

damage

such as bunker renovations

- Every experience should be used as a learning experience and to see if any lessons can be learned for the future

What is our relationship with the local community and how can we improve our image?

- Involve the local schools in any environmental projects you may have
- Speak to local schools about greenkeeping as a career
- Write articles for the local paper or get on local radio to talk about the positive effects golf courses have on the environment avoiding controversial issues such as rabbit and squirrel control
- Use organisations such as the Guides and Scouts to carry out tasks around the course as a way for them to raise funds

Do we have replacement tee markers, flags, flag-poles and spare ball washers and benches?

- Show the perpetrator that you are prepared for as they will often become bored fighting a losing battle
- Show your members that you are prepared as well
- Consider bringing in these items each night if it is a persistent problem

Do we have a supply of graffiti remover?

The above ideas I hope will provide food for thought. No two clubs have the same problems or requirements, but the basics of being prepared should apply to all clubs. Golf courses are always going to be vulnerable to attack due to their sheer size and

general ease of access, but that doesn't mean that you can't be proactive in preparing and planning for the worst. Many times, those that are most prepared are those that are least affected



START THE NEXT 1000 YEARS WITH A BANG!



While the marketing men are frantically pushing the Millennium Dome as the place to visit as soon as we can find a slot in our busy diaries, we at BIGGA are confident that you will already have marked off the third week in January for your annual trip to Harrogate.

BTME 2000 is set to outstrip all others, with many new initiatives and a new hall which means even more stands to visit and bigger and better displays for some of your favourite companies.

The Learning Experience, in association with Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products, carries the theme Past, Present and Future and will feature some in-depth papers by some of the leading experts in their respective fields. In addition the workshop programme has been extended to five covering a range of on and off the golf course matters.

After the success of Frank Dick OBE as the Key Note and Motivational Speaker last year Simon Weston OBE takes the stage on the Wednesday morning this year. It should be a memorable talk.

As ever, tickets for the BTME Banquet are a rare commodity, particularly for BTME 2000 when the entertainment will be provided by The Bootleg Beetles, regarded as the world's leading Beetle tribute band, whose recreation of the Fab Four's music has been described as "fastidiously authentic".

In addition to those undoubted highlights, BTME 2000 will also boast a Careers Advice Clinic while there will be a chance to win some wonderful prizes and raise some money for Cancer Research at the same time.

HIGHLIGHTS

BIGGA NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 January, The Majestic Hotel
Delegates arrive and register at The Majestic Hotel, Conference Office between 4.30pm and 6.30pm on Sunday 16 January followed by dinner at 7.30pm (Jacket and Tie must be worn). The new look Conference is held over the next two days, when speakers will present in-depth papers on four topics of interest to all greenkeepers.

BIGGA WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 January, The Majestic Hotel
Delegates arrive and register at the Majestic between 4.30pm and 6.30pm on Sunday 16 January followed by dinner at 7.30pm (Jacket and Ties must be worn).
Workshop 1 will prepare delegates for the next stages of Golf Course Design. Workshop 2 is designed to give Assistant Greenkeepers guidance on Golf Course Presentation. Workshop 3 will give delegates instruction on Written and Verbal Communication. Workshop 4 will give greenkeepers the skills and knowledge to maintain Golf Course Machinery and, finally, Workshop 5 is designed to introduce Greenkeepers to the art of Computing.

BTME SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Wednesday 19, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 January, The Royal Hall
The Past, Present and Future is the theme for the BTME Seminar Programme. Speakers from the USA, Canada, Europe and the UK will be presenting papers on a variety of subjects, ranging from personal experiences and lessons learned to advances in machinery technology. The BTME Seminar Programme, runs alongside the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition.

RUNNING GOLF COURSES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Tuesday 18 and Wednesday 19 January, The Crown Hotel
Delegates arrive and register at The Crown Hotel between 8.30am and 9.00am on Tuesday 18 January. This two day course is for those who manage and administer golf courses. The course is presented by STRI experts in all aspects of golf course design, construction, management and maintenance and includes a presentation by a BIGGA Course Manager. These two days will enable you to maximise the agronomic and financial potential of your golf course. It also includes a visit to the STRI trial grounds and laboratories and a visit to the BTME exhibition.

CAREERS ADVICE CLINIC

New for 2000 is the BIGGA Careers Advice Clinic where Brin Bendon and Frank Newberry will be available to answer your questions on CV's, job application letters, interview techniques and negotiating your salary package, all helping you to get 'that job'.

BEATLEMANIA SET TO ROCK HARROGATE!



The Bootleg Beatles are one of Britain's most popular bands - quite an achievement for a group that never release records, but have achieved success through their immaculate re-creation of the sights and sounds of the Fab Four live on stage. Popular with all ages, the band are now in the forefront of the contemporary music scene. Their appearances with Oasis in 1996 at Earl's Court, Knebworth, Cork and Loch Lomond won them huge new audiences of young fans.

They have filled major venues all over the world, from the Royal Albert Hall to the Budokan in Tokyo, with their show containing Beatles music from 1964-1970. Recently described in the Daily Telegraph as "fastidiously authentic", the band members are self-confessed Beatles fanatics. Their proudest achievement is the often-heard comment after their shows, "It was just like watching the real thing". They have put in years of practice, studying records and video tapes, using all their skills as musicians and actors, to look and sound like the Beatles. Their hard work has paid off, as they are now acknowledged as the world's leading Beatles band.

THE GREAT BTME RAFFLE

Proceeds from the Great BIGGA BTME Raffle will go the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.




The Charity is delighted to be involved with the project and has earmarked the money made to the White Rose Appeal which puts £1.5 million a year into two cancer research units at St James' University Hospital, Leeds - otherwise known as Jimmy's.

The first unit, headed by Professor Peter Selby, seeks to take basic knowledge acquired in the laboratory right through to the treatment of patients while the other, the Genetic Epidemiology Laboratory, headed by Professor Tim Bishop, is working to discover the hereditary element which is thought to play a role in about 5% of all cancers.

Such a worthy cause, together with some wonderful prizes, should be great incentive to give generously when you receive your raffle ticket form on arrival at the Show.


For further information on the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Tel: 0171 242 0200.








