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At BIGGA events. The January–March draw will take place at the National Education Conference in April; the April–June draw will be made at The Open in July; the July–September draw will take place at the Hayter Challenge final in September and the October–December draw will be made at the BTME '95, in January 1995.

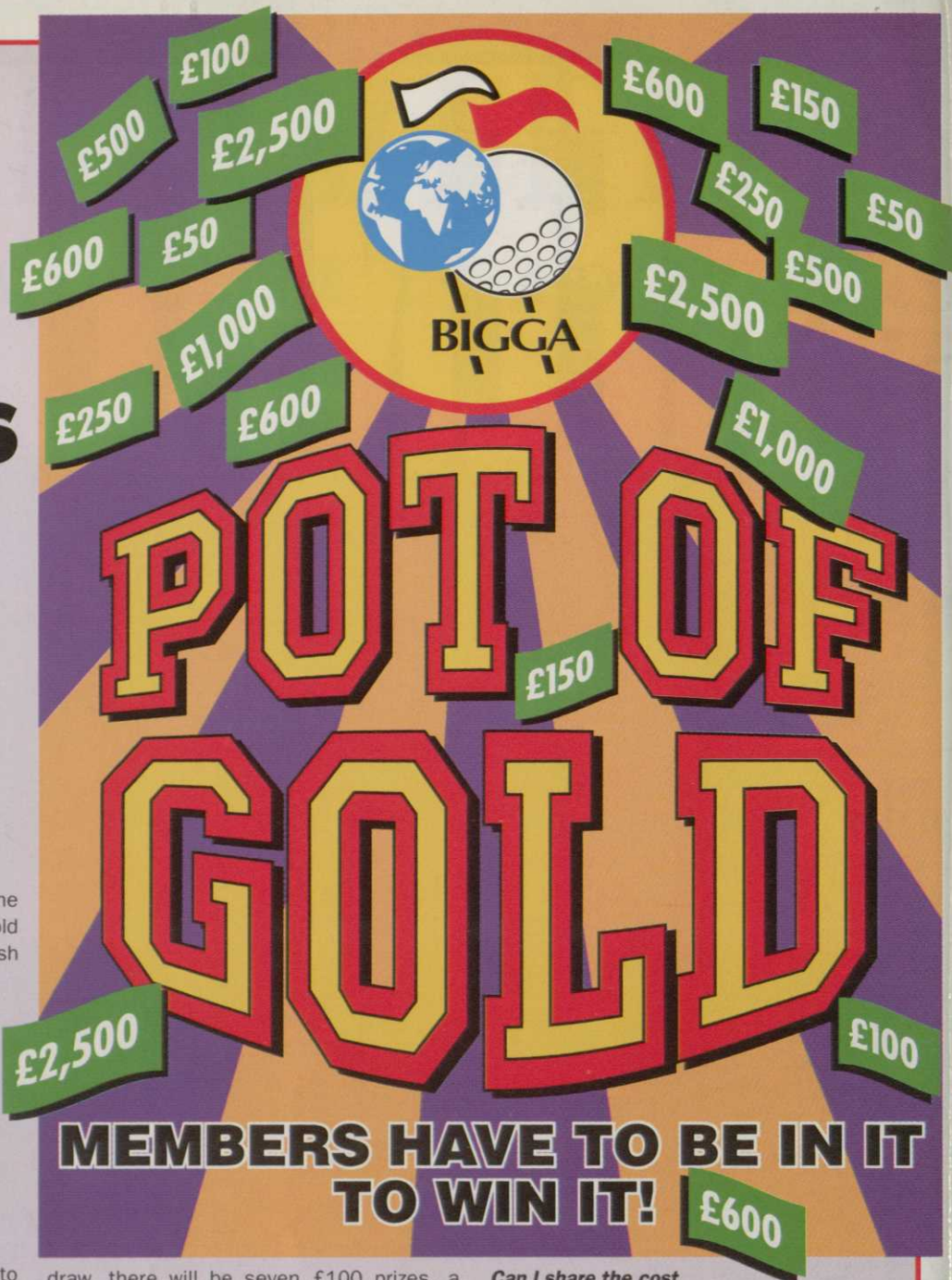
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If you want to share the cost – and, of course, share any prize you might win, then that's up to you. By all means get together with other BIGGA members who you may work with, so that you all chip in to buy a number. As far as each application form is concerned, we can only accept one name and one amount of £50. However, subject to availability, members can apply for more than one lottery number thereby increasing their chance of winning. All entries will go into every draw regardless of whether you have won previously. The key name will receive any winning cheque and it will be up to you to share it out.

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Official publication of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association
DECEMBER 1993



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Greenkeeper International is the official magazine of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association and is published monthly at BIGGA Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 0347 838581 • Fax: 0347 838864.

Please address all advertising, subscriptions and address changes to BIGGA.

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Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £34 per year, Europe and Eire £44. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

Editorial Offices
All magazine contributions should be sent to: Greenkeeper International, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association and no responsibility is accepted by the Association for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

ISSN 0961-6977
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GREENKEEPER International

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Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

Launched by Viscount Whitelaw at BTME 1992, the Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circle. For details, contact BIGGA on 0347 838581.

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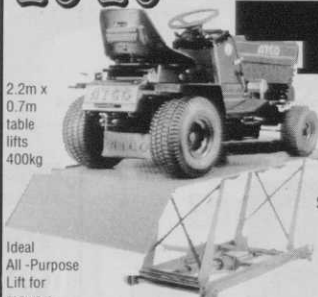
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Faces and places



■ Chris Gray, latterly working on contract management with several local authorities in Nottinghamshire and previously a greenkeeper for five years working on the Isle of Wight, has been appointed Lecturer in Greenkeeping, Warwickshire College, Leamington Spa.



■ Andrew Smith, one of the likeliest of likely lads from oop t' North, has landed a grand new job as first assistant at Old Fold Manor GC, Hertfordshire. A regular 'face' at golfing events and educational seminars and latterly a member of the BIGGA North committee, Andrew will no doubt be fine tuning his 'likely lad' handicap – so watch out London section!



■ West Country Groundcare have appointed David Nock (left) as contracts manager for their West Avon interests.

■ Restoration is well advanced (see picture, below) at British Coal's Telford, Shropshire site, where the Howard Swan Practice are designing a public golf course for Green Eagle Golf, to complete the reclamation exercise. The new facility, due to open in 1996, will be operated by Wrekin District Council.



■ John Walker, managing director of Ritefeed Ltd, the company that operates a 'try before you buy' scheme for its range of organic liquid fertilisers, has had a busy time over the past two years. Not content with making purposeful inroads into the marketplace, John has found time also to compete in a full programme of Kart racing, culminating in winning the Manx Grand Prix, a street race at Peel in the Isle of Man. Need info on Ritefeed, or how to drive very rapidly? Tel: 0772 253521.



■ Liquid Sod has appointed Tim le Mesurier (formerly with Agriland) to develop the new Roots Division, which will market a complete range of liquid organic products. Tim le Mesurier has considerable experience in liquid organics, especially their use on golf courses. He will also be responsible for the development of Liquid Sod products into the UK and Europe, through Liquid Sod's

own direct marketing methods or through appointed distributors.

■ Irrigation Industries Ltd, a new specialist company, are setting new standards in irrigation service by aiming to take the hardship out of irrigation design and materials acquisition. They are offering a varied package of services, from design through marketing and supervision to full supply packages. Golf architects, developers and installers can select those items which will reduce their time input or increase their expertise. Many of these services are provided free.

The company is headed by Malcolm Thomson and Gordon Bennington, who have a lifetime of experience in the industry and have designed the irrigation for such prestigious courses as Lost City in Australia and the Sri-raja CC in Thailand. They are currently involved in projects in Europe, Africa and the Middle East as well as here in the UK. Need info? Call Malcolm on 0227 772102

■ West Country Golf has appointed Mark Walsh, 23, as greenkeeper for the newly completed course at Tickenham, Avon. Mark comes straight from St Andrews, where he has been for over five years, much of that time working on the Old Course to prepare it for The 1990 Open Championship and five Dunhill Cup events. Greenkeeping is in the Walsh family with Edwin, Mark's father, the head greenkeeper at Whitefield GC, near Manchester.

■ Brian D Pierson (Contractors) Ltd have been awarded their first contract for a Japanese client – Mizno-Gumi Co Ltd. Work has commenced on an 18-hole course at Halliloo Valley, Croydon, designed by American architect, Bradford Benz. The international flavour of the contract is exciting, as not only is this the first course that Pierson's have built for Japanese clients, but also the first of Bradford Benz' designs to be built in the UK. Pierson's have seven golf courses under construction, with projects in France and Spain.

■ It seems the north-west staged their own form of The Masters recently, with the Ritefeed North West Masters, played over Fleetwood links and won by greenkeeper Bill Merritt of Allerton Park GC. The major award winners are pictured below, with Bill Merritt (third left) next to John Walker, the well known international Kart racer.



Westurf and now Southturf line up for '94

Get your diaries out for a new turf care trade show in 1994. BIGGA's South East region are organising Southturf at Motspur Park on Wednesday June 29.

"We're very excited about this new development," said South East regional administrator David Wood.

The event's organisation is still in its early stages but speak to David for more information on 0342 850875.

Moving from south to west and in Bristol, plans are already in hand for the sixth Westurf exhibition. Some 58 stands occupied Westurf's first show in 1989 and last year, that number was doubled.

Venue for Westurf '94 is again Long Ashton Golf Club, Bristol and the date is April 27.

The practice ground site at Long Ashton boasts two greens and a large area for demonstrations. Trade enquiries should be made to Marion Child on 0803 844056.

Golf without clubs

A Japanese film crew has been busy at St Andrews producing a highly accurate visual record of the Old Course, which will be developed into computer graphics to create a game for playing the Old, hole by hole, using the Super Nintendo computer system. The game will be sold only in Japan and the company expect to sell at least 200,000 copies. The complex game allows players to select the club to use and the type of shot they wish to play, whilst variables such as wind speed and direction, ground conditions, and quality of lie all come into play.

The game will be launched in 1995.

Stamps of approval

It's taken 154 years (the first British postage stamp was issued in 1840), but it is nevertheless pleasing to learn that the Royal Mail at last is set to issue a series of theme stamps which commemorate golf. Sometime in 1994 a tribute to the Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, reputedly the world's oldest golf club, will be published, together with first day covers, presentation packs and 'mint' stamps – look out for them!

When it rains...

An amateur weather recorder's figures have revealed that over a 40 year period, Thursday is the wettest day of the week. The Middlesex based forecaster expressed no surprise, because Thursday is the God of Thunar (thunder). From a low of 125.17 inches recorded on Sunday the figures are: Monday 132.78 inches, Tuesday 136.43 inches, Wednesday 134.85 inches, Thursday 143.16 inches, Friday 133.94 inches, Saturday 132.57 inches. TOTAL 938.90 inches. The difference between Sundays (low) and Thursdays (high) is quite something, since one inch equals 101 tons to the acre!

