

The course was in great condition considering the torrential rain before we teed off. Thanks to Steve, Head Greenkeeper, and his staff for all their efforts.

The result of the game was a convincing win for a strong East Midlands Section 41/2 - 1/2. It took a great fight back by John Hewson and Graeme MacDonald to save the Whitewash. The E.O.E. pair were three down with three to play and then won the last three holes to get a needed half.

The shield was presented to Captain Anthony Bindley on behalf of the sponsors Jim Carr of Chandlers. The longest drive went to Phil Wilkinson and the nearest the pin went to G.A. MacDonald (both E.O.E. Section). Next year will be hosted at a venue in our section preferably on a flatter course.

The annual match between the association of Golf Club Secretaries and our section took place at Stoke-Romford.

The superb Chandlers Cup went back home with the Secretaries' Captain Brian Harris as we lost again 5-3 on a course which was in fantastic condition as usual.

Thanks to Gill, Roy and Brian for all their hard work put in, to make the day enjoyable, apart from the golf result. Thanks to all the E.O.E. section players for playing. Better luck next year.

The sponsors were Jim Carr of Chandlers who put up some great prizes which saw John Scotney take the nearest the pin and Graeme MacDonald take the longest drive. Phil Wilkinson of Greenpride donated a bottle to the raffle.

East of England Section Team: Kevin Hodges, John Scotney won 3/2, Peter Fell/Fred Cobb lost 3/2, George Venable/Bill Watkin lost 2/1, Graeme MacDonald/John Scotney won 3/2, Jim Carr/Brian Slater won 3/2, Adrian Kitchinson/Russ Moody lost 6/5, Roy Harrison/Gill Ogden lost 5/4, Josh White/Phil Wilkinson lost 4/3.

#### Mid Anglia

The summer Tournament was held at Verulam Golf Club, St. Albans, on the last day of August and twenty-one people entered. An 18 hole Stableford was played in the morning and was won with 36 points by Kevin Armstrong of John O'Gaunt Golf Club. Richard Saunders was second with 35 points and Chris

Slimm, also of John O'Gaunt, was third with 33 points. Longest Drive was won by Steve Mason of Mount Pleasant Golf Club and "nearest the pin" by Pete Robinson of Knebworth. The Kingpin competition was won by Colin Robinson of John O'Gaunt Golf Club. An 11 hole Texas Scramble was held in the afternoon, which was won by Gary Boulton, Kevin Armstrong and Pete Robinson.

An enjoyable day was apparently had by all, with particular praise for the course and excellent food. Our thanks to Verulam Golf Club for their hospitality and particularly to Geoff Smith and his team of greenkeepers. Mike and Simon from Boughton Loam also need to be thanked for their continuing support and sponsorship of the Section's summer event.

We are looking to hold next years summer event at Aspley Guise Golf Club, which has never been used as a venue before. This will be subject to Gerald acquiring a definite booking (hopefully in July). Our other plans are to hold the spring 2000 event at Hammonds End, with Mid Herts Golf Club in line for the autumn meeting.

Everyone should have received an entry form for the Midland Regional Seminar in the September magazine, which is to be held at Mentmore Golf Club on Wednesday 17th November, 1999. Please give the event your support as there will be a broad range of speakers and topics to appeal to all interests. If you cannot find the entry form, please give me a call and I will send another. It is essential for the financial security of the Section and Region that this event is successful - this can only happen with your support. The cost of the day is £25, which includes lunch, teas and coffees.

Our next golf event is the Texas Scramble at Brocket Hall Golf Club on December 2. Entrance fees are listed on the forms already sent to you by Gerald.

It has been disappointing that entrants in the Lodgeway Four Ball this year have failed to play matches by the agreed deadlines, particularly the quarter final/semi-final stages. This causes real problems for Steve Mason in trying to organise the smooth running of the event.

John Wells has tendered his resigna-

tion as Treasurer of the Section, although he will continue to be an active member of the committee. I'm sure everyone will support me in thanking John for his hard work in the post for the last five years.

Colin Robinson, Course Manager at John O'Gaunt Golf Club, has organised a demonstration of Juno and Jupiter grinders by Eric Hunter Grinders Ltd. on the 24th November 1999, at 10:00 am. Anyone who wishes to attend, or who needs further details, please contact Colin on 01767 261416.



South East  
Derek Farrington  
Tel: 01903 260956

#### Paul Lockett Surrey

Royal Mid Surrey played host to Surrey section on September 14 and we say thank you to Alan McDougall for the pleasure of playing the shorter inner course which for myself and many other members was a first time experience. Although to some golfers shorter can mean easier, here the scoring showed that the inner is a tight course and one that deserves respect. Sponsored by Mommersteeg Grass Seed.

