

Cawder, 86-20-66; 2. G. Shearer, Balmore, 90-22-68; 3. N. Gibb, Hilton Park, 95-21-74. Trade prize. R. Bruce, Ritefeed, 85-16-69. Visitor. G. Mulloch 109-24-85.

All these people will qualify for the Hayter Challenge along with G. Dingwall, Crow Wood, and M. Corey, Balmore. Best wishes to all at the Lochgreen Course.

Many thanks are due for this recent outing – firstly to the catering staff and Club Master for the attention given and their ability to make everybody feel important; the Captain and Committee along with members for allowing courtesy of the course and for presenting the prizes on the day and last, but certainly not least, to Donald McLellan and his staff for presenting a course which was absolutely beautiful. You are all complimented on your presentation and hard work.

Remember to submit your entries for the five-a-side tournament as entries will close quickly this year. It is hoped 16 teams can compete. Certain rules apply, only two clubs can join forces, players are restricted to a maximum of seven players, strips must be worn, shin guards are to be worn and referees will control

events on the pitch! Let's hope the weather is as good as last year. This time Camsie/Russells will have a fight on their hands for the trophy.

Remember all those people wishing to help at Loch Lomond should contact Cecil George or the Secretary to make sure you don't miss out.

Finally, can I wish all members a good season. Please don't forget to inform me of any interesting information – births, deaths, promotions or retirements. A note for future reference, Brian Hillan, Drumpellier, is now dealing with matters regarding 11-a-side football and Loch Lomond, I believe, are interested in a challenge!

Stewart Taylor

#### **NORTHERN REGION**

Bob Lupton  
Tel: 01782 750539

#### **Sheffield**

Yes, I am still doing the Section notes even though my name has not been appearing at the foot of the notes recently (apologies from the Editor).

On April 7 we held our Spring Competition at Wath GC which was also the qualifier for the Hayter Tournament which gave us a very good turnout of 56

players.

Wath was in excellent condition and our thanks go to Dean Abdy and his staff for all the hard work they have done on the course.

We would also like to thank Wath GC for the courtesy of their course and to the steward and his staff for providing an excellent meal which I think was enjoyed by everyone.

Our thanks also go to Alan Dyson, from GEM, for sponsoring the competition and providing an excellent prize table. Our thanks also go to Steve Burroughs, Peter Fell and Les Purdy who also provided prizes and thanks to Hayter for the prizes for the division winners.

Congratulations go to everyone who won prizes at Wath and well done to Kevin Lock, who won the competition with a very good score. Well done Kevin!

Results:- 1. K. Lock; 2. B. Bonring; 3. D. Norton; 4. G. Marsh. The nearest the pin prize was won by G. Marsh and our guest prize was won by our President, Ken Arnold.

All the qualifiers for the Northern Region Final are:- Cat 1:- 1. K. Lock; 2. D. Norton; 3. D. Chappel; Res. J. Darroch. Cat 2:- 1. B. Bonring; 2. G. Marsh; 3. M. Coltas; Res. R. Ward. Cat 3:- 1. P.

Neve; 2. M. Crawshaw; 3. I. Clark; Res. S. Hurd. Good luck to you all in the final.

Our next golf competition will be held at Silkstone GC on July 7 at 10 am.  
John Lax

#### **North Wales**

Our annual North Wales v North West competition took place at Hill Valley Country Club on April 16 and our thanks are due to Andrew Mitchell and his father for providing us with a wonderful venue for this event. Thanks also go to Bert Cross for organising the North West Team and most especially to Terry Adamson for his hard work in supervising the day and to GEM for their sponsorship. The match resulted in a draw and therefore we get to keep the trophy for another year.

Over 80 members and guests took part in our Spring Tournament at Frodsham GC on April 30. Our thanks are due to Eric and Sheila Roylance for their generosity in providing us with a wonderful venue and courtesy of the course for the day.

The course, which is in a beautiful location on top of Frodsham Hill was in excellent condition and superbly presented, a credit to Paul Massey and his team.



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Our thanks must also go to Frodsham GC's President, Rob Andrew and Lady Captain, Hilary Welsh for taking part in our tournament and for making us feel so very welcome. Congratulations go to Russell Lewis, of Northop, who was the winner of the Hi-Speed Rose Bowl for the best gross of 74 and also to Haydn Jones, of Chirk, who with a best nett of 70 was the winner of the Richard Campey Trophy. Colin Davies was the worthy winner of our nearest the pin competition on the 5th being only 14 inches from the cup. In fact if there had been two nearest the pins Colin would probably have won both since he was only four inches from a hole-in-one on the 9th! The winners and runners up of the three divisions are listed below, however, at the time of writing I have not been able to contact all concerned to confirm which three from each division will be representing the Section at the Regional Final on July 9 at Matfen Hall, Northumberland.

Cat 1:- Andy Peel, Russell Lewis, Darryl Davies, Steve Roberts, Dave Parry, Trevor Johnston. Cat 2:- Dave Evans, Graham Timmis, Les Parry, Matthew Pooley, Ken Jones, Dave Proctor. Cat 3:- Haydn Jones, Don Rowlands, John L. Jones, Emyr Rowlands, Peter Sproston.

Our thanks to our sponsors on the day, Hamish Macfie of Hayter, Acorn, Gem Professional, John Osman, Mommersteeg, Walker Engineering, Richard Jones of Motrac and especially to Richard Campey and Paul Shaw of Hi-Speed Oils whose trophies we played for.

We can now look forward to our Autumn tournament which is now confirmed at Abersoch GC on October 8. Our Section has now grown to 146 with the addition of 3 new members, Carl Rogers, from Chirk GC, and Gareth Hughes and Ellis Mostyn,

## Around the Green



from The Plassey GC.  
Trevor Johnston

### Cleveland

A meeting of assessors was held at Middlesbrough Municipal GC in April, chaired by Internal Verifier, Tony Mears. In attendance was Tony Milan, lecturer at Houghall College, Durham, who was very helpful in explaining about training and assessment and how to judge your young trainees with evidence. He made it all sound so easy. We are now preparing for another assessor training day so if anyone is interested please contact Tony Mears.

