engines on the smaller pumps the introduction of carrying frames produces a very compact and truly portable set. Wherever ALCON PUMPS are in use there exists a technical and back-up service not far away in the form of an agency network, who call upon the manufacturers for support whenever necessary.

RANSOMES INTRODUCED to maintain consistently good putting surfaces on golf greens more economically are Ransomes new hydraulically driven Verti-Groom cutting unit for their GT Greens Triple mower.

Compared with conventional greens cutting units, during trials both in Britain and overseas, the Verti-Groom units collected up to three times the amount of material after cutting a green. Besides grass cuttings, the boxes also contained thatch and moss. Being mounted ahead of the front disc roll the Verti-Groom, which can be lifted out of work, does not throw top dressing into the cutting cylinder and as it floats independently of the cutting unit Ransomes say it is not over aggressive.

Mounting the Verti-Groom in front of the unit keeps the distance between the front and rear rolls to the minimum which reduces the incidence of scalping on undulating greens.

The front disc roll helps to penetrate the thatch without marking the greens. Adjustments for height of cut and cylinder to bottom blade are without the use of tools but the depth control of the Verti-groom has been designed for setting and locking by the head greenkeeper.

There is also a new Verti-Groom attachment for the company’s Super-Certes fine cutting pedestrian controlled motor mower.

G.J. CRAIG ENGINEERING

G.J. CRAIG Engineering, manufacturers of the CHIPMUNK range of tree stump grinding machines are pleased to be able to show their range of machines at the European Turf Management Exhibition.

At present three machines are available, those being the 8 h.p. pull start and 8 and 12 h.p. electric start models, although they are now developing a larger model which should be available during the early part of 1990.

The machine is completely self contained. Small enough for awkward spaces but tough enough to tackle most stumps. G.J. Craig Engineering will be pleased to arrange a demonstration for you in your area if you contact them at their Cambridge works.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS

- Welcome to our Stand -

Number B32 at the European Turf Management Exhibition, January 24-26, Harrogate

Environmental Products
Regent House, Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4TZ
Telephone: 0277 261414

December '89
KNOT OUT

Residual control of Knotgrass and other germinating broadleaved weeds in newly sown or oversown grass: can be used on:
- CRICKET SQUARES
- BOWLING GREENS
- TENNIS COURTS
- GOLF COURSES
- IDEAL FOR SOCCER AND HOCKEY PITCHES, IN GOALMOUTHS, CENTRE CIRCLES... anywhere

ONE SHOT DISPENSER
Each premixed dose treats 540m² (650 square yards).
Sufficient to treat the goalmouth areas and centre circle of a football pitch or the average area of a golf green.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE
The secret of good grass establishment is careful seedbed preparation and the use of high quality seed mixtures.
However, even with thorough preparation, weed seeds will be present in the seedbed and spread in from the surrounding area.
KNOT OUT is formulated to kill germinating weeds including Knotgrass to give the grass seed a clean start.
KNOT OUT is supplied in pre-measured doses to cover 540m² (650 square yards). This is sufficient to treat the goalmouth areas and centre circle of a football pitch or the average area of a golf green.

PRE-EMERGENT
Mayweeds
Knotgrass
Common Mouse-ear
Speedwell
Common Chickweed
Parony-piert

APPLICATION RATES
Apply as a medium spray (BCPC definition) using hand-held, pedestrian controlled or boom mounted sprayer calibrated to apply 50-460 litres per hectare (714-37 gallons per acre) using 80° or 150° flat fan or deflector (atom) type nozzles at low to medium pressure.

MIXING INSTRUCTIONS
Put into the spray tank half the water required. Dispense contents into the water in the spray tank. Make up to the required volume of water and agitate thoroughly.

WHY LOCAL AUTHORITIES SPECIFY LINDUM LG2
Where maintenance is an important feature in costing for landscape projects, Lindum LG2 is specified.

Because Lindum use only those S.T.R.I. varieties of ryegrass bred for short growth, to give less mowing.
Lindum customers know they will get nothing but the highest quality turf, whichever grade they order.

