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Due to a lack of space in last month’s magazine some of the interesting new products at Saltex had to be held over to this month.

**JCB**

JCB launched a new materials handling machine. It has the manoeuvrability and centrally mounted visibility of an articulated loader, the reach and lift capability of a telescopic handler, the lift capacity and stability of a rigid loader and compact dimensions similar to a large skid steer.

The new JCB -20-50 Loadall telescopic handler is based on the tried and tested drive train of the popular JCB 2CX compact backhoe loader and uses the proven single arm technology of the world renowned Kobot skid steer loader.

At only six feet wide, less than seven feet high and with four wheel steer it is sufficiently compact and manoeuvrable to work in almost any confined space; warehouses, industrial applications and inner city sites, including multi story car parks. Yet the 520-50 is powerful enough to lift two tonnes to a height of five metres.

The 520-50 is powered by the 71 hp (53kW) naturally aspirated Perkins 1000 series engine which has easy access to all daily checks from one side of the machine. And at only 4.5 tonnes it has a high power to weight ratio.

The new JCB 520-50 is well equipped in line with other machines in the JCB Loadall range. Features such as; JCB Safe Load Indicator, power braking on all four wheels and a low maintenance parking brake are fitted as standard.

Product information Line: 0800 581761.

**Lawn-Boy**

Lawn-Boy introduced a cleaner, quieter, lightweight 24 volt cordless mower. The mower eliminates tune-ups, oil changes, fuel spills and engine emissions. The lightweight polyethylene deck with steel liner and moulded bumper is gentle on trees and shrubs while it offers versatility as mulching and side discharge are standard and bagging optional. It mows up to an hour or cuts up to half an acre on a single charge.

Further information: Tel: 01366 382041.

**Turf Machinery**

Turf Machinery's new Bulk Top-Dresser with its spreading width of 10 metres can spread over 400 tonnes per day. It requires a minimum of a 50 HP tractor with spool drives. Further information: Tel: 01483 764467.

**Tildenet**

Tildenet unveiled a new bunker membrane designed for lining bunkers to prevent stones and underlying soil for rapid green-up. The membrane also provides good water dispersion rate so it assists with drainage. Further information: Tel: 01179 669684.

**Iseki**

High standards of operator comfort, exceptional lift capacity and well-proven, fuel efficient engines are key features of two new multi-purpose compact tractors from Iseki which made their debut at this year’s Saltex.

Ideal workhorse machines for golf courses, local authorities and market gardens, the new 20 DIN hp TF321 and 25 DIN hp TF 325 (which replace Iseki’s TU range) come equipped with spacious operator platform, mechanical or hydrostatic transmission, four-wheel-drive, rear and mid-PTO plus turf or agricultural tyres and optional Mauser cab.

The Iseki TF 321 with mechanical transmission sells from £10,744 and with hydrostatic transmission from £11,780 while the Iseki TF 325 with mechanical transmission is from £11,552 with hydrostatic transmission from £12,856.

Further information: Tel: 01203 851320.

**Dennis**

Dennis launched its new “Power Barrow” which can be used as either a pedestrian or a ride-on. It features a tipping galvanised barrow capacity of 250 kilograms and is operated by a easy start Briggs engine, a simple forward and reverse twist grip and a tiller seat with foldover handle.

There are options of alternative units in place of the barrow and a trailer attachment Cost is £1600 + VAT.

Further information: Tel: 01332 824777.

**Headland Amenity**

Headland Amenity launched a new range of resin coated, precision controlled fertilisers at SALTEx 96. Multi-Gro fertilisers could help groundsman and greenkeepers reduce the number of fertiliser applications to just one per season – a significant time and labour saving, claims the company.

"Multi-Gro fertilisers incorporate the very latest formulation technology," according to Mark De Ath, National Amenity Manager for Headland Amenity. The majority of granules are resin coated which enables them to release nutrients at a steady rate over a period of 5-6 months under UK conditions. A proportion are uncoated which means they are immediately available for rapid green-up.

"The products are unaffected by rainfall and store well for long periods. They also require no storage facilities and are applied with standard applicators."
by moisture, pH or soil type and the release mechanism relates to soil temperature — which exactly mirrors the growing season,” says Mark.

“Independent trials show Multi-Gro fertilisers are effective for up to 200% longer than the current market-leading poly-SCU-based fertilisers,” claims Mark.

Further information: Tel: 01761 401877.

