BTME is coming up fast!

Well, what do you know? It’s December so look at what’s right around the corner... apart from Christmas and New Year! Yes, it’s Harrogate time again and this year the week is shaping up to be bigger and better than ever before.

At the time of going to press 175 exhibitors have confirmed their attendance at the Show while the new Golf Club Conference and Show, aimed at Golf Club Secretaries, Managers and Owners giving Harrogate a unique one-stop-shop feel, looks set to make a promising debut.

Of course, the fact that the Show now extends to three full days... starting on Tuesday morning and finishing on the Thursday afternoon... gives everyone more time to get round the four halls and more time to conduct business. In this day and age when time is such a precious commodity the opportunity to meet so many of your suppliers under the one roof at the same time is not one to be missed, even extending to three full days - starting on Tuesday morning and finishing on the Thursday afternoon - gives more excitement to the occasion.

The BTME Programme has a specially tailored educational programme taking in many of the issues at the forefront of a Golf Club Secretary’s or Manager’s job, while the Show has been moved from Hall D to the more conveniently located King’s Suite to give better access to visitors. The Golf Club Conference has a specially tailored educational programme taking in many of the issues at the forefront of a Golf Club Secretary’s or Manager’s job, while the Show has been moved from Hall D to the more conveniently located King’s Suite to give better access to visitors.

The education side is also one not to be missed with the visit of Dr James Beaul, for the first time in a number of years, sure to guarantee a large audience each time he speaks on the programme.

For the latest BTME information, visit www.btme.org.uk
TURF CARE HISTORY ON DISPLAY AT BTME 2002

BIGGA will be allocating stand space at the forthcoming BTME in January to a display of items which will capture the history of turfcare. Whilst machinery from the old days comes immediately to mind, the Association would like the display to be essentially broad-based and many smaller items will be of intrinsic interest. Can you help in setting up the display? If so, please contact Pauline at BIGGA HOUSE on 01347 833820, or e-mail Pauline@bigga.co.uk.

Join us in Harrogate for what should be a fascinating trip down memory lane.

AGCO Ltd M17

The AGCO exhibit will include: a. MF Quadkikes (AgTVs), which comprise models from 300 to 500cc; b. MF 2924D Lawn Tractor with a new road lighting kit and grass collection system; c. MF 1200 series Compact Diesel Tractors with mid-mounted decks, offering maximum operating efficiency, comfort and economy for year-round work in grounds care. Includes the new MF1235; d. MF 2200 series Tractors from 47-64 hp providing the operator the opportunity to use a single tractor to work with many types of implement.

All models are equipped for duties with golf courses and professional amenity users.


Aventis Environmental Science C33

Come and visit Aventis Environmental Science on stand C33 to find out about our latest novel products for the Amenity Industry. There will be details of our forthcoming new Customer Rewards Scheme and also about the latest additions to our website. The ultra low dose Caprinom® Fungicide will be featured along with Rovral® Green (which together make perfect partners in a Programmed Disease Management approach). We also have our premier Selective Spearhead® with an associated offer. Finalife® is our new line marking preparation product which can also be used for shrub bedwork. There will also be a competition on the stand, together with our current offers.

Bernhard & Co Ltd B31

New launch to the Golf Industry of very affordable gridding packages. Specialist grinding experts Bernhard will be demonstrating at BTME how golf clubs with more restricted budgets can afford to have highly beneficial in-house grinding facilities - by using their ED500 and Knife Rite 1000. These quality machines help keep cylinder mowers producing that vital fine cut. The machines can be purchased - alternatively cost-effective leasing rates can be obtained. Bernhard invites all greenkeepers and golf course managers to Stand B31 at BTME to see their impressive range of grinders including Express Dual and Anglemaster used world-wide by leading golf courses - Blade Rite, Gear Rite, Rapid Relief, Rapid Facer and Rota Master.

Details: 01789 811600 e-mail: info@bernhard.

British Seed Houses A10

Find out more about SO-GREEN - the unique new ryegrass-based seed mixture that will deliver turfgrass that stays green all year round. Described as a quantum leap forward in turfgrass breeding, Grade A26 SO-GREEN has been developed by the Institute of Grassland & Environmental Research (IGER) turfgrass breeding programme funded exclusively by British Seed Houses. Trials with SO-GREEN have proven its ability to keep its green colour during summer drought. The new turfgrass will also stay greener in autumn and winter when other grass fades. BSH will also exhibit other outstanding varieties from the IGER portfolio as well as Avalon velvet bent, Providence creeping bent and more details on the Grade A Club training initiative.