LINDUM Seeded Turf, Church House, Horkstow, Barton on Humber, South Humberside DN18 6BG.
E.T.M.E. PREVIEW

WATERMATION/T & G TURF IRRIGATION

THERE is now on display a full range of turf irrigation equipment suitable for all sports turf purposes, including golf, football, tennis, bowling greens and ski slopes. They also now have a full range of specialist landscape sprinklers, which include pop-ups, sprays, shrub heads, risers and mobile sprinklers to cover every aspect of garden irrigation.

Watermation are continually developing and testing out new concepts in irrigation equipment. This programme includes testing by the University of California Center for Irrigation Technology.

Of special interest will be their recently updated TW2 computer controller which will now be presented in a more compact, easy to use style and has a see-through glass door for instant checking of operation. Also introduced since the last E.T.M.E. is the new model Watermobile, their travelling sprinklers which is particularly useful for all large turf areas such as golf fairways, football fields, running tracks, etc.

Both the TW2 controller and the Watermobile have been designed and manufactured in this country by Watermation and along with their other products, are sold worldwide.

Watermation is represented in the Harrogate area by T & G Turf Irrigation, who share the stand with them. The two partners, Tony Teggin and Noel Glover have over 17 years experience in irrigation installation and have worked as a successful partnership now for over six years.

SACHS-DOLMAR (UK)

T HE British Isles’ leading supplier of outdoor power equipment, Sach-Dolmar (UK) Ltd., will be displaying machinery from its extensive range on stand A5 at the 1989 European Turf Machinery Exhibitions.

The Robin Dagger Soil Ameliorator is an easily portable machine designed to aerate the subsoil by injecting blasts of compressed air at 150 psi, treating areas of up to 2 metres in diameter on each injection. It improves drainage, stimulates root growth and effectively alleviates soil compaction.

Machines from the Robin range of nine rugged brushcutters will be on display with new features which improve ease of operation even further. Robin brushcutters now range from the lightweight 16cc Model NB1 171 to the professional Model NB1 500, with its powerful 51.7cc engine. All are supplied complete with safety goggles, instructions and toolkit.

Three chassis variants from the Sachs-Dolmar range range of fourteen will be shown. The lightweight 33cc model 100 Super, the sturdy general purpose model 109 with a 43cc engine and choice of 15" or 18" (38 or 45cm) bar sizes, also the powerful 51cc model 111 which is an all-round performer at an economical price.

ETME will see the new Sachs-Dolmar range of seven rotary roller and wheel drive mowers powered by the well proven Kawasaki engine. The range includes electric start models and 19" and 21" blade versions. All machines feature efficient blade brakes.

Information on the Sachs-Dolmar (UK) countrywide network of dealers will be available at the stand, also details of the company’s comprehensive spares and service capability.

GARFITTS LIMITED

A RFRITTS Limited have been manufacturing parts for the horticultural industry for over two hundred years. During that period quality has always been a prime importance together with reliability of service. Garfitts are the largest independent manufacturer of lawnmower cylinder and blades in the UK and have world-wide market distribution.

Many original equipment manufacturers, market leaders in their own field, utilise their products and work closely with them on continually improving and developing new products. Although a larger proportion of recent business has been on the original equipment manufacturers, Garfitts never forget the traditional customers. The business has been built over many years on giving service to equipment repairers, sports clubs and local authorities. Traditional customers are the back-bone of business. To complement the range and give additional service they have a range of engine spares, workshop tools and accessories. These are listed in a comprehensive catalogue available to trade circulation on request.

A full range of batteries is available from a sister company which specialises in the battery field. As well as supplying batteries to the horticultural trade, garage users, sports and leisure users they supply batteries to many original equipment users in both horticultural and power field.

UNDERGEAR

U NDERGEAR offer the most comprehensive range of Turfcare tyres in the world.

In addition to being sole U.K. distributor for Goodyear Tyres, Undergear are distributors for Trelleborg and Continental tyres. They also supply specific tyres from other manufacturers worldwide.

