Headland Amenity is bringing its range of innovative turf nutrition, health and management products to BTME 2013 at Harrogate.

Using the latest technology to offer greenkeepers practical solutions to turfcare issues, Headland will introduce Xtrad 10-10-10 at the show. This is a unique pre-seeding fertiliser ideal for use on golf tees, fairways and surrounds as well as winter sports pitches, cricket outfields and racecourse turf.

Suitable for application after any renovation work and after cutting, Xtrad 10-10-10 uses Crystal Green, a new source of slow release phosphorus, nitrogen and magnesium recovered from UK waste water. With additional slow release nitrogen providing release for up to three months, a composted organic base, seaweed meal and humic acid, the product is able to aid germination and gentle establishment of new grasses.

Xtrad 10-10-10 will provide natural, effective nutrition over a long period while helping to cut workloads for greenkeeping teams with its slow release action.

Headland will also feature its mini prilled fertiliser formulations, Multiweed 13-0-46 and Multigreen 24-0-24. Multiweed is a fine prilled potassium nitrate suitable for all turf, providing immediately available nitrogen along with good levels of plant hardening potassium. The sulphur free formulation works rapidly under cooler temperatures to aid early establishment, and plant hardiness.

Headland Amenity’s Sales and Marketing Director Andy Russell comments: “We have some exciting products to show to Course Managers and Greenkeepers at BTME, spearheaded by Xtrad 10-10-10 which takes the latest technology to utilise a waste product which can really enhance establishment and turf recovery. Headland fertilisers not only offer great results from the turf that can also help to cut greenkeepers workloads by providing nutrition over a longer period.”

**Aquatrols: The Creation of an Industry**

Roughly 60 years ago, Robert A. Moore pondered over a puddle in a friend’s garden – a seemingly minor moment that would go on to forever change the water management practices of green industry professionals worldwide.

A chemical engineer in research at Mobil Oil, Moore’s science-driven curiosity led him to experiment with various surfactant blends to remedy water movement issues. Recognising that using surfactants to improve water penetration and reduce water waste had implications beyond the garden, Moore decided to patent and market his novel discovery.

In 1954 he founded Aquatrols Corporation of America. The first surfactant industry specifically tailored to the needs of the Green Industry, nearly six decades later, Aquatrols remains the market leader. There have been plenty of changes in the field of turf management since Aquatrols introduced Aqua-Gro as the first commercially produced surfactant solution for turf maintenance. Aquatrols has over the years continued to develop Water Management products with Primer 604, Resolution and Dispatch.

There have also been changes for Aquatrols. After Robert Moore’s retirement and subsequent passing, his three children have helped navigate Aquatrols through a period of increased competition by channeling his spirit of innovation.

Though the longer stands alone in an industry it created, Aquatrols continues to set itself apart with a commitment to science, education and conservation of precious resources. Today Aquatrols is proud to offer a line of cutting-edge surfactants and other specialty technologies that address a wide variety of turf managers’ needs.

With its own fully staffed research and development department, a technically knowledgeable sales force, and a long history serving turf professionals, Aquatrols has no fear of the great number of competitive products that have flooded the market since the early days.

In an age of large corporations and constant mergers, it’s refreshing to see a family owned and operated business that has not only survived for 58 years but has maintained a strong position of leadership in the industry. Aquatrols is no single puddle.


**ENVIROMONITORS CAN HELP YOU AT BTME**

EnviroMonitors’ measurement tools can help you save resources such as time, water and fertiliser applications. EnviroMonitors are exhibiting for the third year on Stand B5 at BTME 2013. Visit them to see how you can get the best out of your turf using science-based handheld meters and weather monitoring.

EnviroMonitors’ measurement technology partner Spectrum Technologies Inc shall be attending BTME 2013. Spectrum’s turf specialist Greg Zunzidiak is running the “World of Measurement Technology within Turfgrass Management” seminar on Tuesday 22 January 2013. We encourage you to come along to confirm and/or expand your knowledge and consider the tools you can put into practice at your club.

The seminar will provide in-depth understanding of soil, plant, and environmental measurement technology tools available for turf customers. EnviroMonitors always enjoy BTME as visitors are enthused by the range of measurement tools available to assist with their daily decisions and improve their courses. Increased sales of FieldScout TDR100 and TDR300 Soil Moisture Meters have been seen throughout the UK and Ireland as they are quick and easy to use while being robust and accurate. Field Scout Managers’ experiences of FieldScout TDR meters on our website in case studies from Greg Drums at Esels Golf Club, Dr pund Lightfoot at Bearwood Lakes Golf Club, and the Course Manager at gWest.