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EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Advanta Stand - C3-4

Global grass seed breeder Advanta (formerly Mommersteeg and Sharpes International) is using BTME to launch its brand new portfolio of amenity grass seed mixtures. These are being presented to the market place as two distinct new brands - Advanta MM's, and Designer from Advanta.

Each branded mixture has been formulated to produce a top quality sward, which is long-lasting and easy to manage. There are mixtures for all sporting activities, including football, cricket, tennis and racing, and also for every landscaping and local authority requirement. Both ranges include the very latest cultivars to come out of Advanta's dedicated amenity grass seed breeding programme.

Amazone - B38

Amazone's new 02 series Groundkeeper will be exhibited with blade configurations suitable for scarifying and heather rejuvenation. Additional information on mowing, mulching and collecting will be available on our stand to ensure existing and future users maximise on the wide variety of work applications that the Ground keeper will happily tackle.

This season's Zero Turn Profil Hopper will also be on display with a 24.5HP, 3 cylinder diesel engine now being fitted as standard. This machine is capable of delivering high work rates in all weather conditions and is highly manoeuvrable.

Amenity Technology - Q16

Six reasons to visit the Amenity Technology stand:

1. The most innovative products in the Amenity industry on display
2. The best promotions and new products at BTME, without a doubt.
3. The Bayco range of golf course accessories with many exciting new additions.
4. A chance to pick up your free ticket to the Amtec BTME reception, the most sought after ticket in town.
5. Great hospitality and informative, friendly advice, guaranteed.
6. Industry leading products such as The Andersons Fertiliser, Vertigo, Sustane, The Drencher Range, Crystal Clear all on show.

Avoncrop Amenity Products - B6

Avoncrop Amenity Products have their latest catalogue available at BTME, demonstrating the unrivalled product range available to Course Managers. Our commitment is to offer choice and therefore the right solutions for each individual situation. Take a look at our new section on microbial, organic and Biostimulant products. We are able to carry out soil analysis and produce fertiliser programmes, give technical advice and highlight the right products and services to assist in keeping the course in tiptop condition. Some of our top selling ranges include Scotts, Barenbrug, Rhone-Poulenc, Green Releaf and numerous own brands, including the hugely successful Surf to Turf Seaweed range. Further details on 01934 820868

Bernhard & Co Ltd - B31

Bernhard and Company, makers of the world famous Atterton's EXPRESS DUAL and ANGLE-MASTER machines, introduce new exciting grinders & specialist Golf Course tools. Express Dual and Anglemaster grinders enable mechanics to sharpen mowers in less than twenty minutes without dismantling anything. Contact free cutting results without lapping, the Blade-Rite 2000 spins, relief grinds and sharpens bottom blades all on one machine. The Rota-Rite 1000 is a high precision rotary blade grinder with internal vacuum. See the handy Relief grinder, Lapping machine & Rapid Facer-book FREE GRINDING Demonstration Days by visiting stand B31.

Biotol - Q116

A revolutionary form of biological treatment for use in the professional turf and landscape market will be on display on the Pentagon Amenity Marketing stand (Q116) at BTME, Harrogate. Developed and manufactured by Biotol, these ecologically safe and highly effective products will be available through the Pentagon Group in the U.K. Biotol products have already been tried and tested on stadia and bowling greens as well as some of the leading golf courses, producing excellent results reliably and safely. Combining three products, the programme re-introduces, feeds and boosts beneficial microbia concentrations in turf. The three products, known as Microbalance Biofeed and Microbooster, are also available for application separately. Microbalance is a unique blend of microbes researched, developed and produced in the UK. Selected for its ability to rebalance the soil micro-flora, Microbalance replaces protective microbes destroyed by intensive use of toxic chemical treatments. Biofeed is a natural seaweed extract, soil and foliar feed, specifically selected for natural surfactant content. Microbooster is an organic plant extract which creates a suitable environment for the development of beneficial microbes within the soil profile.

British Seed Houses - Q20

Visit the British Seed Houses stand and go one up. Turfgrass professionals joining the new Grade A Club can gain special discounts on approved training courses, as well as access to developments coming out of the UK's only amenity grass breeding programme at the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research (IGER) near Aberystwyth. Greenkeepers will be able to hear how Avalon velvet bent is outperforming all other bents in terms of shoot density and fineness of leaf. Avalon produces the highest quality turf of any species under close, frequent mowing and has a much better low temperature, shade and drought tolerance than other bents. British Seed House is also sponsoring the Golf Constructors' Association cocktail party which is being held on Wednesday evening 19 January 2000. Tel: 01925 654411 Fax: 01925 230682 E-mail: bshwarr.co.uk

Charterhouse - B32

Charterhouse Turf machinery welcomes visitors to their extended stand so that they may enjoy the various products from their four operating Divisions:

TRACTOR DIVISION
Introducing for the first time a representative range of Carraro Tractors including reversible tractors, articulated tractors and Local Authority multi-purpose tool carrying units. Also on show will be our range of ancillary Carraro equipment.

THE RICHMOND DIVISION will be presented, showing their wide range of hand tools, forestry equipment and tree surgery management equipment. All these items and many more are displayed within their new catalogue which will be available free to any visitors.

THE TURF MACHINERY DIVISION will be exhibiting its full range of Verti-Drain, Aeration, Seeding, Top Dressing and Scarifying/Sweeping machinery.

THE CONNOISSEUR DIVISION will have on its display its range of DR Trimmer/Mowers and Powerwagons, together with their latest introductions.

Eagle Promotions - A19

EAGLE PROMOTIONS - Stand A19
Eagle Promotions provide an extensive range of services to Golf Clubs from the initial Course Measure through to Scorecards, Yardage Books and other Point of Play Accessories. This exhibition will enable us to show our exciting choice of signage for the Golf Industry. Our signage is developing around our ability to create any image etched into zinc plate. The versatility of the etched plate also allows it to be used as a flat pattern for bronze casting. Although the

cost is higher, the plaque is then virtually indestructible. These mounted on Stone, Moulded Rock and Wood create truly spectacular sign systems.