Castle Eden GC are rebuilding a bridge at the par 3 6th hole. They have also reconstructed the 14th green on a porous base root zone and laid their own turf. They have also planted 800 trees. Glenn Baxter, Head Greenkeeper at South Shields GC, and his staff, have reconstructed the 3rd and 9th tees plus a number of greenside bunkers.

Hartlepool Head Greenkeeper, Alan Evans and his staff, have been busy improving paths using red track material which looks beautiful. He also told me that his greens have been disease free for the past seven years and he has used no fungicide. Congratulations Alan, I wish I could say the same!

Bruce Burnell

### North West

Our annual tournament with the North Wales Section was played at Hill Valley GC on Wednesday April 16. The weather was great with sunshine from start to finish. The course was in lovely condition thanks to Andrew Minshall and his staff. The result was

a halved match which means North Wales retain the GEM Trophy for a further year. I would like to thank Hill Valley GC for allowing us courtesy of the course and their excellent facilities. Thanks also to GEM for sponsoring the day once again.

The next golf competition is the summer meeting at Longridge GC, on Wednesday June 25, and all applications must be received by Friday June 20. Send your cheque for £15 made payable to BIGGA N/W to:- Bill Merritt, 255 Utting Avenue, Clubmore, Liverpool, L4 9RB, telephone 0151 284 4416. Soup and sandwiches will be served between 12 noon and 1pm and the tee is available from 1.30 pm. The evening meal will be followed by a prize presentation. The draw for the support team at The Open has now been done at HQ and obviously some will be disappointed but it was all done on a fair basis. To those of you who have been lucky enough to be picked out of the hat I am sure you will enjoy the experience and I will see you at Troon on July 16.

Anyone with any news, views or queries please contact me on 0151 724 5412.  
Bert Cross

### Northern

This year's Spring Tournament was held at Wakefield GC. Although the forecast was not too good, the rain held off apart from a quick shower around early afternoon.

Many thanks to County Crops for providing sponsorship for this event and to Glen Hardcastle for attending on their behalf.

Thank you to Wakefield GC for kindly hosting the event at a time when finding clubs that will give courtesy to greenkeepers is becoming more difficult to find.

Thanks also to Stewart Marston and his staff for presenting the course in such good shape and to the catering staff

for feeding us so well.

The results for the day were as follows:

Cat1: 1. Need I say the name! Dave Collins, 68; 2. Dave Spurdun, 69; 3. Tony Gerrard, 7. Cat 2. 1. Gerald Smith, 69; 2. Alan Baxter 70; 3. John Waite ( El Chair) 73. Cat 3. 1. Richard Smith 73; 2. Alan Gamble 77; 3. Les Kirkbright 80. Trade Prize. 1. Alan Cordingley, Ritefeed, 69; 2. Alan Dyson, Gem, 73.

Well done to all the lads for qualifying and good luck in the Hayter Regional Finals at Matfen Hall on Wednesday July 9.

Again may I remind people wishing to play in future golf events that if I have not received their deposit at least seven days prior to the event we can not allow you to play. Unfortunately this is happening too frequently by people who put their name down with a rep or somebody else and expect to pay and play on the day. It will not be accepted any longer. At the Spring Tournament the section lost out by people who said they were going to come, then on the day sent an excuse along with a third party. Meals that have been booked still have to be paid for.

Finally anyone with any news or information that may be of interest for future magazine inserts please contact me on Tel: 01484 - 519829  
Simon Heppenstall

### MIDLAND REGION

Peter Larter  
Tel: 01480 437507

### East Midlands

This year's Spring Tournament and Hayter Qualifier was played on General Election day, May 1 at Cosby GC. On a fine Spring day 44 competitors competed for the Hayter Challenge Tournament with the successful qualifiers listed below.

Cat 1: 1. A. Duncan, Kettering, 76-8-68; 2. R. Barker, Kirby Muxloe, 74-3-71; 3. A. Foulds,



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Manor, 85-8-77; 4. D. Leatherland, Kedleston, 87-9-79. Cat 2: 1. A. Porter, Greatham Valley, 86-13-73; 2. A. Shilcock, Lutterworth, 90-15-75; 3. I. Needham, Beedles Lake, 90-14-76; 4. D. Bagshaw, Stanton, 89-11-78. Cat 3: 1. S. Heap, Rothley, 89-22-67; 2. M. Bindley, Kirby Muxloe, 94-21-73; 3. G. Arnold, Erewash Valley, 101-20-81; 4. W. Bevan, Greatham Valley, 105-23-82. Trade & Associate:- Kevin Kinzer 94-24-70.

I would like to thank E T Breakwells for their generous sponsorship on the day which was reflected well in the prize table. This is greatly appreciated by all members. Also I would like to thank Cosby GC for hosting our Tournament and allowing us courtesy of their excellent golf course. Thanks should also be extended to the steward for a superb evening meal and not forgetting Dave Sankey and his staff for setting up a challenging and well presented course.

The Autumn Tournament will be held at Chevin GC on September 3, hope to see you all there.

This year's annual East Midlands versus East of England Golf Match will take place on Wednesday August 20 at Melton Mowbray GC. The 1st tee has been reserved from 3.45 pm and the format for the day is a Four Ball Better Ball. A team of 10 members will be required and anybody wishing to represent the Section can contact me and I will forward you a entry form.

Finally I would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Eileen Hopkins whose birthday is on June 27. She is a very keen reader of this article and the magazine.

Antony Bindley

#### Midland

The Spring Tournament was held at Harbourne GC, on April 24. The day was an excellent success and a good time was had

by all. Many thanks go to Harbourne GC, especially the greenstaff who presented the course in such great condition under some diverse weather conditions leading up to the tournament.

The winners were as follows:- the Gross Cup went to Tony Cheese and the nett prizes went to M. Jones, J. Chesern and G. Hunt. The trade prize was won by Acorn Equipment.

I would also congratulate all the players who qualified for the Hayter Regional Final to be played at The Warwickshire on June 26. Good luck to you all. Can I also thank our sponsors for the Harbourne day - ET Breakwells, County Crops, Ruffords and Grass Roots Trading?

For those members who are playing in the Rigby Taylor Doubles or the Ritefeed Matchplay Singles may I remind you that the first round for the Doubles has to be played by June 27 and the singles by July 18. The Summer Tournament which will be held at The Worcestershire GC on July 7 requires those intending to play to get your applications in quickly as the demand for places is growing.

