North

Is it really Christmas time again already? This year seems to have flown by, or am I just getting older?

The Section AGM took place at Royal Aberdeen GC at the end of October preceded by the annual Chairman verses Vice Chairman golf match for the Daval Trophy. We had an eleven a side match with one pair and five four balls. Victory went to the Vice Chairman’s team by 5 and matches to two. Thanks to all who played and Dennis Slater, of Daval, for presenting the trophy. A big thank you to Robert Batterston and his staff for a lovely golf course, the front nine of which is as good as any course in the world as it winds its way through the high dunes.

The meeting passed off very smoothly. The new Vice Chairman is Stewart MacBain who takes over from Wilson Morrison. We must thank Wilson for his hard work on the committee over the years. We would like to extend our gratitude to Colin Hurdle who comes on the committee in Wilson’s place. A full list of committee duties will be in next month’s magazine (if I remember to do it).

The Annual General Meeting took place on November 1st at Kingsknowe GC where our sponsors for the day were Thomas Sheriff and Co who provide a £500 bus for all. They kindly provided a TyneDee range of equipment which was very informative and also supplied us with a very nice buffet lunch. Thanks to Andrew Harkness and Willie Ness of Wilson Morrison for all your help.

The AGM took place in the afternoon and passed very quietly. There are a few changes to the committee. Stewart Greenwood has now completed his time as Chairman and takes his place on the committee as Past Chairman. Well done to Stuart for his time in office as the Section is now even bigger and better than it was when he first took over this time four years ago, so well, and we look forward to having you on the committee, with us, Stuart.

The new Chairman is Tom Murray. Ratho Park. Tom is thoroughly looking forward to the job ahead and can’t wait to get started, so all the best to him in his time as Chairman. Tom’s Vice Chairman for the year is Chris Yeaman, West Linton GC. Tom asked me to be his Vice Chairman and I was delighted to accept his offer, and I am looking forward to the next few years. Great to have new faces on the committee and I stepped down from the committee after a number of years with us, and we would like to thank Graham for all his hard work, and wish him all the best for the future.

Our new committee member who is making a welcome return is Peter Ormiston, Uphall GC. Well done Peter and we look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. We would like to extend our gratitude to Chris Yeaman, Past Chairman, for a two year term. The annual dance will have taken place by the time you read this slightly earlier than normal so a report next month. If you are going to BTME 2001 you will be able to get our extra items back to Peter Boyd ASAP as we are getting more Scottish greenkeepers going each year so hurry and don’t miss out. 2000 was the first month of the year we want you to get in touch just use the email telephone numbers and email address. So, as this is the last column of the year, the section would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, and we would like to extend that to all members of BIGGA and all staff at HQ and also Peter Boyd, Scottish Regional Administrator and all the other administrators across the country. I will then say you all at BTME2001 in January. Till then, bye for now, Chris Yeaman.

Central

We begin this month’s report with the sad news of the recent death of one of the Section’s Past Chairmen, Jimmy Lees. Jimmy was a founder member of the Section and was the first Vice Chairman in 1980 and becoming Chairman in 1981. He served on the committee for a good number of years and was a strong supporter of section events even after his retirement as Head Greenkeeper at Grangemouth Golf Course. He will be sadly missed and our sincere condolences go to his family, friends and colleagues.

Well, the Section AGM was held on October 31 at SGM House, Invereskilling, when a whole 15 members took the time to attend! You don’t see that every year! The Section was presented with a £500 Machinery organised a visit to St. Andrews, a presentation on SGM and a tour of their facilities prior to the meeting. Our sincere thanks go to Steve MacVean and everyone at SGM for an excellent day. As far as the AGM was concerned we had a very successful meeting and YOUR committee for the coming year is: Chairman, A. O’Hearn, Past Chairman, A. Dunn, Sec/Treas. J. Crawford, Committee D. Scott, G. Mitchell, S. Cruickshank, A. Collier, Patron’s representatives P. Langdon and Mrs. Pinto.

Congratulations go to Past Chairman Archie Dunn on being selected to represent BIGGA at the CGSA Conference in Vancouver next year. Archie will visit Canada in February next year along with the other selected members for what should be a memorable trip. Well done, Archie! The Moderator’s meeting in January here will be very informative and also supplied us with a very informative and also supplied us with a very nice buffet lunch. Thanks to Andrew Harkness and Willie Ness of Wilson Morrison for all your help.