Etesia UK Ltd - C43

After ten years selling one of the best cutting and collecting systems on the market, Etesia's competitors have now recognised the considerable benefits this unique concept offers users. The Etesia through-cut and collection system was first introduced into the UK in 1989 and has proved to be a real winner on all types of grass conditions, regardless of length and wetness. Where most other machines clog up, Etesia's Hydro100 and Hydro124D keep going, making grass cutting operations highly cost effective and profitable. They certainly score when it comes to wild flower meadows and conservatory areas and their quietness makes them ideal for noise sensitive areas. Only Etesia offers you original through-cut ride on mowers - tried and tested for over ten years. "Seeing is believing" - before buying new machinery check out an Etesia by booking your free demonstration.

Greensward Direct - Q86

True-Surface have a free offer on their stand that you can't afford to miss! The first 50 visitors each day will receive deluxe conference folder, so make sure that stand No. 86 in Hall Q is your first call! On display will be the new True-Surface Power Roller. Just like the well proven triple mower attachments, this new self powered pedestrian version is a lightweight roller using high frequency vibrations to gently shake the surface particles of the green back into place, creating consistently fast and true playing surfaces. The triple mower roller attachments will also be on display including the new model to fit the John Deere 2500.

Hayter Ltd - 22+41

It is uncommon to approach a major exhibition with severe doubts concerning the availability of product to display. Following an exceptional season, Hayter hope they will be able to exhibit two new five unit mowers: the T424, a replacement for the highly respected T44 and, making its debut at BTME, the new FM 524 fairway machine. Both of these machines represent the policy of continual development which has helped to position Hayter at the forefront of the market sectors it serves. If the machines are not present, cardboard cut-outs will be used! What will be on show will be the very successful LT324 triple cylinder mower and the highly acclaimed R314 three unit rotary machine. These will be complemented by a Greensmower56 pedestrian mower, the evergreen Condor pedestrian rotary and reelcutter and other models from the Hayter range.

Headland Amenity - Q25

Multigreen controlled release fertilisers for turf, manufactured by Haifa Chemicals, will feature strongly at BTME as part of the comprehensive range of turf care products available from Headland Amenity Products. Now a proven market leader among turf fertilisers in the UK, the Multigreen range includes a choice of products which provide 5-6 month nutrition for coarse, close mown or fine turf. Headland has pioneered the use of the fine turf formulations (Multigreen Mini) as a season long 'base feed', used in combination with supplementary liquid feeding, allowing close control of turf response. Headland will also exhibit Multi-K Mini Prill from Haifa, along with its other ranges of liquid and granular feeds, seaweeds, wetters and turf chemicals.

John Deere - C32-33

Designed for easy servicing and increased productivity on golf courses and in parks and public areas, the new John Deere 1600 wide area

mower is the company's first commercial rotar machine to use hydraulic mower drive. This incorporates an Eaton axial piston pump, which transfers power more efficiently compare with gear type pumps and motors, especially in touch working conditions. John Deere's straightforward two pedal forward and reverse foot control combines with a three lever mower deck lift control for easy operation. Good traction is also provided by the two speed transaxle with standard differential lock and mechanical four wheel drive on demand.

Kubota - A35

Every product to be shown on Kubota's stand A 35 at BTME 2000 has been newly introduced over the past year. From the 35hp, 37hp and 45hp Grandel L Series tractors with their upgraded high visibility cabs to the revolutionary AM3300 ride-on triple cylinder mower with hopper grass collector, Kubota continues to bring important advances to turf management and mechanisation. The new B1410 14hp compact tractor will be at Harrogate as will Kubota's G18 GlideCut mower - the world's first triple through-cut mower with rear collector - and the T1760, a 1.2m cut ride-on mower with water-cooled petrol engine.

Marlwood - C40

The latest range of Articulator rotary mowers will be on display. The range gives a cost effective quality finish to turf cut from 1" to 6". New, launching at BTME, the trailed 7 deck Model 721XR is an innovative design. Boasting a cutting width of 132", with low-maintenance, high-efficiency deck design and streamline hydraulic lift system for easier maintenance and transportation. The 425D ride-on is already proving to be an enormous success. This 96" out-front 38hp ride-on has a low centre of gravity, zero turning and height of cut adjustment within a few seconds. To view the complete range including the new 621ER and the 325 series visit our stand.

Ocmis Irrigation - A5

Ocmis are experts in irrigation system design and installation for all golf course, sports turf and landscape areas. We are distributors for Rain Bird, Buckner and Hunter irrigation products and can supply/service equipment manufactured by other companies. Ocmis have unique in house design capabilities ensuring that the requirement of each client are individually met, this coupled with a marketing agreement with Textron provides the ultimate irrigation package. For more information or a no obligation survey and design, contact Ocmis Irrigation (UK) Ltd Head Office 01460 241939, Scotland Office 0131 220 2102, Ireland Office (00353) 1 23 4020.

Rhône-Poulenc - Q2

Rhone Poulenc Amenity is planning to exhibit as the newly formed 'Aventis'*. Come and talk to us about your problems with your weed, disease or pest control in turf. There is a new tank mix recommendation for Mildothane Turf Liquid, bringing a new active into the Amenity market and offering a wide spectrum of weed control and a very fast mode of action. Our 'number one' fungicide Rovral Green® has been found to be harmless to beneficial turf fungi (mycorrhiza) while still being as effective against pathogenic species, which leads to added benefits in turf, such as increased resistance to drought, pests and diseases. You will have the chance to use our new CD-Rom version of the product manual on the stand. There is also information on our new web site. *The formation of Aventis has been approved by the shareholders of Rhone-Poulenc and Hoechst, but is still subject to the approval by the various authorities concerned and to the successful completion of the exchange offer. Integration will be subject to information exchange and consultation of the workers' representatives.

AT BTME2000

Rigby Taylor - Q29

Rigby Taylor, a BIGGA Gold Key Member, will be displaying their wide range of products and services. Their new fungicide 'Fusonil' Turf will be featured along with their other chemical products including the turf selectives 'Bastion' T and 'Greenor', and the pre and post emergence herbicide 'Casoron' G. The fertiliser range will also be displayed along with their Grass Seed portfolio which includes new varieties for 2000. The MASCOT Specialities range will also be on show including 'Integrate', 'Blockade', 'Amino-sorb' and Profile.

