As a member of the Greenkeepers Training Committee, BIGGA is actively involved in raising the Standard of Greenkeeper Training. The range and quality of training now available means that there is a training course for every greenkeeper which should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce quality golf courses.

Golf course managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards, beginning by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC. There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and if you think that training is expensive then try ignorance.

Ken Richardson
Education and Training Manager,
British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
Tel: 01347 833800
Email: education@bigga.co.uk
Website: www.bigga.org.uk

The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) is continually striving to raise the standards of Golf Course Maintenance and Management and they are totally committed to ensuring that the range of qualifications are relevant to the Sportsturf sector and used by Employers for recruitment and by trainees for their own personal development.

The Government endorsed awards range from National/Scottish Vocational Qualifications (N/SVQ's) to the more academic Higher National Certificate (HNC)/National Diploma (ND)/Higher National Diploma (HND) in Golf Course Management and the Degree in Sportsturf Science.

The qualifications are continually under review by the National Training Organisation (NTO) in association with the GTC. The quality of the delivery of these awards by the network of GTC Approved Training Providers is also constantly monitored by the GTC.

For up to date independent advice on qualifications, education and training courses contact the GTC on:-
Tel: 01347 838640
Email: golf@the-gtc.co.uk
Website: www.the-gtc.co.uk

www.bigga.org.uk
The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of colleges offering greenkeeper training courses. This guide shows colleges offering courses to craft, supervisory and management levels, but it must be stated that until the GTC review is completed only the green coded colleges are approved to train greenkeepers beyond craft level. The introduction of vocational qualifications into industries, has caused the colleges to re-think their training policies and the GTC will be issuing guidelines for the golf greenkeeping industry as to which colleges employers and their staff should be supporting. Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeeper Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Harle, York YO61 1UF, Tel: 01937 636646 or visit their website at http://www.th_gtc.co.uk

GREENKEEPER TRAINING

ELMWOOD COLLEGE. Cupper Fife. KY15 4JB Contact: Henry Perry Tel: 01535 658842 Fax: 01535 658988 Email: admin@elmwood.ac.uk Full-time National Certificate, Block Release following SVQ Level II and GTC training manual. SVQ Level III Block Release and Outreach available with SVQ Level IV coming soon. HNC/ND Golf Course Management available as full time, block release and distance learning. Professional development awards for football and cricket available by both Block Release and Outreach. FEPA and COSHH, chainsaws, tree climbing and rescue techniques and Health and safety short courses also available.

GOSTA TRAINING LTD, Unit 5E Clydevale Centre, 46 Finniston Street, Glasgow, G3 8JU. Contact Chris Bothwell. Tel: 0141 248 2772 Fax: 0141 248 2453 Email: training@gostatraining.freeserve.co.uk SVQ 1, 2, 3 and 4 also Modern Apprenticeship, in all options of Amenity Horticulture including Sports Turf and GTC. Manual. Attendance day/block release from November to March. Short courses include Pesticides, Chainaws, First Aid, Abrasive Wheels, Manual Handling and Assessor training. Consultancy covering Noise Assessment, Site Risk Audits, Machinery Permit to use, COSHH, Health and Safety Policy.

LANGSIDE COLLEGE. Rutherford Campus, Buchanan Drive, Ruchether, G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 0141 647 6300. Email: college@perma.langside.ac.uk. SVQ, SCO, HNC, HND. Full time and part-time courses in Greenkeeping, Groundskeeping, Golf Course Management, Horticulture, Land and Environment and Applied Ecology. Short courses for land-based industries including Risk Assessment and Pesticides.

OATRIDGE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. Ecclesmachan, By Brabstow, West Lothan, near Edinburgh, EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 01506 853373 Fax: 01505 64387 Fax: 01505 853373. HNC In Golf Course Management (Part-time). Full-time National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management: SVQ Level II and GTC Manual (Day and Block Released). SVQ Level III in Grounds Care Machinery, full range of Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping and other land based subjects at HNC, National Certificate and SVQ Levels; Short Course - FEPA, Chainsaw, Forklift, First Aid. Email: OATRIDGE_AGRICULTURAL_COLLEGE_EDU@nco.co.uk

ASHKAM BRYAN COLLEGE. Askham Bryan, York YO23 3FR. Contact: Central Admissions Tel: 01904 722211. National Certificate in Horticulture, National Diploma in Horticulture (Turf Option); Higher National Diploma in Horticulture (Golf Management Option) all available full or part time. Block release courses: NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf and Maintenance; NVQ Level 4 Amenity Horticulture. Short courses: FEPA spraying, chainsaw and brushcutter courses.


Myerscough College. Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY. Tel: 01995 642211/642222 Fax: 01995 642333. E-mail: mailbox@myerscough.ac.uk. Website: www.myerscough.ac.uk. Full-time courses: BTEC First National Certificate in Turf Management (Day/block release or Fast track work-based training qualification). HND Turf Science and Golf Course Management; HNC Turf Science. Short courses: Industry Training Support Course; Myerscough Turfgrass Foundation holds an annual conference and regular education seminars.

BRINSBY MELTON COLLEGE, Brooksley, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact: Central Admissions Tel: 01798 877400, Fax: 01798 875222, E-mail: student-services@brinsby.ac.uk. Website: www.brinsby.ac.uk. Full time First Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) - 1 year. National Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) - 2 years. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management - 3 years. Part time: HNC Golf Course Management with Open Learning option, NVQ Level 1-4 Greenkeeping with Fast Track options. IOG courses available. Short courses: FEPA Chemical Safety, Safe Lifting, Chainsaws, Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.

BROOMFIELD COLLEGE. Morley, Brenton, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 01332 836600 Fax: 01332 836600. Website: www.broomfield.ac.uk. Full-time programmes available include: NVQ Level 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Greenkeeping. Work-based emphasis for all of these programmes. Short courses available in Arboriculture/Chainaw work. FECA certification, TDLB training.

BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, Hall Place, Burcettts Green, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 6QR. Tel: 01628 824444 Fax: 01628 824696. Email: enquiries@berks-coll.ac.uk. Website: www.berks-coll.ac.uk. Full-time programmes - STEC First & National Diploma. Part-time programmes - NVQ 2 & 3 Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf (day and block released). Short courses - Greenkeeping for golfers, NPTC Chainsaw Competence Certificates, Spray Operators Training Courses.

BRINSBY MELTON COLLEGE, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 1DL. Tel: 01798 879740 Fax: 01798 879222. E-mail: Student-services@brinsby.ac.uk. Website: www.brinsby.ac.uk. Full time BTTC National Diploma Horticulture (Greenkeeping option), BTEC First Diploma New Horizons Horticulture (Greenkeeping option), City & Guilds National Certificate Horticulture (Greenkeeping & Sportsground option). PARTTIME: NVQ Sports Turf Maintenance (Day release or work based). NVQ Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping & Sports Turf options), plus various short courses including Chainsaw, Breathalizer/Sniffing, R1A/P1A/R2A/P2A/PL1 etc.

WARRICKSHIRE COLLEGE. Royal Leamington Spa & Moreton Morrell, Moreton Morrell, Warwick, CV35 0DL. Contact: Brian Cook Tel: 01926 313268. Email: enquiries@warrick.ac.uk. Greenkeeping Courses: HNC Sports Turf & Golf Course Management (Day Release 2 year Programmes); NVQ Level 2 & 3 Day Release and Workbased Option (new to you); two year NVQ in Horticulture with Turf Option; IOG Intermediate Diploma (evening class); Certificate in Turf Irrigation. Short Courses: Introduce your Committee to Turf Culture. Computing for the Greenkeeper; Various throughout the year - for details. FEPA, Chainsaw Training Certificate; TDLB; First Aid also RHS General and Diploma.

Education & Training for Professional Greenkeepers December 2000
A GUIDE TO THE COLLEGES AND COURSES AVAILABLE

Currently GTC approved at Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Supervisor level

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only

Please note that all the college details published in this guide were supplied by the colleges themselves. Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for the accuracy of information provided. Contact the college directly for prospectuses and comprehensive information.

KEY

SOUTH EAST

HADLOW COLLEGE Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN1 9AL. Contact Tony Leach Tel: 01732 850501. NVQ Level II and III Part-time Day Release with two periods of Block Release 3, 4, 5 evenings. Level II in Groundsmanship evenings. Level III NVQ Day release.


NESCOT North East Surrey College of Technology, Peigate Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3DS. Contact Dr S Shaw. Tel: 020 8394 3058 or email: info@nescot.ac.uk. NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options) Training and assessment for the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Part time, Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses.


PENCROED COLLEGE, Bridgend, Cardiff CF35 3LG. Tel: 01656 302600. Fax: 01656 302601. Day release courses: Level III Certificate in Golf Course Management, Level II Certificate in Greenkeeping, NVQ Level III Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management, NVQ Level IV Greenkeeping. Further Education Programme also available. FEPA, Chainsaw, GTC Craft Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FEPA: Short courses, Chainsaws. All courses other than Phase IV are offered on block release. Full residential facilities available. Sparsholt college provides education and training in the land-based industries.

SOUTH WEST


IRLAND


WELSH COLLEGE OF HORTICULTURE, Northop, Flintshire. Contact Graham Wright. Tel: 01352 841034 Fax: 01352 841031. Email: graham.wright@wcoh.ac.uk. Level III Certificate in Golf Course Management, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, National Diplomas in Golf Course Management and Golf Studies. Diploma: Greenkeeping, Certificates: Golf Course Supervision, FEPA, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, GTC: Craft Certificate. Currently GTC approved at Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels.


WROCVEC COLLEGE

Research tools to help with your study

Greenkeeper International, the Association's award-winning monthly magazine, is packed with up to the minute information and features, providing you with valuable research, and perhaps even helping you with your assignments. A FREE copy will ensure you are kept informed of all that's new or topical in greenkeeping (normally £36 for annual subscription).

Your membership also includes a FREE copy of the BIGGA Golf Directory which provides you with an extensive guide to the products and services relating to the fine turf industry and the contact details of the major companies supplying those products and services. The Directory also includes a comprehensive greenkeeper membership section.

All BIGGA members are invited to attend the annual BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition event in Harrogate. With over 200 exhibitors and 6,000 visitors, this is Europe's largest indoor fine turf exhibition and features a showcase of the latest advances in machinery, products and services within the industry. On production of your membership card you can attend the seminars FREE of charge.

Exclusive discounts and benefits

To aid with your study further, Student members are entitled to receive a FREE copy of each of the field guides available in the series. Produced in a handy to use and read format. Can't find the book you require in your local library or College listing to see if the BIGGA lending library stocks the title for which you are looking. The lending library is available to all BIGGA members, allowing them to borrow up to two books for up to six weeks; the only cost is return postage.

Student members are eligible for substantial discounts on the books and videos available from BIGGA HQ, all of course connected with your studies. BIGGA have teamed up with ARCO, the leading UK supplier of workwear, safety clothing and equipment and industrial and maintenance products, to offer you a massive 20% discount off a choice of goods including big named brands, orders include free delivery and there is no minimum order charge.

Another valuable way of learning... from those already in the industry! By attending local events in your section, you can build up a network of greenkeepers in your area, region and the UK as a whole.

When you gain a position as a greenkeeper at a golf club, why not upgrade your student membership to full greenkeeper membership? Call Membership Services for further details on 01347 833900. * Discount not available on selected technical products or other special orders. Please telephone for details.

For further details, contact Tracey Maddison, BIGGA Membership Services Officer

British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aine, York Y061 1UF Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801 membership@bigga.co.uk

Find out how you could benefit from BIGGA Student Membership

Greenkeeper International
BIGGA Golf Directory
BIGGA Website
BTME at Harrogate
Free BIGGA Field Guides
The Learning Experience
Education and Training
Toro Student of the Year
BIGGA Library
Discounted Clothing
Personal Discounts
Social Activities

Enjoy your greens...

