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**Two superb golf courses played in testing conditions by a strong field containing some of the finest golfers BIGGA has to offer.** Photography: Alan Birch

# What could be better?

Yes, the 2001 BIGGA National Championship was a wonderful occasion and in Royal Birkdale and Southport & Ainsdale we had two golf courses which ensured that the entire field were tested but most of all felt privileged just to be there.

Played on the Monday and Tuesday after the Ryder Cup was scheduled to be played it shouldn't be forgotten that between them Birkdale and S&A had hosted four Ryder Cups and in Birkdale's case a host of memorable Open Championships. So it was with a sense of real history and awe that the maximum field - reduced slightly by last minute call-offs - teed off at Birkdale on the Monday.

The conditioning of both golf courses was a real tribute to Chris Whittle and Mike Mercer and their teams at Royal Birkdale and Southport and Ainsdale respectively. A wind gusting at up to 50mph meant it was never going to be easy so tribute must be paid to Ian Semple, National Board Member and Course Manager at Old Folds Manor who knocked it round in 74.

That score can be put into perspective by some of the high scores of his fellow competitors. One player actually holed a 20 footer to keep a 20 off his card at the par-3 12th while there was a 17, a 13 and numerous double figure scores. Ian was joined at the top of the leaderboard by local man Chris Ball at the end of the first day whose fine 81 gave him a nett 73. He put his fine form down to finding an Irish penny at the back of the 1st green which he used as a ball marker for the rest of the round.

It was Chris, an assistant at Hillside and former junior member of Royal Birkdale who set a target on the second day that wouldn't be beaten. A 78 nett 70 was good enough for victory and it was the 29-year-old who lifted the majestic trophy at the end of the day.

"When I saw the Championship was to be played at Birkdale and S&A I knew I had to enter it," said Chris as he savoured his triumph.

"Since then it had been on my mind and I knew I had to win it. I hit it low and when the wind blew I told the guys at the club that I knew I had a chance," said Chris who won the event held at Royal Birkdale to celebrate Tom O'Brien's retirement a few years ago.

The fact that the Championship will again be held in the Southport area, on his own Hillside course as well as Hesketh, sees Chris already looking 12 months ahead. "I'll definitely play next year and defend the title. There will be more pressure on me as it is on my own Hillside course and I never play well round there," he said, already trying to reduce the expectation that will weigh upon him.

Ian Semple couldn't reproduce the heroics of the opening round but he hung on to lift

the scratch prize following a second round 77 for a one shot win over +1 handicapper Tony McLure. Tribute must also be played to Walter Woods who played some sparkling golf on both days to finish high up the prize list and, more importantly, see him ahead of his old rival George Brown, of Turnberry.

**Next year's National Championship will be played at Hillside on September 30, 2002 and Hesketh on October 1, 2002**

#### Titbits

Barry Holt did a Justin Rose at Birkdale's 18th by holing a chip for a birdie. It produced scenes not seen since the 17th green at Brookline with a display of over enthusiastic celebrating from the delighted left hander. As a follow up he also birdied the 1st at S&A and completed his two days of work with another birdie on the 18th, on this occasion followed by a slightly more restrained punch of the air.

Even now Past Chairman Elliott Small is hot on the trail of the player who played his ball - a Titeleist 3 - on the 16th at Birkdale causing him to return. As the purple mist descended he finished his round birdie-eagle which perhaps only compounded his fury.

As yet it is not known whether any BIGGA members were responsible for Liverpool and England's Steven Gerrard getting into trouble prior to the England-Greece game. Gerrard was spotted out drinking in a Southport bar at 2am on Tuesday morning, around about the time many greenkeepers were also frequenting bars in the area.

