The Mark II version of the Turfquake has been announced. Using a large vibrating disc to form and fill a standard sized area, the Turfquake is able to work where other machines cannot go, claim the makers.

Developed originally to avoid soil carting need by displacing soil laterally using the powerful integral vibrator, it was also found to work well in normally very difficult conditions. Stony, hard ground, even some rock-types have been successfully slit without surface disruption. With the ability to cut and fill a slit with a two-layer sand/gravel drainage medium in one pass, wheel damage to turf is kept to a minimum. Most farways, even the largest, would be intensively sand-slit within one or two days, given the right conditions. Small-bore pipes and cables can also be installed, but with a depth limit of 0.3m. The Turfquake will be on demonstration at Morton Morrell College, Warwickshire on 17 March at the same time as the STRO seminar on Sportsturf Drainage. Details: 0773 627115.

An entirely new de-mountable sprayer with 6m boom and 300 or 600 litre capacity tank has been introduced by Hardi Ltd. Known as the 'Eagle', the machine is designed to fit all types of utility vehicles. The mounting system ensures a precise, point quick attach and de-mount system. It enables the vehicle to be speedily equipped and just as quickly put back into its normal operational mode.

The Eagle weighs around 200kg (without liquid) and the specification includes hydraulic folding and manual height control for the boom, clean water tank, electric controls, Hardi tripole nozzles and hose holder. A hand lance/hose reel is standard. The 'Eagle' will be on show from 4/03. Details: 0455 233811.

- Turf Mark, launched by ICI Professional Products at BTME, is a spray pattern indicator for golf courses and all other areas where it is advisable to mark where spraying has taken place. Available in water soluble sachets or in tablet form, 'Turf Mark', a temporary colourant, disappears in 1-2 days irrespective of grass, giving the golfer the feeling of having created a proper down on a ball with irons - as on real grass. When irons are used on the putting green, the pattern indicator remains visible, allowing the golfer to mark where spraying has taken place. When using the Golf Leader cylinder and bottom blade grinder. The 'Golf Leader' incorporates Supreme's unique dual purpose grinding head, allowing equally efficient and accurate operation on both cutting cylinders and bottom blades. The machine conforms to the modular concept, offering either manual or automatic traverse or spin drive operation. Details: 0709 873436.

- 1993 Sta-Brite Turf Care Supplies & Sports Equipment Catalogue is available now, a most user-friendly priced guide to over 500 products. Contact Sta-Brite on 0256 811811 for a copy.

- The new ICI Professional Product Amenity Guide has made an immediate impact on the industry, awarded 'Best Literature of the Show' at the '92 I GC show. Not content to rest on their laurels, ICI Professional Products are adding a further four pages (88 pages in total) to accommodate conversion tables and charts. In addition the guide has been designed to allow the printing of stand-alone sections featuring Turf Care, Fertilisers, Landscape Management, Grass Growth Control and Aquatics. These mini-guides were introduced for the first time at the BTME. Written, designed and produced to be user-friendly, the ICI Amenity Product guides are referred to on a regular basis by all those who have responsibility for the management and maintenance of golf courses.

- SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd are now sole Scottish distributors for the full Lesco range. Demonstrations are now arranged and all sales and service enquiries should be directed to SISIS in Scotland, Middlefield Ind. Est., Falkirk, FK29HG. Tel: 0324 296353.

- Inter Seeds Ltd is the first seed company to announce its special annual assessment and registration to BS 5750 Part II as wholesalers and distributors of seeds, together with the following amendments and mixing thereof. It proves that the management team have developed a quality system which they successfully operate and gives their customers an assurance that Inter Seeds Ltd is a supplier which has opened its doors to the rigorous bi-annual assessment by NQA of that quality system which the Standard demands. The BSI Standard stipulates that all registered companies maintain a detailed manual of procedures for all aspects of customer contact and contract review; of goods handling and inspection and testing; of assessment of their own suppliers and for the handling of complaints.

- Greenlink Products, European distributor of the Blazon E-Zee Pak water soluble packets, the first liquid spray pattern indicator to be available in water soluble packaging.

