TWENTY-SIX year old Ian Mitchell has fulfilled his ambition of becoming a Ransomes technical representative following six years as one of the company's demonstrators when, in addition to the UK and European continent, he demonstrated Ransomes grass machinery in countries as far afield as Japan and Korea.

Ian served his apprenticeship with Ransomes when he attended the Suffolk College and gained his City & Guilds parts 1, 2 and 3 in mechanical engineering.

Educated at Bacton Modern School near Stowmarket in Suffolk, and at the Suffolk College where he gained his City & Guilds Full Technical Certificate in Production Engineering, Gerald Southgate served his apprenticeship with the Ipswich manufacturer of cranes and draglines, Ransomes & Rapier.

A work study engineer with Delta Manganese Bronze for four years, where he became a Member of the Institute of Management Services, he went on to Suffolk Lawn Mowers in Stowmarket where he was a Project Engineer prior to joining Ransomes four years ago.

Before taking up his new appointment Gerald had been both a technical and sales representative when he travelled in North America and Europe, giving technical and sales assistance to the company's overseas distributors.

RANSOMES have appointed Nigel Church as Product Training Supervisor.

Nigel, 35, had been a demonstrator, and both a technical and sales representative with Ransomes before joining one of the company's well known dealers as a sales executive, where he gained valuable experience in selling turfcare equipment to professional users.

CONSCIOUS of the need to ensure users of Ransomes grass machinery are provided with both an efficient and professional after-sales service, the company has announced the appointment of Gerald Southgate as Field Service Supervisor.

O NCONSCIOUS of the need to ensure users of Ransomes grass machinery are provided with both an efficient and professional after-sales service, the company has announced the appointment of Gerald Southgate as Field Service Supervisor.

RUFFORD ANNOUNCE NEW DEAL FOR BIGGA FOLLOWING a recent visit to BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor, Frank Garvey, Managing Director of Rufford Top-Dress Supplies Ltd has announced a substantially increased sponsorship package in support of BIGGA during 1990. Apart from increasing its commitment to the Association's educational programme, the company will be doubling its advertising support for 'Greenkeeping Management'.

Mr. Garvey says, "I am so impressed with the phenomenal progress made during 1989 by BIGGA that I couldn't resist the impulse to increase my support for this worthy and progressive organisation. They are doing a magnificent job and greenkeepers for the first time in their history now have an opportunity to enhance not only their technical skills but also something which has long been overdue - their commercial awareness. This in turn will ensure that they will obtain a better value for money for their employers who hopefully will then reciprocate by increasing remuneration in recognition of the savings and a better managed golf course."

Neil Thomas, the Executive Director of BIGGA commented, "I am delighted at the continuing backing the Association receives from Rufford Top-Dress Supplies. Frank Garvey is a great believer in what the Association stands for and is achieving. A contribution such as his to our educational programme and to the development of 'Greenkeeping Management' magazine enables the progress of the Association to be accelerated. His support is greatly appreciated by our members."

Frank Garvey

Gerald Southgate.

Nigel Church

RUFFORD ANNOUNCE NEW DEAL FOR BIGGA FOLLOWING a recent visit to BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor, Frank Garvey, Managing Director of Rufford Top-Dress Supplies Ltd has announced a substantially increased sponsorship package in support of BIGGA during 1990. Apart from increasing its commitment to the Association's educational programme, the company will be doubling its advertising support for 'Greenkeeping Management'.

Mr. Garvey says, "I am so impressed with the phenomenal progress made during 1989 by BIGGA that I couldn't resist the impulse to increase my support for this worthy and progressive organisation. They are doing a magnificent job and greenkeepers for the first time in their history now have an opportunity to enhance not only their technical skills but also something which has long been overdue - their commercial awareness. This in turn will ensure that they will obtain a better value for money for their employers who hopefully will then reciprocate by increasing remuneration in recognition of the savings and a better managed golf course."

Neil Thomas, the Executive Director of BIGGA commented, "I am delighted at the continuing backing the Association receives from Rufford Top-Dress Supplies. Frank Garvey is a great believer in what the Association stands for and is achieving. A contribution such as his to our educational programme and to the development of 'Greenkeeping Management' magazine enables the progress of the Association to be accelerated. His support is greatly appreciated by our members."

Fairfield Court, Brookland, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9RX. Tel: (06794) 731 (10 lines)

 Fairfield one of the largest turf growers in Europe

with a choice of five grades of quality turf plus a full range of associated products and delivery service second to none, landscaping contracting service available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TURF</th>
<th>SOIL</th>
<th>SEED</th>
<th>PLUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amenity Turf</td>
<td>As-dug Topsoil</td>
<td>Landscape mixtures</td>
<td>Graded Bark and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Sport</td>
<td>Screened Loam</td>
<td>Sports Turf mixes</td>
<td>Mushroom Compost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Turf</td>
<td>Pre-turf Compost</td>
<td>Wild Flower mixes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superfine Turf</td>
<td>Turf Top Dressings</td>
<td>Reclamation mixes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasture Turf</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FAIRFIELD TURF LTD Fax: (06794) 734
Fairfield Court, Brookland, Romney Marsh, Kent. TN29 9RX. Tel: (06794) 731 (10 lines)
BIG DEVELOPMENTS AT MAXWELL HART

MAXWELL HART have announced that their head office is on a new site adjacent to their present premises on Reading Road, Winnersh, Wokingham.

