ALLAN MCDougALL

The Greenkeeping Fraternity, both north and south of the border, was shocked by the recent sudden death of Allan McDougall at the age of 44, especially as it was only months since he buried his father, Bob. Both Allan and Bob put a lot into the Association, particularly in the early days of BIGGA, supporting Tournaments, seminars and other events.

Allan’s career started under Jimmy Kidd, at the Glasgow Golf Club (Killermont), before taking up the position of First Assistant at Cawder Golf Club. He then moved on to become head man at Eastwood Golf Club before progressing to Stirling Golf Club. His next move was to Sandwell Park in the midlands before heading to Northern Ireland and Roe Park Golf Club then returning to take up the position of Course Manager at the Royal Mid-Surrey, which he enjoyed so much. No matter where he worked he made friends and we shall all miss those “catching up” moments at BTME. His life enriched many people’s lives. We should not cry because it’s over but smile because it happened.

He shall be missed by his friends, many from home and overseas, who attended his funeral, including The ‘Machrie Misfits’ of which Allan was President this year.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his wife, Janette, and his family, Mandy and Bobby, who is carrying on the family tradition of greenkeeping, as well as his mother, Jean, and brother, Donnie.

ROLAWN

Anyone passing close to one of Rolawn’s turfing nurseries may be staggered to see the giant 21 gang mowers being used to cut the fields.

Developed and built by the company itself the mowers fold up onto a manageable road using size, but expand when working to be able to mow 60 hectares per day, which is the equivalent of 60 football pitches.

AU REVOIR BEN

Ben Petitjean, Sales Manager Barenbrug UK, is to return to his native country to take up the position of Commercial Director of Barenbrug France. He will be responsible for the commercial policy of the company in consumer, amenity and forage product groups.

Ben joined Barenbrug UK in July 1996 as Area Manager for the Midlands and East Anglia. Quickly mastering the English language, he soon built up a loyal customer base throughout his trading area. "During the last few years, Ben has taken on overall responsibility for our amenity business," says Paul Johnson, Managing Director of Barenbrug UK. "He and his team have increased our market share across the board substantially."

"All Ben's colleagues wish him every success in his new post, and, as he is staying within the Barenbrug Group, it is very much a case of 'au revoir' rather than 'goodbye'."

PASSES ALL ROUND

Two members of the BIGGA Headquarters staff have joined the growing band of staff who have attained the European Computer Driving Licence.

Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson, is pictured with Rachael Foster and Gemma Lee with their qualification certificates.
Police investigating a theft have come across a BIGGA membership card included among a number of stolen store cards.

The card, pictured here, is an obvious counterfeit but carries enough relevant information that might persuade an unsuspecting Secretary or Club Professional to give courtesy of the course.

If anyone does come across a card they feel is suspicious here are some points to look for:
1. There is no such thing as Gold Key Associate Membership;
2. Cards are valid for one year and wouldn't be valid for more than a year 3. BIGGA membership cards do not say “Free golf on this card”.
4. BIGGA membership cards are now all in credit card form with the photograph printed onto the plastic.

**WATCH OUT FOR BOGUS CARDS**

**NEW MEN AT TURFTRAX**

TurfTrax, the Bedford-based turf, soil and grounds management consultancy, has appointed two new consultants.

Located in the Swindon/Cirencester area, Noel MacKenzie will provide agronomy advice in support of the company's construction projects in S England and S Wales.

Noel joins TurfTrax from Grass Science where he was a senior agronomist and involved in in-depth resource and recruitment management for golf clubs and local authorities. Prior to this he worked with the STRI as a sports turf consultant in London and the Home Counties.

James Welsh specialises in plant and soil interactions and has previously worked at Cranfield University on projects as diverse as electromagnetic scanning and interpretation, and precision farming.

Dr Welsh will work as a technical consultant, from the company’s Bedford Offices’ on drainage and pitch construction projects as well as turf agronomy.

“Both appointments further reinforce our turf management arm,” says TurfTrax Managing Director, Justin Smith.

“While specialising on construction and renovation, we are now increasingly asked for and provide a strong aftermarket package. This ensures our customers adopt best-practice management to ensure strong, healthy turf growth.”

**NAME CHANGE**

Independent irrigation consultants, Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd. have announced the setting up of a franchise for Scotland and Ireland. Irriplan Scotland is to be operated by Phil Langdon, former projects director of Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd.