- Many golf courses now face the problem of compaction and the weight of all machinery has become an important factor when deciding what to purchase. The designers of Hayter's T93 Greensmower, launched at BTME, have taken this into account. This new machine weighs 90kg (200lbs) less than the previous T92 model. A 16hp water-cooled Kubota diesel engine provides power to all drives through a full hydraulic system that includes a closed circuit transmission unit with dynamic braking. The tilting steering column and fully adjustable seat gives all-round operator comfort and helps to reduce fatigue. Mowing units are available with either 7 or 9-bladed, 13cm reels. Height adjustment is from 4.8mm to 19mm and there is a choice of grooved or smooth rollers. The Greens Conditioner has a variable penetration setting down to a depth of 1.3cm below the lowest height of cut. Three vertical trash removal units are available with overall operational width of 1.5 metres. These can be set from 0.6cm above ground down to 1.5cm into the turf. One of the big attractions of Hayter's new T93 is its price. Complete with Greens Conditioner it costs nearly £2,000 less than its nearest rival. Details: 0279 723444.

- Ritefeed Ltd have hit upon a unique marketing idea, an extended credit deal that gives would-be purchasers a chance to sample their fertilisers for upwards of ten months before agreeing to the terms of their 'Free Year Deal'. You tell them how much you use in a year, they tell you how much it will cost and a deal is struck. You buy your fertiliser only from them for the following four years - however, one of these years costs absolutely nothing - the charge is waived. Details from John Walker on 0772 253521.

- Buckinghamshire based machinery dealer Risboro' Turf have obtained registration to BS5750 part II, only the second to achieve this in the country. The registration is the culmination of 18 months hard work.

- Risboro' Turf, top UK Jacobsen dealer in 1990, 1991 and 1992, are major suppliers of equipment to golf clubs in Bucks, Berks, Oxon, Herts and North London and are also main dealers for Hayter-Beaver, Iseki, Lamborghini, BLEC, Honda Gravely and Charterhouse. They have recently started to manufacture their own range of pedestrian and tractor SORREL rollers. Tel 0844 274127.
Achievements recognised

W hilst most of you were grit-
ting your teeth and facing gales, blizzards, heavy rains and floods resulting from a series of meteorological depressions which raced in from the Atlantic, as the New Year unfolded, I joined the cream of Europe's turf managers heading for the sun and the Henry Cotton inspired Penina golf and hotels complex, set amongst sub-
tropical gardens and orange groves which proliferate along Portugal's Algarve coastline.

The occasion? An opportunity to meet brothers-in-arms at the third, bi-annual PGA European Tour Greenkeeper's Conference.

Representing all the golfing venues which collectively forms the PGA European Tour tournament circuit, over 60 delegates - plus an international line-up of speakers - travelled from as far afield as Ire-
land, Scotland and England, most of mainland Europe, from Dubai and the United States in anticipation of the week to come...

We were not disappointed. Hav-
ing been formally welcomed by Bruce Jamieson, Director of Agronomy, PGA European Tour, we set-
tied down to four days of evocative discussion and debate.

Keynote speaker, Dr James Beard, Director and Chief Scientist, Inter-
national Sports Turf Institute, started the ball rolling with his absorbing paper entitled 'Construc-
tion and Maintenance of Creeping Bentgrass Putting Greens! This involved the quietly spoken Texan in leading a marathon, four-part dis-
ussion spread over the first two-
days of the conference.

Hard pounding? Not a bit of it. Dr Beard's relaxed delivery not only held his audience, it prompted spon-
taneous reaction from his listeners who included the redoubtable Wal-
ter Woods (St Andrews), George Brown (Turnberry), Derek Ganning (The Belfry), Chris Kennedy (Went-
worth), Lawson Bingham (Sunning-
dale), Neil Whitaker (Woburn), Ken Barber (East Sussex National) and Ron Whitehead (La Moye).

Talking of the pressure put on greenkeepers whose courses staged tournament events, former Walker and Ryder cup golfer, Peter Townsend, now joint Managing Director, European Golf Design, crit-
icised the practice of tricking-up greens to make them faster.

Citing the last Ryder Cup played on Kiawah Island as a case in point, Peter Townsend said "Tournament players are highly skilled - given good conditions they are capable of reducing any course to a round in the mid-sixties but sponsors and television might find that boring. Although I believe that it is desir-
able to 'tighten' championship courses for major tournaments, they should be fair."