The results were: 1. Nigel Colley, 36pts on countback, 2. with 36 pts Tony Shaman, 36 pts 3. Alan McDougall, 35 pts

Please will all members make a special note in their diaries that the AGM for Surrey section will be held at West Hill Golf Club after the Turkey Trot on the 30th November. Contact Ian Sellars if you have not had the info, his mobile number is 0976 709146.

On one of the few dry days at the end of September, over 45 keen young golfers, myself included, met at Richmond Golf Club to do battle for prizes at the autumn tournament. Lee Strutt, Course Manager and fellow committee member, must have had his team cutting grass 24 hours a day to have been able to present the course in such a well manicured condition. Thank you Lee and thank you Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the event.

The results: 1. Mathew Lovett, 40 pts

on countback 2. John Davidson, 40 pts 3. John Mathis 39 pts on countback.

I hope that when John Mathis, our Handicap Secretary, cuts the first two his chopper also descends on his own handicap and that of Keith Pinks and Bob Rogers who also got 39 pts. The putting competition was won over 18 holes by Darren Lee with 33 pts, nearest the pin only 9' 4" away was Dave Jones and the longest drive was Cameron McMillan.

Unfortunately there have been two deaths in Surrey recently. The first on August 25 was Ken Collins, Course Manager at Chobham Golf Club, and then on September 29 Bill Lipscombe, from Coombe Hill Golf Club.

The following words have been written in memory of Bill by Murray Long, Course Manager at Coombe Hill.

"Coombe Hill Golf Club in Kingston, Surrey, report the said loss of Bill Lipscombe, its most loyal and longest serving member of staff of over 40 years. He was a true gentleman who loved his job and the course. Nothing was a trouble for Bill, always smiling and giving the younger staff a run for their money up until his sudden death aged 63 years. He will be sadly missed by everyone at Coombe Hill Golf Club".

Our deepest sympathy to his wife Sheila, his son Michael and daughter Wendy.

Brian Willmott

#### Essex

With great disappointment I have to report that our treasurer Richard Pride is standing down. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the members to thank Richard for his hard work over the years, not only in setting up the Essex section, but also with his earlier contributions toward the old East Anglia section.

Volunteers are welcomed to take up this post, please contact any committee member for further information.

If you missed last month's magazine containing the application form to attend the South East regional seminar at Writtle College on November 16, please contact either Derek Farrington on 01903 260956 or Martin Forrester 01245 603131. We need your support for this function in order to make it a success.

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Our next event is a go-karting afternoon on Friday November 26 starting at 1pm, prices are £80 per team of four. Please contact Martin Forrester for more details.

The next golfing day is combined with our AGM at Rochford Hundred Golf Club on December 15, please make a note in your diaries as this is an important event to air your views. This is your Section. Details will be posted nearer to the date. Don't work too hard!

Dave Wells



**South West and South Wales**  
Paula Humphries  
Tel: 01288 352194

Regional Seminar November 24 Cannington College. The theme is Research and some excellent speakers including Dr Canaway of STRI, Dr Thorogood from IGER, Prof. Adams University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Stephen Bernhard of Bernhard & Co, Dr Daniels of the Levington Research Centre and Steve Jones, formerly of the London Club. Book your places at £15 per head with Paula Humphries now.

BTME Express 2000. Places strictly limited to 100 on first come basis. List filling up fast. If you want to come on this superb value trip get your application form in quickly. If you require a banquet ticket please state this on booking from stating your menu choice of A or B and include payment of £40. Entries of Paula quickly to avoid disappointment. The coach once again sponsored by Amenity Technology and the trip heavily subsidised by Westurf to give you this excellent value package of £95 pp with second from the same club at £85 pp. Student packages available at £45 pp. Paula Humphries

#### Devon & Cornwall

Once again Christmas is fast approaching and the year 2000, so what better way to start the festive season than by attending our P.J. Flegg sponsored Christmas meeting which will be held at Okehampton GC on Wednesday December 8 as in previous years numbers will be limited to the first 80 members, so to avoid disappointment please return your entry with correct money as soon as possible and before the closing date.

The day will start as usual with golfing members playing for the P.J. Flegg Trophy with the format being greensome, for those of you not wishing to play golf the now customary course walk will start from the clubhouse at approximately 10:30 with Head Greenkeeper, Richard Wisdom, showing members his fine work. Lunch will be followed by our afternoon cabaret and the day will conclude with the raffles.