**Greenkeeping Courses**
- FD First Diploma in Horticulture (1 year)
- NVQ Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf Maintenance, Levels 2 & 3 (part-time)
- HND Sports Industry Management (2 years)

**Landscaping Design Courses**
- NC National Certificate in Horticulture specialising in Garden Design (1 year)
- ND National Diploma in Horticulture (2 years sandwich)
- NC National Certificate in Horticulture, Garden Design (part-time)

**Horticulture Courses**
- FD First Diploma in Horticulture (1 year)
- NC National Certificate in Horticulture (1 year)
- ND National Diploma in Horticulture (2 years sandwich)

Residential accommodation is available.

You can now start some of our full-time programmes in early February. Please call Alison Sampson for more details.
Where does all the time go? It doesn't seem five minutes ago that we were all standing in ill-formed circles with our arms in the air singing, “Na, na, nanananaaa, nanananaaa, Hey Jude,” along with the Bootleg Beetles, yet here we are on the verge of starting the latest BTME Odyssey on which everyone who is anyone in the fine turf industry sets out in the third week of January.

Each BTME seems to surpass the one before and each year negotiating a path around the various seminar rooms, exhibitions halls and, dare I say it, bars, takes longer as the list of friends and acquaintances grows and reminiscences are shared. Those who have been regular visitors to Harrogate will again see some changes and innovations in 2001. Last year we unveiled Hall Q as the show continued to expand. This year we are proud to present Hall M which has been built by Harrogate International Centre in the time since we were last there. This magnificent hall, officially opened just a couple of months ago, fills the space left by the marquee which has operated for the last two BTME's and will be a welcome addition to the week.

Educationally, under the banner “The Learning Experience”, which is run in association with Textron”, there is something for everyone and this now gives valuable credits towards CPD and the Master Greenkeeper Certificate. The Education Conference covers issues in-depth, including Growing; Human Resource Management, Water Management and Environmental Management, with the papers being delivered by some of the foremost authorities in their respective subjects. Workshops also let you take a more hands-on approach to your education.

The BTME Seminar programme kicks off with a motivational speech from a man who knows how to get things moving. Richard Noble OBE is the man behind Thrust SSC, the holder of the world supersonic land speed record. Richard heads an impressive array of seminar speakers which includes speakers from all over the world. Also returning after a successful debut last year will be the Career’s Clinic.

So if you are preparing to embark on your BTME Odyssey you can be sure that it will be a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

Entertainment this year will be provided by renowned after-dinner speaker, Peter Brown, at the National Education Conference Dinner in the Majestic Hotel on the Monday night and by one of the finest bands of the 60s - the golden age of pop - in The Searchers, together with Susan Maughan, whose hits include Bobby's Girl... or to be more correct in this age of political correctness Robert's Significant Other!
Advanta Seeds UK
Stand C3-4

Advanta Seeds UK will highlight the benefits of Headstart, a non-toxic, organically derived seed stimulant, which is applied to all their amenity grass seed, at BTME this year - stand number C3-4. Based on a seaweed extract, with added enzymes, bio-stimulants and water attractants, Headstart treated seed germinates faster and has better root development, than non-treated seed. Headstart is applied to all their amenity grass seed, with zero turning radius and superb grass cutting. Advanta has been using Headstart for ten years and many of our customers have come to rely on the added security it offers," explains Dave Phillips, Advanta's Amenity Sales and Marketing Manager. "They know that, whatever the seeding situation, our seed will not only germinate fast, but will also be more drought and disease resistant, due to the rapid development of deep roots and strong seedlings".

DGT - Volmatic A/S
Stand Q111

Contact: Roger Stenning Technologist 1 Layburnum Walk, Upton-Upon-Serven, WR6 OLY Tel: 01684 591020 Fax: 01684 591030 DGT - Volmatic is introducing a unique method to fertiliser management. Fertiliser is fed through the irrigation system. Management of the fertiliser and control of pH takes place through the AMI golf-computer. Correct pH figures create a stronger and greener turf and for immediate effect the computer controls the fertiliser-varied dosage. The system is environmentally friendly as it conserves fertiliser, which therefore, is a saving on the initial cost, and also reduces the labour cost involved by eliminating the need for manual applications. Additional benefits comprise the continuous monitoring of water quality and quantity for your records. The system is engineered and manufactured by DGT - Volmatic, delivered to your premises customised individually to your requirements.

Bernhard & Co
Stand B17

BERTER, faster grading will be demonstrated at BTME by leading specialists Bernhard. Their star performers Express Dual and Anglemaster 3000 have been uprated to be the next generation of efficient and easy to operate grinders. Keeping mower blades really sharp helps greenkeepers to maintain an excellent playing surface. A further benefit is the grass looks greener and healthier and the club benefits from a significant reduction in on-going maintenance costs. Responding to the increased use of rotary to cut the rough, Bernhard introduces Rota Master. This most advanced rotary blade sharpener will prove an essential tool for every workshop. Included in the professional line-up will be Blade Rite, Gear Rite, Rapid Relief and Rapid Facer, helping professionals to maintain the leading edge in fine turf presentation with a cleaner, healthier cut.

British Seed Houses
Stand A10

British Seed Houses Tel: 01925 654411 Fax: 01925 230682 www.britishseedhouses.com

Visit the British Seed Houses stand (A10) and go one up. Turfgrass professionals joining the Grade A Club (registration is FREE) gain special discounts on approved training courses. Join the club at BTME - or order any Grade A products at the show - and you will receive an additional 1000 free credit points. Avalon velvet bent is outperforming all other bent types in terms of shoot density and fineness of leaf. Order two bags of Avalon at BTME and you will receive 25kg of a Grade A golf course mixture of your choice, absolutely FREE! Find out more about the Grade A Club and the full range of British Seed Houses seed and fertiliser products at www.britishseedhouses.com

