

AROUND THE GREEN

SOUTH WALES SECTION

RECENT Appointments: Colin Reilly recently took over at Pennard Golf Club. He was first assistant at Royal Birkdale before the trip to Wales. Huw Thomas took over from John Hopkins at Pontardawe Golf Club. He is a local lad who used to work for the council.

Another council worker who has taken over in the private sector is David Waters, who used to work for Newport Borough Council at Cearleon (this is where I came from and since my leaving there has been four others left to join the private clubs). David has taken over at Pontnewydd Golf Club in Cwmbran.

Huw Morgan recently took over at Southerdown Golf Club due to the early retirement of John Walsh due to illness. I wish John all the best for the future and his wife who he married in October, and I hope they will be very happy together in whatever they will be doing in the future.

I would pass on our best wishes to all the above in their new positions.

On Wednesday, April 11 we held our spring meeting at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club, where we were treated to some excellent golf and service from the indoor staff.

The weather was good with the rain staying away long enough for everyone to enjoy the day. There was a good turnout once again and I would like to thank all those who sent their deposits and hope that I will receive even more for the next competition.

The competition was a good event with the home greenkeeper using his local knowledge to good effect dropping only 15 shots to par in 27 holes.

Winner of the Cardiff Cup and a watch donated from the funds was Laurence Walter with a score of 99. Second was Les Hallett, who won a golf trolley with a score of 108. Third was Lyndon Williams with a score of 109, he won a bottle of whisky donated by Browns of Bristol.

Best gross was won by Mike Jones with a score of 120 and he won a bottle of whisky donated by Avoncrop of Bristol. A raffle was held to help swell the funds and I would thank everybody for buying their tickets.

Winner of a bottle of sherry donated by the administrator was Tony Millar. Winner of a Iseki set of overalls was Steven Evans, these were donated by the local Iseki dealer Mr Chris



At a presentation at Long Ashton Golf Club staff party, Association Chairman Ivor Scoones is pictured, left, handing over gifts to Ray Burniston on behalf of club staff. Ray has left the Club after 18 years, latterly as managing secretary, to become Association secretary.

Hopkins. Winner of a bodywarmer donated by Peter Hampton was John Carter. Three golf balls were each won by Idwal Morris, Kirk Stevenson, Huw Morgan and Mike Norfolk. These were donated from the funds.

We would like to thank the committee and members of Wenvoe Castle for giving us courtesy for the day on the course and in the clubhouse. Thanks Tyron and his staff for putting the course in such good condition considering the dry conditions so early in the season. Our gratitude also goes to the stewardess and her staff for looking after us throughout the day.

The 18 holes played in the afternoon was the section's Iseki qualifier. And the following people will represent the section in the regional competition at Yeovil Golf Club on June 14. M. Jones, H. Morgan, J. Morris, J. Carter, P. Swain, L. Walter, M. Stokes, T. King, D. Jones, T. Garland, R. Kitcher, L. Williams, L. Hallett, B. Price and M. Norfolk. Reserve T. Thompson.

G. Cox and N. Owens were disqualified because they had not paid their subscriptions for 1990. Therefore their places went to the reserves P. Swain and M. Norfolk.

PHILLIP SWAIN

SOUTH WEST SECTION

THE sun always shines on the righteous - well nearly always, it certainly did at Long Ashton on April 26th for the S.W. Iseki qualifier.

I would have thought that more than 13 out of 94 could have turned up, never, mind at least we all qualified for the Regional Final.

The course was in first rate early condition, a true credit to

our National Chairman Ivor Scoones and his hard working staff. 1st R. Moffat 83:12:71 on last 9; 2nd J. Kane 77:6:71; 3rd P. Worster 79:3:76; 4th L. Millar 81:4:77.

With many thanks to Monro's, Browns, Avoncrop and Peter Hampton for the prizes.

The spring one day FEPA course had to be cancelled due to a clash of dates. Further

days can be organised in the autumn, please advise numbers to me as soon as possible.