This is a multi-million pound move in which the company have arranged a redevelopment of ninety thousand square feet of offices and nine thousand square feet of warehousing, of which, they will occupy and retain the ownership of the entire warehousing area and eight thousand square feet of offices, which will also include conference rooms and showrooms.

NEW MAXWELL HART COMPANY SECRETARY, NEIL STEWART

This marks an exciting new phase in the progress of this forty-five year old company, whose products are well known in the market sectors of synthetic surfaces, play surfaces, chemicals and fertilizers and sports ground equipment.

The most recent extension to their activities is that of being exclusive distributor for the UK for Standard Golf of America. In step with the booming development of golf in this country, this range of flags, tee consoles, information signs, hole cutters, bunker rakes and all the requirements of golf course care, is in great demand.

John W. Tigg - new UK Sales Manager, Sachs Dolmar (UK) Limited.

SACHS-DOLMAR APPOINTS UK SALES MANAGER

SACHS-DOLMAR (UK) Limited, Britain's leading independent supplier of outdoor power equipment, has appointed 38-year-old John W Tigg as UK Sales Manager. He reports directly to Sales Director Chris Hindle and will control and assist the company's four area managers servicing the South and East, Midlands and North, Scotland, and the South West.

He has over 19 years sales experience, which includes six years on industrial power tools equipment, and eight years on garden machinery. These areas of work gave him valuable experience of the hire industry and in products such as brushcutters and chainsaws which are all within Sachs-Dolmar (UK)'s sphere of interests.

Married with two daughters, John currently lives in Bedfordshire.

Sales Director Chris Hindle commented: 'At this particular busy time in our company's development, we are pleased to have obtained the services of a man of John Tigg's calibre. His appointment will release me for other work in the company, from the day to daily administration and coordination activity necessary with such a large product and spares range, and our large widespread distributor network.'

FIRST EVER GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURAL WORKSHOP

The British Association of Golf Course Architects has held a new event organised by Martin Hawtree, Hon. Secretary.

Ten prospective members attended an evening of lectures, followed by a day of talks. The Chairman, Tom McAuley and full members Simon Gidman, Stefan Quenouille, and Fred Hawtree spoke on contract law, green contouring, plan presentation, and the life of Harry Colt, founder of the profession. Students also completed an exercise in green design based on plan data provided.

The meeting marked the launch of a two-year home and field study course punctuated regularly by similar workshops, and exercises supervised by full members.

The Association hopes not only to help newcomers to the profession in this way, but also, by projecting traditional design, values, and knowledge into new developments, to reduce the risks of expensive mistakes which can occur where experience is lacking.

APOLOLOGY

In November's Scotsturf section Greenkeeping management inadvertently published incomplete information concerning an exhibitor, under the heading "Powershift."

The article suggested that the company was owned solely by Mr Sandy Armit. In fact there are two partners in "Powershift", Mr Armit and Mr Douglas Ewan. This is their fourth year in business, having set the company up in August 1986, and both partners have known each other for 8 years. They can be contacted on 0382 833836. We apologise for any embarrassment our previous article may have caused.
NORTH-WEST SECTION
I am writing to several golf clubs in anticipation of our 1990 tournaments, so once I have confirmation and dates they will be included in the section notes.

One date for your diary is Wednesday, February 7 at Bury G.C. Ian Proudler of Endfield Nurseries will give a talk on the choice of trees and shrubs for golf courses. It is important that the right choice is made when planting trees, not only for trees that suit your type of course, but also to enhance the aesthetic quality of your course. So come along at 2 pm and listen to the expert. Why not bring along your greens chairman?

I would be glad to hear of any suggestions for winter lectures that members may have, so give me a ring on 051 724 5412.

BERT CROSS

EAST MIDLANDS SECTION
Our section A.G.M. was held at Melton Mowbray Golf Club on November 13. Our thanks go to the Captain and Committee of Melton Mowbray for the courtesy of the course and the use of the clubhouse in the evening for our A.G.M. Also thanks to the catering and bar staff for the hospitality shown to us. With a good thick blanket of mist over the course, it looked as good a condition as any in the section, many thanks to my staff for their efforts.

Maxwell Hart presented us with a shield to be played for at our A.G.M.'s each year. This year's winner was R. Barker 2 up, winning on the local rule from L. Marshall 2 up, winner of a John Deere watch presented by Scaxford Groundcare - third place went to S. Goode 1 up.

The trade winner was B. Booth 4 down, associate winner was W. Ingleby 1 up.

The following members were elected for the committee:
Chairman: N. Root, Vice-Chairman: D. Duguid and G. Moir as Secretary/Treasurer.

The evening was a big success with some excellent speakers.