Charterhouse Turf Machinery B33

Charterhouse Turf Machinery has been at the forefront of innovation in the sports turf market for some time. Whether maintaining existing turf or creating new areas, Charterhouse provide the greenkeeper with the full range of equipment from the versatile Carraro tractors, the Pro-seeders, the Scarifiers and the Verti-Drain Aerators which so dramatically improve drainage and stimulate grass growth, to the unique Sprayers which have the very special Rogers Spray Containment System, a vital tool for the ecologically and environmentally concerned. More than this and exclusive to Charterhouse is the mechanised Core Collector range, and now at BTME this year are the range of Top Dressers from Rink which provide excellent durability and versatility. Being established experts in their field, Charterhouse Turf Machinery can provide equipment to meet every greenkeeping challenge. Staff on the stand are happy to answer all technical questions, providing advice.

Cranfield Centre for Sports Surfaces Q85

Cranfield University has established an advisory and educational Centre to meet the sports industry requirement for high-level training, consultancy and research in respect of maintaining, specifying and constructing natural sports surfaces, including golf courses. It has also successfully launched the first European MSiC in Sports Surface Technology. The course has attracted a good number of greenkeepers and groundsmen from all over the country.

With 40-years of scientific expertise and extensive industrial links in soil, plant and water management, the Centre is endorsed by the IOG and has the support of many leading national sports organisations.

Services offered:
- Industrial consultancy to optimise playability of sports surfaces.
- Contract and academic research to provide leading-edge, technological developments within the industry.
- Training and education

For further information, please contact Inga Wells.

Eagle Promotions A19

In recent years the presentation of the golf course has become paramount. Part of the manicuring relates directly to signage. On course signage needs to be able to stand up to the elements whilst doing a practical job. Our aim, using etched zinc and coated bronze, is to be able to offer every type of golf course whether it be parkland, moorland, heathland, or links, a signage system that suits their environment.

To contact us call 01883 344244. Email info@eaglepromotions.co.uk or visit our website: www.eaglepromotions.co.uk.

Ernest Doe and Sons Ltd A25

Ernest Doe and Sons Ltd are Textro's largest UK dealer, with branches covering the South East of England. We are continuing our Strategy of investment and expansion with the opening in August 2000 our branch at Billingshurst which covers East and West Sussex.

All branches of Ernest Doe offer a comprehensive after sales service including on site servicing and parts delivery vans.

As well as the Textro franchise, Ernest Doe and Sons Ltd also hold other major franchises including New Holland, Wiedemann, and Richard Long.

Garden Innovation Products Ltd A12

Garden Innovation Products UK is a well established company that supply innovative gardening products to both the domestic gardener and the commercial worker. Several years establishment has reinforced our belief that a 1st class service and customer etiquette is everything.

At present, we are enjoying huge success with UNIK/CIVA, the replacement brush cutter head and professional cutting line. This highly sought after product addresses all known problems involving nylon trimmer heads & metal cutting blades and solves them with a simple but very effective piece of kit.

View our product video demonstrations online at: www.gardeninovationproducts.com.

Gem Professional A25

Gem are delighted to announce their new stand location of A25 at BTME 2002.

The show promises to be an exciting one for Gem as they exhibit not only the current range of Pro Formula fertilisers and turf dressings but also some exciting new developments in granular products.

Gem will continue to use BTME as their major launch pad for new products so come along to Stand A25 and find out what's new for 2002.

Grass Science Q5

Grass Science is a UK based independent agronomy consultancy, offering a complete service for the design, construction, maintenance and renovation of all types of sports surfaces including golf courses, soccer and rugby pitches, bowling greens, tennis courts, cricket facilities, racecourses and polo grounds. It can also assist in amenity, recreational and environmental projects.

Grass Science has formed extensive links with leading golf course and landscape architects, contractors and other specialists, enabling it to meet the increasing demand for a wide range of consultancy projects throughout the UK.

Grass Science consultants will be on their stand to deal with customers individual requirements.

Hardi Ltd Q6
Qualify while you work in
Sports Surface Technology

Today, the sports industry is one of the fastest growing industries. It is essential that surfaces on which sports are played remain in outstanding condition. Our flexible training programme addresses the business and technical skills required to achieve the high quality sports facilities of tomorrow:

• Our ten, two week short courses are available individually and provide training in specific areas such as "Sports Surface Playability," "Mechanisation for Sports Surfaces" or "Irrigation and Drainage."

• Successfully complete all ten, together with a research project which can be carried out at your own sports venue and you will be awarded an MSc in Sports Surface Technology. You can take up to five years to complete the course.

• Our MSc in Sports Surface Technology is also available as a one-year full-time course. Apply now for entry in October 2001.

Endorsed by The Institute of Groundsmanship and supported by top national and international sporting organisations, this qualification will enhance your future career and salary prospects.