Finally I would like to welcome the following new members:- Trevor Askew, Andrew Smith, Nicholas Lewis, Wayne Smith, Robert Pain, Ian Robertson, Thomas Houghton, Patrick Teegan, Robert Benamore, Tracy Stephens and Patrick Cosby. Jonathan Wood

#### BB & O

At the time of writing this article we had received 40 entries for the first golf day which was the maximum allowed. It looks like we are carrying on where we left off last season. A full report of all the day's action will be in next month's article.

The draw for the Rigby Taylor Fourball has been made and I will be posting every competitor a full copy of the draw in due course.

Having nothing to report this month I will tell you a strange but true happening at Badgemore recently. For those of you who are squeamish, read no further!

During the prolonged dry spell back in April I was carrying out some irrigation with hose-pipes and static sprinklers. On this particular morning I was watering the practice green. I connected the hose to the irrigation point and cranked open the valve which was about 100 metres from the green. As I went to inspect the sprinkler there was nothing coming out, not a drop. It had to be a blocked nozzle so I turned the valve off and inspected the sprinkler. As suspected it was a blockage but not with a stone or debris, but with a small frog! The poor little blighter had only crawled up into the hose pipe for some sleep only for me to blast a few hundred gallons of water up its rear end! Needless to say it did not survive!

Anyway, back to business. I will be attending a Regional Board Meeting soon so if anybody wants details of subjects discussed then give me a call and I will oblige.

Finally if you have changed your address recently then don't forget to inform Head Office so as not to miss out on any mail shots.

Lindsay Anderson

#### Mid-Anglia

A talk was given to around 20 members of the Section in early March by Bruce Jamieson, former Director of Agronomy with the European Tour. By all accounts the talk was very informative and our thanks go to Mentmore GC for allowing us to stage the event. Also, Bruce waived his usual fee and donated it to Headquarters to be put towards the building fund so thanks for that Bruce.

Our first golf event of the year

took place at a golf club on the northern borders of our Section, at Wellingborough GC, in Northamptonshire. The course itself is set within the grounds of a country estate with a magnificent old country mansion as its clubhouse. A fine setting indeed to enjoy a days golf and although it was mid-April with not a drop of rain in the previous five weeks, the course was in super condition. Our thanks go to Ian Marshall, the Course Manager, and all his team for their efforts and to Wellingborough GC for the courtesy shown during a very enjoyable day. It was good to see a number of trade members taking the opportunity to play golf and our thanks to Rigby Taylor, our main sponsors and also Tacit, Patissons, Avoncrop, GEM, Boughton Loam and Driving Force Leisure for contributing towards the event. The event itself was the qualifier for the Hayter National Tournament and the following members will represent the Section at The Warwickshire GC on Thursday June 26.

Cat 1. J. Moorhouse; G. Boulton; R. Lawrence; G. Bruce; Res - F. Scullion. Cat 2. C. Brook; N. Whittaker; P. Judd; D. McGilvray; Res - S. Boyes, C. Robinson. Cat 3. L. Cant; J. Hatton; N. Phelan; P. Belton; Res - R. Saunders.

Please note that Richard Coogan, a regular competitor in our Section events would have qualified in the 0-9 handicaps but unfortunately due to his retired status he is ineligible to proceed any further.

The overall results of the day were as follows:- 1. J. Moorhouse 38/34 72pts; 2. R. Coogan 35/36 71pts; 3. C. Brook 37/33 70pts. The nearest the pin was won by Richard Coogan and the longest drive by Mark Whittle. Winner of the best am score was Leon Cant and the best pm score R. Howson.

I would like to welcome the following new members to the

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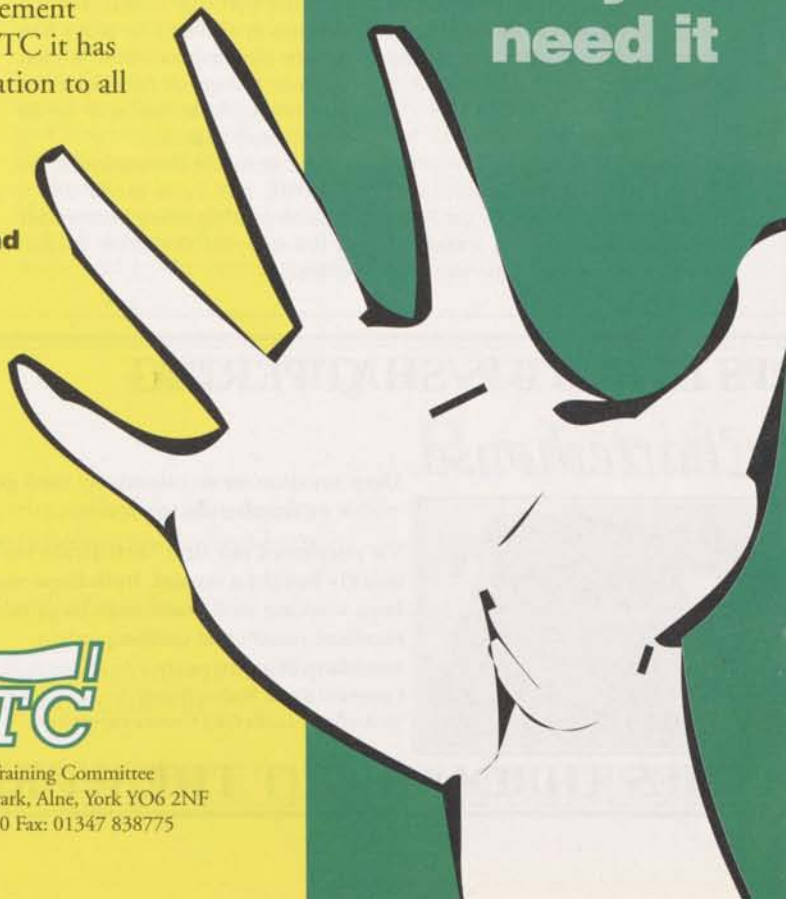
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Tel: 01347 838640 Fax: 01347 838775

## Around the Green



Section:- J. Smith, Rushden GC, M. Campbell, St Ives GC, D. Franklin, Great Hadham GC, M. Dunleavy, L. Rance, A. Howson, all Mentmore GC, G. Bullock, Lamerwood GC, G. Carter, St Neots GC, N. Burns, Windmill Hill GC, D. Greenfield, B. Kingston, both Ashridge GC, E. Burman, S. Kendal, both Dunstable Downs GC, A. Knowles, Mowsbury Park GC, S. Meehan, M. Wilson, N Smith, all Brampton Park GC, M. Osborn, Aspley Guise GC, J. Thresher, Mill Green GC, C. Smith, Stockwood Park GC, D. Mugford, Aldwickbury GC, and finally L. Turner and J. Orme, both Oaklands College.