East

Since I last wrote a number of things have happened in the section. Firstly we have won the annual Norrie Whitlock trophy for the first time beating all the Sections in Scotland. We have been runners up a couple of times so this makes up for it. Well done to the lads and hopefully we can retain it next year. The Section also defeated the north east of England greenkeepers at Cralle SVGC for the first time since 1988 to win the Stewarts Quaich in the annual Stewarts match which is sponsored by Stewarts of Dalkieth. Thanks again to Robert Bruce and John Mackenzie for two very enjoyable days. Also Tynedale GC clubhouse staff who looked after us extremely well, and the greenstaff, whose course was in great condition considering the terrible weather we were having at the time. So thanks to everyone for a great day and we look forward to next year’s match when hopefully we can retain the trophy.

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events and venues.

However, back to Elmwood. For the benefit of members who did not attend I can only say what an excellent day you all missed. John Quinn, Director of EGD, and Huw Parry, Deputy Principal of Elmwood College, gave us a talk in the morning and a look around some specific areas in the college. Later, we were taken up to EGD for a look at the greenkeepers' utility area. Thereafter we had a lovely lunch in the Fairways Clubhouse. After lunch seven members played 9 holes of golf and the remainder 2 were taken to the Scottish National Golf Centre. An amazing complex that I would recommend to anyone, a must see.

The day was well spent out, offering youngsters and even old duffers like me, an incentive to improve their handicap. I greatly appreciate the members who attended on the day.

The Scottish Region have organised a coach and accommodation package to BTME in January. Please contact Peter Boyd if you are interested and wish to make a reservation. The education conference will be on March 6, 2001 at Lauder College, hope to see lots of faces there.

Lastly, I would just like to wish all members a good year for the new season ahead.

Gavin Jarvis 07050 175080

Hall GC and I would like to thank Lubemaster, Amenity Technology, Atkins, Barenbrug for sponsoring the event and John Dobson, Robert Laycock, Howard McCaddy and Jim Crosten for speaking.

If you have any queries don't hesitate in picking the phone up and giving us a ring. There is no other news at the moment. If anybody has any then let me know. My address is 67 Asquith Avenue, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9QS or telephone at home 0113 2383188 / mobile 07790 678572, or email: andy.smith821@hotmail.com

Andy Smith

North East

On October 5 we had the annual match against our old friends from the East of Scotland Section and this time they came out the winners by 4-2. Rumour has it they brought in a few new faces not to mention only have a team of the trophy for a year.

I would like to thank Steve Pope for re-arranging the game to Tyneside at very short notice as the venue was to be held at Gosforth GC but it was closed due to heavy rain.

Thanks also to Tyneside GC for coming to the rescue on the day and also to Stewarts of Edinburgh for sponsoring the event.

Graham Chambers, of Longhirst Hall GC, has informed me that the new 11 holes are progressing very well and should equal the quality they already have by opening date next August. Work has already started on the remaining seven holes due for 2003 and this will give them 36 holes with planning for another 18 in the future.

Tony McLure, of Whickham GC, has been very busy as they have bought adjoining land for extension to 20 holes and at a later date work it in to a challenging 18 holes odd alteration on the existing course.

As you can see, people are getting in touch with news. I can only say what an excellent day I don't get it!

Jimmy Richardson

North West

Almost the last day in October and the sun is shining brightly giving the impression that all is well outside. Wrong. The ground is just about at saturation point after continual rain for what appears to be the last two months. Some parts of the country have had it much worse than the north west, but nevertheless we have certainly had our share of the wet stuff. I am sure that most of you are struggling to keep the courses open at the moment, apart from getting any winter work done, so let's hope for some good drying winds to enable you to get some drainage work done.

We had a poor response of applications for the free trip to the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show in Vancouver next February from the north west section. Only two applications came from the Section, and one of those withdrew at the last minute, but the six finalists (one from each Section in the Region) came over very well in the interviews, making it a difficult task to chose the final two. I am pleased to say that Anthony Davies, Prestbury GC, was the winner of the trip to Canada.


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one of the winners, and Jimmy Richardson, North East Secretary, was the second winner. The BIGGA delegation to the show has been sponsored by Betarco and other sponsors including Abbey Mowers and apart from enjoying the trip, they will be expected to represent BIGGA in a proper manner.

