Following this was our AGM from which the Section welcomes two new faces onto the committee. Paul Docherty, of Wheatley Golf Club, takes on the role of Competition Secretary and Chris Astle, also of Wheatley, takes over from Ron Ullathorne as the Section Secretary.

On behalf of the Sheffield Section I would like to thank Ron for all his hard work over the years as Secretary and to wish him all the very best in the future.

On November 27 we returned to Rotherham Golf Club for the Winter Golf Day and Christmas meal. Unfortunately the day was a wash out but the day went very well on the Snooker tables and once again the meal was excellent. Thank you to all the trade members for their support on the day and throughout the year, to the catering staff for a superb meal and to Rotherham Golf Club for use of their facilities.

Next meeting is on February 1 at Rotherham Golf Club where John Deere Machinery is our guest speaker. Start time 2.30pm

Lastly I hope everyone had a very good Christmas and wish you all a prosperous New Year.

A Sampson

Berks Bucks and Oxon

I thought for one mad minute that a score of 80 points, based on two players from three playing reasonably well and scoring 40 points each around Frilford Heath which is never a pushover, would comfortably see my team somewhere in the prizes. How wrong could I be. 93 points, no that’s not a mistake 93 points won the event I must be in some sort of dream world. Seriously though, fair play to the guys that won and if their handicaps are correct they must have played some decent golf, unlike myself and partners Alan ‘ricochet’ Wright and the young Ms Bell. Frilford was of course in magnificent condition and my congratulations to Sid Arrowsmith and his staff.

The results of the day are: 1. T. Brown, J. Davies, P. Small 93pts; 2. A. Masters, V. Riches, M. Ely 85pts (back 6); 3. L. Anderson, S. Austin, W. Nunn 85pts. Nearest pin: John Eggleton, longest drive: Lee Bishop.

Thanks to Bernie Wall, from Gem, for sponsoring the event and also to Frilford Heath Golf Club for staging the event.

Not much other news about to report on I’m afraid except I’d just like to congratulate Peter McFadden who for the last year or so has been my First Assistant at Caversham Heath. As from December 1 he became Deputy Head Greenkeeper. Well done Pete and thanks for the hard work.

As this is coming out in January and I forgot to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year (because I am writing this in December) I hope you all had a good one and see you all in the new year, let’s hope we get some more rain, the course is just too dry at the moment. Oh well back to the clinic!

Jon Scoones. Tel: 01189 723334

East Midland

This year’s AGM Golf Tournament was held at Park Hill GC in Leicestershire on November 1. The weather leading up to the tournament saw us have rain nearly every day for several weeks, and it really is a credit to Dean Cooper and his staff for presenting us with a fine golf course played over 18 dry greens. The format for the day was a three man Texas Scramble with a minimum of four drives per person. Not surprisingly the winners were: 1. Derek McJannet, Adrian Rhodes, both Sherwood Forest, and Les Emery, Regional Administrator, with a score of 63-0.9-62.1; 2. David Smith, Mansfield Sand, Russell Allen, Horsley Lodge, and Nick Root, The Leicestershire, 68-4.7-63.3; 3. Carl Chamberlain, Killworth Springs, Adi Porter, Greetham Valley, & Andy McGreal, Lingdale, 70-4.8-65.2.

Moving on to the serious business of the AGM it was pleasing to see a much increased turnout for this event and it is hoped that numbers will now be on an incline. No real serious matters were brought up at the AGM and the committee is as follows for next year. Chairman – Gavin Robson; Vice Chairman – Adi Porter; Secretary – Antony Bindley, Treasurer – Richard Barker; Additional Committee members – Ian Needham, Andy McGreal, Jeff Dickinson, Derek McJannet, Chris Weir. I would like to thank two of our retiring committee members for all their hard work while in office, Dave Leatherland and Steven Heap. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Park Hill GC for their hospitality.