#### 36 HOLES AGGREGATE NETT

1st Chris Ball (Challenge Trophy Winner)	143
2nd Walter Woods (on 2nd round)	146
3rd Chris Bitten	146

#### 36 HOLES AGGREGATE GROSS

1st Ian Semple (Challenge Cup Winner)	152
2nd Tony McLure (on 2nd round)	153
3rd Antony Kirwan	153

#### Category Prizes - Monday

0-7 George Brown	75
8-15 Jason Moody	76
16-28 Kevin Caples	79

#### 2nd Round Prizes - Tuesday

0-7 Jon McMullen	71
8-15 Duncan Gray	69
16-28 Ben Knowles-Jackson	78

#### Nearest the Pin Competition

Thomas Comerford

#### Longest Drive

Alex Hawkes



Above: Alan Ravey, Captain of Southport and Ainsdale GC, congratulates our 2001 National Championship winner, Chris Ball



Above: A huge thankyou goes to all of our generous sponsors



Above: Chris Whittle, Clive Osgood and Mike Mercer

**REGIONAL TEAM CUP**

Winners - South East Region 623

Mick Haynes, Raymond Day,  
David Murdoch, John Donnelly,  
Nigel Colley, Antony Kirwan,  
Jason Moody, Ian Semple

**Runners Up**

Scottish Region

George Brown, Iain MacLeod,  
Steve Sullivan, John Mair, Walter  
Woods, Duncan Gray, Alistair  
Philp, Craig Pennycuik

3rd Midland Region

4th Northern Region

5th SWest & SWales Region



Above: The conditioning of both golf courses was a real tribute to Chris Whittle and Mike Mercer and their respective teams at Royal Birkdale and Southport and Ainsdale



Walter Woods (above) and George Brown (right) battle it out



Top: Barry Holt on fine form, and above, the Regional Team Cup is lifted by the South East Team



Above: Our National Championship winners take a bow!

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# On course for some **WINTER SUN**



## Hopes are high for a mild winter - but why chance it?

Fed up with the rain and the cold each year millions of Brits escape to some of the world's sunnier spots at this time. And despite the understandable concern over recent terrorist activity and its long-term repercussions, many will be taking a trip this year too.

Although there's plenty of competition from around the world, two of the classic winter sun holiday destinations are likely to be the real hotspots for late 2001 and early 2002.

Spain represents particularly good value at the moment. The strength of the UK pound means that travellers will be able to pick up great deals on accommodation and get more for their money while they are there - and of course, that applies to the ever-popular Canaries as well as mainland Spain.

That perennial favourite, Portugal, will also be the choice of many British holidaymakers. Always affordable, Portugal's many resorts boast excellent facilities in spectacular surroundings. Both countries offer plenty for golf enthusiasts too.

With more than 35 courses dotted along the coastline from Malaga to

Gibraltar, Spain's Costa del Sol is one of Europe's finest golfing locations. And with the region's thriving nightlife and top-class restaurants, there's plenty more to enjoy.

Catalonia is another Spanish golfing gem. Home to many high-quality tournaments (such as the pre-qualifying events for the Volvo PGA Tour), Catalonia offers great golf for both experienced and high handicap players in a picturesque setting, with views of the Mediterranean and the snow-capped Pyrenees.

For guaranteed sunshine it's hard to beat the Canaries - and at the top of the list is Tenerife. With courses to suit all abilities, excellent beaches and resort facilities, the island is sure to be a big attraction again this year.

Portugal's leading golfing choice is the popular Algarve, a region of highly developed tourist resorts but also get-away-from-it-all beaches. To the west of Faro airport, the sophisticated resorts of Vilamoura, Quinta do Lago and Vale del Lobo are a magnet for golfers - with the region's Moorish history, fishing villages and distinctive rock formations among the other attractions of the Algarve.



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- 2 Call the BIGGA Travel Club on **01908 214999**

# The final



THE  
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FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN GREENKEEPING

# approach

It is perhaps the most select band of greenkeepers to be found anywhere - only four members strong but with the collective knowledge and talents of an army. That number will be added to by one when the panel of judges meets to decide upon the 2001 winner of the Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping.

It will not be an easy task because already the four finalists have been through an arduous selection process just to reach this stage and when one of Alan Purdie, Crail Golfing Society; David Murdoch MG, Liphook GC; Huw Morgan, Wildernesse GC, or Alan Strachan, Royal County Down GC, is announced as the 2001 winner he will become a very worthy member of what will then become the Famous Five.

## Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping Roll of Honour

2001 - Who will be named as our winner?  
2000 - Iain Ritchie - Portmarnock GC  
1999 - Brian Turner - Sunningdale GC  
1998 - John Coleman - Abbeydale GC  
1997 - Ian McMillan - Hankley Common GC

## The Interview Panel

The final interview panel will consist of Walter Woods; former Courses Superintendent at St Andrews Links; Bob Buckingham, Toro's European Sales Manager; Graham Dale, Managing Director, Lely (UK) Ltd; Bruce Jamieson, Toro Consultant and former Director of Agronomy of the PGA European Tour and Neil Thomas, Executive

Director of BIGGA.

