplindie House Hotel, tickets on sale soon so get your order in soon. Details in next month's magazine. So that's it all for this month, if I have missed anything let me know and it will be in my July article. So I will talk to you next time.

C J Yeoman

## Ayrshire

The first event of our new year was the spring outing at the Dumfries and County golf course, home of our Chairman Ian McNab.

In spite of a very late spring - if not non-existent - the course was in good condition thanks to Ian and his trusty staff. Thanks must go to the committee and members for allowing us the use of the course and to the caterers for an excellent day's food. The weather was not great, but thankfully the promised downpour never materialised. Results:

0-9. Bob McKay 78-9-69, Ian McNab 78-5-73, Willie McMeekin 78-5-74. 10-18. Duncan Gray 77-10-67, Ian Barr 85-13-72, Martin Lothian 86-15-71. 19-28. Dave Nelson 89-24-65, Gary Crosbie 89-22-67, Jimmy Paton 90-18-72. Scratch. Keith McCartney BIH from George Brown 77. Trade. Gino Garfagnini, McNabs 74. Scramble 1. Ian McNab, Bob McKay Gary Crosbie, Hamish Macfie 28.2, from Paul Rae, Dave Nelson, George Brown, McKenzie Munro. This went to the final hole of a countback to decide a winner.

Jimmy Paton had the pleasure of meeting Jonathan Smyth, the new R&A Conservation Officer, during the Scottish Boys' Championship at West Kilbride and tells me it should be an excellent appointment to help us all preserve all our natural resources. I may well contact him regarding the course I am building in Dumfries to compliment my newly opened driving range. It is called the Pines Golf Centre and I would be pleased to see any fellow greenkeepers

calling in on the area.

No more to report this month so will leave you now.  
Duncan Gray

## Northern Region North East

On Thursday April 25 we paid our first visit to the new course at Matfen Hall for the Spring Competition and Hayter Qualifier. The course has only been open a year and was in excellent condition considering the winter we have had. Everyone was very praiseworthy.

Unfortunately the wind was well and truly blowing and played havoc with the scores.

On behalf of the section I would like to thank Vinny Price, Course Manager, and his staff, for the presentation of the course.

We would also like to thank John Pemberton from HQ for paying us a visit and his little chat about Miracle Greenkeeper of the Year award.

Donations came from the following, Rytton Gravel Co, Shorts of Whitehorn, Border Turf Services, Greenlay, Rickerley's Aitkens, Bolden GC, Turf Care Supplies and Gerald Brady of Rhone Poulenc (nearest the pin).

Our thanks to all those people who gave a prize or donation and to John Harrison, Director of Golf, for giving us courtesy of the course.

I would like to wish Ian Hutton, of Consett GC, the best of luck on moving to Austria for a new job as do all the Section.

Results: Best Gross A. McLure, Whickham GC, 77-1-78; Best Nett S. Cram, Slayton Hall GC, 83-7-76; Assistants' Cup. O. Cuthbertson, South Moor GC, 80-3-77; R. Black, Westerhope GC, 83-7-76; I. Cairns, Close House GC, 86-9-77; M. Lathan, Hexham GC, 79-1-78; S. Pope, Tyneside GC, 87-8-79; C. Parkinson, Slayton Hall GC, 84-4-80; N. Irvin, South Moor GC, 90-8-82; A. Dalby, Warkworth GC, 89-7-82; B. Wilson, Stocksfield GC, 88-5-83; J. Richardson, Matfen Hall GC, 89-6-83; G. Baxter, South Shields GC, 89-6-83.

In August this year Steve Pope, Head Greenkeeper of Tyneside GC, retires after 37 years in greenkeeping - 30 plus of those were at Tyneside GC. It is hope that we shall have a retirement party for him later in the year. It should also be noted that Steve has been a member of the Association for most of this time.  
Jimmy Richardson

## Cleveland

PAR 4 Irrigation celebrated its 15th anniversary with a friendly Stableford golf event at Romanby Northallerton GC. The winners included Graham Border from Castle Eden GC, Barry Walker from Wearside GC, Linda Simms from PAR 4. A most enjoyable day, thank you to Eddie and Linda Simms.

Congratulations to Course Manager Robert Upton, for the excellent condition of this relatively new course and we welcome him to BIGGA membership. His boss, farmer Brian Craven, is to be congratulated on developing such a splendid course layout. We had difficulty at the water approach to a par 3 - nice to see the swans.

At Wynyard Golf Course near Billingham, Gary Munro and staff are hard at work putting the finishing touches to the new course prior to opening later this summer. In a beautiful setting and 200 hundred acres, it will be challenging to the best of players. Gary has chosen some golfers to be on his staff and their expertise will be welcome.

We need some warmer weather, as growth is about to begin here in Cleveland Section.

Bruce Burnell

### Sheffield

At the beginning of April we held our final winter lecture at Rotherham GC and I would like to thank the club for their hospitality and letting us hold our lectures there throughout the winter.

I would like to thank Amazone for giving us a very interesting talk and slide show at Rotherham which was enjoyed by a good number of our members.

On April 15 we held our spring competition at Sherwood Forest GC. It was also the Hayter qualifier. Sherwood was in excellent condition for so early in the year and our thanks go to Kim and his staff or all their hard work.

We would like to thank Sherwood Forest for the courtesy of the course and to the steward and his staff for providing an excellent meal. Also thanks to Hayter for providing the main prizes for the Hayter qualifiers and to all the other trade members who provided prizes.

Congratulations to everyone who won prizes at Sherwood and to Phil Stain who with an excellent score of 39 points won the spring competition. Well done Phil!

1. P Stain; 2. P Lyons; 3. D. McJannet; 4. R. Stanley; 5. J. Cumberland; 6. A. Rhodes.

The nearest the pin was won by K. Kirkham (with the help of local knowledge?)

Congratulations to the following people who won the handicap division of the Hayter Qualifier. 0-9. P Lyons; 10-18. A. Allsop; 19-28. P. Stain.

All the qualifiers for the Northern Regional Final are 0-9. P Lyons, D. McJannet, J. Cumberland, Reserve A. Rhodes. 10-18. A. Allsop, C. Hopper, N. Maltby, Reserve A. Whittington. 19-28. R. Stain, R. Stanley, J.V. Lax, Reserve P. Neve.

Good luck to you all in the regional final in Wales!

I've been asked by Barry Heaney to remind people to return entry forms for competitions by the closing date and with the entrance fee as late forms and ones without payment will not be accepted any more. May I also remind people that to play in golf competitions you need to attend a minimum of two lectures throughout the winter.

Our next competition will be our

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annual competition which will be held at Abbeydale GC on July 9 with a 10.30 tee off. Please return entry forms on time!

Congratulations go to Derek McJannet of Sherwood Forest GC on his selection to represent England in the inaugural Hayter International Cup at West Lancashire GC in September. Good luck Derek!

Finally would like to wish Ron Graham a very happy retirement who at the end of February retired after 19 years as Head Greenkeeper at Tankersley Park GC.