Four years ago Undergear developed their own "golf" design tyres specially for the preparation of the Ryder Cup course at The Belfry. This tyre is now available in a wide range of sizes and can be found working on courses all over the UK and in several other European countries.

Undergear can supply tyres for most machines, and with their own wheel-making facility, they can make complete new units to customers’ individual requirements.

Tyre and wheel conversions are available for all two and four wheel drive tractors, with tread patterns suitable for golf course or general amenity area usage.

TERRA-TIRES

A s sole UK distributor for Goodyear Terra-Tires, Undergear carry the complete range of sizes and types, including built-up tyre and wheel units for LGP conversions.

SEE YOU AT THE E.T.M.E.

SHOW ON STAND A25

Telephone: 021-553 1606
Telex: 336584 Fax: 021-553 1307

GOLF TYRES

T H E ONLY BIG IMPRESSION WE WANT TO MAKE IS ON YOU!

Exclusive golf-pattern tyres available to fit any tractor front or rear.

GOLF TYRES

BLACK LAKE WORKS, WEST BROMWICH, WEST MIDLANDS B70 0PD.
Yorkshire, the Midlands and Newmarket.

Its Super Sword range will be on display, together with an "instant turf" presentation in association with I.C.I. Brilag, with whom it has developed the remarkable "Tech Turf" system.

A recent development within the group has seen the formation of T.S.I. Turfgrass Services International - to provide technical and leisure marketing services to the sportsturf industry as a whole.

New brochures providing professional advice on turf laying and maintenance techniques will be available, plus personal assistance from INTURF staff on the stand. Also, winners of the INTURF Competition will be announced. Time is running out, so get your entry in before December 31st.

Three great prizes including a trip to Florida are up for grabs, plus twenty five consolation prizes well worth having.

FAIRFIELD TURF LTD. will be featuring cutting edge turf at stand C9 at Harrogate.

GREEN, Green, Green; doesn't remind you of your golf course, surely it could be more interesting if some splashes of colour were added?

FAIRFIELD TURF announced this autumn that their new FLORA TURF is now ready for harvesting.

This turf is ideal for inclusion in golf roughs as well as many other landscape situations. Consideration could be given to areas such as banks, tee sides, bunker sides etc, where a low maintenance regime is required.

FLORA TURF was sown from a mix containing thirty wild flower species and eleven grasses supported by the incorporation of a net into the turf backing. Once laid, the Wild Flowers in FLORA TURF soon spread, thus allowing the laying of fairly small areas of FLORA TURF to eventually achieve attractive swathes of colour.

SUPER TURF, our tees grade, is becoming increasingly popular with greenkeepers because of its tightly-knit habit and fineness of leaf, yet exhibiting very good wear characteristics.

SUPER TURF was recently chosen by Transcontinental Golf Construction Ltd for tees, bunker and green surrounds at the new Charham Manor course in Sussex, where Fairfield Turf Ltd supplied over 12,000 sq yds.

SUPERFINE TURF has been in such demand for golf and bowling greens this year that new orders will be supplied from March 1990 onwards.

New and further developments and information on our current grades of turf please pay us a visit on stand C9 at Harrogate.

TRELBORG, the Swedish specialist tyre manufacturer, celebrated during 1989, their 30th year in production of Low Ground Pressure Tyres. The experience acquired in that time allows them to justify claim to be amongst the market leaders throughout the world in LGP wheels and tyres.

The TRELBORG range of Turf Forestry and Agricultural tyres are designed to allow access to the ground without causing surface damage and/or soil compaction. A wide range of tyre sizes and tread patterns are available to enable the selection of the optimum wheel equipment for a particular tractor/machine, or set of circumstances.

The tyres are usually supplied with custom built wheels ready to bolt on to the machine. The turfgrass tyres have earned a reputation for being eminently suitable for the demands of the greenkeeper and the groundsman.

The agricultural range include specific designs for top work, general purpose and traction. The forestry tyres are specially built to endure the tough conditions encountered in woodlands.

