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Truly the event of the year

Smiles all round from the Duke of York, seen here with BIGGA chairman Roy Kates, at the record-breaking BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition. Pictures and full report.................Pages 8–11

The ideal workshop

A how-to guide on designing and building the perfect greenkeeper's workshop – and what to put in it ..................................................Pages 12, 14

Taking up the Challenge

David White talks to Kim Macfie, mastermind behind the new 'Hayter Challenge Tournament' .............................................Pages 17, 18, 19

Spring turf maintenance

A new season beckons and we look over the shoulder of Bert Watson, course manager at Tyrells Wood, to see how their team is gearing up for a busy year.................................Pages 21-26

Wet, wet, wetter

Stuart Ormondroyd, from the STRI, examines preventative maintenance to help courses which suffer from poor drainage ...............Pages 27-28

DEPARTMENTS

Faces and places

Turfgrass consultancy in buyout... happy news from BIGGA's next chairman... all this and more in the page which keeps you in touch ...............Page 5

Flying Divots

The Sports Turf Research Institute receive a grant for the Education and Development Fund ......................................Page 7

Around the Green

Regular updates from our correspondents. Find out what's going on .................Pages 34-37, 46

COVER PICTURE:

Master Greenkeepers, from left, Gordon Irvine, Bil Montague, Robert Maibusch and Kerran Daly

GREENKEEPER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Launched by Viscount Whitelaw at BTME 1992, the Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circles. For details, contact BIGGA on 03473 581.

GOLDEN KEY CIRCLE COMPANY MEMBERS:

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Jesse Johnson  
Vice President  
Liquid Sod
Robert Laycock's consultancy, TurfGrass Science, has been bought by Karsten (UK) Ltd, well-known makers of Ping golf equipment. Laycock will work as general manager and chief agronomist of Karsten Turf Science, a new company committed to improving the quality of playing surfaces through the sensible use of specialist fertilisers and other products. Tissue analysis of grass clippings will be used to ensure that only necessary nutrients are included in fertiliser recommendations.

The hi-tech approach of Karsten to the business of turf nutrition will be a great advance in the production of top class playing surfaces at an economic price', said Robert. The running of Gainsborough GC, which is owned by Karsten and which will be used as a 'test bed' for new products developed to reclamation work and responsibility of Laycock, in conjunction with the existing green staff.

• John Bourne and Co's Turf Care Division continues to grow with the appointment of Neville Gay as sales rep. for Kent and Sussex.

Responsible for selling a full range of turf care products, Neville will already be known to many golf greenkeepers, having some 30 years experience within the industry behind him. Of particular interest within the product range are Bourne's own top dressings and root zones, over 34,000 tonnes of which went into course construction in 1992.

• Mark Phillips, formerly export sales director with Hayters PLC, has joined amenity weed control specialists Nomix-Chipman as export sales and marketing manager, following the company's announcement of a multi-million pound international expansion programme. In addition, Phil Wheeler, formerly with BP at its research centre, has joined the company as technical services manager. Both men will be based at Nomix-Chipman's Bristol headquarters.

• Chris Reed, left, head greenkeeper at Paxhill Park GC and previously assistant at Crowborough Beacon GC, has been awarded the coveted Greenkeeper of the Year award as best student on the Phase II Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management course at Plumpton College. The trophy is sponsored by the Sussex section of BIGGA.

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• Chris Peel has joined ADAS, after nine years with the STRI and four years as an amenity grass technical adviser for Sharpes International Seeds. At STRI he was principally engaged in the assessment of varieties and mixtures of amenity grass for sports turf use and in the testing of herbicides, in particular for the control of Poa annua. With Sharpes he advised on projects ranging from new golf development reclamation work and wild flower schemes. He has a particular interest in the production of cultivated turf and in the management of low maintenance grass areas. Peal will expand on these to provide an amenity grass advisory service, together with R&D work in solving amenity grassland problems.

• The Seventh 1993 International Turfgrass Research Conference, held at four year intervals and hosted in the past by the United States, Britain, Germany, Canada, France and Japan, will again be held in the USA, this time on July 18-24 at the Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, Florida.

Speakers from throughout the world will report on the latest advances in the areas of turfgrass breeding and genetics, plant nutrition and soil fertility, pest management and water conservation. Conference symposia are scheduled on the environmental impact of fertiliser and pesticide use, and on the quantification of surface characteristics of sports fields. As a benefit for registered conference attendees, the organising committee has scheduled an all-encompassing mid-week tour of well-known and renowned turfgrass facilities in south Florida, including the region's finest golf clubs. Details from Dr. George Snyder Tel: (0101) 407 9963062, or Fax (0101) 407 9960339.

• Bobcat Melroe Europe has announced the appointment of a new district manager for the south of England and Ireland, 42 year old Ian Dennis, who was latterly the Bobcat service manager for the UK, Africa, Middle Eastern Europe. He brings to his new position vast experience both in machinery technology and Bobcat Dealer development.

• Dennis Groundcare have strengthened their dealer network in the South and Midland regions with the appointment of a further seven dealers. They are: Cornwall Tractors (Cornwall), CR Wilcocks & Co Ltd (Devon), Rochford Garden Machinery (Somerset & Avon), Atterton & Ellis Ltd. (Cambs, S. Cambs, Forest Heath), Stalham Engineering Co Ltd (Norfolk), Parks & Grounds Machinery (Warks/Worcs) and Groundcare Lincoln (Linics/Humberside).

• Following the move by Lamborghini (UK) Ltd into the amenity market with tractors ranging from 25-75 DIN hp, the company has been actively working on the significant dealer interest shown. Already six new dealers have been appointed: South of England – RFE Turf Machinery (0730 813775) and Risboro' Turf (0844 274127), The Midlands – Midlands Tractors (0543 879524) and further north, R&J Campsey (0260 224568). In the south of Scotland are Hamiltons of Larkhall (0698 865615) and on the eastern side James A Fowler of Fife (0337 30527). All these dealers are running demo models.

• The British Institute of Golf Course Architects (BIGGA) has welcomed German golf course architect Thomas Himmel as an Associate and as the first German architect to successfully complete the BIGGA Students Education Programme.

Himmel, 28, is already well-known for his prolific design of courses in Germany, Bavaria and Hungary. He is a partner with Joan F. Dudok Van Heel's company, Golf Development International, and also runs his own company.

He is also a keen golfer and is currently a member of the German National team, having four times been Bavarian amateur champion and twice German amateur champion. His inclusion as an associate member brings the membership to a total of 30 from 11 countries including Yugoslavia, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

• These are the lucky winners in the BTME pre-registration card draw: First out of the hat, winning £100-worth of BIGGA merchandise is Brian Woodhouse, head greenkeeper, Little Chalfont GC, Bucks; second prizewinner, scooping £60-worth is Ken Clayton, chairman of green, Glen Gorse GC, Leicester; and third prizewinner, collecting £40-worth, is Tony Milan, greenkeeping lecturer at Houghall College, Durham.

GREENEREKEEPER INTERNATIONAL February 1993 5
The 4WD, 24hp, Kubota FZ2400 is Kubota’s leading front-mounted ride-on mower.

It not only incorporates the innovative Kubota zero diameter turn technology which minimizes damage to the turf and gives the tightest of turns, but also offers the unique Auto Assist Differential which automatically transfers power to all wheels in difficult terrain is encountered—even in reverse.

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The FZ2400, with outfront mowing deck, has got it all: Zero Diameter Turn plus Auto Assist Differential plus Power Steering plus Hydrostatic Transmission.

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The Royal & Ancient Golf Club have announced a further research grant of £50,000 to STRI to further the cause of the greenkeeping profession in recent years and will be vital in advancing the status of greenkeepers in the future.

These are the members who to date have made the commitment for 1993:

**Golden Key Circle:** Kenneth Neale, Jim Fry (Associate), Ernie Bernberg (Associate), P A McKee (Company), Roy Kates.

**Silver Key Circle:** Ian Holoran, Norman Exley, Alan Holmes, Ian MacMillan, Stephen Redman, Robert Mowles, Paddy McCarron, Iain Ritchie, Gordon Child, David Krause (Company), Andrew Smith, James Neilson, Elliott Small, D Greenwood (Company), Stephen Thomas, Peter Gee, Paul Droge, David Wood, Robert Maibusch, Christopher Sharp, John Crawford, Alisa Wade (Associate), Dennis Archer, Peter Lacey.

STRI get £50,000 to worm out the woes

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club have announced a further research grant of £50,000 to the STRI, thus remaining the biggest contributor to STRI projects. Currently these include formulation of an EC standard (CEN) for golf green construction and effective earthworm control under current EC legislation. This latter topic involves a detailed study into the biology and lifecycle of the earthworm and will hopefully result in an effective cure to the damaging and unsightly worm cast smear effects on golf courses, without resorting to harmful pesticides.

The STRI was originally established in 1929 under an initiative of the green committee of the R&A, over the past five years receiving a research grant from them amounting to £50,000 per annum. The Institute continues to act as agronomy advisors to the Championship Committee of the R&A, advising on an annual basis those clubs which host The Open Championship and, more frequently, at the venue for the current year. In addition it advises clubs at all the qualifying venues during the four weeks prior to The Open, the Walker Cup and Amateur Championship.

It all began in a shed in Phoenix Arizona... and if fortunes might be made from advertising inside golf cups, proof that an innovative manufacturer and manufacturer of Ping golf clubs, was listed in the Forbes Four Hundred, an annual listing of America’s 400 richest people – and they said his ‘funny’ putter wouldn’t catch on! Karsten is said to be worth $450 million.