J.V. Lax

### North West

This year's annual tournament against North Wales was played at Wilmslow GC, on April 11. The weather was good, the course was in excellent condition, and the golf was good. Unfortunately we lost 5-3, allowing North Wales to take the Gem Professional trophy back from the North West. I would like to thank Gem Professional for sponsoring the day, Wilmslow GC for allowing us the courtesy of the course, Stephen Oultram and his staff for presenting his course in lovely condition, and Gwen Chason, Catering Manageress for the superb evening meal, (and the bacon and egg baps).

Mike Sheehan, Course Manager at Mere Golf and Country Club, has a vacancy for a young lad to train as a greenkeeper. If you know anyone in the Knutsford area who might be interested contact Mike on 01565 830155. Peter Baume, Course Manager at Birchwood GC, says that due to a heavy workload, he is looking for a trained greenkeeper willing to work at Birchwood GC, on a temporary basis. If you are between jobs and fancy earning some money, contact Peter on 01925 818819.

I suspect that now we have had some rain, and the ground is warming up you will all be able to sleep a little easier. I am sure you have all had to put up with the

"Armchair Greenkeepers Association", wanting to know why our greens are not like they are in Augusta. Well now that spring has arrived, and some growth has appeared, they will forget Augusta until next April.

The North West committee has purchased some videos which will be available to any members wishing to borrow

them. They are:

**GOLF COURSE PRESENTATION.** Featuring various maintenance work on the course, plus bunker construction.

**GOLF GREEN CONSTRUCTION.**

**SETTING STANDARDS,** A video on spray application.

**KEEPER OF THE GREEN.** A career in golf course management.

If you would like to borrow any of these videos, contact me on 0151 724 5412.

These videos can also be purchased from H.Q.

Bert Cross

### North Wales

Firstly my apologies for the lack of Section notes in the last few months. This is partly due to my inability to remember journalistic deadlines together with a hectic time at work and to top it all off organising and getting married! Hopefully now that we are reorganised office wise at work things should settle down.

March saw the Section - some of it anyway - visit Holland. No we didn't see any tulips, for their spring is as far behind as ours. What we did see was the very impressive set up at Mommersteeg HQ at Vlyjmen, the new golf course at Eferling and the Kuypers Turf Farm. Our thanks to our hosts for an enjoyable and informative visit, but special thanks to Phil Davies and Terry Adamson for their hard work making the visit possible. On a more worrying note the visit nearly heralded financial disaster for the Section because YOU did not support it. It left us in the embarrassing position of having to ask the trade for help yet again and gave some of us an extra workload and headache that we could have done without. Our thanks to John Osman, Major Owan, Gem Professional and Mommersteeg (including Phil Davies on his own account) for their very kind sponsorship of places. I know that the people who were given this opportunity to go are all very grateful to you.

In April the North West/North Wales Match took place at Wilmslow GC. We were victorious 5-3 against the home team and look forward to next year's return match. Many thanks to Wilmslow GC and Gem Professional for their help and sponsorship. Again, sadly, it left Terry Adamson to phone around looking for players only then to be let down by some. Gentlemen, this is not fair to him and shows extremely bad manners and the situation must be rectified. We cannot afford to lose stalwart members of this section through the inconsideration of others.

On a happier note I am particularly pleased that members have felt able to contact me particularly over employment problems. While I cannot always be of any real assistance at least it puts

me in contact with the membership.

For the record my telephone numbers are: Work: 01829 731186; Home: 01352 780602; Mobile: 0802 310576; Fax: 01829 731133. My address is 7 Cae Helyg, Pentre Halkyn, Clwyd, Nr Holywell, Flintshire CH8 8JA.

Any news suggestions for events etc please do not hesitate to contact me. Andy Campbell

### Northern

As many of you will be aware, it is with deepest sympathy that I announce the death of Mr William Mountain. Bill served the section as president for 35 years and some say this will never be matched. The funeral was well attended by section members.

President Day will proceed as planned and a 'Bill Mountain Memorial Trophy' is to be introduced so that people will remember all the hard work and effort Bill gave over the years.

Mr Mel Guy is now the acting president for Northern Section.

Our Spring Tournament at Scarborough South Cliff G.C was a great day. Forty one players braved the strong winds and the results were as follows:

0-9. 1. S Midgely, 71, 2. D Collins, 74 (back 9), 3. A Clark, 74; 10-18. 1. M Bryant, 71, 2. J Waite, 73, 3. Robin Smith 74; 19-28. 1. D Cockburn, 78, 2. J France, 84,

3. Richard Smith 86

The course was presented in an excellent condition, so many thanks to Paul Sleight and his greens staff. Thanks are also extended to the club house staff.

The next tournament will be President's Day, which is to be held on June 12 at Howley Hall Golf Club. Please remember that all names and payments must be received at least one week before the event.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the section: Richard Smith, Clayton GC; Julie Smithies, Temple Newsam GC; Timothy Balcome, Scarthingwell GC

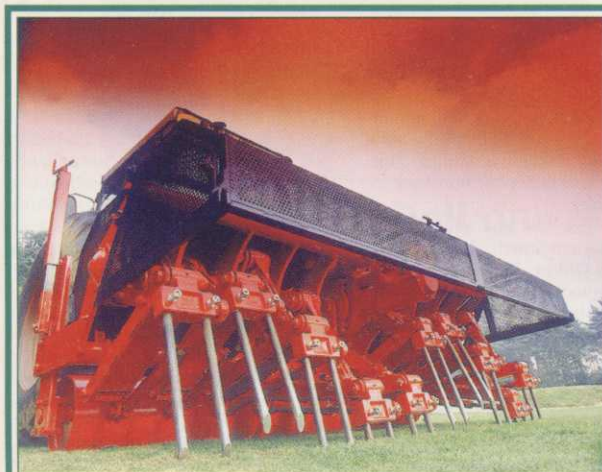
Finally, I would like to congratulate Andrew Leech, of Outlane GC, and his wife on the arrival of their new baby girl. Anybody volunteering for babysitting duties please contact the aforementioned!

Simon Heppenstall

### Midland Region East Midlands

This year's Spring Tournament was held on April 25th at Rothley Park G.C, on a fine spring day 47 members competed for the chance of qualifying for this years Hayter Challenge Tournament. category winners were.

0-9. 1. Richard Barker (Kirby Muxloe) 76 - 4 - 72; 2. Carl Chamberlain (Scraftoft) 78 - 6 - 72. 3. Paul Tatlow (Kedleston) 77 - 5 - 72. 10.19. 1.



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Antony Bindley (Kirby Muxloe) 84 - 15 - 69; 2. Donald Blacker (Manor) 83 - 12 - 71; 3. Martin Hopkins (Kirby Muxloe) 90 - 17 - 73. 19-28 1. Mark Bindley (Kirby Muxloe) 91 - 21 - 70. 2. Chris Bates (Willesley Pk) 101 - 28 - 73. 3. Dean Cooper (Rotherly Pk) 98 - 24 - 74

Trade and Association - Ivan Toon 81 - 12 - 69  
This was not only a day for being Bindleyed but also Kirby Muxloed as all four members had top three placings, and even the Trade and Association prize was taken by an ex-Kirby Muxloe Greenkeeper.