The Scotts Company - B4+B33

Scotts launch new liquids at BTME. Scotts UK Professional will be launching a comprehensive new range of liquid fertilisers designed to give greenkeepers and groundsmen the option of fast, flexible turf growth control. Available in a range of nutrient formulations, new Greenmaster Liquids are easy to apply and can be used in combination to achieve precision in turf response. The benefits of the new turf growth management tool Shortcut, which have halve the amount of time grounds and greenkeeping staff need to spend on mowing grass, will also be demonstrated. Shortcut can free up valuable man-hours for deployment on more meaningful tasks through its unique action in reducing grass growth rate without sacrificing sward vigour and appearance. Shortcut contains the new active ingredient trinexapac-ethyl, and has successfully reduced mowing requirements by 50 per cent on fairways and tees. Crucially, turf responds positively to treatment with Shortcut, with trial sites also reporting enhanced colour, thickening of the sward and improved root development following application. The comprehensive Scotts Product Guide to fertilisers and chemicals for the turf and amenity markets will be available. Call on the stand for a free copy.

Sisis Equipment - Q5

SISIS have moved to a much larger stand in Hall Q to accommodate their increased range of golf course maintenance machinery which now includes ride-on triples and gangmowers (designed and manufactured in the UK), Grainskeeper rotating brush, Soil Relievers and soil shredders. In fact, SISIS now offer around 120 different machines for all aspects of turf care. Come and talk to us on Stand Q5.

Sovereign Turf Ltd - Q55

Everybody has dreams and professional turf managers are no different. If you come to the new Sovereign Turf stand Q55 opposite the main registration desk in hall Q we will turn some of those dreams into reality. We can't do anything about your budgets but we can offer quality turf and grass seed second to none at realistic prices. We also provide advice and an excellent after sales service. If you dream of quality products delivered on time and at the right price, then come and talk to Steve Williams and Mac Bailey about the reality from Sovereign Turf Ltd.

Supaturf - A27

Supaturf celebrates 40 years of serving the industry at the Show 40 years ago Superturf Products Ltd was incorporated and immediately set about the task of serving the sports turf industry. Now, 40 years on, they are still at the forefront of the industry offering such world leading products as the unsurpassable Primer 604 through to the irreplaceable SS/D semi organic fine turf fertiliser. It is also 20 years since Supa turf introduced wetting agents to Europe with AquaGro and therefore 20 year anniversary of working closely with The Aquatrols Corporation of America who invented the whole science 45 years ago in the USA. Supaturf have a lot to celebrate at BTME in 2000 and look forward to meeting at the show with their clients from around the world, who will help to keep the celebrations going.

Textron - A23

Textron Turf Care and Speciality Products have become synonymous with a range of quality products for turf care management, and in particular the golf sector. Visit our stand and view the key products from such renowned brands as Cushman, E-Z-GO, Iseki, Jacobsen, Ransomes and Ryan. New products to be launched at BTME will include the new range of Ransomes Compact Tractors, the Iseki TK 456 tractor and the very latest E-Z-GO TXT golf car with the revolutionary Precision Drive System (PDS). Also on display will be the Ransomes Super Certes pedestrian cylinder mower featuring the new OPC system; the Jacobsen Tri-King with new ISO mounting; the Jacobsen LFD-3800 fairway mower with Mauser cab; and the Ransomes AR 250 rotary mower with side discharge. And finally, in this ever-changing industry where you need to keep up-to-date with best practice, don't forget to visit The Learning Experience Seminars, sponsored by Textron.

Toro - B35

Toro starts the new millennium as it left the old with the launch of a string of superb new innovative turf maintenance products sure to attract great interest from greenkeepers and groundsmen. Hot on the heels of its hugely successful revolutionary Reelmower 3100 Sidewinder triple cylinder mower, Toro is introducing a rotary version in which also all three cutting decks shift from side to side up to 24in for mowing bunker overhangs, aprons and other edges. It has a great ability to follow ground contours and cut without scalping. Also making its debut is the stylish new Workman 2100 mid-duty utility vehicle with unique 'twister' suspension for superior traction and stability. The new Greenmaster 3250-D joins it. This is the latest in the line of Toro's world-beating Greensmaster triplex mowers and has a powerful diesel engine and unique cutting unit suspension to follow ground contours smoothly. The new products are joined by a wide selection of other Toro equipment including fairway mowers and aerators.

Turfgrass Services - A31

The custom turf growing service that Inturf offer to greenkeepers has developed into a major department for the Company with a number of different types being grown at any one time, from traditional fescue/bent mixtures to straight creeping bent grass, all grown on USGA type rootzones. Usually the Company needs 12 months notice of requirement but any turf type on any rootzone can be ordered for supply only (small or big rolls) or fully installed. Also the ITM movable modular turf system is catching on fast for golf tee applications, where sections of a teeing area can be replaced or repositioned to minimise wear and tear. For more information please contact our Head Office at The Chestnuts, Wilberfoss, York, YO41 5NT, Telephone 01759 321000 Facsimile: 01759 380130 e-mail info@inturf.co.uk

Weed Free - Q33

Weed Free, first time exhibitors at BTME, will be using the show to launch major new expansion plans for the year 2,000. The company, which has enjoyed substantial growth since 1996 and pioneered the use of shrouded booms within the contract spraying sector, is poised to diversify in a new direction. Details will be announced at a PRESS PICNIC in the Kings Suite at 10.30 am on Wednesday 19 January and subsequently available on the Weed Free stand Q33. Information on the company's ever popular spraying courses, will also be available, along with full details of Weed Free's amenity spraying services. Contact the company on FREE PHONE 0800 068 0878

Barenbrug - A20

Barenbrug UK has some extra special attractions for BTME: a brand new cultivar; two new mixtures and an Open Championship 2000 competition



Join our Club...

Join the British Seed Houses' Grade A Club and go one up. Club members gain special discounts on approved training courses, as well as access to developments from the unique IGER amenity grass breeding programme. Find out more at BTME and help your staff make the grade.



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Ad Ref 87

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Ad Ref 203

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS

BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION

BTME 2000

& EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME

The name of which Yorkshire town is on the lips of every greenkeeper around the turn of the year? A. Scarborough B. Harrogate C. Ripon D. Wetherby.