**Gold sponsorship**

The current Fifth Annual General Meeting of the BIGGA will be held on Wednesday 21 April 1993 at 2.30pm in the Royal York Hotel, York (immediately adjacent to the Railway Station).

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**copies of the programme and application form are available from BIGGA HQ, Aldwark, Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York Y06 2NF. Tel: 09473 381 Fax: 09473 8864.**
New Product Launches were introduced at BTME for the first time, giving companies the opportunity to explain new lines to trade press and potential buyers.

The launch presentations took place over two days and were organised for BIGGA by Rachel Semlyen Associates. Rachel was previously marketing director for Rolawn.

Visitors attended the presentation area to watch as:
- Agriland launched Tournament, a new rapid response fertiliser, promoted as a premium product for getting turf into peak condition for special events or for badly worn patches.
- Barenbrug revealed new grass seed mixtures for greens, in particular the Bar 2 mixture with the addition of Barcrown slender creeping red fescue, making it, they claim, top of the 1993 STRI list.
- Supapuf Products launched ‘Dilute n’ Shoot’, a new method of applying Aquagro wetting agent using a hand-held spray gun attachment to a standard hosepipe.
- Ransomes showed off their new Fairway 300 mower, a high performance 5 unit ride-on with many additional features and benefits designed to cope with world-wide grass growth conditions.
- Rigby Taylor launched their new fungicide Rimidin, a new weapon in the war against fusarium.
- Industrial Power Units unveiled the new Dori 18” mower.
- British Seed Houses launched modern turf-grasses for the golf course.
- Hardi showed the new Hardi Eagle de-mountable sprayer with 6-metre boom and 300 or 600 litre capacity tank; and
- Huxley’s Grass Machinery launched a range of new Huxley products.

The product launch presentations were in addition to many new lines introduced on individual stands for the first time.
Record-breaking numbers of enthusiastic greenkeepers surged into the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition in Harrogate to hear the Duke of York open proceedings with his own heartwarming view of the greenkeepers' importance in the hierarchy of golf.

"It is, lest any of us golfers here today forget," he said, "only possible to play this Royal and Ancient game because of all the hard work, commitment, patience, care... and above all the pride that you take in your profession."

It was an upbeat way to set the tone for this fifth and best-yet exhibition - one in which the predominant mood was of great optimism. The Duke said: "It is of vital importance that the game as a whole supports the training programmes now being developed for the greenkeeping profession. And a unified approach which has been sadly lacking in the past will undoubtedly accelerate the very real progress now being made."

Quite apart from performing the opening ceremony and touring the exhibition, including stopping for an unscheduled chat with Britain's first female head greenkeeper, Tracy Ruane, the Duke presented special awards to the companies who have supported the Association's Education and Development Fund. He also presented certificates to four Master Greenkeepers: Kerran Daly, Gordon Irvine, Robert Malbusch and Bil Montague, and a plaque to Ian Harrison, 1992 winner of the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award.

Speaking of the presence of both the Duke of York and our revered president, Viscount Whitelaw, BIGGA chairman Roy Kates said that it was "highly significant in giving recognition to the Association as one of the leading bodies in golf, and to the development of the greenkeeping profession in recent years."

BTME has always been much more than a mere trade show and many traders present had nothing but praise for BIGGA's clever idea in bringing together a small but important number of educational sessions alongside the trade's own industry showcase, the one perfectly complementing the other and bringing about vast new audiences.

The reason is clear, for the big majority of those who visit BTME - green chairmen, head greenkeepers, agronomists, golf course builders, club secretaries and others - are in Harrogate for a whole week, bent not only on absorbing technical knowledge in sustained workshops and seminar sessions, but on returning again and again to circumnavigate the exhibition halls. For them the show is serious stuff indeed, they are serious folk with golf course business on their mind - sales enquiries and orders confirm it.

Good feelings for the profession of greenkeeping and for our industry prevail long after the doors finally close. Great friendships are formed and strong business links are forged.

As the Duke said in his speech: "With increasing membership, a successful exhibition and a magazine recognised as a leader, the foundations are now in place for BIGGA to go from strength to strength."
'Foundations are now to go from strength to strength '

Master Greenkeepers, seated from left, Keran Daly, Bill Montague, Gordon Irvine and Robert Maibusch listen as the Duke of York officially opens BTME

The Duke learns about golf course irrigation from Tore Irrigation Ltd's Peter Roberts. Looking on is Lely UK Ltd's Graham Dale

Ransomes' Chris MacGowan in conversation with the Royal visitor

ABOVE: Tom Dunlop with the Kubota TZ4400 Zerotum outfront rotary mower

LEFT: Plenty to see on the BEV Golf Equipment stand

RIGHT: Ian Pogson, of Iseki, with just one of the machines on their busy stand

Photographs by NICHOLAS FISHER, DAVID WILKINSON, TIM MOAT and DAVID WHIT
watch its future development with interest'
A well-designed, properly equipped and efficiently managed workshop will enable the majority of machinery service, repair and maintenance tasks to be carried out without the need to call in the supplier or repair specialist. This requirement is equally as important on a golf course as it is in any industry where work must be completed outside normal hours. Punctures may need to be repaired, frames welded and cutting cylinders re-ground at a time of the day when the dealer’s front door is firmly locked and its service engineers are literally still only dreaming about their breakfast.

As the demand for golf grows, with more and more players prepared to start their round the moment the sun clears the horizon, the pressure on those responsible for machinery maintenance is going to increase at both ends of the day. For that reason, the workshop building needs to be carefully planned and managed. The first step in designing any new building is to establish the required finished size. In the case of a workshop, this can only be determined by sitting down and deciding on the number and the type of machines which will require access and what may need to be done to them when inside.

For example, it would be illogical to make an entrance sufficiently high to allow access by a tractor and back-acter if the boom cannot be extended fully when the equipment is within the building. ADAS mechanisation consultant, Warner Hall, recommends that golf clubs think in terms of 15ft (4.5m) bays when planning a new workshop. “A single bay building measuring 15ft wide by 30ft deep is just about the simplest design available and this will be suitable for storing and servicing equipment used for, say, a golf driving range,” he comments. “For an 18 hole golf course, a building measuring 45ft wide by 30ft deep by 15ft to eaves will fulfil virtually all requirements”.

Hall advocates a minimum height to eaves of 15ft in all workshop buildings and sufficient floor space to allow at least lm clear around any machine being serviced or repaired. The site selected for the workshop should be level with sufficient space for an external concrete apron running the full length of the building. Avoid areas with overhanging cables, although it is advisable to be within easy reach of mains water and power. For maximum security, the workshop should be situated as close as possible to occupied buildings.

To make full use of the outside walls, an open or lockable lean-to can be built at the side or rear for storage of machines, fertilisers or top dressings. If an office or rest room are required, Hall recommends adding a further 15ft by 30ft bay which can be divided into suitable rooms along its length. “This part of the building should be kept completely separate from the workshop area,” he stresses. “There are good reasons for not having a personnel door in the wall dividing the workshop from any office or restroom. Easy access will encourage food being carried into the workshop and tools, overalls and dirty boots being taken into the rest area.” To allow the free movement of machinery in and out of the building, every 15ft bay should have a separate entrance with its own lockable door. For maximum security, safety and convenience, a steel roller shutter is the ideal answer. The doors should have steel frames and can include a personnel entrance to minimise heat loss when moving in and out of the building during winter. “It is important to liaise with the local fire officer when planning staff entries and exits from buildings,” comments Hall. “It is quite common for personnel doors to be positioned at the side or...
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12 • rear of the building, but the final design must satisfy both the planners and the building regulations.

For reasons of security, it is advisable not to have any windows in the building, apart from translucent corrugated or flat sheets in the roof over each bay. All calculations on lighting should therefore ignore the presence of any natural light. The recommended level of artificial light for building such as a workshop is 100 lux, and this can be achieved by allowing 10 watts for every square metre of floor. However, experience has shown that one cannot always bank on natural light, especially when working on small, detailed and complex equipment.

So Hall advises having six 5ft fluorescent tubes in every 30ft deep by 15ft wide bay, giving a total output of 1.5kW — three times the recommended level. Even then, ‘wander’ lights will still be necessary for certain tasks. If windows have to be fitted, they should be positioned at least 5ft (1.5m) above ground level and have either wire-reinforced glass or protection by steel bars on the outside. Because lighting is so important, provision should be made to connect a stand-by generator into the electrical circuitry to maintain illumination, and to power small tools, in the event of a mains failure. For maximum working efficiency, the building should be warm but not hot. A temperature close to 60degF (16degC) will prove comfortable, and this should be supported by draught-free doors and well-insulated walls and roof, helping also to prevent condensation.

The greatest heat loss from any building is normally through its ventilating air, so it is important to ensure that any extraction fans are not positioned adjacent to the heat source. Instead, they need to be on the opposite side of the building to encourage the movement of warm air across the work place. Heating is best provided by a gas or oil-fired boiler heating water which is carried to air radiators, with the warmed air entering the workshop at high level. The same boiler, carefully sized, can be used also to heat radiators in adjacent offices and restroom, as well as hot water for washing.

For obvious reasons, Hall does not recommend the use of portable oil-burning heaters in enclosed buildings due to the danger and unpleasant atmosphere created by the products of combustion within the building. Having planned the building and its illumination, ventilation and heating, one will need to consider other services.

In common with lighting, one can never have too many electrical sockets. These need to be positioned around the walls and on any building stanchions to keep lead lengths to a minimum. Meters and fuse boxes should be housed in lockable cabinets and the circuit should include an earth leakage trip to enable regular testing. Most sockets will be of 240 volts, 13 amp capacity — although at least one 30 amp outlet will be needed for welding equipment, with three phase supply recommended for both welders and compressors. A compressor has become an essential item of workshop equipment, used to power air jetting lines, tyre gauges and a host of hand tools. Ideally, the compressor should be housed outside the workshop in a weather-proof, yet well-ventilated area and linked to the various service points by a pipeline fixed to the wall within the building. It is vital that any fixed compressor unit is properly designed, installed and commissioned to ensure the supply of clean, moist-free air of sufficient volume and pressure to the delivery points.

