

Dry patch studies continue

■ **The R&A is to continue to support** the STRI in its research on the biology and control of dry patch by making a research grant of £25,000 to fund a second year of study. The dry patch project, originally initiated and funded by the R&A, aims to find the cause of dry patch and develop control methods that may be used by greenkeepers. Significant progress has already been made in defining the basic problem of dry patch and how water repellency develops in fine turf. Over the next year, studies will concentrate on identifying the causal factors responsible and on preventing occurrence of the problem.

■ **Recent scandals** about corruption in the stock market in Japan has brought to light similar problems in the Japanese golf industry (source: Japan Golf Report December 1991). There have been several well publicised cases of course developers bribing politicians in the hope of getting their particular projects approved, and of one huge scandal in particular concerning former transport minister Shintaro Ishihari and fellow politician Kiyoshi Mizuno. Both accepted large financial 'donations' from real estate agent Ken Mizuno, the latter Mizuno being investigated by police after selling no less than 52,000 memberships of Ibariki Country Club, although he had advertised only 2,830 for sale! Several of his companies have since gone bankrupt, the memberships are now worthless, and numerous claims have been filed from investors. Mizuno, who also acquired several golf courses in the USA, has been under investigation by Nevada police since 1972 for excessive gambling activities and suspected gangster connections. (nb. None of these

Hawtree & Company will celebrate 80 glorious years of golf course architecture in 1992, my spy informant suggesting that Fred Hawtree will pen an anthology entitled: 'Hawtree on Golf 1912-1992'. This writer will look forward to its publication with great interest; and to an additional study also scheduled "which will actually destroy a theory once advanced which provided a Scottish alternative route to owning the patent". Which theory and which patent? We shall just have to wait and see!

Mizunos have any connection with Mizuno Corporation, the sporting goods manufacturer.)



Nicklaus: Peace



Trevino: AIDS cure

■ **What do you give** to the man who has everything? The legendary four-some, Nicklaus, Palmer, Rodriguez and Trevino, competing in the 1992 Senior Skins Game in Hawaii in January were asked to reveal their ideal gift – and their New Year's Resolutions. **Jack Nicklaus:** 'My ideal gift would be lasting peace among all the people of the world, my resolution to work harder at being fit so that I can give myself a chance at winning a major in '92'. **Arnold Palmer:** 'My ideal gift would be a Cessna Citation VII airplane (he already owns a Citation IV), my resolution is to win some tournaments'. **Chi Chi Rodriguez:** 'I would like all the kids in my **Chi Chi Rodriguez** Youth Foundation and kids around the world to be successful in life. My resolution is to be No.1 in golf, but I would also like to see the people of the world put negative things of the past behind them and concentrate on making the future positive. **Lee Trevino:** 'Personally, I have everything I could possibly want, but if I had one wish, it would be that we find a cure for AIDS and Cancer. My resolution is to take time between tournaments in 1992 and spend more time at home!'

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 8 April 1992 at 2.30pm** in The Royal York Hotel, York (immediately adjacent to the Railway Station)

–NEIL THOMAS
Executive Director



BIGGA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Copies of the audited accounts will be available from Section Secretaries during the four weeks prior to the Meeting.

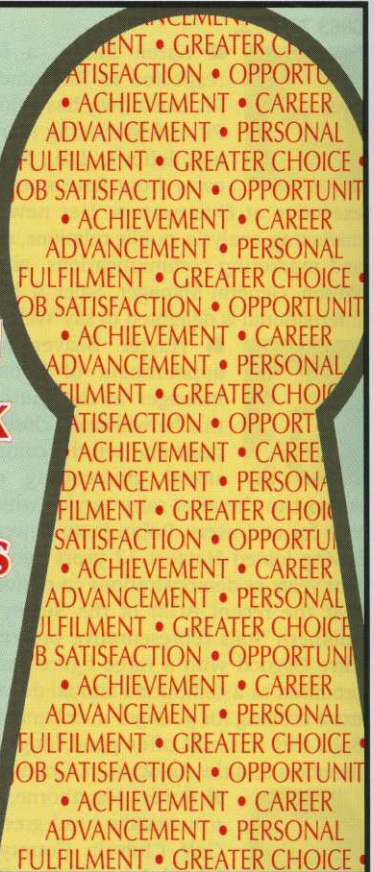
Support YOUR Association



Now YOU can unlock the doors to progress

GREENKEEPER EDUCATION and DEVELOPMENT FUND

BRITISH & INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



FIND OUT MORE:
Call BIGGA on 03473 581/2