The arbiters of the Sport of Kings, the Jockey Club, have invested in several sets of Treelborg tyres to maintain the valuable turf at Newmarket.

This is the site where they claim to regularly cut the widest gang mown cut in the world, (42 feet wide no less, enough to cut the racecourse in one pass).

Milton Keynes Development Corporation also have several tractors with the company's Low Ground Pressure wheel equipment in order to ensure that the acres of grassland and woodland are not damaged during maintenance.

The Superintendent of Parks at Windsor Great Park has standardised his tractor fleet on Treelborg Tyres.

Clearly with clients such as these enjoying the benefits of using their low ground pressure fittings, the company can legitimately claim considerable advantages in the preservation of delicate surfaces and subsoil condition.

E.T.M.E PREVIEW

PAR 4 Irrigation System Service

For the installation, maintenance and repair of irrigation systems on golf courses, bowling greens, tennis courts and any playing areas, farms and garden sites.

Ash Grove Industrial Estate, Ripon
Tel: (0765) 2175. Fax: (0765) 3488. Proprietors: E. B. and L. Simms

Suppliers of galvanised PVC pipes and fittings, valves, pumps, agricultural and pop-up sprinklers and associated equipment.

Area dealer for TORO

December '89
THE 2nd EUROPEAN TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION

The grass is actually growing greener in Harrogate especially for ETME 2

Plan to visit now . . . and see your Industry in Action

It's all happening this January 24th to 26th . . .

★ Michael Bonallack, Secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club opens ETME on Wednesday, January 24th, 1990.

★ The Nature Conservancy Council launches its publication "Guidelines for Nature Conservation and Golf Course Design and Management."

★ BIGGA launch a certification scheme leading to the award of a Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

★ National Turfgrass Council and BIGGA together present (starting on Tuesday, 23rd January) 32 seminar events.

★ There's a day and evening social programme for accompanying wives/companions.

★ . . . and you can explore 100’s of ideas surrounding new machinery, equipment, products and services.

FOR EXHIBITION INVITATION INFORMATION CONTACT: George A. Wright Business Services Ltd 18 West Hill Place Brighton BN1 3PU Tel: (0273) 26513 Fax: (0273) 208268

FOR SEMINAR INFORMATION CONTACT: Neil Thomas/David Golding, BIGGA Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine York Y06 2NF Tel: (03473) 581/2 Fax: (03473) 8864

December '89
FOLLOWING discussions with ICI Professional Products, I am delighted to announce the introduction of 'The ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award'. This competition will run throughout 1990 and annually thereafter. The basis of the competition will be the submission of a paper of between 2000 and 3000 words, the subject for 1990 will be 'A Year in the Life of My Golf Course'. Papers must be submitted by 31 July 1990.

The Regional structure will be used to determine finalists for the Award. They will be chosen on the basis of one per Region plus two best runners up - six each region will be selected by a panel consisting of the Chairman of BIGGAs Education Sub-Committee, the Education Officer and myself together with nominated representatives of ICI. At this stage the seven finalists will be visited at their courses by a representative of ICI, and a representative of BIGGA to assess the general presentation of the course and workplace and in particular compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Safe Use of Pesticides legislation.

Panel interviews will follow and will be held at Aldwark Manor in November/December each year with winners being announced each January at E.T.M.E. and in 'Greenkeeping Management'.

The Award represents an extension of ICI Professional Products support for BIGGAs Education Programme. Members will be aware that ICI already support the E.T.M.E. Seminar Programme and this additional backing for greenkeeper education and training is much appreciated by the Association. Members can register for the competition on either the ICI Greenkeeper Award application form to Headquarters Office or telephone Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2.

The SISIS/VARICOR is demonstrated at the Field Day.
At Aldwark - David Golding, Bill Lynch, Roy Kates, Paddy McCarron and Ivor Scoones.
EAST OF ENGLAND REGION

A lovely sunny Autumn day members played at Woodhall Spa Golf Club by kind invitation of Mr N. Hatchin, enabling us to enjoy the delights of a heathland course.