Useful advice for anyone considering the installation of fixed equipment in a workshop is to look at how other professional organisations go about the job. Tyre specialists or a service centre run by one of the major car accessory companies all have well-equipped, sensibly laid-out buildings able to provide good ideas. The workshop bench is a key area. The more benches there are, the more clutter there is likely to be. Hall recommends that each person in the building should have just one 6ft long by 30in wide bench which is their sole responsibility. Only where there is a high proportion of workshop work should additional space be provided. Ideally, benches should be attached to the rear wall of the building opposite the main doors, and also screwed securely to the floor. A vice is the only item of fixed equipment which should be fitted to the bench. To avoid trailing leads, position power sockets and air line outlets beneath the front face of the bench. A further useful addition is an adjustable spotlight mounted at the rear of the bench.

The back wall can be used also to support slotted racking to carry hand and power tools as well as labelled bins. These will prove invaluable for the storage of small components when stripping down a machine. Larger items can be placed on a shelf beneath the bench. Building and store security is very important and the number of key holders should be kept to a minimum. A good maxim is to lock the building when empty of people. Apart from the safety aspects, it is all too easy for someone to wander in and ‘borrow’ a spanner, linch pin or grease gun, forgetting to return it until weeks later — and sometimes never.

All well-run workshops will need an outside wash-down area where machines can be cleaned of grass and dirt. Any water contaminated with oil, fuel or grease will need a separate oil trap, as required by the National Rivers Authority. Servicing of machines must be carried out in accordance with the manufacturers’ schedules. It is vital, therefore, that the person responsible for maintaining the machines is kept informed by operators of impending service requirements and any problems which may need attending to. If the case of hand tools, parts can go missing or become worn or broken without any remedial action being taken. The answer, says Warner Hall, is to allocate every new item of course machinery or equipment to a member of the maintenance staff. “That way, nothing should get put away if it needs attention or servicing,” he points out. “Most people react well to responsibility. Even if they do not use the item of equipment themselves, they will make sure that it is clean, in good condition and returned to where it is stored at the end of each day.” Although each club will wish to develop its own system, Hall suggests that every person is given their own ‘log book’ which lists the machines they are responsible for, their daily maintenance requirements and a record of servicing, repairs and spare parts used. The end result will be better maintained equipment leading to reduced servicing costs, downtime and aggravation.
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They're using more four letter words in Bishops Stortford these days, words like golf, hook, fore, grip, push, draw, loft, sand, club and putt. Nothing unusual in that, you may think, but at Hayter PLC, headquarters of the famous turfcare machinery company that is to sponsor our 'new image' nationwide golf tournament, it's all part of a fresh and inspired company effervescence, an almost unbelievable enthusiasm that even those few remaining diehards who think of golf as a good walk spoiled have taken fully in their stride - Hayter's has gone golf crazy!

When the news broke that Hayter's had grasped the glittering prize, I wasn't so much surprised that this hugely popular tournament, formerly known as the Iseki, was to come under their wing, rather that there hadn't been a riot of companies in our industry hammering on BIGGA's doors, clamouring for the opportunity to identify with such a sure-fire winner.

Meeting Kim Macfie, Hayter's sales and marketing director and the man who will mastermind the new 'Hayter Challenge Tournament', it soon became clear that he shared my view: that the idea required precious little persuasion on BIGGA's part, the whole concept from the very beginning seen as absolutely right for their development, the very epitome of how Kim visualised promoting and further generating Hayter's business growth. "I believe the greenkeeping fraternity are a superb bunch of people who have increased in status, though not sufficiently yet," he told me. "We want to be close to them because we have products that are good for them. We feel that having this close link is going to develop our business as well as develop their Association - that's why we are so excited about it."

Did being a golfer influence his decision, I asked. "I'm not the sort to let personal feelings influence what is right for the company," he replied, "though perhaps the fact that I've been around golf as a player and administrator may have had some slight bearing, recognising the potential that was offered. It was the sheer brilliance of the concept, exactly the sort of move we wanted to make, that fired my enthusiasm. That stated, the Board's decision to go with this superb initiative was unanimous, objective rather than subjective, and their excitement is unbounded."

What is certain is that Hayter's will be putting a great deal of thought, time and creative effort into the Hayter Challenge Tournament, convinced that by so doing both parties will get a great deal more out of it - isn't that encouraging!

Though 1993 will be their first year as sponsors, to a certain extent the year in which to feel their way, Kim sees the whole Hayter Challenge Tournament profile capable of being raised to untold heights - by their developing tournament links with other suppliers (MacGregor was one name mentioned), prestigious names who will want to be identified with our industry, building the tournament into an even more credible entity where publicity will almost be self-generating - perhaps in years to come involving even satellite TV. Elaborating, Kim sees the voracious appetite generated for golf in all its aspects making its mark, the Association and the Hayter profile growing together as a natural evolution.

The story of the Hayter company is fascinating. Formed way back in 1946 by Doug Hayter on the original Bishops Stortford site, it came into being more by luck than judgement, for Doug Hayter, then in the timber buildings business, was something of an innovator and loved to tinker with machinery. There was a need around the site for an effective grass cutter, so he set about creating his own unique version of the rotary mower. Though the original rotary technique came into being in the thirties, reputedly invented by Dennis Selby of Mountfield, it was Doug who commercially developed the concept, at first selling his clever device to a few farmer friends before the idea really mushroomed, the Hayterette soon identified as the rotary and making Hayter's business positively boom.
'The man who understands greenkeepers to the extent

It’s all down to...

17 - Hayter’s was the first company to introduce a rotary with rear rollers – the Hayter Harrier – a move which transformed the 17”-20” traditional market whilst giving the trade a shot in the arm by providing a machine that was cheaper to buy and cheaper to run – whilst giving that all important banded finish. Indication of the success of that machine may be seen to this day, for the Harrier is now in its third generation!

In the early ’80s Hayter’s joined the Unlisted Securities Market, becoming one of the first PLCs, though remaining essentially a family share owned business, and in 1984 Kim Macfie joined them – just three weeks before the company was acquired by Tompkins PLC. Tompkins entrepreneurial chief executive, Gregory Hutchings, recognised the company as being an ideal vehicle to start a mini-conglomerate and won the company by beating bids from Qualcast and Westwood. What started as a clever man move became a huge success story, for Tompkins are now major league players, in 1992 joining the FTSE 100 index – the largest UK companies, by market capitalisation, listed on the Stock Exchange.

Growth is the name of the game in any successful business and in 1987, aware of a need to develop still further in the professional market, Hayter’s acquired the Beaver company, their range of triple cylinder mowers, lightweight fairway mowers, mounted gangs and the state-of-the-art T92 triple greens mower causing sharp intakes of breath from the competition! Further acquisition in the USA by Tompkins of Murray-Ohio, the biggest manufacturing company in the world of pedestrian and consumer ride-on mowers, with 1.5 million pedestrian mowers manufactured each year, has given Hayter distribution of this marque under the Murray label. Perhaps to put the icing on the cake, they have the ‘Articulator’, a unique product which, as Kim puts it, ‘every golf course should buy – because they have a requirement for it’.

Kim Macfie is a golfer with an impeccable pedigree – he’s Scottish, which in most books is worth about three shots on the first tee, and he’s a long standing member of Royal Troon Golf Club, probably worth another two! He has practical experience as a Royal Troon administrator, specifically, having served as chairman of green in the mid-seventies and working alongside the R&A Champ-
of backing them with hard cash...

But the call to return to grass roots was nagging—indeed had been festering since his retirement from rallying—and he set about gaining entry into the greenkeeping profession. His brothers were keen golfers and he was often dragged along to make up a four, soon discovering that he had good eye/ball synchronisation anduther found that the game grew on him. He warmed to the idea of working in such an environment and became a greenkeeper by the simple expedient of advertising himself. Throughout his motoring career he had kept his hand in on matters agricultural, especially the equipment and technology side, whilst maintaining an enthusiastic and practical interest in gardening and landscape architecture. His interest in golf fanned white hot, he read technical and 'how-to' books by the thousands and was up-to-date on book learning and theory with essential practice with their head greenkeeper they are on the right path. He's fiercely proud of his achievements: nine holes are already in play, widely acclaimed as being something rather special, and the full eighteen will be open later this year. It's a high price golf club and his members quite rightly toast to Hayter's foresight, whilst vowing to make the course mature, flourish and prosper.

Currently engaged in an Elmwood College distance learning course covering golf course management, he gets over to Britain on every possible occasion, has been seen on BIGGA lecture platforms on two or three occasions, discussing Dutch methods and ideology; and has taken up the pen—contributing articles for his native golf federation magazine. Summarising over what is still something of a new experience for him, he declared that taking to greenkeeping was a case of returning to roots and certainly a blessed case of 'life begins at forty!' I take my hat off to this enterprising Dutchman, who appears totally at ease in his new driving seat, very much master of his own destiny. He freely acknowledges that the road ahead may be full of twists and turns—many unplotted—and is gracious in praising the support given him by his many colleagues. He single out just three from the dozens that have helped him achieve his goals, Jan van Mondfrans from the consultant company 'ProGrass', Jeff Perris from STRI and the Jacobsen dealer Van de Lienden. I smiled as this ex-rally man turned the talk around to motoring once again—you know with Van de Lienden I've enjoyed tinkering with and making minor modifications to some of their equipment. I'm a self-taught engineer and you could say that as a result of those early days of tinkering, of building racing engines and experimenting with settings, I'm now the driver of a rather special version of the Tri-King. I love to put my own ideas into practice and I'm delighted that we are able to work together for the betterment of greenkeeping.