Reviewing modern day golf course design considerations, Ross McMurray, European Golf Design, commented that it was becoming increasingly difficult to design good courses suitable for all types of golfers. "Today, we have to think about the big-hitter, the average player driving 200 yards and the beginner, only capable perhaps, of reaching 150 yards. It is hard to set-
up a golf course which challenges all standards of abilities."

Striking a lighter note, Scotland's Peter Dabson, (Monte Carlo Golf Club) - consultant Jean Pierre Leboucher reported details of a three-year study he had completed, assessing the effects of differing sub-
soils on root development - on golf courses and football pitches - in France.

Listing the wild-life which affected his course, Ken Glover, Superinten-
dent at Torrey Pines Golf Club, Florida, mentioned bald eagles, moles, armadillos and fire ants - oh yes, and alligators. 'If they (the alligators) get frisky I call in the local specialist - he nets them!' Speaking about educational matters, Carol Borthwick, Elmwood Col-
lege, Fife, outlined progressive developments "Which had allowed colleges in Scotland to respond to requests calling for HNC and HND training courses."

This had lead to the formation of an HNC Greenkeeping Consortium - which works as a sub-committee of the Scottish Industrial Liaison Com-
mittee - chaired by BIGGA - and which included representatives from Langside, Oatridge, Dundee and Elmwood colleges plus the GTC.

Talking of BIGGA, I was pleased to meet four previous winners of the Aldwark Manor administered, Toro-
PGA European Tour Student Green-
keeper Awards, enjoying the five-star ambience of Penina - and taking opportunities to mix with their peers during the daily sessions and equally apes conferences.

The four, headed by David Nor-
ton, now number one to Derek Gan-
ning at The Belfry, comprised John Waite, Leeds; Tony Gooch, Torrington, Devon; Paul Brannan, Glasgow; John Waite, Leeds; David Norton, Belfry and

Toro- PGA European Tour Student award winners in Portugal: from left, Paul Brannan, Glasgow; John Waite, Leeds; David Norton, Belfry and Tony Gooch, Torrington, Devon

Tony Gooch, Torrington, Devon

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Widening the topics under discus-
sion, Hermann Schulz, Head Green-
keeper, Gut Kaden Golf Club, Ger-
many, spoke of the headaches he
and his team faced in bringing his
course up to PGA standards for the
1992 Honda Open.

Speaking in French - ably trans-
lated by Ian Dabson, (Monte Carlo
Golf Club) - consultant Jean Pierre Leboucher reported details of a three-year study he had completed, assessing the effects of differing sub-
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ning at The Belfry, comprised John Waite, Leeds; Tony Gooch, Torrington, Devon; Paul Brannan, Glasgow. When I spoke to Paul at the first conference coffee break, he was wide-eyed with apprehension, though some five days later I spotted Paul (and Tony) in deep, after dinner, conversation with a bevy of French greenkeepers. A week works wonders!

Back in the conference room the arrival of Ken Schotefeld, Executive Director, PGA European Tour, put the seal on the week when he told delegates, "The work you do is vital to the success of the European Tour events. All players acknowledge the big improvements you have made to
tournament courses. It speaks vol-
umes for the efforts you put in, we appreciate it."
Your Open invitation

The 122nd Open Championship will be held at Royal St George's Golf Club, Sandwich, Kent from 15-18 July 1993. The Association has again been asked to provide a Greenkeeping Support Team and those members wishing to be considered for this should forward their names and addresses to HQ as soon as possible.

The Royal St George's course manager, Mr Derek Scarborough, and his staff are looking forward to the support team's assistance. Preference will be given to those members who will be free for a period which begins Wednesday 14 July and finishes on Sunday 18 July. Priority will be given to those who have formed part of the support team in previous years.

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!

For the fifth consecutive year, BIGGA's National Education conference in the spring will feature a programme of international speakers.

The speakers and their topics are:

- **Professor Noel Jackson**, The University of Rhode Island, USA: Cool Season Turf Diseases in the USA and the UK
- **Ian Tomlinson**, Course Manager, Lausanne Golf Club: The Problems Associated with Maintaining a Golf Course at 2,800ft Altitude in Switzerland
- **Antony Mears**, Course Manager, Dinsdale Spa Golf Club: The Wild Side of Golf
- **Dr Peter Hayes**, Director, The Sports Turf Research Institute: The Role of the Agronomist and Supporting Scientific Services
- **George Brown**, Course Manager, Turnberry Golf Course: Being Open-Minded

Copies of the Programme and Application Form are available from BIGGA HQ Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York Y06 2NF. **HURRY - TIME IS RUNNING OUT!** Tel: 03473 850651 • Fax: 03473 8864.

