From Belarus with love

Read David MacIndoe’s fascinating diary as he oversees the grow-in at the Eastern European nation’s first ever golf course.

40 Burghill thinking bang up to date

How a traditional approach is paying off at Burghill Valley Golf Club

44 A Royal course where nature is king

How Chris Whittle deals with the unique conservation challenges posed by Royal Birkdale

48 Q&A: Mowers

Robert Jack from Dennis Mowers explains the basics of setting up your mower

50 Sprayer test to pinpoint accurate application

Details on the planned introduction of a national sprayer testing scheme

58 Greenkeepers Training Committee

Martin Ward from Symbio looks at the basics of good greenkeeping practices

REGULARS

3 Welcome from BIGGA
6 Chairman’s Word
8-11 Newsdesk
12 Membership News
14 L&D News
16-18 Industry Update
18-21 New Products
18-21 SALTEX Special
Four pages of what was on show at Windsor
52 Around the Green
59 Puzzle Page
60 Buyers’ Guide
64 Recruitment
66 The Back Nine

The official monthly magazine of British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
From Belarus with love

Read David Mackrider’s fascinating diary as he oversees the grow-in at the Eastern European nation’s first ever golf course.

May 27
I have secured a second visa until 4th November.

May 29
I am involved in a global project which required me to travel to Minsk – black with yellow markings. An extremely deep well was dug in thunderstorms so it has taken 30 days to fill it.

May 30
The 17th and 18th greens which were cutting holes 1 to 13 plus the 10th and 11th greens. I shared an open carriage with some locals and one of the drivers was a lady. I’d like to say to my wife that she is a fantastic lady.

June 1
18th hole and the 17th green. We have received a consignment of 1.2 tonnes of green grade fertiliser - flarinid 16-28-5 with iron and magnesium - not my first choice compared to the agricultural product but hey, any port in a storm!

June 3
My second week has been another fantastic week too.

June 7
Snow mold scars cover all areas of the course. It’s a nation where temperatures can drop to minus 30 degrees. I’ve got a feeling towards the latter part of the year snow cover for 119 days? 30 days 90% of plant cover. 119 days expect the worst. So 119 days snow mold and missing home how he battled language barriers, 20 with snow cover for a third of January means desiccation to days expect the worst. So 119 days snow cover for 119 days? 30 days

June 12
The greens sown with Jacklin grass are starting to appear. We have received a consignment of plenty of irrigation and a quick focus. It’s quite a major system with big Grundfos pumps. On the nine forward, and the 10th, 11th and 12th have now all been sown and established a better routine and I feel much more in control. We now have 14 holes seeded and irrigated. Four pages of what was on show at Windsor 52 Around the Green 59 Puzzle Page 60 Buyers’ Guide 64 Recruitment 66 The Back Nine