NEWS AND PICTURES FROM THE BIG EVENT

It was rare for anyone to leave BTME empty-handed. Here, BIGGA's Neil Thomas (above) and John Pemberton (below) hand out vouchers to lucky visitors.

Barry Heaney's accident slowed him down but as Neil Thomas said, he'd be pushing to find another Chairman as good as Barry.

Alec Davies of Dibbsbury Golf Club won the Mommersteeg Prize draw of a visit to the Mommersteeg Headquarters in Holland. BIGGA Chairman Dean Cleaver made the draw on the Friday of BTME 96.

Richard Whyman of Bude and North Cornwall Golf Club won the Vitax Draw made by BIGGA Chairman Dean Cleaver. Richard qualified for the draw having purchased the new Ultra Flow Diluter launched at the Show and he wins a £150 BIGGA voucher.

Elected to greenkeeping's elite

John Wells, of Brocket Hall, and David Winterton, of Donnington Grove were each presented with their plaques and Master Greenkeeper blazers by outgoing BIGGA Chairman Barry Heaney.

John and David join the elite band of 11 Master Greenkeepers throughout the world – Laurence Pithie, Gordon Irvine, David Whitaker, Kerran Daley, Anthony Davies from the UK and Richard McNab, Terry Buchanan, Bob Maibusch and Bill Montague from the United States.

The award of Master Greenkeeper shows that the recipient has reached the highest standards of excellence within the profession and is based on experience, ability and education. John Wells is pictured left, with David Winterton on the right.

The three winners of the BIGGA BTME 96 competition run on three consecutive months of Greenkeeper International were welcomed to the show by Pat Murphy, Chairman of BIGGA's Education Sub-Committee. Paul Compton, Stephen Hartshorn and Mark Rankin, who each won trips to Harrogate and entry to seminar sessions.

Meeting the visitors and exhibitors: Lord Whitelaw on his trip around BTME

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