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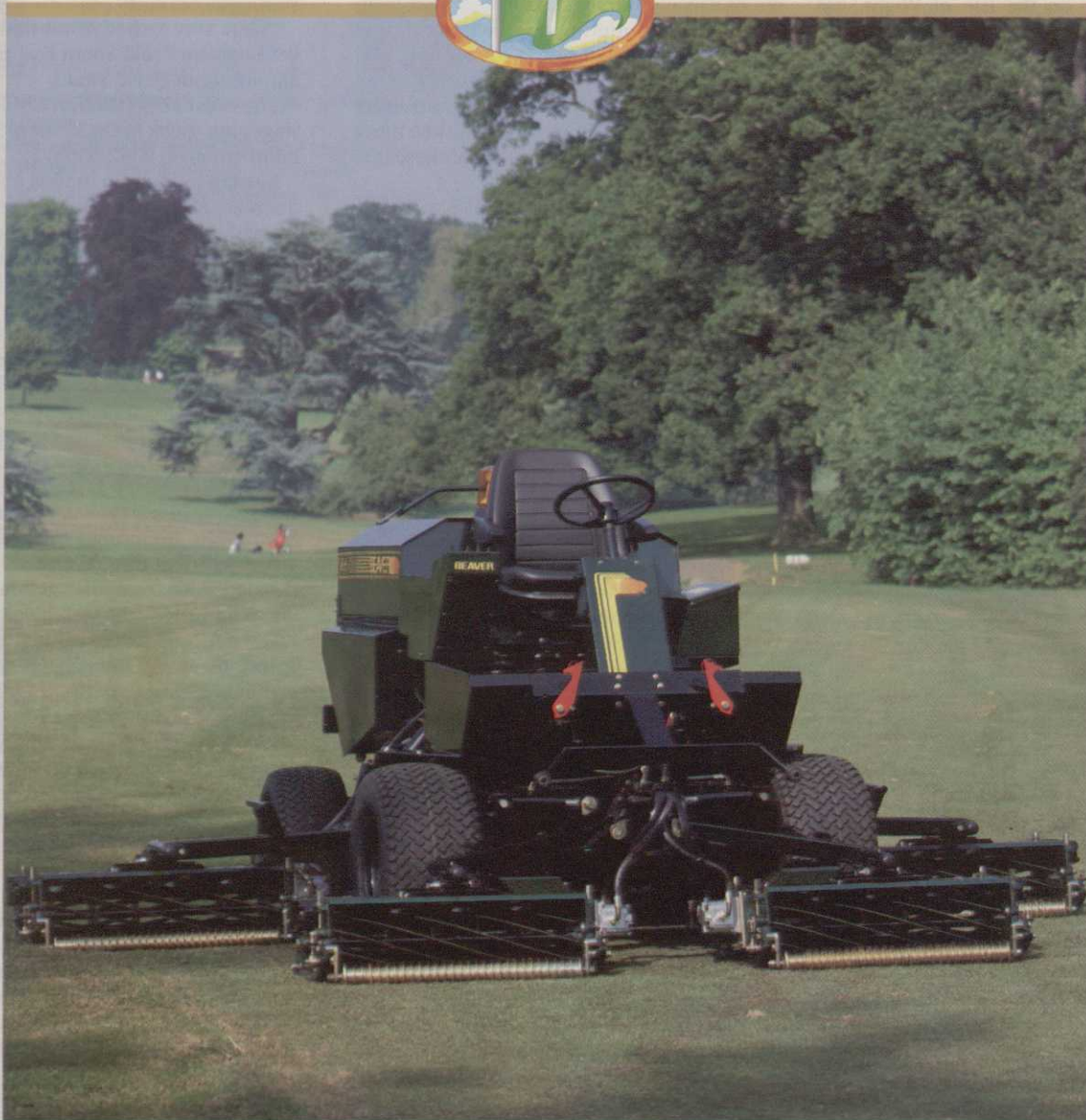


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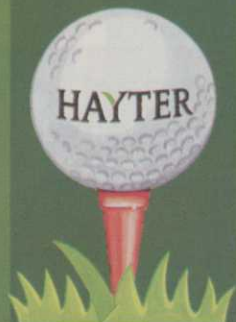
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JIM ARTHUR
argues the case
for mowable
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The Right Approach

Browsing through some articles I had written twenty odd years ago, in search of some half-forgotten statistics, I came across one pleading for more attention to be paid to improving approaches, specifically to create better conditions for the pitch and run up game. Reading only recently an American eulogy, for Americans, about super new courses they should play in Britain, all American designed of course, where lavish praise was heaped upon the architects (mostly top US pro's) for their penal protection of the greens by water and bunkers 'so that the green has to be directly attacked', their opposed attitude to our traditional game – our's played mostly along the ground, their's mainly in the air – was sharply brought home to me. This eulogy was incidentally somewhat flawed by the praise lavished on some courses in receivership and others abandoned and uncompleted. One sympathises with their unwary readers who travel many miles in high hopes of a memorable round, to be greeted by half-built greens or at best a course boasting a Portakabin as a clubhouse, with all the evidence of lavish plans having had to be abandoned in favour of a holding operation, hoping to survive until the end of the recession – perhaps in ten years time!

One of the advantages of a principle to which I have adhered all my professional life, viz 'write it down for the record', emerges in old age – one cannot be accused of having as convenient a memory as displayed in 'Gigi' by Maurice Chevalier – "Ah yes, I remember it well!"

I was stimulated to go back in history by the comments of a young head greenkeeper at a recent seminar on, inter alia, better winter playing conditions, to the effect that it was all very well having good-draining, all-weather greens, but what if the course was rendered unplayable by waterlogged or flooded surrounds and approaches.

No one is suggesting that we build the surrounds on stone carpets, as we virtually invariably build greens today, but certainly even two decades ago I was pleading with all who would listen, to stop digging holes in clay into which shallow crater greens were built on stone carpets. Often, as in one well known course on Midlands clay, the drainage from such greens was taken to a small sump (in some of the stickiest clay you have ever seen) a few yards in front of the green and dead centrally sited – creating a lovely bulls-eye bog in a critically important area.

There are many ways of improv-

ing conditions around the green to avoid this waterlogging. Clearly, surrounds must where necessary be drained, usually by intercept (cut-off) drainage and must be carefully constructed with surface flow in mind. There is nothing new in this. James Braid at the turn of the century solved this shedding problem by constructing shallow valleys or swales (additional drainage was often not needed) to collect and divert surface flow from slopes above greens.

Assuming that surface water has somewhere to go if it can be persuaded to drain into the soil, there is much to be said for deep aeration of surrounds, especially of areas compacted by walk-off wear to the next tee. Needless to say, if you are thinking of Vertidrainage, then find out where the pop-up pipes run – especially in older systems where installation was all too shallow as no one catered for aeration from the surface a foot deep. The main risk is of course the supply line to the hydrant box off the main, and from the box to the horse shoe ring round the green.

The main area for improvement in both fairly new and old courses is the actual approach – best defined as an area the width of the entrance

to the green and at least 20 m deep. Not only should this be regularly, deeply and intensively aerated (after all, the entire traffic on the course converges on this vitally important area) but it demands, and benefits from, exactly the same kind of treatment as the putting surface itself. The most important of these is regular mowing with a triplex, collecting the cuttings. Nothing improves turf more – nor more quickly. Turf density improves, especially with allied treatment, but also tractors and gang mowers are kept well away, whereas, too often, in the not too distant past before the advent of mounted gangs, tractors and trailed gangs passed and re-passed over the same area to pick up missed sections, with inevitable damage.

Approaches and surrounds should be mown at a greater height than greens of course but close enough to make it possible to putt with confidence from well off the actual putting surface, hazards permitting. Nothing to my mind looks more alien than the concept (imported again from America) of a wall of grass around the green which, if a ball pitches up against it, leaves it virtually unplayable. This is supposed to produce better conditions for chipping, but I remember vividly

one Surrey club with a constantly changing green committee, who demanded that their greenkeepers should mow surrounds to one inch height – 'to stop the balls rolling off the putting surface into greenside bunkers'. My advice to erect a six inch wall of wire netting as likely to be more efficient was not well received, but I had enclosed my resignation with my report on the grounds that the club could waste its money if it wanted to, but I reserved the right not to waste my time.

In the bad early days of irrigation in the late sixties and early seventies pop-up systems covered the greens only and indeed in many badly designed three head systems, even failed to do that. This meant rock-hard patchy approaches, giving unpredictable bounces, so an extra head was installed – operating with the green. The nett result was invariably a bog – especially if fixed, half-circle heads were installed round the sides and back of greens and a full circle one at the front. One such installation, much criticised by me, was defended by the installing firm as being specifically what the members wanted, lush approaches on which they could stop the ball! Words (didn't) fail me!

Needless to say, approaches, being inherently less well drained, need totally independent control and much less water, while surrounds should never be covered by full circle greenside heads but by periodic, tediously laborious adjustment from part to full circle for limited periods, and back again.

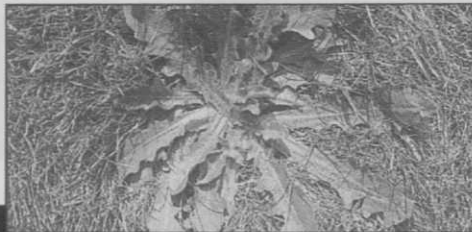
My advice is invariably not to apply any fertiliser to surrounds or approaches, even if the cuttings are removed in the box (and 'fertility' marginally reduced thereby). Even the worst heretics chasing colour and confusing it with quality do not expect lush green surrounds. In a few years the native grasses will dominate under such austere management. Many a time have I said on my first visit to a course "when we can get the greens half as good as your ('unfed and unwatered') surrounds we shall be winning the battle."

I do not claim to have invented the concept of better approaches to favour more predictable pitching and run up, even though I was banging on that drum in the late forties. After all, the concept of a 'fore green' was the cornerstone of many great architects such as Alister MacKenzie and Mackenzie Ross in the twenties and thirties – and is still to be found on many of their continental masterpieces.

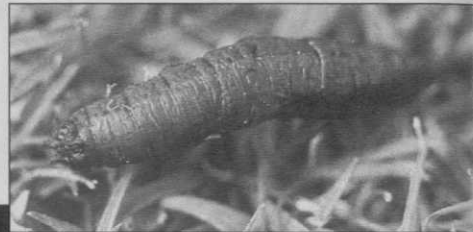
It may be of academic ➔ 8



Chafer grub



Cat's-ear



Leatherjackets

PESTICIDES

Misgivings, misconceptions and madness

The Right Approach

7 interest to those in charge of established courses, but it may hopefully fall on sympathetic ears if I plead for far more consideration to be given by architects to those clobbered with looking after impossible contours, envisaged on drawing boards. We need gentle mowable contours for sensible maintenance, not walls of death. My pet hate is the elevated green perched like Ayers Rock on a flat terrain, with a short steep approach, and equally steep surrounds. A ball pitching onto such a steep slope can and usually does go anywhere except onto the green. Yet you still see them being built, often because it takes money to build up a gradual slope – and flair to design in such a way as to avoid the problem.