In the meantime I'll look forward to welcoming you all to Lilley Brook on July 11 for the 18 hole summer tournament. (I expect we'll be Verti Draining the greens or something). If you all promise to turn up. I'll promise to leave the Verti Draining and top dressing until the next day (Lady Captains Day).

Finally condolences to all at Filton Golf Club on the sudden death of Andrew Wilson, deputy head greenkeeper, after a short illness. Our sympathy in particular to his widow Lisa

PAUL WORSTER

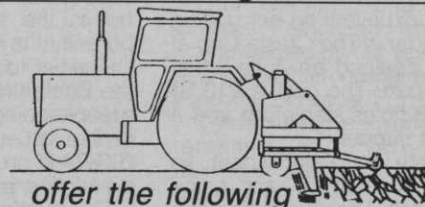
SURREY SECTION

THERE may be apathy around, but it seems we are still attracting applications for membership from young greenkeepers.

At the last count Surrey had 266 members. We hope to see as many of you as possible at our events through the year, as

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it is only with continued support that we can progress.

Surrey has a new section secretary this month in the shape of Derek Walder of Reigate Heath who has taken over the hot seat from Mik Wells.

I'll publish his number etc next month after he's had time to find his way around the job a bit.

A quick mention that the gentleman's Dinner at Walton Heath was attended by 144 people, of whom 125 sat down to a marvellous meal and saw Jack McMillan presented with a statuette by the South Coast region, as a token of all our appreciation of sterling work in furthering the cause of greenkeepers and greenkeeping.

Also at Walton Heath, the spring meeting was a great success. Our thanks go to ICI, the main sponsor, and to Parkers, the local Iseki dealer along with all our other trade friends who help with prizes etc. The winners of those prizes as follows: 1st I. Hogg 138 net; 2nd D. Woodward 139 net; 3rd T. Hall, 140 net; 4th S. Haines 141 net.

This was an Iseki regional qualifying event, and the final takes place at Sudbury on July 4. More news as it happens! The next event on our golfing calendar is The Cresta Cup at New Zealand on June 11 at 3.30 p.m. The cost is £12.50 for 18 holes stableford and a buffet supper.

There is no start sheet, so turn up, team up, and enjoy your golf! The annual England v Scotland match is to be played at Hindhead on August 13. Captains are Clive Osgood for England and Stuart Macmillan for Scotland.

Talking of Hindhead, a few changes in personnel. Firstly Bobby Macmillan has left to

join Orchard Lea Park in Bath as their new Course Manager. Filling his shoes at Hindhead is Tony Miley, Bobby's, former deputy.

Two more things. One, the new uniform styles will be on display and available to purchase at The Cresta Cup. Secondly, the committee would like your views, in writing, on the Master Greenkeepers Certificate. These may be posted to me at: The Bungalow, Hankley Common Golf Club, Tilford Road, Tilford, Farnham, Surrey GU10 2DD. That's all for now, keep me posted of your news etc on 025 125 4287.

PHIL BALDOCK

NORTH EAST SECTION

ON April 26 we made our first visit to Alnmouth G.C. to play the spring competition. The weather was perfect and made a change of not playing in the wind that's been hampering this forgotten part of England for the past three months.

Thanks are in order to the committee of Alnmouth for the courtesy of use of course and to the steward for meals provided. Thanks also to the greenkeeping staff for the fine condition of the course. We were surprised to find not only were preferred lies on fairways but in the semi rough! Apparently they always do this.

Thanks to Mr Barry Poole, the Publishing Director of the greenkeeping magazine for giving an update on how BIGGA is progressing and for presenting prizes.

Our thanks go to the sponsors: Stewart's, Ryton Gravel Co., Bland Short, and Turfcare Supplies I shudder to think how we would survive without these four companies who help us out immensely, and also to Fewsters, Hayter, Patinsons and finally R. Aitken.

Results: Best gross, D. Baxter - Newbiggin G.C. 73. Best Nett: N. Parkin - Hexham G.C. 76-9 = 67. Ass. Cup. M. Harvey - Tynemouth G.C. 94-24 = 70. Leading Scores: B. Udberg, Tynemouth G.C. 84-15 = 69. G. Gainford, Prudhoe G.C. 83-13 = 70. G. Richardson, Whickham G.C. 76-6 = 70. K. Rutherford, City of Newcastle, 92-20 = 72. B. Weddell, Alnmouth G.C. 83-10 = 73.