Well that seems to be all the news for now so I am looking forward to my 20 day trip to Africa, and the hot sunny days. In the meantime I wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a prosperous New Year.

Bert Cross Tel: 0151 724 5412

Cleveland

This month at the Wynyard Club we had the pleasure of listening to Germaine Clarke and Sharon on the birth of a baby boy and have been loading the animals in two by two, also life jackets have been issued as PPE. The irrigation system has been closed down as the course manager Gary Munro decided that we probably wouldn’t need it again till spring!

The autumn tournament took place at Durham City GC last month. I was unable to attend but by having the reports this month I am informed that course was in excellent condition, so thanks and well done to course manager Stan Shotton and his staff for their efforts.

The day was sponsored by Sportlands. Many thanks to them for their support. Their representative Allen Lewis, 77pts Stableford 1. Andy Gem, Sports World, Aitkens and Longest drive, member, George 29pts; 2. Ken Baker 27pts. Trade yet to come?

Midland

I hope everyone has dried out from the deluge of rain that closed most of our courses during late October and early November. At the time of writing this report most of the courses in our area have been closed for over a week. Records show that in the region of 20mm of rain has fallen during October. Is this the shape of things to come?

Anyway, on with the news. The Rigby Taylor Doubles Final has been played and the eventual winners were Mike Gale, Steve Moseley GC, and Rob Shaw, from Gaudet Luce GC, who defeated Julian Chisson and Richard Thwaites, both from Three Hammers Golf Complex. The Final was played over the Dunwood Heath course.

Many thanks go to Steve Blackman, who organised the day, and also Tony Cheese, who helped with the smooth running of the day.

The club also held a Cup that has also been played and the winner this year was Eddie Stann from Pen GC. The Cup was played at Shirley GC and many thanks to Andrew Smith and his staff for presenting the course in such good condition.

Finally, it remains for me to remind you of the Christmas tournament and AGM to be held at Sutton Coldfield Golf Club (Worston Green) on 6th December.

On October 26 the Midland Section held an informative talk at Fulford Heath GC. The day was sponsored by Rigby Taylor, Grass Science & Abbey Mowers (TORO). The numbers were limited so the representative of the sponsors delivered the information as they were walking around the golf course. The committee would like to thank Steve Blackman, Tony Cheese, Andrea Fleetwood from Rigby Taylor, Andy Cole from Grass Science, Nick Shaw, Bob Pilbury, Mike Corbett from Abbey Mowers for all their help and financial sponsorship.

The event started at 3pm with 36 delegates being split into two groups with group one having a talk by the practice putting green by Andy Cole and group two going onto the practice area where TORO had 4 machines (Toro 550 Fairway Mower, Toro Sidewinder, Toro 3250D Greensmower, Toro 2100 Utility Vehicle) and Dave Watson, from Lely/Toro gave a talk on the machines. Each talk lasted 30 minutes with the groups changing places and completing the day.

On returning to the Clubhouse all the delegates sat down for the talks by the Rigby Taylor Speakers, Peter Gower, Amega Sciences, gave a talk on black layer and fungicide use. All comments, from the floor, by Chris Pye, of Dow Agrosciences, Chris gave a brief talk about Dow Agrosciences and their links with Rigby Taylor. Then the talk went on to discuss integrated pest management with the delegates answering questions on how they managed pest and disease.

There was also an opportunity to thank Fulford Heath GC for allowing us the use of the Club’s facilities.

On a final note, the committee are always looking for ideas for future events. If you have any ideas etc. then please write to K. Blake 10 Dinmore close, Winyates West, Redditch Worc’s, 1890 JFT and we will give them due consideration.

East of England

The last golf day of the year was held at Sandringham Golf Club. Bruce. All of the golfers on the day had a fantastic day and the staff produced an excellent course, considering the downpour prior to the competition. The sponsors for this competition were Lawn Mower Services, and we thank John Cook and Dave Hampton for their prizes on the day. Also thanks to John Cook for presenting the prizes on the night.

Other sponsors on the day were Atkins, Greenside, Barraugh, Alpha Amenity and Rigby Taylor.

The winners in the Texas scramble who took home the LMS Trophy were- N. Hewson, M. Smith, P. Fell, G. Hamilton, B. Nettleton, and G. McDonald. Nearest to Pin went to Nick Smith and Longest Drive was won by Russ Moody (Shortest Drive was won by Mark Kernighan).