John Hinton from B.A.S.F. (Badische, Anilin and Soda Fabrik) who came to Beaconsfield Golf Club on November 21 last to give an excellent lecture "Fertilisers - An Essential Management Tool" to our members.

His very informative talk was backed by slides which gave a background to fertilisers, their chemistry and effects and why they are necessary to plants. The evening was a big success and was enjoyed by all. Our thanks also go to Beaconsfield Golf Club for the kindness of their facilities, and to Bill Patterson, Head Greenkeeper, for organising the food and drink which was gratefully received.

The section A.G.M. has reached means that we offer our congratulations to Dave and Caroline Childs (Dave is currently Head Greenkeeper at Ellesborough Golf Club) on the birth of a son Joshua David, weighing in at 8lb 6oz. Also to Dave and Jeannie Duke, also on the birth of a son, 4lb 13oz Anthony David. (Dave is currently Deputy Course Manager at Badmington Park Golf and Country Club). We wish them every happiness with their new arrivals.

We welcome to our section Gary Armstrong, who has left Worthington Golf Club to take up the position of Head Greenkeeper at Cherwell Edge Golf Club. We wish him all the best there.

I have just heard that David White has resigned his post as Editor of Greenkeeping Management, and I would like to wish him, on our section's behalf, all the best for the future. From myself, I would like to say many thanks for all the help that you have given to me over the past months.

Graeme Patrick was elected as the new Regional Greenkeeper's Seminar is being held at Melton Mowbray Golf Club on Tuesday, 13 March 1990 at Sparsholt College, Hampshire.

Your Chairman, Secretary and Eric James have met as a working group to plan the Seminar and with the support of Speakers Committee and Regional Administrator, Gordon Childs, have finalised the programme.

Papers will be given on golf course conservation, 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 B.I.G.G.A. members and £15 for non-members.

Please support this seminar by your attendance and by circulating 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 by circulating 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.

J.R. DENNIS

BERK, BUCKS AND OXON SECTION

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Section would like to express their thanks to Mr John Hinton from B.A.S.F. (Badische, Anilin and Soda Fabrik) who came to Beaconsfield Golf Club on November 21st last to give an excellent lecture "Fertilisers - An Essential Management Tool" to our members.

His very informative talk was backed by slides which gave a background to fertilisers, their chemistry and effects and why they are necessary to plants. The evening was a big success and was enjoyed by all. Our thanks also go to Beaconsfield Golf Club for the kindness of their facilities, and to Bill Patterson, Head Greenkeeper, for organising the food and drink which was gratefully received. The section A.G.M. has reached means that we offer our congratulations to Dave and Caroline Childs (Dave is currently Head Greenkeeper at Ellesborough Golf Club) on the birth of a son Joshua David, weighing in at 8lb 6oz. Also to Dave and Jeanie Duke, also on the birth of a son, 4lb 13oz Anthony David. (Dave is currently Deputy Course Manager at Badmington Park Golf and Country Club). We wish them every happiness with their new arrivals.

We welcome to our section Gary Armstrong, who has left Worthington Golf Club to take up the position of Head Greenkeeper at Cherwell Edge Golf Club. We wish him all the best there.

I have just heard that David White has resigned his post as Editor of Greenkeeping Management, and I would like to wish him, on our section's behalf, all the best for the future. From myself, I would like to say many thanks for all the help that you have given to me over the past months.

Graeme Patrick was elected as the new Regional Greenkeeper's Seminar is being held at Melton Mowbray Golf Club on Tuesday, 13 March 1990 at Sparsholt College, Hampshire.

Your Chairman, Secretary and Eric James have met as a working group to plan the Seminar and with the support of Speakers Committee and Regional Administrator, Gordon Childs, have finalised the programme.

Papers will be given on golf course conservation, 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 B.I.G.G.A. members and £15 for non-members.

Please support this seminar by your attendance and by circulating 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 by circulating 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.

J.R. DENNIS

EAST OF ENGLAND SECTION

The Berks, Bucks and Oxon Section would like to express their thanks to Mr John Hinton from B.A.S.F. (Badische, Anilin and Soda Fabrik) who came to Beaconsfield Golf Club on November 21st last to give an excellent lecture "Fertilisers - An Essential Management Tool" to our members.

His very informative talk was backed by slides which gave a background to fertilisers, their chemistry and effects and why they are necessary to plants. The evening was a big success and was enjoyed by all. Our thanks also go to Beaconsfield Golf Club for the kindness of their facilities, and to Bill Patterson, Head Greenkeeper, for organising the food and drink which was gratefully received. The section A.G.M. has reached means that we offer our congratulations to Dave and Caroline Childs (Dave is currently Head Greenkeeper at Ellesborough Golf Club) on the birth of a son Joshua David, weighing in at 8lb 6oz. Also to Dave and Jeanie Duke, also on the birth of a son, 4lb 13oz Anthony David. (Dave is currently Deputy Course Manager at Badmington Park Golf and Country Club). We wish them every happiness with their new arrivals.

We welcome to our section Gary Armstrong, who has left Worthington Golf Club to take up the position of Head Greenkeeper at Cherwell Edge Golf Club. We wish him all the best there.