Etesia
When areas are infrequently cut, the resulting heavy undergrowth can become very time consuming and expensive to clear. This is often made more difficult because of sloping terrain and then the job can only be carried out using hand-held brushcutters. The new Attila 85 ride-on brushcutter from Etesia UK is designed and purpose built to make light work of this type of application, and efficiently clears scrub, brushwood and long growth. Built around a reinforced tubular chassis, this 85cm-wide brushcutter is made for the roughest conditions. With its low centre of gravity, differential lock and heavy chevron tyres, it will take slopes up to 30 degrees in its stride.

The well proven 14hp Briggs & Stratton Vanguard engine ensures there is plenty of power for the toughest of jobs, plus noise level is kept to a minimum. The variable speed drive provides a range of forward speeds up to 8km/hour and 3km/hour in reverse. Underneath the heavy-duty steel cutting deck there is a 7mm thick cutterbar which is fitted with swing blades. These can be fixed in a ridged position when working in very tough conditions.

In addition, a built-in safety system protects the cutting mechanism from heavy impacts. Four cutting heights up to 90mm are adjusted by a central lever. Attila's low profile enables the operator to drive it under low hanging branches and its variator drive, plus specially designed steering assembly, make the machine very manoeuvrable for working in confined areas. The machine is ideal for river and water authorities, forestry commission, and contractors who have to maintain motorway banking, verges or clear sites.

Mercedes-Benz
A new, higher performance U100L Unimog from Mercedes-Benz made its show debut in the UK at SALTEX.

Power output has been increased by 24% and torque by 45%.

Geared for a maximum road speed of 95km/h (59mph), the new generation U100L is the ideal on-road/offroad vehicle for trailer work, and equipment and load-carrying operations.

Improved low-speed torque characterises the new generation Unimog’s cleaner-burning Mercedes diesel engines.

In Euro 2a form, the Unimog U100L can be leased for the equivalent of £120 per week, with purchase prices starting at £30,900. Seven year leases or contract hire will be arranged for any members wishing to stay overnight before the flight at competitive rates.

The Las Vegas Hilton has been selected as the hotel to accommodate our party. It is one of Las Vegas’ leading hotels offering outstanding facilities for visitors. It is adjacent to the Convention Centre and only one block from the famous Las Vegas Strip.

The GCSAA Conference and Show runs from February 6-12 with the trade show taking place between February 10-12. You will be able to attend the conference seminars and education programmes as well as take in the latest golf course equipment, products and services at the trade show.

IN ITINERARY
Wednesday, February 5
All members will assemble at London Heathrow Airport and will take the 12 noon Virgin Airlines flight to Los Angeles. The group will then catch the 1745 flight into Las Vegas arriving at 1840 local time. The group will then transfer to the Las Vegas Hilton for an eight night stay on a room only basis.

Thursday, February 13
Transfer to Las Vegas airport for the 1210 flight into Los Angeles followed by 1730 flight to London Heathrow arriving at 1145 on February 14.

PRICES
£720.00 per person based on a twin share
£960.00 per person based on single occupancy

Plus comprehensive travel insurance for the duration of £30.00. Included are: Return Economy class flights London Heathrow/Las Vegas, UK and US taxes, transfers to and from the airport to the Las Vegas Hilton, eight nights accommodation on a room only basis and US accommodation taxes.

Please note: Registration costs for the Pre-Conference Seminars, which run from February 6-9 and the Educational Programmes which run from February 9-12 are not included in the package and bookings will need to be made directly with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Details are available from BIGGA upon request.

Please forward full payment of £750 or £990 (unless travel insurance is not required) to BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York, YO6 2NF. If accommodation is required for the night of February 4 please let us know in order for the hotel rooms to be booked. Payment will be made on checking-out of the hotel.
Scottish Region

Ayrshire

The Section Autumn Outing was held at West Kilbride GC on September 24. The Committee would like to thank the Captain and the Committee of West Kilbride for the courtesy of the course. The weather held out quite well and everyone had a most enjoyable day. The prize winners were as follows:


At our recent committee meeting a discussion took place about one of our most esteemed members, Harry Diamond. Our Section Committee has requested from the Scottish executive its approval to put Harry forward for life membership.

Our Section lottery was a success and the winner was A. Groves, of Newton Stewart. Derek Wilson, Robert Bruce and I went down to ‘The Open to do the draw and get the draw sheet completed. The draw was carried out with the assistance of Neil Thomas and John Pemberton an we would like to thank them for their time and I would personally like to thank Neil who pulled my name out with Nick Faldo and, hence, I won a prize. Thanks Neil. We also this year gave day prizes for the best score on each day if people like, belatedly, to congratulate our Chairman Ian and his wife Pamela on the birth of their daughter Eilidh. I have heard her little toenails being exercised in the background and it is pleasing to report that she is behaving very well now and sleeping quieter than her father.