On behalf of all section members I would like to thank Rotherly G.C. for the courtesy of their excellent course, and for providing us with a splendid meal. Also many thanks should go to our new sponsors E.T Breakwells for providing us with such a grand prize table. Best wishes to all members in the Hayter Regional final at Peterborough Milton G.C.

Finally congratulations are in order for Chris Bates of Willesley Park on the addition of a baby boy named Luke to his family.

Antony Bindley

### Mid Anglia

Our first golf event of the year took place on the 29th April, at John O'Gaunt GC, Beds. As is usual, our Spring Tournament was the qualifying event for the Hayter Challenge, although this year we took the qualification over the full 36 holes, instead of eighteen. Both courses were in excellent shape for so early in the year, and our thanks go to Colin Robinson and his staff for all their efforts. Also thanks to John O'Gaunt GC Bob Gilbert of Rigby Taylor, who sponsored the day, Hayter, and all the other members of the trade who supported us on the day. It was also nice to see Scott MacCallum our editor of the magazine attending and taking a few snapshots.

The results on the day were as follows: 1st - J Wells (Brocket Hall) 77pts, 2nd - J Moorhouse (Brocket Hall) 74pts, 3rd - A Dancer (Shendish GC) 71pts. Best am - D Forsyth (Mid Herts GC), pm - R McKeown (Arkley GC). Nearest Pin - D Forsyth (Mid Herts), Longest Drive - G Simkins (Mount Pleasant GC).

The following people make up the team which goes to the Regional Final at Peterborough Milton on Tuesday 16th July. 0-9 Handicaps - R McKeown, J Moorhouse, G Simkins, S Cherry, (reserves - D Forsyth, R Coogan). 10-18 Handicaps - J Wells, A Dancer, M Hendry, P Robinson (reserves - C Toms, E Thompson). 19-28 Handicaps - J Hatton, L Cant, I Payne, R Saunders (no reserves).

If for any reason, any members who have qualified cannot attend, please let me or Roger Willars, our regional

administrator know as soon as possible.

Finally I would like to welcome the following new members to the Section: Ian Cropper, Steven Gransby, Edward Long, Lee Folbigg, Phil Spencer, R Stidston, A Randall, G Mair, D Baker, James Peddar, I Gallacher, B Adamson, Lee Hudson, S Kane, K Armstrong, R Childerley, R Preece, G Jenkins, D Ritchie, S Grass and A Parsons.  
Paul Lockett

### Bucks, Berks and Oxon

At last a Golf Day to report on, and what a day it was with the weather throwing everything at us, rain, hailstones and the occasional bit of sunshine. We must be a hardy bunch to carry on in that sort of weather (possibly slightly mad). At one stage it looked like a scene from Caddyhack when the Priest is playing in the storm. If anybody hasn't seen the film it's a must for all greenkeepers.

The venue for this event was Southfield GC near Oxford a course I had never played before but one I would like to play again in more favourable weather! Ian Holton and his staff deserve a lot of praise for the condition of the course under difficult conditions this Spring, well done lads.

This event proved popular with 26 competitors fighting it out for a place in the regional final at Peterborough Milton in July. The standard of golf was very high as you will see from the winning scores. Category 1 (0-9) 1st - A Wakefield 66 (Local knowledge helped), 2nd - D Eldridge 67, 3rd - S Adby 69 (better back 9), 4th - P Whelehan 69. Category 2 (10-18) 1st - D Jones 67 (better back 9), 2nd - R Clarke 67, 3rd - D Parrish 67, 4th - B Benzie 71. Category 3 (19-28) 1st C Lillitoo 71, 2nd D Bolton 72, 3rd - R Hindaugh 78, 4th A Hill 88. The above 12 people qualify for the Regional Final in July. Details of this event will be posted to the above. There are three reserves: A Murray, J Scoones and D Wassell. Longest Drive winner - A Murray, Nearest the pin - B Holt. Finally I would like to thank all at Southfield for there hospitality on the day, excellent food and service. Thanks to all trade members for their support again, without it these events would be impossible. The next golf day is at Henley Golf Club on the 15th July. If anybody still hasn't received their fixture cards please get in touch and I will post one off to you.  
Lindsay Anderson

### South East Region London

The Hayter Qualifier was held at Hendon GC on April 24. The course was in excellent condition and I would like to thank Mike Jeffrey and his staff for preparing the course. The overall winner of the day was Robert Phillips from Sandy Lodge GC with a nett 72, The cat-

egory qualifiers were as follows: 0-9. Robert Phillips, David Montgomery, John Jackson and Chris Carpenter. 10-18. Robert Washbrook, Tony Dunstan, Edward Dickinson and Simon Walley. 19-28. Jason Shepherd, Mark Ambler.

The longest drive was won by Simon Walley and the nearest the pin was won by Alec Macindoe. The guest prize was won by Mike Jeffrey.

I would like to thank Hendon GC for its hospitality and especially the Captain Mr David Taylor and General Manager Mr David Cooper for all their help. The catering and bar staff are commended for their service on the day. I was also nice to see Scott MacCallum present on the day and we thank him for making the effort to come down and visit us.

I would like to thank the trade for its support and especially Richard Haynes, from Avoncrop, for returning his raffle prize which was auctioned to raise money for our section.  
Tony Dunstan

### East Anglia

On April 18 the Spring Trophy was up for grabs, as well as a place in the next round of the Hayter Tournament. The venue was Waldringfield Heath GC and some 30 plus greenkeepers took up the combined challenge of the tight course and strong winds. The opening holes resembled the Sahara Desert during a sand storm as the winds whipped up the light soil from the surrounding fields and blew across the course - the sun wasn't quite blocked out but those on the 4th tee had to beware. It has to be said, what a marvellous way to have your top dressing applied, direct from the supplier with free delivery! Keith Titshall and his staff are to be congratulated on the condition and presentation of the course. The wind was a big enough test and with the competition being played off the white tees (obviously a low handicapper's decision) there were few players near to a nett par.

The overall winner of the Spring Trophy was D. Smith - nett 69.

0-9. 1. R. Hickford, 75, 2. M. Virley, 77, 3. M. Fance, 78, 4. C. Crocher, 78, 5. A. Toomey, 79. 10-18. 1. D. Wells, 74, 2. J. Timms, 74, 3. S. Piggot, 80, 4. B. Lemon, 81. 19-28. 1. D. Smith, 69, 2. T. Tyrell, 73, 3. T. Huddleston, 74, 4. M. Mison, 77.

The top trade member was A. Turbin - nett 85. Nearest the pin competition winners were 2nd hole - M. Fance, 10th - R. Hickford, 12th - A. Sheehan.

Many thanks to the catering staff at Waldringfield for a fine meal and splendid service. The meal was followed by the Club Captain, Alan Adamson, saying a few words and David Wells, Chairman of the Section, thanking Waldringfield GC and Hayter for its sponsorship of the

competition. A bottle of whisky was presented to Keith for his efforts on the course.

The day would not be the same without the members of the trade who support the section and donate prizes. They are Avoncrop, Bob Chesham, Course Care, Ernest Does, Green Sports Ltd, Kings, Parker Hart, Pattissons, Rigby Taylor, Colin Rushbrooke, Tuckwells, Turf Actant and Waldringfield GC.