As well as FieldScout Soil Moisture Meters, the range EnviroMonitors offers includes weather monitoring on site or remotely using MeteorVue, and meters for measuring light, pH and chlorophyll levels to assess the health of your turf grass. Stuart Hogg at St Andrews Old Links has owned a Davis Instruments Vantage Pro weather station for many years and shares his thoughts on its use on our website.

**BTME is back** for its 24th year at the HIC, 22-24 January 2013.

**BLEC to launch new Sandfiller at Harrogate**

BLEC GLOBAL will use BTME to launch new products for the grounds care and sportsturf marketplace.

As well as the new products, under wraps until the show, the BLEC team will be showing the proven GKB Sandfiller. The Sandfiller has been specifically designed for aerating and draining sports turf. This tractor-mounted aerifier and sandfiller removes and collects spoil and fills grooves with sand in one pass.

Says BLEC managing director Gary Munro: “Harrogate is a very important show for us where we get the chance to start the year by showing all our new innovations for sportsturf and landscaping professionals.

“IT is a great place to catch up with customers and old friends and we look forward to seeing them on Stand A40.”

**Get in touch for no obligation practical advice**

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Web: www.campeyturfcare.com

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Car Parks in Harrogate

**HIC car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Allocated spaces for Blue Badge Holders.
- Access to HIC.
- CCTV monitored entrance/exit.
- Open as required for events Monday to Sunday.
- Opening times displayed next to ticket machines.

**Jubilee multi-storey car park**
- (Closed car park for Royal Hall, Hall A and Hall M entrances)
- Pay on foot operation.
- Lifts to all floors.
- Toilets and baby changing facilities.
- Comprehensive CCTV system.
- Open from 7am to 11.59pm (vehicles can be left overnight subject to an appropriate fee on exit).

**Victoria multi-storey car park**
- Pay on foot operation.
- Lifts to all floors.
- Covered walkway to town centre.
- Toilets and baby changing facilities.
- Comprehensive CCTV system.
- Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat) 8am to 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to an appropriate fee on exit).

**West Park multi-storey car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Lifts.
- Toilets.
- Comprehensive CCTV system.
- Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat) 8am to 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).

**Dragon Road Contractors car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Free parking if an official collection/delivery pass is displayed in front windscreen. These passes may be obtained from the event organiser.
- Monitored by CCTV and, during build up/break down, a security and logistics team. At all times, a public pay and display car park.

**Odeon Cinema car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Parking for 88 cars.

**Park View car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Parking for 78 cars.

**Montpellier Shoppers car park**
- Pay & Display operation.
- Parking for 65 cars.

**How to find the HIC**

Harrogate is located centrally on the UK map with ready access to London and Edinburgh. A first-class motorway network, mainline rail, sea and 24-hour air links ensure that Harrogate is able to offer all the benefits expected of a truly global location. Harrogate has excellent rail and air links with regular train service to and from London King’s Cross via York and Leeds. www.nationalrail.co.uk and Leeds Bradford International Airport is only 20 minutes from Harrogate with a regular bus service into Harrogate.

For details about travelling to Harrogate by public transport visit www.transportdirect.info

**Car**
- From London: M1 - A1(M) - J47 signposted Knaresborough and then follow the Harrogate signs.
- From the North: A1 - J47 signposted Knaresborough and then follow the Harrogate signs.
- From the East: M621 - A1(M) - J47 signposted Knaresborough and then follow the Harrogate signs.

**Hotels in Harrogate**

- Kimberley Hotel
- Majestic Hotel
- Grants Hotel
- Old Swan Hotel
- Holiday Inn Hotel
- St George Hotel
- Cairn Hotel
- Crown Hotel
- Cedar Court Hotel
- White Hart Hotel
- Studley Hotel
- Yorkshire Hotel
- Hotel du Vin