Jim Paton

East

Welcome to this month’s report. Sorry there was not one last month but there wasn’t a lot to write but everything will be here this month.

Firstly on a sad note is the death of one of our younger members Mark Johnstone who was an assistant greenkeeper at Muirfield. Mark was 20 years old and has been at Muirfield since 1992 he also attended Oatridge College. He died in a road traffic accident near his home on the August 24 and all our thoughts go to his family and friends at this time after such a tragic loss.

On a much happier note. Congratulations go out to two people on the move (These I know about if anymore please let me know) Firstly, George Parves who moves from Melville Golf Course and Driving Range to Kings Acre GC as Head Greenkeeper (Kings Acre which was featured in Greenkeeper International a couple of months ago) George who will be putting the final touches to the growing in process as they hope to open in June ’97. So a fair bit of work to be done between now and then (shaping fairways, grading semi rough etc etc) Hope all this work affects his golf as I would like a chance of winning something in the 2nd class wishful thinking on my part I suppose. Secondly Steven Holiday, who is moving after a good number of years (14 I think he told me) from Royal Musselburgh GC where he was first assistant greenkeeper to Melville Golf Course and Driving Range as Head Greenkeeper. All the best to both of them from all the section. So don’t forget lads a round of golf on your courses will cover you getting a mention in this column!

Some upcoming dates for your diary. The AGM is at Swanston Golf Club on November 21, sponsor TBA. Also the Christmas shopping trip to the Metro Gateshead. Any information on these and other activities you can call S. Dixon 0131 660 3965.

Chris Yeaman 01875 870465 or Andy Forbes 01875 813670 for prices details etc.

Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comments from the regions

G.C. with a plaque to commemorate our playing there in their centenary year which was a nice touch.

Well I am sitting writing this at the side of the pool here in San Antonio in Ibiza where the temperature is 90+ degrees which is quite warm. So that’s it for this month, I will be writing again next month if I stop drinking long enough (it’s the heat you see – don’t want to become dehydrated)! So anything you want to know or tell us let myself C. Yeaman, S. Dixon, A. Forrest or any Committee Member know and we will try to help you out.

Just one last thing. Your last chance for dance tickets for the annual dance on the 7th December at the Kisprisinge House Hotel, price £16 and not many rooms left if you want accommodation at £20 per person (£8 & £8), so be quick as I think there are only about 12 tickets left.

For any information call Steve Dixon on 0131 660 3965 (so hurry).

P.S. To the Editor. I mentioned Christmas four times in this article this month. Don’t tell me it means another yellow card or worse a red! That’s it bye now.

P.P.S. Committee day out won by yours truly Chris Yeaman – 78-12-66 Chairman v. Vice Chairman Match – won by Vice Chairman Team which I was a member of. Hard luck Steve. Thanks to sponsors Lothian Tractors, Haddington Golf Club Captain and Council for the courtesy of the course clubhouse, staff for keeping us well fed and very very well watered and also thanks to anybody I have missed this month. Chris Yeaman (on location).

West of Scotland

Well, well, who would have predicted the finalists in the five a side tournament, obviously the ringers were brought in. Could be we have to revise the rules again. Congratulations to the eventual winners Campsie/Russells (on penalties I might add) and hard line the losers Rigby Taylor. Well fought both semi finalists Clyde Bank/Windyhill and East Kilbride/Pollcock. Most teams appeared to have enjoyed the day, as the weather was good and good company. The referees made all the difference, keeping play flowing and preventing any petty challenges.

The Loch Lomond event had a good attendance and from the Greenkeepers I’ve spoken to they really enjoyed the experience.

The Autumn outing at Bilmour once again was excellent with the course presentation second to none. Well done Charlie and his team, thanks to mem-

24 GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL November 1990
bers, and Council for courtesy of the course. Thanks to the Bar staff and Catering Manager for the service through the day.

A few surprises in the winners circle and the Old Rule 19 will be thrown about, the results as follows: Scratch S. Bulloch, Forres, 69; G. Bruen, East Kilbride, 68; 2. A. Bayfield, Buchanan Castle, 78-9 = 69 (B.I.H.); S. Taylor, Glasgow, 70-1 = 69.

Cat 1. G. Bruen, East Kilbride, 4-6 = 68; 2. A. Bayfield, Buchanan Castle, 78-9 = 69 (B.I.H.); S. Taylor, Glasgow, 70-1 = 69.

Cat 2. J. Young, Douglaston, 57; 2. J. McCormack, Cawder, 79-16 = 69 (B.I.H.); S. Taylor, Glasgow, 70-16 = 64.


A few dates to note. Annual Dinner, November 29, at the Admiral Bar; AGM/Games Night -December 5 at the Claremont.