Players competed for the Rigby Taylor Trophy and prizes donated by our trade friends.

Guests who joined us were from Sheffield and Nottingham and the visitors prize went to Steve White, who had an excellent score. Runner-up was Alex Gough of Newark.

The Rigby Taylor Trophy was won by Colin Swinlger with David Salisbury as runner-up. The prizes were presented by Steve Dickenson who complemented Graeme Patrick on the condition of the course and for the experience gained by those who hadn’t the pleasure of playing Woodhall before.

COLIN SWINLGER

KENT SECTION

Our autumn tournament combined with the regional tournament was a very good enjoyable day, even for those of us who spent most of our time spraying balis left and right, never to be seen again.

Much credit must go to Malcolm Grant and his staff on the fantastic condition of classic Littlestone links course after the very difficult summer this year.

The morning round saw a great performance from the winner Ian Rawlins with 42 points. Somehow I do not think he will be playing off 12 in our next competition.

Second was Steve Suttle with 38 points, followed by Alan Sheppard, also with 38, but piped on the back nine. Fourth was Alan Glazer of Cuddington with 36, and fifth was Duncan Kelso with 34 points.

For the trade competition our apologies must go to Bernard Dibhams who with 38 points, followed by first prize went to David White, then also to our apologies must go to Bernard Dibhams who with 38 points, followed by first prize went to David White, then also to

Second was Steve Suttle with 38 points, followed by Alan Sheppard, also with 38, but piped on the back nine. Fourth was Alan Glazer of Cuddington with 36, and fifth was Duncan Kelso with 34 points.

For the trade competition our apologies must go to Bernard Dibhams who with 38 points, followed by first prize went to David White, then also to

SURREY SECTION

MONDAY October 23 saw the Surrey Section Autumn Tournament, hosted by Worpledon Golf Club, just outside Guildford.

On the first full working day, after Surrey had been lashed by gale force winds, Head Greenkeeper Brian Turner and his staff had to prepare a course in difficult circumstances, with the odd fallen tree as an added problem.

But when 9 am came and the first Surrey members started the 27 hole stableford competition, they found a well manicured course and true, slick putting surfaces welcoming their golf.

The results were as follows:

1st J. D. Owler, 59; 2nd D. Shaw, 53.
4th J. Shaw, 53.

Best Scratch: B. Turner, 76; 2nd T. Hall, 77; 3rd M. Butrymowicz, 74 nett.

Also, my sincere thanks to Ron Jobson for his early morning help, without which the day would not have run smoothly.

Finally a word of thanks to Worpledon Golf Club Secretary Major Jones and all the club’s staff, for the most courteous of welcomes, and the offering of such splendid facilities to all the Section members present. All through the day our members were met by professional and friendly staff, willing to make our day equal to that of a Club member. I look forward to renewing our acquaintance.

SUSSEX SECTION

For the Autumn Golf tournament, Woodhall Spa Golf Club was the venue for the 20 Autumn Tournament meeting.

Our thanks go to the committee for the courtesy of the course, and for the 65 club members who turned out, and to the Kent Section who did in fact play another round before.

Although Andy felt that he was playing at a very high level, with the exception of the Veteran’s Trophy, all the prizes were kindly donated by Rigby Taylor and were all hand cut crystal. The prizes are for the best stableford competition, they found a well manicured course, and true, slick putting surfaces welcoming their golf.

The results were as follows:

1st J. Davidson, 59; 2nd D. Woodward, 57; 3rd T. Hall, 54; 4th J. Shaw, 53.

Best Scratch: B. Turner, 76; 2nd T. Hall, 77; 3rd M. Butrymowicz, 74 nett.

The afternoon’s meal, also to the trade. Rigby Taylor and Parker’s for prizes.

Our next meeting is the Turkey Trot at Seaford.

DEREK COOMBER

MID ANGLIA SECTION

ONLY 22 members attended our Autumn tournament at Buckingham G.C. Whether the price is not right, or members could be repairing their courses after the hot summer, I hope numbers increase next year.