I have just heard that David White has resigned his post as Editor of Greenkeeping Management, and I would like to wish him, on our section's behalf, all the best for the future. From myself, I would like to say many thanks for all the help that you have given to me over the past months.

Graeme Patrick was elected as the new Regional Greenkeeper's Seminar is being held at Melton Mowbray Golf Club on Tuesday, 13 March 1990 at Sparsholt College, Hampshire.

Your Chairman, Secretary and Eric James have met as a working group to plan the Seminar and with the support of Speakers Committee and Regional Administrator, Gordon Childs, have finalised the programme.

Papers will be given on golf course conservation, 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 B.I.G.G.A. members and £15 for non-members.

Please support this seminar by your attendance and by circulating 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 by circulating 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.

J.R. DENNIS

AROUND THE GREEN
club and Bob Hardie of Westhill were presented with their prizes for winning the morning golf and the meeting was concluded in a breath-taking 45 minutes. Our thanks go to Stonehaven G.C. for the use of the clubhouse and also granting us the courtesy of the course for those who played in the morning.

The Section offers their congratulations to Donald McDonald of Seonser on the Isle of Skye, Steven McDonald of Fortrose and Martin Fraser of Inverness who took the first 3 places respectively from 18 fellow YTS students on a 1st year course at Elmwood College. Well done lads and a continuation of this in future years will open up a great career for you.

Also congratulations must go to Bob Hardie for being appointed Head Greenkeeper at Sneathpeffer G.C. where Donny Dingwall is due to retire and congratulations and welcome to the North of Scotland to James Darling of Staffordshire who takes over at Kingussie as was the Section A.G.M.

Finally I would like to thank Mr. Breakey for compiling a list of wages in the region which I was able to extract with a small amount of editing. Also Mr. Breakey recommended that we contact fellow YTS students on a 1st year course at Elmwood College. This has been arranged by the South Coast Section, who have produced an excellent programme. Your support is much appreciated.

The Region will have a new event to look forward to on March 22. This will be known as The Western Greenkeeping Regional Annual Dinner. It will be lounge suits or blazers. For further information please contact your Regional Administrator.

Well, hopefully that's the green in 1990/91. The best of luck!

PAUL WORSTER

SCOTTISH REGION CENTRAL SECTION

Guid New Year to all section members, from the Committee. Hopefully everyone will have recovered from the Festive Season and settling down for another busy year ahead.

At this time I would like to say a special thanks to all our friends in the Trade and the members of the numerous golf clubs who all gave us their support throughout 1989.

Support from section members is an entirely different matter, our visits to Stewarts Garden Centre was poorly attended, as was the Section A.G.M. Nevertheless a very constructive meeting took place and the election of YOUR Committee for 1990 was agreed to. Chairman: W. Steele; Grangemouth. Vice-Chairman: S. Massam. Leven. Past Chairman: J. Ritchie. Ladybank. Secretary/Treasurer: J. Crawford. Dunfermline. Referee: D. Quillar; S. Brown; Crieff. M. Collins, Ladybank; A. Robertson; Grangemouth. Trade; K. Vertigan, Siswa and K. Brunton, Souter of Stirling. It would appear that there are several ways of forgetting members in the section, as the Christmas Prize Draw tickets were supposed to be returned by the 27th November and yet at that date some 35 members had to be sent reminder notices. This is a very important fund raising venture within the section and yet only about 55% of the members give it their support, as is the case with everything else which is organised for everyone's benefit.

From now on lads, it's up to you, events will be organised and if you don't attend them then it's your loss.

It would be hoped that the 'Greein' Season' over for another year.

It will soon be time for the new golfing season and as there are numerous sponsored National events taking place, it would be in everyone's interest to obtain an official handicap, but if you don't have one don't let it put you off coming to the section golf outings they are organised as social events when everyone can get together and have a day's relaxation away from work. What do the non-golfers in the section want organised for them? So far we have offered 6-a-side football, bowling and fishing but had no takers, surely there must be something.

If you have any new ideas, within reason, please get in touch with me and your committee will try to organise some events.

JOHN CRAWFORD
associations has proved beyond doubt that it was the right decision for the future of British greenkeeping, and you now have an Association that three years ago was only a pipe-dream.

GORDON CHILD

SOUTH WALES SECTION

We held our annual match in October at St. Pierre against the South-West Section and there was glorious weather for the competition. The games were well fought out with the result being a draw, three points apiece. I am led to understand this is the same result as last year and the South-West retain the shield as they did last year.

Having just completed in the finals at Moor Allerton Golf Club, I would like to say how nice it was to be part of it. Although being apprehensive at taking part and being the sole qualifier from our section, the boys from the South-West soon dispelled all the fears I had.

The three days started with the coach arriving late, but we finally got to the golf club in time for nine holes practice after which we moved to our "digs" at Askham Bryan College, where food and accommodation were provided.

The day of the final was sunny but cold with the wind getting up and proving difficult to one and all. Everybody enjoyed the golf on a course in excellent condition. Many thanks to Moor Allerton Golf Club and Isely UK for making my three days very enjoyable.

