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is £15.00 per person for a 36 hole competition including morning refreshments, lunch and evening dinner. First come, first served, and the first 60 people to enter with Mr Ian Rickman, 53, Woodruff Drive, Basingstoke, Hants, RG22 6NH will be the lucky ones! Starting times will be notified and NO late entries will be accepted. Details of the new Section Committee areas follows:-

Chairman, Bill Paterson, Secretary, Roy Kates, Treasurer, David Childs, Publicity Secretary, Harvey Tribe, Golf Administrator, Ian Rickman. Other Committee Members are:- Des Murtagh, David Duke, Simon Edmond, David Heads, Peter Henderson. Thanks to Mr Simon Johnstone of the Berkshire College of Agriculture who gave a very successful lecture on Pesticides and the Law.

H.TRIBE

North West Section

Congratulations are in order this month to two North West Section Members of the Association. First Bill Lawson is due to become National Chairman of the Association in April. Bill has been an active member of the North West Committee and the Board of Management since BIGGA was formed. It must be said that the honour of being National Chairman is no more than Bill deserves. His life revolves around greenkeeping and the BIGGA. Good luck Bill and enjoy your year in office.Secondly, our North West past Secretary David Golding, has been appointed Education Officer for BIGGA. This appointment can only be an advantage to the Association as David has worked so hard to help the Association off the ground. I am sure that David has a great deal to offer all our Members, so lets hope that greenkeepers of all ages take advantage of what David and the Association have to offer educationally. Once again, David good luck in your new venture.

Members who failed to attend the half-day lecture at Bury Golf Club on 5th January missed out on a very informative day. Turfland arrived with a large selection of Bower equipment, but rain put paid to any demonstrations. Instead, we were shown videos of the machinery at work and a film of a 'typical day in the life of a greenkeeper'. I think his name was Superman! Danny Godfrey from Inter Seeds closed the session with an excellent talk on grasses and how seeds are collected and distributed. This man is a mine of information! The one sour note of the day was the fact that only nine people bothered to turn up; once again leaving the organisers embarrassed and apologising to people who travelled many miles to help our Members.

B.CROSS

Northern Section

Jeepers Creepers what a winter!! With conditions that would have caused old Brutus to be anything but discontented, we press on, cutting grass, working soil like silk, in an ambiance most conducive to rational thought and stable foothold! Did you have a good Christmas? About thirty of our number limbered up for the event at South Leeds on the 21st taking part in our Turkey Shoot. Although scrambled at relatively short notice, a good time was had by all, with a little of something for about every mocker. Many thanks to Mel Guy and South Leeds for the organisation and a warm welcome.Sorry you missed the AGM. Had the journal appeared on time matters would have been different. Then came the event that had everybody buzzing: ETME. The European Turf Management Exhibition was a winner and, without doubt, is destined to become the UK's premier amenity event. Northern Section Committee members figured prominently, being in attendance throughout the period ensuring the smooth running of the seminar programme. All in all, a very well-orchestrated affair which ran without mishap. February we went on a Tiger Hunt! The "Tiger" though, on this occasion, turned out to be a lissome young lady whose fitness was patently obvious. She was pursued (hunted) through river and forest by fellows on tractors which, had you taken your mind off the bird, could be considered very suitable for golf course duties. Needless to say, she was netted in the end. Carraro was the machine, JCM our presenters on the Italian Jobs and other interesting pieces of equipment. Our thanks to JCM and Mr Gordon Henry. 1989 promises a super season golf wise, with several interesting events for the 1987 Sunrory Matchplay Championship. This was the tournament that was hit by the October Hurricane and Kevin's talk illustrated only too well the hard work that took place to enable the tournament to proceed. As was to be expected, Kevin also discussed the construction of the sand greens at Wentworth's South Course, and a lively discussion took place on the correct method of construction and maintenance required for this type of green. Our thanks to Kevin for an excellent evening and our best wishes to him and his family on his new venture as Course Manager at Munich in West Germany. The Section's golf tournaments for 1989 are as follows:-

- Spring Tournament Monday, 22nd May, High Post Golf Club, Summer Tournament Wednesday, 12th July Cowdroy Park Golf Club, Autumn Tournament Thursday, 5th October, Isle of Purbeck Golf Club. Annual Match v South West Section Thursday, 12th September, Salisbury and South Wilts Golf Club.