If anybody has anything they wish to put into the magazine then please contact me at 0141 942 5544.

S. Taylor

North

It was second time lucky for the Section outing to Grantown-on-Spey as this year we had no problems during a wonderful day at the Speyside venue, and it was certainly worth the wait as Ken Kinnaird and his staff had the course in excellent condition. The lucky winners on the day were as follows: Scratch. 1. Bradley Wood, Westhill, 70; 2. and Committee Trophy, lain Macleod, Tain, 74 bib Cat 1. 1. Neil Sadler, Grantown, 66; 2. Colin Mackay, Cruden Bay, 70 bib; 3. lain Gunn, Stratheffer, 70. Cat 2. 1. and Head Greenkeeper Trophy Argy, Kenny Kinnaird, Grantown, 67; 2. Derek Anderson, Duff House Royal, 68; 3. John Geddes, Elgin, 71. Cat 3. 1. Chris Dumming, Fortrose, 61; 2. Keith Wood, Hazledale, 67; 3. Colin Burgess, Forres, 70. Veteran. 1. Allan Grant, 69 2. George Hampton, Pitlochry, 73. Apprentice Ross Macleod, Forres, 73. Guest. Mark McAlpine, 62. Trade. Alex Cruickshanks, Daval, 69 bib. Consolation. Don Dingwall.

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Around the Green

Northern

At our invitation day at Bingley St Ives we had an excellent turn out. Thanks to Joe Baxter and his gang for turning the course out so well. Also many thanks to John Walker, of Ritefed (UK) Ltd, for putting up full sponsorship of the prizes, many comments were made on the high standard of prizes on show. The results for the days better ball competition were as follows: 1. Alan Baxter & Mary Welch; 2. Peter Thompson & David Brook; 3. Tony Gerrard & G Gerrard; 4. Steve Migley & P Hancock; 5. Colin Garnett & D Croll; 6. Alan Dyson & C Bottomley; 7. Dave Collins & W Murgrytont; 8. Robin Smith & J Peacock.

Many thanks to Mel Guy, Dennis Cockburn and the rest of the committee for their help on the day. Thanks also to the trade lads for bringing raffle prizes along.

On behalf of the Northern section I would like to welcome Mr Melvin Guy, of Greentech, on being newly elected as the section's President. I am sure Mel will continue to serve the section well and carry on his hard work and effort for the section.


Any member wishing to volunteer for helping out at the BTME on the 22nd – 24th January 22-24, ’97 please contact myself at 1 Cockay Meadsw, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, HD5 0LA. Tel: 01484 519829.

Finally I would like to congratulate Phil Batesy, from South Bradford GC, on recently getting married to Amanda in Gretna Green.

Simon Heppenstall

Sheffield

In September of three players played in the Hayer Final at Fairhaven GC, they were Allan Atsop, Colin Hopper and Paul Neve. Paul Neve did very well by coming second in his handicap division and he came second in the overall competition.

Worth it.

All three of them were members of a winning team as the Northern Region team won the regional team prize, well done lads!!

Also in September Derek Mccannet played in the Hayer International Cup at West Lancs GC. Derek halved his four ball match and won his singles match, but the team just got beaten by the Americans. Well done Derek.

Our congratulations also go to David Milbourne who was recently elected to the BIGGA Board of Management.

Our Christmas competition will be held at Wortley GC on November 27. Please return entry forms early! Thank you.

Our next lecture is on December 12 at Rotherham GC at 2.30 pm and will be given by Mr. C Peel from ADAS.

J.V Lax

MIDLAND REGION

Peter Larter
Tel: 01480 437507

East Midlands

This year’s Autumn Golf Tournament was held at Ramsdale Park on September 12, with a turnout of 35 members (which was surprisingly less than normal). Despite difficult windy conditions some excellent golf was played with the category winners as follows:


The highlight of the day was seeing our Chairman chasing his scorecard across the 12th Fairway and only just retrieving it before it blew out of the bounds.

Our section would like to thank the Centre Manager of Ramsdale Park, Brian Jenkinson, for allowing us courtesy of their course and also to Course Manager, Martin Smith, and his staff, for preparing such a course.

A special thanks should go once again to our sponsors Charnwood and Highmeares Lawnmower Services for supplying us with such a grand prize table. Also I would like to thank all the committee members for their help on the day, especially to Gavin Robson who, despite being late and cold, was willing to make the long journey to be starter for the day.

Congratulations to Steven Heap, of Rothley GC, for winning this year’s Hayer National Final at Fair haven GC with a net score of 74.