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd
Stand B19

Contact: David Jenkins Weydown Industrial Estate, Weydown Road, Haslemere Surrey GU27 1DW Tel: 01428 661222 Fax: 01428 661218 The new Pedestrian Core collector 3000 will take pride of place at the Charterhouse BTME Stand this year. This exciting new development from Redexim results from the purchase of Proceed during the autumn of last year. The walk behind Core Collector incorporates a new revolutionery pick-up system, which will work even in the wet and leaves the turf behind completely clean. The cores are collected in a large hydraulically operated tipping hopper which tips at a height of 800mm ideal for loading into a truckster and making removal from site to the compost heap a simple job. The Core Collector 3000 is a robust machine, which is simple and quick to operate. There is a tractor-mounted version also available. If you have a problem cleaning up after hollow coring these machines are just what you require. Also the Charterhouse Stand will be examples of the new Amenity range of Sprayers. These machines feature high volume pumps which produce large droplets destined to hit their target without problems and the minimum of drift. Also for those who have to spray in difficult or windy conditions Charterhouse will be showing the Rogers covered Booms, which have made such a dramatic difference to Greenkeepers with ecological and environmental concerns. Do not hesitate to come and examine these products and ask further technical questions which Charterhouse staff will be delighted to answer.

Avoncrop Amenity Products
Stand B7

Avoncrop Amenity Products will be showing their unrivalled product ranges from manufacturers such as Aventis, Baronscraig, Farmura, Green Releaf, Scotts, Supaturf, Terrail, Rufford, Vitax and numerous AA own brands. Turf has been recently added to the portfolio. Three grades of turf are offered; Royal blend for greens, Aughton Green a hardwearing non-rey turf and thirdly Stadium a rye mix for winter sports, rye tees or hard wearing lawns. Grazers the new rabbit damage repair product for the restoration of damaged turf has also been recently added. So safe is this new product it can be sprayed onto fine turf with out fear of damaging the sward. A warm welcome awaits Course Managers, Greenkeepers and visitors to discuss these and any other products and services offered.

Aventis Environmental Science
Stand C33

Aventis Environmental Science will have information on our new ultra-low dose fungicide 'Capricrom' which treats one green with 50mls of product. You will also be able to take away one of our new technical manual CD ROM with the facility to print out Safety Data sheets and electronic calibration. You will have the chance to try out the new Aventis Environmental Web site. Revival Green Speedhead, the Minilette and Crossfire 480 tank mix will be featured. Please visit the stand to find out the future of Amenity Chemicals. Contact Aventis on 01277 30115, visit our website at Aventis-environmentalscience.co.uk or e-mail us with your questions at jennyrmurphy@aventis.com

Amzone LTD
Stand M9

The groundbreaking division of Amzone LTD was established in 1989 and is based in the Harworth Distribution Centre. This allows for prompt communication between wholegoods, ports and technical services for it's customers and it's manufacturing bases. As a family owned company, Amzone's objective of selling superior and well-engineered products is shared not only by its staff but also by its Dealers. Often it is only possible to offer both economic and agronomic advantage through innovative, high quality products - an area where Amzone is easily recognised with the groundkeeper, profithopper and Amenity Combination products.

Allen Power Equipment Ltd
Stand A22

National Triple Mowers feature prominently on our stand this year with the HT7 84” cut machine. This hydrostatic drive unit comes into its own on banks, having an extremely low centre of gravity. Power Steering too. Also on show will be the full range of Komatsu Zenoah brush and hedge cutters, blowers and the recently acquired chainsaws. Allen hover mowers, Walkover Sprayers and Turf Doctor Scarifier can also be seen and the "Pet" petrol Edger powered by a 22.5 cc Zenith engine. Walker Mowers with zero turning radius and superb grass collection complete the exhibit.

ALS
Stand A8

Following its launch at Gelteko 2000, ALS are delighted to confirm that the Earthquake decompressor machine will be on show for the first time in the UK at BTME 2001! ALS are the National Importers and Distributors of the Earthquake decompaction equipment for the UK and Ireland. The Earthquake offers sports turf managers new experiences in decompaction techniques. This machine decompacts the full soil profile to its 10” depth, but crucially the upper 4”-6” where grass root zone and seed establishment is a problem. The Earthquake will decompact the surface layer in all conditions including hard and dry situations - a performance which alternative equipment fails to match.
At the BTME 2001 Exhibition, the Utility and the new Integrated aluminium frame gives an overall weight carrying on golf courses. Completing the offers advantages in general turf and comfort and refined styling. Combines high reliability with enhanced and Transportation Vehicle Division of Golf details about Vaminoc - G and cargo bed vehicles from Club Car and people carriers. As the industry's only deeper, denser rooting and more vigorous growth. Vaminoc - G is unique in that it is the only biological treatment available in the UK that has been researched and produced from the natural soils of the UK. The commercial benefits are huge but so are the environmental benefits, as users can feel safe in the knowledge that they are not importing foreign organisms. For further details contact Fern House Marketing LTD on stand Q53 and ask for details about Vaminoc - G.

Vaminoc - C
There is a considerable debate at present as to the use of biological organisms in turf management regimes. Vaminoc - G is one such treatment, a mycorrhizal fungal inoculant which when added to root zones enhances the establishment of washed turf and grass seed by encouraging deeper, denser rooting and more vigorous growth. Vaminoc - G is unique in that it is the only biological treatment available in the UK that has been researched and produced from the natural soils of the UK. The commercial benefits are huge but so are the environmental benefits, as users can feel safe in the knowledge that they are not importing foreign organisms. For further details contact Fern House Marketing LTD on stand Q53 and ask for details about Vaminoc - G.

Envy of the Greens
Immaculate greens are the product of sheer hard work, which is why the new Mule Diesel 2510 is the envy of the fairways.

Built for the toughest terrain, the Mule gives you more power, performance, load capacity and fuel efficiency and, with its low-ground pressure qualities, you won't leave any divots.
- 23 hp, 3 cylinder, 4-stroke, liquid cooled, diesel engine
- Automatic variable speed transmission
- Dual mode differential for rear axle
- Dual range gear box with selectable 4-wheel drive
- 12-months warranty

CALL FREE ON 0800 316 4448 to put the power to work for you
(Outside the UK, call +44 1666 511356)
Kawasaki’s acclaimed Mule utility vehicle range will be in the limelight at BTME 2001.