PS. Congratulations to Les Shrub, winner of the final — one of my playing partners.

Carroll Golf Club played host to the first seminar on drainage of golf course and sportsturf surfaces jointly organised by BGGA and Penceod college.

The seminar was opened by the principal of the college who set out his views and future plans for the involvement of his college in greenkeeper education and training.

The lectures began with Peter Gillard who is lecturer in turf culture at Pancelot College who gave a speech on Soils and Drainage, his views were followed up by a joint talk by Mr. Albert Francis Grounds Manager, Carroll Athletic Club and Mr. Graham Cox, Head Greenkeeper Carroll Golf Club telling us the problems of sport-ground and golf course drainage.

The final speech was given by Mr. Derek Clarke of the D. W. Clarke group of companies who is also Chairman of the land drainage association who was telling us about modern drainage techniques and practices which also included a slide show to support his views.

In the afternoon Mr. Clarke gave a demonstration using one of his company's tractor mounted pipe-laying machines. Also on show was a Twose soil conditioner which is vital in relieving soil compaction in turf.

Both the demonstration and lectures while being educational were not too technical as to confuse those attending, making it a very enjoyable and interesting day.

May I take this opportunity to pass on the section's congratulations to John Walsh and his wife after their marriage. This was tinged with a bit of sadness as John has recently undergone surgery for cancer and I am led to believe that his family have taken him back to Ireland to see his family over time.

Our prayers and best wishes go out to John and his wife at this time.

P. SWAIN

NORTHERN SECTION

A belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Chairman and Committee of the Northern Section. I hope to see many of our Section members at the forthcoming European Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate from January 24 to 26. Forthcoming lectures feature Patrick Crowley on Thursday, January 18 at Moor Allerton who will speak on "Conservation Gardening at Home and Work" and on Thursday, February 22, Keith Boyce of Headingly Cricket Ground will speak on cricket groundsman ship. Feel free to bring a guest along.

The trip to Ransomes in Ipswich looks like being cancelled due to lack of interest.

BOB LUPTON

MID ANGLIA SECTION

A November lecture was held at St. Neots GC. This was given by Danny Godfrey of Inter Seeds Ltd. The very foggy weather prevented a large turnout, many members missing what proved to be a very interesting and informative talk. I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Godfrey.

The annual general meeting of the section was held at St Neots on November 14. In the absence of the Chairman/Secretary Paul Fitzjohn, the meeting was chaired by Gerald Bruce. The first item of business was to read a letter from Paul Fitzjohn in which he tendered his resignation as Chairman/Secretary. This he explained was due to his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Parkstone GC. Paul was thanked for his services to the section, who sent him best wishes for the future.

The secretary's report was read. This itemised the achievements of members in competitions, both local and national. The treasurer's report was presented in the form of a balance sheet. A vote of thanks was proposed to Les Wakerell for his efforts as treasurer. The match secretary informed us that 1990's fixtures are being finalised and will be published soon. Ken Bunting was thanked for his continued hard work as match secretary.

The following members were elected to office: Chairman Gerald Bruce, tel. 0442 69294, Vice-Chairman/Regional Rep John Wells, tel. 0707 321663, Secretary Geoff Smith, tel. 0727 85964 and Treasurer Les Wakerel. Match Secretary is Ken Bunting, tel. 044 284 3359, Regional Rep Paul Lockett, tel. 0604 700368 and committee member Bob Goodwin, tel. 0442 84 2434.

The above six will form the committee. Two main items arose from...
"any other business". Firstly, there was concern that the number of members attending competitions was falling, it was felt this was caused by poor communication and rising prices. The committee promised to look into both these matters at the first opportunity. Secondly the section is in possession of an old trophy presented by Bob Plain and David Craig. This trophy is to be played for as an inter club fourball better ball. The details have yet to be finalised.

A vote of thanks was made to St. Neots GC for providing the use of their clubhouse enabling us to hold both a lecture and the A.G.M. The meeting closed at 3.35 pm.

GEoff SMITH

EAST ANGLIAN SECTION

Our A.G.M./golf day took place at Bury in November. Not a very big turn out. The meeting was chaired by "Uncle Sam" with his usual wit and charm. There is a slight change in the officers, who are as follows: President: John Moyle, Vice President: Bob Chesham, Chairman: Sam Sylvester, Vice Chairman: Mick Clarke, Sec/Treasurer: M. Peters, Handicap Competition Liaison Officer: Mick Clarke.

We are now in the "stay at home" time of year. If you have anything you want putting in this section send it to me please, care of Eaton Golf Club, and I'll willingly pass it on.

Just a few dates for 1990. All golf: Feltham - April, Gorleston - June, Bently - August, Quietwaters - October. Venues please for 1991. Possibilities are Eaton, Gogs and Bishop Winterfield and Stuart Greenkeeper Michael Lower

MICK LATHROPE

EAST SCOTTISH SECTION

A NUMBER of important events have taken place since the last report. The W. Woods Memorial Trophy was played for over Winterfield G.C. The winner of this trophy which brings together the greenkeepers and members of their club councils were P. Bowden and K. Fairlieue of Newbattle G.C. with a nett score of 65. Our thanks go to all competitors the council of Winterfield and Stuart Greenwood and his staff for the first class condition of the course.