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They reckon old James Braid knew a thing or two about the architecture of golf. He was a great golfer who, though designing was always an avocation, took the game very seriously, stubborn to the point that he refused to change a feature once it was planned. It was Braid in 1920 who designed the gem that is Tyrrells Wood, an 18 hole course built high in the Surrey hills, some ten or so miles from the bustle of London and now very much part of what is known as 'the stockbroker belt'.

Though Braid was never privy to the changes that have taken place around this blessed acreage; the 24-hour traffic jam that is the M25 a mere mile away, the urbanisation of nearby Leatherhead, the sheer hectic nature of life in the fast lane, I fancy that were he to peer down from Valhalla he would smile knowingly and approvingly, probably casting a friendly wave toward course manager Bert Watson, proud to see that Tyrrells Wood is lovingly tended and counted still as one of Braid's unspoiled treasures.

Leaving behind the snarl of the motorway, Tyrrells Wood may be found by taking a country lane off the A24, just a few hundred yards from twentieth century madness and confusion. Yet as one turns into the drive leading toward an expansive red brick clubhouse the feeling strikes - the clock has turned back to the roaring twenties of PG Wodehouse, the place a veritable oasis of tranquillity, reeking of class and exquisite taste, though playground now as much to the Mercedes and BMW brigade as the country squire. Nevertheless, the occasional visitor might be forgiven for expecting to see Bertie Wooster waiting on the first tee.

Tyrrells Wood is also Bert Watson territory, the domain of a man who has spent the past 35 years caring for Braid's eighteen blessed examinations of golf. Bert began working here as a 19 year old greenkeeper under St Andrews stalwart, Andrew Corstophine, progressing over the years to become head greenkeeper and thence, 12 years ago, to course manager.

The title 'course manager' can mean different things to different people, this writer inclined to the view that it is often used somewhat frivolously and with scant regard for the true meaning of the word 'management'. 'What difference did the title make to you, what does it really mean?' I asked, Bert's reply swift and to the point. 'Simply stated, the course is my absolute domain, I manage it in its entirety, deciding and controlling my own substantial budget. I make the decisions, control the purse-strings, balance the books, decide machinery and supplies purchasing, staffing, pay structures, and policy on course maintenance. I work hand
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Changing the glove with George Shiels, my agronomist of some five years and a friend with whom I enjoy great rapport, and I report only to the club's green convener on matters arising from my management and my decisions, he in turn reporting to the board. Those decisions are mine alone – that's course management! Everything routinely done on a daily basis is logged in a diary, everything major goes into the computer, there to be unearthed whenever a technique is queried, a question needs answering or a problem needs solving.

There is no hierarchy in Bert's greening team, no first, second or third assistants. All save the young apprentice share equal status, all are greenkeepers to a man. The team, Bert included, boast a combined total of 117 working years at Tyrrells Wood: Ian Huggett 32 years, Keith Harris and Jack Street 25 years apiece – indication that it's a good place to work and a good place to play. I had come specifically to learn something of Bert's spring maintenance programme, though the word was out that some rather major developments were afoot and I was eaten with curiosity – we walked the course.

The first noticeable thing on the bright January morning of my visit was the dryness of the place: built on a rich chalkland seam several meters deep, the course drained like a sieve. Second (and I'm sure, seventy years on, James Braid would have approved), there was a whole lot of construction going on, new and substantial tee areas being built, Hymac's shifting earth and creating tees as large as 540 square yards, practical and much more in keeping with 1990s volume of play. This programme is centred currently

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soil structure

around the fifth, eleventh and twelfth tees but will in the next five years incorporate every teeing area and replace often piddling small areas with massive, easy to maintain tees that will take extra wear whilst further enhancing appearance and maintaining the status quo. We walked to the highest point on the course, the panoramic views toward London and Middlesex quite awe-inspiring, despite a haze that prevented me glimpsing the Post Office Tower. I could quite imagine Braid those many years ago getting goose pimples just thinking about the majesty of it all.

Another major programme involves the gradual changing of soil structure on the greens. A compaction layer around four inches has been tackled first by Vertidraining, followed by slit tining, alternating between four and six inch slitters and making 26 passes over each green. In addition, each spring (autumn too) hollow tining is carried out twice, the core holes filled with an imported Norfolk 80/20 mix, some 160 tonnes being used each season. Within the top four inches this exchange is now about one third complete (an inch and a half), achieved over three seasons. Slit tining had already been completed on all greens at least eleven times (once each week) and more of the same was scheduled as weather dictated.

The course at Tyrrells Wood may be tranquil for its members, but the amount of activity I saw suggested that it is a positive powerhouse for the team. Bunkers were being emptied of old material and replaced with Kingsley washed sand - Sunningdale style - and many bunkers were being revetted, edges trimmed and tidied, whilst a new zig-zag path was being formed to make life easier for members when hauling up the slope from first green to second tee.

'So many things that take place on the course, routine things, are never noticed by the average player, though they would soon become apparent if we didn't do them', opined Bert, suggesting that such routine accounted for upwards of a third of the greenkeepers working week. 'In March I like to get things moving, aiming for a little colour and a tickle of growth by applying a turf tonic - sulphate of iron based - on the greens, whilst on the fairways I'll put straight tines on the Amazone, just at turf level, to take out any old rubbish and dry divots. Then we'll set to repairing those old divot holes with seed and soil and wait to see positive germination from the repair before passing the mower blades over. As soon as I see some signs of positive growth on the greens I'll hollow tine, twice over each green, two ways, looking to remove 5% on each pass, before brushing the Bailey's well.

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23 in – following this a little later with a 12-0-9 fertiliser application, one which has worked well over the seasons.

Worm casts were conspicuous by their absence, in the main down to Bert’s tackling the problem ‘before it arises’. Each autumn he carefully applies flowers of sulphur in an attempt to reduce the pH, naturally occurring at around seven, trying to turn the conditions around. Water on the course, applied through a Watermation irrigation system via the club’s recently excavated deep borehole, comes ready filtered through the chalk, thus alkalinity is in the water as well, though by turning the acid balance they seem to have the worm problem licked, or at least under control. Bert is of the opinion that creating such conditions means that worms find Tyrrells Wood less than comfortable!

February will see the club’s tees and approaches treated with a slow-release pellet fertiliser, with the new tee bases being turfed over a tasty looking root-zone mix and utilising something approaching 1400 sq. yds of material. In addition, work continues on restoration following the gales of 1987, when Tyrrells Wood suffered considerable losses. Some six years on the losses were not apparent to this observer, though deep in the undergrowth of bordering thickets an occasional uprooted tree may be seen if one looks closely. Bert’s team have tackled these systematically (there were scores of fine trees felled by the hurricane) in the time honoured fashion – removal by chainsaw of all branches before dropping the naked root back into its vacant hole. Some live trees are also being moved, under the direction of Civic Trees, in particular a Yew from behind the twelfth to the right of the eighth to replace an old favourite lost in the big blow – the whole programme suggesting that much thought had gone into

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25 - the process, the idea being as much one of caring for future golfing generations as of those playing today. Finally, Bert and the team are involved in a 'spring special', albeit a one-off, the removal of three Corsican Pines from the left of the tenth green, together with a reduction in height of an overpowering Beech, all this with the commendable idea of letting in more light and air, especially allowing winter sun to find its old target à la Braid, for too long overshadowed.

There is one overwhelming theme that pervades in listening to Bert Watson, his unswerving enthusiasm for Tyrrells Wood. He calls it 'his' golf course, which is only right for such a dedicated craftsman who sees these golfing acres as the canvas he paints, sensitive as only an artist can be to both criticism and acclaim. He's an avid eight handicap golfer and finds that playing helps enormously in preparation of the canvas: 'I'll sometimes hit a ball, not a bad shot, and see from where it has come to rest that there is something that offends - an overhanging branch maybe - an unfairness not just for me but for any golfer, which may not be apparent to the layman. Golf may not always be a fair game - it was never intended to be - but my aim is to see that blatantly unfair shots are not part of my course' - witness the artist at work!

'Any advice for young greenkeepers', I asked. Bert suggesting that the best move any young greenkeeper could make would be to remove any fear that a visiting agronomist works against him. 'Get him on your side, show him what you're made of, discuss everything you've achieved in detail, build up a friendship. George (Shiels) and I enjoy such a friendship and we work as a team, our thinking being that two heads are better than one. When George makes a recommendation it is usually the result of two minds with but a single thought - and means that the proposals are nearly always accepted - seen to be right for the course, right for the members and right for my regime'.

Each month Bert produces a detailed report of work either carried out or scheduled, which in edited form is produced for his members. He is also something of a writer, producing a short article on a pertinent matter which appears in the magazine 'Tyrrells Times', explaining in layman terms the reasoning behind a particular activity. His latest, 'Why Aerate', was a wee gem and I was left with the thought that Tyrrells Wood members are fortunate indeed - not only do they enjoy an exquisite course but, through this simple form of communication, they know why.

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**Major machinery at Tyrrells Wood**

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After the difficulties experienced with loss of grass cover due to prolonged drought stress over the last few years, an extremely wet, mild autumn and early winter period has highlighted how rapidly conditions can fluctuate and the types of extreme in weather now experienced. This situation makes the greenkeeper's task of maintaining the fine balance between offsetting high levels of course usage against achieving quality year round surfaces very difficult, especially on low lying golf courses with heavy, ill-drained soils. It is therefore essential that quick responses are made to rapid changes in the weather and action is taken in advance of problems occurring. Forewarned is forearmed.