The course was presented very tidily thanks to David Pigott and his staff. Thanks also to the committee for their continuing support, and the facilities on the day.

P. FITZJOHN
EAST MIDLANDS SECTION

I am very pleased to be able to start this month by saying that at last after 5 years of trying, the Rigby Taylor match against the Midlands Section was won by the East Midlands team 8½ to 6½. The team was P. Sewell, P. Tatlow, R. Barker, D. Leatherland, S. Goode, R. Williams, G. Arnold, N. Root, R. Branson, M. Bindley. WELL DONE LADS.

The match took place on Monday 2nd October at Longcliffe Golf Club. Our thanks go to Walter Coles and his team for an excellent course and to Rigby Taylor for laying it on for us all.

Congratulations go to P. Sewell (2nd), R. Barker (3rd) in Division 1 and M. Billings (3rd) in Division 3 in the Iski National. First was a Definate winner to Moor Allerton on Tuesday 24th October.

Our Bring and Win Winter competition is to be held at Birstall Golf Club on Wednesday 13th December.

Entry Forms have been circulated. If you have been missed please contact me immediately.

ROGER WILLARS

EAST ANGLIAN SECTION

Our thanks to all who helped, especially Uncle Sam. A merry Christmas to all our readers.

MICK LATHROPE

DEVON AND CORNWALL SECTION

Our first meeting of the season was held at Teignmouth Golf Club on Tuesday, 17th October. With fine weather 30 members took to the course to play for the D.O.C. Hunt Trophy. 1st T. Farkins, 81 - 7 = 74; 2nd N. Weller, 81 - 7 = 74; 3rd B. Ridgeway, 93 - 1 = 92. Our thanks must go to John Moore and his green staff for the excellent condition of the course.

After a superb meal our guest speaker for the afternoon was Patrick Goldsworthy of I.C.T. on Turf Disease, the subject at the centre of Greenkeepers minds recently. Many thanks Patrick, an entertaining talk.

The second meeting of the season was held at Ellfordleigh Golf and Country Club, Plymouth. The day’s agenda was as follows: Golf foursome format for the Robertson Ltd Trophy, followed by dinner and the section’s AGM.

On the course the weather was raw and wet and only the hardy finished their rounds with the 19th hole being the most popular of the day.

1st G. Child & P. Newcombe, 31 points; 2nd J. Lawton & R. Whyman, 28 points on count back; 3rd G. Hargrave & P. Connett, 28 points.

I would like to thank Mike Errolton of Robertson’s for donating the prizes.

After a superb meal we head our Section AGM. The agenda was as follows:

1. Financial report showed that funds had slightly increased over the year.

2. Chairman’s report. The Chairman referred to our administration, Jim Wood who had left the section to take a post with the War Graves Commission in France. The Chairman on behalf of the members would like to thank Jim for all his hard work.

The Chairman also congratulated Paul Newcombe for winning the National Tournament and for winning 0-9 Section of the Ikei finals at Moor Allerton Golf Club.

The Chairman hoped that support from the Section for Weststuff 90 would be much higher than last year. He also thanked the members and trade members for their support during the year.

3. Election of officers for the committee was as follows: Secretary R. Whyman; Chairman B. Pile; Committee B. J. Summers, S. Redman, J. Mitchell, R. Redman, R. Whyman, Vice President A. Dommert.

4. Venues and speakers for the next two seasons were discussed.

5. A match between Devon v Cornwall greenkeepers to be played in January on an informal basis.

6. Gordon Child gave the section an update on regional and national matters.

I would like to wish all members old and new a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

RICHARD WHYMAN

NORTH-WEST SECTION

October has been a busy month starting with the Autumn Tournament at Lostock Park Golf Club Bolton.

The weather was very kind to us and the course was in superb condition thanks to John Bond and his staff.

The catering staff laid on a feast fit for a king, and the hospitality of the club members crowned the day.

As usual some good scores were recorded but none better than Paul Pearse.

The results were:

P. Pearce, best gross; C. Jones, best nett; Paul Smith, 2nd nett; W. Merritt, 3rd nett; B. Cross, Vets prize; The guests prize, Captain Lostock G.C.