I would like to remind you that the regions annual seminar will be held at Cannington College on Wednesday November 24 with the theme this year being on research. Places on the Regions package to BTME 2000 which includes transport, accommodation

and entry to the BTME show and seminars are going fast so to avoid disappointment you are advised to return your booking form as soon as possible. If you haven't already booked your place for the seminar or BTME packages don't delay call our RA Paula Humphries today on 01288 352194.

One member who has moved recently out of the section is Nick Rourke who has taken up a new post, we wish you well Nick and thank you for your support over the last few years.

If you have any news, you would like me to include in the monthly reports please let me know in writing, my address is on the front of your fixture card, reports have to be in one month beforehand (reports have to be in by December 1, for the January issue).

Richard Whyman

#### South West

Gloriously sunny weather greeted greenkeepers from the South West Section as they arrived to do battle with the Welsh greenkeepers at St. Pierre G&CC on October 6.

The Welsh were fired up for revenge following their drubbing from the encounter in the previous year. The South West team were equally fired up as they paraded their new team shirts sponsored by Rolawn. By the end of a long day however, the Welsh had emerged as the victors with a winning score of 4 points to 2.

It was still a great day however and many thanks go to St. Pierre for allowing us courtesy of the course and also the two team captains for organising the whole day. Thanks also go to Rolawn for kindly sponsoring the shirts.

The next event which is coming up very shortly for the region is the Autumn tournament, taking place at Bristol & Clifton Golf Club on Thursday November 11, followed by the AGM. The Christmas Tournament will take place on Wednesday December 8 at Kingsdown Golf Club.

I have already arranged a number of spraying and first aid courses to take place early next year. Once the dates and venues have been confirmed I will let you know next month. If you have already contacted me about attending a course, I have already written your name down on the waiting list. If you would like to attend a course next year, please contact me on 01249 783382

Paul Cunningham

#### South Coast

For those of you who have not got your application forms in for the Regional Seminar at Cannington, there is still time, so don't delay, get them in now. As you can see by your seminar agenda, there are some very good speakers. Any queries give Jeff a ring on 01635 846575.

As I said in last month's report our section AGM and Turkey Trot will be held at Hockley Golf Club on Wednesday December 8. This will be followed by our AGM, Christmas Dinner and prize giving. All details can be obtained from Fred Deamen on 01420 86679.

Any items you would like to be included in the agenda please let Jeff have your

details no later than three weeks before the AGM. Anyone who would like to serve on the committee should also contact Jeff.

The last time we were at Hockley was for our Spring Tournament in the early 1980's. I can remember John Dodds, who was the Head Greenkeeper at the time, he was reputed to have said "If those xxxxxx want fast greens I'll give them fast greens". He did! They were like lightning, in fact some of the low handicappers were finding it difficult to keep their putts on the greens. How many members remember that day? I can think of Peter March, Ted West and Bob Walker. Still a good day was had by all.

On Monday September 27 our annual match against the South West Section was held at Hampworth Golf Club near Salisbury. I'm afraid the South West finished up as the victors. I'm sorry I can't tell you whose fault it was that the South Coast lost as I have not got any details to hand. Joking aside, congratulations to the South West. I'm sure it will be back in the South Coast's hands next year.

Ken Lodge

#### South Wales

On September 9th the Autumn tournament held at Swansea Bay Golf Club was yet again a great afternoon of golf, with the course in good condition the tournament results were: Best gross/President's Cup, Gary Johnstone. Best Nett/President's Shield, Richard Barnham. Best over 18 handicap, Richard Patterson. I'll bring you up-to-date with the October fixtures next month.

By the time you read this you might have received a flyer from our secretary or it may have already taken place but hopefully not. This year's seminar is to be held at Pencoed College on the 17th of this month, with the theme on Irrigation and Water Management. The day as usual starts with registration and coffee 9 - 9:30. Then the guest speakers begin. At Noon - 1pm it's lunch, the first speakers can sit back, while the other guest speakers will be chewing their nails by now and waiting for the afternoon session to begin at 1.10pm. At around 3pm question time begins and brings the day to a close. The day will cost members £13 and non members £16.

December sees the return of the Winter Tournament/AGM/Xmas Dinner at the Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club so as soon as your reminder and attendance form comes to your door fill it in hastily as it's a day you cannot afford to miss.

Moving into year 2000 we will have definite dates for the evening lectures next month but it looks to be the second week of the month on a Wednesday evening to be held at Pencoed College with Tony Home in January and Peter Johnstone in February.

