

Please note the following booking terms and information listed below for Section meetings: Golfing members to receive starting times before meeting with a draw for partners; For our foursome and greensome events you may enter with a partner with your opponents being drawn; Company and golf presentation to conclude the day; A levy of £2 will be added to each entry received after the closing date.

As some members have problems paying before meetings, they will be able to continue to pay on the day without being levied as long as the entry has been received before the closing date, any member who doesn't attend after entering will be invoiced if no payment is received.

Richard Whyman

South West

We would like to thank Scotts for their very kind sponsorship of the Scotts Trophy held at Cumberwell Park GC. The event was won by Kendleshire GC with 87 points with Lansdown GC in second with 82 and Cumberwell Park third with 81. Pat Murphy, from Kendleshire, won the Nearest the Pin competition.

We would also like to thank Breakwells for their sponsorship of the SouthWest verses South Coast Match played at Long Ashton on August 14.

Please remember the next event on the schedule which is the Regional Seminar on September 20.

Robin Greaves

South Coast

As another month passes it is inevitable that my opening comments once again focus on the weather. We are currently going through what can only be described as monsoon season! We always think that we are getting a raw deal and some times we are, but have a thought for our colleagues in Glasgow who in August had to cope with 18 inches of rain in one day! We collect rainfall data at Parkstone and the most we have ever recorded in a day was 47mm and there was us thinking how it rained that day. I find it difficult to imagine what 457mm of rainfall in a day would do to a golf course! It doesn't bear thinking about! What I can say is that as a profession we as greenkeepers take it on the chin and soldier on, and I am sure that is what happened in Glasgow.

As I said before, our thoughts are with those greenkeepers who had to cope with the deluge.

Our summer tournament kindly sponsored by Huxley and Rigby Taylor was held on August 8 at Brockenhurst Manor Golf Club. With Course Manager Ed McCabe away on holiday, Deputy Course Manager, Kieron Jaques, was at the helm and also in charge of the weather prayer mat. The better ball invitation event had a superb turnout of 88 players, which included our National Chairman, Richard Barker. Richard's trip down south proved very fruitful after he managed to card three 2's during a birdie blitz. A very impressive feat considering before his round he revealed his golf was suffering and he had been advised to put his clubs away for a month. As if we believed him! Well-done Richard! The weather was not quite what we had hoped for although we didn't get too wet. The golf course was as ever in superb condition and a great credit to the greenkeeping team who had worked so hard to prepare it for us. The scoring reflected this and winners on the day were:

1. Rigby Taylor Challenge Trophy. Alex McCombie & Scott King, 49 pts;

2. Huxley Golf Trophy. Paul Cooper & Tim Rockey, 45 pts; 3. Mark Zealander & John Baker, 45 pts; 4. Matt Blake & Neil Cousins, 44 pts. Nearest the Pin. Alan Magee. Longest Drive. Darren Miller

After the prize giving Richard Barker paid tribute to Ted West who has recently retired from Broadstone Golf Club before presenting him with a gift from the Section. This rounded off a superb day! Many thanks must go to Huxley's and Rigby Taylor for their invaluable sponsorship; to Brockenhurst Manor for their superb hospitality; to Kieron Jaques and the greenkeeping team (Ed will be very proud of you) for all their hard work; to the catering staff for a superb meal; to Richard Barker, it really was good to see our national Chairman at our section event; to Joe Crawley, our ever present starter, who again did a superb job! Also many thanks for our Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries, for her help in ensuring the day ran smoothly. Last but not means least, Chris Sturgess,, our tournament organiser came up trumps again! Dates for your diaries. Our Autumn Tournament sponsored by Tacit will be held at Hayling Golf Club on Tuesday, October 1. The cost is £18 per person. The Section AGM will follow the tournament so we will be looking for a good turnout. Please send your entries to Chris at the usual address. If you have any news you wish to include in next months column then please contact me.

Until next month.

Alex McCombie

NORTHERN IRELAND

Firstly, this month I would like to congratulate Noel Crawford for his excellent performance in this year's North of Ireland amateur championship played at Royal Portrush in early July. Noel is part of the greenkeeping team at Royal Co Down and a very gifted golfer. A total of 300 competitors played in this tournament and Noel fought his way through the matchplay stages to the semi-final losing out 3&2. On behalf of the Section congratulations on a fine performance.