The spotlight falls on the much sought-after Mule Diesel 2510 which takes centre stage having shattered all sales targets set by the Japanese manufacturer since its launch in the UK last year.

The appeal of the Mule utility vehicles to the turf and related sectors reinforces the pioneering contribution made by Kawasaki in the low ground-pressure vehicle market.

Kawasaki’s extensive brushcutter range provides another focal point for the power products on display along with hedge trimmers and the new KRB 400B blower with hand-held throttle.

Generators and water pumps will also be much in evidence in addition to Kawasaki’s ever-growing range of sports turf and landscape.

Kawasaki UK Ltd

Making their first appearance at BTME will be the new ST Alpha 30 and 35 compact tractors, rated at 30hp and 35hp respectively. In addition to hydrostatic transmission, four wheel drive and mid/rear power take-offs, both tractors have a new power steering system with exceptional steering torque, producing smoother, lighter steering even with a fully laden front loader bucket. To enhance manoeuvrability and on and off Kubota’s unique Bi-speed turn is fitted as standard.

The system automatically speeds up the steering system with high wear tolerance.

Minister is a fine textured greens turf, suitable for golf and bowling greens. All grades and rolls of Rolawn turf can be supplied washed clean and free of soil.

The company also sells screened topsoil with a three-deck configurations.

Also on display from the Jacobsen golf range will be the new Tri-King with lower foot buttons or reel lift and lowerProfile. Displays from Maxicrop (UK) Ltd and Rufford Soil Technology will be on show and in addition Grass Science, the UK based independent agronomy consultancy, will also be featured on the stand.

Rolawn (Turf Growers) Ltd

Rolawn was established in 1975 and since that time has been supplying specially cultivated turf for the greens and tees of golf courses throughout the UK.

The STRI conduct an annual botanical composition test on our turf.

Medallion is Rolawn’s most popular and versatile turf, combining a fine appearance with high wear tolerance.

Minister is a fine textured greens turf, suitable for golf and bowling greens.

SISIS have moved to Stand M12 in the new hall.

Be sure to see the new heavy duty scarifier which will be shown for the first time at BTME 2001. Also on display will be other machines from the well known SISIS range of turf maintenance equipment and grass cutters.

We look forward to seeing you.

Supaturf Products Ltd

Another year of outstanding innovation 2001: A year to revisit traditional methods. Visit us and win a years supply of some of our market leading products.

Supaturf has been innovating and supplying market leading products for many, many years to our industry but at this year’s BTME, Supaturf will be launching a revolutionary new product which will be the answer to many a greenkeepers prayer. Details below.

The World’s favourite range of wetting agents, including Primer 604, will be on display as usual, as will the EvenSpray range of spreaders, the EvenSpray spraying system and the SuperMark range of aerosols and applications.

We will be providing our free “TRY IT AND SEE FOR YOURSELF” sample/test pack of Primer 604 and will be demonstrating how to get the best from this world-leading product. There will also be a chance to win a years supply of Primer 604 absolutely free as part of our 2001 “LET'S MANAGE OUR WATER” campaign and also to be awarded an, all expenses paid, trip to visit some of the world’s best golf courses and meet some of the worlds best greenkeepers in our 2001 “LOOK AND LISTEN” water management education programme.

Irresistible or what?

There’s more. We will be putting a new emphasis on our world famous range of traditional, semi organic fertilisers and invite everybody to our stand to try to win a years supply of Supaturf fertilisers in our special 2001 "LET'S TAKE CONTROL" initiative.

So what is our revolutionary product?

Suffice to say at the moment that it is a new kind of sprayer that offers a whole range of totally revolutionary benefits but come along to the stand and see for yourself.

SISIS Equipment Ltd

Contact: Customer Services Tel: 01904 608661 - email: info@rolawn.co.uk - www.rolawn.co.uk

SISIS have moved to Stand M12 in the new hall.

Be sure to see the new heavy duty scarifier which will be shown for the first time at BTME 2001. Also on display will be other machines from the well known SISIS range of turf maintenance equipment and grass cutters.

Scotts UK Professional

Contact: Martin Morgan
Piper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich IP1 4BZ
Tel: 01473 830492
Fax: 01473 830386

Scotts UK Professional is a leading authority on turf nutrition and pest control in the UK and Europe. No other company can offer a similar level of expertise in formulation, registration, technical support and research. As a result, Scotts is in a unique position to offer a fast and efficient information service to customers, including soil, water and tissue analysis and disease identification.

For BTME 2001, Scotts will make these services available on stand, inviting greenkeepers to bring the results of their latest soil analysis to Scotts for interpretation. Scotts advisory team will be able to draw up a tailor made turf nutritional programme on the spot.

In addition, the stand will display the benefits of the complete Scotts turfcare armoury, including a demonstration of the turf management tool Shortcut, which can halve the amount of time grounds and greenkeeping staff need to spend moving grass.

Symbio

Symbio is 10. The first and most experienced British company developing microbial solutions to maintain excellent sports turf, trees and amenity and irrigation water.

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Textron

Textron the full range of golf turf maintenance equipment from a single source.

Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products continue to display their innovative approach to all sectors of the turf care market with a complete range of products - all from a single source. New products to be launched include the Ransomes Super Certus walk-behind mower with ‘Motivair’, the new control system from Textron and the triplex greens mower from Jacobson, the Greens King VI, with either eone-touchi reel lift and lower foot buttons or reel lift and lower joystick control.

Also on display from the Jacobson golf range will be the new Tri-King with lower profile and ISO-mountings and the restyled and redesigned Greens King IV.

Toro Commercial Products

Making its debut at BTME is the all-new Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D, a powerful, but highly manoeuvrable 11ft rotary mower that produces a supurb, high-quality cut. Toro has introduced the machine to meet the demand from those customers who prefer a large-scale rotary with a three-deck configurations.