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especially to Claire Hutson for all her help in organising are day. The Steward for a marvellous meal and our very generous sponsors Vitax for providing the prizes.

Five dates for your 2001 Diary. Go-Kart evening, Wednesday February 21, Wymeswold Ind Est; Spring Tournament at Lingdale GC on September 14th, and The AGM at Mapperley GC on November 8. If you would like to attend the Go-Kart evening which again has been kindly sponsored by Toro Lely UK, please get in touch with me and I will gladly send you an entry form.

Finally would all members who have an email address please let me know for my membership records, as this will enable me to get in touch with you, and send you any entry forms. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Antony Bindley

Devon and Cornwall

A happy new year to you all. I hope you have had an enjoyable festive season. The Section’s first meeting of the new year is the Barenbrug Seeds meeting which will be held at The Royal North Devon GC on Wednesday, January 31. The day will once again be sponsored by Barenbrug Seeds and start with a singles Stableford golf competition with start times from 9.30am. For non golfers the course walk will leave the clubhouse at approximately 11am. After lunch our educational talk will cover golf rules. Our Devon Garden Machinery-sponsored November meeting was held at Launceston GC on Wednesday, November 15. This meeting was also the Section’s AGM.

As always the day started with our golfing members competing for the Toro Trophy, which was played in a foursome format. Our non-golfing members walked the course and met up with Head Greenkeeper George Bailey and his team.

After an excellent lunch Alan Dommett from Devon Garden Machinery presented the prizes on behalf of Toro and DGM to. 1. Shaun Getson, Tavistock, and Garry Foster, Tavistock, 33pts; 2. Richard Parker, Ilfracombe, and Neil Turner, Ilfracombe, 29pts; 3. Simon Coombes, Dainton, and J.Mills, Taunton, 28pts.

The Section would like to express its gratitude to the day’s sponsors Devon Garden Machinery for their support and to Launceston GC for allowing the Section use of their excellent facilities and to all of Launceston GC staff for making the Section so welcome. Special thanks must go to George Bailey and his crew who have worked hard to keep the course open in such awful weather.

The Sections AGM followed the golf presentation and was opened by the Chairman Terry Farkins. The Administrator started his report with the balance sheet for the year ending 30th September 2000. This year end balance of £1463.02 showed a profit of £195.05 compared with last year’s balance sheet, but does not include the £200 outstanding to the sponsor of the first training day going into liquidation. Unfortunately during the last year one of our Cornish committee members stood down from the committee. The committee decided to invite Bill Mitchell to serve as a Cornish member on the committee and were delighted when he accepted.

On closing his report the Administrator congratulated the Chairman Terry Farkins whom this year reached the final of the Toro Award and his excellent achievement in finishing runner-up. Also the Administrator thanked all the members who have attended meetings for their support over the last year. Hopefully the Section can get even more members to attend meetings over the year.

The Region’s seminar at Cannington College was well supported and our thanks go to the speakers and to Paula for arranging it. The Magic Bus will once again be heading North to BTME if you have not booked, please contact Paula to see if there are any places left.

Westinf earlier this year, so make a note in your diary Wednesday, March 14. There is going to be a social gathering the night before in an Exeter hotel, again contact Paula for arrangements.

The first event of 2001 is the Winter Tournament, at Stinchcombe Hill GC, on Wednesday February, kindly sponsored by G Tinkler. Application forms will be sent out along with the year’s forth-coming fixtures, if you do not receive one let the Secretary know.

The Sections best wishes go out to Steve Britton and his family of Thoulstone Park GC after he suffered a heart attack. Any news or views please contact me on 01285-720112.

D Bougen
coming year.

Last but not least the Administrator thanked the Committee for all their efforts over the year especially to Shaun Getson for organising the educational talks and Cary Rawlings for looking after the golf scores. The Chairman opened his report by thanking everyone for attending the AGM meeting. He informed members that it had been a pleasure and an honour to serve as Chairman of the Section over the past two years and felt it was time for someone else to take over as Chairman.