Bursaries available

For further details please contact Kathy Graves, Student Enquiries, Cranfield University, Silsoe, Bedford MK45 4DT.
Tel: 01525 863319 Fax: 01525 863399
Email: StudentEnquiries.silsoe@cranfield.ac.uk

www.silsoe.cranfield.ac.uk
New on the HARDI stand will be the Big Boss, a high specification specially packaged demountable shredded boom sprayer, which is the only sprayer of its type to have LERAP 3 Star Approval for use near watercourses.

Standard specification includes a 300 or 600 litre tank, chemical induction hopper and clean water tank. Defender shredded boom is available in 4.5, 5.5 or 6.0m widths and has electric folding. The HARDI 2500 automatic spray controller, which maintains spray rate regardless of speed, and electronic solenoid in-cab controls is also included.

Prices for the HARDI Big Boss start at £3,000 and rise to £12,000.

Hayter Ltd C 41 & 22

The Hayter range of grass cutting machines is of particular interest for those responsible for the maintenance of golf courses. For the greens there is the GM56 pedestrian greens mower and for fairways the FM524 five unit ride on fairway mower is available.

For the rough and semi rough look no further than the R314 three unit ride on rotary. Hayter’s range of ride on three unit and five unit machines designed initially with municipal users in mind, are equally at home maintaining large areas of turf on the golf course. For those smaller areas around the course the Harrier range of pedestrian rotaries is the first choice. All these machines can be viewed at the Hayter stand at BTME.

Heath Lambert Group

Heath Lambert Group is one of the world’s leading independent insurance and reinsurance brokers.

Our position as a major independent alternative to the mega brokers means that clients receive and risk management solutions in line with their business needs.

Our approach is simple yet refreshingly different. We listen to our clients, analyse and understand their requirements and provide leading edge risk solutions. Why? Because we know that the only way to really focus on their priorities.

With an annual turnover of £250 m and 4,000 staff in over 80 offices in 40 countries the evidence of our expertise is underlined by the leading positions we hold in numerous insurance product areas.

We pride ourselves in the breath of our insurance broking services, our individual approach to risk analysis, our experience and our commitment to a high quality service to clients.

Kubota (UK) Ltd A13/A35

Need more tractor power without adding excessive weight or dimension. The M5700's 58hp diesel engine uses Kubota's unique three vortex combustion system (ETVCS) for enhanced power and torque with low levels of noise, vibration and fuel consumption.

For optimum productivity the M5700 has four-wheel drive, a fully-synchronised 12 forward - 12 reverse gearbox with separate syncho shuttle for smooth fast changes between forward and reverse without the need to stop. The superb flat deck cab features air conditioning and a class leading sound rating of just 78dBA.

Ocmis Irrigation (UK) Ltd A4

Ocmis are experts in irrigation system design and installation for all golf courses, sports turf and landscapes. We are distributors for Rain Bird irrigation products and can supply/service equipment manufactured by other companies. Ocmis have unique in-house design capabilities, ensuring that the requirements of each client are individually met, this coupled with a marketing agreement with Textron provides the ultimate irrigation package.

For more information or a no obligation survey and design, contact Ocmis Irrigation (UK) Ltd, Head Office: 01460 241395, Scotland Office 0131 2202102, Ireland Office: (00353) 234020.

Rain Bird Europe SARL Q1

The importance of efficient water management has never been greater and, as the industry leader in the manufacturing of irrigation equipment, Rain Bird is committed to the continuing development of more reliable and efficient irrigation products.

The 67 to 97hp CERES with its high lift capacity, fast road speed, tough transmissions and the option of a clutchless shuttle, makes this the ideal reliable workhorse whether mowing or doing a multitude of other tasks, ensuring high productivity and low long term running costs.

Scotts UK Professional B34

Scotts UK Professional is the UK’s leading supplier of fertilisers and chemicals to the turfcare, landscape and amenity industry. Scotts has a heritage of product innovation, including pioneering development of turf treatments and fertiliser technology. Continued investment in Research and Development at Leverington Research Station - including the completion of a USGA spec trials green this year - ensures that the chemical and fertilizer ranges continue to provide the very best in product efficicacy, reliability, safety and ease of use.

Scotts offer the broadest selection of turf fertilizer formulations on the market, a comprehensive range of chemicals for amenity and turfcare situations and important treatments such as the innovative turf management tool Shortcut.

SISIS Equipment M12

SISIS will exhibit a selection of machinery from their large range of turf maintenance and grass cutting machinery, including new introductions.

Last year we brought our prototype Rotorake 600, deep thatch remover and linear aerator, to BTME for evaluation. Your comments were duly noted and the final version went into production in the late Summer of 2001. The Rotorake 6000 now offers a working depth of 50 mm (2ins), powerful 13hp engine, wide working width, front or rear discharge, collection box, extra-durable blades - and a clean-cut groove whatever depth you work at.