The first of the evening education seminars sponsored by Lawn Mower Services was held at Newark GC. Unfortunately John Neil of Supreme Grinders had to pull out the day before the seminar. We thank Sam McLean for standing in at short notice. Sam who works for Bernhard and Company Grinders talked about grinding techniques and was followed by a practical demonstration on grinding. Gerry Solkghtle of Textron spoke on the importance of preventative maintenance of grass cutting machinery.

BB&O

The evening of October 6 saw the BB&O AGM at Springs GC.

Interestingly, in a Section that boasts in excess of 575 members, the number of members who turned up could be counted on two hands. However, the meeting itself was remarkably successful. Questions that were raised included membership numbers, importance and content and quality of the magazine to the dates of next year’s events and meetings. All answers will try to get printed as soon as I get them. Also the current committee that has been running for three years, will not be seeking re-election. Although Bernie Wall will step down in August. John Lister of Sonning GC has also been elected onto the committee. It is important that the new committee has three people on the three yearly basis. That way we have fresh ideas as well as fresh people.

The section itself is financially doing very well. There is little money due to the support at golf days. We are very fortunate in being able to cap the prices of golf days to £20, and in the past we have played on some superb golf courses. We have a select number of golfers from these clubs enough for their support. The reason we are able to cap the price for golf days is because of the support we receive from trade members who have put in lots of time and effort. We also give away lots of little prizes as well as helping out on the committee. Since HQ stopped funding the Sections, to pay the regional administrator, it is obvious we have to be self-sufficient and without trade support it would cost us more money.

So there you go, a brief insight into the AGM, I must admit, on a personal note, but since I have been part of the committee I have seen the work, time and effort that Adrian, Lindsay, Bernie etc. put into organising events for you, the members, and it must be very disheartening when the vote goes the other way. It all turns up or seems interested. If you don’t like the way that the Section is being run, then AGMs are your chance to tell us. That’s one of the reasons why we are doing this.

Anyway, time to get off the soapbox. The Rigby Taylor Pairs final has been played and won by Ian Robinson and Carl Small, beating Gordon and Peter Critchley 3&1. The golf played by both pairs was superb. I’ve heard that the BBC are putting a quote in for coverage next year in place of the PGA matchplay. Seriously though, I do think it’s time for new ideas and new faces-iscap-any volunteers? Many thanks to Mark Siddwell, of Rigby Taylor, for his help organising this event and for the trophy and prize money. The small Section’s pairs competition is as equally successful. Ian Roberts seemed to have had a very good month, not only being a part of the winning team in the aforementioned, but he has also been promoted from First Assistant to Deputy Head at Eaglesfield GC. Well done Ian! Also, congratulations to Alan Wright, of T.H. Whites, for being named Teesman European Salesman of the year, for the second year running. Before I sign off I’d just like to thank...
East Midlands
This year’s Rigby Taylor East Midlands v Midlands Section golf match was held at Coxmore GC on October 9. The day started misty but then cleared into a fine sunny morning. The greens were in great condition. The morning greensomes match was won by four games to one, with Pete Billings and Dave Leatherland winning the one game for our Section. The afternoon singles matches were started before the course was closed with the East Midlands ahead in many games. However, the match was quite tightly decided on the Greensomes results, with the Midlands Section having the victorious side. Congratulations should go to the Midlands Section who have now won the shield on nine of the 12 occasions.

I would like to thank Coxmore GC for hosting the event and to the HEA Greenkeeper and his staff for providing us with an excellent course and to the Section Secretary, John Wells, for getting our sponsors for the day Rigby Taylor. Also I would like to add my own thanks to all the members of both teams. Our own Section was represented by Pete Billings, Dave Leatherland, Ian Needham, Adi Crossley, 37 pts; 2. Stefan Antolik 35 pts; 3. John Wells.

East Anglia
It was a very windy and rainy day when our small band of wanderers went to play at Wardenhill Heath GC. Despite the heavy rain during the previous night, Keith Titball and his team had made a splendid effort to produce a course of high quality. This has become the rule rather than the exception with all our meetings. I would like to thank Keith and all the staff at Wardenhill Heath GC for their help in making the day a very successful one. I would also like to thank Matt Barrtrim and Tony Neill, from Barrtrim Mowers, for their sponsorship of this and their subsequent support of the section. Although only 26 members turned up for the match, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves very much. It was a real pleasure to see 21 out of 24 tees played. I.T. Timms 27 points 18; K. Titball 36 points 2; A. Hollins 31 points 3; J. Pymer 29 points. Guest and Trade 1. A. S. Ayes 36 points 2; R. Baker 29 points 3. C. S. Snow 30 points 4. G. Longest Drive P. Howard, Nearest the Pin 2nd J. Pymer, Nearest the Pin 10th R. Barney.