He continued by congratulating Tony Yokes, of St Austell Golf Club, on his tremendous achievement on reaching the national finals of the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year. Also, congratulated Richard Whyman of Bude & North Cornwall Golf Club on being selected to represent BIGGA at the Canadian International Turf Conference and Trade Show in Vancouver next February.

The Westurf trade show this year was once again a success and West Point is an ideal venue for our members and hoped that all members will support the show next year. The Chairman congratulated the Regional Administrator, Paula Humphries, for all her hard work over the last year and the Regional Board members who continue to promote our industry.

The Chairman informed members of the sad loss of Mike Oliver who was a great supporter of the Section and passed on the Section's condolences to his family.

The Chairman on closing his report passed on the Section's thanks to all the trade companies who have supported the Section over the last year this was very much appreciated and he thanked Section members for helping the Section to be one of...
the most successful in the Country. The Chairman thanked Richard Wisdom for representing the Section so well on the region- wide tour with the Chairman’s final thanks going to Richard Wisdom, with the Chairman’s final thanks going to Richard Whymon who has continued to do such a good job as Section Administrator.

Richard Wisdom opened his regional report by congratulating the Regional Administrator Paula Humphries for her out- standing efforts, which included the organisation of Westurf 2000, the BTME trip and regional seminars. The 2000 Westurf was once again financially a success. Richard advised members that their support in attending Westurf is needed to allow the show to grow. Richard informed that BTME 2000 was once again sponsored by Amenity Technology with two 55- seater coaches departing the Region, Richard also mentioned the planned trip to BTME and Harrogate.

The President, Martin Samuel, opened his report by thanking members for their support over the last two years and wished the next President, Martin, an enjoyable term in office. He thanked members on behalf of the trade for their support over the last year, he felt that the sections meetings had the right balance of meeting the educational talks.


Richard Whymon

South Wales

Very little to report this month. Hope you had a good Christmas and New Year celebrations. Bringing you the latest thing of what was last time I reported, the Christmas tournament and AGM next month as this would have gone to press before the day.

Our Evening Lectures sponsored by Avoncrop continue on Monday 22nd February at the Royal Penarth Golf Hotel in November and will be actioned ASAP. Our secretary appealed for forthcoming golf days for 2001 and asked members to contact local course managers with reference to securing these dates. All members that appeared on the day were thanked and we all thank Burt Watson and his team for providing us with a golf course in a condition that was amazingly dry and so well presented, the weather was dry, which was a miracle, when one considers how wet it was at Watford Golf Club. Thank you also to Tyrells Wood Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course and to the catering staff for a splendid meal.

The sponsors for the day were Tacit and we thank them for the generosity that ranged from first prize an electric toaster.

The only details still in my possession were discussed in great detail. Thanks must also go the sponsors of the day, Sheerwater Leisure and New Forest Farm Machinery. And well done Carl Horrax for organising an excellent raffle, it was a miracle, when one considers how wet it was at Watford Golf Club. Thank you also to Tyrells Wood Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of the course and to the catering staff for a splendid meal.

The overall winner for the day was Peter Phillips, ex sec/man of Porters Park Golf Club. Family connections coupled with a good local knowledge of the course resulted in winning score of 37 points. In second place was Billy Smart with 36 points closely followed by Ben Knowles – lacking a few points.

I would like to thank the trade for their support and in particular, Mark Day representing Tacit, for paying for the bacon rolls on arrival. Rightly, I would like to thank the annual turkey for the event for the best score on the day by a greenkeeper. Billy Smart, from Aldenham GC, was the worthy winner.

The AGM was held prior to the meal and the accounts for our session were discussed in great detail. The committee expressed concern for members to come forward to stand for a term of office. The committee now consists of the following members. Ian Semple – Secretary. Tony Dunstan – Chairman, Craig Handyside – Treasurer, Robert Rigby – Action Officer, David Phillips – coordinator/around the green article, Tony Dyke – Elected on the day. Larry Eden – Elected on the day. James Lomas – Offered to help occasionally. With the sale of raffle tickets etc.

