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Simkins, both Mount Pleasant. Our thanks go to Brocket Hall for allowing the final to be played over a course that was in superb condition, by all accounts. Thanks also to Steve for organising the competition so well in difficult circumstances and to Chris Rook, of Lodgeway, for his continued sponsorship of the event. It has been agreed by the committee to change the format next year to a straight Fourball knock out, to overcome the problem of people not completing all their matches in time.

Our final golf event of the year was played at Chesfield Downs GC in early December, over 18 holes, using the usual Texas Scramble format. Entry for this event is always popular and once again we were over-subscribed. The 26 teams that competed enjoyed a fine round of golf over a course in exceptional condition for the time of year. Our thanks to Eddie O’Hanlon and his team for all their effort and to the club for allowing us use of the course for the day. Some excellent team scores were posted on the day, with nine teams scoring 60 or below. The full results were as follows:


Mark Hendry Longest Drive. J. Hartley Dave Hawkins, of Turf Care, kindly donated a television as the prize for an additional Nearest the Pin on the 3rd hole, which was won by Gavin Simkins of Mount Pleasant.

Barry McCloskey, representing Avoncrop Amenity Products, who kindly sponsored the prizes, made the presentations to the day’s winners. Thanks also to all the other trade members who have supported us over the last year.

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Three other presentations were made: Chris Rook, from Lodgeway, gave prizes to the finalists of the Fourball mentioned above; Gerald Bruce made a presentation to Bob Goodwin who is retiring shortly and who was responsible for setting up the Mid Anglia Section in the late 70s. We all wish you a happy retirement, Bob.

Gary Boulton, of Dunstable Downs, was this year’s winner of the “Golfer of the Year” prize. This prize is based on results from the spring, summer and autumn tournaments, plus the Lodgeway Fourball. Our thanks go to Turner Groundcare for donating the prize of a weekend break to the value of £250.

The day was rounded off nicely by Bob Butfoy, Greenkeeper at Mount Pleasant Golf Club. Bob brought his guitar along and gave us a sample of some of the songs he performs in his spare time.

Devon and Cornwall
The P1 Flegg Christmas meeting was held at Okehampton Golf Club on Wednesday 6th December, after an early course inspection by Head Greenkeeper Richard Wisdom. We were once again able to play the full 18 holes which would have been impossible on many courses after the wettest autumn on record. As last year we used a two-tee start for the greensome format competition for the P1 Flegg Trophy. Our non-golfing members were treated, as usual, to the guided course walk by Richard, both golfing and non-golfing were once again delighted to see the P1 Flegg refreshment tent by the 6th green. Inside, Patrick and his staff treated members to snacks and drinks which set the Christmas atmosphere for the day. After an excellent Christmas Lunch the day continued with the morning’s golf prizes for the P1 Flegg trophy being presented by Des to:

1. R. Parker, Ilfracombe, & T. Clark, Crediton, 41 pts; 2. G. Tamblyn, Mullion, & D. Manley, Mullion, 37 pts; 3. C. Rawlings, Padbrook Park, & D. Blake, Padbrook Park, 36 pts.

A special prize was donated by Lawrence Davis, Deputy Head at Okehampton for the best tippers and went to S. Evans and T. Newland.

After the afternoon entertainment our raffles concluded a really excellent day. The first raffle was for the Avoncrop hamper and a place on the Region’s BTME Trip.

Congratulations to Steve Evans on winning the hamper and to Nick Moyse on winning the BTME prize. The final raffle of the day consisted of more than 40 prizes donated by members and trade.

The Section would like to thank Okehampton Golf Club and all their staff who made our day so special, with a special mention to Richard Wisdom and his staff who, as always had the course in great shape.

A big thanks to Patrick Flegg and P1 Flegg Ltd for sponsoring the day and providing the wonderful snacks and drinks on the course. Also thanks to our President, Alan Dommett, who supplied the wine at lunch. Also to all of you who donated prizes for the
day. Please note I shall be attending
the Canadian Conference and will
not be attending the Aven crop meet-
ing at Thurlstone Golf Club on
March 1, so please make sure your
entries for this meeting have been
returned to me by 19th February.