A surface problem?
In a number of situations the difficulty of poor drainage and muddy conditions may well relate initially to the immediate soil layers, particularly where the loss of grass cover has resulted from compaction, prolonged drought stress or significant thatch build up. All these conditions encourage surface moisture retention and hence exaggerate wear and tear with consequential loss of grass cover, levels and playing quality. A package of aeration treatments including hollow tining and slitting in the early stages can help to open up the top 100mm (4") as well as removing thatch. Thereafter, the soil profile can be opened up further by degrees through, for instance, Verti-draining or deep slitting. Ground conditions should be firm enough to take each unit, yet the soil moist enough to gain good penetration otherwise resultant damage will nullify the benefit gained.

It is absolutely essential to avoid aeration work, especially the deeper treatments like Verti-draining, when the soil profile is saturated to depth and during or after prolonged periods of heavy rain. If the timing is wrong then instead of excess water shedding off the surface, rainfall fills up the tine holes above a saturated base making the greens/tees like puddings. Wet surface conditions invariably lead to the cancellation of top dressing application, which only increases the speed and severity of the water retention. In such a situation the only real option is to let the surface dry out over a long period before the green staff can take the necessary remedial action. The key here is timing, with the emphasis on anticipation and an early response. This is so important where we have high course usage.

Prolonged mild, wet conditions invariably encourage earthworm activity on parkland courses. Very heavy worm casting in itself can create extremely muddy conditions which affects appearance, immediate surface levels, drainage, sward density and weed populations the following year. Accordingly, an early application with an approved wormkiller can keep surfaces clean and relatively dry, although with the active ingredients left on the market two or three applications may well be required through the autumn to spring period.

On a localised basis
Surface ponding and stagnation can often be exacerbated by sub-surface seepage and run off from higher ground. On a localised basis this situation can be tackled through the introduction of a catchwater intercept drain around the toe of the bank taking care to avoid pop-up irrigation supply pipes. Ensure the catchwater drain encompasses the whole of the surface run off area and that there is a fall on the drain of no less than 1:200. The drain should also be connected to a positive outlet.

Low lying moisture retentive sections of green, surround and fairway are further trouble spots where localised aeration treatments can be given to prevent surface ponding and the development of stagnant thatch. There is still room for localised hand forking and hand hollow tining at close centres and infilling holes with approved medium coarse sand, although mechanisation allows a quicker and more effective treatment, i.e. a soil ameliorator (locally) or the Verti-drain (overall). In the case of the latter, infilling holes with sand for added drainage is another benefit. Where design causes major problems in lower lying features, another option is a spur drain to tap the area with the addition of a solid vertical pipe in the lowest spot connecting the surface with the aggregate. The pipe can then be covered by a gauze or synthetic grass hole insert to minimise disruption to play. The diameter of the pipe can be varied according to requirement.

Spread the wear!
Another significant weapon in keeping the course in play is the management technique of spreading wear. The options available are numerous including:

- Regular moving of pin positions on greens, keeping away from lower lying weaker areas during wet weather and strategic positioning to alter traffic route flow on and of greens.
- Re-routing walkways, taking every opportunity of changing the alternative traffic route from time to time to prevent another worn path developing.
- The provision of alternative tees away from the main areas.
- Adjusting the distance for landing zones on fairways by changing tee positions.
- Look at alternative tractor routes through semi-rough/rough and woodland rather than using fairways.

Nevertheless, there does come a point when the above factors are not enough to cope with the disadvantages of poor design, soil profile make-up and lack of adequate drainage. In such a situation the best course of action is controlled usage, eg. a trolley ban for a defined period.

It should be appreciated that considerable damage can occur over a short period under adverse weather conditions and the aim is preservation of surfaces for the main playing season the following year.

Indeed, in certain situations the decision would be to leave well alone by resting the course until such time as the surfaces have dried out sufficiently for the green staff to work on them again.
The cure
Good drainage is fundamental to successful management and whilst all the above items will bring about short term alleviation, the answer must lie with reconstruction of greens, tees, bunkers and surrounds to provide better design, a suitable depth of free draining growing medium and an under drainage system to take the water away.

On heavy soils and lower lying land it is important to raise tees, bunkers and greens above ground levels to enhance drainage rates and contour surrounds to shed water away from putting surfaces.

In respect of fairways the key to success is the installation of an integrated piped drainage system.

There are far too many golf courses where fairway drainage consists of a piecemeal arrangement of pipe drains, with haphazard design and poor drain profile make-up, including connections. To ensure good surface to aggregate drainage rates employ approved sand as a growing medium over the blinding layer/aggregate, finishing off with a skimming of top dressing mixed with fine seed to aid surface establishment. Drain lines may stand out for a period during drought, but this is worth it for the benefits that accrue in prolonged wet weather. On completion of the project, the drainage system would then be assessed over one or two winter periods with a view to evaluating the subsequent requirement for localised or overall slit drainage or just mole ploughing to aid lateral movement of water to drain lines.

On flatter land with minimal falls ditches can be a very effective alternative as a carrier of water and as an outlet for pipe drainage. Existing open drain networks should be cleaned out prior to the winter period to enhance water flow.

Summary
Preventative maintenance, including attention to specialised aeration work, along with worm control and spreading wear and tear will alleviate problems caused by excessive rainfall on poorly drained golf courses. However, the timing and intensity of treatments given are essential in gaining the best results. Nevertheless, this action only has short term benefit and the cure lies with improved design, growing medium quality and depth as well as the provision of drainage systems.

The author, Stuart Ormondroyd, is an advisory agronomist with the Sports Turf Research Institute.
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If there's one thing certain to upset the more senior members of the British population, it's an announcement about the introduction of more rules and regulations concerning another aspect of our daily lives. Whether emanating from Whitehall or Brussels, the arrival of yet more red tape is sure to make the blood boil and bring cries of 'molly coddling', 'wrapped in cotton wool' and 'never would have happened in my day', from the many who have more than solely an historical interest in the Second World War.

Yet, for anyone who uses or comes into contact with substances designed to control or kill pests, weeds and diseases, the regulations encompassing the safe use of pesticides and other chemicals must be among the most sensible and appropriate introduced during the past ten years. They are the Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986 and the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988, supporting and reinforcing existing legislation designed to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of employees, golfers, and all others who may come into contact with the day-to-day maintenance activities on a golf course.

The principal statute governing activities in the workplace is the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. It places a duty on any establishment with five or more employees to have a written statement of its policy for ensuring health and safety. Furthermore, since 1 January this year, there has been a requirement for employees to carry out a risk assessment and to record all significant findings. There are at least 15 further Acts and Regulations currently in force in the UK concerning health, safety and welfare at work. At privately-owned clubs, all legislation will normally be enforced by the local authorities environmental health department. In the case of public courses, the inspector will come from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Inspectors are essentially there to inspect and enforce regulations. However, both bodies are able to advise and assist employers in meeting their legal obligations. Points on which employers have been pursued include failure to make provision for first aid treatment to be available for employees who are injured or become ill at work; failure to provide sufficient instruction, information or training in a task to minimise the risk to the employee or others; and failure to train and appoint one person to carry out specific prescribed duties.

Under regulations in force in both the UK and continental Europe, all persons engaged in spraying operations must use specified personal protective clothing and equipment. At the same time, under the risk assessment requirements, it is important to identify, control or eliminate the risk from spray chemicals by other means, as far as is reasonably practicable.

Employers are required to issue spray operators with the following personal protective equipment:
- chemical-resistant gloves.
- a face shield
- coveralls
- rubber or plastic boots.

The HSE points out that disposable spraying coveralls will protect against most of the chemicals likely to be used on golf courses. It is required of every manufacturer that they provide all necessary information on the suitability of their protective equipment. However, if in any doubt, it is important to seek advice from the manufacturer or supplier on suitable protection for the chemical being applied.

British manufacturer, Allman, offers two protective kits for sprayer operators. The Allclear contains 11 essential safety items including goggles, visor, nitrile gauntlets, a washable coverall and apron, pure air respirator and eye irrigator. It costs less than £90 and each item can be replaced individually as required after use.

For about £30 less, the company's One-Pak kit includes the vital face and hand protective items but no respirator or irrigator and has disposable coveralls which can be replaced for £7.50 each. Irrespective of whether one is wearing reusable or throwaway overalls, it is essential that storage facilities are provided to keep spraying clothing and equipment separate from normal working clothes. Furthermore, hot and cold water wash facilities must be available to clean gloves, visor and boots before storage.

Details on a specific pesticide and instruction covering its safe and effective use must be provided on the containers of all approved agricultural pesticides. For maximum safety, never decant a chemical into another container and never use a container for any other purpose. Empty bottles and
canisters should be rinsed thoroughly and stored in a secure, designated storage bin awaiting proper disposal.

In certain cases the HSE recommends the use of closed transfer systems for moving undiluted pesticides into the sprayer tank. Equipment to ensure the safe transfer of chemicals is now available from most of the leading manufacturers and from ancillary suppliers.

The Chemical Transfer and Rinse from Martin Lishman is fitted easily to the sprayer tank. It consists of a bowl over which the inverted container is placed. Pressing down on the container forces a spear within the bowl through the foil seal on the container. Following the emptying of its contents, the container is rinsed automatically ready for safe disposal. Costing £185, the device can be fitted with a partial measure cap to allow part emptying of containers.