In passing, why do we tolerate such excrescences as multi-plateau greens, severe slopes and hollows, steep cross-falls and similar gimmicks which not only make putting a lottery but greenkeeping impossible. There is nothing wrong with building fairly uniformly gently sloping (large) greens which will soon develop their own less obvious borrows and are just as good a test of putting skill – as opposed to chance – and so much easier on which to produce perfect putting conditions all year round. With these comic greens, ridges get scalped, hollows become lush and soft, grass species vary as water and fertiliser shed off slopes into hollows, pin placements are minimised and wear increased. Above all, that all-important uniformity of appearance as well as putting surface is lost. Architects, please accept that you do not have to be eccentric to be acclaimed, though judging by a few American eccentrics it helps to be insane to produce such horrors, or at least to have a well developed Oedipus complex.

THERE IS SO MUCH written about pesticides these days that not a month goes by without their mention in trade magazines. Changes in the law relating to their use over the last 20 years have made the subject one very large bone of contention. I believe that the amount of commentary seen is largely due to the fact that users, suppliers, manufacturers and regulatory bodies are operating without benefit of a well-defined, co-ordinated plan, notwithstanding that all parties involved know the ultimate objectives in pesticide control: "Consideration must be given as to whether it is necessary to use a pesticide at all in a given situation and, if so, the product posing the least risk to humans, animals and the environment must be selected." So says the UK Pesticide Guide referring to COSHH, which came into force in the UK on 1 October 1989.

As directives go, I don't think we could be any clearer. As to the how and when, who decides? Without doubt, there are those with misgivings about it all – not least the GCSAA, whom I believe operate under constraints similar to the above. They have commissioned a study of the medical records of deceased superintendents to try to discover any possible link between the use of pesticides and the cause of death. This is being done, I don't doubt, to help expedite the chemical review process. Another clear intention comes across: if they can prove that the chemicals in use are safe, then they wish to be allowed to get on with their job!

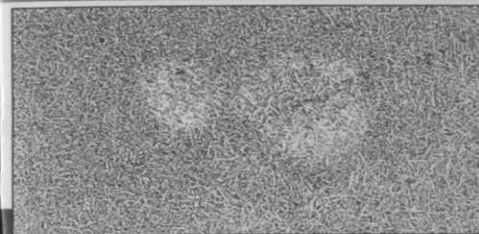
Having heard Professor Noel Jackson speak about turf diseases in the USA at this year's BIGGA education conference, the above move is hardly surprising. Two things he mentioned would raise misgivings with most – namely that a disease called pithium blight can wipe out whole greens virtually overnight, and that in the USA, 'if you lose your greens, you lose your job.' Professor Jackson also pointed out that no-one is safe, since diseases are likely to become as international as the players that play the game of golf. I personally am not prone to panic, but I do keep my locker and desk very tidy these days!

Further misgivings relate to the trade. These can be illustrated by looking at what has been written on the subject of worm-killing this year. The debate

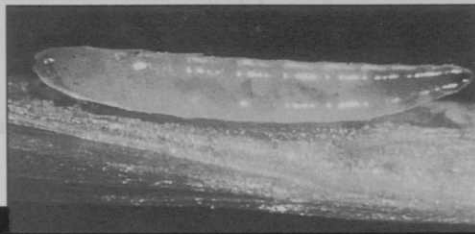
was started by the excellent Jim Arthur, and followed by Kerran Daly who, amongst other things, described the unpleasant and potentially harmful practices associated with lead arsenate. Gordon Irving has subsequently contributed sound common sense in suggesting that it is better to use an effective product once under controlled conditions than one with reduced longevity many times. If I were involved in the supply of vermicides at the present time I would most definitely be rubbing my hands, for having the opportunity to sell ten times as much product to achieve the same result is not to be sniffed at. That is not to say that I believe the trade to be either callous or uncaring, but a professional salesman can do no more than make the most of the situation.

Perhaps my biggest misgiving would revolve around the old adage, 'ignorance is bliss'. Recently I read a front-page report in a trade magazine entitled 'Fusarium attacks human'. I thought at first I had picked up the wrong periodical, and that if I read on, I would find out where Elvis was this week, or if any more aeroplanes had crashed on the moon. But no, this was a genuine, if extremely isolated case. How much more do we still not know, not only about the chemicals we use but about what we are trying to control. Manufacturers and regulatory bodies alike need not write in to say that everything possible is being done – if this was the case, people would live forever and it would only rain at night. I may be accused of cynicism, but the day I read a pesticide label that states 'This product affects only its specific target; it does not affect micro-organisms or the eco-balance of any system, and if you fell into a vat of it, you would emerge smelling of roses' – then, I would feel fairly confident about using the product.

In all seriousness, I am not decrying any efforts in the field of research, but I believe we can never do too much. Anything we can do to accelerate the process of evolving highly safe, highly effective and thoroughly tested products must be seen as worthwhile. Whether it involves money for development,



Fusarium patch



Frit fly



Greater Plantain

or amassing a vast data-bank of results and observations from end-users, surely we all have our part to play. At the same time as there may be misgivings, perhaps some hold misconceptions regarding working without pesticides. As mental arithmetic is in demise since the introduction of the calculator, so the use of chemicals in turf management has become such an intrinsic part of the syllabus that students entering the profession are dissuaded from considering the alternatives. The game of golf has been around a lot longer than pesticides and if the game managed without chemicals once, even given that the job then was labour-intensive and expectations were not as high, it can surely do so again.

Imagine a scenario where, for whatever reason, the use of pesticides on sports turf is completely banned. As an aside, one thought that cheers me in considering a world without pesticides is how it all came about in the first place. If my readings are correct, the earliest efforts in the course of man perverting the balance of nature involved the spraying of cereal crops with sulphuric acid. Taken at face value, this seems about as sensible as connecting yourself to an electricity supply to see if you get a shock. Unfortunately, results proved that this was effective in killing most of the weeds, but not quite so much of the crop. So much for little acorns!

How then do we manage without? You are now looking at your poisons cabinet and seeing the products disappear one by one. Let us start with the easy stuff. We can dispense with the aluminium phosphide by buying some scissor traps – killing moles is essentially a brutal business, whether chemically or mechanically achieved. Forget repellents for rabbits – don't just move them on, shoot them! Total weed-killers – where do we use them? Tree bases, hedges, ditches, peripheries – all can be catered for with weed-blocking materials, mulching, strimming, digging up (and out). Now we start to struggle.

When all sound mechanical and cultural techniques fail, selective weed-killers control the non-grass species in turf effectively. But, could we not help by increasing the frequency of vertical mowing on all areas where weeds are starting to prevail? By more conscientious hand-weeding of fine turf areas, could we not nip the problem in, or before, the bud? Failing all else, could we not fall back on re-turfing?

But what do we do about the big nasty – fungal disease? One option is the no-action policy. Formulated either through lack of funds or for practical reasons (e.g. not being able to access the turf under prolonged snow cover), this relies on early over-seeding and top dressing in the growing season to quickly restore playing surfaces. Perhaps we can con-

sider another possibility. With a suitably large, home-grown turf nursery, prepared well in advance, could we not undertake plugging or sodding of patch-damaged areas? Certain advantages could also accrue. Choice of cultivars for the turf nursery could be made with disease resistance in mind. Constructing the nursery from free-draining materials and making a full root-zone transplant to 'heavy' greens might help in the fight against poor drainage and compaction.

All of the above is not an attractive scenario, since it involves time-consuming methods with possibly unsightly or ineffective results. But if we could all do a little – say, pick out the greens least affected by disease and drop them out of the spraying regime, – wouldn't we be acting more in the spirit of the pesticides regulations? I am sure that many will have better ideas for greenkeeping without pesticides. I certainly hope that something accrues with regard to worms – I am not looking forward to tackling the problem with a paint scraper!

Moving on again, I would like to consider certain aspects of the pesticides issue that, to

Perhaps greenkeepers should formulate their own policy for pesticides, says TONY HOWORTH

me, do not seem to make any sense. Two years ago I started to look at a product containing the fungicide fenarimol. At the time, this fungicide was approved for use on turf in the USA but only for commercial horticulture in the UK. To my surprise, fenarimol was approved this year for use on turf in the UK, albeit under a different brand name. Comparing the two brands, I could discern no difference (from the labelling) in formulation – both products contained the same amount of active ingredient. However, the price of the new turf brand was almost double that of the one previously available. Further, within weeks of the new brand being launched, my supplier advised me that the price of it's twin had just gone up over twenty per cent! I could not see why prices for what appeared to be the same thing should be at such variance. Having asked the question, I was told that the new brand had to recover trial and approval costs. Fair enough, I give credit to the company marketing the product for making the effort to win approval in the first place – the UK amenity fungicide market does seem to have been very static. But I would ask these questions: Are there other

reasonably-priced fungicides in bulk production for the agriculture or commercial horticulture markets which could be approved for use on turf? If the answer is 'yes', and such approval were gained, would the amenity market have to pay through the nose for it? Or are we doomed to using the same products forever and paying prices that reflect a closed-market situation?

One more area that seems to defy the logic of the control of hazardous substances is the public sector sale of pesticides. Having been frightened to death two years ago by pesticides consultant Jon Allbutt, on a BIGGA management course, I resolved to set about obtaining certificates of competence in the use of pesticides and producing risk assessments for the products that we were using on the course. Some £500 poorer and a good deal of time and effort later, I now think I understand something of why Jon was so forthright at the time about the dangers associated with the storage, handling and use of pesticides.

Yet, on a recent visit to an ordinary garden centre, a review of lawn products on offer identified fifteen 'irritants', three 'harmfuls', and a packet containing paraquat, a substance subject to the Poisons Act, with no hazard warning symbol displayed at all! The general public are unlikely to have extensive knowledge of pesticides, any particularly safe or accurate means of applying them, or anywhere to dispose of empty containers except in the bin. Is it right that anyone can buy products to throw on the garden that could also contaminate a water supply, or do away with next door's cat?

If pesticides continue to be offered for general sale, could manufacturers not consider introducing sealed containers of some kind? Could cheap, accurate applicators be developed, and a system introduced whereby a large deposit is charged on containers, refundable on their return to the supplier for safe disposal?

In conclusion, irrespective of what is being done regarding the safer use of pesticides, would it not be better if all parties involved knew what others were doing? Could not the Ministry set out clearly, and on a regular basis, which products were under review and why? Couldn't manufacturers, without committing commercial suicide, make us privy to their plans regarding existing products and the development of new ones? Could not greenkeepers collectively formulate their own policy document, and explore alternatives? Finally, couldn't we all (with the exception of Jon Allbutt) try a little harder for safety's sake?

Illustrations courtesy of Rhône Poulenc – taken from their poster 'Your guide to the control of weeds, pests and diseases'.

Letters

Send your letters to Greenkeeper International, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aine, York YO6 2NF or fax them on 0347 838864

Video is great, but...

May I congratulate BIGGA on the production of their first education video, which I think will be of great value to all greenkeepers. However, it should be pointed out that a few points are incorrect.

To begin, the video shows a green being sprayed with a boom sprayer, the operator spraying whilst turning. All spraying should be done in straight lines, in order to avoid over-dosing on the inside of the turning circle and under-dosing on the outside. In fact, if very tight turns are made, the inside of the boom can actually be travelling backwards! I know this can sometimes be difficult because of the shape of greens, but that is the very reason for using walking booms and hand lances.

