



**Barry Cooper** is the well known son of a well known father: nationally acknowledged drainage expert, Turner Cooper, who invented the first trenchless drainage machine back in 1954 and authored the definitive book "Practical Land Drainage" in 1965.

Following a spell in the RAF until 1955, Barry rejecting a place at Nottingham University in order to take over the family drainage business, a career he is still actively involved in, though now as managing director of his own drainage contracting business. After some 36 years experience in the drainage industry, Barry spends most of his time working in a consultancy capacity.

His lifetime interest in sport (he is a keen golfer, once playing to single figures but now 19 and rising!) and a chance meeting with the redoubtable Jim Arthur in the 1970s led him to become involved in golf course drainage consultancy work, a task he is well able to appreciate both from the playing and administrative side of golf, especially as he enters his second term as green chairman of his home course, Knebworth Golf Club, Leicester.

He lists amongst his clients such worthies as St Andrews Links, Turnberry, Royal Liverpool, The Belfry, Woodhall Spa and Alwoodly Golf Club. Barry's conference subject will be "Golf Course Drainage - Before and After Construction".



**Bernard Findlay** will be posing the question: "Can you build a Seaside Links - or is that Nature's job?" As one who trained and worked on three golf courses in the south east of England before departing to the northernmost tip of Northern Ireland in County Londonderry to become course manager of the 45 hole Portstewart Golf Club complex,

Bernard no doubt has some interesting views on working with linksland, for he has lived and worked at Portstewart for the past six years - during which time he counts amongst his achievements the development of new holes on the Portstewart course and the staging of the Northern Ireland Iseki qualifying event.



**Laurence Pithie** is Britain's highest profile head greenkeeper, being the recent recipient of the UK's first ever Master Greenkeeper Certificate, presented to him at BTME in January by the Association's President, Viscount Whitelaw. His career pattern is equally well known, taking him straight from school to the famous Bruntsfield Links, a course of studies

at Elmwood College and later to the head greenkeeping role at Moretonhall Golf Club, also in Edinburgh.

A further five years at Sandiway Golf Club in Cheshire was followed by a move south to his present position as course manager at the Minchinhampton Golf Club in Gloucester, a post he has held since 1981. He lives in nearby Tetbury with his wife Sandra and two children, aged six and ten.

On three occasions Laurence has visited the USA - twice as National Greenkeeper and Groundsman of the Year - and on one occasion presented a paper on turfgrass management to an American audience in Houston, Texas. When not on home ground, and sandwiched between his other interests of golf and badminton, he can be found visiting and photographing other courses and he now possesses a large collection of slides, books and literature relating to golf course management. His chosen subject will be "Golf Course Development - A Greenkeeper's Viewpoint".



**Jonathan Gaunt**, a keen 5 handicap golfer, graduated from Leeds Polytechnic in 1985 with a BA (Hons.) degree in Landscape Architecture, followed by a further Diploma in Landscape Architecture.

His first experience in the golf industry was as a humble labourer, working for course

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contractors, Brian D Pierson Ltd, in 1987. Working at 'grass roots' level set him in good stead and he eventually became a construction supervisor, working on courses such as The Jubilee at St Andrews and St George's Hill in Surrey.

In 1989 he joined Golf Landscapes Ltd as a design/contracts manager, his first contract being the design and construction of the Family Golf Centre in Stevenage. In addition he co-designed the Hanover Golf Club and designed and supervised numerous reconstructions to existing courses.

Autumn of 1990 saw him in business as a freelance golf course architect, his first design being the Magnolia Park Golf Club in Bucks, soon followed by Snipedales in Lincolnshire, both due to be built this year. In his first year he has seen the building of his 18 hole course at Elemore in Sunderland, 27 holes at Breinholtgard in Denmark, 27 holes at Farrington, Bristol and is currently supervising the construction of Sandmartins in Berkshire. Jonathan will discuss "Project Management - How Does It Compare To Normal Golf Course Construction Projects?"



Lindum Seeded Turf, the sponsor of BIGGA's 1992 Educational Conference along with their associates, is a company managed personally by members of the Fell family, with **Stephen Fell**, ARICS, MRAC, as Chief Executive Director responsible for production and management. Stephen will address the conference on a provocative subject "Course Aesthetics, Good, Bad or Indifferent." He is

concerned that in new course constructions, the most vital aspects essential for longevity without major problems are often neglected - or even ignored! Stephen Fell has vast commercial experience and worked for some time as a surveyor involved in land use and open cast reclamation for ADAS in Durham before qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor in 1977. In the past he has managed a farm in France, controlled the large farm and forest estate of Robin Leigh-Pemberton in Kent for nine years, and travelled extensively in the Antipodes, studying turf technology as a Nuffield Scholar both in Australia and the USA. As a practising conservationist Stephen is very concerned about the environment and would like to see architects putting as much thought into the environment of new courses as they do into design.

**David Boothby** is another of Lindum's associates making a presentation at Cirencester, better known to many as Toro's Sales Manager. Thirty three year old David has been in the trade since 1978, beginning in parts sales, progressing through general sales in a Toro dealership to that of distributorship with Lely (UK) Ltd since their acquisition of the franchise in 1983. For a further seven years David worked in the south west providing support to dealers before moving to Cambridgeshire in May 1990 to take up his present sales management position. In common with Stephen Fell of Lindum Turf, David sees some pretty dire examples of mismanagement in the field of new golf course constructions, particularly in the machinery sector, and will address on the subject of "Machinery - The Right Equipment for a Successful Finish."



● For a copy of the National Education Conference programme and booking form, contact BIGGA HQ on 03473 581/2