When the going gets tough then the South West and South Wales region get going! Paul Jenkins, Course Manager at Lilley Brook Golf Club, looks back at the origins of Westurf, and forward at the second visit to Westpoint

Welcome to Westurf

Question: What has been known to be baking hot, freezing cold, soaking wet, windy, dry, outside and now inside?

Clue: It is always efficacious, enjoyable, educational, easy to get to, excellent, encourageable, enlightening and entertaining.

Answer: WESTURF!

I know, it’s not the hardest question to ever grace these pages, but, could it be that some people struggled with the answer? Could it be that some of us greenkeepers, with our busy schedules have forgotten that when we attend Westurf, we do experience all of the above positive points. Greenkeepers from other Regions will have got the answer straight away as the little green eyed monster set on their shoulders will be whispering “That’s the great event put on by the South West and South Wales Region. What a jewel in their crown.” So it is! We should all be proud of its continued success.

This year, as with last, Westurf will be held at Westpoint, Exeter on April 12. Westpoint is a purpose built, indoor exhibition centre, equipped with lighting, heating, bar, restaurant and toilets, together with an outdoor demonstration area. A very different vision used to greet us all as we pulled up and parked on Ivor’s practice area at Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol. Not knowing whether one would need sun tan lotion or eight layers of Cortex, was all part of the charisma that helped form the character of the show.

The first Westurf show was held in 1989. The success of the show that first year was very important as each Region had been given the remit of becoming self-sufficient. The catalyst for an event was there, the desire to bring the trade closer to the greenkeeper at Regional level was there, but where, when and who?

*Enter stage left: Ivor Scoones and Long Ashton Golf Club. The practice ground at Long Ashton was offered as the venue by Ivor and the Club Committee. At that time the idea of a further nine successful visits to Ivor’s practice ground was just a future dream.

*Enter stage right: Gordon and Marion Child. An event such as Westurf does not just happen. It needs careful planning, organisation and one or two sleepless nights, Gordon, then the Regional Administrator and his stalwart wife, Marion, took the challenge by the
Westurf 2000 Preview

Westurf 2000 Exhibitor information

Amazone Groundcare
Amazone Groundcare extends a welcome to all visitors to view their complete range of Groundcare and Amenity Management Machinery on their stand. Visit S1. Visitors will also be able to see a number of machines working in the Demonstration Area. The Groundkeeper and Profi Hopper mower collectors being only two of the line. Also come and hear about the exciting new "WEST COUNTRY DEVELOPMENTS" - SEE YOU THERE!

Aventis
The newly formed 'Aventis' is exhibiting at Westurf 2000. The exciting new company Aventis was formed from a merger of Rhone-Poulenc Amenity and Agripro. This merger means many exciting new developments in the Amenity Sector and we look forward to speaking to you about how we can help you in the future as Aventis. Come and talk to us about your problems with your weed, disease or pest control in turf. There is a new tank mix recommendation for Moltinhane Turf LiquidR and Crossfire 400SL giving increased control of leatherjackets and frit fly as well as earthworm suppression and disease control.

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New for 2000
Why not make an evening of it? A night's entertainment has been organised, for the evening prior to the show. This is to be held at a hotel near by and will include overnight accommodation. The package will consist of dinner, jazz, band, outside bar, and all meals will be served with a breakfast at a cost of £49 per person. The idea, for all you greenkeepers and members of the trade, is to bring your partners, treat them to what will be a great night's entertainment.

The following day, the day of the exhibition, you can lend your partner your credit card as shopping and sightseeing in Exeter is the order of the day.

Numbers are limited, so ring Paula Humphries today on 01288 352194. I hope you can all make time to visit Westurf 2000. We have a region to be proud of with Paula at the helm and Robin Greaves, our new Regional Chairman, taking us into the new Millennium. Your support is always welcomed.

Paul Jenkins
Welcome to Westurf
Main exhibitors at Westurf 2000

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Write down your three answers on a postcard and send your entries to:-

Know Your Numbers, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF

Entries to reach us no later than Wednesday, March 15, 2000. The first correct entry drawn will receive a cheque for £50!

The judges decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

This competition is not open to BIGGA staff or non-members.

Last month, Mr T Moore of Bungay & Waveney Valley Golf Club, certainly knew his numbers when he correctly identified all three telephone numbers.

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