Our next golf event is to be held on August 22 at Arkley GC over 27 holes.

Paul Lockett

### East of England

The Rigby Taylor Cup and the Hayter Qualifier took place at Holme Hall GC. This venue was much talked about within the Section and after my 101 mile drive to get there I was not disappointed. Jim Birkett, Head Greenkeeper, had the course in superb condition – helped by fairway irrigation.

Unfortunately Jim could not play as he is recovering from a car crash but he is well on the mend and back at work. Hope you are playing soon.

The winner on the very hot day was Brian Robinson, Belton Woods, 94-25-69; 2. was John Hewson, Market Rasen, 93-22-71; 3. Graeme Macdonald, Ryston Park, 75-3-72. Trade member winner was Phil Wilkinson, nett 62. Nearest the pin, Chris Colton 12".

All the competitors who have qualified for the Hayter Regional final at The Warwickshire will be notified in due course.

It was nice to see some fellow greenkeepers from other regions as guests on the day.

Our main sponsors, Rigby Taylors, laid on a great prize table and a big thank you to Stuart Jeffs, Sales Manager, for presenting the prizes. Other sponsors on the day were Oliver Seeds, Hayters, Aitkens, Fieldcare, Collier Turfcare and Roy Harrison.

Other news from around the Section. Market Rasen greenstaff defended the trophy against the committee in their annual match. They have now won the cup for the last two years.

### SOUTH EAST REGION

Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

#### London

The Hayter Qualifier was held at Wyke Green GC in April and the course was presented to a very



high standard. I would like to congratulate Tony Dyke and his staff for all their efforts and wish them the best of luck this month as they prepare the course for the Middlesex County Championship. The Tournament was well supported by our Section and the overall winner of the medal event was Chris Carpenter, from Brookmans Park GC. Runner-up was Peter Creeber and Darren Burdis was overall third. The guest prize was awarded to Johnny Johnson, from Wyke Green.

The qualifiers for the next round are as follows – Cat 1. Chris Carpenter, Darren Burdis, David Montgomery, Res – Robert Phillips. Cat 2. Peter Creeber, Benjamin Knowles-Jackson, James Lomas, Res – Malcolm Storey. Cat 3. Tony Dyke, Richard Elderfield, Clarke Williams, Res – Darren Davis.

The longest drive was won by Johnny Johnson and the results for the King's nearest the pin event were 1. winning a £50 voucher, was Darren Burdis, 2. winning a £30 voucher was Johnny Johnson and 3. winning a voucher for £20 was Chris Carpenter. I would like to thank King's for their support in providing the prizes and also for kindly paying for all the postage etc for the event. I would also like to thank Hayter for providing the category winner medals and Mike Lincoln Smith for presenting the medals. Rigby Taylor provided the overall first and second prizes and your help was very much appreciated. I would also like to thank all the other trade members not mentioned above for their support and help in providing prizes.

The day was very successful and a big thank you must be awarded to Wyke Green GC for their hospitality and for the excellent service that was provided by all the internal staff. Tony Dunstan

### Kent

On April 29 we held the Hayter Qualifier at The Ridge GC. We had a reasonable turnout of 39 golfers including seven trade members and on a breezy, sunny day we played a course that is only four years old. Despite drought conditions the course was in excellent condition. Congratulations must go to Ray Malt and his staff for presenting the

course in such good condition. The scores for the Hayter were:- Cat 1. 1. D. Brown; 2. H. Morgan; 3. N. Gillham. Cat 2. 1. R. Malt; 2. M. Mewett; 3. D. Brown. Cat 3. 1. J. Waterman; 2. M. Haver; 3. B. Abbott. The trade/guest prize was won by Grant Elliott, a new greenkeeper from Wildernesse. The Kings nearest the pin results were:- 1. J. Wakelin; 2. M. Haver; 3. H. Morgan. The Driving Force Leisure longest drive results were:- 1. P. Belton; 2. P. Hirst; 3. A. Arthur.

Many thanks must go to Hayter for their continued sponsorship and to The Ridge and their catering staff for the hospitality inside.

The Section would also like to thank the following for their agreement to sponsor our golf and raffle prizes for the coming season:- Gem Professional, Parker Hart, Driving Force Leisure, Avoncrop, Rigby Taylor, Barmonset, Ritefeed, Farmura, Kings, Scotts, CMW, Paice and Sons, John Shaw, Bio-Lube, Bournes and Godfreys.

The next golf day is at West Malling in July, details will follow soon. If anybody has any news please contact me on 0860 260240.

Huw Morgan

### Sussex

The Spring Meeting was held at Cophthorne GC on May 1. Unfortunately I was unable to attend but I have been told it was a good day. The weather was glorious and Mike Gould has the course looking great.

The results were as follows:- Morning Round – 1. Mike Gould 2. Shaun Sturrock 3. Laurie Tremilit. Guest Prize. Gary Ogilvie. Afternoon Round- 1. Mike Gould (again!) 2. Laurie Tremilit 3. Alistair Cale. Guest Prize; John Davies. The prize for the longest walk was won by Dustin Houghton.

The summer meeting will be held at Haywards Heath GC on July 3.

Finally I would like to send best wishes to Chris Allen who was taken seriously ill and is in St Georges Hospital, Tooting. We're all thinking of you Chris. Colin Cathie

### Surrey

At last something to write about, and to crow about.