Our summer competition took place at Massereene Golf Club on July 25. Course manager Eammon Farrell and his team had the course in great condition. Many thanks to Massereene Golf Club for giving us courtesy golf. Our sponsor for the day was Graham Prosser, of Tacit. Graham is a very popular and generous supporter of the Section and his continued support is very much appreciated. The results were as follows: 1. Michael O'Neil, Fortinillian Golf Club, 35 pts; 2. Robert Patterson, Rockmount Golf Club, 34 pts; 3. Paul Loffin, Kirkstown Golf Club, 31 pts; 4. Robert McCloone, Easterock Golf Club, 30 pts. Visitors prize. Ken Frew, Massereene Golf Club, 42 pts.

The National Championship qualifying competition for the section will take place at Ballycastle Golf Club on August 30.

The result and full report on the Charity Golf Day at Clandeboye GC will be featured in next month's magazine.

Well that's all for this month. If you have any news you would like added to the column please call me on 02894 429001 during working hours.

Ken Henderson

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This competition is not open to BIGGA Staff or non-members. The solution to the August Turftime Teaser was 'Inturf'. This was correctly answered by: Mr A. Pears, Pewit Golf Club, Derbyshire and G. Davidson, Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire.

Our congratulations and a designer Cutter & Buck polo shirt are on the way to both of you!

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The Secretary, Chorlton-cum-Hardy Golf Club, Barlow Hall,
Barlow Hall Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester, M21 7JJ
Telephone: 0161 881 5830. Fax: 0161 881 4532



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Cotswold Hills is an established private members club, 18 hole 6,900 yards course situated on the Cotswold, close to both Cheltenham and Gloucester.

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Written applications, including a full CV and an indication of salary expectation to :

The closing date for applications is 30th September 2002.

The General Manager, Cotswold Hills Golf Club,
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Lee Strutt MG, Course Manager The Richmond Golf Club, Sudbrook Lane,
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William Boulton-Smith, General Manager, Stapleford Park Hotel Stapleford, Melton Mowbray, LE14 2EF

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September 2000; Blowers and Sweepers; Berkshire College Academy; National Championship roundup; Gordon McKillop interview; Winter health checks

October 2000; Toro Awards Preview; Ronald Fream; Irrigation; Saltext Review; Pest Control; Woburn GC

November 2000; Grass Cutting Machinery; Clandeboye GC; Drainage; National Championship review; Leatherjacket management

December 2000; Toro Awards; Making the most of your Dealer; Budget Boosters; BTME2001 preview; BIGGA/Bernhards CGSA delegation preview

January 2001; Communication; Tyres; Turf diseases; Kingsbarns Golf Links; Environment Competition Winner - Dyke GC; Talking Heads - Pest Control

February 2001; BTME2001 review; Winter Mowing; Irrigation; Broadstone GC; Hedges; Security

March 2001; York GC; Greens Maintenance; Meland GC, Norway; Greens Mowers; BIGGA Essay Winner; Grass Science profile

April 2001; Lightning detection; Brockett Hall GC; CGSA report; Fairway Mowers; Irrigation; Sward renovation; BIGGA Essay winner; Turf Disease

May 2001; Foot and Mouth Disease Special Report; Maintenance Facility report; Bunker Sand; ATVs; RainBird Profile; Fineturf Genetics; BTME2002 countdown; Electric-powered machines

June 2001; Stoke Park Club profile; Stuart Cagle MG; Tractors; Leaf Spot Disease; Take All Patch; Construction

July 2001; Royal Lytham profile; Tees Mowers; Fertilisers; Green Grasses; John Deere profile; Sandy McDivot; College Listings

August 2001; Aeration Survey; Machrie GC profile; Rough Mowers; Saltext Preview; Dr Alan Gange - environmental research; Hayter Profile; Ponds; Open Championship review; Toro Student of the Year profile;

September 2001; Ryder Cup preview; Chafer Grubs; Drainage; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDivot; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers

October 2001; Major Award for Walter Woods; Royal Portrush GC; Portstewart GC; Irrigation; Soil biodiversity; Leaf collection systems; Scotsturf preview; Saltext review

November 2001; BIGGA National Championship review; Environment Competition winner; Spraying; Toro Awards Preview; Cutting regimes; Dyke GC

December 2001; Toro Award Winners; Southern Gailles GC; BTME preview; Specialty equipment; Thatch removal