The annual match against the North East of England sponsored by Stewart and Co was played over Kingsknowe G.C. This resulted in a great win for the Scots by five games to one. It is always a pleasure to see the lads from the North East and we are already looking forward to the return match in 1990. Our thanks go to Stewart and Co for their continued sponsorship and to Kingsknowe for the courtesy of the course.

Our annual general meeting was held on November 22 at Gogarburn. A lecture and slide show prior to the A.G.M. was presented by T. Sherriff of Dunbar and 35 members sat through an enjoyable talk on the John Deer Company. This lecture was of the highest quality. The A.G.M. started at 11 am and we were delighted to see so many members in attendance. Chairman J. Easton retired after his two years service and was replaced by his Vice-Chairman S. Dixon. Jim’s two years has helped put this section back on its feet. Chris Yeaman is the new Vice-Chairman.

The annual dance was held at Turnhouse G.C. We were very proud to have as guests the Scottish President Elliot Small and his wife Edna. The I.O.G. exhibition at Ingleston was another great success. There are two centenary celebrations next year in the East. Both Glencorse G.C. and Goswick G.C. are 100 years old. An article on both of these well known clubs will appear in one of the issues of the magazine in 1990.

W. BLAIR

SURREY SECTION

T HE "Huxley Bowl" has long been a section event. The tournament begins early in the year, as members pick their partners for a competition which will hopefully carry them through to the final in November.

The 1989 "Huxley Bowl" received a total of 40 entrants, comprising twenty pairs who form the first round draw. The home drawn pair then hold the responsibility for arranging the fixture, to be played by a set date. Following the match all results are then forwarded to the secretary, and this procedure continues through the year.

This year’s final was contested over 36 holes, between Michael Lower (Chipstead G.C.) and his partner Andy Davey (RAC Country Club), and Jeff Chambers and Colin Sopp, both of Leatherhead G.C.

The first leg was played on Saturday, November 4, at Chipstead G.C. Although on home territory, Head Greenkeeper Michael Lower found himself and partner Andy Davey two down after the 18 holes.

On Saturday, November 11, the finalists renewed their duel on the concluding 18 holes at Leatherhead G.C. On a glorious sun soaked afternoon, it was Andy and Michael, appearing in his third consecutive final, who drew first blood, winning the opening hole. But it was to be a steady performance by Colin and Jeff, along with some local knowledge that saw them finally pull clear to win 5 and 4, and become the holders of the 1989 "Huxley Bowl".

As the entries start to come in for the 1990 "Huxley Bowl". I would like to thank all those who took part in 89, for their quick reports of matches and results, which enabled me to run a smoother tournament with their help. It is good to see many of Surrey's members taking part in a year-long competition, which sees them playing as many different courses throughout the County, and I look forward to the 1990 "Huxley Bowl". Once again congratulations to the 1989 winners, Colin Sopp and Jeff Chambers.

MIK WELLS

AYRSHIRE SECTION

THE highlight of this month has been the Ingham visit, "Scotsstuff" just gets better and better, being as much a social occasion as a working day.

Our section has to run two buses this year, taking 74 passengers. I just wish some of these would attend our section AGM, which always has the same old faces, with just an odd new man to help on committee.

Ian McNab drove from Dumfries which meant he was on the road longer than the duration of the meeting. A bit more of this type of enthusiasm would be very welcome!

The AGM went off very well, with Chairman George Brown giving a very entertaining chairman’s report in his usual modest manner, and the members as a whole seeming to be a lot happier with the progress of our Association.

We had an interesting visit from Phil Walter of Multisol Ltd a short time ago, marketing a new environmentally friendly hydraulic oil.

Finally, the section would like to congratulate Harry Diamond on being elected as Ayrshire Region Chairman, and wish him the best of luck for his term of office.

DUNCAN GRAY

MIDLANDS SECTION

OUR winter meetings start on February 12th at Walsall G.C. at 7.30. Mr. John Hinton from BASF will give a talk on grass nutrition, please support the section by attending.

Congratulations to Peter Woodward on his appointment as Course Manager at Moor Hall G.C. Also to Arnold Piipps-Jones on his appointment as Course Manager at a Belgium GC. Roger Williams has taken over from Arnold as the new Regional Administrator and I am sure will do an excellent job.

IVAN TOON
The finest places need the finest IRRIGATION
Gleneagles Golf Club

The Allen
Reciprocator features two 20-tooth, reciprocating blades that dramatically reduce the danger of debris becoming flying projectiles and prevent the kickback that is normally caused when a blade strikes a fixed object.