I would like to thank Mike Errolton of Robertson’s for donating the prizes.

The attendance figures for the Autumn pairs was 286 members.

The day turned out to be very exciting, as the final of the Summer pairs was played at Longcliffe Golf Club in Nottinghamshire.

Once again that formidable pair from Walsall, Steve Wood and Terry Jesson, reached the final round but were beaten at the last hole by Tom ‘Killer’ Kelsall and Richard Lowe in what was a very exciting match, Tom commented on their own fields. The speakers were:

Derek Green, (Restoration of a golf course); David Stubbs (Conservation on golf courses); Danny Godfrey, (Grasses for breeding); David Golding, (Education the BIGGA way); Tony Gentle, (Man management).

The attendance figures for the semi were very low compared with previous years and in my opinion this was because the date had been brought forward to October instead of the usual March date.

Comments on this would be much appreciated.

On 25th October John Hinton Field Support Manager for B.A.S.F., entertained us with a very interesting talk on fertilizers and their use. This talk was highly appreciated by the members present.

After the talk refreshments were served compliments of B.A.S.F., and we went directly into the Annual General Meeting.

The number of members attending the A.G.M. was 18 and considering the NW section have 286 members, I can only assume that most members are satisfied with the way the section is functioning. Although various items were heatedly discussed by some members, eventually everybody departed on friendly terms.

It only leaves me now to take this opportunity to wish all members, old and new, a very happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

BERT CROSS

MIDLANDS SECTION

Pat on the back must go to the East Midlands team who finally beat us in the annual Rigby Taylor event at Longcliffe Golf Club on October 2nd. Thanks to my old friend Walter Cole for preparing the course at the end of this exceedingly dry summer.

With Rigby Taylor, the final of the Summer pairs knockout was played on October 19th at Coxmoor Golf Club in Nottinghamshire.

Once again that formidable pair from Walsall, Steve Wood and Terry Jesson, reached the final round but were beaten at the last hole by Tom ‘Killer’ Kelsall and Richard Lowe in what was a very exciting match, Tom commented on
the excellence of the course and considered it to be one of the best he has ever played on. Thanks are due to Steve Blakeman and Ken Chatwin for their time and effort in organizing both of these events.

A good time was had by all who attended the Burrows Golf day at Brocton Hall on October 17th with Barry Wood emerging the victor. Thanks to Harry Johnson and his staff for all the entertainments.

The following day, October 18th, the finalists from our years tournaments teed up at Cop Heath Golf Club with their counterparts from the East Midlands to compete for the Len Breakwell Rose Bowl which was won by Nick Hughes.

Thanks are due to Len Breakwell and Keith Fitzhenny, who are we very pleased to hear is making an excellent recovery from his recent illness.

I hear the course was in fine fettle and Harold Lewis and his staff earn congratulations for the fine condition.

Looking ahead to 1990, on February 12th Mr John Hinton from BASF will be giving a talk on fertilizers during the evening - venue and time to be arranged - but do endeavour to keep the date open.

Finally may we wish Tony Luckman well on his recent promotion to Deputy Head at Harborne Golf Club.

Christmas Greetings and the very best for the New Year to all our members.

IVAN TOON

NORTH EAST SECTION

O N September 21 we held our Autumn Competition at the City of Newcastle G.C.

After suffering gale force winds for the previous three days, we were glad of the relief of the wind to give us a beautiful day of sunshine.

I would like to thank Ken Rutherford and his staff for the excellent condition of the course considering the weather we had over the past few months.

Also thanks to the committee of the club for granting the courtesy of the course, the Captain Mr G. Cairns for presenting the prizes and the steward for the meals.

Thanks also to the sponsors, The Ryton Sand and Gravel Co; Bland-Short; Turfcare Supplies; Karsway; N.E. Chemicals; Stewarts of Edinburgh; Ecroft Forestry Group and TACIT for supplying flag poles.


There was a good turnout of members and all the 31 competitors who played the 27 holes competition received a prize.