A seminar has been arranged for Tuesday May 14 at Whittle College. The topics will be grass seed, a talk from Barenbrug Seeds and folia feeds, a talk from Maxicrop Ltd. For further information contact Andy Sheehan on 01277 215765.

A meeting open to all East Anglia members has been arranged by Head Office to discuss the proposed setting up of an Essex Section. The meeting would be attended by Head Office representatives and we would like as many members as possible to attend, to air their views.

The meeting will take place on Thursday June 27 at 7.30pm at the Ravenwood Hall Hotel, Roughham, three miles east of Bury St Edmonds, just off the A14 trunk road. More details are elsewhere in this issue of Greenkeeper International.  
Stephen Millard

### Kent

Our first tournament of the year - the Hayter Qualifier was held at Sene Valley GC. On a windy, dry day conditions were very tricky. The course was in good condition for the time of year and we thank Sene Valley for courtesy of the course. The scores were as follows: 0-9. 1. P. Belton, 2. H. Morgan, 3. S. Suttle, 4. N. Gillham. 10-18. 1. P. Biscoe, 2. D. Vidler, 3. W. Banks, 4. R. Malt. 19-28. 1. J. Sillcock, 2. C. Moore, 3. N. Stapley, 4. J. Poots.

All the above qualify for the next round of the Hayter Tournament.

There are also two reserves for each category. Many thanks go to the trade for supplying raffle prizes and especially Driving Force Leisure for providing a day's golf in France for each category winner.

Our guest for the day was Ken Richardson, BIGGA Education Officer, who updated us on what is available on the education front in the future.

I would like to remind you about sending money and confirmation letters in on time. For all future tournaments nobody will be admitted after the deadline. There will be no exceptions.

On a lighter note I would like to thank somebody at Sene Valley for the stripogram that appeared on the 4th tee just before dinner. We will not be charging extra for this entertainment but we will supply telescopes next time for you

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## COURSES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

short sighted greenkeepers.

That's all for this month but watch this space for future events etc. I can be contacted on 0860 260 240.

Huw Morgan

■ Ken Statham, President of the Kent County Golf Union, died peacefully at his home in Biggin Hill early on Tuesday morning, April 23. His sudden and untimely death at the age of 62 when he still had so much to contribute to golf, was an extremely sad loss and his leadership, counsel and wonderful sense of humour, together with the friendships generated since his involvement with the game, and particularly during his time with the County Committee, will be greatly missed by the golfing fraternity. Kent golf owes him a great deal.

Ken began his golf joining Cherry Lodge in 1969 and as a natural administrator, inevitably became involved in committee work including Junior Organiser and Chairman of Greens. In 1981, when his son Neil made his County debut, his efforts in the interests of golf brought him onto the County Committee where initially he managed the Kent 2nd teams and later took charge of the Colts. At about that time, he was also involved in setting up, with George Will, the County Coaching Scheme which has proved so successful. In 1988 he was honoured to be invited to take Office as County President, and his subsequent election to the E.G.U. Council, and the following year his services to Cherry Lodge were recognised and rewarded by his election to Club Captain.

Ken's enthusiasm and love of golf knew no bounds and was such that he rarely missed an event. During his term of County Office this would average one day in every three 'On Duty'. On many of these occasions he would be accompanied by Audrey, and as a result she became well known and very popular with players and supporters alike. There is no doubt that they both enjoyed every minute so spent.

The funeral took place at Lewisham Crematorium on the 2nd May and among the many present were representatives from the E.G.U., the South-Eastern Group Counties, the Kent Ladies Golf Union, and many Kent Clubs. An Address was given by Ken's brother, Michael, and by Ray Saunders, Kent County Captain who spoke of Ken's achievements and of his dedication to furthering the game of golf. Ken would have enjoyed Ray's quip to the effect that there were no 'Apologies for Absence' from the County Committee on this occasion. Many Clubs will also have acknowledged Ken's passing with the traditional lowering of flags.

Ken leaves his wife Audrey, son Neil and daughter-in-law Sue, grandchildren Sam and Chloe, and daughter Toril

### Sussex

We have held two events in April this year, as we did last year so successfully. The first one was for Head Greenkeepers accompanied by their Club Secretaries which was held at West Sussex Golf Club. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to a back injury at the last minute. However, I understand the day went well and Alastair Cale and Chris Reed, with their Secretaries, walked away with the glassware donated by SCATS of Billingham.

The second event was the Spring Meeting and Hayter Challenge Qualifier which was held at East Sussex National. The response was phenomenal and we had to go down on bended knee to increase from 48 to 60 players. Even then we had to turn people away although we ended up with 64 people there in total! Among these were John Pemberton, who came down from Head

## Around the Green



Office to play, and also Derek Farrington, our new Regional Administrator, who was thankfully able to take over the admin duties from Sue when we left early. The course was brilliant, if challenging – the 16th gobbled up golf balls by the score! The Hayter Challenge qualifiers were Lawrie Tremlett, Chris Allen and Danny O' Rouke in Category 1 with Roland Hughes as reserve. Alastair Cale, Jon Hill and Neil Cleverly qualified in Category 2 with Ken Barber of East Sussex National (!) as reserve. Category 3 was Tony Bremer, Colin Cathy and Jonathan Sales with Mike McQueen as reserve. Congratulations and good luck to you all on the 6th June. The overall winner of the morning round of the Spring Meeting was Alastair Cale who has now been cut two shots! Raymond Day won the afternoon round and we are trying to figure out how to cut his handicap as well – below the knees! All in the day was a great success with Culverwells and Rigby Taylor kindly sponsoring some wonderful prizes.

On a personal note I would like to announce the happy and long awaited arrival of my daughter, Samantha, in November last year and Gary Ogilvie's daughter, Charlotte, in March this year. Stefan G. Antolik

### South West and South Wales Region

#### Devon and Cornwall

With section events completed for another winter our section's thoughts turned to the Region's Trade show Westurf. The show allows our Region to offer its members reduced cost educational events and in the past our local Colleges have received grants towards greenkeeper education.

With this it is important that Westurf continues to thrive, this year's show started off not as we would have liked with the rain pouring down at that stage it crossed our minds that the show may have to be cancelled but within minutes of the show opening the rain eased to just a few showers and was that the sun we saw! Numbers around the stands were steady all day, with the prize draws taking place it gave all who attended a chance to walk away with a prize, the new show layout provided the machinery companies with an excellent area to show off their latest equipment. Also this year our Executive Director Neil Thomas, Chairman Dean Cleaver assisted by Janet and Scott held forum at the BIGGA tent, all members were invited along to discuss any points they had regarding our Association.

All in all Westurf 96 continued to consolidate its position as a superb local, turf care show with most of the trade delighted with enquiries on the day.

On behalf of the section I would like to thank Gordon & Marion Child who put in so much time and effort into organising the show, also thanks must go to Steve Evans and Bill Mitchell who helped with the setting up of the show the day before and on the day and to all who helped out especially the South West lads on car park duty in all that rain.

Good luck to all our Hayter Qualifiers at this year's regional final at Salisbury and South Wilts GC on Wednesday June 12.