Now is the time...

...to be applying for full-time course training for September 1993. Where better to study for a course in Greenkeeping, Golf Course and Sportsturf management, than Sparsholt College, near Winchester?

- Major Golf Course development in the area
- Only an hour from London by train/motorway.
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The Courses:

- **BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture** – Golf Course and Sportsturf Management
- **NEB National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management**
- **BTEC First Diploma in Horticulture** (Industrial introductory course)

Details from the Courses Adviser, Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Tel: 0962 776 441.
joined West Linton GC in Peeblesshire, where he stayed for about 18 months immediately after completing his indentured term. This was when he joined West Linton GC in Peeblesshire, where he stayed for about 18 months immediately after completing his indentured term. This was when he

Listening to Patrick, you'll soon realise that his enthusiasm for Shipley knows no bounds, though his 23 years as head greenkeeper on the course have not been without their moments. For example, his first STRI report back in 1970 suggested that Shipley's greens, his pride and joy, were in need of major surgery, with recommendations that a deep aeration, verticutting, scarifying, deep watering, and re-building one green each year, starting with the worst and progressing onward as funds became available.

It is not recorded how the first re-build went, though one must assume it was hugely successful; for some fourteen years there have been regular and repeated visits from Patrick's skills over the years. Now the fifteenth such green has been lifted, (actually the sixteenth hole) excavated, re-sodded and re-opened, only to be lifted again after seventeen days! How does he do it? Come to Keele and find out!

Robert (Bob) Brane, has what many British greenkeeper's might regard as the perfect pedigree, for he began his career in 1970 as a humble ground crew member at a public golf facility, rising through agronomy farm assistant, to becoming a fully qualified golf course superintendent in 1972, thence through a number of senior jobs as superintendent proper at such grand places as Guadaljara Country Club in Mexico (1972-74), Timber Trails Country Club, La Grange, Illinois (1974-78), Lafayette Country Club, Indiana (1978-80), and the famous Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis from 1980 through 1990 - an impressive and extensive agronomic career.

Bob took his Bachelor of Science degree in 1972, majoring in Agronomy at Purdue University, and he is now (2013) a regional agronomic advisor for the USGA Green Section, covering the states of Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and (almost) West Virginia. Bob's experience includes all the major turfgrasses grown in the USA as well as those predominant in the British Isles, and he has worked closely with Stanley Zontek, with whom many are acquainted following previous highly entertaining lecture presentations. Bob's two presentations both have intriguing titles, beginning with 'Poa annua, wherever did it come from and how do we manage it'. He will conclude our glorious proceedings as the final presenter on Sunday 26 March with a provocative presentation entitled 'The Ten Pifals of American Turfgrass Management'.

Andy Cole, a regional advisory agronomist with the STRI, is eminently suited to address the gathered throngs at Keele on the subject of 'Greenkeeping qualifications - are we on the right lines?', for he has practical experience of all sides of the education equation.

For a start, he's young enough to remember still his own stint on the learning curve, having qualified at Leeds University in 1986 with a B.Sc Honours degree in Agricultural Science, following this almost immediately with a post graduate and advisory agronomist with the STRI, hugely valuable experience.

Two years ago Andy took to the lecture platform full time, joining the staff at Warwickshire College in training would-be young greenkeepers toward C&G Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management, whilst also lecturing to degree level those working toward a BA in Equine Studies (Turf Management). Though his year or so at Moreton Morrell was not without pleasure, Andy freely admits that the lure of advisory work was so great that he couldn't keep away and he is effectively that prodigal son returned (Aug 92), rejoining the STRI as probably one of the first to be appointed on a regional basis, covering a huge chunk of the country including Birmingham, Leicestershire, Hertfordshire, London and Kent.

Iain Ritchie has the eye of an artist, his canvas the 27 glorious holes of Portmarnock, Ireland's glorious jewel. Stemming from a love of the game, Iain began his career by working with those who construct golf courses - a classic education for any greenkeeper - before moving into the maintenance side, first at Dullatur and following this with a five year spell as head greenkeeper at Ladybank, another gem of a course.