Iseki Qualifiers: 0-9 D. Baxter (1), D. Jennings (2), G. Richardson (6), N. Parkin (9). 10-18 B. Udberg (15), G. Gainford (13), B. Weddell (10), A. Fiddes (16). 19-28 M. Harvey (24), K. Rutherford (20), M. Rutherford (28), G. Ripa (20).

JIMMY RICHARDSON

DEVON AND CORNWALL SECTION

THIS year's guest day meeting was held at Launceston Golf Club on Wednesday April 3. With the weather being more like a winter's day 26 pairs of hardy souls ventured out on to the course to compete for the best combined stableford scores.

The prizes were kindly donated by Devon Garden Machinery, Parkins and Ed Simcox of Jacobsen.

1st A. Cann, 37pts and I. Downing 30 pts. Total 67pts (Bude). 2nd E. Barber 30 pts and P. Pearman 36 pts. Total 66 points (Palace Hotel). 3rd G. Child 33 pts and A. Chaundry 31pts. Total 64 pts (Churston).

Our thanks must go to George Bailey and his greenstaff for the superb condition of this course also to Launceston Golf Club for allowing the section use of their club and course.

With this being our last meeting until the autumn I would like to wish you all a successful season and look forward to seeing you all next autumn.

RICHARD WHYMAN

LONDON SECTION

FIRST of all the London Section sends its regards and best wishes to Jim Cameron who takes a new post as Head Greenkeeper at Tenderton Golf Club in Kent.

Also congratulations to Christopher Granestock who replaces Jim at Gryms Dyke Golf Club as Head Greenkeeper. Talking of Gryms Dyke our spring meeting was held at the club on April 28, although the day was poorly attended those who did play enjoyed themselves, and some good scores were recorded.

The Iseki Tournament qualifying competition was played in the morning and the qualifiers and scores were as follows:

Category 0-9 handicap: 1st Darren Burdis, Porters Park, net 68 off 9 handicap. 2nd Craig Handyside, Hadley Wood, net 70 off 4 handicap. 3rd Gareth Roberts, North Middlesex, net 72 off 5 handicap. 4th Martin Smith, Porters Park, net 76 off 5 handicap.

Category 10-18 handicap: 1st Chris Carpenter, Porters Park, net 64 off 13 handicap. 2nd Fred Read, West Herts, net 69 off 16 handicap. 3rd Andrew Phillips, Hadley Wood, net 70 off 11 handicap. 4th Robert Phillips, Porters Park, net 72 off 12 handicap.

Category 19-28 handicap: 1st Barry Moggridge, Brookmans Park, net 63 off 20 handicap. 2nd Robert Rendle, Hatfield & London, net 68 off 19 handicap. 3rd Terry Colville, North Middlesex, net 70 off 24 handicap. 4th Brian Kelly, Hainault Forest net 73 off 21 handicap.

Well done to all the qualifiers and good luck at Sudbury in the South East region final.

Let's see a good contingent of our lads in the national final at Fulford later in the year. The

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afternoon competition was a stableford and Chris Carpenter again came home ahead of the field with 40 points followed closely behind by David Clugie from Muswell Hill with 39 points. Our section has had an influx of new members and we welcome them.

New members: Terry Colville, North Middlesex; Doug Smith, Wanstead; Norman Corpe Hatfield & London; Steve Mullet, Sandy Lodge; Peter Moss, Stapleford Abbots; Steve Godfrey, Hatfield & London; Jeff Fowker, Sandy Lodge; Steven Hesk, Beckhampstead; Ian Healy, Manor of Grove; Harry Wade, Elstree; Mick Bath, Elstree; James Wright, Pinner Hill; Rob Mille, Manor of Grove; Lee Durkley, Pinner Hill; N. Coward, Hanbury Manor; Keith Knowles, Unattached; Lorenzo Geraghty, London Borough of Brent; Gary Standing, Lanbury Manor; Arthur Baker, Borough of Broxbourne; Stuart Green, Bushey Hall; Chris Meadows, Regents Park Golf School.