If that came up on a well known quiz show you wouldn't need to either phone a friend or ask the audience and Chris Tarrent wouldn't have time to start his facial contortions

Harrogate has become a second home to everyone in the fine turf industry and it is the thought of returning to this warm and friendly town that keeps many greenkeepers going through the early part of the winter.

Few locations can match the delights of Harrogate and when the business of the day has been completed at Harrogate International Conference Centre right in the heart of the town the opportunities which the town offers up in the evening are wide and varied.

To eat you can choose from Italian, Spanish, British, Mexican, American, French, Indian and Chinese.

You can move on to the Carrington's Night Club or Jimmy's Night Spot or take in an evening at Harrogate Theatre.

Those with a love of history might be interested in the Royal Pump Rooms or the Royal Baths for which the Spa town made its name.





Aldwark Manor Hotel

Set within a beautiful mature parkland estate, the 18-hole golf course offers a superb playing experience. Every hole is bordered by ancient oak and beech trees with the meandering river Ure regularly coming into play to provide golfers of all levels with an exciting challenge. The Manor is the perfect setting for corporate and society golf events, able to cater for all levels of hospitality. It boasts a fine brasserie. A full range of golf event packages are available along with country, overseas and corporate memberships.

If you love golf, you are sure to love Aldwark Manor. We look forward to seeing you very soon.

Aldwark, Near Aine, York, Y061 1UF
Tel: 01347 838146 Fax: 01347 838867



Delaine Hotel

Beautiful licensed bed and breakfast, situated only minutes from the centre of Harrogate and the International Conference Centre.

Owned and run by Peter Thompson, ex-Liverpool and England International footballer and wife Debbie.

All our en-suite bedrooms are beautifully decorated and have colour television, tea and coffee making facilities, hairdryer and direct-dial telephone.

Private car park with ample spaces.

Delaine Hotel, 17, Ripon Road, Harrogate HG1 2JL
Tel: 01423-567974 Fax: 10423 561723



Cairn Hotel

The recently refurbished Cairn Hotel is situated minutes walk from the town and conference centre.

With ample parking, this must be the ideal Hotel to choose while attending BIGGA. Spacious lounges, great atmosphere in Bar, beautiful Restaurant. Excellent function rooms for both large and small parties.

All our bedrooms are en suite with colour television, radio, tea and coffee making facilities and direct dial telephone.

Cairn Hotel, Ripon Road, Harrogate, HG1 2JD
Tel: 01423 504005 Fax: 01423 500056



Rose Manor Hotel

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Your home from home in Harrogate

Good food, a warm welcome and a well stocked bar are the hallmarks of the Green Park. The friendly, professional staff are there to look after you while you relax.

The hotel is opposite the superb Valley Gardens which lead down to the conference centre.

SPECIAL FOR BIGGA

JUST £35.00 B&B per person per night sharing a twin bedded room and ONLY £40.00 B&B per night in a single bedded room.

Green Park Hotel, Valley Drive, Harrogate HG2 0PQ
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Pine Marten

Located opposite Harlow Gardens and 5 minutes drive from the town centre of Harrogate is The Pine Marten.

We are a traditional pub with old values and offer our guests good food with generous portions and an excellent choice of wines & beers available by the glass or bottle.

Open Daily Monday - Saturday 11.00 - 11.00 pm.

Last orders for food 9.45 pm.

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Scottish Region
Peter Boyd
Tel/Fax 0141 616 3440

North

I open the final Section news of the year with another batch of new members to welcome. Dave McAvoyn and Peter Culter join us, and from Meldrum House we have Kenneth Harper, David Stephen, John Sim, Alan Tennant, Alexander Duguid and Roderick Mess. As we head into the Millennium the Section is as strong as ever and hopefully will go from strength to strength.

Our AGM was held recently at Huntly Golf Club. In the morning we had a talk on Health and Safety from Gordon Holmes of CSC, before we ventured out onto the golf course for the annual Daval Cup Challenge. The result was a resounding victory for Vice-Chairman, Wilson Morrison, and his team by 4 1/2 to a 1/2.

In defence all I can say is that my partner, Steve Sullivan, and I got the 1/2, and we had to finish eagle, birdie, par to get that. Thanks must go to Alex Cruickshank and Dennis Slater, of Daval, for providing the Cup, and a wee dram to go with it. The meeting followed and resulted in the Committee all being re-elected en bloc, details of their duties and contact numbers with be in my next report. The final four winners of the 200 Club were drawn and are as follows: September £30 no. 28 George Barr, Ham Manor; October £30 no. 28 George Barr, Ham Manor (no misprint!); November £30 no. 20 Brian Cocker Snr, Alyth; December £100 no. 193 Keith Wood, Aberdeen.

Once again thank you to all who bought tickets this year and supported the Section. Thank you to all at Huntly, who made us most welcome and especially to Derek Green and his staff for the course.

A big highlight of this year in the Section must have been the holding of the Walker Cup in our area at Nairn Golf Club. Around 14 of us local greenkeepers assisted Ian Carson and his staff

during the competition along similar lines to the Open Championship Support Team. Despite some awful weather Saturday night into Sunday morning, all went well with Ian, the coolest man in town.

It was great to see the Nairn course get the praise it deserves and the visitors should be flocking to the North in the future, which can only benefit us all.

The match was played in the best manner possible in front of a very sporting and knowledgeable crowd, a pity the professionals could not match it a couple of weeks later. Well done all involved at Nairn.

The Section was well represented at the BIGGA National Championships in October at Carden Park. Mike Wilson, Forres was our star man with two fine rounds, unfortunately the rest of us were not quite so good with yours truly bringing up the rear as I shot my two worst rounds for many years. However, it was a great two days and I will be back next year to do better and I recommend it to all interested.

Once again the Scottish Region is running a bus to BTME in Harrogate. The cost this time is £156 and covers the bus from Central Scotland to Harrogate on Tuesday 18 January, B&B at the Moat House Hotel for three nights, entry to all seminars and return bus on Friday afternoon. This is an excellent package and well worth considering. Closing date for applications is 8 December and anyone interested should phone Peter Boyd our RA on 0141 6163440.