A request from David Kirk with reference to winter seminars was taken on board by the committee and Richard Whymon secured a seminar appealing for forthcoming golf days for 2001 and asked members to contact local course managers with reference to securing these dates. All members that did not appear on the day was also discussed; this issue is currently being addressed. I would like to thank all our members for their support over the year and a special thank you to our Secretary, for his commitment to our Section. Tony Dunstan.

Essex

Hopefully most of you are not too blurry eyed or hungover from Christmas to read this month’s report, the first for three months. I must start by thanking the Essex committee sincere apologies to Bishops Stortford Golf Club who were the holders of our Autumn Tournament. Illness plus a breakdown in communication meant that the relevant information was not passed to the author in time for the details to go to print (thanks spice boy), sorry lads I was not there, I think, will ever be resolved.

Winners on the day were; 1. Tony Bremer, 42 pts; 2. John Davidson, 40 pts; 3. Steve Gudge, 40pts 4. Paul Weston, 40pts; 5. Gareth Roberts, 39 pts; 6. Doug Fernie, 39 pts.

The prize winners were 1. Tony Bremer, 42 pts; 2. John Davidson, 40 pts; 3. Steve Gudge, 40pts; 4. Paul Weston, 40pts; 5. Gareth Roberts, 39 pts; 6. Doug Fernie, 39 pts.

Appologies must also be extended to all the trade that helped make the day possible. Without these guys we would have not had any golf days at all. The only details still in my possession are the overall winner, Pete Blackaby, head man at Manor of Groves Golf Club and Trade Winner, Simon Banks, of Banks Horticulture, your obviously both in the premier ship, (Harrogate) as far as the golf gogs. As mentioned previously I was unable to attend the Bishop Stortford day but did go to the UAP sponsored winter Stableford at Orsett GC on
December 5 for the last tournament of the year. So did 33 other members, guests and trade golfers obviously hoping for a game on what was reputedly the driest golf course in the area and although we played on five temporary greens the rest of the course was indeed surprisingly dry, was this down to great greenkeeping or the fact that they had over a foot less rain than most other courses in the area? Judging by the high standard of presentation over the whole of the course I would say it was a bit of both but Head Greenkeeper, Carl Croucher, would in his usual modest way put it down to being fortunate with the weather.

The high scores also reflected the condition of the course with the winners in all being around their handicap. Overall winner was Ray Clark, of Channels GC, with yet another great round coming in at 37 points one clear of 15 – 28 category winner Martin Guy and 2 clear of O-14 winner Andy Sheehan. Richard Dunmow and Pete Blackaby came 2nd and 3rd behind Andy with Keith Chinnery and Martin Forrester finishing in the same positions behind Martin.

Trade winner by divine intervention was Richard Lewis with 34 points, a very popular winner from Drive Force Leisure (nice to see you properly Rich). Greenkeeping Supply Company sponsored the Longest Drive, which went to Richard Dunmow and Nearest the Pin, the pin, Keith Rowley. Guest prize went to a new name and hopefully next time a new handicap for S. Colgate who managed to notch up 40 points. Other trade sponsors included Sheriffs, Vista, Banks, Rigby Taylor, Tuckwells, Driving Force Leisure, Avoncort and Tacit who sponsored Andy with Keith Chinnery and Martin Forrester's niece to all the staff at Orset Golf Club for finishing up as Player of the Year, Andy won the Forrester Park Avoncrop and Tacit who sponsored the Section last year but this was mainly down to the high standard of presentation over the whole of the course I would say it was a bit of both but Head Greenkeeper, Carl Croucher, would in his usual modest way put it down to being fortunate with the weather.