A quick recap, do not forget the BTME at Harrogate International Centre on the 19th to the 21st of January 2000, it may be advantageous to book early.

Last but not least congratulations to Adrian Panks who has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at Llanwern GC, well done from all of the section.

Richard Hatcher

## Northern Ireland

#### South-East

The first annual Northern Irish Greenkeepers Charity Open day was held at Clandeboyne Golf Club on Friday September 3. Over 80 competitors took part on the day playing the Dufferin course. A special mention must go to Course Manager, Terry Crawford, and his team for the course was in excellent condition and very well presented. Special thanks to Clandeboyne for giving the competitors a courtesy round which enabled all entry fees to go to the charity Heartbeat. The sum of £1300 was raised which will go to this very worthy charity which treats children with heart problems. The charity day would not have happened without Terry Crawford's hard work organising the event and gathering an impressive array of prizes kindly donated by the many sponsors.

We would like to thank Clive Richardson and Horta Soils, John Lindsay, Adrian Eastwood, Coburns, Oneida Cutlery, Bill Donnell at Stakis Park, Terry Magee General Manager Spa Golf Club and Ken Graham General Manager at Clandeboyne Golf Club for all the donations of money trophies and prizes. First prize went to Sidney Spence, Greenkeeper at Spa Golf Club, 2. Allister Harrison, WD Irwins, 3. John Lindsay.

Course Manager Alan Strachan and the greenkeeping team at Royal Co Down Golf Club and Section members would like to wish Walter Beattie Head Greenkeeper at Royal Co. Down a very happy retirement. Walter has been at Royal Co. Down for 28 years.

I would like to remind members of our regional training course on the 2nd and 3rd December 1999 at the Burrendale Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down. The course is on Budgeting & Finance and is presented by Brin Bendon.

Finally, it was nice to meet Tracey Maddison, Membership Services Officer again at the I.O.G. Show in Belfast on the 28th September. On behalf of all the members within the region many thanks Tracey for coming over to the show again this year.

The section would like to pass on best wishes to Walter Beattie on his retirement as Head Greenkeeper from Royal County Down G.C. after 27 years service to the club.

Congratulations to Eamon Crawford on his promotion to Deputy Course Manager also at Royal County Down.

Our charity golf day at Clandyboye G.C. on the 3rd September was a great success with eighty in attendance raising over twelve hundred pounds for Heartbeat (for children's) charity. Many thanks to the sponsors, Horta Soils, Coburns, John Lindsay's, Spa Golf Club, Stakis Golf Club and Eastwood Bookmakers. Also thanks to all those who made the effort to attend and give generously.

J. McCabe





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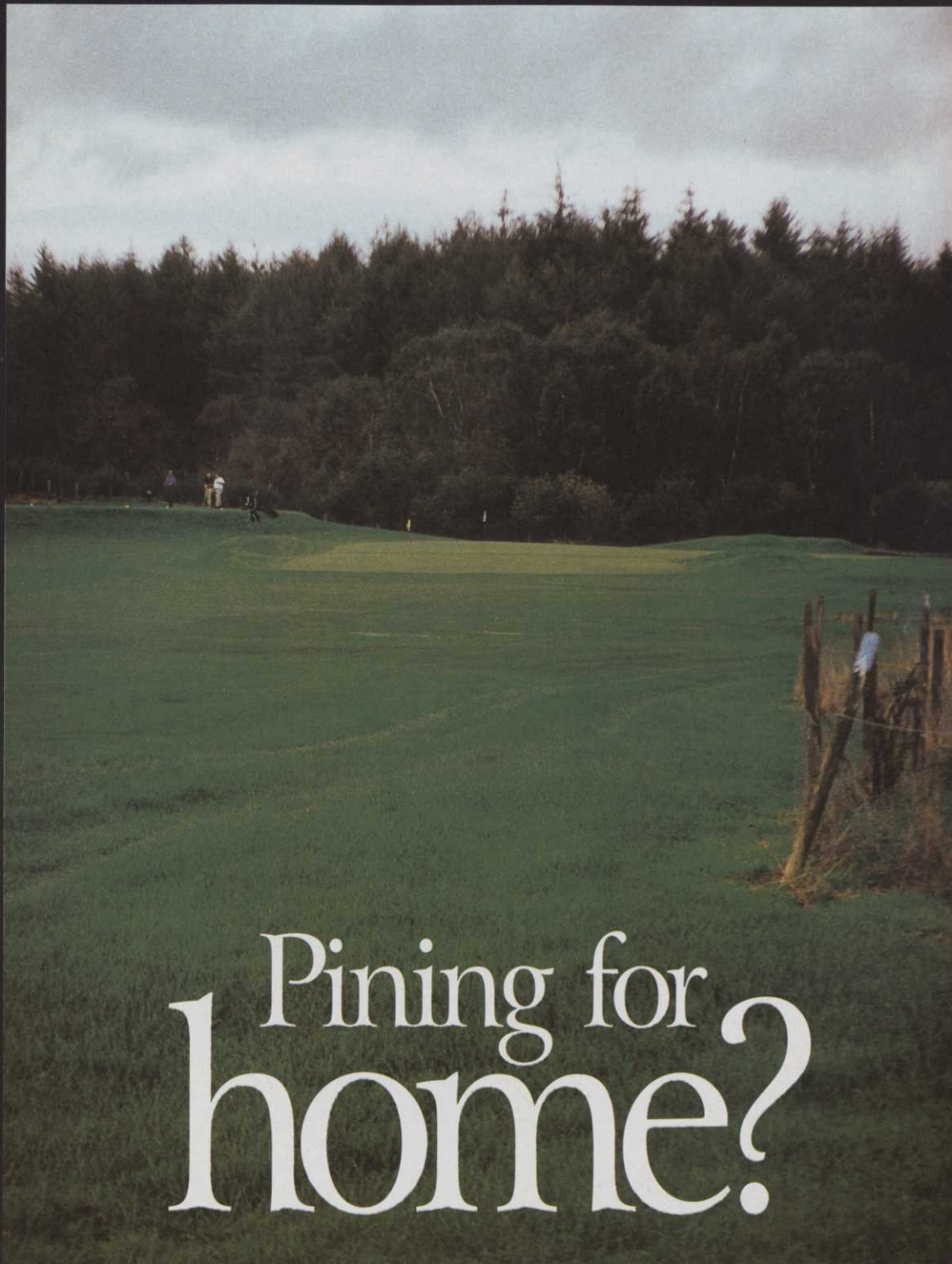
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Scott MacCallum visits the club where  
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# Pining for home?