The Groundsmaster 3500 D Sidewinder also joins the Toro exhibition line-up. This innovative rotary mower has cutting units that can be shifted to either side of the machine to provide an overhang for grass edges such as bunker rims and fringes.
You’re welcome at the Turf-Seed U.K., the youngest star in the Turf-Seed Inc. companies’ galaxy around the world. Turf-Seed Companies represent the biggest private research in turf grass. Our RPM cycle, research-production-marketing, assures professional users the best quality seed for the highest quality playing surfaces. There is a wide range of varieties across all the major species with several entered into the STRI trials. If you are not yet familiar with the name you will know several of the famous cultivars, sold over decades throughout Europe. Visit the turf grass source and let us introduce you to the newest generation of Creeping Bent Grass, Perennial Ryegrass, Fine Fescues and Smooth Stalked Meadow Grass.

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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 Aberdeenshire GC in autumn preceded by the annual Chairman versus Vice Chairman golf match on 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 ten match to two. Thanks to all who played and Dennis Slater, of Daval, for presenting the trophy. A big thank you to Robert Patterson 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 last five years and wish him well with Tyndeside GC 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 AGM took place at the annual 200 Club are: September £30 No 67 Gordon Moir, St Andrews. October £30 No 41 Colin Forbes, Aburize. November £30 No 63 Alex Cruickshank, Ayrshire. December £30 No 43 Alex Robertson, West Linton GC. 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 took over. Thank you to everyone who has helped 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 Tom in his time as Chairman. Tom’s Vice Chairman is yours truly, Chris Hume, 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 see you back this time, and so well, and we look forward to having you on the committee, with us, Stuart.

The Annual General Meeting took place on November 1, at Kingsknowe GC where our sponsors for the day were Thomas Sheriff and Co who put on three blocks for us. I also had a very enjoyable day. Also Tyndeside 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.

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.

Well, the Section AGM was held on October 31 at SG&M House, Inveresk, when a whole 15 members took the time to attend! You don’t get this sort of support year in year out. The Machinery organised a visit to St Andrews, a presentation on SG&M and a tour of their facilities prior to the meeting. Our sincere thanks go to SG&M and everyone at SG&M 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. MacBain, Vice Chairman, A. Dunn, Sec/Treas. J. Crawford, Committee D. Scott, G. Mitchell, S. Cruickshank, A. Collier, Patrons’ representatives P. Langdon and A. Stuart.

Congratulations go to Past Chairman Archie Dunn on being selected to represent BIGGA at the CGSM 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 section is very proud of you, Michael Romaszkiwicz, from Montrose Links; Brian Needs, from Grangemouth, with Jimmy Lees, and Stuart Manattini, from Murrayshall Golf Club. All three will receive an expenses paid trip (not including liquid refreshments) to BTME at Harrogate in January See what can be achieved if you support BIGGA events!

The Section’s recipients of this year’s Patrons’ Awards are Kenny Thomson, Secretary, SG&M Golf Club; David Seivwright, from Auchterarder Golf Club. Both will receive an expenses paid trip (not including liquid refreshments) to BTME at Harrogate in January See what can be achieved if you support BIGGA events!

The Section’s AGM took place in the after- noon and passed very quietly There was a very informative and also supplied us with a very nice buffet lunch. Thanks to Andrew Harkness and Willie Ness of SG&M for the food. The meeting passed off very smoothly and this year we welcomed new members every month. Let’s hope we can do the same next year.

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As we come to the end of another year. Where did it go? I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, with special thanks to everyone who supported the Section, the patrons of the Scottish Region and the numerous golf clubs who give us their support in year out. John Crawford.

West
Thursday 26th October, the West Section’s annual AGM and another disappointing show of members. John Scott, on behalf of Claremont BC, stated, and quite rightly so, that if attendance is poor again, the use of their clubhouse facilities will come forthwith! So, to the AGM, Gavin Jarvis, Lenzie GC, took over from Brian Hillen, Drumgellerc GC as Secretary. We will chairs, for a two year term.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank Brian, who breathed a huge sigh of relief after we exchanged our respective posts, for firstly his input into BTME - two years - for all his input and enthusiasm at meetings and the like. At least we have still got hold of you for a little while longer, eh, Brian! Upon taking the chair, Brian also welcomed John Crawford as my vice. Brian was seconded from the floor and took up his new appointment.

There were two vacancies to fill on committee this year: John Scott Jnr, Scottish Chairman, and Stuart Taylor came off ending a lengthy service and dedicated hard work for the West Section. Thanks to both of you for your efforts.

The lucky pair to join the committee were John Robertson, Hilton Park GC, and Gerry Bruen, East Kilbride GC who came aboard to you both. I hope you enjoy your time serving on committee.

Ronnie Bunting announced at the AGM that there would be a members’ meeting in January at the Central Station Hotel, date to be confirmed.

The games on this occasion were limited to four - snooker, pool, dominoes and bowls. The undisputed winning pair were John Scott Jnr and Brian Bolland. Well done to you, guys. The year has ended with a disappointing show of members.

Boring 
Remember your “Club 2000” tickets have to be sold or returned to me by Thursday 19th December. The last month is in order that everyone’s number can be included in the January draw. The winner of this month’s big draw is Alex Robertson - yes it’s that man again! - from Forglen Golf Course. The lucky holder for £50 was K. Collins, E Kilbride GC. Thanks to those of you who made the effort to show up on the evening.

Friday October 31, the visit to Elmwood College and Elmwood Golf Developments (EGD), and unfortunately another poor turnout in only nine members appeared. I must say that the attendance at some of these outings is absolutely pitiful, considering the number of members in our section. I hope that in the coming year we can continue to support and offer the committee some positive feedback that may help us generate more interest in organising future

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 to two. Thanks to all who played and Dennis Slater, of Daval, for presenting the trophy. A big thank you to Robert Patterson 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.

End
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 greengkeepers' utility area. Thereafter we had a lovely lunch in the Fairways Clubhouse. After lunch seven members played 9 holes of golf and the remainder were taken to the Scottish National Golf Centre. An amazing complex that I would recommend to anyone, a must see.

The course is well-thought 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 173080

Northern

The Christmas golf is at Huddersfield GC on 6 December at 10am. Please note that this is a bring and win a prize with a minimum value of £5. Also the AGM will follow the golf at 6.30pm. with a minimum value of £5. Also the AGM will follow the golf at 6.30pm.