Secondly, standing still and waving a hand lance over an area whilst using a knapsack sprayer is hardly accurate, making pointless all those calibrations regarding walking speed. For spot treatments with a knapsack the operator should walk over the target holding the lance steadily and at the correct height, as though spraying the whole area, then simply turning the lance on as the target is transgressed.

I was particularly concerned regarding disposal of unwanted spray material, the video showing the drain valve on the sprayer being opened, the chemical 'glugging' out onto the ground. Granted, the point is made that this is a designated area for the disposal of unwanted spray material, but surely anyone in their right mind would rinse out first, including the first washings, so that there is no risk of a large volume of liquid running off into streams and watercourses, which on hard ground could quite possibly happen.

Apart from the above, I feel the video is too long and might be better condensed to thirty minutes. Also the mentioning of one particular product seven times could perhaps be reduced to just once or twice.

Chris Mitchell, Course Manager, Royal Ashdown Forest GC, Forest Row, East Sussex
Jon Allbutt replies:

I agree with the points in Chris's letter. However, this was a technically demanding video to make and Richard Fry did a good job, especially when you consider that he is not a spraying expert. I was in attendance on the first day of filming, but only to sort out protective clothing, calibration etc.

By the way, Chris missed the incorrect pouring of chemicals into the induction hopper, and I'm sure if I watched it again and again I would find more to criticise. Yes, it is too long, but don't ask me which bits to cut out, it is all interesting.

The video sets a high standard and will be invaluable to young greenkeepers, managers, college teachers, instructors and, yes, older greenkeepers too. They will find something to make them think as well.

Students say thanks

I am writing to thank everybody at BIGGA HQ and to say how honoured I am to have been chosen the winner of the Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year competition. It was a great experience.

My employers are delighted with my win. There has been quite a lot of local and national press attention and I have never had so many handshakes - I feel like I have won a gold medal at the Olympics!

The trip to the US starts on January 10. I have been told that the GCSAA trade show in Dallas is one that I won't forget quickly!

Once again, thank you for looking after us all at Aldwark Manor and for a great night out in Harrogate. I am very much looking forward to my trip to America and also keeping in contact with you all.

Bridie Redican, Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year

■ May I take this opportunity to thank staff at BIGGA headquarters and the Aldwark Manor Golf Hotel, plus of course Toro Irrigation, Lely (UK) Ltd and the PGA European Tour, for providing two most excellent days when I competed for the Student Greenkeeper of the Year award. I would also like to thank my fellow student participants, especially for their great friendliness toward me. Though not an award winner myself, I know the accolades went to three most worthy winners, all of whom will serve BIGGA most proudly.

Antony Bindley, Braunstone, Leicester

■ May I begin by thanking you personally for the many splendid articles that have appeared in Greenkeeper International, they are much appreciated.

This has been a tremendous year for me, especially as I have been associated with the PGA European Tour Team. Through the letters column, may I thank Bruce Jamieson and his staff and everyone who made 1993 a year that I will never forget.

I would also ask you to give my thanks to Jimmy Kidd and his staff, who made my stay at Gleneagles such a memorable one.

Paul Brannan, 15 James Nisbet Street, Glasgow

Editor's note: Paul was one of three winners in the Toro-PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year award last year. His prize? Attending two PGA Tour events, plus the PGA European Tour conference at Penina, Portugal.

One little word

Reference my article in 'Bones of Contentment' in November, before I am inundated with comments that 3/16 of an inch is perfectly acceptable, I heartily agree. The word 'below' has been omitted in the paragraph toward the end, which should read... "cutting greens below 3/16 of an inch". Although just one small word, this dramatically alters the meaning of the sentence.

Tom McKechnie, Carnoustie Golf Links, Angus, Scotland

'Inspiring' trade show

A recent holiday trip to the USA gave me the opportunity to visit the 1993 Florida Turfgrass Association Annual Conference and Trade Show, held at the Tampa Convention Center. After a short drive from Orlando I arrived in Tampa and soon found the convention center. I was welcomed by the Florida turfgrass officials and after speedily registering I proceeded to the first lecture.

The quality of speakers was first class and I especially enjoyed listening to Dr Bob Carrow, who presented a fine paper on Hydroject vs Solid Tine vs Hollow Tine aeration in fine turf. Following the workshop I was invited to their annual meeting and awards luncheon, this again proving

to be most interesting and informative. The amount of money generated from sections around the State, from which turfgrass research and their Association will certainly benefit, was encouraging. The trade show itself was inspiring and I made many friends in such a brief period. Next year's convention will be held in Fort Lauderdale, 17-21 September, and hopefully I can arrange my holidays accordingly. It was certainly money well spent!

Tony Dunstan, Mill Hill Golf Club, London

Accidents in waiting

I am a greenkeeper currently employed at Costessey Park GC, Norfolk. During convalescence following a heart attack I've visited a number of golf courses, to enjoy some rest and relaxation in beautiful surroundings. However, all is not rosy in this Eastern Paradise and, in some cases, accidents are just waiting to happen. Examples abound:

- a) Operators using machines without ear protection when the noise output far exceeds minimum levels.
- b) Use of equipment that presents a high health risk, whilst less risky equipment (though available) remains idle.
- c) Use of 'new' equipment that does not conform to current regulations.

It may be that Greenkeeper International can draw upon the services of experts at workshops given through BTME to outline the shortcomings and anomalies found. However, many greenkeepers and employers cannot afford the time to attend such workshops and rely upon written word prior to action.

My comments may draw adverse comments from greenkeepers and employers in this area, but I will stand by my claim and issue a challenge to readers to answer these questions honestly; any cheating is only against themselves.

- 1) In carrying out a risk assessment, is it necessary for an employer to record any significant findings?
- 2) Should someone, identified by name, be responsible for health and safety on the course?
- 3) Do you have transport standing by whenever a competent, correctly dressed, individual is using a chain saw, just in case?
- 4) What is commonly regarded as the first level of noise output, and how can one determine if a machine exceeds this in a normal working environment?

Did anyone get all of them right? Does any golf club comply with all these regulations? Should people care? In answering yes to the last question, readers should remember that these are but a small selection from H&S regulations. They affect everyone and are enforceable by law.

Answers:

Q1. Regulation 3 (4) Management of Health and Safety at Work: Where the employer employs five or more employees he shall record the significant findings of the assessment and any group of his employees identified by it as being especially at risk. Are there more than five employees at your location? Have you seen the written findings of the assessment? Which employees at your location are identified as being at risk?

Q2. Regulation 6 (1) Ditto: Every employer shall, subject to paragraphs (6) and (7), appoint one or more competent persons to assist him in undertaking the measures he needs to take to comply with the requirements and prohibitions imposed upon him by or under the relevant statutory provisions. Paras (6) and (7) refer to self employed

STAFF

persons who have sufficient experience or knowledge to undertake the measures necessary to comply with the provisions. Is this true at your course? If not, who is the necessary competent named individual? Is that individual's name written down in the record?

Q3: Regulation 7 (2) Ditto: Every employer shall, without prejudice – b) enable the persons concerned (if necessary by taking appropriate steps in the absence of guidance or instruction and in the light of their knowledge and the technical means at their disposal) to stop work and immediately proceed to a place of safety in the event of their being exposed to serious, imminent and avoidable danger. The key word is *immediately*. Are your procedures capable of immediate reaction?

Q4: Noise at Work. Noise guide No 1. The first level is set at 85 decibels. Determination of a machine's output can be made by carrying out the following: *do not continue the test for longer than two minutes, as hearing damage may occur if personnel are exposed without adequate protection!*

a) Ensure that the machine is parked safely. b) Only use trained and correctly attired personnel in the test. c) Check the area is clear of any debris or other contagion. d) Start the machine. e) Run at full throttle and with due caution attempt to carry out a conversation with the operator. f) Can you hear what is said using normal voice projection? *Yes* – the machine is operating on or below the noise level. *No* – the machine is operating above the minimum level and ear protection must be provided, training given in its use and operators instructed to wear it.

Raymond Wigley, Costessey Park GC, Norwich

Lost opportunity

It was with increasing dismay that I read the thinly veiled advertisement (article) "Lock It Up". What a lost opportunity to address some important points to ensure yard buildings are constructed in accordance with modern thinking, not to mention the new EC/HSE legislative framework!

Employers reading the article will be tempted to construct 'sheds' in the same old way – as I find so depressingly often on my rounds. May I appeal to all involved in the design and construction of yard buildings to bear in mind two vitally important matters:

1) Where employees are gathered within a building for any length of time eg. workshops, rest areas etc., there must be a safe means of rapidly escaping in the event of an emergency such as a fire. Building such rooms within a 'shed' with security only in mind (no doors or windows) amounts to nothing less than a death trap. The collection of machinery and small tools in the main storage area frequently make it very difficult to get out in a hurry. Very often too the source of a fire will be a hot machine just parked right in front of the most obvious means of escape. Modern design and materials can ensure that the construction of doors and windows will give security as well as safety.

2) Little thought is given to the relationship between pesticides, oil or petrol stores, workshops and rest areas. It is not unusual to find new buildings with such stores right next to areas where employees are working or at rest. Add to this the fact that there are no external exits and you have an accident waiting to happen. There is plenty of guidance available to builders and designers to help them avoid disaster, but I wonder if they ever read them?

Too many mistakes are being made in yard

building design which employees have to live with. It is a pity that Inspectors do not pay more attention to this important aspect of health and safety at work. A few well placed Improvement Notices might go a long way towards getting the message across.

I would appeal to all involved in the provision of yard buildings: make health and safety one of the first things you think about, don't leave it to the end user, the employee, to worry about!

Jon Allbutt, Cherry Tree House,
Sunningvale Rd., Biggin Hill, Kent

Is this a first?

I have a brother, a brother-in-law, a cousin and an uncle, all greenkeepers at various courses, all of whom thoroughly enjoy their work. John Phillips, the uncle of this group, until recently worked at The Broom Hill G&CC in Vancouver Island, Canada. I say until recently, because during June 1993 he suffered a fatal accident, involving a tractor.

Our family were, of course, saddened by the tragedy and by our loss, but it has come to light that we were not alone, for the golf club where he worked thought so much of his work – and of John as a person – that they have re-named their club in memory of him. The new name is The John Phillips Memorial Golf Club. Each September a competition will be played in his honour.

We are all very proud of this and many of our golf-playing family hope to one day visit Vancouver Island to play in the competition with members of the club, an honour indeed.

I wonder, is this a first for greenkeepers?
Andrew Phillips, Glynhir GC, Dyfed

Tree grants available

May I draw to the attention of readers the large grants that are now available from the Forestry Authority for tree planting? These grants are available to all land owners, including golf courses, and are paid out under a Woodland Grant Scheme over a period of ten years. There is also a supplement for planting improved grassland, which is paid out at the time of planting.

We recently prepared a budget for tree planting in 15 different areas on a golf course and over a ten year period the grants will cover the total cost of the tree planting and subsequent maintenance.