Come and see for yourself the scariﬁer that everyone is talking about.

Speedcut Contractors Ltd C17B

Speedcut Contractors Ltd are proud to celebrate 25 years and continue to offer a professional service for all Football Drainage and Renovation work. Visitors to our stand, No C17B will be able to view displays of the latest Sportsurf Drainage equipment in action on recent contracts. Experienced Staff will be on hand to discuss any requirements you may have and provide further details of our nationwide services.

Textron A23

Textron: The one-stop shop for turf professionals

Textron Golf, Turf & Specialty Products are renowned throughout the turf care industry for manufacturing high quality turf maintenance equipment, with a particular emphasis on the golf sector.

Visit Hall A, Stand 23 to see some of the key products from the Textron range including the Jacobsen AR250 Turbo fairway mower, the E-Z-GO Workhorse ST480 utility vehicle and Turfco’s SP-1530 topdresser. There’s also the first opportunity to see the ProLink course management system, a suite of software with major benefits for both the golf course manager and the golfer, including a E-Z-GO TXT golf car with onboard GPS monitor and information system.

Textron, sponsors of The Key Note Speaker Session at this year’s BTME, are the one-stop shop for turf care professionals.

Toro Commercial Products M10

Toro unveils the most flexible greensmowers ever.

Toro is unveiling its eagerly-awaited new Flex 21 greensmower. This revolutionary pedestrian machine is fitted with a 21in cutting unit that not only flexes from side to side, but also backwards and forwards. This enables the mower to closely hug the contours of the most undulating greens and cut lower than ever before down to 1/16 in with virtually no scalping. The result is a flawless finish and a faster, truer playing surface.

Also being launched is the new Workman 1100, the latest utility vehicle to incorporate Toro’s exclusive ‘twister’ Active In-Frame Suspension that provides outstanding traction and manoeuvrability, a more comfortable ride and better control. The unit is powered by an 11hp Kohler engine and has a large 380kg load capacity.
THREE POINT POWER


May the Massey Ferguson ground force be with you. A range which gets off the ground with the compact MF 1200 series, includes the dedicated MF 2924D lawn tractor and reaches the heights of the MF 4200 series. A range which combines technology and reliability, comfort and quality. A range which helps you to maintain control of your grounds — mowing and loading, cutting and spraying, and more. If your business is ground care, MF will suit you down to the ground.

www.masseyferguson.com

Massey Ferguson is a worldwide brand of AGCO Corporation

AGCO Ltd, c/o PO Box 1496, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 1WS. Tel Hotline: 01628 488441 Email: uksales@uk.agcocorp.com

Join the irrigation revolution, improve your turf management techniques by learning more about Sweetwater. Talk to us now on 01425 476261/2, see the difference on your golf course next season...

Sweetwater™

Hydroscape Group Water House, 10 Carvers Industrial Estate, Ringwood Hampshire BH24 1JS

Telephone: 01425 476261/2

Specialists in water resourcing and management techniques • Sole UK distributors of Sweetwater Solution™
The answer to your tractor needs is at BTME on M13

Well balanced, compact yet powerful, the Renault PALES outshines all others when it comes to high output, reliability and low long term running costs.

- 52, 67 or 76hp versions
- 2 or 40kmh 4-wheel drive available
- Optimum weight distribution for minimal compaction
- High rear linkage lift capacity up to 3578kg
- Ideal for use with a front-end loader
- Extensive range of tyre options available

Renault Agriculture Ltd, Tel: 01608 662727 www.renault-agriculture.com

BTME stand Q6

BIG BOSS

Save money with the Big Boss Package Deal
- 300 or 600 litre tank
- 4.5; 5.5 or 6.0m Defender shrouded boom
- HARDI 2500 automatic spray control
- Electronic solenoid in-cab controls

HARDI Ltd
4-5 Watling Close,
Sketchley Meadows Industrial Estate,
Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 3EX
Tel: 01455 233811
Fax: 01455 233815

LERAP 3*** APPROVED
Hedge cutter launched by Reco

A verge mower and hedge cutter suitable for use with compact tractors has been added to Reco's Ferri range of groundcare equipment.

The ZME machine can be used inline or off-set behind the tractor for mowing and vertically for hedge cutting. The flail head can be rotated through 140 degrees from vertical to 50 degrees for mowing the sides of ditches, the position of the head being controlled hydraulically.

Two cutting widths are available - 1.25 and 1.35 metres. Maximum power requirement is 40hp Cutting is performed by Y-shaped hardened steel flails attached to a rotor with internal bearings, which reduces wear.

Cutting height is set by adjusting the rear roller, and a mechanical breakaway device is fitted to protect the equipment from damage if it hits a solid object. The flail head is supported by a strong parallel linkage and U-frame.