Last month was the Section Seminar which was well attended at Howley Hall GC and I would like to thank Lubemaster, Amenity Technology, Atkins, Barenbrug for sponsoring the event and John Dobson, Robert Laycock, Howard McAddy and Jim Cronen 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.smith21@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 players not to worry lads you only have a loan 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 18 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 McLean, of Whickham GC, has also been busy as they bought adjoining land for extension to 20 holes and at a later date will work it into a challenging 18 holes with odd alterations on the existing course.

As you can see, people are getting in touch with news. I can't print it if 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 lets 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 North West and two from the North East.

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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 Berkshire County Golf Society 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 as I am only preparing for 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.

Berry Cross Tel: 0151 724 5412

Cleveland

This month at the Wynyard Club we had the AGM. Although some things were touch and go with their outside caterers, the golf was smooth sailing and a huge success. The golf was really smooth and a huge success. The golf also played very well and the food, as always, was delicious. We would like to thank Ray Burt and Les Lawrence for their support. Their representative, Andy Peel and his team, were brilliant and a huge hit. We are sure that they will continue to do a good job in the future.

Terry Adamson drove in as captain at Norhope Country Park in October. Wishing you an excellent year with better weather than this year made, congratulations and up to Garriw Clarke and Sharon on the birth of a baby boy and Paul Massey and Janice also a baby boy; both couples having called their sons Thomas. Finally it is with regret that I am not standing for committee this year due to increasing pressures in my private life. I would just like to say that it has been a pleasure working for the Section as Chairman. I thank all of you as members for your support and my fellow committee members for making everything go as smoothly as possible.

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 from the Downs Club. The practice area where TÖRO 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 various machines. Each talk lasted 30 minutes with the groups changing places and completing the circuit. On returning to 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 disease prevention. On a different track 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 better, whether Biological, Cultural or Chemical ways worked or whether a preventative management approach was better.

The evening of October 6 saw the BBQ at Sands GC. Arun Cartwright won our guest’s prize. Also of note, that since I’ve been on 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 to see the crowds not turn up or seem interested. If you don’t like the way that the Section is being run, then AGMs are your chance to talk us. That’s one of the reasons why I stand for re-election.

Anyway, time to get off the soapbox. The Rigby Taylor Pairs final has been played and won by Ian Robins and Carl Small, beating Gordon and Peter Critchley 3&2. 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 a new breed of ropists—any volunteers? Many thanks to Mark Sidddwell, of Rigby Taylor, for his help organising this event and for the trophies which were also handed out. I am sure that the golf played was of a high standard.

Finally, I am hoping to receive your comments and feedback on this newsletter and would welcome your suggestions for future issues.

North Wales

Greenkeeping a what a profession! We have just come back from a winter course with a huge headache for all of us, winter programmes finished before they have even started, stress, stress and more stress.

Our autumn meeting was eventually held at the Seabank Clubhouse last month. I was unable to attend but my roving reporter informs me that the course was in excellent condition, so thanks and well done to course manager Stan Shotton and his staff for their efforts.

The evening education seminar was sponsored by Sportlands. Many thanks to them for their support. Their representative, Allen Kellady won the guest’s prize in his first greenkeepers event. Also winning a prize in his first event was Liam McCroghal, stealing the booby prize from his younger brother Titch. Chris Powley, of Dinsdale Spa GC, won the event and nearest the pin and Tony Bevington, Head Greenkeeper at Richmond GC, came second and got the longest drive. No comment!

Any news contact me on: Mobile - 07719 193381

Steven Jacques

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 from Shrewsbury GC, and Bob Shave from Shrewsbury GC. Many thanks to Steve Blackman, who organised the day, and also Tony Cheese, who helped with the smooth running of the day.

The Midland Section Cup has also been played and the winner this year was Eddie Stann from Penn 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 everyone of the Christmas tournament and AGM to be held at Sutton Coldfield Golf Club on Monday 11th December. The AGM will also be held at the same venue. The BBQ will be held at the same venue. The BBQ will be held on the day. Also please write to K. Blake 10 Dinmore Road, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1DA in order to count you in for the BBQ and AGM. I am just preparing for my 20 years in the industry and apart from enjoying the trip, they would cost us more money. So there you go, a brief insight into the AGM. I must admit, on a personal note, that being on 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 to see the crowds not turn up or seem 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 I stand for re-election.

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Finally, I am hoping to receive your comments and feedback on this newsletter and would welcome your suggestions for future issues.
East Midlands

This year's Rigby Taylor East Midlands v Midlands Section golf match was held at Coomoor GC on October 9. The day started misty but then cleared into a fine sunny morning. The match didn't rain at the end. 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 rightly decided on the Greensomes results, with the Midlands Section again in 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 Coomoor GC for hosting the event and to the Head Greenkeeper and his staff for providing us with an excellent course and to the Section members who did not forget for letting 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 the following members: Jeff Dickenson, Russell Allen, Pete Billings, Dave Leatherland, Ian Needham, Adi Porter, Anthony Bindley, Steve Levers, Chris Weir and our Chairman, Gavin Bobbitt.

Finally, at long last, I can publish the results of our Questionnaire and I would like to thank all our members who took the time to complete the form. 133 forms were sent out and 48 were returned. Five thought Section events were too expensive: 42 said that they were value for money; 20 paid their own subscriptions and 22 did not. Of the 27 who did not, 14 said they would pay their own and 13 would not. 14 members would like more golf tournaments and 29 did not; 15 wanted more lectures; 17 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 Wymeswold Industrial Estate. The venue will be the Rainbow Club and it is sponsored by Toro. For further details please read future Around the Greens articles.