Dates for your diary; Westurf Trade
Show at Westpoint Exeter,
Wednesday March 14, Aventis &
Supaturf Meeting at Rorresrow Golf
Club Wednesday March 28.

Richard Whyman

South West

The Millennium Tour had its last
competition at Henbury Golf Club
and the weather did not stop any-
body from enjoying an extended
 foursome, sponsored by ALS. The
winners presented themselves with
prizes, as they were the Greens
Chairman of Henbury and the
Chairman Chris Sealy. A big thank
you and applause were given to Mark
Lehman and his staff for making the
course playable, and to the catering
staff for an excellent meal. The raffle
followed and staff at Kendleshire
would like to thank everyone who
donated prizes as they won 90% of
them! They all bought tickets in hope
of winning the trip to BTME, and
they succeeded!

Most of the talk was about Robin
Greaves leaving Thornbury Golf
Club. He is entering a new career with
E.T Breakwells, and we all wish him
well for the future.

A sincere best wishes to Paul from
everyone in the Section on his retire-
ment from P & K. Paul has been a
greengrass at the club, man and boy
with too many years under his belt to
mention. He will be sorely missed,
by all those who had the pleasure of
his acquaintance.

Best wishes in retirement also to
former Head Greengrass at the
Langiland Bay golf club, Ken Payne
from the Section.

Some 36 hardy souls took to the
course at P & K and over 50 were
treated to a first class traditional
Christmas feast by Jan and her cater-
ing team.

Our sincere thanks to Steve
Anthony and the committee at Pyle
who continue to support the Section
and allow us back each year to enjoy
their warm hospitality!

Results:
Winner of the day and the Vitax
Shield from Pennard GC - Peter
Lacey. Second place from Morriston
GC - Daryl Bray. Third place from
Morriston GC Leugh Davies and
Fourth place from Pennard GC -
Dean Thomas.

A sincere thanks to the sponsors of
the day Vitax Ltd and their local dis-
tributor Celtic Mowers and to all
those who donated prizes for the day.

Congratulations to Golf Team
Captain Andy Roach on winning the
best aggregate salver for the year,
based on the three seasonal medal
rounds. Andy has won this for the
third time in succession!

Fixture cards will be with you short-
ly, you might have even received them
by the time you read this! They are
being sponsored by “Complete Weed
Control” South Wales Ltd - Alan
Abel. Thank you Alan for your con-
tinued support.

Don’t forget Westurf at Westpoint
on Wednesday, March 14.

Richard Hatcher

South Coast

Christmas is now and well and truly
over, and the bright days of spring
are only around the corner, I wish!

To start with this month I’ve a few
reminders for you. First of all is the
Section Seminar, which is to be held
at Sparsholt College on Wed Feb 21.,
the cost of the day is £15 for mem-
bers, and £22 for non-members.

Cheques can be sent to Fred Deamen
at Golf Club Bungalow, Alton G.C.,
Oldiham Rd, Alton, Hants, GU34
4BU. All cheques are to be made
payable to BIGGA.

Everyone is requested to be there
at 9.30am for a 10am start.

The second is a reminder, and an
apology. Westurf is to be held on Wed
14 March, not April 12. Although
this is earlier than usual, I have been

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reliably informed that the luxury of heating is to be provided this year! Information for the days will be sent out with the magazine, but if you do require extra info, then contact Paula on 01288 352194.

The third is to just jog your memory. The Section Tournament is only a couple of months away, May 3 to be exact. So get your chequebooks out again next month! The cost of the day will be £21, I'll give you Chris Sturgess's address next month.

There are three lucky people who deserve a mention this month.

The first is Sid Cutler who was the lucky winner of a free trip to BTME, this was for last year's AGM and was provided by the South Coast Turfgrass Conference and Trade Fair, where a big sponsorship mission was funded by New Forest Farm Machinery and John Deere. Their mission, check out new machines on the market from the greenkeepers point of view. I could've done that!