Let's see some of you at our various functions. It's your association. So use it!

If anybody has something interesting to tell then phone me on 081 441 3216.

ANDREW PHILLIPS

AYRSHIRE SECTION

IT'S been all go this past few weeks, what with trying to fight the usual Ayrshire spring weather and the hordes of hackers digging their clubs out of the attic at the first hint of sunshine.

It's very difficult to get the immediate perfect conditions every golfer seems to expect at the start of each season.

I had a most enjoyable visit

to London early in April for the BIGGA conference. The speakers really sparked off some great discussions. It's a pity the food didn't quite match up, but I suppose we can't have everything. After seeing the drought conditions down there, I'm not sure if I prefer too much rain or not enough.

It would be nice to be able to share it.

Talking about London, sincere congratulations to Bobby Bennett from the Glasgow Golf Club who has landed the task of looking after Sunningdale in the footsteps of Jack McMillan. Knowing Bobby, I'm sure he will make a great job of it.

Our spring outing was a great success. It makes a change to hear complaints of too much heat, rather than the cold and rain but temperatures were up around 80°F all day giving rise to the dilemma of whether to pour the evening beer over the throat or over the poor feet.

Our thanks go to Kyle and Carrick District Council for giving the use of their Lochgreen and Darley courses for the outing, both of which were in excellent condition due to the efforts of Head Greenkeeper Brian Finlayson and Assistants Billy Fletcher and Pat Power.

In fact Brian and Billy both suffered for their efforts, Billy having to retire with sunstroke after eight holes in the afternoon, and Brian retiring at 12.45 a.m. for some reason he can't quite remember.

Just one last thing, before the outing results, please, please can I have some news from around the area to give me some help with this column.

It is to keep you all informed, and if I don't know, I can't write it here. Telephone 0292 70929 any lunchtime or late evening.

Outing results: Three Man Scramble on Darley: Par 71

6450 yds Chic White (1), Kirk Campbell (4), Billy Fletcher (14). 57 Gross (this is '14' under par, who says greenkeepers can't play golf).

Singles on Lochgreen - par 73 - 7050 yards. Scratch - Chich White, Largs Kelburn 77. 1st Class. 1st Duncan Gray, Kyle-Carrick 81-8-73; 2nd Alan Forest, Western Gailes, 79-4-75.

2nd Class: 1st Gordon Heron, Turnberry, 92-16-76. 2nd Sid Mercer, Kelburn, 92-15-77. 3rd Class: 1st Jim Paton, West Kilbride, 96-19-77. 2nd Martin Lothian, Turnberry, 111-20-91. New Member, Gary Bryden, Turnberry, 79 scratch. Trade, Robert Bruce, Stewarts 93-14-79.

JIM WYLIE

EAST ANGLIAN SECTION

OUR first tournament of the '90's was at Felixstowe Ferry on April 10.

A dry but cloudy day saw 40+ going in roughly the same direction.

George Newson had the course in its usual pristine condition. It was the first round of the Iseki Tournament but as there wasn't a representative of the company to be found we played for the Rushbrook Salver and guess who won it? Hot Toddy Huddlestone, 35pts and no passes!

First and second in the 0-9 section were Alan Carter and Peter Howard, 34 and 33 pts.

First and second in the 10-18 section were Dave Wells and Sam Sylvester 35 and 33 pts. Mr B. Millhard with 34 pts won the guest prize.

I have a list of reserves for the tournament.

B. Cook, G. Newson, Ken Moyce, Doug Storey, Dave Cole, Arnold Mynot, Ernie Hart, Steve Denton, Steve Freestone, Tony Tyrell and Lyndon Upham.

Our thanks to Mr Jim Cowan the club captain and members of Felixstowe Ferry for allowing us courtesy of the course and making it a memorable day.

Thanks also to our trade members for valued support and prizes they were as follows: Rigby Taylor, Pattisons, SISIS, Town and Country, Rushbrook's, Toro and Colliers.

