

# Greenkeepers chip in for a bright future

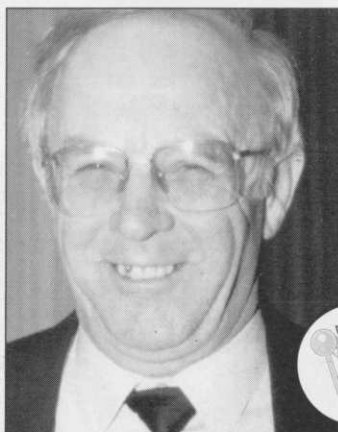
Two Regional Administrators have joined the Silver Key Circle. Both Gordon Child and Norman Exley are now proud to wear their Silver Key Circle ties indicating their contributions to the new Education and Development Fund.

"I am particularly pleased to welcome Gordon and Norman as members of the Silver Key Circle," said BIGGA's Executive Director, Neil Thomas. "The Education and Development Fund represents the ideal opportunity for donations, gifts and bequests to be made which

will advance both the status of the greenkeeping profession and standards of golf course management.

"Individual donations to the fund are just as important as those from companies and groups and it is gratifying that our members now wish to contribute to the development of education and training within the profession."

● Details of the Fund and benefits of membership to the Silver and Golden Key Circles from BIGGA HQ, telephone 03473 581/2 or by fax on 03473 8864.



Gordon Child and Norman Exley - new members of the Silver Key Circle

## Booking deadline set as BTME 1993 shapes up

Companies exhibiting at this year's successful BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition have until June 1 to confirm the same positions for next year.

New companies and existing exhibitors have expressed keen interest in high profile positions and so a June 1 booking deadline has been set in order that last year's exhibitors occupying the prime sites, can still keep them.

Exhibitions Officer Debbie Savage comments: "With a lot of people waiting for these prime sites, it's only fair that we have this deadline. If companies had a good space this year and they want the same next year, it's imperative they contact me with their booking as soon as possible."

The 1992 BTME was considered throughout the industry as being the best yet. In his welcom-

ing speech, BIGGA President Viscount Whitelaw declared that "Greenkeeping has come of age." The Harrogate event attracted thousands of visitors and was held in conjunction with the popular Education Seminar Programme.

The Association believes that since 1989, BTME has established itself as the premier exhibition within the fine turf industries.

Continued development and growth of the event is constantly monitored by BIGGA and the BTME Steering Committee.

Dates for the 1993 BTME are January 20-22. For more information, or a copy of the comprehensive Information Pack, which details all you need to know about prices and stand space, contact Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2 or by fax on 03473 8864.

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an appreciation of what is not always appreciated

The rush to build new golf courses has gathered remarkable pace with 1,890 planning applications now lodged with local authorities in England alone. Of these 735 have so far been given approval. These statistics were revealed recently at the first seminar organised by the British Institute of Golf Course Architects.

Keith Wright, secretary of the EGU, warned about the trend that had "brought the entrepreneur into the market place... and encouraged the opportunist non-expert to enter the field of design, construction and support services".

The seminar, entitled 'The Positive Face of Golf Development' examined key issues affecting the golf development industry, including the number of additional courses that really are needed and the amount of detailed geographical and financial analysis required before a course can be established.

Leading experts in specialised areas of golf development offered frank views on the way the sport must progress and also issued their own warnings on the pitfalls.

**Jim Arthur enjoys telling the true story** of a Japanese visitor to one of Scotland's lesser publicised golfing gems and on purchasing a green fee. The cost was £60 and the following morning the tourist returned, clutching another £60, declaring the desire to repeat his previous game. 'We

canna tak yer money agin, sir', came the retort, 'yon sixty pounds was for a wee monthly ticket!'

**Some weeks ago**, writes Paul Worster, I was spraying Spasor Total Kill to eradicate weeds and grass which were threatening to invade a gravel fringe of the putting green at Lilley Brook. Reaching half way round the fringe with the knapsack sprayer I noticed three students deliberately putting off the green into the fringe, and then kicking or throwing the ball back on. I approached the ringleader and asked him to stop, pointing out that any spray residue on the ball was likely to damage the green. This request brought a tirade of sarcasm along the lines of "oh dear, what a tragedy", accompanied by much mirth from his mates.

I was then faced with the choice of either completely losing face, or perhaps aiming a blow to the louts' nose - an awkward situation.

However, in a moment of inspiration I held up my rubber-gloved hands and said, "of course, this particular chemical can cause extreme skin reaction resulting in a bright red rash." At this point the lads' manner changed abruptly, "Oh my God," he screamed, dropping both club and ball as though they were suddenly red hot. He was last seen racing for the showers, leaving his mates, who up until then had been merely tittering, on the ground and helpless with laughter.