For further information Tel: 01480 433151

Redesigned hollow tines

SCH (SUPPLIES) LTD. has redesigned its HTC hollow tine corer. The new improved unit has a redesigned ballast carriage arrangement this allows for a more even weight distribution across the working area. It allows the use of four water ballast containers instead of the previous two.

The 760mm (30") working width is made up of 6 disc set in two groups of three with a centre bearing. Each disc has 6 closed spoons of 20mm (3/4"). A useful addition would be the purchase of optional slitter blades.

For further information Tel: 01473 328272

Kawasaki engine launch

Kawasaki Commercial Products Division has launched the FJ Series of general purpose engines.

The first model in the series the FJ100D is expected to become widely available to the market next year. The air cooled, single cylinder, horizontal shaft engines have been the subject of considerable research with design focusing on easy starting, robust performance and reliability.

The lighter weight engines represent another new direction for the Japanese manufacturer extending the model ranges further.

For further information: Tel: 01285 654777

Branches beware - new chainsaws about!

Two new heavy duty professional chain saws have been launched by Italian manufacturer Oleo Mac. The Oleo Mac 971 and 981 are aimed at the most demanding users who want reliable performance day in, day out in extreme conditions.

The two new machines with 70.8 or 80.7cc engines pack a punch of over 5 hp each to cutting bars of between 18 - 30". The chain saws combine power, performance and durability with features designed to improve their reliability. An electronic speed governor on the 981 machine guarantees consistent performance and both have an insulated high tension cable to protect the electrics from heat.

User benefits include a decompressor which demands less effort at start up while a nylon air filter speeds and simplifies cleaning and the interval between cleaning sessions is extended thanks to a self-cleaning system which ensures the air reaching the filter is already purged of the coarsest dust particles.

Accidental switch-off is prevented and improved insulation is provided by rubber insulation on the on/off switch.

Major new gang mower

Major Equipment Ltd has launched the Groundsmajor TDR Rotary Gang Mower which comes in both 16" and 20" cutting width.

The machine cuts 12.5 and 16.5 acres per hour at seven mph with the timed overlapping blades leaving a fine cut and strip free finish. All moving parts are totally enclosed and the aerodynamic chambers control the cut material. The rollers not only level roughed ground but also act as a safety barrier preventing stones and other projectiles from escaping the confines of the body.

The two outer decks (wings) are equipped with a three point pivot system allowing each deck to fit into ground contours. The machine can be used in tighter areas as the machine can operate with one or both wings locked in transport position offering a reduced cutting width of 12" and 8".

For further information Tel: 01524 850 301

Turf anchors from Turfmech

Turfmech has produced the EcoPeg, a fully bio-degradable stake suitable for securing turf, netting, plant supports, erosion control blankets, protective covers and many other materials on flat ground or slopes.

Manufactured from degradable plant resin, the EcoPeg measures 125mm enabling it to be hammer well into the ground to provide an anchor against movement or slippage caused by wind or water. As it is made from resin means that it can be used safety in maintained areas where a metal spike might cause damage to a mower blade.

The pegs take between 12 and 15 months to break down, ultimately disappearing completely into the soil. EcoPeg stakes cost £6.22 for a box of 500.

For further information Tel: 01889 271503

EcoPeg stakes cost £6.22 for a box of 500.
North

The Section AGM was held recently at Garmouth and Kingston GC. We started the day with the annual Chairman vs Vice Chairman golf match for the Daival Trophy. I am pleased to report that my team emerged victorious, but only after a play off as it was a tie, so I am happy that I was 3 1/8th to decide the winners. The course was in excellent condition and thanks must go to Richard Roy of his staff - Dennis Storrie, Vice of Daival, was in attendance to present the trophy and relay our thanks to the company for providing the cup to play for. We must also thank all at Garmouth and Kingston for a great day.

The AGM passed off smoothly with Stewart McBain taking over as Chairman from myself and John Geddes becoming Vice Chairman. I stood down from the Committee, altogether as in January, all being well. I should like to thank the BIGGA Board and our members for being so much in tune. It will be sad not to be involved, but I know I am leaving the Section in good hands and maybe, after over 15 years in various roles, they will be glad to see the back of me! Iain Gunn is taking over the Section notes and will name the new Committee, their roles and contact numbers in his first report in the January magazine. One point raised at the AGM was a request for Section members to know what points are available for each event condonated towards the Section Award, so full details will be published in a future magazine report. The final four winners of the 2001 200 Club were £30 no. 153 A Ross, Dornoch, October £30 no. 35 J Geddes, Ellon, November £30 no. 68 J Herd, Banchory, December £100 no. 150 D Roberts, Newmacher.