Eamonn Wall, Woodland Consultant, Dollar,
Clackmannanshire

Course is right on target

I would like to thank all the staff at BIGGA and all the lecturers for a most interesting and enjoyable week on your Year One Management Course. I found it of great benefit and will be looking forward to coming back for Year Two. If any greenkeeper is thinking of going on the course, I would thoroughly recommend it. Thanks again for a great week.

Perry Smith, Deputy Head Greenkeeper,
Bramley Golf Club

Wrong hills

Your top photo caption (page 19, October issue, featuring Kingsknowe GC), indicates that the Braid Hills are shown in the background. Not so, these are the Pentland Hills.

Allen Wood, Braid Hills GC, Edinburgh

Bidding a fond farewell



My time on Greenkeeper International is finished, to my regret if not to yours. Looking back over the small mountain of issues it has been my pleasure to compile, I grinned at one comment

which appeared in my first editorial, recalling again the pithy words of an unidentified but oh-so-observant wordsmith: "Writing a column is easy," he declared, "All you have to do is sit at your typewriter until small drops of blood appear on your forehead."

Thirty five issues have come and gone, some with more blood-letting than others, and though occasions were legion when "small drops of blood appeared on my forehead" it seemed, more often than not, that blood appeared on my fingertips as well, for the equivalent of something approaching two block-buster novels has been thumped out on the keyboard of my trusty old Apple Macintosh; far more than any trifling 'bloody' column and, in truth, much more fun.

Editorial guess-work is at best an imperfect science. In trying to discover where readers' loyalties may lie, I've found no reliable way of discovering which elements in this magazine you've secretly pined to read – or those you'd be pleased to see the back of – while any 'research' I might have undertaken (in the main, listening to every greenkeeper I ever chanced to button-hole for more than a few moments) – served merely to offer guide-lines to those features you most enjoyed (without exception, the controversial ones), whilst failing to throw up any revolutionary or untried ideas.

Striving always to present all sides of the greenkeeping conundrum, often at no small cost to my firm (some would say impenitent) beliefs, in so doing I've held true to the doctrine of John Stuart Mill (1806-1873), whose words are writ large above my computer screen: "We can never be sure that the opinion we are endeavouring to stifle is a false opinion; and if we are sure, stifling it would be an evil still."

My departure should not alter your expectation of good things to come, for a tantalising array of delectables will I am sure continue to appear within these comfortable old pages, pages that I have come to regard as my own. There will be words that please and words that infuriate, words that inspire and words that are best read with a sharp instrument close at hand. If you think you are being addressed in a condescending manner, or you suspect pontification, grasp the matter firmly: your letters page was never dull, make sure it stays that way.

So farewell. Be of good cheer, trusted friends – and be kind to your new editor. This old editor cum columnist cum photographer cum copy boy isn't about to kick the bucket, he's simply taking a well earned blood transfusion. The drip is deep in the artery, the bottle flowing with a translucent amber fluid that contains reputedly miraculous healing powers!

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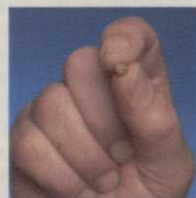
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SPRING FERTILISERS

It's time for a good feed, says MICHAEL BIRD – and he doesn't mean your Christmas dinner...

A call for all fertilisers containing nitrogen to state the source of the N present in the bag, box or bottle has come from Dave Lawson, soil chemist with the STRI, Bingley. Dr Lawson comments that those manufacturers who clearly display the source of their nitrogen are providing an important service to end-users. By identifying the type of N present, turf professionals will be able to optimise nitrogen applications in line with prevailing soil conditions, grass type, pH levels and disease risk.

A typical case cited by Lawson is that of ammonium sulphate, which has been shown to be the best source of fertiliser nitrogen for turf comprising fine fescues and bents, helping produce the highest quality finish. "This is a result of the acidifying properties of ammonium sulphate, which help reduce earthworm casting and fungal disease while discouraging annual meadow grass," he explains. There is, in fact, evidence that ammonium may be toxic to annual meadow grass, says Lawson.

Over-acidification of the turf needs to be avoided and this is achieved by blending organic nitrogen sources such as dried blood and poultry manure with ammonium sulphate – a mix favoured by many of the leading fertiliser manufacturers as it also produces a longer term N release period. Dr Lawson stresses that organic N sources should not be employed as the principal source of fertiliser nitrogen as over-use can lead to severe disease problems. Another problem is acidification of the rootzone, which can occur rapidly in newer, free-draining constructions. As a result, Lawson recommends less dependence on ammonium sulphate in favour of urea or ammonium nitrate, both of which are used commonly in liquid fertilisers and have a much reduced acidifying effect. The same maxim is applied where creeping bent grasses are commonplace as these prosper in non-acidic soil conditions.

A word of caution is sounded by Lawson over the application of slow-release fertilisers containing ureaformaldehyde-N (methylene urea). Regular use of such constituents is known to encourage the establishment of annual

meadow grass in fine turf and he is concerned that other products which release nitrogen in a similar way to ureaformaldehyde may have a comparable effect.

The longer term consequences of the newer slow-release nitrogen materials have yet to be investigated.

While the scientists and researchers get to grips with new materials and new techniques, there is much to be considered on a practical basis by those looking ahead to spring fertiliser programmes. Probably the most important point to remember is that there is no standard programme which can be followed. Every course will have its own specific needs according to soil and grass type, anticipated turf wear rates and location. A fertiliser applied in March in Cornwall will respond quite differently to the same product applied on the same day on Tayside.

Advice given by manufacturers or fertiliser suppliers should always be based on a soil analysis report. ICI, for example, offers a free analysis service to customers which is used to prepare a planned fertiliser programme for the season. When the report is delivered, suggested levels of NPK are given based on background information regarding the course which has been supplied with the sample. ICI's reports and recommendations are based on soil nutrition levels advocated by the STRI. However, the company has found that many people regard these as being too high, cutting them back accordingly, with negative results in future years. As a guide, ICI says that traditional greens and tees will need 80 – 200kg N, 20kg P and 60 – 150kg K. Sand constructed greens will require 250kg N, 20kg P and 150kg K, final levels in all cases depending on a soil analysis. The company recommends that 40 to 60 per cent of N is given in the spring, similar levels in summer and 10 to 20 per cent in autumn. P and K should be applied throughout the year as required, with the main K application in the autumn to help promote root development and winter hardiness.

Slow-release nitrogen fertilisers can be applied early in the year to help maintain strong, healthy

grass growth during periods of high wear, eliminating the need to make constant applications and reducing the risk of flushes, speckling or irregular growth. Such a product is ICI's Longlife Mini-Gold, a high nitrogen (31:0:0) mini-prill fertiliser suitable for use on fine turf where phosphorus and potassium levels are satisfactory. Release of the sulphur-coated urea is controlled over a period of up to 14 weeks, eliminating scorch and reducing leaching. Application rates are from 15 to 30g/sq metre with one 25kg bag capable of treating up to 1,660 sq metres. The ICI range is very comprehensive and where a balanced NPK fertiliser is preferred as an early spring application Longlife Spring and Summer 14:3:7 is a very popular alternative. Based on sulphate of ammonia combined with the slow release element 'Didin' greenkeepers can expect up to 12 weeks nitrogen release.

A mini granule offering controlled release of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium for fine turf throughout the season from just one application is Grace-Sierra's Sierrablen Mini. Having an analysis of 22:3:7, the product is applied in February or March and has a longevity of up to six months at 21degC average soil temperature. Resin-coated, each granule's release rate is dictated solely by soil temperature, with higher temperatures reducing longevity. Recommended application rates are 35g/sq metre on standard greens and 50g/sq metre on sand constructions, said to provide between 50 and 60 per cent of the turf's spring/summer nutrient requirements. Any shortfall can be made up with a liquid NPK fertiliser during the growing season. The company also offers other formulations giving five month, and greater, release periods from a single application.

Rigby Taylor's Mascot → 14

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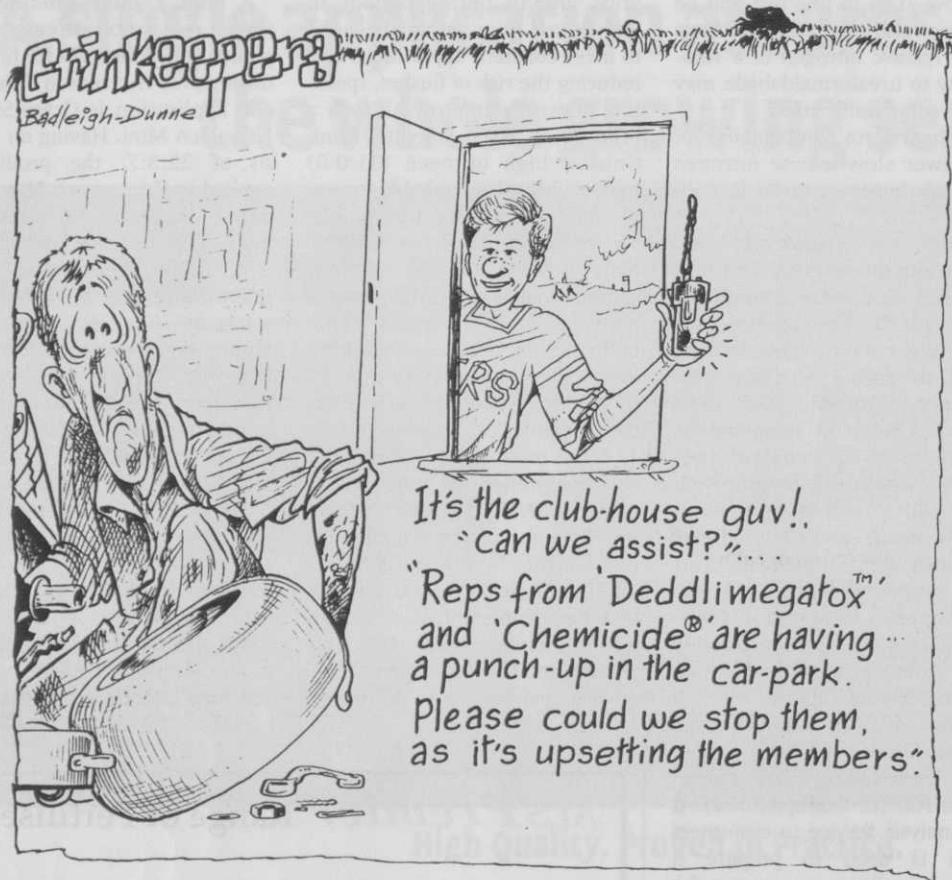
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13 ➔ Microflow slow release liquid fertilisers have 'short-chained' methylene urea as their nitrogen source, giving a controlled release of nitrogen for up to 12 weeks, while promoting an early greening without growth flushes or fear of scorching, even at higher rates. Suitable for all turf areas, the product is available in three different formulations supplied as a solution which mixes instantly in water without agitation. Applied by conventional spray equipment, Mascot Microflow is available in 28:0:0, 18:3:6 and 15:0:10 formulations, the last two with added chelated micronutrients and iron respectively.

To promote rapid early season turf recovery following winter play, Gem Professional recommends the use of its Turf Tone plus Iron, a 6:0:3 formulation designed to stimulate early growth and tillering to thicken the sward. Nitrogen is supplied in readily available form within a coarse quick-acting powder which requires very little moisture to wash it down to the rootzone while remaining in place, during

grooming or verti-cutting.