Each finalist will already have been judged at country level\* and had their course visited by Walter and Bruce.

\*David and Huw both won through in the combined England and Wales final.

## The Prize

The winner will receive a Toro Workman 2100 Utility Vehicle, plus a trip to the States to visit the GCSAA Conference and Show in Orlando, Florida, and the Toro Headquarters in Minneapolis and California next February. The winner's team will also receive £250.

The three runners-up will each win a Greensmaster 1000 Pedestrian Mower.



**Alan Strachan**  
Royal County Down GC

Alan is 34 years old and has been Course Manager at The Royal County Down Golf Club for the past six years. Born in Scotland, Alan has been in the industry for 16 years. He has held the Deputy Head Greenkeeper position on three of the best links courses on the east coast of Scotland, these being Montrose, Royal Dornoch and Carnoustie. A keen member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Ireland he is currently on the National Executive. He has also been a member of BIGGA for the past 12 years. RCDGC is situated in an ASSI, an ANOB and a SAC, and the management programme involves minimum spraying of chemicals. Alan is a keen golfer, playing to a handicap of 8 and is married to Pauline with two children, Gregor (9) and Eilidh (6).



**David Murdoch MG**  
Liphook Golf Club

David is 32 and has been Head Greenkeeper at Liphook since 1995. He started work as a 16 year-old on a YTS scheme at Dunnikier Park GC in Kirkcaldy, Fife in 1985 before moving to Dunfermline Golf Club as an apprentice a year later before moving on to become Deputy Head Greenkeeper at Dunfermline in '91. He moved to Old Thorns Golf and Country Club in Hampshire later that same year. In '93 he moved to Liphook in Hampshire as Deputy Head Greenkeeper and became Head Greenkeeper in '95. He became a Master Greenkeeper in May 1999.



**Huw Morgan**  
Wildernesse Club

Huw is 35 and has been Course Manager at the heath and woodland Wildernesse Club in Sevenoaks, Kent, since '93. Prior to that he had been at Fairwood Park GC, parkland course in South Wales, between 1985 and '90 where he was Course Manager before moving to become Course Manager at Southerndown Golf Club, a links course. He remained at Southerndown for three years before moving to his present club. He is currently waiting to sit the Master Greenkeeper exam and is studying an HNC Distance Learning Course with Elmwood College. His hobbies are golf, football and rugby. He is married to Salli-Anne and they have three sons.



**Alan Purdie**  
Crail Golfing Society

Alan is 44 and has been Head Greenkeeper at Crail Golfing Society since 1991. Prior to that he was Head Greenkeeper at the Eden (links) Course at St Andrews for 3 years after moving there following an eleven-year stint as both Assistant Head and latterly Head Greenkeeper at Broomiknowe Golf Club, a moorland course. His greenkeeping experience has covered courses of most persuasions including Links, Parkland, Moorland and the Hills course at Lothianburn GC, where he started his greenkeeping career. Alan's hobbies include playing off 2 at St Andrews, where he is a member, collecting golf memorabilia books and supporting his beloved 'Heart of Midlothian' football team. Married to Margaret for 24 years, their daughter, Cara (20) is currently studying an Art degree, while their son, Craig (18) is a greenkeeper at the Old Course, St Andrews.



**Scottish Region**  
Peter Boyd  
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

The Scottish Region is once again offering its members a subsidised package deal for BTME 2002. The package includes coach to Harrogate, entry to all seminars and exhibitions, three night's bed and breakfast in en-suite rooms on January 22, 23 and 24 in the Moat House Hotel, Harrogate.

The cost of the package is £189 with partners welcome at a cost of £129 for travel and accommodation. Bookings and full payments are due by December 17, 2001 with banquet tickets at an extra cost of £29.50 per person.

Further information from Peter Boyd, 10 Meadowburn Avenue, Newton Meams, Glasgow, G77 6TA. Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

Peter Boyd

### Central

We extend a warm welcome this month to Lorraine Paterson, from Callender, (Sharon at Elie won't feel so lonely now); Eric Wilson, Murrayshall, and Kevin McColm, from St Michael's. I've already met Eric as he attended our recent Autumn meeting, he didn't have far to go right enough, as the tournament was held at Murrayshall!