Congratulations to Stuart Hogg on winning the Scottish Regional nomination for the Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping Award. Having played his course at Fortrose and visited his sheds, I would say he was a worthy winner. Well done to Brian Turner, Sunningdale, for the overall award.

Last but not least I would just like to wish all Section members a happy Christmas and prosperous New Millennium, and the same to all my friends throughout the greenkeeping world. I hope 2000 brings you all you wish for.

Iain MacLeod

Ayrshire

Firstly I must apologise for omitting the trade result from our autumn outing at the Pines. Brian Inglis, of Greentech, was the main man with Jim Smith of Ruffords close behind.

On behalf of our Section I would like to wish Alastair McRoberts all the best with his new job of Sales Manager for Rickerby's of Carlisle. Alastair was formerly Sales Representative for A M Russell in the West of Scotland.

The Scottish Region is again running a subsidised bus trip to Harrogate 2000. This includes travel, three nights bed and breakfast at the Moat House Hotel and entry to all the seminars and exhibition. This is on offer at a total cost of £156. This is a fabulous trip for anyone thinking about it. I can't recommend it highly enough. The entire trip will be expertly organised by our Regional Administrator, Peter Boyd, who will be able to supply any further information required. Peter can be contacted on 0141 616 3440.

Finally a Merry Christmas to all and remember any news, call me on 01505 683278

Iain Barr

Central

This month's news begins on a sad note with the recent death of Ann Strathearn. Ann, as you all know, worked for TIS Scotland and was a great supporter of the Section. You were always assured of a smile and a blether when you met her at our golf tournament and her cheery face will be sorely missed by us all. Our sincerest condolences go to Ann's family at this very sad time.

On the membership front we welcome five new members this month and they are John Brown from Dalmahoy Country Club, Alex Peggie and Hugh Davidson from Charleton GC and Iain McIntosh and John Jones from Gleneagles. This brings the total of new members for this year to 54, which beats our target of one per week, but there are still a number of non-members out there, so if you know any, encourage them to join.

Congratulations go to former committee member, Ian Ross, on his

appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Shetland Golf Club. Well done Ian and every success in the future. Will you still be coming to our golf tournaments?

Congratulations are also due to Derek Scott, from Scoonie Golf Course, who along with myself has been nominated for the Patrons Award. Well done Derek and thanks for all the hard work you put into supporting the Section.

At the moment there are still 228 of you with 'Club 2000' tickets in your possession. I sent out tickets to 260 members and only 32 have bought/sold theirs. I know you all intend to buy your tickets and that you have just forgotten to put your cheque in the post, well you have until the 18th of this month to do so before you miss out on the chance to win £50 per month plus a bonus in June and December. All this for less than 2p per day can't be bad! Just in case you have forgotten about your tickets, I'll remind you all next month by including a list in the Section report!

At the time of writing the final of the Inter-Club Tournament has not been played so it looks as though, once again, it will extend into another year. Hopefully it will be played in time to present the trophy at the Spring Tournament at St Andrews next year.

Once again the Scottish Region will be organising a coach to the BTME at Harrogate next month, so if you fancy attending this superb event, just get in touch with Peter Boyd on the usual number. The cost from Tuesday to Friday is £156 (excluding refreshments and entertainment) and is great value for money.

The section AGM, in conjunction with a presentation/talk by Richard Walton and Simon Barnaby, from Scotts, was held at the Scottish National Golf Centre at Drumoig last month and it was encouraging to see a number of new faces present. Your committee for the coming year is:

Chairman: A. Dunn, Auchterarder GC; V/Chairman: A. O'Hara, Leven Links GC; Committee: S. Mackie, Lochgelly GC; D. Scott, Scoonie; S. Sime, Leven Links GC; G. Mitchell,

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Piperdam GC; Sec/Treas. J. Crawford, Stirling GC; Patrons: P. Langdon, Wardle Consulting Engineers; K. Brunton, Greentech.

Following the talk and refreshments provided by Scotts, we were given a tour of the impressive facilities which are available at Drumoig and our thanks go to Richard and Simon, from Scotts, and Neil Simpson, from Drumoig, for an excellent day.

As we come to the end of another year/century/millennium I would like to thank everyone who has supported the Section over the years, with a special thanks to all the Patrons of the Scottish Region, without whose continued involvement we could not have achieved what we have.

Here's wishing everyone 'All the Best' for the year ahead and hope to see you all in the New Year.

John Crawford.



Northern Region
Douglas Bell
Tel: 0151 431 0433

North West

Last day of October, I wonder where the year has gone? It does not seem long since I was making arrangements for the golf fixtures for 1999, and now I am in the process of doing the same for the year 2000. Looking back on the year the Section had some great venues for the golf, even though the weather was not always kind to us. The courses we played were in lovely condition, and the hospitality at the clubs was second to none. The seminar at Mere was well attended and we had some great speakers.

We will have another seminar at Mere in March, and I hope once again you will support the Section by attending. A thought struck me that with all this modern equipment on golf courses, with parts controlled by mini computers, will they also have "bugs" in them. It would be strange if all the machinery ground to a halt at midnight on New Year's Eve. Just a thought!

The North West Section did well this

year in the three award schemes with one outright winner, and two regional finalists.

The winner of the "Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Competition" is Tommy Givnan, Myerscough College. Tommy works at Bowring GC on Merseyside.

Regional finalist in the Toro Excellence Award was Andy Campbell, Carden Park.

Regional finalist BIGGA Golf Environment competition, sponsored by Amazon Ground Care and Grass Roots, was Steve Oultram, Wilmslow GC, North West Section Chairman.

Congratulations to the three of you, you did our Section proud.

It has been suggested that I should include a Tip for the Month in the Section news, but nobody has come forward with one yet, so here is one I used to use in my greenkeeping days.

When repairing worn areas around greens and tees, hollow tine the areas several times. Once the cores are broken up, trodden and raked, oversow and tape off the area.

That seems to be it for now, so I will take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

See you at Harrogate.

Bert Cross.

North East

As the Autumn competition at Carlisle was cancelled due to heavy rain, it was played at Tyneside GC on October 14. Our thanks to the committee for coming to the rescue.

The best nett was won by B. Wilson and I. Rourke with a score of 61 on the front nine, putting D. Cuthbertson and C. Parkinson into second place.