Trevose Golf Club is the venue for our June summer evening meeting on

Wednesday the 19th please contact Steve Evans on 01208 863647 if you would like to attend.

Richard Whyman

### South West

It was into cider country that we travelled for this year's Spring Tournament and Hayter section Qualifier held on April 17 at Oake Manor GC. The blustery conditions did not make playing this excellent young course any easier with many challenging holes created by well designed water features presenting themselves as the round unfolded. Course Manager Nigel Pring had prepared the course in first class condition particularly considering the slow start to the growing season, with dense growth on the fairways being the envy of others who have far less after last year's drought.

For this second event of the year we were privileged to have the presence of the Editor, who not only put his swing to the test but also had his camera on hand to snap some unsuspecting competitor. Thanks though are given to Scott for coming so far down country to be with us particularly as he drove back the same night.

Thanks are also given to Nigel for his course presentation, to Russell Gardner, the club professional for allowing us course courtesy and, of course, to Robin Boyes and the lads from Hayter for their sponsorship. The drinks, crisps and sweets were welcome at half way point.

The results were as follows:- 0-9. Craig Fudge nett 66; Nigel Pring nett 68; Michael Fawcett nett 73; Paul Godwin nett 74; Chris Tozer nett 74; reserves Paul Garland nett 74; Gary Cooke nett 75. 10-18. Alan Turner nett 72; James Williams nett 73; Duncan Smith nett 75; Anthony Knight nett 76; Oliver Stevenson nett 78; reserves Jim Nicholson nett 79; Maurice pierce nett 81. 19-28. Chris Sealey nett 73; Tim Dabennett nett 76; John Barr nett 76; Steve Mitchell nett 78; Peter Cox nett 80; reserves Matthew Hawker nett 85; Bob Gate nett 86.

Suggestions are being invited for presentations, speakers, subjects and titles for the Learning Experience at Harrogate in 1997. If anyone is interested in contributing, please contact me for a application form.

Five Supervisory and Management Courses are being promoted for 1996 to be held at Aldwark Manor starting from the 7th to 11th October and finishing from 4th to 8th November. If you are interested in booking a space then please contact either Ken Richardson at Headquarters on 01347 838581 or myself on 0117 9793127 for a application form.

Finally the Summer Competition takes place this year at Mendip Golf Club on 25th July.

Kevin Green

### South Wales

The South Wales section seminar recently took place at Pencoed College and was deemed a great success by the 36 who attended.

Our thanks to the sponsors for making the day possible, Miracle Professional, Barenbrug, Hardi and Envirogreen Ltd. To the seminar speakers, Richard Minton, Bill Oliver, John Bradley, Gareth Goddard and Duncan Stewart for their interesting, educational and enjoyable presentations.

As the seminar rounded off this series of educational events, I'd like to thank all of those who have given so freely their time to help in the organisation of these meetings, but especially Peter Gillard and Malcolm Davies for their sterling efforts and also to the principal Mr JDB Thomas for allowing us the use of the college facilities.

Lastly (thank god I hear you cry) to our very own marathon man Mr David

Gladwin. Dave recently completed his second London marathon, although his finishing time around was not as fast as the first, due to the unexpected heat-wave of 75 degrees. Crossing the finishing line itself an achievement, well done!

On route, Dave reckons that he consumed at least 20 pints of water (makes a change from beer) and he'd like to personally thank the fire services for their efforts in cooling people down with their hoses. To those, they know who they are, who doubted his ability to run the race. I believe him, although he does have a second bike for sale.

Peter Lacey

### South Coast

The Spring Golf Meeting was held on Monday 15th April at Crane Valley GC. Martin Summers, the Course Manager had prepared the course in good order for us, he and his staff at the Crane Valley were most helpful on the day and they even managed to supply us with fine weather. Our thanks must also go to management for allowing us the use of the course, the catering staff for keeping us fed and watered. Last but not least our thanks to our generous sponsors for the day Huxley Grass Machinery and our President Jim Fry.

The results were as follows:-

Nearest the pin. P Fitzjohn; Longest Drive. R. Walker; Nita Simpson Trophy. R. Crouch; 1st Gross B Emberley, 2nd Gross L Miller; 1st Handicap A Rideout, 2nd Handicap M Woodrow

As from now our section is running its own Handicaps for those that are bandits (see above), and for those members who have not got club Handicaps. This means there is no need for anyone to feel left out. All members are welcome to attend these meetings.

As you are all probably aware some of the courses held at Aldwark Manor are now going to be run at regional level. This is to cut down on expenses. If you have any ideas as to what sort of courses and subjects you would like covered please contact Kerran Daly on 01722 742898.

We are still looking for assessors within the section. If you are interested in obtaining your D32 contact Kieran who will fill you in on all the details.

At the time of writing this report we have just had some really hard frosts that have slowed down the growth considerably. A lot of grass must be suffering at this time, still by the time this report gets into the Magazine the sun will be shining and we will have forgotten all about the cold spring "we hope".

Well gentleman that concludes the report for this month. I would like to ask all members that if they have any item of interest they would like to be put in the magazine please give me a ring with the details.

Ken Lodge

## MY AMBITION IS...



"To play cricket until I retire and golf as long as possible"

Adrian Dancer, Shendish Manor GC



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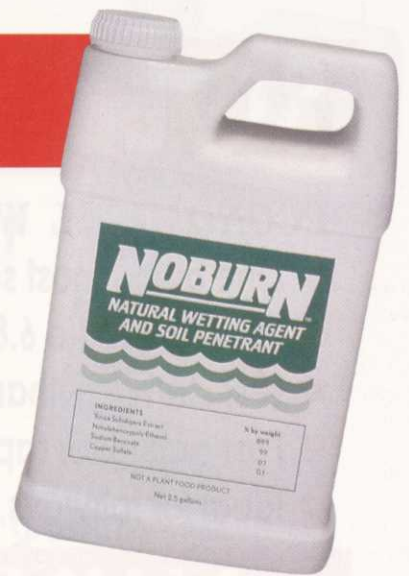
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# Under the COSHH

**More words of wisdom on health and safety matters by Jon Allbutt**

**T**he Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations were introduced originally in 1988 and have been progressively revised since then. The most significant revision came in 1994 with some changes in definitions and important additions, but more about that later on. When trying to understand new health and safety regulations it is not a bad idea to ask the question why?; Why was it necessary to introduce a special set of regulations under the Health and Safety at Work Act that deal specifically with hazardous substances? The Control of Pesticides Regulations were introduced in 1996 along with a handful of Codes of Practice so the problems of use and exposure to pesticides were being taken care of, or were they? But, there are many other substances hazardous to health to which we are exposed more frequently than pesticides, and these are not subject to the same testing, registration, labelling and use restrictions as pesticides.

The employers general duties set out in Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 do not give details on the specific matter of hazardous substances. There are no definitions, no specific duties with regard to protection, monitoring, risk assessments etc.