Finally I would like to wish all our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. On behalf of the club I would like to thank all those companies who sponsored the section over the last 12 months. Toro and Co-Kart evening, Spring Tournament, Barenbrug, East Midlands v East of England Golf Match. Banks Amenity Products - Autumn Tournament, Rigby Taylor - East Midlands v Midlands Section Golf Match and Christmas Tournament and Vitas Ltd - AGM Tournament. Antony Bindley

East Anglia

It was a very windy and rainy day when our small band of wanderers went to play at Waldringfield Heath GC. Despite the heavy rain during the previous night, Keith Titshall and his team on the 1st had made a splendid effort did produce a course of high quality. This has become the rule rather than the exception with all our matchings, I would like to thank Keith and all the staff at Waldringfield Heath GC for their help in making the day a very successful one. I would also like to thank Matt Bartrum and Toni Nelli, from Bartrum Mowers, for their sponsorship of our day and their continued support of the section. Although only 26 members turned up for the match, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves very much. On to the winners, 1. M. Howard 33 points; 2. M. Virley, 31 points; 3. N. Brewer 28 points, on countback, 10 - 18 H/cap 1. M. Broughton 39 points, and overall winner 1. M. Howard 33 points, 2. M. Virley 31 points, 3. C. Savage 30 points, 4. F. Scullion 29 points, 5. J. Timms 27 points 19 - 28 H/cap 1. K. Titshall 36 points; 2. A. Hollins 31 points; 3. P. Jymer 29 points, Guest and Trade 1. S. Ayles 36 points; 2. R. Baker & J. Smith 35 points; 3. C. Savage 30 points, 4. Longest Drive P. Howard, Nearest the Pin 2nd. J. Pymer, Nearest the Pin 10th R. Barney.

Our thanks go out to our main sponsor Rolly's Flowers and our other sponsors Rushbrook & Sons, Greensports, Sisis, Atterton & Ellis Ltd. Ron Goldsmith, the golf club Vice Captain, welcomed us to the club and helped to present the prizes. Thank you Ron for helping to make the day.

By the time you read this the Regional Summer Tournament will have taken place. I do hope it went well. The AGM and Turkey Trot will take place at Thorpeness Hotel and Golf Club on December 19. It will involve a Texas Scramble event. The day will be followed by Christmas Lunch and then the AGM. On a personal note I have been informed that I shall become a Grandad next May. Christine and I are very happy about the prospect. Hope to see you all at the AGM Ian Willett

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 Murphy 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. 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 Tsse, Mid Herts GC, 36 points; 2. Tim Houghton, Pytchley 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 Section’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, Jon Scoones. Gerald Bruce reported that the Section has a total of 256 members and thanked the sponsors of our fixture card - George Brown's and Turner Greensports. The following golf clubs have been booked for next year's four seasonal events - Overstone Park, Harpenden, Letchworth and Dunstable Downs. I would also like to thank Callum Brown of Worthing GC for the BIGGA Sussex annual autumn meeting on September 27. It was a very windy and rainy day 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!

Paul Lockett

Surrey

Although there is not much to write about this month I am pleased to report from Chipstead GC, the birth of Andy Dauvey'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 Melissa. Congratulations to them both.

From Puttenham Golf Club the news of a wedding, Nicola has made an honest man of Ian Andrews. Let's hope it does not affect his swing! Brian Willmott

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 for a very happy Christmas. Yes it really is that time of year again, where did the summer go I hear you all ask? All I know is that it certainly didn't visit Salisbury. Three new members were welcomed onto the committee at the November meeting, those were Carl Horrax, Course Manager at Salisbury and South Wilts, Trevor Simons, from Dorset and myself, Mike Cartwright, Deputy Course Manager from Salisbury.

All the year's events are over now, so I'll just remind you of a couple of things happening early in the New Year. The first is the Section seminar at Sparsbott. Speakers include Jim Arthur, Stella Ingliporhoe, from Grassroots, and Mark Hunt, from Headland. The cost of the day will be £15 for members and £22 for non-members. Please could everyone get there for 9.30 am for a 10am start.

The first Golf Day in 2001 will be held at Army Golf Club, Aldershot. The cost for the day will be £21, the price includes morning coffee, lunch, dinner and 27 holes of golf. A bargain! People who fail to turn up for the day, or play their cards badly, will have to pay the full amount to cover the costs charged by the club. This will apply for all future Golf Days as well. Westwill take place on April 12 at West Point again, with it being held a little later in the year the weather should be better, so we hope to see more of you there. Watch this space next month! Paul Lockett.

December 2000
South West and South Wales

Paula Humphries
Tel 01388 925106

South East

Derek Farrington
Tel 01903 20655

Thank's to everybody who made the effort to turn up, the numbers were a little disappointing but I hope to see a few more greenkeepers at the Army Golf Club Christmas Trot 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 Scramble at Ashridge Golf Club and Mid Herts Heath GC on 2 November. So let me be the first to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2001. Thanks. Gary Ogilvie
Devon & Cornwall

Season's greetings to you all. The Rolleys' meeting was our first of the autumn and winter programme which the Section held at Dainton Park GC on Wednesday, October 25. The day started as usual with golfing members competing for the D.O.D Hunt Trophy. The non golfing 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.D hunt trophy. 1. Andy Parker, Crediton, 38pts on back 9; 2. Gerald Ayliffe, Wrangaton, 38pts; 3. Kevin Devlin, Exeter, 35pts

A couple of the Section's members had already found their way into the hot seat. Earlier, on the day, Andy Parker was in the hot seat. Dave Bougen will also take over as Fixtures Secretary from Terry Humphrey. The Committee thanked Terry for all his hard work in one of the most difficult jobs the Committee has. We give genuine 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 for making the Section feel so welcome.

The Bärenbrug 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 some of my previous 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 thinking of booking a place, 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 sun is shining and the rain is still battering everything outside. Earlier, on November 2, these same conditions led to the cancellation of the autumn tournament, due to take place at Westwood 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 greening keeping 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 Kernamegh, as Vice-Captain, and Martin Samuel as Track Administrator. 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 persuade 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 Tholestone Park; Woodspring; The Manor House; The Devonshire; Cumberwell Park and Cotswold Hills. John Kernamegh also announced plans to introduce more varied competitions including Texas scrambles and a singles Stableford golf club competition for greencareers.

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.