Powered by a 22.5cc Zenoah engine with electronic ignition, this unique professional petrol trimmer provides the durability and performance of a steel blade but the safety and versatility of a nylon head.
CHEMICAL CABINET

FOR SUPERIOR WINTER TEES

MASTERTREE

FIRSTEE

TOPTEE

Rocraft Limited

CHEMICAL CABINET
PESTICIDE HANDLING AND STORAGE

- Steel 2mm throughout
- Secure Chubb 5 Lever Lock
- Spillage containment 210 litres
- Ventilated
- Drain Plug
- Stackable
- Official Hazard Warning Logo

Height – 110cm
Depth – 61cm
Width – 84cm
Colour – Canary Yellow

FULLY MEETS THE STORAGE REQUIREMENTS AS GIVEN IN GUIDANCE BY THE HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

Other models include 25 and 50 litre portables. For further information on our range including gun cabinets.

Please contact:
ROCRAFT LTD.
ENERGYTH,
CAERPHILLY,
NID GLAM, CF8 3TE.
TEL: 0222 885778
FAX: 0222 863783

PORTASTOR
GUARDIAN® & CHEMVAULT®
PESTICIDE STORES

FULLY LABORATORY TESTED AND APPROVED FOR THE SAFE AND SECURE STORAGE OF PESTICIDES


MINIBIN, 40 litre Capacity, Steel Construction, Two Chemical Compartments, Vapour Proof, Separate Safety Clothing Locker, Warning Signs, Weatherproof, Bolt Down or Transportable, ideal for Services Vehicles, Lockable. Cost... £145.48 plus VAT

TRUCK BOX, Chainsaw or Tool Cabinet, Steel Construction, Weatherproof, Two Compartments, Designed for Land Rover, Pick Up Trucks or Service Vehicle Use, Robust, Lockable. Cost... £165.30 plus VAT

TOOL BIN, For on Site Storage of Power and Hand Tools, Steel Construction, High Security Five Lever Chubb Lock, Fire Resistant, Moveable by Fork Lift or Stings, Weatherproof, Castor Wheels. Optional Cost... £428.60 plus VAT

PETROLEUM STORAGE CABINET, 200 litre Capacity, Steel Construction, Retaining Sump, Raised Floor Shelf, Five Lever Chubb Lock, Fire Resistant, Hazard Warning Signs, Ventilated. Cost... £442.65 plus VAT

OUTLOOK, STATION ROAD, STONEGATE, NR. WADHURST, EAST SUSSEX, TN5 7EP
TEL: (0860) 202922 & (0860) 633214

January '90
CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES

Plain man's guide to pesticides

PESTICIDES are an important management tool for greenkeepers, their use is now taken for granted and is an integral part of the management of the modern golf course. However, two recent pieces of legislation have had and will continue to have a significant effect on the use of pesticides on the golf course. An understanding of the requirements of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985, especially The Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986 and The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) is an essential requirement for any professional greenkeeper. For those still unfamiliar with the requirements of the Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986, a very useful guide is "The Plain Mans Guide to the Pesticide Regulations" which is available free from the British Agrochemical Association at 4 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP. The same organisation have recently published a similar guide entitled "The COSHH Assessment - A Plain Mans Guide for the Amenity User".

FEPA AND THE GREENKEEPER

Within the law there is a general obligation for ALL pesticide users to "take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants, to safeguard the environment". Pesticide users should be aware that the manufacturers label has legal status and there is an obligation on all users to follow the label recommendations. The single most important piece of advice that a manufacturer can give to a user is READ, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW THE LABEL RECOMMENDATIONS. If there is any doubt about the label recommendations discuss this with your supplier or manufacturer.

A large number of users require a Certificate of Competence: contractors (a term which also applies to an operator offering a "free" service or doing a favour), all users born after 31st December 1964 (NB any trainee or apprentice greenkeepers), and anyone supervising uncertified users in these preceding categories.

A user requiring "certification" does not have to attend any training course before attending an examination. However, to be confident of success the user should attend a recognised training course. These courses can be arranged with the Agricultural Training Board, local agricultural colleges, other independent organisations or by experienced 'in-house' staff (who will ideally have attended an NPTC course). The NPTC syllabus, which now encompasses the new COSHH regulations, is divided up into a modular format. Each candidate has to sit the Foundation Module before he can proceed to the pesticide application modules. The Foundation Module encompasses the safety aspects of pesticide legislation, mixing of concentrates, protective clothing and most importantly the reading and understanding of the manufacturers label.

Other areas covered in the foundation module are as follows: keeping records, disposal of unwanted pesticides and washings, dealing with contamination, environmental factors, storage of pesticides.

Having passed the Foundation module the candidate can then proceed to the application modules which qualify the user for a range of different methods of application. The application modules range from Ground Crop Sprayer to seed treating equipment to Hand Held Applicators to granules. There are up to 21 different application modules. Some of the modules will cover the user for other modules simultaneously, similar in principle to the driver categories covered by a driving licence.

The normal training format will be:

1. Training for Foundation Modules, 1 day, cost £25-£35/head.

2. Test on Foundation Modules, up to 2 hours, cost £25-£30/head.

3. Training on Application Module 1/2 day, cost £35-£50/head.

4. Test on Application Module, 2 hours-1/2 day, cost £25-£35/head.

Cost and timings are approximate. NPTC charges vary from county to county.