Moving to Portmarnock Golf Club in 1990 as course manager, Iain has seen a great deal of action in the past three years, including the staging of some major competitive events and in particular his own 'baptism by fire', the world's premier amateur championship battle, the Walker Cup. His 1990 pre Walker Cup overseeding programme was quite an event in itself, succeeding in obtaining a 90% strike rate with some three tons of fescue/bent mixture applied through a Moore Wind-Drill.

The subject of a profile report in Greenkeeper International December 1992, Iain will elaborate on his championship maintenance programme, including those experiences briefly touched upon in the magazine, his aptly titled address being 'Three years at Portmarnock'.

George Brown, a Kent man by birth, has been around golf since the age of thirteen, having caddied over the Royal Cinque Ports, Royal St George's and Prince's courses from that tender age.

George left school at 15 and joined the green staff at the 27 hole Prince's course, Sandwich, remaining there for nine years before marrying, moving to Alton in Hampshire and taking up a position as pro-greenkeeper.

Three years later he left Alton to work for a wealthy family in Kent, looking after their small estate, beginning work on this in the early seventies with a return to Prince's, this time fulfilling a childhood dream by returning as head greenkeeper at his old course.

In 1979 he accepted an offer to move to Broome Park G&CC, near Canterbury, to supervise the construction of the new golf course and other sporting facilities. Once established, he took on the role of manager and director of golf, staying until 1986 when a further opportunity arose, for him to become golf courses and estate manager at Turnbury and to supervise the preparation of Turnbury for the 1989 Open Championship, scene of Greg Norman's greatest triumph.

George, whose title is titled 'Being Open-minded', is a former County Captain and Kent Open Champion, as well as being a former chairman of the Yorkshire section of BIGGA.

Gordon Child, who is regional administrator for the South West and the course manager at Churston Golf Club in Devon, will forgive me if I tell those very few readers who do not know him personally - he is of sufficient maturity to be able to carry off the subject of his choosing, Greenkeeping - Past, Present and Future, almost by remote control!

Yes, Gordon has been supremely active in the profession of greenkeeping for what seems like an eternity, founding his sporting connections as a professional cricketer for Yorkshire before moving into a career that has become his life, his joy and his obsession.

He is the power-house behind Westurf, the regional exhibition that has gained a national reputation, and he is father figure to just about every greenkeeper in the West Country, proof positive that a man obsessed can take others of like mind along with him, witness the success of the SW region and their unwavering loyalty to their mentor.

Furthermore, there is none more active in the furtheance of greenkeeper education than 'our Gordon', and I am giving away no secrets when I tell you that his educational trip down memory lane, but I suspect it will be peppered also with more than a liberal scattering of 'true grand Yorkshire humour' - don't miss it!

Contact BIGGA HQ for booking details.
Please send me Greenkeeper International binder(s). UK prices, including postage/packing: £5.45 for one; £10 for two or £14 for three. (Prices outside UK: £7.45 for one; £12 for two or £16 for three.)

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AROUND THE GREEN

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

Will reporters please note that Around The Green copy for May must reach the editor before April 1st.

LONDON

Our condolences to the family of David Phillips, owner of Aldenham Golf Club, who passed away last year. David's help with section seminars and events was always appreciated and he will be sadly missed.

On a happier note, congratulations to Andrew Phillips on his new appointment as head greenkeeper of Glynhir Golf Club, Dyfed. As you all know, Andrew served on the London committee for many years and we thank him for all his efforts. His successor at Hadley Wood GC is Craig Handyside and we wish him good luck for the future.

Our 1993 section qualifying event for the Hayter Challenge Tournament will be held on Tuesday 20 April at Highgate GC. The 18-hole competition will be held in the afternoon (followed by high tea) at a cost to be advised. Entries will be accepted by 'phone.

An Emergency First Aid course will be organised for April and anyone interested should contact me. It will be a four hour session and will certainly be important for your work environment.

Finally, any news, ideas or tournament entries can be directed to me by telephoning 081 959 5629 – during the evening.

TONY DUNSTAN

CLEVELAND

Bob Lawton, head greenkeeper at South Shields GC, has been busy repairing worn areas (from a few years build-up) whilst playing to winter greens. He has modernised his irrigation system with a new Toro 3000. His past qualification is City & Guilds Phase II (with distinction) and he is currently studying the Phase III Supervisory course.