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**NAME CHANGE**

Independent irrigation consultants, Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd. have announced that they have changed their company name to Irriplan Ltd.

“The new name is part of an overall plan to revise the marketing and structure of the business and the name Irriplan has been chosen to better reflect our core business of irrigation planning, engineering, design and implementation,” explained company founder Giles Wardle.

“Over the nine years since inception, the company has grown in reputation and with Carnoustie, Royal Lytham, Turnberry, Gleneagles and Queenwood among our clients the company is firmly established as one of the UK’s premier irrigation consultancies. Now the company needs to build on that success and the name change is the first step in a plan to re-structure and expand the business to new markets.”

In tandem with the name change the company announces the setting up of a franchise for Scotland and Ireland. Irriplan Scotland is to be operated by Phil Langdon, former projects director of Wardle Consulting Engineers Ltd.

**GREAT PERFORMANCE**

Scottish greenkeeper Glenn Campbell did the profession proud during the recent Amateur Championship at Royal Troon.

Glenn, 30, who works at Murrayshall GC, in Scone, Perthshire, under Ian MacMillan MG, reached the quarter-finals of the event before eventually losing out. Blairgowrie member Glenn, who at one time boasted the lowest handicap in Britain at +5 but was on +3 at the time of the Championship, received quite a bit of publicity during his run on three counts. One was for sharing a name with the American country singer, the second was for his hatred of practice and not hitting a ball in warm up all week and, finally as being the only one of the last eight who had a full time job.

**STAFF REACH THE MILESTONE**

Three members of the BIGGA Headquarters staff celebrated 10 years with the Association recently. Pauline Thompson, Sami Collins and John Pemberton each reached the milestone and were congratulated by Executive Director Neil Thomas, who himself is the longest serving member of staff having 16 years under his belt.
EXPANDED ROLE FOR LELY

The Toro Company has appointed Lely (UK) Limited to distribute its consumer products in the UK.

Effective from September 1, the development will see the distribution of all Toro consumer products move from the American company’s offices in Bournemouth to Lely’s base in St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

Toro says this change is in line with its business model to have its entire product range distributed by one distributor. Lely has distributed Toro Commercial equipment, such as professional turf mowers, aerators and utility vehicles, since 1983. And last year it added the distribution of Toro irrigation products to its Toro portfolio.

“This development is in line with Toro’s goal of supporting its valued dealers with the world’s finest consumer lawn care products and to provide them with the highest level of customer services. Lely UK has been the distributor of Toro commercial machinery for almost 20 years and irrigation products for just over one year,” said Dennis Himan, Toro’s Vice President and General Manager International Business.

Lely has begun the process of setting up a new business unit for consumer products, which comprise Toro pedestrian recycler mowers and Wheel Horse riding mowers and tractors, as well as associated hand-held products like trimmers and vacs.

Lely UK Managing Director, Graham Dale, welcomed the move to expand the Lely-Toro partnership.

“Lely is delighted that Toro is entrusting us with yet another important part of its business. We are formulating our plans to provide a full sales and technical support service and it’s our intention to include key staff appointments of current Toro staff members as well as new appointments. The transfer of equipment will see the distribution of all Toro consumer products move from the American company’s offices in Bournemouth to Lely’s base in St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

In keeping with Ransomes Jacobsen’s aim to be the environment friendly company in the industry, the seminar had an environmental theme and took in a number of papers covering those issues.

Richard Hayden, of the Institute of Technology, Tralee, discussed environmental management systems and the progress that has been made in producing fuel from domestic waste.

Dean Cleaver, of FEGGA, outlined the Federation’s work in producing a Blueprint for Sustainable Golf.

David Withers, of Ransomes Jacobsen, spoke on Environmental Golf & Greenkeeping, while Barry Ohman, of Calor Gas, reported on his company’s alternative fuel.

David Stubbs, of the Committed to Green, updated the audience on the work of the programme while after lunch Ken Richardson, BIGGA, described the various routes open to greenkeepers hoping to further their careers.

The seminar closed with a paper from Peter Jones, of Peter Jones Associates, who is one of the recipients of a scholarship award and he spoke on the research work this had enabled him to undertake at Cranfield University.

After a comparatively dry Wentworth and an exciting finish Volvo-PGA winner Ignacio Garrido is pictured here with Chris Kennedy, Course Manager and the volunteer Greenkeeping Support Team.