So there is a need to raise awareness of the risks to health, both short and long term from exposure to hazardous substances. We need an action plan to avoid and/or minimise exposure and a system for recording, informing and monitoring all work activities involving these substances. That in a nutshell summarises the employers duties as required by COSHH Regulations. The wording of Regulation 6 is interesting:

**"An employer shall not carry on any work which is liable to expose any employees to any substance hazardous to health unless he has made a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks created by that work to the health of those employees and of the steps that need to be taken to meet the requirements of these Regulations."**

This vital point "shall not carry on any work" is missed by most employers; another vital point usually missed is the duty to assess "the risks created by that work". It is not sufficient to merely record what is being used; to complete a "suitable and sufficient" assessment there must be a study of the work done involving hazardous substances.

A classic example in greenkeeping is the use of diesel fuel. A typical material safety data sheet (MSDS) states clearly:

"The products are defatting agents and contain low concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, some of which are known, from experimental studies, to be carcinogenic. Prolonged or repeated skin contact, and in condi-

tions of poor personal hygiene, may therefore cause dermatitis, and pose a possible long term risk from skin cancer."

Diesel fuel tanks or drums that have no proper means of dispensing except into a makeshift container which is then poured into the fuel tank involve unacceptable exposure during the fuelling of vehicles. Add the fact that this is an operation that takes place one of more times per day, and you have a situation that contravenes the requirements of Regulation 6.

So how can we deal with this situation? The diesel tank will be raised on piers within a bund, or be fitted with a pump. There will be a delivery hose long enough to reach, and designed to deliver fuel, without spilling(!), into a variety of types and sizes of fuel tank. The diesel storage tank will have the warning symbol (Harmful) and any guidance fixed near to the delivery hose and gloves of the correct type nearby for use on every occasion the fuel is dispensed.

I recently carried out a health and safety audit at a golf course and found an old diesel fuel tank sitting on some sleepers in the shed. It was just high enough off the ground to fit a bucket under the tap. The tap was leaking and the greenkeepers stood in a slurry of sand and diesel to fill the bucket which was then poured (mostly!) into the fuel tank of the vehicle. All the vehicles had the typical staining of spilt diesel, not to mention the characteristic smell!

## ACTION PLAN

Here is a suggested action plan to take to the Greens Committee for adoption, to help the employer to comply with the COSHH Regulations:

1. Those members of the club management team to attend either the BIGGA Courses (see insert), or one of the British Safety Council Tel: 0181 741 1231 one day courses run throughout the year on Risk Assessment and General Health and Safety.
2. Make a complete list of all chemical substances in use for the whole site. Justify the list and dispose of all those substances that are no longer required; amend the list.
3. Set a policy that no new substances will be purchased by the Club until a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) has been obtained first, studied and a decision made that it is not more, and preferably is a less hazardous substance than that previously used. Obtain Material Safety Data Sheets for all the substances on the list.
4. Complete a list of work activities likely to expose staff to micro-organisms and state how these risks can be eliminated, or reduced.
5. Make another list of those work activities involving exposure to dust and decide if expert help is needed to quantify the

The regulations make it clear that it is not only chemical substances that are hazardous, in fact the regulations also state:

"A biological agent", and gives this definition – "biological agent" means any micro-organism, cell culture, or human endoparasite, including any which have been genetically modified, which may cause any infection allergy, toxicity or otherwise create a risk to human health.

So here we need to be aware of the risks to health from a variety of organisms such as Tetanus, Leptospirosis, Legionella, Hepatitis and so on. All greenkeepers should have up to date protection against Tetanus and take care when working in or near rat infested water, or working with materials in rat infested areas e.g. plastic fertiliser bags. The revisions for the 1994 regulations include for the first time An Approved Code of Practice for the Control of Biological Agents and places additional duties on the employer to complete a risk assessment where exposure arises from a deliberate intention to work with a biological agent, or where exposure is incidental to the main work activity.

Another area often missed by the employer is "a dust of any kind when present at a substantial concentration in air". Mowing in drought conditions, mixing and applying top dressings or fertilisers are the sort of jobs that may expose staff to high concentrations of dust, sometimes for long periods.

degree of exposure. State how this exposure could be eliminated or reduced.

6. Review all personal protective equipment and establish whether it is adequate, up to date and carries the CE Mark. Remember you will need material safety data sheets for this equipment as well to establish its suitability.
7. Prepare risk assessments, where necessary, taking into account the degree of exposure and the actual work activity. Decide if the exposure can be reduced by changing the substance, or the method of working. If necessary prepare written guidance where staff need to follow specific procedures.
8. Put all of this into a Health and Safety File and present it to the appropriate Committee for adoption as part of the Club Health and Safety Policy.
9. Introduce it to all staff as part of a training session giving them enough time to become familiar with the File and their duties.
10. Monitor the use of the File on regular occasions during the first six months of use and report back to the Committee with recommendations for revisions.

# GREENKEEPER

## THE COLLEGES AND TH

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.

Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF, telephone 01347 838640.

### NORTH



**ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE** Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 01904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2 and 3, City & Guilds Phase IV Greenkeeping.



**HOUGHALL COLLEGE** Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 0191 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; NVQ Level 3 Amenity Horticulture – Afternoon Evening. *Short Courses:* Health & Safety Legislation; Turfcare; Machinery and Mechanisation. All courses contribute towards NVQ Levels I and II.



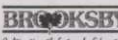
**MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE** Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 01995 640611. *Full time courses:* HND Turf Science and Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsground Management – 3 Years; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Turf Science and Golf Course Management – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; NVQ Level III Sportsturf Maintenance; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTLA). A range of short courses including FEPA, First Aid and various technical modules.



**REASEHEATH COLLEGE** Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF. Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 01270 625131 Fax: 01270 625665. *Full time:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 1 year. BTEC National Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 2 years. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management – 3 years. *Part time:* HNC Golf Course Management – Distance Learning. NVQ Level 1 Greenkeeping – Day Release. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. CRG Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release. IoG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release. IoG National Diploma – Day Release. *Short Courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting; Chainsaws; Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



**BRACKENHURST COLLEGE** Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0QF. Contact Student Administration. Tel: 01636 817000. National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management – 1 Year. *Day Release over 2 Years:* NVQ Level 1 Amenity Horticulture; NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with options. City & Guilds Phase 3 Greenkeeping Management. We also offer short courses in Technical, Supervisory and Management skills training appropriate to the Greenkeeping Industry.



**BROOKSBY COLLEGE** Brooksby, Nr Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Ann Hurt. Tel: 01664 434291. National Certificate in Horticulture. National Diploma in Horticulture. Day Release training to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture – Greenkeeping option. The course is based around the GTC Training Manual. Short courses include Chainsaws, FEPA Spraying and Hedgelaying.



**BROOMFIELD COLLEGE** Morley, Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 01332 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. NVQ Level III gained by 9x 3-day blocks, or APL service.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE** Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact Martin Crimmins. Tel: 01223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences September/October 1996.



**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY School of Agriculture and Horticulture, Lincoln** Caythorpe Court, Caythorpe, Grantham, Lincs. Contact Neil Rowbottom on 01522 522252 or Student Services on 01400 272521. Day Release NVQ Level II. NCH with Greenkeeping. National Diploma in Horticulture with Greenkeeping and Turf Management options. National Diploma in Golf Studies. Also HND Golf and Leisure Studies.