Bedale GC have acquired the services of Simon Law, who has completed a three year college course as well as having worked in America. He is proving to be a most useful asset to Gary Munro's team.

Ian Pemberton, first assistant at Saltburn GC is now a happy father, his five month old son, Thomas, creating much happiness. Ian is an experienced greenkeeper and continues to further his career (after many years at Middlesborough) by currently studying the Phase III Supervisory course.

David Malcolm, who was first assistant at Brass Castle, has moved to Germany and has been working since October at a course just a half hour by road from Frankfurt. The course, not yet complete, is built on a clay soil, has greens built to USGA specs and seeded with a fescue/bent mix.

Notes for your diary: Our section seminar at Cannington College, presenting a paper on the new National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) and the partnership between the training manual (a document which every club should have for the future training of their greenkeepers).

Our second speaker, Jim Arthur, presented a paper on "Construction and the Analysis Fallacy", as usual keeping his audience riveted to their seats. A question time rounded off a highly entertaining and interesting programme. Our thanks to Nick Rigden and Jim Arthur for presenting excel-
SECTION EVENTS FOR THE COMING MONTHS ARE AS follows:

NORTH EAST

- March: A visit to the North East Golf Club (Top Dress Supplies), Blydon, April: Breaking with tradition, we are opting for an inland course rather than one on the coastline, and on 22 April will for the first time play our Spring Tournament at Ryton GC. July: Annual match against club secretaries, date to be advised.

NORTH WEST

- The section's third winter lecture on Wednesday 21 April at Henbury with the Spring Tournament, this year played at Enmore Golf Club.

NORTH SCOTLAND

- The latest of our members to be married is George Paterson of Fortrose. We wish him and his intended all the best. It's nice to see that his assistant, Stuart, has settled in well since his move from West Kilbride and I hope he has by now found suitable housing for himself and his family.

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND

- In various reports during 1992 it was my sad duty to inform members of several bereavements. I begin 1993 the same way. It is with regret that I must report the death of Grace Bullock, beloved wife of the late Frank Bullock, who passed away just before Christmas. Grace Bullock was the section secretary for many years, and, after a slightly slow start, twelve members have now found suitable housing for himself and his family.

NORTH WEST SCOTLAND

- A new competition has been launched, a fourball better-ball knockout to be played for over the season. Each round will be over 18 holes, the event culminating in a 36 hole final. The rules: There will be closing dates for each round, and to ensure that each team plays at least two rounds, first time losers will go into a separate competition. Entry forms (or queries) to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynings, Stockport SK11 1HX.

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- A new competition has been launched, a fourball better-ball knockout to be played for over the season. Each round will be over 18 holes, the event culminating in a 36 hole final. The rules: There will be closing dates for each round, and to ensure that each team plays at least two rounds, first time losers will go into a separate competition. Entry forms (or queries) to Paul Pearse, 1 Swan Close, Poynings, Stockport SK11 1HX.

NORTH WEST

- The section's third winter lecture on Wednesday 21 April at Henbury with the Spring Tournament, this year played at Enmore Golf Club.

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND

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NORTH WEST SCOTLAND

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This looks like being another very busy year. I attended the BTME at Harrogate - and what a week that turned out to be. This year was the first time I had attended, but never have I been to such a well organized event. The education seminars and speakers were first class and the machinery displays were second to none. Neil Thomas and his staff must be congratulated for a job well done. For those members who often complain by saying 'what is BIGGA doing for me,' - take my tip and attend some of these events. I am sure your eyes will be opened.

To the many well behaved kids from Scotland who attended, I will also say 'well done'. But please, don't keep me up so late next year - I usually rise at 5am, not the other way round!

You will be pleased to know that the full 1993 programme is now prepared and will be out shortly. Indeed, the committee is so far advanced that even the winter lectures are organized.

The committee selected to organize the British Tournament at Dunbar from 2-4 August will be meeting shortly to finalise details. We are hoping for a large turn-out from the East, so as soon as the entry forms are out - return them! Especially if you don't want to miss out on the highlight of the year.

Finally, a question - is your subscription paid? If it isn't, pay it now. Last year our membership figures were the highest ever so let's all make an effort to increase these once again.

