Harry Diamond is gone but certainly not forgotten!

It could be said that Sunday July 8 was a day to be remembered in the annals of greenkeeping history. Harry’s family thought long and hard about some sort of memorial in his remembrance and came to the conclusion that a golf tournament in perpetuity would have been Harry’s wish.

His wife, Jessie, and daughters, Ann, Linda and Rosemary, his brother, Hugh, and a host of grandchildren all turned out at Belleisle Golf Course to witness the first ever presentation of the Harry Diamond Memorial Quaich. The tournament was played over Belleisle as a Stableford, with 110 golfers taking part.

It shows the status Harry was held in at Belleisle when everyone took part in the competition and others who had a special invitation to the presentation of prizes, knew Harry personally and could relate some stories about his playing and the Provost of Ayr turned up to present some of the prizes to the worthy winners and, what I considered quite exceptional, each winner got a kiss from the Provost, just as one would expect from a Lady Provost.

David joins Lantra Scotland

Lantra National Training Organisation has welcomed its first new operation this week with the arrival of David Stevenson as the new Executive Director for Scotland.

David joins Lantra from his previous role as Group Training Manager at BSW Timber Plc, the UK’s largest timber harvesting and sawmilling company. Prior to his role at BSW, David held senior positions with the Road Transport Training Board and the Food and Drink Training Board and brings with him an impressive wealth of training experience.

David has been quick to identify the needs of the Scottish sector and is keen to begin work on transforming Lantra’s role within Scotland, especially since the advent of devolution in the country.

“My aim is to raise the profile of Lantra NTO in Scotland, to maintain and expand the network within it and support the land-based sector in every way possible,” said David. “It will be challenging, due to the sheer wealth or training experience.

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Wellingborough’s flush problem

During the early summer each year one or two of my members complain to me of rashes on legs after playing golf at Wellingborough but this year there appears to be in the region of 20 people involved, mainly ladies.

Below is a list treatments used on the course, the dates and the times and the quantities involved:

Tuesday May 22 - all fairways were treated with fertiliser 28-0-0 at 80 litres per hectare and Atrazine at four litres per hectare. This work was carried out at 4.30am.

Tuesday May 22 - all greens and aprons were sprayed with 320g of Shortcut per hectare and 2.4 litres of Amistar per hectare diluted with 600 litres of water. This work was carried out at 7.30pm.

Open thank you from Mike

Just a little note with a BIG thank you, for letting me have the opportunity to assist in this years 2001 open support team. Once again it was a honour and a privilege to represent BIGGA in the most important major championship of the golfing calendar.

I was fortunate enough to have a chat and get the autograph of Gary Player, this may be his last open championship, and this alone made the week.

I hope you might be able to throw some light on the matter.

Harry’s three daughters each in turn presented prizes and Jessie had the honour to award each with a large silver quaich and each winner also received a personal usable smaller quaich (which is a Scottish vessel to partake of a large whisky).

It is unique in that I cannot remember a Golf Club which has respected the life of their greenkeeper by holding a competition in his memory.

From the way the competitors were talking the Harry Diamond Memorial Quaich will go on to become one of the most enjoyable fixtures in the Belleisle calendar.

Come next year I am hoping to arrange teams from the Scottish Sections of BIGGA to take part in the Stableford. I am sure Harry would have endorsed this suggestion.

Harry Diamond is missed in this greenkeeping fraternity. We in BIGGA wish to thank all his family and friends for having the insight and understanding in instituting this excellent tournament in Belleisle in his memory.

Cecil George, Lenzie.

Testers wanted for new trials

We have been appointed to import and distribute a new range of organo-growth stimulants that provide the benefits associated with a microbial soil inoculants and a highly humified growth stimulant.

The product has been successfully by golf courses and turf growers throughout the USA and we have numerous testimonials to this effect. However, we would like to field test the product under conditions in the United Kingdom and would welcome contact with anyone of BIGGA who can assist in this regard. Any such test will be undertaken without financial risk to the user.

The product comes in a ready to use liquid form and is supplied in 20 litre drums for easy handling. It is diluted and applied with sprayers in a conventional fashion and it has an economical low application rate. It can be applied with the standard fertiliser programme.

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