In last month's magazine you all read about the Regional Match at Princes GC. in Sandwich. What Derek did not put in the report was the fact that the teams had to be in Sandwich at 8am and that the cost was £30. Well the committee decided to

help them out a little on that score which I hope you will agree was the right thing to do. The team was captained by Roger Tydeman and consisted of Kevin Boxall, Jimmy Russell, Dave Murdoch, Gareth Roberts, Ron Christie, Paul Robinson, Gavin Kyle, Dave Langhiem, and John Mathis, I know that there are many of you out there saying why wasn't I picked? Well I say to you your turn will come. But the two teams that have gone out are a hard act to follow, plus the other sections will now be "gunning" for us.

One sad note to the day was that Ron Christie had his wallet stolen out of his golf bag while he was on the putting green, I am sure there is a lesson for all of us there, I understand that the boys had a whip round so he got some of the cash back.

Well we held the Spring Tournament at Dukes Dene GC on May 12, and we had a splendid turn out, over 50 playing, Derek still thinks that I left him out deliberately but he played anyway. We had the first lady at one of our events Stella Ingletolpe, from Symbio, came for the meal and she has promised that she will play in the Cresta Cup. "Down fella's". The course was turned out to perfection, and for a course that has only been open for a year it was a credit to Adam and his team. The in-house staff looked after us very well I understand that Julie Wilson had something to do with that. I had an easy ride on this one as Grant Dooley did most of the organising as he is our treasurer, and he works there ~ Thanks Grant. The event was sponsored by Rigby Taylor who put up some wonderful glassware. Our sincere thanks to them.

The overall winners were: 1. Ian Sutcliffe nett 65; 2. Grant Dooley nett 66 (some local knowledge there); 3. Gavin Kyle nett 71; 4. Dave Murdoch nett 72.

This was also the Hayter Qualifier and our thanks to them for the section prizes. The qualifiers were Cat 1. G. Dooley, D. Murdoch, J. Mathis and reserve N. Colley, just transferred down from Sheffield. Cat 2. I. Sutcliffe, G. Kyle, I Sellars, reserve M. Yorston. Cat 3. A. Carter, and the old fella, T. Stiles. We need two more in this section. Any offers?

The next event is the Cresta Cup at West Surrey on June 10, followed by the McMillan Tankard, at Sunningdale, on July 31, which brings me nicely on to the talk given by Jack McMillan after the meal at Dukes Dene. This is the first time that we

→ have tried this and I am sure I speak for all there that it was very informal just the right tone and I thank Jack most sincerely for his time and trouble for being there. We may try it again.  
Ted Stiles

#### Essex

Tuesday April 22, 1997, saw the inaugural golf day of the newly-formed Essex Section of BIGGA – the Spring Trophy at Chigwell GC incorporating the Hayter Qualifier.

A very successful day made all the better by the superb weather, the help of the young lady from the Secretary's Office who acted as starter, the presentation of the course by Alan Sharp and his staff and the quality of the catering provided on the day.

We were pleased to welcome our Regional Administrator, Derek Farrington, for the day and we hope that he will join us again soon.

Another guest was Nick Gadsby, the Captain of Chigwell GC, who joined us for the evening meal and kindly presented the prizes.

The results were as follows: Cat 1. 1. R. Pride, nett 72; 2. A. Sheehan, nett 76 (BIH); 3. S. Crosdale, nett 76. Reserve A. Toomey, nett 77. Cat 2. 1. J. Sel-

## Around the Green



wood, nett 72; 2. J. Winters, nett 79; 3. B. Speller, nett 80. Reserve C. Ward, nett 82. Cat 3. 1. L. Adams, nett 73; 2. G. Speller, nett 76; 3. M. Stopps, nett 79 (BIH). Reserve, P. Clark, nett 79. Trade prize R. Green 33 Stableford points. Nearest the pin on 10th hole M. Stopps. Longest drive on 18th, R. Pride. Overall winner and winner of the Spring Trophy R. Pride.

I would personally like to wish the best of luck to all our qualifiers in the Hayter Regional Final at Ham Manor GC on Friday June 27.

Once again our thanks go to Hayter for their continued support of this tournament, Avoncrop Amenity for their sponsorship of prizes for the day, the many trade members for their donations for raffle prizes and everyone at Chigwell GC for making us feel most welcome.

Wednesday May 14 saw a good turnout for another evening lecture at Writtle College. Roger Levett and Jeff Tay-

lor, of Johnson's Seeds, and Andy Cawley, from Dow Elanco, gave very informative presentations and the subsequent question and answer session and continuation of conversations in the student bar is always productive.

Congratulations to Dave Rand, who has moved from Thorpe Hall GC to Rochford Hundred GC as Deputy Course Manager, and to John Sinclair, who has returned from Burnham GC to Thorpe Hall as Head Greenkeeper where he was previously Assistant.

Finally the results from studying those questionnaires that were returned have now been correlated and I can assure you that these will be most helpful to the Section committee in the future running of our Section. The Section has made a good start, let's keep it going.  
Mick Fance

#### SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

Paula Humphries  
Tel: 01363 82273



#### South Coast


Our Spring Tournament was held at Broadstone GC on Monday April 28. At the time of writing this report I have not got the

full details of the results. What I can tell you though is that B. Emberly won the scratch prize and trophy and J. Martin the handicap prize and trophy.

The qualifiers for the Hayter Regional Final to be held at Burnham and Berrow GC on June 11 are as follows:- Division 1:- G. Payne; P. Fitzjohn; L. Millar; B. Emberly; T. Gadd. Division 2:- J. Martin; D. Norman; P. Wentworth; N. Stephenson; S. Privett. Division 3:- A. Doolan; A. Archer; A. Ridout; D. Friend; S. Cutler. Congratulations to all the qualifiers.

The weather at Broadstone was perfect and we had a fine summers day in Spring which can't be bad. The course was in fine condition and thanks go to Andy and his team for all their hard work. Thanks also to the caterers who did a first class job in keeping the players well fed and watered during the course of the day. Our thanks also go to the Captain, Committee and members of Broadstone GC for allowing us the courtesy of their course and clubhouse for the day. Last but not least our thanks go to the sponsors for the day namely Huxleys Grass Machinery and our very own President, Jim Fry.

Mark Webb has stood down from the post of Tournament




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Organiser. His place has been taken by Tony Gadd. Our thanks to Mark who has done a grand job over the past two years.