Our next event will be a talk on irrigation systems by drilling and pumping irrigation at Allen Park GC Antrim on 9/1/2001 with a start time of 7.30pm. Hope to see you all there.

Ken Henderson

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**Regional Administrators and Section Secretaries**

**SCOTLAND**

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<tr>
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**S WALES**

| Peter Lacey | | | | |

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Please note: The deadline for inclusion in the February 2001 Classified section is, Monday, January 29, 2000
Send your completed order form to: Cheryl Broomhead, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York Y061 1UF, or alternatively fax the form to us on 01347 833802
SALES REPRESENTATIVE OR SALES AGENT
REQUIRED TO COVER EAST AND WEST SCOTLAND

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic individual to sell the company's products and services to Local Authorities, Golf Courses and Bowling Greens. The suitable candidate should have a horticultural or sports turf background. Salary and/or commission will be dependent on experience. The package will include a company vehicle.

Please write enclosing your CV to: 
McNab Sport Ltd, The Muirs, Kinross KY13 8AU

Aspect Park Golf Club
QUALIFIED GREENKEEPERS

We are looking for enthusiastic and self motivated greenkeepers to join existing team at our Historic Parkland Course. Qualified to minimum of NVQ Level 2 or equivalent, experience and a knowledge of modern greenkeeping and machinery. Positions to commence from January 2001. (No accommodation available). Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Please reply to Greg Wheeldon/Tim Winsland at:
Aspect Park Golf Club, Remenham Hill, Henley On Thames, Oxon RG9 3EH
Tel: 01491 578306

SAUDI ARABIA £££ TAX FREE

The brand new Mussad Golf Club, due to open in the spring of 2001 in Half Moon Bay, East Coast of Saudi Arabia, will be conducting interviews in London mid February for:

SENIOR GREENKEEPERS
Sound knowledge in Landscaping, design and all green growing techniques.

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT
Sound mechanical background, especially irrigation systems, and course project management skills.

In the first instance, please forward resume to:
Steve McAllister, Network Overseas, 34 Mortimer Street, London W1W 7JS
Fax: 0207 580 6342 Email: steve.mc@networkoverseas.cc

CEBECO OLIVER SEEDS
Amenity Sales Representative

Due to the continued success and expansion of Cebeco Oliver Seeds, we are now looking for a sales representative to cover the south of England.

The position will involve visiting a wide variety of clients such as Golf Clubs and Local Authorities; therefore the successful candidate must have excellent communication skills. Ideally, the person will have had experience in the amenity seed trade, however training would be given to the right candidate.

Salary would be commensurate with experience and age. A company vehicle would be provided.

In the first instance please reply in writing attaching a CV stating your present salary, to;
Roger Peacock, Olivers Seeds Ltd, North Clift House, North Carlton, Lincoln LN1 2RP
Tel: 01522 760836

Merrist Wood College
Lecturer in Sportsturf Agronomy & Management

£18,265 - £23,898 pa depending on experience & qualifications

Merrist Wood College has a rapidly expanding Turfgrass section and you may be the person to join our team. We would expect you to contribute to our diverse range of programmes and you will need to be suitably qualified with sound practical experience of the turf industry.

If you feel you can meet the challenge please ask for further details, from Merrist Wood College, Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE, telephone 01483 884006. Closing date: 26th January 2001.

Hadlow College
Lecturer in Turf Culture
Salary c. £18,000 - £22,000 per annum

To teach and give practical instruction in turf culture and related topics to Further and Higher Education students on full-time, part-time and short course programmes. You will be fully involved in new areas of College work, and using the extensive facilities, will ensure students are provided with education and training relevant to their needs, whether of a vocational or non-vocational nature. Applicants should possess a relevant degree and a teaching/training qualification is desirable. Commercial/industrial experience in all aspects of greenkeeping is essential.

Written details and an application form are available from Hadlow College
Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0AL
Telephone 01732 850551
Closing date for return of application forms is 22 January 2001

Hadlow College is an equal opportunities employer