Does anyone have any interesting ideas or topics that could be used for winter lectures, or what are your views on lectures? Any comments can be made to Tony Gadd, he can be contacted on 01425 618807, or see him at the seminar. That's the one at Sparsholt on February 21.

And finally, if you know of anything mentioned in this column, then you can phone me on 07939 868041... Just remember that I go to bed at a sensible hour though. Mike Cartwright.

Kent

The Section Turkey Trot was held at Darenth Valley GC on December 7. I would like to thank all those that supported and well done to the winners.

A huge thank you to Nigel Stapley and his staff for the condition of the course and Mrs Cross and the clubhouse staff for their hospitality in the clubhouse. We had one of the best courses I have ever played on and could have wished for. Thank you.

I would like to thank all the course members for their continued support throughout the year and their sponsorship.

I'd like to wish everybody all the best for 2001 and look forward to seeing you at this year's golf events (to be announced).

G Debenham

East Anglia

A good day was had by all at Thorpeness. 70 people turned up for the annual turkey bash/AGM. Once again the course was in good nick thanks to Ian and the lads, and his work behind the scenes ensured all ran smoothly throughout the day.

The format was a lascax scramble, and the winners were, R Nicholson, T Bel, Lincoln, and J Wright 61.2. Second went to M. Gill, M. Darmant & G. Rayfield, 63.

Nearest the pin on 2nd was M. Day, on the 7th K. Timms, 10th A. Lincoln, and 16th, I. Lane. The sponsors were, Rushbrooks, Scotts, Tomlinson Ground Care Adams respectively. The longest drive was I Wright sponsored by factex. The prizes were presented by A秣r In & Club Captain and the main Sponsors were C.M.W.

As usual Bob Chesham was making headlines again. Firstly he was within a whisker of a nearest the pin at 77 yards, but he didn't manage to win it. He also won a lucky dip, extra chips, and special mention goes to Bob after he lost a 13th tee ball in 87 yards! He didn't know how many men, but she did get excited! Stand up Deborah Curtis (I wish I had a camera).

Roger Plumber picked up the Ernie Hart Greenkeeper of the Year award for his tireless recruitment drive on the North Norfolk Coast. Well done again for your efforts.

The shields for the year were presented to James Wright, S. Pring, Ian Willett summer, Steve Cram — autumn (wasn't he a runner?) winner was missing (wish it was) so no prize! We also pleased we can we have it back whoever you are.

The East Anglians beat Essex man again and our Section is going from strength to strength. You only have to look at how many ACGMs and Golf Days are run to see why.

We also have terrific support from our friends in the trade and here they all are. (Take a deep breath) Rushbrooks, Scotts, A. Nicholson, Bartram Mowers, Tacit, Ben Burgess, Scotts, Collier Turf Care, Rigby Taylor, Adams, Turf Care, Tomlinson Ground Care, C. Lomas, Larry Eden and David Craig Handyside as Treasurer.

Well that's your lot, except to say if we had enough time a 12 round quiz hosted by a semi - pro quiz master! The Section Turkey Trot was held on the 7th IC. Timms, 10th A. Haynes although, now the Head Greenkeeper. The Section Turkey Trot was held on the 7th IC. Timms, 10th A. Haynes although, now the Head Greenkeeper.

Well, I hope by the time you read this you are all finally drying out and getting back to some green keeping.

If anyone is interested in getting in contact with me concerning matters to do with greenkeepers or AGMs and Golf Days you can e-mail me on jenboy69@ukonline.co.uk

Jonathan Budd

Surrey

Christmas, New Year and BTME have all been and gone since I wrote last month's Around The Green and at this time of year it gets harder to find bits and pieces to tell you about. Hopefully you will be able to find out more from your colleagues. For those of you who do not attend you are certainly missing out on a great event.

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Jonathan Budd

Surrey

December 15 was the day which was chosen for George Barr's Annual Wine Festival (sorry, I meant the turkey trot). Held as usual at Littlehampton GC, the format was slightly different this year, heing that there was no golf.