Similarly designed to bring forward spring renovation programmes is Key Turf Tonic from Vitax, suitable for application in early March and at other times of the year when turf condition needs a boost. Supplied as a powder at a 2.1:0:2.5 + 3% iron formulation, the product also helps control moss and prevent fusarium patch disease.

Natural plant growth stimulants, such as seaweed extract, have been shown to improve both grass root and shoot development to provide a strong, healthy foundation for the growing season. Furthermore, trials on turf treated with Maxicrop's seaweed extract have produced increased plant chlorophyll levels, encouraging photosynthesis. Despite the proven results, Maxicrop admits that the influence of every single component contained within seaweed extract is yet unknown. Although this has produced scepticism in some quarters, one thing is certain: There is nothing harmful within the product, which is totally natural, containing growth

compounds which are already present in grass. Maxicrop offers a range of seaweed-based formulations with added nutrients, iron and trace elements suitable for use during the year as a turf conditioner, general purpose feed, green-up agent or aid to establishment. The company is delighted to discuss trial results and recommend programmes for specific turf areas and needs.

A range of seaweed-based liquid feeds as well as liquid fertilisers is offered by Agriland. The company's latest fertiliser product, Tournament, is designed as a total feed for application by sprayer up to five days ahead of competitions and where stressed or badly worn turf needs reviving.

Analysis is 15:0:3 accompanied by organics, trace elements and other ingredients which, says Agriland, nourish the turf and create a durable visual effect, bringing out colour and promoting good, even growth and vigorous rooting. Tournament is available in 20 litre containers, with six cans sufficient for treating 18 greens. It can also be tank-mixed with herbicides.

Project hunts for stories from the golf course

Does the heady coconut smell of gorse in the height of summer spark fond memories of days on the golf course? Do any trees at your club have a story to tell – the ball lodged in the fork of a branch or a particular species planted to commemorate a person or an event, a hole in one perhaps? Are there any wild plants special to your course and are they featured by the club in any way, for example in a badge or in an award for golfing achievement?

The connections between golf and the natural environment have always been strong. Flora Britannica is a project which aims to keep and record those connections. All people with an interest in golf are being invited to contribute their own stories to Flora Britannica – together they will feature in a book to be written by naturalist and broadcaster Richard Mabey.

The Flora Britannica project is keen to involve clubs in celebrating their links (sorry!) with wild plants. "English Nature's Hole by Hole Guide to the Wildlife of Royal St. George's for this year's Open proved extremely popular and could be easily repeated elsewhere", says John Newton the project's co-ordinator. "Compiling a map of a course which tells both golfing and plant stories is another initiative which we are following up. However, there are many other possibilities and we would be delighted to talk to clubs who have their own ideas."

If readers of Greenkeeper International would like to contribute a story to Flora Britannica or to explore the idea of promoting their clubs connection with wild plants, please contact John Newton at Flora Britannica, 41 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9HJ. Tel. 071 379 3109.

How to be blessed by your grandchildren

by David White

Back in 1981 I fell in love with a book. Honestly, I'd never before been smitten so by a single, individual tome, though I'm blessed with over three thousand highly individual little beauties in my golf library. I loved the book and its subject so much that I persuaded its authors, golf course architect Geoffrey Cornish, and architectural editor Ronald Whitten, that a niche existed for a leather-bound, limited edition, and that I should produce it. That special book, 'The Golf Course', came into being as an Ellesborough Press collectors' edition, with copies now changing hands at two or three times the original price. If I'd only known, I'd have done a touch of 'laying down'...

So, what was so special about it? It covered a subject that had not to any great degree been examined before: a history of the men who practiced the art of golf course design and the way their art evolved. More than that, it profiled several hundred men who made important contributions to the history of course design. Not content, it also contained the most comprehensive listings of architects' works ever compiled, plus, to cap it all, another section contained a master list of golf courses, cross-referenced to their designers. In short it was, or soon became, the 'Bible' for all journalists working within the golf industry; dog-eared, coffee-stained, a copy was found on every desk.

That first edition representing some 40 years of research for Cornish, and if it has been indispensable these past twelve years, the new edition will most certainly replace it as the 'darling' for all golf writers, by making us appear more knowledgeable than we really are, though we'll hardly discard the original, old friend that it is.

Make no mistake, this is no 're-hashing' exercise, for the new book, apart from quite properly gaining a new title, *The Architects of Golf*, is a completely revised and expanded edition, a survey of golf course design from its beginnings to the present, with an encyclopedic listing of golf architects and their courses (so bang up-to-date some of the courses listed are still at the grow-in stage). Described by its publishers, Harper Collins, as the ultimate reference source for anyone interested in golf, it contains a ton of new material. With umpteen million golfers world-wide, the market potential is enormous, but more than that, it's a hell of a good book. I urge you to buy a copy, your grandchildren will bless you for your foresight.

The Architects of Golf, by Geoffrey Cornish and Ron Whitten, (648pp hardback) is available from Grant Books, Victoria Sq. Droitwich, WR9 8DE, price £42.75 including postage.

Thirty five years of searching, but I never did find a copy of a rare book of golf architecture entitled *Hazards; The essential elements in a golf course without which the game would be tame and uninteresting*. We collectors should never despair, for nearly always there is someone to the rescue when the search is almost abandoned, and now a whole new generation of grateful readers can enjoy the collection of articles and discourses collected by Aleck Bauer in 1913, which helped him in his work on the Ravisloe course in Chicago. In particular he assembled a selection of famous golf holes which were noted for their terrifying hazards, with spice added by contributions from Alister Mackenzie, Ted Ray, Donald Ross, Dr Laidlaw Purves and Harry Colt. Good enough, you might think, but in this reprinted and enlarged edition there are further features also by Peter Thomson, Fred Hawtree and Peter Dobereiner, plus a fascinating argument propounded by Philip Truett, in which he questions whether bunkers should be raked or not, expressing a desire to see old traditions retained, making golf a test of skill supplemented by a large slice of fortune – good or bad. I imagine many greenkeepers will have something to add on that subject!

Hazards, by Aleck Bauer (88 pp hardback, limited edition of 750 copies) is available from Grant Books, price £28.50 including postage.

Harry Colt's famous little work, *Some Essays on Golf-Course Architecture* first saw the light in 1920, when it was heralded as a minor classic. Colt, perhaps the first of the dedicated architects, left an indelible mark on golf course architecture and his influence in this century has been and remains enormous. He worked closely with Alister Mackenzie on a number of projects until about 1928, thereafter working with C H Alison and J F Morrison until 1961.

This little book brings to life Colt's desire to work with nature and natural configurations, at his best when propounding the merits or otherwise of bunkers, which he used to great subtlety. Starting points, sites for greens, length of holes and blind approaches are all skillfully discussed. The placing of bunkers, compulsory and optional carries, protective hazards and freak greens – all come under his scrutiny. Colt's philosophy is as appropriate today as it was in 1920, perhaps even more so.

Some Essays on Golf-Course Architecture by Harry Colt (78 pp paperback) is available from Grant Books, price £18 including postage.

'Costly' British courses

It used to be that British courses were considered something of a bargain when it came to green fees. No more, for in a recent survey, Britain featured (ashamedly) in the six most costly, world-wide, edging out Canada, Ireland, USA, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia. It will come as no surprise that Japan topped the league, with \$125 (US) as the average for a single (weekend) round, Spain at around \$90, Taiwan at \$82, France and Germany neck and neck at \$65, whilst Britain averaged \$45. The USA was as low as \$30. (£1 = \$1.48). I suppose this explains why more and more Brits are making for Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; for with over 80 courses on a 30 mile stretch of coastline, all in spanking condition, and all welcoming the British invasion, the tourist/golfer there is seen as something of a 'treasure', rather than an infidel out to be fleeced.

Toro sales top £450m

Toro's worldwide sales for the fiscal year ended July 1993 were an impressive £456m.

"We are extremely proud of the tremendous strides by all within the company in helping achieve this solid platform," said chairman and chief executive Kenrick B Melrose. "We will aggressively pursue our strategies to maintain worldwide leadership in the turf machinery world."

Lely (UK) Ltd, distributors of Toro commercial products in the UK are naturally delighted with the news from the Toro company – particularly when considering the economic and competitive element in the industry. The release of new products to both golf and other commercial outlets has reflected in a healthy increase in sales for Toro products throughout the UK and it is anticipated that demand for the Toro range will continue in 1994.

Poking fun at pretension

Remember 'Caddyshack', one of the ten most rented movies of all time and regarded as one of the great storehouses of one-liners? In it, actors such as Rodney Dangerfield and Chevy Chase poke fun at country club pretention, adolescence and golf course bravado. Now, some 13 years after its release, Atlanta based Ford Trading Co. are to market merchandise including tee-shirts, hats, bag tags and so on, with Bushwood Country Club and 'Be the Ball' logo – a small brown gopher who digs tunnels and generally wreaks havoc throughout the course. Purchase of any Bushwood item carries lifetime membership of Bushwood, the motto of which is, "If you don't cheat, you're only cheating yourself." Testament to that fact came at their annual tournament played this spring, when one member turned in a scorecard posting an 18 hole total of 18!

Heart and

Old Tom Morris, it is recorded, was the archetypal public relations expert, practiced at telling folk what folk most wanted to hear. Called upon to inspect a tract of land – any tract of land – on which he may be asked to design a course, he would ponder awhile, sucking on his old clay pipe, before uttering words that would be recorded for posterity: “God and nature”, he would growl in his unmistakable Scottish brogue, “must surely have conspired together and decreed that this place was intended only for a golf course.” He is known to have said this of 40 different locations, and whilst it was sometimes uttered with tongue firmly in cheek, on the occasion of his visit to Tain, Ross-shire, he must clearly have felt the spirit move, for Tain’s mixture of linksland and inland terrain was then, and remains today, a truly outstanding expanse of God’s Own Country.

Earth-moving equipment in 1890 was little more than a horse and drag-scoop, and architects relied heavily upon nature’s own flowing contours to achieve their creations. Old Tom’s Tain is a masterpiece, albeit a wee one when he began, and at first he designing just 15 holes, though with ample room for expansion. Times must have been hard, for the committee resolved to confine ‘improvements’ (for ‘improvements’, read grass cutting), initially to those nine holes nearest to home, then twelve, and it was four years before a gorgeous and fulsome eighteen came to maturity.

What was it like in those days? The ‘Golfing Annual’ of 1898-89 described the course as ‘simply bristling with hazards in the shape of the River Tain, whins, broom, rushes, bents, ditches and bunkers. Although the strict par is 75, 83 or thereabouts represents first-class play. For variety, we know of no better course and, as the putting greens are for the most part natural and of excellent quality, visitors to Tain will be loath to leave. St Duthus Club (the old club name) members are proud of their ‘home’ hole, Thrice does the sinuous stream come into calculations, and there is no dodging it. The hole is indeed a beau ideal one, a terror for the topper or slicer.’