The Section would like to thank the following sponsors: Terry Charlton, Greenlay and Bill Thompson.

The result of the final of the Carburul Trophy were D. Cuthbertson and C. Parkinson, winning against B. Wilson and I. Rourke. Apparently a very good game of golf was played. As there is a lack of competitors playing in this competition we are dropping it from the fixture list and also going back to Spring and Summer competitions only.

The annual match against East Lothian was played at Eyemouth GC on October 6, resulting in the North East retaining the trophy as the match was drawn.

Congratulations are in order for Mark Bowman on his move from Ravensworth GC to Seaton Carew GC, and also to Craig Parkinson, Course Manager at Matfen Hall on his recent marriage.

Jimmy Richardson

North Wales

The autumn meeting was held at Nefyn and what a glorious day it was. It was my first visit and I was astounded by the sheer beauty of the place. What a course! Our thanks go to the club for having us, to all the officials, members, and mostly to Pat and his team for the preparation of the course (I wouldn't want to be out there when the wind blows!).

The results were Bert Gross (member), Jeremy Hughes-Major Owen Shield, associate member, Adrian Ellis. Can I take this opportunity to firstly thank Andy Jones, of Major R Owen, for donating the shield at such short notice, and apologies for the misunderstanding and embarrassment caused to all parties after I had left the meeting. Alun Lewis won the Gem Shield for best net.

Can I also thank all the trade who contributed to the day: Aitkens Acorn, ALS, Barenbrug, Bathgate, Major Owen, Maxicrop, Rigby Taylor, Sportsworld, Walker Engineering, and finally our own Jeremy Hughes, who donated a pair of mitts.

The venue of the spring meeting has now changed from Oswestry to Frodsham on Wed. April 5. The autumn meeting will be at Vicars Cross, and Christmas 2000 at Royal Liverpool. Good eh?

At the Northern Region Board meeting attended by myself and Gary Edwards, Ian Holoran informed us that the Cumbria Cup has now been renamed the Whitelaw Bowl and will become a Regional meeting which will be held at Penrith GC either the 6th, 13th or 20th Sept. 2000. I will keep you informed.

The coach for Harrogate will again run on the Wednesday of the BTME, 19th Jan, free to members, £10 for guests. Pick up points are Slaters Abergele Northop College and Cheshire Oaks. Remember, no alcohol!

On Wednesday, January 12 starting at 2.30 at the college we have a lecture on soil and water management. If you weren't at the last one make sure you come this time, and if you did attend, I bet you'll be there again. It was brilliant!

At the Northern Region Meeting Doug Bell revealed the Section membership numbers. Since October '96 our Section's membership has increased by well over 30% and is still on the increase. The nearest to us was the North West with an 11% increase against a regional increase of 6.82% and a total BIGGA increase of 11.78%. So tell your colleagues.

I will take this opportunity to thank Doug Bell for all his work. He has one helluva area to cover, is always available, and has helped me no end - and all this on a part-time basis! Thanks go also to my fellow committee members for all the effort put in to make this THE up and coming Section (we will get it right one day); to all our trade members and sponsors; The Welsh College, especially Graham Wright, the WGU for their initiative and dedication to greenkeeping; and lastly but definitely not least, to you the members for your support. Here's to the next 1000 years. Have a great Christmas and a blinding new year.

Just one final credit, apologies to my old mate, Andy Campbell. We all make mistakes, but remember, worse things happen at sea. See ya.

Dave Goodridge

Sheffield

On November 4 we held our first winter lecture at Rotherham Golf Club, whom I would like to thank once again for letting us use their facilities.

The lecture had a good turnout - although not as many as usual - and was enjoyed by everyone present. Our thanks go to Chris Pye who gave a very interesting lecture on pesticides and their development.

Congratulations go to Paul Neve for

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finishing third in the second round at the Charterhouse/Scotts National Championships and for being part of the winning regional team. Well done Paul!

Our AGM will be held on December 9 at Rotherham Golf Club after our lecture at 2.30 pm. I hope as many people as possible will turn up for the AGM.

Finally, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Millennium!

J.V. Lav

Midland Region

East Midlands

The 1999 Scotts/Charterhouse National Championship played at Carden Park on attracted nine Section members. Despite some very testing weather conditions the course was well presented by Andy Campbell and his staff, and at least the weather improved for the two days competition. Unfortunately none of our Section were on form with their golf. The best score being 153 from Richard Barker and myself. Our other six members present were Dave Leatherland, Gavin Robson, Ian Needham, Steve Tolley, Lee Hughes, James Tudor & Edward Daubrah. On behalf of all our Section members who attended the tournament I would like to thank Scotts, Charterhouse and Softspikes for their very generous sponsorship.

On October 7 in the Rigby Taylor East Midland v Midland Section golf match held at Copt Heath GC the Section after a hard fought match lost by the narrowest of margins - one point. Losing the morning Greensomes three games to two, we needed six points from the 10 singles matches. Unfortunately we won only three games and halved four. The team for the day consisted of the following members; Alex Hawkes, Jeff Dickinson, Russell Allen, Dave Leatherland, Adi Porter, Ian Needham, Steve Levers, Graham Arnold, Mark Bindley & Gavin Robson. Congratulations should go to our Section Chairman Dave Leatherland who was our only player to win both his matches. I would like to thank Copt Heath GC for courtesy of their fine course and a special thank you to our generous sponsors, Rigby Taylor for organising a great day.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Section to wish Peter Larter our best wishes for the future. Unfortunately, Peter will be leaving the Association at the end of November for another post.

This year's AGM tournament held at Radcliffe-on-Trent on November 3 has only attracted 21 members. We really do need more members to support the events, if we are to remain successful. Also please remember to return your forms before the closing date, as meals

and starting time have to be booked with the golf club. Results and information regarding the AGM itself will appear next month.

Finally I would like to thank all our sponsors for their generous support to the section throughout the year, especially our main sponsors; Spring tournament - E.T. Breakwells, Autumn tournament - Banks Amenity Products, AGM tournament - Vitax Ltd, Christmas tournament - Rigby Taylor, East Midlands v East of England golf match - Chandlers. Also, I would like to wish all our members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and if you wish to make a new year's resolution, make sure it's to support more of your Section's events.