A chemical induction bowl with integral rinsing probe is available on Hardi’s amenity sprayers covering tractor-mounted, trailed and de-mountable models from 200 to 800 litre capacity. Developed from its agricultural sprayer range, the 25 litre hopper includes a measuring scale and has a wash-down ring to rinse all residues from the walls of the hopper. The rinsing device has a multi-nozzle head over which the empty container is placed for a thorough rinsing, with washings going into the tank for safe disposal.

For anyone in doubt, advice on safe, correct disposal of empty containers can be obtained from the environmental health department of their local authority or the HSE. The law lays down a number of specific requirements regarding pesticide stores. Although it can be a separate structure or be situated within an existing building, in every case it must be:

- suitably sited
- of adequate capacity and construction
- designed to hold spillage
- properly lit and ventilated
- resistant against fire and frost
- designed to allow containers to be safely stacked and removed in and out of store
- clearly identified with a cautionary warning sign
- kept locked except when in use.

One of the latest entrants to the purpose-built chemical store market is Go-Store, offering a range of free-standing walk-in units suitable for use outside or inside an existing building. All incorporate heavy-duty shelving, a 9" spillage retention sill, ventilation, thermostatically-controlled frost protection, lighting and high security locking. Typical price for a store measuring 8' x 6'3" x 6'3" is in the region of £1550. Smaller units are offered by Portasilo. Its Chemvaults are totally waterproof and include ventilation, spillage retention and high security multi-point locks. A check list is required of all pesticides kept in the chemical store and this should be compiled and kept safely close at hand – but not in the store.

Health and Safety Executive guidelines say that greenkeepers should avoid storing more pesticides than are necessary and that a system of stock rotation be employed to ensure that older stocks are used first. Provided correct measurement has taken place, there should be little or no diluted liquid remaining in the sprayer’s tank after treatment has been completed. However, there will be a low concentration of pesticide in the first rinsings from the tank which will need safe disposal. This can be applied to the turf provided there is no conflict with any previous treatment and they are within the-label directions. Alternatively, the rinsing water can be combined with a fresh batch of diluted pesticide for spraying on another part of the course.

If neither of these alternatives is suitable or acceptable, operators should seek advice from the environmental health department of the local authority, the HSE, or the chemical supplier. Automatic tank cleaning devices are recommended as an alternative to the hand held hose and scrubbing brush.

Nozzle specialist Lurmark has extended its Tanka Clean range with a new wash jet giving twice the flow rate of its stable-mate. Suitable for large capacity tanks and where thorough cleansing is vital to avoid chemical cross-contamination, the new unit offers a maximum water throughput of 109 litres/min at 3bar pressure. The unit is designed for permanent fixing through the top or lid of the sprayer tank, and uses a cluster of cone jets to cover the complete inside of the tank. It costs about £60.

Guidance on safe chemical handling and disposal can be found in the ‘Code of Practice for the safe use of approved pesticides in amenity and industrial areas’ This publication, available from BIGGA HQ at £12 post inclusive, gives advice on meeting the two principal regulations covering the use of pesticides. The most recent of these, entering the statute books in 1988, is the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health regulations (COSHH). These lay down the essential requirements and clear procedures for the control of hazardous substances and the protection of anyone exposed to them. Under the regulations, employers are obliged to carry out a COSHH assessment to identify the possible risks to health on their premises and the precautions that will need to be taken to minimise or eliminate them.

Guidance is available from the local authority or HSE regarding compliance with COSHH and carrying out a risk assessment on your course. This spring, the HSE plans to publish a guide to the essentials of health and safety relating specifically to golf courses. The guide will encompass every working practice likely to be encountered and provide practical guidance on identifying, reducing and eliminating risks to employees and others. In the meantime, there is a comprehensive range of free leaflets and booklets currently available from the HSE relating to health and safety at work. Information and literature on these publications can be obtained from the HSE on any of the following numbers:

071 2210870 (London); 0742 752539 (Sheffield); 051 9514381 (Merseyside) or from BIGGA HQ.

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Almost a year has passed since our last National Education Conference, held in March at Cirencester College. Time enough to forget perhaps, yet whenever greenkeepers congregated throughout the year, conversation centred around the highly effective 'mix and match' presentations, greenkeepers and agronomists sharing the limelight at Cirencester in equal numbers, one learning from the other. The fifth conference, to be staged at Keele University, Staffordshire on 26-28 March, will again field a galaxy of international turfgrass specialists alongside our own increasingly professional home grown talent. It remains the one conference that greenkeepers should not miss, for though the essence of any education conference is learning, the BIGGA National Education Conference is as much one of learning through conversation, discussion, friendly argument and social intercourse. Why shouldn't education be fun – be there!

**Speaker Profiles**

### Part One

**Noel Jackson**, a native of Yorkshire, attended Northallerton Grammar School and the University of Durham, Kings College, Newcastle upon Tyne, where he gained an honours degree in Agricultural Botany and later a Ph.D. in Agronomy. From 1958 to 1965 Dr. Jackson was employed as a biologist at the STRI, where he established his interest in turf management, particularly in turfgrass diseases. In 1965 Dr. Jackson joined the faculty at The University of Rhode Island as assistant professor in Plant Pathology and is he is now a professor at that institution. The position involves teaching, research and extension duties in the area of turf, trees and woody ornamental diseases. Over the past 27 years, Dr. Jackson has worked closely with professional growers (sod farmers, golf superintendents, nurserymen and landscapers) and with homeowners to ascertain and research their plant disease problems. In 1992, Dr. Jackson joined the faculty at The University of Rhode Island as assistant professor in Plant Pathology and is he is now a professor at that institution. The position involves teaching, research and extension duties in the area of turf, trees and woody ornamental diseases. Over the past 27 years, Dr. Jackson has worked closely with professional growers (sod farmers, golf superintendents, nurserymen and landscapers) and with homeowners to ascertain and research their plant disease problems. In particular, the most common problem encountered are fungal diseases, these being badly constructed greens and other intrinsic design faults: collapse of drainage system, flooding, and rooting difficulties. He'll lift the tempo to a final high by describing the installation of a new drainage system and show the course at its prime, one which has hosted the European Amateur Championships, the World Amateur Championships and the European Seniors Championships whilst now being a regular venue on the PGA European Tour. Ian, whose career began as an apprentice at Scarcroft in 1976, has tended the course at Lausanne since 1984, prior to which he was at Moor Allerton in Leeds.

**Anthony Davies**, pencil slim and athletic, is often seen pounding the pavement in his quest for fitness as a long distance runner, though he is perhaps better known to BIGGA members as the 1990 'ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year' than as a competitor in the London Marathon. The ICI accolade was by no means Anthony's first claim to fame, however, for college peers voted him 'Top Student' during his final Phase IV year of City & Guilds Greenkeeping Management and he has always been an education buff, holding a diploma in Turf Culture and the National Examination Board's certificate in Supervisory Management. For some 15 years Anthony has worked in the profession he loves, beginning his career in 1978 at the Southport & Ainsdale Golf Club and now at Prestbury Golf Club in Cheshire, where for the past four years he has been the club's course manager. Anthony is regarded as something of a progressive, and his presentation at Keele will centre around the way he engineered the change from old to new at Prestbury, under the beguiling title of 'Right or wrong – I did it my way'.

**Gary Grigg**, GCGS, will discuss 'Current and future issues in golf course management', a subject close to his heart. Gary became superintendant at Naples National Golf Club, Naples, Florida, earlier last year, following extensive experience in the construction, grow-in and maintenance of several fine clubs throughout the country. He holds a Bachelors degree in entomology from Utah State University and a Masters degree in agronomy from Michigan State University. Gary has attended many GCSAA seminars and has been a member of many committees including the certification, scholarship and research, nominating, fund-raising, seminar planning and building committees. He is a member of the Everglades GCSA, Heart of America GCSA and the Florida GCSA. Gary belongs to several allied associations including the Florida Turfgrass Association, the Texas Turfgrass Association and the Southwest Turfgrass Association, over which he presided as president in 1981. He is also a member of the Florida Conservation Association. Gary has been a member of GCSAA for 22 years, is currently on the Board of Directors and serves on the finance, future education and conference planning committees.

**Ian Tomlinson**, course manager at Lausanne Golf Club in Switzerland and vice president of the Swiss Greenkeepers Association, wrote telling us about his presentation, 'The problems associated with maintaining a golf course at 2800 feet altitude in Switzerland', suggesting that it will be no ordinary paper reading exercise, rather an ad-libbing explanation (illustrated with slides) of the greenkeeping problems encountered in Switzerland with ice and snow and the damage that can be caused to trees by heavy snow falls. He promises that his presentation will not portray mere doom and gloom, though he'll follow this with explanations of other problems encountered at Lausanne, these being badly constructed greens and other intrinsic design faults: collapse of drainage system, flooding, and rooting difficulties. He'll lift the tempo to a final high by describing the installation of a new drainage system and show the course at its prime, one which has hosted the European Amateur Championships, the World Amateur Championships and the European Seniors Championships whilst now being a regular venue on the PGA European Tour. Ian, whose career began as an apprentice at Scarcroft in 1976, has tended the course at Lausanne since 1984, prior to which he was at Moor Allerton in Leeds.
Soiled again

With the forthcoming publication of the R&A's Joint Golf Course Committee's specification for recommended methods of constructing putting greens, based on three alternatives, with no compromising mixing from one to another, the whole vexed question of soil analyses re-emerges.

There is no point in setting out standards controlling the materials to be used unless those materials are readily available and their quality can be checked by reliable analyses against the stated criteria. Equally, it is a pointless exercise if analyses take so long that the start of construction would be seriously delayed; if the results were so erratic or illogical that no one could trust them, or if the cost were so high as to prohibit their use in any save very expensive contracts.

The sad fact is there is absolutely no consistency between the results of physical analyses on the same material when analysed by different laboratories.