**Restaurants**

- Alberts Bar & Grill
  - Tel: 01423 568446
  - Modern English
- B.E.D
  - Tel: 01423 568600
  - Modern English
- Bengal Spices
  - Tel: 01423 502610
  - Indian
- Betty’s
  - Tel: 01423 814008
  - Traditional English
- Bistro Pierre
  - Tel: 01423 533070
  - French
- Chez La Vie
  - Tel: 01423 568018
  - Traditional English
- Caffarena’s Association
  - Tel: 01423 516646
  - Tex-Mex
- Harrogate Brasserie
  - Tel: 01423 505041
  - English
- Joe Rigatoni
  - Tel: 01423 500071
  - Italian
- La Tasca
  - Tel: 01423 566333
  - Tapas
- Thai Elephant
  - Tel: 01423 568000
  - Thai
- Thai Elephant
  - Tel: 01423 530999
  - Thai

**Accommodation**

- Hotels in Harrogate
- Harrogate International Centre
- Multi-storey car parks
- Pay & Display operation
- Lifts to all floors
- Blue Badge spaces
- CCTV monitored entrance/exit
- 24-hour parking
- Lifts to all floors
- Free parking if an official collection/delivery pass is displayed in front windscreen.
- Monitored by CCTV and, during build up/break down, a security and logistics team.
- Public pay and display car park
- Pay & Display operation
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- Pay & Display operation
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**Map**

The park and ride service has been extended to cover the following areas:

- Car Parks in Harrogate
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**Map**

The park and ride service has been extended to cover the following areas:
Driving & Parking in Harrogate

Penalty Charges (PCN)

Bus Stops

your vehicle.

Disc Zone... what it means

Around Harrogate

A valid Blue Badge must be displayed as detailed above along

of 3 hours on single or double yellow lines providing the vehicle

Blue Badge Holders can park free of charge and for a maximum

given on the back of the PCN together with a payment slip.

Details on how and where to pay a Penalty Charge will be

contravening the traffic regulations. There are two levels of

people travelling on a bus. Vehicles parked illegally often

Along busy roads an illegally parked vehicle can delay 50

this varies throughout the town centre.

You need to display a parking disc in your

visiting nearby towns and villages couldn’t be easier with

transport visit www.transportdirect.info

How to find the HIC

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From the East: M621 - A1(M) - J47 signposted Knaresborough and then follow the Harrogate signs.

From the West: M56 - M62 - A1(M) - J47 signposted Knaresborough and then follow the Harrogate signs.

Car Parks in Harrogate

HIC car park

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• Access to HIC.
• CCTV monitored entrance/exit.
• Open as required for events Monday to Sunday.
• Opening times displayed next to ticket machines.

Jubilee multi-storey car park

(Cloaked car park for Royal Hall, Hall A and Hall M entrances)

• Pay on foot” operation.
• Lifts to all floors.
• Toilets and baby changing facilities.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 11.30pm
• Vehicles can be left overnight subject to an appropriate fee on exit.

Victoria multi-storey car park (5 min. walk)

• Pay on foot” operation.
• Lifts to all floors.
• Covered walkway to town centre.
• Toilets and baby changing facilities.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7.30pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to an appropriate fee on exit).

West Park multi-storey car park (10 min. walk)

• Pay & Display operation.
• Toilets.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).

Dragon Road Contractors car park (6 min. walk)

• Pay & Display operation.
• Toilets.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).

Odeon Cinema car park (10 min. walk)

• Pay & Display operation.
• Toilets.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).

Parking at

• Pay & Display operation.

Car Park View car park (8 min. walk)

• Pay & Display operation.
• Toilets.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).

Montpellier Shoppers car park (6 min. walk)

• Pay & Display operation.
• Toilets.
• Comprehensive CCTV system.
• Open from 7am to 7pm (Mon-Sat)
• (From 7pm (Sun & Bank Holidays) (vehicles can be left overnight subject to displaying a valid parking ticket).
High Speed Wireless Internet is available here...

£4 for 60 minutes

A premier wifi voucher card will be required. Voucher cards are available from any catering outlet.

Once you have a voucher card, follow the instructions below to access the Wireless Network.

1. Enable the Wireless Network on your PC. Some wireless clients require you to select or enter a wireless name (SSID). Where necessary, please use the name ‘HIC_Wireless’
2. Open Web browser
3. The welcome portal will appear, follow the simple instructions shown on screen to connect to the internet, using your voucher code.

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We’ll be delighted to supply all the knowledge, expertise and equipment you need.

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High Speed Wireless Internet
is available here...

£4
for 60 minutes

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3. The welcome portal will appear, follow the simple instructions shown on screen to connect to the internet, using your voucher code.

For your eyes only

Come along to the BIGGA James Bond evening to be shaken not stirred, including casino and live entertainment

Further details coming soon...