MICK LATHROPE

EAST OF ENGLAND SECTION

OUR first meeting of 1990 was held on April 5 at Belton Park G.C. I am eternally grateful to my own captain and committee for their help on this occasion.

The lecture was delivered by Jeff Taylor of Johnson's Seeds. The subject was 'Golf Course Grasses and Wild Flowers'. This proved a most interesting topic to the members present.

Our thanks to Johnsons who also provided the refreshments for the evening - these were laid-on by Jim Fulton our local representative.

Membership of the section has now risen to 52. As our area is very spread-out we would appreciate venues for meetings in the south of our area.

Our section chairman Graeme Patrick and myself, accompanied by our wives attended the international education conference at Egham.

The lectures were varied, interesting and very well delivered making the three days fly by.

Our wives were given a very well planned tour of Windsor and London keeping them very content (house points scored). Many thanks to BIGGA from the wives.

COLIN SWINGLER

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AROUND THE GREEN

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SOUTH COAST SECTION

DETAILS of the Section's summer tournament are as follows: Venue - Highcliffe Castle Golf Club; date - Tuesday, 31st July; time - Teeing off from 1 p.m.; fee - £10 per person; closing date - 21st July.

The competition, consisting of a member and partner from their club, will be the usual format of an 18 hole four ball better ball.

Written entries giving name and address, name of partner and current handicaps, together with the current fee, should be sent to: Mr Joe Burdett, 948 Castle Lane East, Bournemouth BH7 6SP. Tel. 0202 483017.

Section members were deeply shocked to hear of the death of our President's son in a car accident. Our deepest sympathy goes to Jim Fry and his wife at this terrible time.

BOB DENNIS

NORTH-WEST SECTION

GOLF tournament venues have now been completed for 1990 and these are as follows: Reg Vickers Memorial - Dunscar G.C., Wednesday June 13; Roses Match - Bury G.C. Thursday August 23; Stewards Match - Turton G.C. Monday September 10; Autumn tournament - Birchwood G.C., Tuesday October 2.

For the Roses Match, and the Stewards Match, volunteers are required to make up a team of 16 on each occasion. If you fancy a good day out let me have your name in time to play.

On April 10 the North-West members in North-Wales had a meeting at The Welsh College of Horticulture, Northop, with Neil Thomas and David Golding to discuss the possibility of a North Wales Section being formed. I believe a final decision will possibly be made next September when a further meeting will take place.

BERT CROSS

NORTHERN SECTION

THE spring tournament took place in glorious sunshine at Selby Golf Club.

Thirty nine members played twenty seven holes of golf and twelve of them qualified for the regional final of the Iseki tournament, later in the year.

The twelve who qualified were: First Division - A. Leech, E. Walsh, G. Wilson, M. Han-

nan. Second Division - M. Lealman, D. Roberts, R. Johnson, C. Martin. Third Division - G. Oxley, P. Palmer, C. Garnett, K. Townend.

These people will be notified by the regional administrator of the date and venue of the regional final. Many thanks to everybody at Selby Golf Club, the caterers who gave up their day off, head greenkeeper Steve Capel and his staff for their hard work, and finally the club committee for allowing us the courtesy of their course on the day. Thank you.

I hear of more staff changes in the section the latest being Steve Heaton's move from Skipton to Otley G.C. and committee man Brian Carr moving from South Leeds to Filey Golf Club as course manager.

After the golf the next event on the social calendar was the annual dinner dance. Ticket

We thank Coventry Golf Club for making us so welcome and allowing us the use of their course and Clubhouse facilities. We also thank the steward and his wife for the excellent meal provided in the evening.

The tournament was won by J. Hooper and the scratch prize was won by N. Woolfrey - well done both players. Many thanks to trade and trade members who donated both time and prizes which go towards running a successful tournament. John Hammond and Jim Guest did a very slick job in getting people started on time both morning and afternoon.

Finally, I must thank Mike Hughes and Steve Wood, who organised and ran the tournament so efficiently.

It was mentioned that we might arrange to run a coach

certainly seem to be shaping up well down there and I am sure that he will find the travelling a lot more to his liking, as you can see his house from the course, some 10 minutes away, rather than his former hour or so trip to Canterbury (road works permitting).