Obesity taining a spray operative is expensive. A fully certified operator who has attended training courses will cost his employer from £105 to £180 in tuition and examination fees, not including lost work time.

COSHH AND THE GREENKEEPER

The responsibility of the greenkeeper under COSHH is somewhat less clear as the overall responsibility for compliance will lie with the management of the golf club. However, there are a number of actions which the greenkeeper can take to help:

1. Inform the management of any hazardous products which are used, e.g. any products which carry the orange hazard signs signifying "TOXIC", "HARMFUL", "CORROSIVE" or "IRRITANT". Where possible provide labels for these products and acquire Product Safety Data Sheets from the supplier or manufacturer.

2. Assess whether it is essential to use these products or whether 'safer' formulations and packaging can be obtained.

3. Review the situation in which these products are used. Can better safety equipment be provided, e.g. a mixing bowl for a mounted sprayer?

4. Where unsafe or prohibited practices have been identified staff should be informed and trained in their correct use and maintenance.

If further help and assistance is required then the local branch of the Health & Safety Executive should be consulted. The HSE would rather advise than prosecute.

Training for FEPA may seem a large investment that was not necessary in the past. However, the law allows for fines of up to £2000 for failure to comply with the legislation and this will be one incentive to get trained. The real benefit however of a training course is that it will pay dividends in terms of both safety and the efficiency of pesticide use. Greater accuracy in application, better calibration, and more care in the choice of pesticide will all result in improved pesticide efficacy and thus justify the extra costs in the long term. Understanding and enforcing the requirements of COSHH will ensure that the golf course remains a healthy and safe working environment for the greenkeeper. Thus, in many ways, the changes to the legislation will in fact be of benefit to the greenkeeper rather than a nuisance.

EVERYONE involved with pesticides should make every effort to ensure that they are "competent for the duties for which they are called upon to perform". It is the duty of both employer and employee to ensure that adequate training and instruction is available and is used, even if a certificate of competence is not required. Pesticides are an important management tool for greenkeepers, skill and safety in using them must be an important feature for the successful care and maintenance of turf, together with healthy management.

PATRICK GOLDSWORTHY
Technical Services Manager
ICI Agrochemicals, Professional
CHEMVAULT UNITS

PORTASTOR High Security Products have established a reputation over the past 12 years for providing specialist storage for not only chemicals but also power tools and equipment, e.g. chainsaws, flammable paints, solvents and adhesives, LPG and electronic equipment including video machines, computers and audio visual equipment.

They are fully recommended by Crime Prevention Officers, Local Authority and Company Safety Officers, Fire Officers and Insurance Companies.

The latest CHEMVAULT units feature tanked floors with drain off bung for containing and decanting spillages, high and low level ventilators with flame arrestor guaze to prevent build up of fumes and 50mm returns to the easy action, gas strut assisted lid to prevent flame ingress in the event of fire.

CHEMVAULT and sister product FLAMVAULT units have been tested at the Warrington Fire Research Centre for stability and integrity in a fire for 1 hour and are fully weatherproof for use outdoors. The 2.5mm welded steel construction, reinforcing ribs, high security multi point locking system and fortified key entry points make the CHEMVAULT unit an excellent secure store.

Built to last and with prices ranging from a little over £300 including delivery for the smallest CCV1 unit. CHEMVAULT units are a very practical and economical solution to an increasingly serious problem.

For sales enquiries contact PORTASTOR High Security Products, Portasilo Ltd, Hunnington, York, England YO3 9PR. Tel. 0904 624872.

AGRICLERK

AGRICLERK is probably the leading supplier of chemical log books, charts and signs.

In February 1989 the company purchased Kembin, Mini-Bin and Contracta-Bin security multi point locking system and fortified key entry points make the CHEMVAULT unit an excellent secure store.

Products, Portasilo Ltd, Hun-ington Fire Research Centre TURF CARE PRODUCTS

The ICI range of turf care products has been developed for professionals. Whether your target is turf weeds, insect pests or turf diseases—whether the location is fine turf or outfield, look to the driving range.

SUPER VERDONE: The effective selective herbicide which controls major broad-leaved weeds in any established turf. Three powerful weedkillers give broad spectrum cover, even to speedwell and yellow sucking clover.

GAMMA-COL' turf: Underground pest like leatherjackets and chafer grubs will cause ugly bare patches as they eat grass roots and stems. Gamma-Col turf will kill these pests and remains in the soil to give effective and long term control. The easy to use liquid formulation has contact and fumigant action.

TURF CARE PRODUCTS

DUAL CONTROL

THE valuable dual purpose turf treatment, Turfclear, from Fisons, combines lasting, economical control of both diseases and worm casts in one product. An added benefit is that only the casting worm species are controlled. The beneficial, non casting worms remain largely unaffected.

Turfclear contains Carbendazim and is approved under the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (MAFF No. 0253).

A free guide to using Turfclear is available on application to Fisons Horticulture, Professional Horticulture Department, Paper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich, IP8 4BZ. Tel. (0473) 630492.