To be held – Tuesday 22 January 2013 @ 7pm to 10:30pm at THE OLD SWAN HOTEL, Swan Road, Harrogate, HG1 2SR

Tickets – £25 each including Arrival Drink, Carvery and Casino Chips

Dress Code – Smart/Casual

To purchase tickets please call Elaine Jones on 01347 833800 (Option 1) or email moneypenny@bigga.co.uk

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Harrogate International Centre

Tel: 01782 373 878 E-mail: info@waste2water.com Web: www.waste2water.com

Have you heard about the new civil Variable Monetary Penalty (VMP) of up to £250,000??!!
Why risk a potentially huge fine?... Call us now for a FREE no-obligation site visit.
We’ll be delighted to supply all the knowlege, expertise and equipment you need.

ESD Waste2Water Europe Ltd.

Tel: 01782 373 878 E-mail: info@waste2water.com Web: www.waste2water.com
Destination San Diego

BERNARD

These are the ten BIGGA members who will be heading to San Diego for the Golf Industry Show next month courtesy of Bernhard – what’s sure to be a once in a lifetime experience.

As well as the G18, the delegates will visit golf courses in California and attend educational seminars at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Education Conference. Many thanks to all members who applied, and to all those who traveled for interviews. BIGGA Chief Executive Jim Croxton said: “Once again the standard of applicants was extremely high and the decision on the final ten delegates was a very tricky one. “The successful group will enjoy a fantastic development opportunity on both a professional and a personal basis in San Diego and I am sure, represent the Association with distinction. We continue to be extremely grateful for the support from Bernhard & Co who have now allowed over a hundred BIGGA members to enjoy this valuable experience.”

Here are the successful delegates currently making plans to jet off to San Diego in February:

LEE BRADY – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club
Lee has been greenkeeping for seven years and has gained his Level 2 and Level 3 in Sports Turf. He says he’s really looking forward to going to the States as he believes it will be a “once in a lifetime” opportunity to meet different people across the industry. He expects to be particularly interested to hear different ideas, visit the show and “prove all the good work BIGGA are doing.”

ASA ENGLISH – Deputy Course Manager, Rothley Park Golf Club
Asa began his greenkeeping career in 2002 as Assistant Greenkeeper at Charnwood Forest Golf Club, before moving to his current club. He’s been part of BIGGA’s volunteer support team at The Open Championship on several occasions which he says is “fantastic” for networking and improving as a greenkeeper. He’s really looking forward to the trip which he hopes will be an excellent educational experience.

ROBERT CLARE – Course Manager, Brough Golf Club
Born in Dublin, he worked at several clubs in and around Dublin before leaving to further his education at Myrescough College, and over the course of 12 years completed his National Certificate, National Diploma and Foundation Degree. He travelled to the USA to join the Ohio State Intern Programme and spent a year working on a course in Perth, Australia. After two years as Course Manager at Rippton Golf Club he then joined Brough Golf Club. He’s married with two young sons, and as well as playing golf is a member of a target shooting gun club.

DANIEL NORSWORTHY – Deputy Course Manager, The Richmond Golf Club
Daniel began his career at Craighiel Golf & Leisure Club, and after gaining his Level 2 qualification he joined The Richmond Golf Club. He continued his development, gaining his Level 3, and was offered his current position. He says he’s learnt much from Les Howkins MG at The Richmond.

His dream is to run his own golf course, and in his spare time he enjoys going to the gym, catching up with friends and attempting to play golf!

BRUCE HICKS – Head Greenkeeper, Boston Golf Club
Bruce has spent his whole 22-year greenkeeping career at Boston and holds City & Guilds 2 and NVQ 2 qualifications. He is also Secretary and Treasurer for BIGGA’s East of England Section, something he says he gets enormous satisfaction from. He adds he feels “very honoured” to have been chosen as a delegate. He has many hobbies including swimming and amateur theatre, and says he’s “kaput sane” by his wife and “driven crazy” by his two teenage kids.

RICHARD JENKINSON – Deputy Course Manager, G West
Richard, born in Sh Andrews, spent 13 years at the famous Old Course before moving to Archerfield Links. He then returned to full-time education, studying his HNC in Golf Course Management at Elmwood College. After completing this he joined the team at G West and was involved in all aspects of the final construction stages of the course. He’s married with two young daughters, enjoys golf and football.