Iain MacLeod, head greenkeeper at Tain some eighteen years, will tell you that nothing much has changed, the

course (now par 70) still holds terror for the topper and it’s a grand player indeed who can match Tain at anything approaching his handicap. Meeting Iain was a humbling experience for this self-confessed hacker. He’s a splendid golfer with a smooth, leisurely swing, a category one player who has honed his game on these links for many a year. Granted he’s a golfer of considerable merit, but more than that, he’s blessed with the consummate spirit of an artist when it comes to caring for Tain’s blessed acres – his golf course. Marked with his particular brand of artistry, it is best shown on Tain’s quite exquisite putting surfaces; fast, firm and abundantly blessed with fescue, finished with numerous bunkers, each one properly and expertly revetted in the time honoured manner. I swear it, I’ve seldom seen a course with so many delicious examples of the revetter’s craft; it would almost be a pleasure to have one’s Titleist settle into the sand, if only to admire Iain’s canny skill.

I like the Scots, especially those many Scottish greenkeepers who I’m proud to call my friends. For a start, I’ve never come across a greenkeeper in Scotland who didn’t, honestly, love his golf course and adore the game, exhibiting true pride in achieving often miraculous results, invariably with budgets that would make the average head man in Surrey foam at the mouth with disgust. It’s probably true to say that Iain’s budget falls into the minuscule category and though you’ll find a gorgeous golf course, there’s no luxury clubhouse, (membership fees, can you believe it, are only £130 a year), certainly no high-tech maintenance facility. Tain is not a wealthy club, though wealth is relative and they are blessed with those acres of golfing magnificence, believed to resemble St Andrews in many ways, even in the views of spires and the town’s public buildings.

Fate played a hand in Iain’s pedigree: Scottish father, English mother, born in Southampton, schooled in Coventry, nurtured in the Highlands. Holidays were usually spent at nearby Nairn, and as a youth Iain fell in love with golf. He praised the Nairn links, was offered an apprenticeship under Murd Livingstone, the rest is history. In the event, his apprenticeship didn’t materialise and he went south to take up the job of assistant professional cum assistant greenkeeper at the GEC owned Grange GC in Coventry. He went to college, married Barbara, (a Nairn native), found the lure of Scotland altogether too great and returned again, this time as an assistant greenkeeper at Tain. I’d call him a dual-national: Scottish when he’s in England, English when he’s in Scotland – though a Scot in every respect save his quirk of fate birthplace.

Setting aside Iain the golfer for a moment, it’s easy to understand why Iain the greenkeeper came to be selected as a candidate for the ICI Premier Greenkeeper award last year. He demonstrates such solid authority, without so much as an ounce of negativity when it comes to executing his programme. He’s been through the highs and lows of club finances, has known what it is to struggle, sans watering system, sans adequate staff (as low as one other on occasions, though now blessed with four absolute stalwarts in Gordon McKie,

Tain: a masterpiece from the days when architects relied heavily on nature's own flowing contours to achieve their creations



soul

John Urquhart, Gordon Fraser and Stuart Griffiths), but the love he has for Tain comes shining through. It's his course, he extracts the best from it, anticipates difficulties before they become crises, he's thoroughly 'on the ball' and knows exactly how to deliver.

Delivering quality has never been an easy task, but Iain's low fertiliser, minimal water regime delivers in grand style. He dresses his greens in May and July with a basic organic granular fertiliser (8% N, 2% Iron, no phosphates or potash) and likes to apply Agrimaster liquid feed three times a year, finding the resultant colour, healthy plant structure and strong roots pleasing. Slit tining every month keep surfaces open, whilst a tractor-mounted fairway spiker thumping down to 12 inches every four months or so prevents any pan formation. He last Vertidraind in 1986, and sees no need to repeat in the foreseeable future. Drainage is not a great problem (bless Tain's sandy loam for that) and now that he has a Watermation TW1 his tees also are both handsome and vigorous. He's become quite an irrigation expert, gradually replacing old and inadequate PK41s with modern heads, a few each month, whilst becoming a dab hand at all but really major irrigation problems, talking through his faults over the 'phone with John Peace, Watermation's expert in Stirling.

It's hard not to admire Tain and it comes as no surprise to learn that visitor green fees, the club's financial mainstay, were up some 42% in 1992, rising still higher in 1993. Word gets around that Iain keeps a mean course and it's hugely popular. Once smitten, those visitors keep coming back!

So, a century or more after its founding, Tain maintains itself as a monument to Old Tom, its committee fending off temptation to call in some johnny-cum-lately to bring the old girl 'up to date.' Granted, Iain will start soon to relocate the ninth green, the only bottle-neck in an otherwise smooth round, the approach crossing another fairway, but ever conscious of the magnitude of altering Tom's legacy, even slightly, Iain has made meticulous plans to re-create the green and famous 'U' shaped bunker.

Tain's the better for maintaining old world integrity, and in another hundred or so years I don't doubt there'll still be something mystical about the old place - What is it, then, this mysticism? Dare I suggest; it's a reflection of one old man's architectural genius and one young man's dedication?

DAVID WHITE

Major machinery in the Tain stable

- 2 Toro GM 3s
- 1 Cushman Turf Truckster
- 1 Allman 300 litre sprayer
- 1 Ford 1910 Compact tractor
- 1 Massey-ferguson 550 Tractor
- 1 Sisis Hydrocore with 3" hollow core and solid tines
- 1 Sisis TDS Fairway spiker
- 2 Ransomes Marquis 20" tee mowers
- 1 Ransomes 214 gang set
- 1 Charterhouse backlapping machine
- 1 Lewis front loader
- 1 Evenspread fertiliser distributor
- 1 Vari-spread top dresser



Above: 'A monument to Old Tom Morris'

Below: Current custodians - the greenkeeping crew



DAVID STANSFIELD
compares traditional
with modern methods
of greenkeeping

And the next step is...

It has often been said there is nothing new in greenkeeping, just variations on a theme and the same mistakes being repeated in cycles of popularity. This being the case, is there any such thing as 'modern' greenkeeping? After all, there is only a limited range of operations which can be applied to a golf course, which have been applied for years and years (mowing, aeration, topdressing, fertiliser, scarification, irrigation), and a restricted number of materials which can be used, even though there are many companies selling basically the same thing.

Nevertheless, there is a modernity in greenkeeping in terms of the standards which are now being achieved in all round course presentation, from putting surface to rough, which are far in advance of what was the norm 5-10 years ago. Also, the search for excellence in finish, and, equally as important, year-round usability, has extended way down from the high-flying clubs and made a big impact on the suburban parks.

These standards have been brought about in the face of ever-increasing player pressure, in part by improving the sophistication and ranges of available machinery and irrigation. But more important still has been enthusiastic and knowledgeable greenkeeping, which on average has moved away from the idea that the best treatment programme for golf course is the one carried out the previous year and the decade before that, the results from which were 'all right'. Success in greenkeeping only comes from dealing with specifics, rather than applying blanket treatments and hoping something will work, or using the odd special machine because the club down the road has hired it.

However, having got to this point, the big question for the future has to be 'how long these heights can be maintained - as opposed to being made even better'?

One downfall could be the increasingly common committee viewpoint; that having got the best there is no need to work at it any more, with key treatments such as summer aeration being banned (again!). Often as bad is the edict that top dressing is 'a good thing' and must be applied more and more frequently, regardless of any potential adverse consequences. Treatment programmes have to be balanced across the board and suited to turf make up, construction type, age and player pressure.

While the amateur manager is a perennial problem, potentially of greater impact is a lack of available chemicals to treat pests and diseases. The question of how best to control dense wormcasting is one which comes up week-in, week-out, as the effects of past applications of now banned chlordane wear off. The want is for a chemical agent equally as good as a clean, one-off treatment, which is affordable. The trouble is that it is highly unlikely there will ever be one, because it

would imply a chemical which is persistent in the soil, and persistence is a factor that would prohibit approval.

Environmental management to discourage worm activity (e.g. soil acidification using sulphate of iron or a modern flowable form of sulphur, maximising drainage rates, and maybe boxing off clippings from limited areas) is unfortunately slow to take effect, but may be the only option. This could though be backed up with an irritant expellent in really badly affected but limited areas, to take out the worms and allow them to be moved elsewhere. A return to ancient methods in the modern world.

Looking beyond wormcasting, the escalation of problems which crop up when not just one or two chemical pesticides, but virtually the lot, disappear have been very much brought home to me while carrying out advisory work in (the rest of) Europe. In countries such as Holland, fungicides and selective herbicides are simply not available for use, and in the face of this it comes as a shock to realise how much greenkeeping in Britain depends upon pesticides, even though there is often a pride in keeping chemical application to the absolute minimum. The availability of even just a few pesticides in the UK is still a long stop which is propping up standards of excellence on the majority of courses.

Also, to someone used to hearing that even slight damage to the golf course caused by pests and diseases, or the presence of the odd weed or patch of moss, is regarded by the average club member as something approaching a hanging offence, it comes as a surprise that in countries where there are no chemicals, if there are a few brown patches on greens, or small sections of fairway being damaged by crows, this is not a crisis. Could this ever be the common view in Britain?

But how does one manage a golf course to work around these problems? Of course, the fundamentals have to be based on traditional links greenkeeping, which comes from a time when high-tech pesticides were not available, to develop turf which is resistant (but not immune) to serious disease. Ideally, this turf should be a mixture of species within the

botanical composition, so that if one species suffers, there is still the basis of a ground cover to rebuild from. There is nothing so risky as a monoculture if there are no chemicals to maintain it, and this applies to pure bentgrass as much as it does to pure annual meadowgrass. It is doubtful there would be a place for courses requiring high-intensity management systems in such a world. Even more has to be thought about the general environment of the course too. The availability of sunlight to close mown areas, and the availability of a breeze to dry it, are such fundamentals in producing high quality turf, they can never be ignored. This may well mean a reversal in the tree-ing of courses despite all the political difficulties of effective tree management.

When it comes to pests other than worms, we are somewhat fortunate in Northern Europe in that infestations, on average, tend to be limited in extent and frequency. Prevention of leatherjackets, chafers or fever flies is not possible, but control using irritant expellents is practical and can be quite adequate for the vast majority of situations, albeit a messy job.

Good environmental management can be carried out so that high standards of course presentation are maintained on a wide variety of courses, as is proven, year-in, year-out. Even so, there are still a significant number beyond whose greens in particular have inherent disease problems due to the soft nature of the turf, due to constructional defects in terms of soil make-up and drainage qualities, or simply due to player pressure. Here, if the availability of chemicals to check disease disappears, even the fundamentals of links greenkeeping may not stave off a serious, long-term decline in playing quality and usability. What does one do in this situation?

Clubs in such straits have to get back to basics via the costly route, i.e. rebuilding greens to a better design standard. This means greens of a size which will take an adequate number of pin positions, without water-collecting hollows in the putting surface, and with a constructional profile which is free-draining without being droughty or totally infertile. Obviously, this is a much more dis-



Can high standards of greenkeeping be sustained for the future, or will disasters again become common?



ruptive and costly exercise than a tee rebuilding programme, but is still a nettle to be grasped. Good planning, and the use of experienced architects and contractors, can make this drastic step minimally painful (other than to the bank balance!).