I understand that we are soon to be joined by another Scotsman who will be taking over at Tenterden. Perhaps we will soon be able to play England v Scotland matches in the section on our golf days.

Of course I am only joking - we would probably have trouble scraping together a team, especially in view of the very poor attendance at the last Spring Lecture by Inter Seeds at West Malling last month, the support for which certainly calls into question whether we will be organising any educational lectures for next year.

Paul Copsey has returned to Barnehurst Golf Club as Head Greenkeeper, with more than one or two problems to sort out, certainly no question of place of origin here as he was born in a maternity home overlooking the 2nd green 26 years ago.

On the subject of information I seem to be in competition with Andy Johnson at Sene Valley as to who is the last in the county to receive his magazine, if one arrives at all, that is.

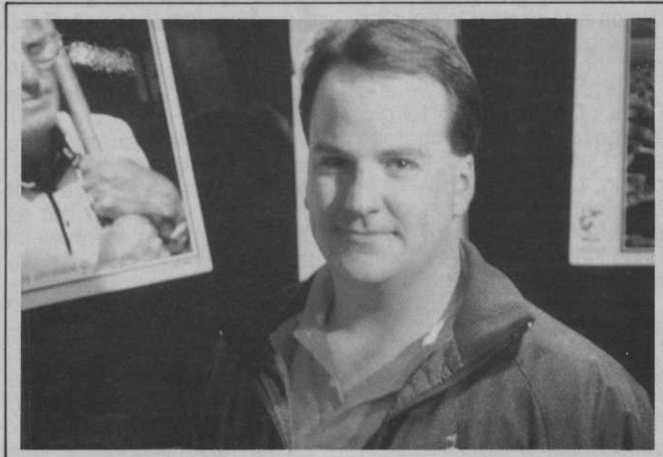
Fortunately I have been able to borrow a copy to read for the past couple of months, although I would like my own copy of the Ransomes Group Advert, or do I mean Greenkeeping Management, at some point in the future.

P. COPSEY

● *Editor's note . . . Point taken Paul about the distribution problem. I have spoken to the appropriate sources to rectify the problem - let me know if my actions are ineffective. As for the Ransomes quip . . . ouch! Below the belt. But seriously greenkeeping management is climbing aboard the low wage bandwagon in a big way. Watch this space in the months to come, as they say.*

In the meantime if you feel the magazine's balance is unfair pick up the phone and say so. Better still why not throw a few stories my way I'd love to hear from you, and, in fact all the members.

Section secretaries please note . . . the Around the Green section is for YOU. Don't forget to put pen to paper and let me, and everyone else know what's going on in your neck of the woods.



Soaking up the Florida sun - and learning a lot about greenkeeping in the United States - was Chris Rother, pictured, of Loch Lomond Golf Club, who attended the American greenkeepers convention in Orlando recently.

sales were brisk and almost 90 people attended, many of our younger greenkeepers were among them. A good night was had by all. Many thanks to all at Baildon Golf Club for their help and hospitality.

Some late news from across the Pennines - the annual Battle of the Roses golf match will take place on Thursday, August 23 at Bury Golf Club. Places are still available for the Autumn Tournament at Malton and Norton Golf Club on Wednesday, October 10 - £5 deposit please.

BOB LUPTON

MIDLANDS SECTION

ON May 2 we held our spring tournament (Ransomes Cup) at Coventry Golf Club, Finham Park. The weather was superb which was equally matched by the course, for which we thank John Bayliss and his staff.

to Llanymonch, the venue for the autumn meeting. Would people interested please let me know at our summer tournament.

Date to remember - July 11 summer tournament to be held at Broadway Golf Club. Please remember to get your entry forms in on time.

May I wish you all a pleasant and rewarding summer.

DEAN CLEAVER

KENT SECTION

WE seem to be entering that time again when staff are on the move, which seems to come about every couple of years as members seek pastures new.

The most notable move is that of John Millen from Canterbury to the new development at the Weald of Kent Golf Club near Headcorn. Under John's guidance things