TIM JOHNSON – Assistant Greenkeeper, The Wilmaw Golf Club
Tim’s looking forward to seeing how greenkeeping practices in America compare with the sustainable golf course he works on. He also can’t wait to meet greenkeepers from all across the world and see the differences – and similarities – in how they overcome daily problems on their courses. He enjoys playing golf, football and was featured in October’s Greenkeeper International after he helped raise thousands of pounds for charity by pushing hand mowers across England with other casual greenkeepers.

JAMES PARKER – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf & Country Club
James was a student nurse until 2007 when he changed his career path to greenkeeping. He joined Blackwell Grange Golf Club as an apprentice, then three years later was hired by Close House. He’s now been on the support team for four European Tour events. He’s completed his NVQ Level 3 and is about to begin studying for his Higher National Certificate, and is hoping to gain a greater understanding of American training techniques in San Diego. He’s married to Sarah with one young son, and the couple are excitedly expecting another child in April. When time allows he plays golf and follows Leeds United.

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PAUL HORDY – Head Greenkeeper, Newport Golf Club
Paul has worked as a greenkeeper at Newport for 15 years, and became Head Greenkeeper six years ago. He studied for his NVQ in Sports Turf at Persied College and is currently on a distance learning programme at Elmwood College.

He’s been on the BIGGA South Wales Section Committee for five years and is in his second year as chairman. He was a volunteer at the Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor in 2010, and says he’s a firm believer in sustainable greenkeeping using traditional greenkeeping practices alongside new techniques. In his spare time he enjoys golf, fishing and motorcycling.

JAMEs PARKER – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf & Country Club
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DERRICK JOHNSTONE – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, The Wentworth Club
Derrick started greenkeeping straight from school at 16, and studied for his National Certificate and Higher National Certificate, achieving Student of the Year on both courses. He worked for four years on the West Course at Wentworth before being promoted to Deputy Head Greenkeeper on the Edinburgh Course. He’s worked on 25 televised professional tournaments and been awarded Employee of the Year. He’s married with a six-month-old son, and enjoys playing golf, watching football and travelling.

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Born in Dublin, he worked at several clubs in and around Dublin before leaving to further his education at Myrescough College, and over the course of 12 years completed his National Certificate, National Diploma and Foundation Degree. He travelled to the USA to join the Ohio State Intern Programme and spent a year working on a course in Perth, Australia. After two years as Course Manager at Rippton Golf Club he then joined Brough Golf Club. He’s married with two young sons, and as well as playing golf is a member of a target shooting gun club.

DANIEL NORSWORTHY – Deputy Course Manager, The Richmond Golf Club
Daniel began his career at Craighiel Golf & Leisure Club, and after gaining his Level 2 qualification he joined The Richmond Golf Club. He continued his development, gaining his Level 3, and was offered his current position. He says he’s learnt much from Les Howkins MG at The Richmond.

His dream is to run his own golf course, and in his spare time he enjoys going to the gym, catching up with friends and attempting to play golf!

BRUCE HICKS – Head Greenkeeper, Boston Golf Club
Bruce has spent his whole 22-year greenkeeping career at Boston and holds City & Guilds 2 and NVQ 2 qualifications. He is also Secretary and Treasurer for BIGGA’s East of England Section, something he says he gets enormous satisfaction from. He adds he feels “very honoured” to have been chosen as a delegate. He has many hobbies including swimming and amateur theatre, and says he’s “kaput sane” by his wife and “driven crazy” by his two teenage kids.

RICHARD JENKINSON – Deputy Course Manager, G West
Richard, born in Sh Andrews, spent 13 years at the famous Old Course before moving to Archerfield Links. He then returned to full-time education, studying his HNC in Golf Course Management at Elmwood College. After completing this he joined the team at G West and was involved in all aspects of the final construction stages of the course. He’s married with two young daughters, enjoys golf and football.

TIM JOHNSON – Assistant Greenkeeper, The Wilmaw Golf Club
Tim’s looking forward to seeing how greenkeeping practices in America compare with the sustainable golf course he works on. He also can’t wait to meet greenkeepers from all across the world and see the differences – and similarities – in how they overcome daily problems on their courses. He enjoys playing golf, football and was featured in October’s Greenkeeper International after he helped raise thousands of pounds for charity by pushing hand mowers across England with other casual greenkeepers.