No new members to welcome this month, but a belated good luck to Neil Sadler who has moved to Inverurie from Granton-on-Spey.

The Section evening conference at Mcdonald GC, Ellon, in November was a great success with over 30 delegates present. The four speakers were excellent and it is hoped to have another one in the future with a different subject matter. Thanks to Amenity Technology, Addington Nurseries and the venue, to Gordon Moir, Ronnie Bunting, Peter Boyd and Tom Bramm for speaking and to Dougal Duguid, Hughie MacVicar and John Geddes for their organisation of the event. Last but not least we must thank Mcdonald GC for allowing us to use their clubhouse for the evening.

Next year’s outings have been confirmed as Elgin GC in the spring on May 16 and Mcdonald GC, Ellon in the autumn in September, date not yet finalised.

At the time of my last report, I would just like to thank you all for putting up with my efforts over the years and ask you to support your Section Committee whenever you can, as you are the people who run the Section. I wish you all a Happy Christmas and the hope that 2002 brings all you wish for. Thank you.

Iain Macdonald

East

Here we go then the last column of the year and where has the year gone?

The Section held its AGM on October 31 with the kind sponsorship of local Toro dealer Henderson Grass Machinery in Haddington. The chairman was to talk on the equipment they sell and the big range of products they have. They then showed us around their premises which is substantial and where a lot of refurbishment is taking place at the moment to make them even bigger and better. They then took us to Haddington Golf Club for a demo of Toro equipment and then lunch. So a big thank you to Hendersons for a great day and we wish them all the best for the future.

The AGM was held in the clubhouse with all our findings permission of the Captain and Council. Thank you. It went off very quietly as usual with 25 plus members in attendance which was a good number this year. The Chairman thanked the committee for their hard work and the members for attending events throughout the year. One member of the committee, did not realise at the moment to make them even bigger and better. They then took us to Haddington Golf Club for a demo of Toro equipment and then lunch. So a big thank you to Hendersons for a great day and we wish them all the best for the future.

The committee now reads Chairman, T. Murray, Vice Chairman, C. Yeaman; Secretary, S. Dixon; Past Chairman, S. Cruickshank, Grantsown GC, and Robert Hogarth, Cadrona GC, and Robert Hogarth, Cadrona GC, and Robert Hogarth, Cadrona GC, and Robert Hogarth, Cadrona GC. It was decided to elect both of them to the committee so we look forward to welcoming you both.

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That’s it all for this month and this year so the Chairman and Section Committee would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year so all the best to each and everyone of you. Don’t forget if your going to BTME 2002 I’ll be there. If not you all know my usual numbers so let’s hear from you.

Last but not least the winners of the Patrons’ Awards 2001 are Allan Forrest, Dunes GC, and Richard Mullen, Swanston GC. As Richard was not able to take his place last year he is allowed to go this time. One last thank you to our patrons, and trade members and thanks for all your help and hard work throughout the season. Thanks chaps and all the best for the festive season.

Coming up next month, dance report, Patrons Awards dinner, photos and report. So speak to you all next year.

Chris Yeaman

Central

We extend a warm welcome to our final new member for 2001, Brian Pennycuick, from Royal Golf Club, in Fife. Brian is Assistant Greenkeeper at Kirkcaldy and a former member of the Association.

The Grand Football Tournament held in Stirling on Sunday, October 14 attracted an entry of 12 teams, travelling from as far afield as Dundee, Coatbridge, Livingston and places in between. Unfortunately the weather couldn’t have been much worse with constant rain throughout the whole tournament. Nevertheless, everyone enjoyed the day with the eventual winners being the team from Tulliallan, led by their non playing Captain, Kenny Thomson. There’s going to be a stewards’ enquiry into the authenticity of some of their players due to the fact that they were hardly out of puff at the end! Downfield were narrowly beaten by preliminary winners. Tommy Bell was presented with the medal (along with its ribbon) which was rescheduled for the time that it was unconstitutional to hold an AGM without informing all our members by mail. Like I say, we can only apologising for this oversight and hopefully learn from our mistake.

On a more positive note 21 members did turn up on the day which was a significant increase on last year’s attendance so perhaps this type of venue could be used in the future. Our thanks must be extended to Scottish Grass Machinery for supporting the event and informing all our members by mail.

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North Wales

Welcome to new members Peter Vincent, Cambridge, Cope, Robert Galloway and Paul Farrell; Carden Park; Paul Roberts, North Wales GC; Gwilym Jones, Aberystwyth GC, and Richard Bradbury, Hartford GC.

Not a lot to write about again. The college machine maintenance course is on Dec 17, well worth going to so contact the college. But to Hartpury down to firm details as yet, but contact committee members so they have some idea as to what numbers are involved. More info next month.