This was due to the horrendous weather conditions we have experienced over the winter, which sometimes literally left us all in the same boat, to coin a phrase. Still it was not all doom and gloom as we arrived to find the course closed sign in the middle of the car park. As the resourceful Mr Barr managed to organise a team and individual putting competition, if we had enough time a 12 round quiz hosted by a semi - pro quiz master!

The day was sponsored by Ernest Doe and you know whom they thank very much for all their support. The results are for the team event, 1. Dustin Houghton, Simon Lambert, Robert Short, Richard Eckerfield and the individual winner this was won by Ray Day. Well done to you all.

We would like to thank Littlehampton Golf Club for their Wilson Heath Golf Club for their sponsorship.

Also congratulations to Ronan McKeown, Head Greenkeeper at Hayling Island, on his recent marriage, and to David Ansell and his staff at the Dyke Golf Club for their recent success in the environment competition, held in conjunction with BIGGA and Amazone UK.

By the time you read this, some of you will have attended BTME at Harrogate, which I am sure will be as excellent as usual, and as for those who do not attend you are certainly missing out on a great event.

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Jonathan Budd

South East

Derek Farrington

Tel: 01306 350057

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Jonathan Budd

London

This is my first Around the Green report so to start I feel it's only right to wish to not only all London Section members but all BIGGA members a happy new year. Let's all hope and pray that the weather for once, is "happi- ther than it was last year.

Our Turkey Trot took place on Thursday and those present at my home club, Sandy Lodge. An enjoyable day was had by all despite the fact that we played a reduced round due to the course and for looking after us so well when the golf had finished.

The day was won by guest, and father of mine, Peter Phillips (must be local knowledge!) with 37 points. Winner of the greenkeeping prize of a Christmas Turkey kindly donated once again by Rigby Taylor was Aldenham's Bob Smart with 36 points.

Our AGM took place on the same day and we welcome James Lomax, Larry Eden and David Kirk into the bosom of the committee. Remaining as members are myself and Tony Dunstan, with Ian Semple as Secretary and Chris Bannan as Treasurer.

The main focus of the AGM revolved around non - shows and low attendance figures for golf events. An increasing frustration is the amount of golfers that say they are going to come as long as they see confirmation they are coming and pay on the day simply do not turn up. It was decided that those who did not send an entry form and those paying on the day would have to pay in advance and give not only the organisers a definite idea of numbers but also the hosting club with regard to catering. A request also from members of the London Section to those Golf Clubs who expect their staff to take a days holiday to attend golf days. Can you please think about allowing those members the time to play in these events. Without sufficient numbers these days cannot take place - and they are important!

Stop Press from around the Section takes us to Wyke Green where Ray Wilder has left, Stuart Bedford has been promoted to Deputy Head and Warren Partridge has joined the team.
Good luck to all in the future. Still at Wyke Green congratulations to Course Manager, Tony Dyke and wife Pat, who are celebrating 25 Years of marriage.

Watch this space for news of coming events and remember that this column can only exist with your input. If you have any news from around the Section, however small, give me a call on 01923 835 749. If I don't get any news I'll be forced to write about myself and trust me, that would be very boring! Possible dates and venues are being looked into for a London Section seminar and also for summer and autumn golf days. Our spring Meeting will be at Stockley Park in May. Let's look forward to a good turn-out and an enjoyable day in more clement weather. Wishing you all a successful greenkeeping year.

Robert Phillips

Northern Ireland

The first day of the new year and the snow and frost has disappeared I am glad to report. We had six inches of snow throughout Northern Ireland the previous week with temperatures plunging to minus 16. Parkland courses closed for the entire week and golfers were unable to try out the new clubs and equipment they received at Christmas - all very depressing.