Two dates for next year’s diary Spring Tournament and Hayer Qualifier May 1, Cosby GC; September 3, Autumn Tournament, Chevin GC. Thanks again to both golf clubs for allowing us to stage tournaments.

Finally I would like to wish both Robert Couller and Mark Huthwaite of Ramsdale Park speedy recoveries after their recent car accidents.

Antony Bindley

East of England

The East of England Section took home the Chadlers Challenge Cup when they defeated the East Midlands Club Secretaries at Blankney GC.

It was the first win by the triumphant greenkeepers, having narrowly lost on the last green last year.

The result was 37/21-21/2, but the secretaries got their own back by winning every ticket in the raffle.

Thanks to Jim Carr for sponsoring the event and supplying the raffle prizes.

Greenkeeper names only: Mick Wood and Alan Buckley, lost 2/1; John Henson and Barry Anderson won 3/2.

Charlie Macdonald and George Venables lost 1 down; Peter Down and Peter Fell, won 5/4; Josh White and Jim Burton, won 1 up; David Welberry and Len Purdy, won 4/3; Graeme Macdonald and John Scootney won 3/2; Phil Wilkinson and Ted Lake, halved.

The Lambs Flowers Cup was won by Barry Anderson, of Toft GC, with 37 points. He was a very late entry, only hours before the competition started, but his impressive points tally was four ahead of Charlie Macdonald on 33 points. Third was Alan Buckley, Peter Fell and George Venables all on 32 points.

It was a pity our main sponsor Robin Lamb could not take part as he was on holiday in Egypt, but thanks for donating some prizes. The other sponsors were Fieldcare, Aitkens, Collier Turfcare, Banks Toppdrury, Pursdy’s and Chandlers. Thanks to them all for making it a super day.

The day was held over one of my favourite courses – Luffenham Heath. This must be one of the most natural courses in the country and manicured to a superb quality by Head Greenkeeper, Dick Fogg, and his staff. The course winds gradually uphill through testing individual holes lined by Hawthorne, Gorse and Heather and you finish with a superb par three – one of the most picturesque views in Rutland.

This hole was our nearest pin sponsored by Rhone Poulen and won by Michael Wood.

My last thanks go to the Secretary, Ian Davenport and Luffenham Heath GC, for extending us courtesy for the day and providing a super meal and wine.

The Hayer National Finals at Fairhaven saw John Henson and Graeme Macdonald represent the Midland Team. Graeme fared well in testing conditions and picked up best gross overall – four and five, finishing sixth off his card – and second nett in Category one and the Midland Team finished second. Fairhaven GC was in great condition with the fastest greens I have played on this year.

The course played exceptionally long off the back tees and to cap it off the wind was blowing a gale over the 8833 yards course.

Many thanks to Kim Macfie and Barry for making our stay and the tournament a memorable occasion and such a success.

Please ring 01733 260297 if you have anything that may be of interest to your fellow greenkeepers.

Graeme Macdonald

Bucks, Berks and Oxon

Well it had to happen some time, a golf day that was over subscribed. We originally booked our Autumn Golf Tournament for a maximum of 40 people with strong reservations about hitting the magic number. Although we were cutting it fine when sending out the entry forms...
Almost as soon as they were posted they were two people who left it late. The final total (the phone never stopped ringing) squeezed in was 50. Thanks to Studley Wood for allowing the extra players to participate.

The weather forecast for the day was a bit dodgy (me without waterproofs again) But thankfully it turned out fine. It had to be said the standard of golf was outstanding, with the adjudicators requiring calculators to add up the Stabler points. Results: T. D. Schillaz & M. Jones (47.5 & 43pm = 90 pts); T. E. Hookham & T. Strange (48pm & 41pm =88pts); 3. J. Scoones 1 & I. Scoones (50am & 38pm =88pts).

Note: I think its about time we appointed a handicap secretary. Any volunteer phone me.

Wooden Spoon: G. Pethin & M. Gethin 59pts

Many thanks to Studley Wood for their hospitality on the day. Congratulations to Ian and his staff for preparing the golf course, all comments from those who played that the greens were superb. I certainly holed a few putts. Thanks to all the trade support as usual especially Richard Haynes, Avoncrop, for taking charge of the scorecards and Steve Denton, Patissons, for breaking into my partner's car to recover his keys!

Definitely a sign of misspent youth.

The Rigby Taylor Final is between T. French & G. Wheeler and P. Critchley and J. Thorne. Good luck to both. Next golf day is the Turkey Trot & AGM to be held at Calcut Park GC (Reading) on Thursday, November 28. Entry forms will be arriving through your letterbox soon.