**RODBASTON COLLEGE** Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 01785 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 Graham Martin. Tel: 01926 651367. Greenkeeping courses – day release – NVQ Level I; NVQ Level II; NVQ Level III; IoG courses (evening class). National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture; Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with option in Turf Culture); *Professional updating courses include:* Groundsmanship, Machinery Maintenance and Repair, Managing Conservation Areas, Plant Identification, Hedgelaying, First Aid, FEPA Spraying Courses, Chainsaw Courses.



**BERKSHIRE COLLEGE** Hall Place, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 6QR. Tel: 01628 824444 Fax: 01628 824695 *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma and National Diploma in Greenkeeping. *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping and Fine Turf Management, GTC Manual, NVQ Level II Groundsman and Sports Turf Management. NVQ Level III Golf Greenkeeping.



**BRINSBURY COLLEGE** North Heath, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1DL. Contact Keith Harrison. Tel: 01798 873832. *Full time courses:* BTEC 1st Diploma Horticulture with Greenkeeping option. National Diploma Landscape Studies, Sportsturf and Greenkeeping option. *Part time:* NVQ II Greenkeeping plus Core. 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. NVQ Level III Sportsturf Maintenance. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management and Greenkeeping). National Technical Certificate (IoG), National Practical Certificate (IoG), Intermediate Diploma (IoG), National Diploma (IoG)



**HADLOW COLLEGE** Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 01732 850551. NVQ Level II and Level III Part-time Day Release with two periods of Block Release or evenings. Level II in Groundsmanship evenings. NVQ Level III Golf Greenkeeping. Centres at Hadlow, Canterbury and Maidstone.



**MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE** Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact Student Services. Tel: 01483 232424. *Full time courses:* National Diploma in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. *Part-time:* NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 1, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 2, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Sports Turf Maintenance Level 3.

### 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 Supervisory level

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only


Pending GTC approval for all courses

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: 0181 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.



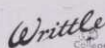
**OAKLANDS COLLEGE** Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 01727 850651. Part time courses leading to NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, evening courses leading to City & Guilds Phase IV Business Management. One year full time NC Greenkeeping & Sports Turf Management. Courses start September 1996.



**OTLEY COLLEGE** Otley College, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact Student Applications. Tel: 01473 785543. Full time courses include: BTEC National Diploma (Horticulture), NCH (Sports Turf Option). Part time courses: NVQ 2 Greenkeeping/Groundsmanship, NVQ 3 Sports Turf Management/Landscape Construction. IOG Qualifications including NID & NDT (Evenings). Also horticultural Mechanics, Welding & FEPA Spraying courses. Modern Apprenticeships in Commercial & Amenity Horticulture Options are available. New for 1996 BSc (Hons) Environmental Landscape Management. Otley College - Developing Individuals - Achieving More.



**PLUMPTON COLLEGE** Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 01273 890454. Full time courses: National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture (options in Landscape and Sportsturf); National Certificate in Amenity Horticulture; First Diploma; A11 BTEC. Part time courses: NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture in Arboriculture, Interior Landscaping, Hard Landscaping and Greenkeeping, Sportsturf and Sportsground Management; NVQ Level III Amenity Horticulture; Phase IV Business Management.



**WRITTLE COLLEGE** Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 01245 420705, Fax: 01245 420456. Part time courses include: NVQ Levels I, II, III and IV Sportsturf & Greenkeeping. Day Release. Includes training and assessment of Greenkeepers Training Manual. Full time courses include: BTEC First Diploma (1 year), BTEC National Diploma with Option in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management, 3 year sandwich course; BTEC Higher National Diploma with Option in Golf Course Management 3 year sandwich course, BSc (Hons) Degree course in Landscape and Amenity Management. Short courses for FEPA, Irrigation, Fork Lift Trucks, Chainsaws and First Aid also available. Associate students welcome, progression routes identified, accreditation of prior learning possible.

SOUTH WEST



**CANNINGTON COLLEGE** Cannington Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 01278 652226. HNC Golf Course Management. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in 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, Greenkeeper Mechanics, BTEC National Diploma Sports Science (Golf Studies).

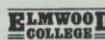


**HARTPURY COLLEGE** Hartpury, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Tel: 01452 700283. Fax: 01452 700629. Amenity and Decorative Horticulture: NVQ Level II and III, First Diploma, National Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management: NVQ Level II and III, First Diploma, Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Golf Studies: National Diploma. FEPA Training.



**SPARSHOLT COLLEGE** Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Contact Bob Young. Tel: 01962 776441. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FEPA: Short Courses, Chainsaws. All courses, other than Phase IV, are offered on Block release. Full residential facilities available. New for '96 ANCA Machinery Maintenance. Full time or part time.

SCOTLAND



**ELMWOOD COLLEGE** Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 01334 652781. Fax: 01334 656795. Craft Level courses. Block-release and full-time, following SVQ Level II and the GTC Training Manual. Six week specialist modular programme (January-February), including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures. SVQ Level III (Supervisory) Block Release. HNC/HND Golf Course Management available as full-time, day-release and distance learning. FEPA, COSHH and Health & Safety short courses also.



**LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW** Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 0141 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. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with Greenkeeping options plus a range of NC and HNC Horticulture programmes including G SVQ Level III. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



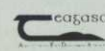
**OATRIDGE COLLEGE** Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 01506 854387. Full and part time courses: Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Greenkeeping; National Certificate Modular and Scottish Vocational Qualification Level 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 Henry Shaw. Tel: 01849 426666. Day release courses leading to (a) GTC Certificate/NVQ Level II Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management (b) GTC Certificate/NVQ Level III Golf Course Supervision.

EIRE



**TEAGASC COLLEGE** Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 003531 8374 388. 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. Tel: 01656 860202. Day Release courses in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf at Craft, Advanced Craft, Supervisory and Management levels to GTC requirements, incorporating the Training Manual of the Greenkeepers Training Committee. National Diploma Greenkeeping and Sportsturf - full time, commencing September 1996.



**WELSH COLLEGE** Welsh College of Horticulture, Northrop, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6AA. Contact GM Wright. Tel: 01352 840861. Fax: 01352 840731. Full time courses: BTEC First in Landbase Golf Greenkeeping NVQ Level II. Part time courses: NVQ 4, 3, 2, 1 all available on block weeks. Short courses: Pesticide PA1, PA2, PA6, 1-3 day courses (training and testing); COSHH Assessments; Safe lifting and carrying; PICKUP courses. Home study learning at NVQ Level II Option Greenkeeping. All courses are integrated with the GTC Training Manual.

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# Working

**Making alternations to a golf course is much easier when everyone works together as a team.**

Unlike many art forms golf courses are living things. Of course, we know the playing characteristics change with the seasons and the weather but they also differ in other ways to the extent that they rarely ever remain exactly the same as the original architect's design.

Nature dictates that trees grow, changing the look of holes while others have man made alterations – extended or shortened, bunkers added, greens altered, always with a view to refining the original golfing challenge. All this, coupled with less than repetitive natures of most players swings, ensure the only time, unlike the accurate Ben Hogan who was reputed to achieve the feat with regularity, players tend to play from their own divot marks is when the first effort has failed to move the ball.