Please retain these details and direct all enquiries to our tournament organiser, Joe Burdett. Details of our Spring Meeting are as follows:- Mondays, 22nd May High Post Golf Club, 36 hole Medal competition teeing off from 08.30. Members wishing to play 18 holes will be entered in an 18 hole medal. Members aged over 50 can compete for the Nita Simpson Trophy. Entry fee £11.00 each and cheques to be made payable to "BIGGA South Coast Section". Written entries giving name, address, handicap and fee should be sent to Joe Burdett at the following address:- 948, Castle Lane, East, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6SP. Tel. 0202-483017. Plea. state whether you wish to enter for the 36 hole, 18 hole or Nita Simpson Trophy. Entries to arrive no later than SATURDAY 6th MAY. Section representatives to compete for the Regional Iseki Tournament at Budleigh Salterton Golf Club. An 6th June will be chosen following

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D.HANNAM

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

South Coast Section

For our February meeting, 60 Members and guests were delighted to welcome Kevin Munt as our speaker. Kevin gave a first-class illustrated talk on the arrangements for the 1987 Sunrory Matchplay Championship. This was the tournament that was hit by the October Hurricane and Kevin's talk illustrated only too well the hard work that took place to enable the tournament to proceed. As was to be expected, Kevin also discussed the construction of the sand greens at Wentworth's South Course, and a lively discussion took place on the correct method of construction and maintenance required for this type of green. Our thanks to Kevin for an excellent evening and our best wishes to him and his family on his new venture as Course Manager at Munich in West Germany. The Section's golf tournaments for 1989 are as follows:-
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this competition. Finally, our best wishes to Eric James who is retiring from Parkstone Golf Club. Eric, has ably represented greenkeeping and greenkeepers over many, many years and is well-known to all in the industry. Justice cannot be done in these few lines to Eric’s achievements, and I am hoping that he can be persuaded to write an article on his many and varied experiences. Thank you Eric, for all your hard work over the years much appreciated by all Members of the Section.

B. DENNIS.

SOUTH EAST REGION
Surrey Section
Guidford Golf Club was the venue for last year’s Turkey Trot where 48 Members of the Section turned out to play in this popular fixture. Results:- First, B. Eastman, 40 pts, Second, S. McMillan, 38 pts, Third, J. Chambers, 37 pts, (back 9), Fourth, D. Woodward, 37 pts. Considering the windy conditions, the results were still very good proving there are still too many bandits playing off false handicaps! Our thanks to Guildford Golf Club and Rob Denning and his greenstaff for having the course in such excellent condition. On December 17th, a Dinner Dance was arranged at Leatherhead Golf Club, which I am told was a fantastic night for all who attended. This was a great chance for the wives to meet each other and get away from greenkeeping, to which their life is accustomed! As for the men, it was probably just another day at work!!


J. RUSSELL

Kent Section
On 13th December, we had our Turkey Trot competition at Ashford Golf Club. The winner was Steve Suttle of Sene Valley, closely followed by Andy Toomey of Bexley Heath, Malcolm Graham of Littlestone, Bob Cook of Parkers and Paul Copsey of North Foreland. Bob Cook's performance earned him best finalising position in one of our competitions (as he kept reminding everybody), but what a fantastic prize was in store for him. What appeared to be a box containing a bottle of scotch turned out to be a rather large article of ladies underwear wrapped around a metal bar and wrapped in newspaper!! It makes you wonder who the cruel culprits could have been to have put this prize on the table, but at least some thought had gone into it and it was different from all the other bottles of spirits on the table. Never mind Bob, they may come in handy one day! The weather on the day was dull and damp, but the 30 competitors had a good day and thank go to Willie and his staff and the catering staff at Ashford for their efforts. In the evening, we held our AGM and all the existing Committee were re-elected:- Chairman, Chris Mardon. Secretary, John Millen. Members. Derek Keen, Andy Arthur, and Paul Copsey. On 31st January, a machinery clinic was held at West Malling Golf Club and very many thanks must go to Vic Maynard and Paice and Sons for organising an excellent and very informative day. The 30 or so delegates heard an excellent talk from Nigel Church of Ransomes in the morning, with the afternoon devoted to Kubota engines and tractors. Hopefully all those who attended learned a little more about basic principles of servicing and repairing all types of machinery, and perhaps one day we may repeat the exercise on a larger scale as the topic is very relevant and an excellent chance to gain valuable knowledge, save time and money. All members should have received a newsletter and a programme of events for the forthcoming year, and hopefully all Members will support the events as well as they did last year. New faces would be welcome. Our Section grew by over 20 last year and perhaps will grow in strength this year. It’s with much sadness I learned of the passing of the Supaturf representative, John Field, at the end of January. John was a welcome and regular visitor to my previous Club for Supaturf and previously TMS. He was one of the characters of the profession. His untimely death is especially sad as he was so looking forward to full retirement and spending more time with his wife and playing golf. He will be fondly remembered and may I wish his wife and family our sympathies and best wishes for the future.

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