Lindsey T. Anderson

SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES REGION

Gordon Child
Tel: 01803 844056

South West and South Wales Region

The Region's Seminar, in partnership with Rhone Poulenc, at Cannington College on November 27 will include talks by Clifton of Rhone Poulenc, Bill Lawson, George Brown, Gordon Irvine, an HND student and the BIGGA Roadshow. Among the topics are the 50s and the year 2000.

Among those who would like to congratulate this month are Ivor Scoones, Long Ashton Golf Club, who represented the Region in the Kubota Challenge at the Belfry last month; Paul Jenkies, Lilley Brook GC, who won the Regional nomination for the Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper. We wish him luck in the National final and we express our thanks to all those who took part in a very close contest; the student who won the college nominations in the Tornado Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award and we wish the eventual winner from the Region good luck in his achievements. Finally staying with education we would like to thank all those who have achieved their D32 and D33 NVQ Assessor certificates on recent courses.

Hayter Challenge Report - When the Region's team of nine travelled to Blackpool for the final at Fairhaven GC our success on the course was limited by the exception of Phil Westhorp who did us proud by winning first prize in Category 2 and Bob Walker (Rock on Tommy) who somehow won the longest drive. The trip was excellent full of good food and enjoyable things. I did thank them all for their support and acting as fine ambassadors for the Region.

BTME Special Express January 21-24 1997 - Once booked you will be hooked on going to the main greenkeeper event. Take advantage of our bargain offer, and don't forget those fortunate enough to win the £100 voucher draw can use these towards payment to the Region's Special Express. You can ring for a reservation now. Don't leave it too long as bookings are well on the way at only £125 for members. Please don't forget that your other half is very welcome at £100. Give her a break! The banquet entertainer is Bobby Davo supported by Laine Kennedy and tickets are £28 each.

We will be looking for on our CV's when seeking new positions.

The Hayter Challenge Regional Final will be at Burnham & Berrow GC on June 11, '97.

Into the distant future the BIGGA National Tournament for 1999 falls to the Region to host and we are pleased to announce that his will be held at Royal North Devon GC, Westward Ho! on August 1-3, 1999, the oldest links course in England.

Marion Child

South Coast

Our Christmas Turkey Trot will once again be held at Royal Winchester GC on December 2. This will be followed by our AGM - by the way the AGM is not on December 3 as stated in the section programme. On completion of the AGM there is the Christmas dinner and prize giving. All members wishing to play should send their handicaps and a fee of £15 to Mark Webb, 12 Lime Road Aylesford, Hants SO24 9LD Tel: 01722 330277 to be received no later than three weeks before the AGM.

A reminder for the Regional Seminar at Cannington College on November 27 for those of you who have not booked in contact Gordon or Marion Child on 01803 844056. Please make a big effort to attend as some very good speakers have been arranged for you.

On September 12 the South Coast Greenkeepers played the Secretaries Lee on Solent Golf Course the result 4-2 to the Greenkeepers well done lads and a good time was had by all. The day's events were well organised and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The day started well done Steve and staff. A big thank you to the catering staff who provided a superb meal and last but not least, the Captain, Committee and Members for making everybody so welcome, their hospitality was second to none.

Arrangements are at present going ahead in organising our Section Seminar at Sparsholt College on February 18, 1997. The cost will be £15 for members and £20 for non members; this includes lunch. One speaker has confirmed, that is Scott MacCallum, our Editor. Last year speakers were of a very high calibre this time we hope to give you even better value for money. Up to now we have four sponsors Hurleys Grass Machinery, Its, Gem and Driving Force Leisure. These companies will be showing off their products, more details will be published when known.

Lastly, I have one more name to our list of assessors that is Simon Pickett, the Course Manager at Blacknest GC, this is North Hampshire. Anyone wishing to be assessed for their NVQs or has any queries you should contact Simon, who I am sure, will be only too pleased to help you. While on the subject of NVQs all our assessors in the section tell me their telephones have been quiet. All the assessors in our section are qualified to examine you on various stages of your NVQ's - make use of them and contact them. NVQs are our recognised qualifications - they are what our employers will be looking for on our CV's when seeking new positions.

Ken Lodge

Devon and Cornwall

Over the summer months the Section conducted a survey on aspects of working conditions and BIGGA. I'm pleased to inform you that the survey has now been completed and results will be available at our next meeting this winter. On behalf of your section committee I would like to thank all of you who spent a few minutes to complete and return the survey.

Our last summer meeting was held at St Mellion International on Wednesday September 18. Course Manager, Robert Brewer, gave members plenty of guided walk around the Nicklaus course and his maintenance compound which has seen a few changes over the last year. Our thanks to Robert and his staff for the excellent evening. Also, I would like to thank Steve Evans for his organisation of our summer meetings.