Well that’s it folks except to wish you all Happy Christmas and a Merry New Year

Dave Goodridge

Northern

The Autumn Tournament took place at Woodsome Hall GC, sponsored by Scotts UK. Everybody was impressed with the course, views and of course the clubhouse. Well done to Head Greenkeeper Jeremy Eastwood and his team for the course.

Results are as follows: Div. 1. Robin Smith, Leeds City Council, 40 pts; 2. Tito Arana, Riddlesdon GC, 36 pts b/b; 3. Rob Gee, Crow Nest Park GC, 36 pts.


1. Trade/Guest: Mel Guy, Green Pride, 39 pts; 2. Dave Storey, 35 pts; Nearest Pin on 7th: Mel Guy.

Green Pride; Nearest Pin on 10th: Robert Turner Halifax GC. Aggregate over Spring/Autumn, Over 50’s: Dave Collins, Temple Newsam GC. Under 40’s: Mike Gregson, Keighley GC.

Once again, thanks to the officials and staff of Woodsome Hall for allowing us courtesy and looking after us so well on the day. Thanks also to Scotts U.K. for supplying the excellent prize table.

The AGM took place in the morning with 15 members present and thanks to Ian Holoran B.O.M and Doug Bell, Regional Administrator, for coming. The present committee was voted back, en bloc with the addition of Mike Brear. Your committee in full is as follows: President: Dennis Cockburn; Chairman. Jim Brown; Vice Chairman. Dave Thackray; Secretary. Andy Smith; Treasurer. Steve Heath; Members. Tito Arana, Mike Brear.

We welcome the following as new members Scott Pavis, York GC; Daniel Gower, Loughouse Hill GC; Andrew West, Ganton GC; Lee Richardson, Ganton GC; James High, Horncastle GC.

That’s all for now, if anybody has any news or ideas then let me know. My address is 67 Asquith Avenue, Morley, Leeds LS27 9QS; Tel: 0113 2383188: mobile 07790 678572. Email: andy@northern-gc.com

Andy Smith

North West

How does this weather suit you? Hopefully the conditions will suit us when we have our opening meeting at Woodside Hall on November 26th. We would like to extend our best wishes for the AGM and the annual dinner to Golf Club. We hope to see you all Aberystwyth GC, and Richard Bradbury, Hartford GC.

Aggregate over Spring/Autumn.

North Worcestershire

The Section would like to thank the North West Section for helping to make this a successful event. Despite some worry of competitors arriving late due to traffic congestion, the day ran very smoothly. After the morning Greenkeepers’ meeting, the matches were played for 13 points by 3 to 2 thanks to wins from Russell Allen & Jeff Dickinson and Chris Weir & David James.

The delicious lunch we were back on the course for the afternoon singles matches. Despite being in front in several games, we could not quite maintain the pace and our only winner was David James, with a 3 & 2 victory. Jeff Dickinson and Ian Needham halved their games, with the other seven all resulting in defeats. Unfortunately the match was between Ian Needham and Alan Roberts who involved playing plenty of jokes and tricks on one another, (all in good fun I might add). Perhaps the best one being, Ian chasing his electric trolley, across another driveway after Alan had set it going. So the eventual winners once again by a margin of 11 points to 4 were the Midland Section.

I would like to thank Copt Heath GC for courtesy of their fine course and the Steward and Stewardess for an excellent meal, the Midland Section for helping to make this a successful day, and, of course, very generous sponsors Rigby.

Cleveland

The Autumn Tournament was held last month at Teesside Golf Club. The event was well attended and a great day was had by everyone. The golf course was in immaculate condition with many compliments and congratulations to Course Manager, Tony Smith, and his staff for preparing the course so well for us. The meal after the game was also supported by everyone, especially pigs heads. Ian Holoran especially recommends the garlic mushrooms. A massive well done to Teesside Golf Club and thanks for allowing us to use your facilities. The trade supported the event very well again by both playing and donating prizes. Thanks for your generous and continuous support.


We, as the North West Section, would like to extend our very generous and continuous support. If you are interested in any future meetings, please contact the secretary. Thanks to the North West Section. If you are interested in education seminars, as was the feeling in the recent questionnaire, check the education pages in the magazine each month, as there is something there for everyone. If you have any news or required any information, you can contact me on 01517 245412 or mobile 07761 583387.

I think that is all for now except to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Bert Cross

East Midlands

The Midland Region’s 2001 BIGGA National Golf Championship was held on the first two days of October, at the prestigious golf courses of Royal Birkdale and Southport & Ainsdale GC. The championship was played over both courses by nine of our members which included the National Vice-Chairman, Richard Barker. Regional Chairman, Gavin Robson, Roger Waddington, John Walker, the North West Section, will be ensured of a high standard of competition this year.