Well, on to the Section news over the last month. We held our AGM at Greencroes GC, in Ballyclare on December 6. I would like to thank Stephen Crawford and his wife for giving us the use of a room to hold the meeting and also the excellent buffet they laid on for us. To the members this month to the annual quiz night held by the NI Section of the IOG in Belfast. The two BIGGA teams performed admirably and on the night tied with 53 points each. The IOG A team moved in front early in the competition and accumulated a total of 65 points. Well, better luck next time lads, we will just have to improve our general knowledge. Our main excuse is that the IOG in NI have been competing in this type of quiz for many years, being awarded the national championship in their history. Many thanks to John McFarland for inviting us along and providing the excellent buffet on the night.

I would like to welcome two new members this month to the Section. George Fitzpatrick, from Crossgar GC and Roddy McGlading, from Malone GC. Congratulations also to Warren Burnside, who is moving from Malone to take up the Head Greenkeeper position at Movra Park. If you have any news that could be included in the Around the Green notes please contact me at Allen Park on 94429001 Ken Henderson

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<th>REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND SECTION SECRETARY CONTACT LIST</th>
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<td><strong>Mobile:</strong> 07850 152 401</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Email:</strong> <a href="mailto:derek.farrington@tesco.net">derek.farrington@tesco.net</a></td>
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<td><strong>SURREY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ian Sellers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gem Professional</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Club:</strong> 0976 709 145</td>
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<td><strong>KENT</strong></td>
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<td>Gary Debenham</td>
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<td>Boughton GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01227 752 277</td>
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<td><strong>SUSSEX</strong></td>
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<td>Stefan Antolick</td>
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<td>Cooden Beach GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01424 846 030</td>
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<td><strong>LONDON</strong></td>
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<td>Ian Semple</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 020 840 1707</td>
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<td>Ian Willett</td>
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<td>Thorpenecken GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01728 452 716</td>
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<td>Martin Forrester</td>
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<td>Stapleford Abbots GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01245 603 381</td>
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<td><strong>SOUTH WEST</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paula Humphries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Administrator</td>
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<td><strong>Tel/Fax:</strong> 01288 352 194</td>
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<td><strong>Mobile:</strong> 01773 664 563</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Email:</strong> <a href="mailto:paula.biggs@eclipse.co.uk">paula.biggs@eclipse.co.uk</a></td>
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<td><strong>S WEST</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin James</td>
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<td>Weston-Super-Mare GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01934 629 968</td>
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<td>Fred Deamen</td>
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<td>Alton GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01420 820 424</td>
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<td><strong>DEVON C/WALL</strong></td>
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<td>Richard Whyman</td>
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<td>Peter Lacey</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01792 233 923</td>
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<td>Allison Sloan</td>
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<td>Ballymena GC</td>
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<td><strong>Club:</strong> 01385 862 757</td>
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b. 01279 813574
c. 0161 7637060

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Know Your Numbers, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwick, Alne, York Y061 1UF

Entries to reach us no later than Wednesday, February 21, 2001. The first correct entry drawn will receive a stylish BIGGA Sportswatch!

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 Desmond Dobie, from Bushfoot GC, Co Antrim, certainly knew his numbers when he correctly identified all three telephone numbers.

Our congratulations and a fantastic BIGGA sportswatch are on their way to you!
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31 January 2001

Dear Mr. Hardy,

I thought it appropriate to send a short note of thanks to you, and your staff, for the help we received in producing our advert for the January issue of Greenkeeper International. The response has been fantastic!

The quality of the candidates has been exceptional and selection and shortlisting is proving to be difficult as we have received over 200 to date; with a steady flow still arriving.

Could you, perhaps, inform the applicants, through the February issue, that we will respond to everyone in due course. However, we would ask that applicants be a little patient with us. We will be appointing some 4 or 5 staff following interviews that will take place over the next 8 weeks.

Yours sincerely,

WENDY MITCHELL, DIRECTOR

WATERLOOVILLE GOLF CLUB

require a

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Applications are invited from persons of proven ability with the appropriate qualifications and experience, enthusiasm, plus the management and supervisory skills to lead and motivate the greenkeeping team, organise the work programme, and maintain Health & Safety & COSHH standards.

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