To be believed, results must be believable! Illogical results, which cannot be either defended or repeated, bring the whole system into disrepute. This problem is by no means confined to laboratories in Britain - nor indeed in Europe. If the USGA Green Section claims that it can rely on only a bare handful of soil laboratories throughout the length and breadth of the States to report consistently accurate results, even when they are working to published standard methods and techniques, we are unlikely to be any better here, more especially because work on standard methods of analysis is by no means complete - and furthermore even when it is I will hazard a guess that many results being so wildly 'out' that they cannot be believed and the last, not much better, was sent back in desperation at so wildly 'out' that they could not be believed and the last, nor much better, was sent back in desperation at the delays together with a huge bill (which was never paid) showing variations on the same samples of over 3000%! In another equally well authenticated case, showing quite illogical and indefensible results, the suggestion was made that the first (illogical) reports should be scrapped and a new start made - presumably analysing again and again until the desired or expected figures turn up!

It should be dismissed as teething troubles, to be overlooked by those who know what they are talking about, but it is much more serious than that. In our increasingly litigious society, any dispute capable of being settled a decade ago by getting round a table or knocking heads together goes with minimum delay to the lawyers, who have never been known to suffer from any inability to make decisions, however little they may know about the technicalities.

It is a far from fanciful possibility for a contractor and/or architect to be sued for supplying unsuitable material in a golf course construction contract, based on soil analyses of samples sent to a given laboratory by the dissatisfied employer. Then fresh batches of the same material are sent to another laboratory - or worse still, to the first one - which then show satisfactory figures. Aggrieved parties will take the view that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander and the first laboratory, in an indefensible position, can at best hope to settle out of court for a million or more!

How then have we managed before? Simply because most of those at all levels building golf courses up to the last few years before the advent of American inspired extravaganzas, knew good materials from bad, could judge suitability by 'finger and thumb' methods and knew where reliable materials could be found - materials previously analysed on simple chemical and physical standards, which dealt with such uncomplicated but still important values as 'freedom' from clay (fines) or lime (pH) as well as low phosphate levels (high levels are inimical to fine turf). This meant that they knew where the best materials - previously checked and of consistent reliability - could be found, which avoided costly delays. If they did not have that ability themselves 'they knew a man who did'.

Today we are faced with an increasing number of people at all levels, employers, contractors and even architects, who have no clue as to what is good or bad and who rely on irrelevant standards (more suitable for hot arid or tropical zones than for northern European temperate conditions). As a result they need and demand rigid guide lines. This leads to confusion, extra costs, delays and often disaster. As an example, the specification for the sand to be used on one of those extravaganzas was so precise that the soil analyst was sent back in desperation at the delays together with a huge bill (which was never paid) showing variations on the same samples of over 3000%! In another equally well authenticated case, showing quite illogical and indefensible results, the suggestion was made that the first (illogical) reports should be scrapped and a new start made - presumably analysing again and again until the desired or expected figures turn up!

Frankly I can see little real value to any reasonably experienced and educated adviser in using soil analyses except to check on their own materials or architects. If the soil material is supplied by the architect the samples are identified, then we are talking money - and the national golfing body which should be the regulator has not thought, it would seem, about financing their recommendations or actions, e.g. in checking and comparing soil laboratories.

So where is this likely to lead us? Probably. I can see little real value to any reasonably experienced and educated adviser in using soil analyses except to check on their own materials. If the soil material is supplied by the architect the samples are identified, then we are talking money - and the national golfing body which should be the regulator has not thought, it would seem, about financing their recommendations or actions, e.g. in checking and comparing soil laboratories.

Let the grass tell you what it needs, says JIM ARTHUR
some artificial, indefensible and unproven standards always end in tears.

The only important nutrient for fine turf is nitrogen, for which there are no sensitive tests. There is enough phosphate and almost always enough potash to meet the very modest demands of finer grasses. Trace elements are never needed on golf courses. The ideal pH is the one you've got. Remember the old adage - 'if it ain't broke, don't try to fix it'.

There can thus be little if any justification for spending money on chemical analyses, which all too often are on offer as a sales gimmick or an alternative to sound management advice, which chemists seem to lack. Physical soil analyses are a different matter, but to date the unreliability and inconsistency of results on the same materials from different (and even the same) laboratories is still too clear that we have a long way to go before any reliance can be placed on the results.

My advice is to keep your hands in your pockets (analyses are very expensive) and let the grass tell you what it needs. Rubbing a soil sample between finger and thumb is, I regret, a far more accurate way of assessing than getting a result from any testing laboratories.

The secret is to follow austere greencare: minimal fertiliser and nitrogen only, strictly controlled irrigation; intensive deep aeration and the use of compatible top dressings to the existing root zone. Then, as night follows day, you will succeed in proving that you do not have to learn to live with annual midwinter grass, though it may take time if you are combatting years of previous missmanagement. Frankly you do not need soil analyses to implement such a programme.

It is true that a parting message might recount a story with a warning. Some years ago, in the West Midlands, I rejected a particular the quality of sand. I rejected samples of granite sand whose angular particles locked together to form a naturally hard, almost unproven standard, but hard, almost without a question. The Ahmed sand grew and my advice was endorsed by the excellent turn-out of nearly sixty greenkeepers and guests, many thankyou.

For the second year running play was in the highly enjoyable Texas Scramble format, with teams of four battling over a very well presented course, especially when taking consideration of the 'slightly' wet weather of late. Our heartfelt thanks to Dave Wood and his team for working so hard over the past weeks in claiming back the course - not only from the English Channel but from the five Mediterranean

Play was over 14 holes (14 greens only were open so three were played twice), with the resultant time spent at the water hole (cause of the unintentional pun) at the ninth, partaking of mince pies, scotch and/or beer supplied by the section.

RESULTS: Overall winners - J Hill; C Reed; S Reed & J Murray; A. Murray; J Warner & T Collier. Nearest the pin was promoted to president with Alec Bradshaw and Ron Johnson elected vice-presidents. Please note that Mike Euston is now in charge of handicaps and secretary Derek Walder will be receiving competition entries directly in 1993, with no new committee members nominated.

Jim Parker stepped down as president, receiving thanks for his many years of support, and Bert Watson was promoted to president with Alec Bradshaw and Ron Johnson elected vice-presidents. Please note that Mike Euston is now in charge of handicaps and secretary Derek Walder will be receiving competition entries directly in 1993.

Gareth Roberts of Hankley Common must have been nursing sore feet following his 126 holes of golf played for charity - this over the North Middlesex GC - starting at 7am and finishing at 4.15 pm.

Looking well ahead to 1994, if any member can offer the use of his golf club for section events, please contact Derek Walder.

ROGER TYDEMAN

CLEVELAND

Congratulation to Ian Harrison of Darlington GC on his success in the ICI Premier greencarer of the Year award. This bright young head greencarer has put together a modern maintenance complex at Darlington with health and safety very much to the fore, along with exemplary record-keeping and a fine pesticide store. Ian's attitude to safe working is a model of efficiency and his staff are very supportive. Darlington GC should be very proud of 'Their' man - good luck in the future, Ian.

Our December meeting took the form of a quiz - Cleveland BIGGA v Teesside leg - sponsored by TurfCare of Co. Durham and chaired most ably by quiz-master Terry Charlton, TurfCare's managing director. The quiz victors were the ICI, though it could be said that the overall winner was the friendly atmosphere that pervaded throughout.

Congratulations to David Cook of Eaglescliffe GC on passing his FA2 spyrer test.

BRUCE BURNELL

SOUTH COAST

For the first time ever a section tournament had to be cancelled due to poor weather. After days of heavy rain, including the day itself, the December Turkey Trot was cancelled, with players stranded in the clubhouse. Fortunately the bar remained open and with cable TV and several video games available members still had 36
GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL February 1993

AROUND THE GREEN

by the committee during the year. The meeting was rounded off by those attending thanking our trade members for their continued support and John Millen reporting the activities of the Association at a higher level. Unfortunately the rain ruffled with three £10 vouchers going to the lucky winners.

By coincidence the first ticket drawn belonged to Mark Wilton of Rigby Taylor. However, I can assure readers that Mark quickly returned the ticket and insisting he had no interest in the competition.

Our Annual Turkey Trot was staged at West Malling GC and, as it turned out, happened to be 'turkey less'. Our gracious host did us proud with a fine 39 points - we thank Beau Desert and their support team. The subsequent results were: 1st D Pember (Sta Brite), Mark Hillier, Ken Polley and sixty members and guests enjoyed an excellent Christmas dinner followed the AGM and thanks to course manager and club captain, Chris Stewart Boyes, but for obvious reasons they relinquished their claim to the prize, although Steward Boyes received a prize as the greenkeeper in their team. The subsequent results were: 1st D Pember (Sta Brite), Mark Hillier, Ken Polley & A Evans (South Beds). 3rd T McReddy, M Hall, M Hatcher & H Ainsworth (Royston). Winners received vouchers for £20 (first), £15 (second), and £10 (third).

Our thanks to the committee of South Beds for allowing us to stage the competition and for the courtesy of their course, also to the steward for providing an excellent meal. In addition, our thanks to all members of the trade both for attending and donating prizes: Colin White (Rigby Taylor), David Murphy (Sta Brite), Mark Hillier, Ken Polley (Maxwell Hart), Chas. Ayres (Lodgeway Tractor Co), David Hawkins (Partissons), Liam Galway (CMW Equipment) and Derek Prior (Rogers Engineers).