JAMES PARKER – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, Close House Golf & Country Club
James was a student nurse until 2007 when he changed his career path to greenkeeping. He joined Blackwell Grange Golf Club as an apprentice, then three years later was hired by Close House. He’s now been on the support team for four European Tour events. He’s completed his NVQ Level 3 and is about to begin studying for his Higher National Certificate, and is hoping to gain a greater understanding of American training techniques in San Diego. He’s married to Sarah with one young son, and the couple are excitedly expecting another child in April. When time allows he plays golf and follows Leeds United.

DERRICK JOHNSTONE – Deputy Head Greenkeeper, The Wentworth Club
Derrick started greenkeeping straight from school at 16, and studied for his National Certificate and Higher National Certificate, achieving Student of the Year on both courses. He worked for four years on the West Course at Wentworth before being promoted to Deputy Head Greenkeeper on the Edinburgh Course. He’s worked on 25 televised professional tournaments and been awarded Employee of the Year. He’s married with a six-month-old son, and enjoys playing golf, watching football and travelling.
Destination San Diego

BERNARD

These are the ten BIGGA members who will be heading to San Diego for the Golf Industry Show next month courtesy of Bernhard – what’s sure to be a once in a lifetime experience.

As well as the GIS, the delegates will visit golf courses in California and attend educational seminars at the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Education Conference.

Many thanks to all members who applied, and to all those who travelled for interviews. BIGGA Chief Executive Jim Croxton said: “Once again the standard of applicants was extremely high and the decision on the final ten delegates was a very tricky one.

“The successful group will enjoy a fantastic development opportunity on both a professional and a personal basis in San Diego and will, I am sure, represent the Association with distinction.

We continue to be extremely grateful for the support from Bernhard & Co who have now allowed over a hundred BIGGA members to enjoy this valuable experience.”

Here are the successful delegates currently making plans to jet off to San Diego in February:

LEE BRADY – First Assistant Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club
Lee has been greenkeeping for seven years and has gained his Level 2 and Level 3 in Sports Turf. He says he’s really looking forward to going to the States as he believes it will be a “once in a lifetime” opportunity to meet different people across the industry. He expects to be particularly interested to hear different ideas, visit the show and “promote all the good work BIGGA are doing.”

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He travelled to the USA to join the Ohio State Intern Programme and spent a year working on a course in Perth, Australia. After two years as Course Manager at Bishopston Golf Club he then joined Golfclub. He’s married with two young children, and as well as playing golf is a member of a target shooting gun club.

ASA ENGLISH – Deputy Course Manager, Rothley Park Golf Club
Asa began his greenkeeping career in 2002 as Assistant Greenkeeper at Charnwood Forest Golf Club, before moving to his current club. He’s been part of BIGGA’s volunteer support team at The Open Championship on several occasions which he says is “fantastic” for networking and improving as a greenkeeper.

He’s really looking forward to the trip which he hopes will be an excellent educational experience.

PAUL HARDY – Head Greenkeeper, Newport Golf Club
Paul has worked as a greenkeeper at Newport for 15 years, and became Head Greenkeeper six years ago. He studied for his NVQ in Sports Turf at Penncoed College and is currently on a distance learning programme at Elmwood College.

He’s been on the BIGGA South Wales Section Committee for five years and is in his second year as chairman. He was a volunteer at the Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor in 2010, and says he’s a firm believer in sustainable greenkeeping using traditional greenkeeping practices alongside new techniques. In his spare time he enjoys golf, fishing and motocycling.

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It’s tempting to visit Woburn and depart waffling about the various legends who have graced the fairways before waxing lyrical about the fact all three of their courses have been rated in Golf Monthly Magazine’s top 100 in the UK and Ireland and name-dropping Ian Poulter. But you’ll already know all of this.

However, did you know that the club are embarking on a water resource project of staggering ambition and size? That they’re building a huge reservoir where archaeologists have recently located Roman kilns? That they’re aiming to drastically reduce their annual water bill? That we would have to forecast our peak usage over the year – known as the Maximum Daily Demand (MDD). Essentially we were being charged all year round for the one day when we used the most water.

“In theory, this would allow water companies to forecast demand and promote water efficiency measures – but with potentially disastrous financial consequences for golf clubs.”

John adds: “it’s certainly a contentious move, charging industrial prices without removing the possibility of drought restriction seems very punitive.

The drought restrictions were never intended to negatively impact upon businesses, but a blanket ban does exactly that for many UK golf courses.