Our next golf meeting will be the Summer Tournament at Bramshaw GC on Wednesday August 6. All applications along with current handicaps should be sent to:- Tony Gadd, Cherry Trees, Lymington Road, Milford on Sea, Hants, SO41 0QL, telephone 01590 643746. The format for this Tournament will be a Four Ball Better Ball Stableford. Members may play with another greenkeeping member from another course or he can bring a golf member from his own Club ie Captain, Committee Member, Greens Chairman, Secretary etc. All entries are to be with Tony 10 days before the Tournament ie first post on Monday July 28. Details of the price for the day are not known as yet.

Westurf has been and gone again. It was good time for meeting old friends again from the other Sections. Our National Chairman was there along with Neil Thomas and some of the attractive ladies from Head Office. However this day belonged to Gordon and Marion as this was their last Westurf. A presentation was made to them by the Chairman of the Region, Richard Whyman. This was in recognition of all the hard work they have put in over the years. Without them Westurf would never have existed. They are Mr and Mrs Westurf. Thank you Gordon and Marion. Enjoy your retirement and put your feet up, you deserve it.

Ken Lodge

#### Devon and Cornwall

Westurf was the place to be on Wednesday April 30 as visitors to the show were greeted with a lovely warm sunny spring day. It was nice to see so many of you at Westurf to support the Region and wish Gordon and Marion a happy and enjoyable retirement from their post of Mr and Mrs BIGGA in the South West & South Wales. Westurf is an important event for all greenkeepers within the South West and South Wales Region as it not only gives us the opportunity to view all the latest products available to maintain our courses in first class condition, it gives the Region the opportunity from the proceeds of Westurf to offer you its members a subsidised Regional seminar and trip to the BTME show and educational seminars at Harrogate. The Region has also given grants to all our GTC approved local colleges and grants to

members to complete their college course.

Unfortunately the English Golf Union held a workshop in Cornwall for Secretaries, Chairman of Greens and Head Greenkeepers on the same day as Westurf which could have jeopardised the show, so we are grateful to all who attended the show in your bumper numbers. Hopefully in the future BIGGA can work more closely with the EGU so events such as Westurf, Regional Seminar and Section events do not clash with the excellent workshops put on by the EGU. Surely it makes sense not to duplicate on educational talks, but work together to achieve the best greenkeeping education available.

Back to the show which saw an increase in exhibitors on last year. Many of the exhibitors were offering prize draws and of course there was the Region's holiday voucher to be won. Visitors to the show also enjoyed watching all the latest maintenance equipment being demonstrated in the brilliant sunshine.

There was a big Westurf welcome for our Chairman, Pat Murphy and the Executive Director, Neil Thomas and not forgetting the hard working HQ girls Janet and Jenny who helped in the BIGGA tent all day. Also we welcomed Paula Humphries, our new Regional Administrator to her first of many shows.

All in all Westurf 97 continued to consolidate its position as a superb local turfcare show with most of the trade delighted with enquiries on the day.

To mark Gordon and Marion's last Westurf in charge I presented them with a matching decanter and biscuit barrel as a thank you from the Region for all the hard work they have put into running the Region over the last 10 years.

Finally I would like to wish our Hayter Qualifiers the very best of golfing luck at this years Regional Final to be played at Burnham and Berrow GC on Wednesday June 11.

Richard Whyman

#### South West

The Hayter Challenge took place at the magnificent Orchardleigh GC on a pleasant Monday afternoon. A small but select group took part in this annual fixture to see who could reach the next round which takes place at Burnham and Berrow on June 11. With five people qualifying from three handicap groups, it was a keenly contested affair with

some people displaying a superb golfing prowess despite their handicaps. The said handicaps will of course be reviewed. The winners of the three divisions are:- Cat 1: J. Keenaghan, 68; Cat 2: A. Knight, 67; Cat 3: J. Coverdale, 61. James collected his prize without a hint of shame!

Our thanks must go to Sally Jane Coode, of Orchardleigh, for allowing us the use of their course and to Gary Cashman and his staff for presenting the course in its usual superb condition, with the pencross greens especially coming in for a great deal of praise. Our thanks also go to Hayters for their sponsorship and donation of the first prizes and to BS Mowers for providing the other prizes. A most enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

Education now and anyone wishing to do a PA2 spraying course please could you contact Noel Stevens direct on 01452 526111. Noel, the course tutor, will arrange a time and location convenient to yourself and will also sort out the examination to follow.

Westurf took place on April 30 on a delightful day and reports were generally encour-

aging. There appeared to be quite a good turn out although greater numbers would always be appreciated. Congratulations to Marion and Gordon Child for their superb organisation of this, their last Westurf. Their expertise and experience will be sadly missed although let's hope their smiling faces will be seen at future shows. Gordon has helped the South West Region hugely over the years with his tireless enthusiasm and we are all greatly indebted to him. We wish him and Marion all the best for the future and hope to see them regularly.

The trade appeared to be very pleased with the way things went. It may not be quite as busy as Saltex or the BTME but there were many genuine enquiries about their products and future support looks assured.

Before closing and still on the subject of retirement, Peter Cox from Long Ashton, a stalwart of the greenkeepers tour and section committees retires after 25 years of loyal service. We all wish Peter a long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing him on a regular basis at future tournaments.

Marc Haring

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## Don't fall foul of change in law

I have felt it important to write with some important information which should be of interest to BIGGA members.

New Regulations regarding Special Waste became law on September 1, '96. These new Regulations include Fines of up to £5000 and/or two years imprisonment on conviction together with costs. These apply to the actual producer of Special Waste ie the person who created the waste as well as his or her supervisor and employer. In other words the person who emptied the pesticide container or who illegally burned, buried or discarded the waste.

The regulations also introduced new categories now to be defined as Special Waste and among these are waste oils and most cooking oils. It is illegal to store or use out of date chemicals, do you know the date of manufacture and the manufacturers product shelf life? You must by Law, have an up to date Health and Safety Data Sheet for every product you use, not just pesticide. The Regulations changed in September '96 and most Health and Safety Data Sheets dated prior to that date are unlikely to conform.

The new category products, together with those covered by previous legislation, must be consigned as Special Waste using a licensed contractor and the Special Waste Consignment Note, which is issued, for a fee, by the Environmental Agency and has a unique number by which the Consignment can be traced from uplift to final disposal. There is no minimum quantity for pesticides in the Regulations, if you have one ml of chemical in a container, the Regulations apply to you.