Hopefully we will all get to meet Lorraine and Kevin at some future events.

As said above, Murrayshall House Hotel and Golf Courses was the venue for our

2001 Autumn Tournament on September 27 and what a superb new course the Lymedoch is, with views over nearly half of Scotland - that's a bit of an exaggeration but on a clear day you can see for miles in every direction.

For a new course it was in great condition and the greens were really excellent with some very subtle borrows, well that's my excuse for taking so many putts! Our allotted tee times were oversubscribed well before the closing date (so we must be doing something right) and everyone who attended had a really enjoyable day - even the weather was kind to us for a change.

Before any of you say there was a bit of confusion regarding the closing date on some of the forms, I always make at least one "deliberate" mistake just to make sure you are all paying attention!

Prize winners on the day were as follows:

#### Best Scratch

G. Campbell, Murrayshall, 68+3-71;

#### Best Nett

D. Gillon, Tulliallan, 75-9-66

#### Best Nett S&A

K. Stirling, Kingsbarns, 74+68-142

#### Category 1

1. A. Philp, St Fillans, 70-2-68 bih;

2. K. Stirling, Kingsbarns, 69-1-68.

#### Category 2

1. D. Scott, Scoonie, 83-15-68

2. D. Smith, Glenalmond, 87-14-73

#### Cat 3.

1. S. Cruickshank, Deer Park, 99-23-76

2. M. White, Elmwood, 100-19-81.

#### Patrons' Prize

J. Darling, Richard Aitken's, 79-5-74.

#### Guests' Prize

J. Harley, Murrayshall, 80-10-70

**Longest Drive:** D. Simpson, Crieff.

**Nearest the Pin:** A. Philp, St Fillans.

We had a slight hiccup with the prize giving which has been rectified. I will withhold the name of those concerned to protect the innocent. Well, everyone said "It wisnae my fault" so I presume that they were innocent!

Our sincere thanks go to everyone at Murrayshall for looking after us so well on the day with special thanks to General Manager, Tony Bryann, Lin Mitchell, all the clubhouse staff, especially Donald for his very warm welcome, the Pro, who cut the price of a buggy to £10, a real deal on wheels, and I must give a special thank you to Course Manager, Ian McMillan, and all his staff for the excellent condition of the course (that should really be courses) and for the very generous gesture of donating the green staff gratuities back into Section funds.

Well done to the greenstaff at Murrayshall! Also a big thank you to all the Scottish Patrons, without whose support our tournaments wouldn't be the same. I nearly forgot to mention the lads who sold the raffle tickets. Once again they did a superb job in raising funds to help fund our tournaments. Thanks everyone.

The winner of the August draw in Club 2000 were Bobby Fleming, from Dulatur, winning £30 and Sharon Lawrie, from Elie, winning £20. September winners were Alex Cruickshank, from Daval, with £30 and Andrew Crawford, from Kinross, who wins £20. A special mention and thank to Alex Cruickshank, from Daval, for donating his winnings back into Section funds.

Tickets for next year's lottery are going quite well at the moment. Only a few members have returned them, some have even put them in an envelope anonymously, but don't worry lads we know who you are!

Remember all monies and unsold tickets must be returned to me by the end of December. As this is the only fund raising venture which is run by the Section I hope that not too many tickets are returned.

I will give you an up date in December's news on the Grand Football Tournament and the Section AGM which were held last month (too late for this issue) and I may also have snips on an issue which has been quite a talking point at recent committee meetings with snip being the operative word. Watch this space.

John Crawford

### North

The Autumn Outing to Keith GC was a great success, with reasonable weather fortunately, as rain fell either side of the day. The downside was our lowest turnout for a while with only 53 members, trade and guests in attendance. This was possibly due to the date being earlier in the month than usual, which had come about because the club had a double booking and moved us to the earlier date. We must thank Keith GC for their hospitality and congratulate Neil Kidd and his staff for presenting the course in wonderful condition. The winners on the day were as follows:

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#### Scratch

1. Gary Tough, Letham Grange, 73
2. and Committee Trophy Winner Steve Sullivan, Craigiehill, 75

#### Class 1

1. Neil Kidd, Keith, 76-5-71
2. George Mitchell, Newmacher, 75-2-73 bth
3. Michael Mann, Carrbridge, 78-5-73

Class 2. 1. Alan Grant, retired, 82-11-71

2. Patrick Wood, Newmacher, 81-9-72
3. Ken Kinnaird, Grantown-on-Spey, 84-11-73

#### Class 3

1. George Asher, Kemnay, 88-23-65
2. David Duggan, Fortrose, 93-26-67
3. Stuart Hogg, Fortrose, 93-21-72

#### Apprentice

1. E. Cameron, Elgin, 78-6-72
2. Colin Irving, Tain, 84-11-73

#### Veteran

1. Roy Donald, Oldmeldrum
2. Hugh Maclatchie, Peterhead

Trade. Pat Allan, Stewarts 80-5-75

Guest. F. Devine, Keith 78-10-68

Nearest the Pin. Steve Simpson

#### Longest Drives

Class 1. Neil Kidd

Class 2. Colin Irving

Class 3. Dave Marnoch

Ken Kinnaird also picked up the Spring and Autumn aggregate cups for best nett and best Head Greenkeeper, while Roy Donald won the Veteran aggregate.

200 Club winners were May no.188 £30 A Williamson Perth, June no.56 £30 M Gordon Braemar, July no.123 £30 J Geddes and H Maclatchie and August no.69 £100 A Grant, Fraserburgh. The card draw for the BIG-GA blazer was Robert Hardie, Aberdeen. Once again thanks to everyone at Keith for helping the day to run so well and thanks to the Section Committee for their organisation.

The National Championships at Royal

Birkdale and Southport & Ainsdale were a great success with good weather apart from the stiff breeze each day. Along with myself representing the Section were Steve Sullivan and Gordon Moir and we helped the Scottish Region into runners-up spot for the team trophy.

There was a full entry apart from a couple of late call offs and the whole event was well organised and ran smoothly. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow greenkeepers from around the UK and Europe, so next year leave the first week in October free and put your name down to play in it at Hillside and Hesketh GCs in Southport.

This month we have our mini Conference which will have passed by the time you read this and of course Scotsturf at Ingliston, so I hope to see you all at one or the other event. The December magazine will have a report on the Section AGM.

Iain Macleod

#### East

Welcome to this month's column, we've a lot to get through this month so let's get going. The Section held their autumn tournament at Monktonhall Golf Club in September and a great day was had by the big turnout who were in attendance and it was also good to see a few new faces on the day. We hope you all had a good day and we hope to see you at more Section events in the future and not just golf days. Thanks must go to Captain and Council for courtesy of the course, clubhouse staff for the excellent food and refreshments, Tom Shepherd, Head Greenkeeper and

his staff for the condition of the course and the way it was set up on the day. A job well done lads. Also members of the trade for being in attendance and supplying us with raffle prizes and to Sam Morrison, Daval Products for keeping the 1st tee moving. Thanks to everyone on the day.

The results are as follows:-

#### Scratch Stewarts Quaich

K. Mail, 72 bth

#### 1st class (Russell's Quaich)

1. S. Gray, 73-3-70
2. S. Nicol - 72-1-71
3. T. Murray, 75-3-72

#### 2nd class SGM Cup

1. C. Irvine, 83-11-72
2. C. Yeaman, 85-12-74
3. A. Russell, 90-11-79

#### 3rd class STS/ Rigby Taylor Cup

1. I. Cowan, 92-17-75
2. R. Hogarth, 96-17-79
3. S. Dixon, 97-17-80

Veteran: Eddie Holt Trophy, J. Manuel, 85-5-80. Trade: Autumn Trade Cup, N. Lawson, 92-16-76. Guest: G. Wright, West Linton, 70-+1-71. New member: S. Muir, 109. Best nett: S. Gray, 73-3-70. Worst score: E. Thomson, SGM, 124. Aggregate trophy spring / autumn, Bill Beveridge Trophy, K. Mail - 145 total.

Well done to all trophy winners. All handicaps will be adjusted for next season so beware! Congratulations also go out to John Gallagher, Merchants of Edinburgh Golf Club. John, who is an assistant greenkeeper and who plays off a scratch handicap won the Lothian Champion of Champions Matchplay title this year which is not a mean feat as this tournament comprises of all the Lothian club champions playing matchplay throughout

the season. Congratulations and well done and all the best in next year's competition. Congratulations also to newly weds Andrew Forrest, Head Greenkeeper at Oatridge College GC, and his bride, Kirsty, who were married on October 20.