Our thanks go out to our main sponsor Rushbrook & Sons, Greensports, Sisis, Atterton & Ellis Ltd. Our main sponsors, Driving force Groundcare, the Golf Club Vice Captain, welcomed us to the course and helped to present the prizes. Thank you Ron for helping to make the day.

By the time you read this the Regional Seminar will have taken place. I do hope it went well. The AGM and Turkey Trot will take place at Thorpness Hotel and Golf Club on December 19. It will involve a Texas Scramble event. We would like more social events and 38 would not. 34 were aware of their membership benefits and 10 were not. If you would like any further information on the questionnaire results, please give me a ring.

Next year’s Go-Kart evening has been arranged for Wednesday, February 21 at the Wynneswood Industrial Estate. The Old Etonians have kindly sponsored the evening and we would like to thank them for their help.

Mid Anglia
The autumn golf meeting was held in September at Mid Herts GC, over 18 holes. It was disappointing to note that only 22 people entered and supported the event, which must be one of our lowest turnouts ever. Those who did attend, however, enjoyed a fine day’s golf over an excellent course in super condition. Thanks to Dave Leatherland and his team for all their efforts. The golf was followed by a superb meal, and bearing in mind the refurbishment going on in the clubhouse, we were looked after very well. Special thanks to Mid Herts for their hospitality.

Our main sponsors, Driving force Leisure, represented by Dave Murphy, provided the prizes which went to the following people: 1. Wayne Tsyoe, Mid Herts GC 36 points; 2. Tim Houghton, Pythiulx Golf Centre 34 points; 3. Paul Greenhalgh, Berkhamsted 33 points. Longest Drive and Nearest the Pin were both won by Steve Mason, from Mount Pleasant Golf Club.

The autumn’s Annual General Meeting followed the presentation and the resulting elected members of the committee were: Chairman, Colin Robinson - Secretary/Treasurer, Gerald Bruce - Fixtures Secretary, Richard Saunders - Regional Representative, Paul Lockett - other committee members, Steve Mason, David Forsyth, John Wells, Carl Horrax, David Leatherland.

Gerald Bruce reported that the section has a total of 256 members and thanked the sponsors of our fixture card - George Browns and Turner Groundcare.

The following golf clubs have been booked for next year’s four seasonal events - Overstone Park, Harpenden, Letchworth and Dunstable Downs. Gerald would also submitted a report on matches which shows the Section to be in a healthy financial position. Richard then gave a report on all the golf days completed this year and mentioned the Bunny run.

Two items were put to the vote in “any other business.” (1) that there should be at least two greenkeepers per team entered for the Christmas Texas Cup. (2) That the cost of next year’s summer, autumn and winter tournaments for members under 25 should be £15. Both were approved.

So thanks to Mid Herts for their hosting, Scuffill, from Dunstable Downs, expressed his disappointment that entries for the Lodgeway Four Ball were down and that some people had failed once again to play their matches. Why do these people bother entering? The whole competition will be reviewed by the committee, to see if it is worth running next year, or possibly changing the format. Watch this space!

South Coast
Tony Gadd’s given up the Around the Greens report in the magazine, so it falls upon me to have a bash at it, and I would like to thank everyone very much. Christmas is a very happy about the prospect. Thanks to Mark Wilton for helping to refurbishment going on in the club-house. We hope to see more of you there. Watch this space next month. Kristen Exeter, £40 for a Banquet Dinner, Bed and Breakfast. Mike Cartwright

South West
South West and South Wales
Paula Humphries
Tel 01298 821965

Thanks to everybody who made the effort to turn up, the numbers were a little disappointing but I hope to see a few more greenkeepers tomorrow. Gerald Bruce on Friday 15 December at Littlehampton GC. I will be reporting on this in the January issue, along with details of our AGM and Texas Trot on Friday 15 December at Littlehampton GC. So let me be the first to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2001. Thanks.