A special mention to David Jennings of Newbiggin G.C. who had a hole in one on the second hole 142 yds. He also received a special prize for this feat.

At the end of the presentation the Secretary informed the members of the new subs. This was met by the disapproval of several members who signed a petition which will be sent to HQ.

JIMMY RICHARDSON

BERKS, BUCKS AND OXON SECTION

O UR Autumn Tournament took place on 2nd October 1989, at Flackwell Heath Golf Club, Nr High Wycombe, Bucks.

On a day with near perfect playing conditions, the competition started with four faster better ball in the morning, followed by foursomes after lunch. Our congratulations go to those listed below in a close fought competition:

1st all day: P. Whelihan and B. Mann, 78 points; 2nd all day: J. Teixeira and L. Jenkinson, 77 points; 3rd all day: S. Edwards and I. Bennett, 77 points (on countback).

Best am score: C. Vernon and K. Levy, 44 points; Best pm score: D. Porter and A. Waters, 35 points. The nearest the pin honour fell to D. Porter.

Our thanks for a superb day to T. Paillers, Rigby Taylor, Maxwell Hart, Golf and Turf Equipment, Gibb’s, Slabote, Pattisons and BIGGA for providing the prizes.

Our thanks are also extended to Lee Robinson, Head Greenkeeper at Flackwell Heath and his staff for the excellently presented and playable course, and to the catering staff who stood up well to the hungry needs of the 44 players taking part.

The associate winner was Ken Hagen, Whickham G.C.

SOUTH COAST

A S mentioned in my last section notes, the South Coast Section is hosting a regional greenkeeper’s seminar and, with the support of your committee and Regional Administrator, Gordon Childs, have finalised the programme.

Papers will be given on golf course conservation, turf machinery, golf course construction and a viewpoint from a golf professional.

Programmes are available from me and other Committee members, and the fee for the day, which includes lunch, will be £10.00 for BIGGA members and £15 for non-members.

Please support this seminar by your attendance and by circularizing details to club secretaries, chairmen of greens and any other interested members of your club.

Members of other sections and regions reading these notes are most welcome to attend. I will be circulating programmes to other section secretaries.

I look forward to receiving your confirmation of attendance and participation for this event.

For our first winter lecture in November, a most interesting illustrated talk on John Deere tractors and golf course equipment was provided by New Forest Farm Machinery Limited, Greenkeeper Division.

Speakers were Nick Clarke, sales manager and Phillip Tong, area manager. Our thanks to them for providing both a video and slide presentation, which was much appreciated by those members in attendance.

BOB DENNIS

EAST MIDLANDS SECTION

O UR AGM was held at Melton Mowbray G.C. on the 13th November. Our thanks to Birstall G.C. for their committee for the courtesy of the course, the use of the clubhouse and to the catering and bar staff for their hospitality.

With a real thick blanket of Scotch mist over the course, it looked in as good a condition as any in the section, many thanks to the staff for their efforts. Maxwell Hart presented us with a shield to be played for at our AGM’s. The winner was Richard Barker - 2 up, runner-up and winner of a John Deere watch was Ian Marshall - 2 up, The trade winner was Brian Booth - 4 down. The associate winner was Ken Wilson -1 up.

The following members were elected: Chairman, N. Root; Vice-Chairman, R. Barker; Secretary, G. Mitchell; Regional Reps: N. Danvers, G. Arnold, S. Donoghue; Regional: N. Danvers, G. Mitchell.

The section members wish Roger Williams all the very best in his new position as regional administrator, his hard work and dedication are our loss but the region’s gain. What’s it going to do to your golf Roger?

Our winter competition is a bring and win, to be held at Birstall G.C. Christmas dinner afternoons will be O.W. matchplay down with one or two draws and then a presentation of the challenge shield we won from the Midlands sections presented by Rigby Taylor.

May I wish all BIGGA members and H.Q. staff a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

GORDON MITCHELL

Notice to members; The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th March 1990 at 2.30 p.m. in The Royal York Hotel, York.