A visit to The Pines Golf Centre in Dumfries can have you questioning your own sanity. Don't get me wrong it's an excellent new pay-and-play complex boasting floodlit driving range, testing 18-hole courses and an attractive alpine style clubhouse. It's just well... let me explain.

When I drew into the car park for the Ayrshire Section meeting last month I could see Section Chairman, Duncan Gray, standing with a group of students on the 1st tee. It transpired they were from Barony College and Duncan was setting them a project for the afternoon. He greeted me warmly and sent me into the clubhouse to meet up with the rest of the guys.

Having said my hellos and chewed the fat for a few minutes I looked up and recognised the man pulling pints behind the bar. It was Duncan Gray.

A few more minutes passed and the soup and sandwiches arrived. The waiter? Duncan Gray.

Later, after the golf (during which, incidentally, Duncan marked the card of the new course record holder) over the course that was designed, built, and maintained by Duncan – and between handling queries involving till receipts and range balls – Duncan revealed that the curry, a popular option on the menu, was his own recipe. Really, we should have known!

Duncan, however, certainly wouldn't want it to be seen as a one-man show at The Pines. Wife, Greta, is just as busy and operates from a disadvantage from which Duncan doesn't suffer. She's not particularly keen on golf.

While both muck in the general division is that while Duncan is in charge of everything outside Greta does the same inside.

So how did Duncan, a greenkeeper of long standing with a CV boasting such illustrious names as Prestwick St Nicholas and Lahinch, reach the point where he is Captain of his own ship – and many of his own crew members as well?



# Pining for home?

Right: The course has established itself well in the short time it has been open

Below: The ever smiling Duncan Gray

Bottom: With Greta, the other half of the team



"I was in charge of the Kyle and Carrick municipal courses in Ayrshire when competitive tendering arrived and destroyed the budgets to look after the courses," said Duncan as we sat in the living room of the Gray apartment, overlooking the 18th green.

"Greta and I had always talked about starting our own business and, being in golf, running a driving range was an obvious way to go, as we couldn't afford our own course... or so we thought at the time."

A trawl around Ayrshire uncovered a couple of possible sites but it was not until they widened their search to Dumfries that things began to move.

"Being local to Dumfries we knew the town didn't have any practice facilities. There are about 33,000 people in Dumfries, and another 70,000 within 20 miles, but there was no decent practice area for them at all."

"Fortunately we came across an old school pal of mine who had land that he was willing to lease and with the help of another school friend, a solicitor, the deal was struck with an option on the rest of the land, with the long term thoughts on a course.

"We looked at planning approval in December '94 and started work in December '95.