There are 'catch-all' clauses, for example, "...any materials, substances or products which are not contained in the above categories". The Regulations apply to premises occupied by a Club, Society or Association. Also to waste from a private garage with a floor area exceeding 25 square metres or which is not used

wholly or mainly to accommodate a private motor vehicle. This last point also raises questions regarding storage.

The Regulations allow for "clean" empty containers to be treated as commercial waste. The definition of "clean" however is very complex and will vary according to the active ingredient. United Nations research shows that even after "30 washings out" the containers are still contaminated Plastic containers absorb their contents and therefore it is unlikely that any such container can be "clean".

The Environmental Agency and Health and Safety Executive are the enforcing bodies of the Regulations, not the Environmental Health Department of your Local Authority. Never remove or deface the label from the pesticide or any container, it is illegal and the contractor should refuse to accept any unmarked container. There is only one sure and safe way – dispose of your containers as Special Waste, then you are guaranteed that you have complied with the law.

**Duncan Stewart**  
Envirogreen

■ For further information or a leaflet on the above Tel: 0345 125398.

## Unauthorised use of name...

When the STRI undertakes commercial research for manufacturers, STRI Terms and Conditions state that: "The name or logo of STRI shall not be published by the client or used in any technical literature or advertising or promotional material without the prior written consent of STRI." The advertisement carried on the back page of the May issue of *Greenkeeper International* comprised an advert on Drencher placed by Amenity Technology. This material was used without the prior permission of STRI and therefore Amenity Technology will be solely liable for any action brought by competitors on the basis that the advertisement is unfair. We have taken up this matter with Amenity Technology. The purpose of the STRI Terms and Conditions is firstly to protect

the name of the STRI and secondly to ensure that information based on STRI trial results is used in a fair and equitable manner.

**Dr P M Canaway**  
Chief Executive  
STRI

## ...Sorry for the mistake

Amenity Technology would like to apologise to the Sports Turf Research Institute for any embarrassment caused by contravention of the Institute's terms and conditions in the advertisement which appeared on the back cover of the May issue of *Greenkeeper International*.

As a company we accept that we should not have mentioned the STRI's name in the advertisement without the prior consent of the Institute and will, of course, ensure that Amenity Technology abides by the terms and conditions in all future promotional material.

**Carl Crome**  
Director  
Amenity Technology

## Overwhelmed by kindness

Since moving to the south west and into the Devon & Cornwall Section of the then BGGA, I have found a warm and genuine welcome from all Section members and trade which I still find hard to take in. Even after 16 years of putting up with me and my Fatherland, the friendship remains as strong as ever. So when BIGGA was formed in 1987 and I was asked to take on the duties of Regional Administrator for the South West & South Wales Region, I could hardly refuse.

Having a full time job the task would have been daunting but for the help of Marion, but the success of the Region is not just down to us. Without the cooperation and support of the Region's Board and Section Secretaries, the Region's success would have been limited.

Westurf is a fine example of what can be achieved with a bit of effort and good relationships

with members and trade. Having decided to stand down as administrators after this year's Westurf it was nice to have a warm sunny day – like the very first year – to remember it by, and to make it complete we were overwhelmed by the kindness shown to us. Our thanks go to all the people who contributed to our presentation.

In my new capacity we hope to find time to visit all Sections and therefore keep in touch with many of the friends made over the years. Meanwhile we wish the Region and our new Administrator continued success.

**Gordon and Marion Child**

## Please contest this proposal

Having just read the amended edition (1997) of the Standard Scratch Score and Handicapping Booklet I am a little concerned of a proposal contained on page 56, Appendix K, Decision 11.

It is with regard to teeing areas and it is proposed that, with effect from 1 January 2001, all distance points shall be positioned on tees so that they are not less than four yards in-front of the rear of the tee. This is in place of the current two yards and my concern is that on small medal tees, or tiger tees, where, because of the topography of the land (or other reasons, SSSI etc) you would be unable to extend the tee size and this would place even more wear on the front of already overused tees.

While it may not be a problem on more recent designed/constructed courses we certainly have a number of Medal tees, as I am sure other well established courses have, that only measure eight to 10 yards from front to back and to lose that two yards is losing up to 25% of the teeing area.

Also to have to remeasure the course and provide new distance markers could prove an expensive operation for no great apparent benefit. I would hope BIGGA as a body would consider lobbying the Council of National Golf Unions to abandon this proposal and retain the status quo.

**Gordon A Moir**  
Head Greenkeeper  
Eden Course, St Andrews



# Requirements for golf clubs and greenkeepers

by Tony Rees MIOSH, Health & Safety Consultant & Senior Instructor with ATB-Landbase Training Services

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (C.O.S.H.H.) regulations originally came into force on 1 January 1988. Since then several amendments have been introduced until today the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (Amendment) Regulations 1996.

The COSHH regulations seek to control exposure to hazardous substances which arise out of or in connection with work which is under the employers control.

So what is a hazardous substance? To be subject to the COSHH regulations a hazardous substance must arise out of or in connection with work which is under the employers control. The substance can be solid, liquid, gas, fume, vapour or a micro-organism and can endanger health by being absorbed or injected, through the skin or mucous membranes, inhaled or ingested.

Substances listed in the regulations as being hazardous to health are:

■ All substances listed as very toxic, toxic, harmful, corrosive or irritant.



■ All those substances for which the Health and Safety Commission has approved an Occupational Exposure Standard (OES).

■ A substantial concentration of dust of any kind.

■ Any micro-organism which can cause illness.

■ Any other substance which is not listed in any of the above categories but which has similar potential effects.

As we can see from the above the COSHH regulations apply to all hazardous substances with the exception of:

■ Lead – so far as the Control of Lead at Work Regulations 1980 apply.

■ Asbestos – so far as the Control of Asbestos at Work regulations 1987 apply.

■ Substances which are only hazardous because of one or any combination of the following – radio-activity,

explosive properties, flammable properties, high pressure, high or low temperature.

■ Substances administered as part of a medical treatment or in the course of research.

■ Substances found below ground in a mine.

■ Micro-organisms which do not arise out of or in connection with work which is under the employer's control (respiratory infections caught incidentally from fellow employee's)

■ Asphyxiants – these must purely be asphyxiants and non-toxic.