Once again Christmas is approaching fast and with it our Christmas meeting which will be held at Okehampton GC on Wednesday, December 11. As in previous years numbers will be limited to the first 80 members so to avoid disappointment please book your entry as soon as possible and before the closing date.

The day will start as usual with golfing members competing in greensome format for the P. J. Flegg Trophy with non golfers having a guided walk of the course with Head Greenkeeper Richard Wisdom. Lunch will be followed by our afternoon cabaret and the day will conclude with raffles.

The Region's annual seminar will be held at Cannington College on Wednesday November 27 by now you should have all received details of the seminar programme if you haven't and would like to book your place or wish to know more about the programme please contact Gordon or Marion Child on 01803 844056.

Places on the Region's package to BTME 97 which includes transport, accommodation & entry to the BTME show & Seminars are going fast. To avoid disappointment you are advised to return your booking form as soon as possible.

Richard Whyman

South West

With the busy season now over more time can be devoted to education with the report this month containing three reminders for education at National and Section level.

The yearly educational seminar at Cannington College takes place on November 27. Many members will have received application forms for the day but if you still wish to register then please contact Gordon or Marion Child on 01803 844056.

Forms for BTME 97 have now been distributed to all Head and Deputy Head Greenkeepers in the Region in the intention that they inform their staff of the event. If you do not have access to one of these forms then please once again speak to Gordon or Marion Child on the above number to reserve a place on the coach. The cost for members is £125 for three nights bed and breakfast in York which includes entry to all seminars and the exhibition. The cost of the banquet ticket which is optional is an extra £29.

As always educational courses at section level are available with some being arranged at present to cover PA1, PA2, First Aid etc.

The Hayter Final took place at Fairhaven GC on September 18 and although there were no outright winners for the South West Section everyone who participated enjoyed the event. Thanks once again to Hayter for their continued sponsorship.

This year's AGM at Bristol & Clifton GC takes place on the November 14 with Rigby Taylor sponsoring the day. A morning round of golf will be followed by a short talk from a guest speaker before completing the day with the section AGM. There will be vacancies on the section committee so any of you who feel the

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**South Wales**

Our recent annual match versus the Golf Club Secretaries took place over the Southdown golf course near Bridgend, the weather was superb the course could not have been better, altogether an excellent day!

A good equal attendance this year of 5 teams a piece resulted in a 4 1/2 to 3 1/2 win for the secretaries.

Results: Gerwyn Price/Ceri Jones v P. Plumbe/B. Bennett 3/2; Andy Roach/Malcolm Davies v D. Peak/W. Doderick Won 2/1; David Gladwin/Daryl Bray v J. Graham/G Rees Haried; David Jenkins/Mike Norfolk v B. Player/H. Edmond Won by 1 hole; John Phillips/Alan Richards v D. Davies/ D. Lloyd Lost; Herbie Probert/Peter Edwards v K. Thomas/E. Evans Lost; P. Lacey/G. Johnstone v J. Whitaker/B. Jones Won by 2 holes

My sincere thanks to everyone for making the effort to turn up and ensure that this annual event is such an enjoyable and keenly fought competition.

My thanks also to Fred Crossman for his organisation of this fixture, it was so good to see Fred in attendance despite his recent misfortunes of health and in such good spirit. Lastly I would like to thank everyone at the Southerndown GC for their part in ensuring that an enjoyable day was had by all. Gary Johnstone and his green staff for the course, Ann Fletcher for the feast, Jim Graham and the Executive Committee of Southerndown for their courtesy.

Peter Gee, 3G, is the new Course Manager of Langland Bay GC, near Swansea. Peter, a Kent man, comes to Langland having been previously at the Ridge GC, Maidstone. We wish him well in his new position.

Double celebrations in the home of Mr and Mrs Chris Solman at present, firstly on the news that Chris has been appointed the new Head Greenkeeper of the Cardiff GC and secondly on the arrival of his new baby daughter 6lb 5oz Emily Jane. Well Done!

On Thursday, September 12, the Pontardawe GC played host to our Autumn Committee Day.

The day was sponsored by Keith Morgan Mowers of Usk. Our sincere thanks to Keith for his continued support. Again the weather was glorious and the course was in superb condition. A credit to Jamie Probert and his staff. 21 Golfers took to the course.

Results: Jacobsen Cup - Nett 67 - Alan Crichlow - Kinver GC. Waycott Cup - Nett 67 - Richard Patterson - Cradoc GC; Presidents Cup - Andrew Roach - 70 - Haverfordwest GC.

Our thanks to all at the Pontardawe GC for their hospitality and course courtesy, to John and Ben Morgan for the presentations.