"We did all the work on the driving range ourselves. We prepared the foundations, poured the concrete, did all the slabbing. Even Greta drove dumpers," recalled Duncan.

The project was funded by equity from the family home in Prestwick which was sold, but there were some nasty surprises along the way.

"Putting in the electricity alone cost £12,000 and we had to lay 700 metres worth of road earlier than expected," revealed Duncan.

"The range was a great success. We had a caravan on site which acted as a clubhouse offering snacks," said Duncan, who along with Greta lived in another caravan alongside for about two and a half years.

The range was run by Duncan, Greta, a young skill seeker, a couple of part-



timers, with a couple of youngsters who worked as ball pickers in the evenings.

With the range up and running Duncan's thoughts turned to the possibility of building the course.

"I'd already sussed out the ground and found that there was quite a bit of sand. If it hadn't been there we wouldn't have been able to build," he admitted.

He took on some more Skill Seekers and talked with the Enterprise Board who provided some labour from the Training for Work programme.

"Basically we got a year's free labour but it worked well because everyone we used now has full time jobs," said Duncan, who also has his D32 and D33 and trains his staff on site.

"Initially I built a loop of 11 holes, including two temporary greens and these were played from July '97.

"They were a tremendous success and we were practically overrun with people coming to play, so we thought we'd fire ahead and build the rest of the course. We finished the last nine in September '97 and opened the full 18 in June '98."

Duncan designed the course himself

using experience gained from designing several courses in Ireland including Drumoland in County Claire which was used for a televised pro-celebrity golf series.

"The routing was done fairly quickly and I always had 18 holes in mind when I did the first holes. I created a loop with the 7th green beside the 10th tee and the 14th tee beside the 10th green."

He has also used six different types of construction on the course.

"I've used the course as an experiment as I've always been very inquisitive and what better way to try things than to use your own course. You can only blame yourself," he smiled.

"I've got three greens cut out of existing turf, top dressed, overseeded etc and these are on two different types of land. The 1st is on top of sandy loam while the 5th and 15th are on agricultural soil.

"Then there are two greens built and sodded with my own sod; another two with bought-in turf, while two greens which were seeded with creeping bent. The rest of the greens are build and seeded with fescue bent."

Duncan's greenkeeping philosophy is





not to do much feeding and he has not put on a fungicide since the course opened.

"I've never used much fungicide when I was at Prestwick St Nicholas and Lahinch... and here that approach also helps to save money," he added.

Another other of the major projects was the clubhouse itself.

"When we opened our 18 we were still using the caravan as the clubhouse but with things going well we looked at building a proper clubhouse.

"This proved to be a big problem. We had built the course using income from the range, and had benefited from an interest free loan from the R&A and a grant from the Enterprise Board. As a result we had very little borrowings, but it was extremely difficult to persuade the banks to lend money. It was only when we'd run the course and shown it to be successful that we were able to persuade them," said Duncan, who suspected that as it was around the time that Loch Lomond ran into financial difficulties banks were worried about becoming involved in golf.

"We started to build the clubhouse in the first week of June last year and

again we did a lot of the work ourselves. It was finished in three months and one week," he said with justifiable pride.

"Part of the clubhouse contains our flat which means we are married to the job and can't get away but at least it's better than a caravan. Greta has been a real martyr. Not many wives would put up with what she's had to."

He is under no illusion that despite the course being open and extremely busy he still has a great deal to do on the course.

"I need to put in quite a bit of drainage and will also do some tree planting and tree transplanting. We've got quite a few trees of good size on the periphery and we'll use our digger to move them. I also want to put in a few more bunkers, but not too many."

Asked about how he feels, as he sits looking out at the course he can rightly claim as his own, he has mixed emotions.

"I do have feelings of fulfilment but also a lot of tiredness.

"When you hear other people saying 'I don't know how you've done it.

It's an amazing feat' you think well, I suppose, maybe it is, but because we're so heavily involved - basically it is 24 hours a day - it takes a bit of the gloss of it," said Duncan.

Remarkably Duncan is also involved in the design and building of several other courses including one in Dundee, another at Southern Gailes and another in Crete.

"When you're asked to do it it's tempting to say I've got enough on my plate but it's not often you get asked to design a golf course and it helps to ease the finances. I've only started to take a small wage out of The Pines."

Asked if he would do anything differently, given a clean slate, he is honest enough to admit that perhaps they built the clubhouse a bit too soon.

"I think we'd have left it for another year, even although we were living in a caravan, because it made last winter very difficult. It was only this summer that we began to get on top of it again.