Congratulations from us all in the East Section and all the best for the future.

More congratulations this time to Richard Mullen, Course Manager at Swanston Golf Club and his bride who were married in Las Vegas in September. Once again all the best for the future from us all in the East Section

The two lads who represented the section at the National Championship at Royal Birkdale and Southport & Ainsdale did reasonably well. They were Craig Pennycook, Winterfield GC, and Gary Rodgers, Glencourse GC. Gary didn't get in among the prizes but Craig did, helping the Scottish Region to second place in the team event. Other Section members taking part were yours truly - Chris Yeaman, West Linton GC, and Gary White, Baberton GC. We weren't among the prizes this time but hopefully next year will be our lucky year. Well done and let's see more from the Section next year at Hillside GC and Hesketh GC again in Southport.

Well that's it all this month, if you have anything of interest let me know on any of the following 01968 66 1313 (home), 01968 66 1721 (work), 07719 580 449 (mobile) or e-mail [chrisjy26@aol.com](mailto:chrisjy26@aol.com)

Coming your way next month - result of annual Stewart's match, East Section v North East of England at Goswick GC, patrons award winners 2001.

Chris Yeaman



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**Ayrshire**

Result of Autumn Meeting at Brighouse Bay Golf Club 27/09/01.

**Best scratch and winner of the new Harry Diamond Shield**

John Mair, Beith.

**Category 1.**

1. Dennis Tweddel, Turnberry
2. Duncan Gray, The Pines
3. Derek Wilson, Irvine Bogside

**Category 2**

1. Colin Murray, Brighouse Bay
  2. Dale Norquoy, Irvine Bogside
  3. Paul Tulloch, West Kilbride
- Best Veteran: Gordon Haughey, Southernness  
Best Apprentice: Andrew Kirk, Brighouse Bay.  
Best Trade: Robert Bruce, Stewarts.  
Best Guest: Peter Boyd, BIGGA.

Wooden spoon - Last Autumn's Champion Jim Paton, West Kilbride. Where did it all go wrong, Jim?

After one of our driest Septembers for years, our luck didn't hold and the bad weather was to return with a vengeance on the above day with strong to gale force winds and persistently heavy rain. The event was cut to nine holes mid-stream in the atrocious conditions and most players battled valiantly to complete their round. At the prize giving the Complex owner Tom Gillespie was thanked for allowing us courtesy of the facilities along with Club Secretary, Ken Mercer, for arranging tee times. Head Greenkeeper, Colin Murray, was congratulated on the golf course and although the weather tarnished the day it didn't beat the course as it remained playable. Mr and Mrs Stanfield were also thanked for providing the catering and refreshments throughout the day and finally our

Secretary, Derek Wilson, was thanked for all the organising of the event. Ironically when I returned home 90 miles north, I was to discover that it had remained dry all day, Sods law!

By the time this reaches you it will be Scotsurf again, maybe I'll see you there. Any news call me on 01505 683278. See you next month.

Iain Barr

**West**

Welcome to this month's news letter. First a report on the Section Autumn outing held at Milngavie GC on September 20. The weather turned out beautiful to match the condition of the course so congratulations must first go to Bob Hindmarch, Wallace Wilson and all the other members of the greens staff. The committee would like to wish Bob all the best when he retires next year but I am sure he will miss working in such a beautiful place just a little. Thanks must also be extended to the committee and members of Milngavie Golf Club for the courtesy of the course.

**Scratch** Stuart Taylor, Killermont GC;

2. A. Clark, Hilton Park GC, 76-7-69;
3. G. Kerr, Gleddoch GC, 79-9-70.

**Category 2.**

1. D. McKechnie, Douglas Park GC, 79-12-67;
2. J. Wilson, Lamglads GC, 80-11-69;
3. T. Hindmarch, Cathcart GC, 85-14-71 (BIH).