Golf Course architects are a singularly thick skinned lot and don't seem to mind others tampering with their handiwork. Can you imagine Da Vinci's response to being told that the committee had decided that the Mona Lisa's dopey grin was to be replaced by something more sultry and they'd called in Rembrandt to do the work? Or Beethoven's on being told that the committee had asked Noel Gallagher to rework the middle eight in his Ninth Symphony. Personally I don't think they'd be over the moon. But I'm fairly sure Alister McKenzie would be quite pleased if he saw the way Augusta National now looks or that Harry Colt would appreciate changes made to the West Course at Wentworth.

However, amendments are not just made to the elite golf clubs, it's something which members' clubs have done for many years and now, particularly with the VAT windfall, it is an avenue more clubs have the wherewithal to attempt.

Such a club is East Herts, which has shown that by employing a professional architect and contractor and then working closely with them and the greenkeeping team seemingly wide

ranging work can be carried out without closing the course and to the satisfaction of everyone concerned.

A total of 52 bunkers were involved – remodelling existing ones and putting in seven brand new ones.

"Most of the existing ones have been reshaped because of the amount of sand caused by the banks on them. They just swallowed up vast quantities of sand and that is very difficult to maintain," explained Ian Scott Taylor, the architect charged with completing with the work in concert with constructor, Cousell Associates Ltd, Head Greenkeeper Bill Sparrow, his team and the members.

"There will be 47 sand bunkers in total the rest of which are grass hollows. The thought behind it is to introduce more strategy into the golf course to make the member think about what he is going to do around the course and to improve course management for the greenkeeper as well. That was the brief that East Herts gave us to work to and I believe it has worked very well."

The fact that the relationship with the club, its members and the professionals was so good speaks volumes for the way the job was tackled because, let's face it, putting in bunkers is a little like getting the job of putting up taxes – you wouldn't expect to win many popularity contests.

"A member said the other day. We must be the only club in the country to spend £100,000 putting in things which no member wants! You can't give him an argument really," said Ray York, a member of the Green Committee and a man whose work on the project has been so well appreciated he's had a new bunker on the 1st named after him!

The course was originally designed and constructed by the members and their own green staff when the club was relocated 20 years ago and the quality of the layout is a credit to all involved.

"The old course was a figure eight and we wanted to retain that concept here and this site automatically lent itself to that design again," said Ray.

The bunkers at the new East

# in harmony...



Ian Scott Taylor, left, and Bill Sparrow, right, with two members of Cousell Associates Ltd construction team

Herts course were more or less a copy of those at the old course.

"The general feeling was that after 20 years our bunkers were old fashioned and didn't fit in with what they had everywhere else.

"The shaping of them was unfair. In certain times of the year if ball ran in to within 12 inches of the back of the bunker you didn't have a shot. Our plan

was to enhance them and bring them up to latter day design," said Ray.

The club decided to put its VAT money to good use and decided on this occasion to commission a professional architect.

The Green's Committee quickly saw the benefits of bringing in professionals to do the work.

"Because the members know we have a professional golf archi-

tect on the job we've been able to put in new bunkers which weren't on the original plan. They've gone in and we've had very little problem because the members know they are being done by someone who knows what he is talking about and not Charlie Bloggs from the club who's decided to pop one in there. That has been a terrific help," said Ray.

"My first impressions of the course were that it didn't need a lot doing to it. The members had done an excellent job of routing the golf course. I couldn't have done a better job myself to be honest but it just needed tweaking here and there," said Ian.

"We came back with some proposals and we all went through them with Bill Sparrow. I gave my thinking on each bunker and discussed them all in detail. The good thing about this is that it's been a team effort all the way round. It just proves that the golf architect, constructor, can work with the greens committee and the greenkeeper as a team."

The old adage about a camel being a horse designed by committee was avoided because there was no doubt where the buck stopped.

"The casting vote is with the architect. The buck stops with him and he's got to balance all the opinions of the constructor, greenkeeper and the committee. It has not always been a bed of roses we have had our points of contention on one or two bunkers and I have had to say enough's enough and that is what we are going to do."

Work began on January 29 and was completed by the middle of May in time for a big pro-am at the club in July.

To speed the process all work was being turfed not seeded to come back into early play as soon as possible. David Cousell visited the site twice a week to coordinate the work with his full time on site team, Bill and his team.

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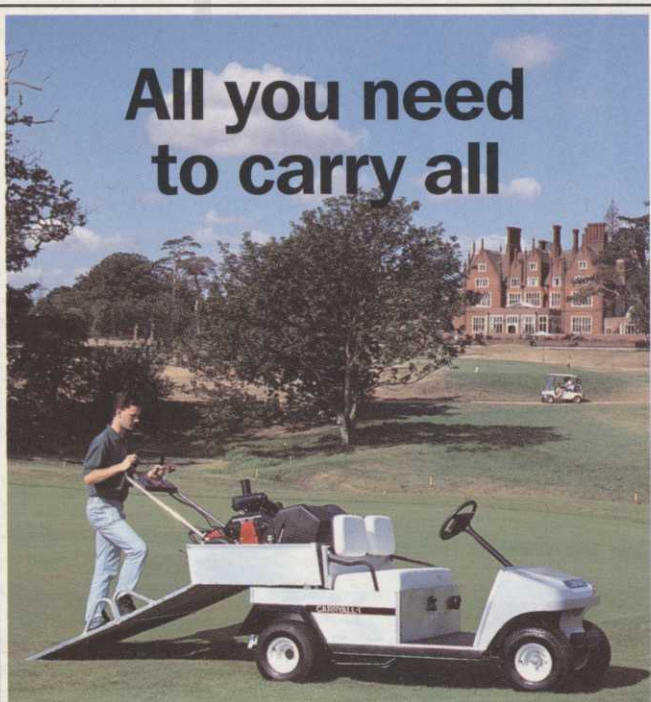
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## Working in harmony...



The 17th with three new bunkers guarding the right side of the fairway

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my programme I'll be able to blend the aprons in with the ride on triple when I go around the surrounds. I think it is cutting it down the maintenance of the bunkers." Previously when it rained the sand is some of the bunkers used to be washed down.

"It looked horrible and I would have to ask staff make sure they shove it back. Another benefit will be that not so much sand will be thrown onto the greens damaging them, smothering them and getting into the cutters. The whole appearance of the courses should be enhanced with the bunkering," said Bill.

The work at East Herts shows that extensive work can be carried out while the course remains open and the benefits of working closely with the professional team engaged to do the work.

"We have been very lucky at East Herts because the committee has been very progressive in the way it has looked at things. We can talk to, and reason with, them and we have respected their opinion and they have respected our professional opinion," explained Ian.

"While the work has been going on we've not had any problem with stopping play. I've been in daily communication with the construction team and we've been able to talk problems get round it one way and another avoid disruption on the course," said Bill.

He will also benefit from the style of the new bunkers which have been installed.

"The new style bunkers will save on maintenance time and it will give me more time to do work on other parts of the course.

We will have one or two bunkers which we will still have to fly mow but once I've got into

### MY AMBITION IS...



"To learn to play this silly little game of golf properly"  
Richard Saunders, St Neots GC