WILLIE BLAIR

NORTH
I am pleased to inform you that 30 members from our section attended the extended Emergency First Aid course and now hold certificates of qualification. Yes, there were a few light-hearted moments with Lucy, the female dummy, - I shall say no more! On a serious note, may I relate a harrowing experience suffered by Gordon McLean of Millfield Golf Club. While taking all reasonable precautions, as Gordon's experience and to don protective clothing before entering a chemical storage area that was not effect attendances and we can revert to our system of moving around the section in 1994. I can gather, our members had such a good time when taking all reasonable precautions, as Gordon had, a risk element is never completely eliminated.

This incident not only emphasizes the value of having the Product Safety Data Sheet available from Gordon's files, doctors were able to make a quick diagnosis and administer correct treatment. Having contacted Gordon some three weeks after the event, I am happy to report that both he and his staff are OK, although all of them have had to take time off work and it will still suffering after-effects. 

I think this is also a good time to mention again the importance of first-aid training for greenkeeping staff. A knowledge of basic procedures or, even better, the presence of a qualified first- aider, may one day make all the difference. Short courses are available and organisations like the St. Johns Ambulance will arrange training on site for golf clubs if there are sufficient numbers.

Paddy McCarron at the Leicestershire and Glen Miller at Ullesthorpe have both recently completed such training, and I believe it is something we should all consider. I can supply details to any interested parties.

Now, to the rest of the section business. I am pleased to offer congratulations to Chris Lewis on his appointment as head greenkeeper at Market Harborough GC, and to welcome the following new members to the section - Paul Brazier, currently studying at Cannington College, and Mark Caldwell, recently of Torrey GC, Linns. I hope to see you all shortly at the Spring Tournament - if I ever finalise the arrangements. Finally, please note that my secretarial 'hot' line is 0509 650140.

TONY HOWARTH

CENTRAL SCOTLAND
Unfortunately, this month's report begins with some disappointing news regarding the 1993 Spring Tournament. Due to circumstances beyond our control, Gleneagles Hotel have had to cancel our booking for 6 April, though we are hopeful that another date may be arranged for accepting us at such short notice.

Due to this change of venue, both 1993 tournaments are scheduled to take place in virtually the same area of the section. Falkirk Tryst GC have granted us courtesy of their course on Wed 28 April, start 9.30 am. My sincere thanks to club secretary Don Wallace for his help and for accepting us at such short notice.

Having spent a grand week at BTME in January it was heartening to see so many Scottish members in attendance, especially a healthy contingent from Central Scotland section. From what I can gather, our members had such a good time that plans are already afoot for a return in 1994, though there is a strong rumour that alternative transport arrangements are being made - I wonder why?

As we approach the start of another golfing season, with a little luck it may herald drier conditions than over the past months.

What was one of the wettest winters for many a year may soon be just another statistic...

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NEXT MONTH IN EUROPE'S PREMIER GREENKEEPING MAGAZINE

The start of a monthly column to keep you up to date with all the news, as it breaks, of the 1994 BTME! And look out for details of a magnificent BTME '94 competition...!
SPOT THE SYMBOL COMPETITION

CASH PRIZE

£50 TO BE WON

IT'S NEW! IT'S FUN! IT'S FREE!

Would £50 come in handy? Course it would! Here we go again with another chance to win in this easy to enter Greenkeeper International Competition!

All you have to do is study these three symbols of the BIGGA logo, the golfer and the happy greenkeeper.

Now look through the ads in the Buyers' Guide section and spot them - they've been reduced in size, but they're there, somewhere!

Write down the names of the three ads where the symbols are located and send your entries on a postcard to: Spot the Symbol Competition, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York Y06 2NF, to be received by first post Wednesday March 24, 1993.

The first correct entry drawn after that date will win £50. It could be YOU!

Enter today - and spot the symbol!

Judges' decision is final. Not open to BIGGA staff.

Lucky winner of the February competition was eagle-eyed MALCOLM BOSLEY, first assistant greenkeeper at St Endoc Golf Club in Cornwall.

Malcolm scoops the £50 prize with our congratulations. Be like Malcolm - keep a sharp look out for the symbols and YOU could be a winner!

All you have to do is study these three symbols, of the "BIGGA" logo, the golfer and the happy greenkeeper. They've been reduced in size, but they're there, somewhere!

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