"That said I don't think I'd have done anything else differently, although to be honest knowing what

we know now we may never have attempted it. It has been so horrendously difficult."

As well as the benefit to the golfers of the Dumfries area - the professional gave lessons to 700 youngsters last year and the £12 a round green fee is no deterrent to new golfers - The Pines has also done a great deal of good to the local community with 25 people earning their living through the club.

"So from having a boss and working for other people - and having someone to blame - the boot is on the other foot and I have many people relying on me now."

Despite that Duncan still considers himself to be a greenkeeper through and through.

"I still go out and change holes and cut greens while I don't employ a Head Greenkeeper for two reasons. One, we couldn't afford one and two, I wouldn't like it. It's my course and it will be done the way I like it."

You would certainly be right in thinking that Duncan Gray is a one-off but surely, a visit to The Pines would have you believing that there must be more than one of him.



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## Ship ahoy for Tildenet

Tildenet had to go full steam ahead complete a recent contract.

They were given just 10 days to design, manufacture and install two custom made golf teaching nets on a luxury cruise liner. Tildenet Sales Manager, Lawrence Green even had to negotiate a crane driver strike at the port in Genoa, eventually man han-

dling the equipment into place in deck twelve. The task was completed with just one hour to go before the ship, Seven Seas Navigator, set sail on her maiden voyage.

The nets will be used by four American PGA professionals giving lessons to over 1,000 passengers paying £1,000 a day for a two-week cruise.



## Greensward's one stop trailer makes loading easy

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The minimum tipping height is 22in. Load capacity with standard sides is two tonnes and with the tapered extension sides 3 tonnes.

Price with standard sides is £3495 and extension sides plus flow control gate cost another £500. All prices are exclusive of VAT.







**Address your letters to the Editor,  
Greenkeeper International, BIGGA  
HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF.  
You can also fax them to 01347 833801,  
or email them to reception@bigga.co.uk**

## A greenkeeper's request

This is a request for information and photographs (which would be returned) from any BIGGA member regarding suitable furniture and fixtures that would be appropriate for a golf course built at the turn of the century and through to the end of the 1960s in 20 year periods.

This would include tee markers, seats, pin and flag design, hole cups and any other accessories that would be in keeping with courses designed between 1900 - 1920, 1920 -1940 and 1940 - 1960.

If anyone has any information

on the above and would be willing to lend it to me for a short period of time, I would be very grateful. Please include a description, including the period during which the item would have been used, and a photograph if possible.

Please contact me at the address below:

**Robert Woodward**  
Berkshire College of  
Agriculture, Hall Place,  
Burchetts Green, Maidenhead,  
Berkshire SL6 6QR  
Tel: 01628 824444

## Carbendazim clear-up 1

I am writing regarding the article on microbes written by Ms Stella Ingelthorpe of Grass Roots Trading Co. which appeared on pages 55-58 of the September issue of Greenkeeper International.

In the article, Ms Ingelthorpe states that 'Production of carbendazim, the last remaining worm control agent (and a fungicide) is to cease at the end of the year

AgrEvo is a major manufacturer of carbendazim and sells this substance to The Scotts Company (UK) Limited which holds registrations for products approved for professional agricultural use on golf greens. Both companies would therefore like to point out that AgrEvo has no current plans to cease its production of carbendazim by the end of 1999 or in future years. Obviously, AgrEvo cannot speak for other carbendazim

manufacturers, but I can add that I have not heard of any such phase-out plans by the other major manufacturers.

I am sure you will appreciate that both AgrEvo and The Scotts Company (UK) Limited will have been understandably concerned at the inaccurate information contained in the article by Ms Ingelthorpe. I would therefore be very grateful if you could include a statement in the next available issue of 'Greenkeeper International' clearly explaining that AgrEvo is not planning to cease its production of carbendazim. This will provide appropriate reassurance to The Scotts Company (UK) Limited and to users of this company's carbendazim-containing products.

**Mr R G Evans, Product Safety  
Management, AgrEvo UK Ltd**

## Carbendazim clear-up 2

I refer to the article in the September edition of Greenkeeper International, written by Stella Ingelthorpe of Grass Roots Trading, concerning modern microbiology. In this article she states "the production of carbendazim, last remaining worm control (and a fungicide) is to cease at the end of the year, and MAFF are looking carefully at other chemicals on the market".