January 2002; Walton Heath profile; Greenkeeping in Denmark; Moving materials; A first for Andy Campbell; New products

February 2002; Harrogate 2002 Review; Drainage; Castlerock GC; Trees; Recycling; TurfTrax profile; Barn Owl special report

March 2002; Donnington Valley profile; Utility vehicles; Essay competition winner; Irrigation; Seeds; Sandy McDivot

April 2002; Heyrose GC profile; Bernhard's Scholarship; De-stress your greens; COSHH assessments; Rootzones and topdressing; Maintenance facilities; Essay competition

May 2002; BIGGA Report; Nematodes; Caldy GC profile; Multi-tasking machinery; Bunker Sand; Essay competition; Fijian GC profile; BIGGA Minimum qualification

June 2002; Finding Fungi; Greatham Valley GC profile; Tyres; Calabria GC profile; Lakes and Ponds; Poa Annua - Jim Arthur

July 2002; Open preview; Turf; Steve Isaccs; Emissions; Grinding; Rotary Mowers; BTME preview; Sandy McDivot

August 2003; BIGGA Golf Day; Open review; Talking Heads - Education & training; Trees; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pwllheli GC; Weather; Compact Tractors; Saltext preview;



A Sad Start to the Month

It is with much sadness that I start to write this report but for those who don't already know, Douglas Bell, the Northern Regional Administrator, died recently after a short illness. BIGGA will certainly miss him, as will all those who knew him personally.



On a brighter note, and having left Muirfield, and the Open Championship behind, I headed straight on to St Andrews to attend the World Scientific Congress of Golf. While there were presentations on agronomy from speakers including, James Beard, most of the speakers and attendees were concerned with the development of equipment of clubs and balls. Most of these lectures were comprehensive with the speakers having a background in physics and aerodynamics. Having listened to most of these and spoken to many of the people, it concerned me greatly as to the future development of equipment and the game of golf as most courses have limited room for lengthening their courses. Hopefully the R&A and USGA will soon put limitations on the development of this equipment.

During the week I had the opportunity to play Kingsbarns. I am sure most of you will have heard of this golf course and believe me, if you ever get a chance to visit, you will not be disappointed. It is a truly magnificent golf course with stunning views, but unfortunately it took me six hours to play! But it was time well spent.

I also played the Old Course which was another tremendous experience and having started with eight pars and a birdie I thought the game was easy. Not so. I came back in a few more and a shank on the last was quite embarrassing in front of the 10 strong gallery... but I did go on to make 4!

So back to work for a few days in the pouring rain (I got away with it quite lightly but for those of you who didn't, you have my sympathy and I hope your courses are returning to normality) and then down to the south of the country.

First stop was Hartsbourne Country Club, a beautiful course set just outside Watford, which played host to one of the Midland Region's Scotts' days. There was a tremendous turnout of 23 teams and the day ran very smoothly thanks to the work of Peter Larter and everybody at Hartsbourne. The only downside to the day was right at the start when the Hotel fire alarm sounded at 4.30am. Peter, Nick Martin, from Scotts, and I had to

assemble in the car park, along with the English Ladies Cricket team. So it wasn't too bad after all.

From there it was down to Brockenhurst Manor in the New Forest, another lovely golf course, which played host to the South Coast Section. Fortunately the weather stayed nice and it was great to meet up with many old friends, and also have the opportunity to present Ted West with a gift on his retirement, having completed 40 consecutive years with the same golf club. Quite an achievement.

Ted, I hope you have a happy retirement and find time to play plenty of golf.

Well, after putting 400 miles on the clock it was home for a couple of days before heading west into Wales and Celtic Manor for the final day at the Wales Open, courtesy of Bernhards. Fortunately this was one of the dry days and a great day's golf was to be witnessed with Paul Lawrie coming out a comprehensive winner. Again this is another super course with vast changes in elevation over few holes and it should make an excellent Ryder Cup venue in 2010. I just hope the weather improves to give Jim McKenzie and his staff every possible chance of showing this course at its best.

And finally, to complete a hectic week, it was on to the Forest of Arden, the following day, with the Midland Section.

Again it was nice to meet up with many old colleagues and to see that the Section was alive and kicking.

As for the future. Well SALTEX is the next major event and I hope to meet up with as many of you as possible. If you are there, please stop by at the BIGGA Stand where a warm welcome awaits you.

Richard Barker

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