**Category 3.**

1. W. Wilson, Milngavie GC, 93-18-75;
2. C. Scott, Killermont GC, 96-20-7;
3. J. Scott, Kirkhill GC, 95-18-77.

**Trade** D. Duthie, 72-4-68.

**Visitor** E. Wood, Killermont GC, 71-14-70.

**Winner of 100 club draw** J.Scott Snr.

Well done to all the winners - and a good turnout on the day. On November 30 our Annual Dinner will be held in Victoria's night club. Tickets are available from committee members, paid in advance of the actual dinner date. This has always proved an enjoyable and entertaining evening in the past with a choice of bars to suit all tastes and ages.

Congratulations are to be extended to Joe Bell, Millport Golf Club, and his wife who have been blessed with their second child Louise. Congratulations also to John Hart, (who replaced Joe as Deputy Head at Kilmaccolm GC), on the arrival of his baby son Callum. We are sure both of you and your wives are very happy with the new arrivals and are looking forward to the sleepless nights. Have they no television west of Houston?

Well that's it for this month hope to see as many of you as possible at the annual dinner, as always if there is anything you would like added to the column please give me a call on 01355 266862.

Brian Bolland



**Northern Region**

Douglas Bell

Tel: 0151 431 0433

**North Wales**

Our autumn meeting was held at Llangollen GC. There was a much reduced entry this year which was a shame because the course was in excel-

lent condition. Thanks go to Jeremy Hughes and his team, the Captain committee and members for having us, the stewards and definitely the caterers, after the amount of shots I took and the amount of walking I did, I was starving!

The results were;

1. Gem Shield and prize George Whitty, 38pts
  2. Andy Campbell 38pts;
  3. John Humphries, 38pts;
  4. Shaun Pritchard, 35pts;
  5. Ian Buckley, 35pts.
- Best gross score and the Major Owen Shield Jeremy Hughes with a 77. Guests Terry Dodd, 34pts; 2. Bert Spurling 34pts 3. The President Llangollen GC. Nearest the pin Allen Lewis, Guest Danny O'Neil.

Our thanks go to the sponsors Paul Walker, ALS, Gem, Acorn, Sportsworld, John Osman. Our next event is in the college on 14th Nov 13.30-1600 by Hardi sprayers.

The Christmas tournament and AGM is at Conwy GC on Tuesday, Dec 4. One final mention, the retirement of a man who made greenkeeping that interesting to me that I'm still doing it nearly 30 years later, not only me but many others including Andy Campbell and his own son, Peter.

I will always be indebted to Len Sproston for helping to make something out of me and giving me the encouragement and confidence to be a Head Greenkeeper.

Thanks Len here's to a very long and happy retirement.

Dave Goodridge

COURSE MANAGERS | GREENKEEPERS | STUDENTS | PROFESSIONALS | GOLF CLUB SECRETARIES | GOLF CLUB MANAGERS | GOLF CLUB OWNERS | NEW 3-DAY FORMAT | OVER 200 EXHIBITORS | 8 EXHIBITION

# Experience



## the most comprehensive Golf Club exhibition in Europe

The BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition has been held in Harrogate, each year, since 1989 and is the biggest indoor show of its kind in Europe. More than 7,800 visitors were present at the Show in 2001 and this figure is set to increase in 2002, due to extended exhibition space in Hall B accommodating an even greater number of exhibitors, and the addition of the Golf Club Show running alongside BTME.



The Golf Club Show, will take place for the first time in 2002. Whilst BTME will continue as an exhibition with the whole range of products and services for the Golf Course on display, The Golf Club Show will aim to succeed as an exhibition wherein Secretaries, Managers and Club Owners will find that all their additional equipment, furnishing and service needs for their golf clubs can be fulfilled.

**Continue to Learn**

Continue to Learn with BIGGA at Harrogate, in January 2002, when the National Education Conference and Workshop Programme runs alongside the extended BTME Exhibition. The formal conference is presented in a new format to allow delegates maximum flexibility to gain the most from their visit. The BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition Seminars provide an opportunity to mix the Exhibition with a range of Seminars allowing all delegates the opportunity to Continue to Learn. New for 2002 will be the Golf Club Show Education and Training programme which is aimed primarily at Golf Club Owners, Golf Club Secretaries and Chairmen of Green. This programme incorporates the very successful Running Golf Courses in the 21st Century, run jointly with STRI, with a range of seminars. Both programmes are open to all delegates, although members of BIGGA receive preferential rates. The Key Note speaker is Roger Black and this Session is free to all delegates. Finally, the very successful Careers Clinic will run alongside BTME.