Your worthy magazine is held in high esteem by your members, and this information has caused concern with greenkeepers who have an on-going problem with worm

casts. I am sure it is difficult to ascertain that the information provided to you in such articles is correct, but the effects of such misinformation can be harmful. Vitax Twincarb contains carbendazim and this active ingredient, I can assure your members, is being supported through the BC Review Programme and the manufacturers do not have any plans to cease the manufacture of this important product

**Clive R Williams**  
Commercial Development  
Manager, Vitax

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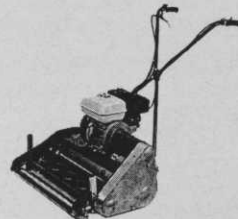
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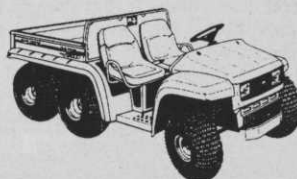
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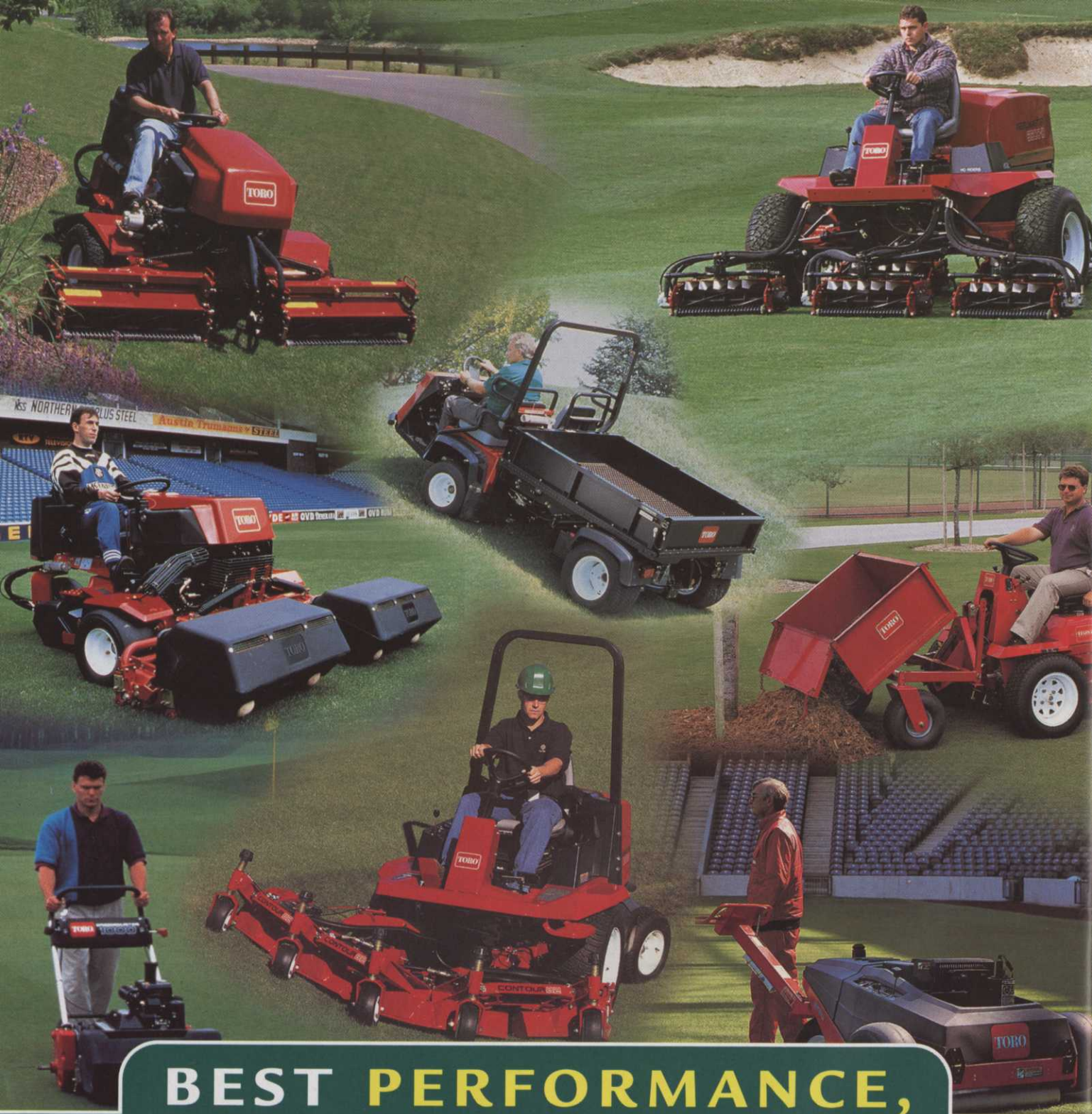
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