Crucial time for a reminder.

The Inland Revenue Act 1988. This means Members should note that through their annual tax returns whilst golf clubs paying subscriptions for members can claim tax relief through their accounts. This benefit for members substantially reduces the cost of their annual subscriptions and in claiming relief members should simply list their membership of BIGGA and indicate that the Association is an approved body under Section 201 ICTA 1988.

Brokenhurst Golf Club in the New Forest was fined £2,500 plus costs of £610 for "illegally" taking water to irrigate its greens. The club admitted it took 80,000 gallons more than it was licensed to use because of a breakdown in communication. Secretary Stewart Craven said: "When I took on the job my predecessor did not tell me about the conditions. It was a genuine mistake."

Andy McKee has left Fisons after seven years to join Erin Marketing Ltd as sales and marketing director.

The greenkeepers at Brighton's Hollingbury Park course had a shock when they turned up to prepare the course for a pro-am. A vehicle had been driven across the 12th green leaving tyre marks in the turf, the flag had been stolen and children had used a bunker as a sand pit. People, believed to be bovverers, had turned up just to the north of the course, had also been spotted playing football on the green.

The local council's three municipal greenkeepers, led by Terry Spence, worked fanatically with rollers and did a bit of "cosmetic surgery" to get the green fit for the club's biggest event of the year.

Why we must build on 'The Way Forward'

May I make a comment on "Looking Back to The Way Forward" (GI May '94) and congratulate Michael Bonallack for the clear description of the R&A's role in golf, probably not well understood by many.

"The Way Forward" surely exceeded the expectations of the authors and its publishers in the impact it made. Accepting that, it had a slow start, partly I suspect because of the reticence in introducing it with much publicity, and partly because the greater part of the audience to whom it was addressed, ie those in influential positions in members' golf clubs, didn't think there was anything wrong in their current methods. But those who did take it seriously and took some action found much support and enthusiasm. Some, not many, clubs and the Home Unions, especially the English Golf Union, have really moved with their seminars up and down the country.

But I sense that the momentum has slowed and this is the reason why thoughts were expressed at the BTME workshop which I attended that an update of "The Way Forward" would be timely. We still hear too often of large greens committees meeting frequently and the head greenkeeper taking instructions from a chairman who knows all about the technical problems -- surrogate greenkeepers they call them. And then, if things go wrong, who is blamed?

The R&A is respected throughout the golfing world and any report or recommendation emanating from St Andrews is listened to and trusted. I believe "The Way Forward" was a success and I would like to see further advance on that success.

Some sort of review of where we are now and what future is indicated would be relevant and very influential. I am glad that BIGGA has stirred up this subject and hope the organisation will keep the discussion going; but we must also get Golf Club Management involved.

Arthur King, Lymington