Antony Bindley - East Midlands Section Secretary.

East of England

The last golf event of the year took place at Rutland County Golf Club. The course was in excellent condition and thanks must go to Chris Squires and his team for making our day very enjoyable.

This year and for many more, the Texas Scramble will be sponsored by Lawn Mower Services, of Lincoln. Thanks to Chris Overtop and Dave Hampshire who have donated the LMS/Textron Shield. Other sponsors on the day were Aitkens, Tower Sports and GreenPride.

The winners of the inaugural Shield were John Scotney, Andy Thomas, Gil Ogden and Duncan Beall with 60.7 total, who all won Textron jackets. Second place went to Graeme MacDonald, George Venables and John Hewson with 61.3 total, who won Textron Umbrellas, and third place went to Barry Anderson, Russ Moody and Peter Fell with 62.1 total. They all won some wine.

"Nearest the pin" prizes went to John Hewson at the 13th and Andy Thomas at the 4th.

Straight after the meal the Section AGM took place and the Committee was unanimously voted in with no changes from last year.

The Order of Merit this year was won by D. Hornsey, of Woodhall Spa, who will receive a BIGGA blazer as his reward.

Forthcoming events are the computer course at Newark and an Education Seminar on 1 December, also at Newark, sponsored by County Crops.

Graeme MacDonald

Midland

The Rigby Taylor Foursomes Knockout final was held at Woburn Golf Club. The winners were Rod Hunter and Alan Roberts who defeated Paul Loffman and Trevor Morris in what I believe to have been a very enjoyable final. Many thanks on behalf of the finalist and the Midland Section to Rigby Taylor for supporting this event.

The other final that has been held recently was the Rite Feed Singles

Knockout. This was held at Stokes Poges Golf Club and was won by Mike Hughes who defeated Rod Hunter in the final. Many thanks to Rite Feed for their continued support of this event.

Back in the October report I gave information on a trip to the newly formed Advantage Seed Houses organised by Andy Smith. This went ahead and proved to be a great success, and on behalf of the Midland Section I would like to thank Andy Smith for organising the trip and Ivan Toon from ALS for the sponsorship of the day.

It just remains for me to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a fruitful New Year, and I will report again in the next millennium! I do hope to see the majority of you at the AGM or at Harrogate in January.

Jonathan Wood



South East
Derek Farrington
Tel: 01903 260956

Mid Anglia

The Lodgeway Four Ball Competition reached its conclusion when the final was played over 36 holes at Woburn G&CC in October. Frank Scullion and Duncan Seiling, of Dunstable Downs GC, were victors over Darren Mugford and Stephen Hesk, of Aldwickbury Park, by a margin of 4 and 3. Our thanks to Woburn for allowing the final to take place and to Steve Mason for organising everything. Also thanks to Chris Rook, of Lodgeway, for sponsoring the event once again.

We were lucky to have a warm dry day for our autumn tournament, played at Knebworth GC, over 18 holes. It was a pleasure to play a wonderfully mature course in superb condition, with a colourful backdrop of autumnal trees. Thanks to Andrew Kennet and all his green staff for their efforts in making the day a memorable one for us all. The full results for the day were as follows: 1. Chris Brook, Chelief Down, 39 pts, 2. Paul Greenhalgh, Berkhamstead, 38 pts, 3. Neil Whittaker, Arkly, 37 pts (on a countback).

The Longest Drive was won by Gavin Simkins, of Mount Pleasant GC, and Nearest the Pin by Gerald Bruce, of Berkhamstead. Driving Force Leisure provided the prize table, so thanks to Dave Murphy for supporting the event so well. Sheriff's Amenity provided burgers and sausages by the 10th tee, which I'm sure was appreciated by all players during the break in their round. A final thank you to all other members of the trade for supporting us.

Knebworth Golf Club also accommodated our Annual General Meeting, following the golf and presentations. The following people were elected to serve the Section for the next year: Chairman - Colin Robinson; Secretary/Treasurer - Gerald Bruce; Regional Representative -

Paul Lockett; Handicap Secretary - Neil Whittaker; Match Secretary - Richard Saunders; other committee members - John Wells, Steven Mason, Mark Ellis.

Mark has resigned his post as Vice Chairman, but will continue as an active committee member. John has resigned his position as Treasurer and we welcome his continuing input to the Section.

The Secretary explained the role of the Committee, both at Section and Regional level, and reported that membership is currently at 248. In the Treasurer's absence, he also presented the balance sheet and explained the anticipated costs of golf events for the coming year.

Richard Saunders reported on the golf events of the past year and was pleased to announce Chris Brook as "Golfer of the Year". One motion from the floor was voted on, being the proposal to allow full handicap for competitions played from yellow tees. The motion was carried and will apply to the Summer and Autumn meetings.

Following the success of last year's Open Forum, it is planned to hold another during the winter. We are also planning to arrange a presentation by Mark Hunt, on understanding fertilisers. Watch this space for more details next month.

Finally, I would like to wish Phil Belton, of St. Neots, a speedy recovery from a recent illness.

A Happy Christmas and enjoyable millennium to you all!

Paul Lockett

Berks Bucks & Oxon

October saw the National Championship at Carden Park. Tony French, Lambourn, Ross Wilson, Donnington Grove, Barry Holt, Burford, and Sid Arrowsmith, Frilford Heath, were representing the BB&O. The team score was pretty poor and individual scores were no better. Carden Park took its toll on us and we struggled from the word go.

We shared the hotel with the Japanese Rugby Team who had somehow managed to recruit three Kiwis. Their captain is ex-Kiwi Jamie Joseph. One of the most frightening moments of the three days was when our own Tony French decided to have a go at Joseph for his stamping incident on Kieren Bracken a couple of years ago. Luckily we managed to escape without bruises!

Carden Park was mostly under water when we arrived and Andy Campbell had pumps going everywhere to get rid of the rainwater. The greenstaff did manage to get the Nicklaus Course ready for play on the Tuesday which was a great feat but our golf never really lived up to the designer's intentions. Perhaps whoever qualifies for the Section next year will put up a better show.

The Turkey Trot took place in November at the Lambourn. The results will be in January's edition.

There is still not much feedback for these articles from the Section, so any news would be much appreciated.

Ross Wilson