

OPEN VERDICT

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company involved in the production of a number of golf related publications, what we now see is that through the BIGGA and its members a virtually unlimited number of contributors all with practical experience to pass on to their colleagues.

Thanks to a further increase in circulation due to the size of BIGGA membership we have already attracted increased support from our advertisers, keen to get their message across to all those who are involved in the Golf Course.

Michael Coffey.

Another milestone was reached in greenkeeping history, when at Muirfield the R & A's Championship Committee Chairman, Alastair Low, made reference at the start of his address at the prize giving ceremony. to the part played in the success of the championship, not only by the Honourable Company's Head Greenkeeper David Kirkcaldy, but by the bunker rakers of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association. It is unfair to minimise the role of those bunker rakers, but it was truly a memorable moment when the new Associations name came over loud and clear to the millions watching on television.

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Should you have any queries regarding membership of The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association write to:- N. Thomas, Executive Director, BIGGA, The Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, W. Yorks.

BRITISH and INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Greenkeeping member

Name in full ..... Club .....

Position .....

Trade or Associate member

Name in full ..... Company .....

Position .....

Preferred mailing address .....

I attach my cheque for £15 (plusVAT) = £17.25

Signed .....

Return to: The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, W. Yorkshire.

## Chairman's Message

When greenkeepers amalgamated into one association earlier this year, they adopted a theme for change.

Over the last 20 years, our associations had remained dormant. What had been accomplished? One or two golf outings, a national tournament, a non-existent educational system and, as a result, lowly paid jobs with little or no recognition from anyone.

Fortunately throughout Britain, we do have people with foresight and imagination who realise that opportunities exist to make the greenkeeping profession powerful and respected.

In the last year, with many hours spent round the meeting table, the new association's guidelines and objectives have been hammered out, pointing us in a more progressive direction.

To assist further in this task, an executive director, Neil Thomas, has been appointed and I am confident that the board of management's selection will have an immediate impact on the association. We wish Neil a warm welcome.

To communicate and, most importantly, to carry the message that the course manager/greenkeeper is vital to the game of golf, this magazine has been selected as the association's official journal. And, from next month, it takes a new title - the *Golf Course*.

The *Golf Course* will contain news and features to inform, educate and entertain the membership,

while keeping the golf-related community in touch with what is happening in the industry. It is thought that the new title will have a wider appeal than that of its predecessor, *Greenkeeper*.

My tenure as chairman has reached its latter stages and I feel proud to be in the company of honest, hard-working board members, who have assisted me in the decisions that needed to be taken in the formation of what I believe will be a great association.

*Walter Woods, Chairman, British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association.*

## OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Gerry Coley. Gerry was for many years Course Manager at the Wentworth Club and as such was one of the characters within the industry. He handled, every year, more big tournaments and televised events than any other course manager in the United Kingdom. As a result he was well used to pressure and it is therefore doubly sad that his death comes less than two months after a well earned retirement. Gerry will be missed by family, friends and those in all areas of golf who knew him.

## VAN SALES PERSON

We have a vacancy for a Van Sales Person supplying all types of Golf Course requirements i.e., Patissons, May & Baker, I.C.I., etc. The area to be covered is the Greater Midlands and North Wales.

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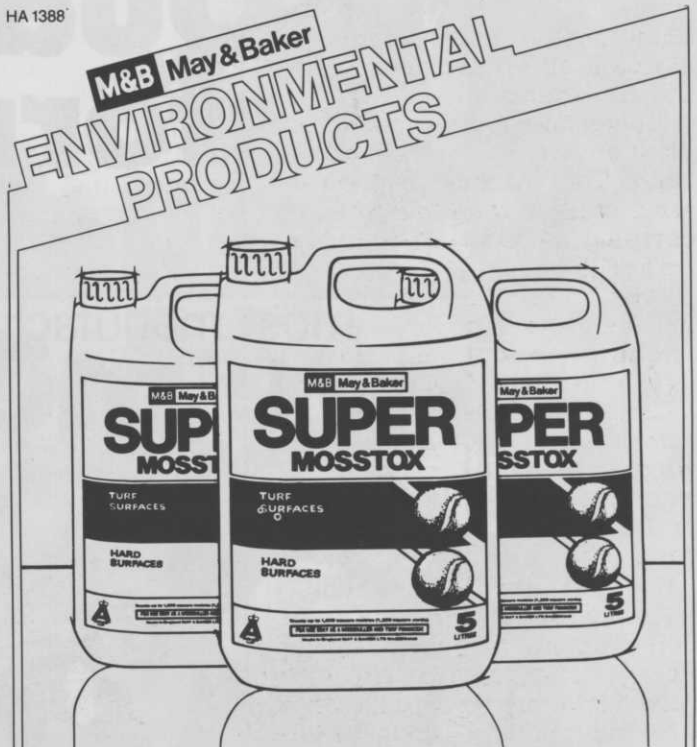
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