Gary Ogilvie, Surrey

Although there is not much to write about this month, I am pleased to report from Chisubest GC, the birth of Andy Davy’s first child, a daughter, Laura. Laura was eight weeks premature and weighed in at 4lb 2ozs. Stuart Woods from Roehampton Club is also now proud father of a little girl called Megan Michelle. Congratulations to them both.

From Putterham Golf Club the news is that Nicola has made an honest man of Ian Andrews. Let’s hope it does not affect his swing.

Brian Willmott

Around the green

December 2000

Greenkeeper International 29
Devon & Cornwall

Season's greetings to you all. The Roofey's meeting was our first of the autumn and winter programme which this year was held at Dainton Park GC on Wednesday, October 25. The day started as usual with golfing members competing for the D.O. Hunt Trophy. The prize fund members were treated to an excellent guided tour of the course & clubhouse facilities by Head Greenkeeper, Buster Lever. After an excellent lunch Don Hunt, on behalf of the Section, presented the singles Stableford golf competition for the D.O. Hunt trophy. 1. Andy Parker, Credenhit, 38pts on back 9. 2. Gerald Ayliffe, Wrangaton, 38pts 3. Kevin Devine, Crediton, 38pts. After the prize presentation Ken Richardson, BIGGA Education & Training Manager, gave an excellent talk on the new BIGGA website and the internet. Ken also answered questions on current educational issues.

The Section would like to express its gratitude to the day's sponsors, Roofeys and Don Hunt, for their support and to the members of the Section for making the Section feel so welcome. Ken also expressed his thanks and congratulations to Buster and his team who have kept the course player friendly throughout October on record. Special thanks to Ken for making the long trip down to the Section and presenting an excellent talk. Thanks also to all the staff at Dainton Park for making the Section feel so welcome.

The Bairenburg Seeds meeting will be our first meeting in the New Year and will be held at Royal North Devon GC on Tuesday, January 31. The morning will start with a singles Stableford golf competition with starting times from 9:30am. The usual course walk for non golfers will leave the clubhouse at approximately 10:30am.

Have you booked your place on the Region's package to BTME 2001, which includes transport, accommodation and entry to the BTME show & Seminars? There's only a few places left so hurry.

Richard Whyman

South West

This is unfortunately my last monthly report for the magazine as I am stepping down from my position as monthly report writer and Education and Training Officer. Fear not however, as many of the previous monthly reports have already been found. Dave Bougen will take over next month, and I'm sure that Dave's usual tactful and diplomatic style will make for interesting reading.

As I am stepping down from Education and Training Officer, no more courses have been arranged, so if you are interested in getting on a course that you will have to wait until my successor is in the hot seat.

Autumn may appear as a distant memory now, but as I write this report, the frosts and the rain are still battering everything outside. Earlier, on November 2, these same conditions led to the cancellation of the autumn tournament, due to take place at Wellington Manor. Despite the prospect of difficult travelling conditions, a healthy turnout of 35 members attended the meal and AGM. Thanks go to Karen and her catering team, and to Kevin James and his greenkeeping staff for attempting to get the course playable, but alas finally beaten by the weather.

The AGM turned out to be a lively and vociferous affair with many issues and concerns being raised, some of which are too hot to be printed on this page. With myself and Secretary Chris Jack stepping down from our positions, two places on the committee needed to be filled. Members of the committee went on the search for fresh faces, and within a short space of time, a number of victims could be seen covering in the dark corners of the clubhouse pinned down by the committee, with arms twisted behind their back.

Hopefully, new faces on the committee will include Kevin James, taking over as Secretary, and John Jarvis, taking over Education and Training. Anthony Knight was elected as Team Captain, John Kerraghan, as Vice-Captain, and Martin Samuel as Track Captain. Dave Bougen will also take over as Fixtures Secretary from Terry Humphrey. The Committee thanked Terry for all his hard work in what is an often thankless task trying to find clubs to let us have courtesy of the course and provide us with good food at low cost.

Terry was able to announce the venues for next year's golfing calendar. This will start with the Winter Tournament at Stinchcombe on February 28, followed by events at Tholeson Wood Park; Woodspur; The Manor House, The Revillantshire; Cumberwell Park and Cotswold Hills.

John Kerraghan also announced plans to introduce more varied competitions including Texas scrambles and a winter golf club competition for greenkeepers.

Finally, with BTME coming up, it is important to contact Paula Humphries if you are thinking of booking a place for the trip.

Paul Cunningham.