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**Around the Green**

At the Orangery, Margam Park, near Swansea, recently, Celtic Mowers' Kubbota held an open day.

The agenda was a presentation/slide demonstrations of the new Kubota range machinery, including the superb range of compact tractors and an explanation / insight into what Celtic mowers have to offer - machinery hire, sales, repairs, as well as a full range of turf maintenance products ie fertilisers, seed, tools, etc.

Then practical demonstrations of the presented machinery followed by a buffet lunch, including the Grandail GT 30 and super b 2400.

An excellent event made all the more so by the fact that I won first prize in the raffle draw, a ghetto blaster! The only downside being the RSVP's were made by some 75 or so people and only 40 or so turned up! Thanks to Kim Davies, of Celtic Mowers, and Colin Hennah of Kubbota for their sterling work, Well done!

Amenity Land Services recently held a seminar day at Usk. The day being primarily to promote a new range of Organic turf fertilisers and soil conditioners.

An excellent presentation and explanation of soil science and the reactions of organics was made by Belgium Agronomist and soil specialist Frans Pauwels.

This was followed by an explanation of each product and its function/benefit to the soil. This presentation was given also by a Belgian, soil specialist, Dirk Creve.

An excellent informative day that was well supported with over 40 people in attendance from as far afield as Worcester and Haverfordwest.

Many thanks to all at Amenity Land Services Limited but especially, John Reynolds for the produce.

Finally we would like to congratulate Course Manager, Mark Proctor and his staff at the Marriott St. Pierre Hotel Golf and Country Club, for the success of the recent Solheim Cup.

Both courses have recently undergone many changes and improvements including larger reservoirs, refurbishing of the 11 acre lake, over looking the 17th and 18th holes and a completely new irrigation system which has been extended to include both aprons and fairways.

The course seen by millions of viewers recently certainly looked the part. Superb in fact, well done!

Peter Lacey

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**SOUTH EAST REGION**

Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 269956

**Surrey**

September has been quite an eventful month as far as golfing events are concerned. First, the inter country charity event which was organised by C. J. Collins Construction Ltd was not only a very enjoyable but also a hugely successful day. C. J. Collins managed to raise in the region of £1400 to be donated to St Catherine Hospice. The man who takes the credit for this most successful event is Barry Pace, from Collins, who organised teams of 10 players from Kent, Surrey and Sussex to compete for the inter country charity trophy of which I am proud to say as captain of the Surrey team this year we returned victors by 12 clear points from the opposition which goes to prove which section has the best golfers. Extra thanks go to Birch Grove House Golf Course which was built by Collins and proved to be a real hard test of golf. Thanks to Course Manager, John Hills, for his extra efforts for the day.

The Huxley bowl came to a close with Epsom Golf Club's David Jones and Mark Harvey beating himself and Roger Grazier 5&4 over 36 holes. Well done to the both of you.

The Rigby Taylor Autumn Tournament was held this year at the Effingham GC. Thanks firstly to Effingham for allowing us to hold the event at the club, and also to Rigby Taylor for their sponsorship and to Sendmarsh Tractors for their co-sponsorship thanks to both of you for your generosity not forgetting Peter Broadbent and his staff for turning the course out in such great shape the course is a real credit to you all.

Results: 1. Kevin Boxall 55pts; 2. John Maths 55pts on court back; 3. Dougie Ferner 55pts; Nearest the pin am Mike Wells, pm Steve Johnson. Longest Drive Terry Edwards 230m.

Fortcoming events include the first winter lecture which is to be held at Kingswood GC on Nov 20. The lecture will be given by Liquid Sod on the subject of nutrition amongst other things please try and support the evening 7 - 7.30pm. Dress smart and casual.

The turkey trot on December 3 at Gaforch GC this also includes the AGM.

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**Kent**

First of all, apologies for missing last month's magazine. Believe it or not I have been very busy.

Our last tournament was held at Knole Park in Sevenoaks. On a sunny day at a very picturesque golf course a good day was had by all. Our thanks must go to Mr. Hoppe, the Secretary, for arranging the course and to the catering, for a fine meal. However the two biggest thank you's should go to Andy Arthur and his staff for presenting a fine course and to Bernard Diddams and Rigby Taylor for superb prizes again.


Details of our next tournament including results will appear next month.

Our best wishes go to Callum Arthur who has left Knole Park to go back to Scotland.

Our Committee are considering starting a foursomes knock-out for 1997. Please let me know if you are interested. We also have an opportunity to visit the Ransomes Factory at Ipswich. Again, let me know if interested.

Our next tournament is the turkey trot at Darenth Valley in December. Letters will be going out in November. Happy autumn maintenance.

Huw Morgan