“The change in tariff gave us the added incentive to push forward with plans for bulk storage as we would have a considerable return on investment alongside the environmental benefits of using less water.”

John added: “Under the Maximum Daily Demand scheme, essentially we were being charged all year round for the one day we used the most water” utilising the highest recorded evapotranspiration rates for our site. These figures then had to be balanced with how much storage we had available and how many nights’ use this would provide without filling the tanks on demand.

PROFILE
Name: John Clarke
Born: Ulverston, Lake District
Marital status: Married with nine-month-old daughter
Handicap: 12
Hobbies: Walking springer spaniel Hesper, mountain biking
Favourite sports team: Liverpool FC

Steve Castle discovers how Woburn Golf Club’s long term water resource strategy is dealing with recent usage restrictions which can hugely affect golf courses.
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However, did you know that the club are embarking on a water resource project of staggering ambition and size? That they’re building a huge reservoir where archaeologists have recently located Roman kilns? That they’re aiming to drastically reduce their annual water bill? Volume usage and we were to be classed as an ‘industrial user’ along with factories and breweries. We would have to forecast our peak usage over the year – known as the Maximum Daily Demand (MDD).

Essentially we were being charged all year round for the one day when we used the most water. “In theory, this would allow water companies to forecast demand and promote water efficiency measures – but with potentially disastrous financial consequences for golf clubs.”

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Spring 2010 saw Woburn working closely with Rainbird Irrigation to bring in tools to measure meteorological data and soil moisture levels quickly and easily. “We also wanted to be able to manage our systems remotely so we could shut down applications and fill when significant weather events allowed. We checked application rates, nozzle run times and replaced sprinkler heads on our oldest system on the Marquess’ course.

“We also looked at the minimum requirement we would need per night at the height of the season utilising the highest recorded evapotranspiration rates for our site. These figures then had to be balanced with how much storage we had available and how many nights’ use this would provide without filling the tanks on demand.”

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Steve Castle discovers how Woburn Golf Club’s long-term water resource strategy is dealing with recent usage restrictions which can hugely affect golf courses.
"We have 1500 cubic metres storage across the site held in three separate tanks, which is barely one day’s water for the courses in dry periods because we are able to water wall to wall. We needed something big enough to take the seasonality out of filling and watering and through meticulous planning and design came up with a plan for a tank holding 105,000 cubic metres’ capacity – in other words, a reservoir."

We then join John’s springer spaniel Hesper to see the reservoir construction at first hand. It’s staggering to see the massive scale of this and it’s fascinating to see teams of archaeologists excavating what will soon become a water storage facility capable of holding so much of the stuff. The archaeologists have even located several ancient Roman kilns, (a type of oven for metal work) which need to be painstakingly removed.

To the right of the five hectare site are huge mounds of earth removed, probably 25 feet high showing the extent of the project so far - and the excavators are yet to move in! The reservoir is due to be completed in time for the 2013 season.

All in all, it’s a vast project and John acknowledges an undertaking of this scale is only possible at a large club with significant financial backing and a supportive and knowledgeable owner. However, he’s also eager to stress that a progressive long-term water management strategy is critical and achievable, at any golf club as water bills inevitably climb.

He says: “A smaller model could be adopted in a different location. The bottom line is, we aim to get our water bill down to roughly £25,000 a year. This year, following many mitigation measures we still spent £125,000 so the return on our investment will be within six or seven years.

“The individual Head Greenkeepers and I have had to be extremely diligent and flexible in managing the consumption for three championship courses, using 550m3 across all three courses each night. Our Irrigation Manager Lee Murdoch reads all of our meters, sets up all of the night time irrigation programmes and forecasts the weekly usage using weather forecasts and soil moisture readings. This gives him the information required to split the MDD figure between the three courses.

“Without the support of our consultants WRA, Paul Williams from the Bedford Estates and of course from the Duke of Bedford and the Woburn Board of Trustees.”

The Club, which is part of the Bedford Estates, aerate monthly with light top dressing and annual hollow coring each August to keep them dry. They aerate into the night under lights and close each of the courses a week in every month of the winter for drainage, aeration and bunker reconstruction. As John says “The healthier the greens are, the harder we can push them.”

When I pulled into Woburn’s car park earlier, I vowed to leave with a much greater understanding of the water resource project, increased knowledge of the water-based challenges facing golf clubs and to refrain from mentioning Ian Poulter at any point in the subsequent article. Ah well, two out of three ain’t bad.