Our next section event will be a lecture at Bradlow Manor GC on 2 March, when David Golding, BIGGA's education officer, will discuss 'Greenkeeper Training' and the importance of a greenkeeper's education and training, so let's have a good turn-out to show our support for the efforts of David in particular and BIGGA in general. This event will be a Low Prices ticket and is a trip to Jacobsen on 23 March. If you are interested please contact Gerald Bruce.

PAUL LOCKETT

EAST ANGLIA

The Turkey Trot/AGM was held at Aldeburgh GC early in December when about 40 members attended and a good time was had by all.

The CMW turkey voucher was won by Peter Howard (37 pts) with Mike Moss (35 second). Andy Turbin won the longest drive and Alan Carter won nearest the pin.

The prizes were donated by CMW; Rushbrooks; Partissons; Rigby Taylor. Our thanks to Aldeburgh GC for having us - it is an honour to be granted the use of such a lovely old clubhouse for our annual general meetings and we greatly appreciate it.

The AGM was very interesting and all the officers were re-elected.

I would like to record a big 'thank you' to our chairman, Sam Sullivan, who does so much work for us in a style that is quite unique, coupled with endless patience. Sam Sylvester and Michael Peters are a grand double act and we would be in a muddle without them - thanks!

There was much discussion at the AGM on 'greenkeeper image' and how to improve it. Qualifications was the obvious one.

I'm all for studying - both on and off the course - and thanks to BIGGA, there appears at last to be some really good greenkeeping exams coming through.

It would be nice to get more support from the golfers though, for they do all the moaning and groaning.

What must you do to get on BIGGA Minimum Wage Scale? I've got a mate who started greenkeeping as a 16 year old and served three years as an apprentice, followed by five years as a first assistant. He gained GC exams (only exams available in 1967) and an EIGGA Gold Diploma. For twenty years he's been a head greenkeeper and last year he managed for the first time to get minimum rate.

This year he's below minimum again, his club refusing to go for a 5% increase. He does go a long way for us in a style that is quite unique, coupled with endless patience. Sam Sylvester and Michael Peters are a grand double act and we would be in a muddle without them - thanks!

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There was much discussion at the AGM on 'greenkeeper image' and how to improve it. Qualifications was the obvious one.

I'm all for studying - both on and off the course - and thanks to BIGGA, there appears at last to be some really good greenkeeping exams coming through.

It would be nice to get more support from the golfers though, for they do all the moaning and groaning.

What must you do to get on BIGGA Minimum Wage Scale? I've got a mate who started greenkeeping as a 16 year old and served three years as an apprentice, followed by five years as a first assistant. He gained GC exams (only exams available in 1967) and an EIGGA Gold Diploma. For twenty years he's been a head greenkeeper and last year he managed for the first time to get minimum rate.

This year he's below minimum again, his club refusing to go for a 5% increase. He does go a long way for us in a style that is quite unique, coupled with endless patience. Sam Sylvester and Michael Peters are a grand double act and we would be in a muddle without them - thanks!
NORTHERN

Our winter lecture series is now at the half way stage. Many thanks to Jeff Linley and his team from Na-Trel Products, who gave us an in-depth look at the way to fertilize through the use of soil and plant tissue analysis, also to John Hannah of Boral Lytag, who presented a very informative slide show on the manufacturing of their products and showing the various uses of Boral Lytag material for drainage purposes.

In December we had an excellent day out when Richard Purves and Keith Milking (Mitchell) arranged a visit to the John Deere plant in Nottingham. Our thanks to them. I apologise to those members who wanted to go but were turned down (the bus being filled to capacity) and suggest there is a good lesson to be learned, which is - put your name down early to avoid disappointment.

As you are all aware the Christmas golf was cancelled, due again to inclement weather. The AGM did however take place, though not too many members turned up for this. I feel those who made an effort and voiced their opinions on various matters relevant to our section. I think the furthest travelled was George Elsom, all the way from Hull.

The officers and committee elected for 1993 are:

President - Bill Lupton (Bill informed me that 1993 will be his 33rd year in office, all I can say is keep up the good work), chairman-Philip Taylor, secretary/treasurer-Pat Murphy, committee-Bob Lupton (also regional administrator), Alan Goodwin and Jan Thomson. Dennis Cockburn, Colin Garnett, Telford Jarvis, David Thackray, Robert Gee, and last but not least, Andrew Smith. May I welcome the three new men who have joined us on committee, I am sure you will enjoy your term in office.

On behalf of the Northern section may I also thank Brian Carr for time and effort so freely contributed to our section during his time in office. I heard he was involved in a car accident recently and wish him a speedy recovery.

A date for your diary: The Northern Section Annual Dinner will be held on Friday 19 March at Shipley GC, Beckfoot Lane, Bingley. There will be live entertainment by the monotonous tunesters we have - tickets £12.50 each. I can assure members they will not be disappointed with the evening, so please book early as tickets are limited. Send your cheques to me at 49 Cornwall Road, Gilstead, Bingley - cheques made payable to Northern Section.

Golf events for 1993 are in the process of being finalised, with the venues for this season being Sand Moor GC, Hull GC, Pannal GC, Kirkmichael GC, and Fulford GC for the Roses Match. Details will be posted as soon as I have them available.

The only news I have from the section is that Richard Thackray has been promoted to head greenskeeper at Bradford GC - congratulations to you David.

CARLTON SCOTLAND

The annual dinner was held in December at Stirling GC, when former SFA secretary Ernie Walker; OBE, was the guest speaker. Many thanks to Mr. Stirling generously donated his fee to the Variety Club of Great Britain - to go toward providing Sunshine coaches for kids. Everyone who attended had a great night and following its success, it is intended to hold a dinner/dance/this year at which trophies won during 1993 can be presented.

The annual prize draw was held also and our sincere thanks go to Leslie Walker, described by the chairman as 'my friend Ernie's beautiful daughter' (he had only met Ernie 30 minutes earlier!), who made the draw on our behalf. Thanks to everyone who donated to the prize table - eighteen prizes in all.

The prize draw is the largest fund-raiser for our section, and all members will be asked to support it by selling their allocation of tickets. The biggest disappointment about this venture is that 81 members are still holding some 480 books of tickets - which means a loss of £400 to the section education fund. The section is entirely dependent on these sales, so please ask to buy tickets if you did not have any intention of buying them! Please give your committee and your section some support.

Three members of the section, Graham Wallace (Gleneagles), Neil Burgall (Loch Links) and Colin Wade (HAGGS Castle) won an expenses paid trip to BTME. Well done lads!

As previously reported, the Spring Tournament will be held at Gleneagles in April and will be a qualifying event for the Hayter Tournament (previously Ileski). Full details will be circulated. We are indebted to the Gleneagles Hotel management for courtesy of their Queens course for this event, also for donating a prize to the prize draw. A day at Gleneagles for two players, any time in 1993. It is nice to know that a company as large as Gleneagles can still find time to give support to BIGGA events.

Still on the subject of Gleneagles, if any member wishes to be involved in our Greenkeepers trip to Gleneagles in July, by becoming a member of the bunker-raking team, please contact me as soon as possible. A letter regarding this will be circulated shortly.

AROUND THE GREEN

Ideas are being sought for social events throughout the year: events in which wives/ girlfriends/friends can get involved. If you have any ideas on the subject just drop me a line. JOHN CRAWFORD

SOUTH WALES

We held our Christmas competition on 16 December at Pyle and Kenfig GC, 18 holes of golf in truly wet and windy conditions. The Chairman drew 70 members to play as well as the committee, with only 20 players venturing out on a cold day, though fortunately without the showers that so often go with it. The competition was well fought, with only 12 points separating first and last and the winners were: (first 3 were donated by Alan Stow) with 35 points was Andrew Jenkins, with M Jones (34) runner-up and H Morgan (31) third. Our thanks to the membership of Pyle and Kenfig, especially secretary Roger Thomas and the club captain, for donating a prize to the prize draw - a day at Gleneagles for two players, any time in 1992. It is nice to know that a company as large as Gleneagles can still find time to give support to BIGGA events.

The chairman, H Parry, along with administrator elect H Morgan, presented replica awards to the following: L Hallett; A Panks and T King (medals) for representing the section in the Iseki championsh, with replica awards to A Panks • 46

EAST MIDLANDS

For members who did not attend the AGM in November, the elected officers for 1993 are as follows. Chairman-Dave Perkins, vice chairman-Steve Goode, committee- Nick Root; Adie Porter; Walter Cole; Dave Leatherhead; Paddy McCarron; Bob Holbrook.

In the Christmas competition held at Birstall GC on 16 December, our associate members excelled in a damp Stableford competition, with Nick Danvers winning the 0-9 section and John Burnham the 10-18. Our thanks to Birstall for an enjoyable day.

In the section's remaining silverware was distributed at the above event. So that you know who you have to beat this year, the winners are: Scratch Shield -Richard Barker; Toro Cup - Adie Porter; Vice President's Cup - Gary Thrush; Superturf K/O Cup - Anthony Bindley, Higomore Pairs Salver - Anthony Bindley and Martin Hopkins.

The section is pleased once again to welcome new members - John Cumberland, who is currently studying at Brackenbury College, and Richard

Fletcher of Ramsdale GC

Finally, I neglected to mention that I have endeavored to keep you all in tears for another year. I am still available on 0509 650140 and remain, your humble secretary, TONY HOWORTH

GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL February 1993 37
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The first correct entry drawn after that date will win £50. It could be YOU!

Enter today and spot the symbol!

Judges' decision is final. Not open to BIGGA staff.

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Despite the expected difficulties with Christmas post, entries for the December competition flowed in – and the first correct entry out of the draw, winning £50 cash, came from Angela Louch at Malton Golf Club in Hertfordshire. Winner of the January competition is Ian Permberton, from Middlesbrough, who also scoops £50 cash.

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