We have so far looked at what constitutes a hazardous substance. Now let's look at what the regulations say we must do.

Regulation 6 – An employer must make a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risks associated with hazardous substances connected with work under his control and review the assessment when necessary. The employer must also inform employees of the assessment and keep written records of all but the simplest assessments.

To comply with this we need firstly to list all the substances we have on site. We need then to ensure that we have Product Health and Safety Data Sheets for each substance.

Our suppliers, by law, must obtain

these. If we have substances on site but no data sheets then we must obtain them.

We should then decide if any substance on site is no longer used. If unused substances are on site we should dispose of these safely. This disposal must be done through a recognised source eg local authority or waste disposal company. We must not just tip them down the drain, bury them or put them out with the general waste.

Once we have established which substances we still use we can then go on and carry out our assessment. This must take into account:- the substances that we use; the way in which we use these substances, who uses these substances or could come into contact with them; where we use these substances; when and how often we use these substances; what safety precautions we are taking when using these substances and how we sort and dispose of substances and packaging after use.

■ Next month we will look at how actually to carry out an assessment as required by the COSHH Regulations.

■ Further information on courses and consultancy contact ATB-Landbase Training Services – Jean John, 01282 617466 or Tony Rees, 01686 622799.

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# REAL WORLD TEST

## SLITTERS

### GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

**Hugh Tilley concludes his three part look at aeration with an examination of a selection of slitters currently on the market.**

Least complex and mechanical of all aerators – and most inexpensive to buy and run are slitters, and many greenkeepers use these as part of their routine management for aeration, thatch suppression and opening up the surface for drainage.

Most designs are simply a set of flanges with slitting tines bolted to them and mounted on bearings within a frame. Both tractor and turf maintenance vehicle (TMV) mounted models are produced and some – mainly for fairways, are trailed.

Some machines are made so that extra deadweight can be added, such as water, concrete blocks, or other means, but some can be fitted with a hydraulic rams so that they press themselves into the ground. One model has a movable weight which can be used to concentrate weight over the slitting rotor for increased penetration.

The majority of greenkeepers use their slitters in conjunction with other forms of aeration, or anti compaction programmes. Major concerns are over ripping the turf rather than slitting and the fact that subsequent dry weather can cause the slits to open, this is particularly prone on clay. As a result slitters are mainly used in autumn and early winter.

Slitters are usually able to take several types of blade or tine, but narrower or knife blades are the most usual for golf course use – and these are often designated as fine turf blades. Fairway slitters may be designated as “outfield” slitters and usually have larger less pointed tines.

Spacing is entirely dependent upon flange spacing, typically about 150mm, and the location of the blades around the flanges. Replacing the blades can be a time consuming task, although a ratchet spanner or pneumatic wrench will make it faster and easier, however, most of the clubs had seldom had to change blades – and some machines were several years old. As a result tine wear and cost was of little consequence. Where there are alternative spacing options (around the flange) it is vital that the blades



**The SISIS Multislit**

are bolted to the correct positions to ensure the correct helical pattern, even penetration and a smoother ride.

Some models are available with rear rollers but most greenkeepers like these to firm and level the turf after slitting and not to control depth.

Without exception maintenance was minimal, nyloc nuts on the bolts hold the tines, but some need regular checking for tightness – perhaps because the tine does not have a “seat” on the rotor. A few greenkeepers experienced problems with these working loose, but none experienced any loss of blades. Sealed bearings are used at the ends of the rotor, most being greasable, but no one said they had any problems with damaged seals or dropping grease. These can be symptomatic of either over enthusiastic or nil maintenance. Fitting the machine to a tractor should be a simple routine, but some tractors need extra weight where wide and/or ballasted slitters are used on the linkage – at least if they are to remain stable.

#### **Sisis Multi-slit at Wrag Barn Golf Club, Highworth – near Swindon**

Wrag Barn has two Sisis slitters, an “Air Drain” and a “Multislit”, and uses them extensively over greens, fairways and other areas. Proprietor and Course Manager is Tim Manners and he commented that the machines, which are tractor mounted, have been extremely useful and effective. The Multi-slit is about a year old, it was bought direct, and it is still with its original slitting tines, although Tim expects to replace tines annually if necessary.

The Sisis slitter was bought following a demonstration at which it gave good account of itself. Tim also added that Sisis has an established reputation – and from personal experience he had always found their after sales service good. Nor are prices unreasonable.

The underlying soil at Wrag Barn is part brash – similar to Cotswold, and part deeper silty loam with a few clay caps on some of the tops.

The fine turf slitter, the Multi-

slit, is usually used on the linkage of an Iseki 320, and without any double acting hydraulics to push the machine in, Wrag Barn use tractor type “Jerry can” weights on the slitter frame when necessary to get the necessary penetration. Normal working depth is 5in to 6in (120-150mm). The Multi-slit has a 1.36m width and integrated pressure rollers with floating heads. The Air Drain has a 2.44m width and 300mm slitting tines, and is available with an optional (hydraulic) pressure frame.

Slitting of greens is carried out every month during the winter with the main objective of getting air into the roots. The machines are used during the summer when conditions are suitable and there is a need for aeration.

As was expected there have been no mechanical problems and maintenance is quick and easy – checking round and two grease points to grease.

In summary Tim said the Multi-slit gives good penetration with minimal upheaval and turf disturbance – he was extremely satisfied with it.

#### **Charterhouse Level Spike 2.2 80 at Hindhead Golf Club**

Used behind a Ford New Holland 3610, the Level Spike is a 2.2m wide fairway slitter which the club has recently purchased in replacement of an older slitter. David Oliver is course manager at the club, and he commented that the slitter is used as part of an overall programme which includes the use of a Verti-drain annually in autumn. A Huxley greenslitter H84 is used for greens.

The course is basically sandy with a limited amount of sandstone, which can cause some lifting of turf, however overall this is little problem. If any ripping of turf occurs it is at walk-on points where there is a lot of compaction.

The machine was seen as being extremely easy to use and particularly user friendly, and in addition David stated that it was quiet – although the club had at first added weight with concrete blocks in the weight tray and these had rattled, so the greenkeepers had replaced them with wooden blocks and a clamp to keep them firm – and quiet. These blocks (3 sleepers worth)