They, plus eight winners from other Regions, will be seen for most of the summer, the best being, lan chasing his electric trolley, across another driveway after Alan had set it going. So the eventual winners once again by a margin of 11 points to 4 were the Midland Section.

I would like to thank Copt Heath GC for courtesy of their fine course and the Steward and Stewardess for an excellent meal, the Midland Section for helping to make this a successful day, and, of course, very generous sponsors Rigby.

Steven Jaques

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Taylor. Our own Section was represented by following members: Russell Allen, Jeff Dickinson, Ian Needham, Adi Porter, Steve Levers, Antony Bindley, David James, Chris Weir; Jamie Bedford and our Chairman, Paul Lockett. Finally, I would like to thank all the companies who have supported our Section throughout the year especially the following: Barenbrug, Nike, Taylor Made, Nike (Spring Tournament); Barenbrug (East Midlands v East of England); Banks Amenity Products (Autumn Tournament); Vittex Ltd. (AGM Tournament); Rigby Taylor (Christmas Tournament and East Midlands v Midland Section golf day) and finally Alpha Amenity (Stationery). Also I would like to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and New Year.

Antony Bindley

Midland

Annual Tournament for the Rigby Taylor Salver. Midlands v East Midlands, held at Copth Heath Golf Club on October 11. Thanks to Rigby Taylor for their continued sponsorship of this event. In particular Steve Blakeman ably assisted by Tony Chees for the organisation on the day. Thanks also to Copth Heath Golf Club for allowing us courtesy of the course, arranged through Paul Loffman. Thanks to the lads from the East Midlands, some of whom travelled considerable distances to attend the event.

The Midlands led by one point after the morning fourballs on what, weather-wise, turned out to be a glorious day. The Midlands increased their lead in the afternoon singles to finish eventual winners 11-4.

Congratulations also to the winners of the Rigby Taylor doubles competition were Tony Flegg and Mark Cutter. It was also good to hear David Fellows, of Cocks Moors Woods Golf Club on the Ken Bruce Radio 2 Popmaster quiz. Well done.

Also a quick reminder to please send in your passport photos to HQ allowing us to play on a golf course in a superb 7th place and a perpetual trophy to the winner. The results were as follows: 1. Robin Jackson, Letchworth GC, 36 pts. 2. Nigel Phean, Mount Pleasant GC, 36 pts. 3. Nigel Phean, St Andrew's Hospital GC, 34 pts. The Longest Drive was won by Nigel Phean and Nearest the Pin by Bob Butfoy.

The AGM followed the presentation with the following members being elected to serve the section for the coming year: Chairman, Jim Cassidy; Vice Chairman, Steve Mason; Secretary; Treasurer: Gerald Bruce; Match Secretary. Richard Saunders; Regional Administrator: Paul Lockett. Committee Members: Stephen Hesk, Frank Scullion, Colin Robinson, John Wells.

Colin Robinson stepped down as Chairman this year and Steve Mason steps down as Lodgeway Four Ball organiser. Gerald Bruce reported the Section to be in a good financial situation, although numbers have slightly decreased this year, which is expected slightly on the previous year. The section has 257 greenkeeper members out of a national total of 7,252. Gerald thanked our main sponsors for their continued support and again this year, namely George Brown's, Turner Groundcare, Avon Crop Amenity, Driving Force Leisure, Rigby Taylor and Boughton Loam.

Look out for dates for our educational days in January's magazine. They will be held at golf clubs within the Section. We are looking forward to February and March, the topics being Basic Computing and Soil Science.

Finally, a sad note to end our report. Harry Herrington, who was Head Greenkeeper at John O'Gaunt GC, is to be congratulated on his new appointment as Head Greenkeeper with the course walk for the coming year.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and once again, as every month, my contact details are sent in at the offices of the Greenkeeper building.

The Barenbrug Seeds meeting will once again be the entertainer with Barry it is called petrol not ‘gas’. The result from this year is probably not known to you all but if you have heard the news, our Head Greenkeeper originates from the more northern lake district and not that far from the Lake District!

The Gentlemen's dinner post match will be held at Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday, January 16. The Christmas meeting will once again be held at Okingham Golf Club on Wednesday, December 12. As in previous years numbers will be limited to the first 80 members, so to avoid disappointment please return your entry with correct money as soon as possible and before the closing date.

The Foot and Mouth Outbreak took its toll this year and all the trouble you got in. It just leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As always you can be sure that we will be seeing you all at next year’s golf days. Our club now has all its eight staff joined to BIGGA and we all pay our own subs, so if there is someone at your club who is not a member get them to join. You get out of the Kent Section and BIGGA what you put in. So please make a New Year's resolution and call me with some news whatever it may be.

Happy New Year and once again, as every month, my contact details are sent in at the offices of the Greenkeeper building.