A future without pesticides, or at least with fewer, less effective pesticides, has to be a possible scenario. To be able to keep up the current level of modernism in the results of greenkeeping in part means looking backward to the treatment applied before chemicals were generally available and adapting these to a world of changing demands. However, what is needed also is a better understanding of the basic biology of turf and rootzone systems so that information is available to use in environmental management programmes. This needs long-term fundamental research, which goes way beyond evaluations and the examination of individual problem features. Such research is costly, but is something which does need to be addressed.

■ The author, David Stansfield, is the senior agronomist with PSD Agronomy Limited, Preston, Lancashire.



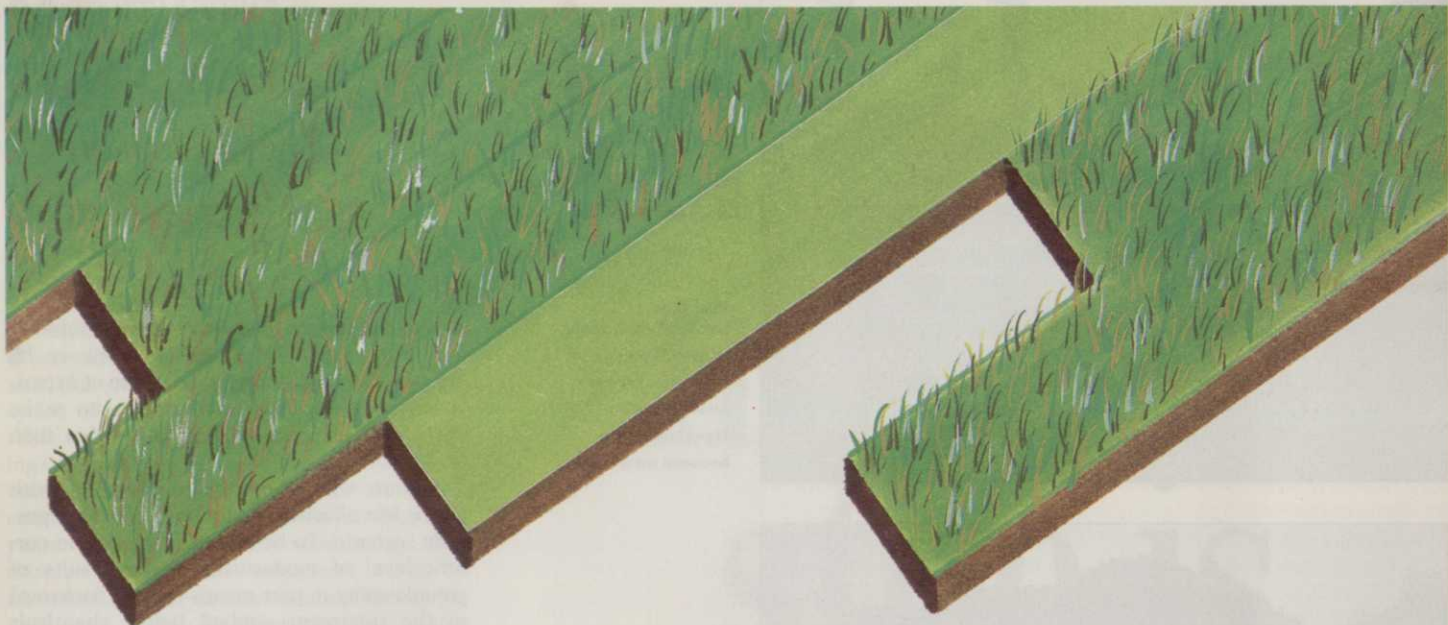
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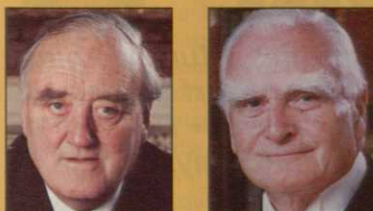
The 'Leader' range of grinders not only achieves this but offers many features unequalled on any other machine, making them the ultimate in lawn mower grinders.

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For a demonstration and further details contact:— Linda Adams



BIGGA President Viscount Whitelaw and Lord Griffiths, who will open BTME '94

Dignitary's unique sporting double

The VIP guest who will open BTME '94 has achieved a unique double in the world of sport.

The Rt Hon The Lord Griffiths MC is Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and in 1990 he became President of the MCC.

Hugh Griffiths was born in 1923 and educated at Charterhouse and St John's College Cambridge. He was commissioned in the Welsh Guards in 1942 and awarded the Military Cross in 1944. After the war he went to Cambridge where he won a cricket Blue as a fast bowler in addition to a Blue for golf.

Having gained his BA in 1948 he was called to the Bar in 1949 and has since had a most distinguished career in law. He was appointed as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary in 1985 and is a privy councillor.

An all round sportsman, he started golf at the age of 12 and currently has a handicap of 11, although he has been considerably lower. In 1988 he won the Bing Crosby Trophy on the Old Course, St Andrews. He joined the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in 1981 and is also a member of Sunningdale as well as Shanklin and Sandown. His other sport is fishing.

Lord Griffiths, together with BIGGA President, Viscount Whitelaw, will conduct BTME's opening ceremony at the Royal Hall on Wednesday, January 19 at 10.30am.

Countdown to the show of the year

Why I wouldn't miss the trip to Harrogate...

There are many reasons for visiting the BTME, but the most important for me is that it is five days of comprehensive further training in greenkeeping.

I think the combination of a trade show, workshops and seminars is a rewarding formula. It is very handy to have so much information concentrated in one spot and in such a short time.

The trade show covers everything in greenkeeping and it also shows the latest developments both in machinery and necessities.

The workshops always cover topics of great interest. What I find important is that every year there is at least one topic that concerns the education of the individual more than the greenkeeper, for example this year's *From Greenkeeper to Course Manager* and next year's *Bridging the Gap*. This knowledge is of importance whichever profession one chooses.

The seminars cover a variety of topics: in 1994 as many as 15. The close proximity of the seminars and the trade show makes it quite possible to become involved in both events. What makes the seminars so interesting is that they are presented by people who speak from their own practical experience.

Something else I look forward to is the international forum, held on January 20. I think BIGGA has taken a very important initiative when arranging the forum and inviting representatives from greenkeeping associations in Europe. There are many vital issues of common interest and I believe the voice of the greenkeeper must be heard clearly and loudly on an international level concerning maintenance of golf courses.

TOMMY LINDELÖF
Chief Executive
Swedish Greenkeepers Association

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AD REF 126

BTME: it's now just a few weeks away

by NEIL THOMAS
Executive Director, BIGGA

In January 1989, BIGGA ventured into the unknown with its first Turf Management Exhibition in Harrogate. Five years on the Harrogate International Centre will host the sixth BTME from 19th-21st January.

During the last five years BIGGA has listened to many people, not least those working within the industry, with a view to constantly improving upon both the exhibition and the educational programmes. The Steering Committee meet some three times a year for lively exchanges of views which have resulted in decisions influencing the future direction and growth of BTME.

Our educational programmes continue to be a key factor in BTME's success attracting delegates in large numbers to both the two-day workshops which precede the opening of the Exhibition as well as the general seminar programme which runs throughout the Exhibition.

This year, for the second time, BIGGA will be organising a European Forum aimed particularly at



ascertaining the needs of greenkeepers throughout Europe, seeing where help can be given through BIGGA's administrative structure and seeking greater co-operation with European Greenkeeping Associations.

I believe that the BTME finally "came of age" in 1993 and we at BIGGA feel sure that we now have a firm base on which to build. The visit of the Duke of York undoubtedly enhanced the status of an exhibition which clearly meets the industry's needs in being of a specialist nature with a targeted audience. It is encouraging that both architects and constructors are viewing BTME in a positive light and I have long held the opinion that

the exhibition represents the ideal medium for them to project both their companies and their professions. They are an integral part of our industry and we welcome them to Harrogate.

BIGGA much appreciates the support it has received from the industry since 1989. During a difficult economic period this has been unwavering. We hope that

in return the BTME will continue to be perceived as the premier exhibition for the fine turf industries. There will certainly be no lack of effort from within BIGGA to ensure that this happens and we will continue in partnership with our exhibitors to present at the BTME all that is innovative, topical, new and indeed best in our industry.

Are you a BIGGA winner?

The draw has been made to pick the three lucky winners in our popular BTME competition.

We had a huge response from readers across the UK and Europe, all vying for a share in our prize competition with £600-worth of prizes.

And the big winner, whose name was drawn first, is Colin Mackay, from Peterhead, Aberdeenshire.

Colin wins his way to the BTME in Harrogate, with return rail travel, three nights' accommodation at a top hotel and entry into all the education seminar sessions. *It's a prize worth £300, Colin, and it's on its way to you!*

Second prize winner is Harvey Tribe from Henley on Thames. He wins return rail travel, two nights' accommodation and entry to all seminar sessions. Prize value is a cool £200.

Third prize winner is Nigel Buxton, from Stockport, who will collect a single night's accommodation in Harrogate and entry to all the seminar sessions. Nigel, your prize is worth £100.

Congratulations to our winners - enjoy the show!



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- Carvoeira Golfe SA (Algarve)
- Harpenden Golf Club
- Omonde Fields Golf Club
- Telford Golf Club
- Cawdor Golf Club
- Kinross (Green Hotel)
- Pittdown Golf Club
- The Vale Golf & Country Club
- Charleslands Leisure (Co. Wicklow)
- Leek Golf Club
- Pine Ridge Golf Club
- Turnberry Hotel
- Chirk Castle Golf Course
- Lingfield Park
- Ponteland Golf Club
- Wellingborough Golf Club
- Collingtree Leisure
- Malone Golf Club
- Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club
- West Herts Golf Club
- Crompton & Royton Golf club
- Massereene Golf Club
- Royal Dornoch Golf Club
- Whitecraigs Golf Club
- Delapre Golf Complex
- Mere Golf & Country Club
- Royal Liverpool Golf Club
- Eaton Golf Club
- Milltown Golf Club (Dublin)
- Rye Golf Club
- St Andrews
- Ely City Golf Club
- Mold Golf Club

Educational seminars herald

Profiles of some of the speakers taking part in the Educational Seminar Programme. To book your place or for more details call BIGGA HQ on 0347 838581



Jayne Leyland's presentation, Initiation of the Innocent is designed to reflect the experiences felt – and sometimes endured – by those people new to the industry.

Thirty four year old Jayne turned to greenkeeping when it seemed logical to her to combine her two passions of sport and horticulture. She gained a distinction with her National Certificate in Horticulture at Reaseheath College 1992/93.

The subject matter of Jayne's paper is an introduction to the first year of studies for the new BTEC Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management held at Reaseheath College in Cheshire. Content will include brief details of the relevant theoretical and practical subject areas covered, together with other experiences encountered during the first year

– for example, a very rewarding study tour to Scotland.

Initiation of the Innocent by Jayne Leyland is presented at 1.40pm, Thursday January 20 in the Royal Hall.



The people Terry Buchen, golf course superintendent from Ohio, has worked with make up a veritable who's who in golf. Terry – who collects his Master Greenkeeper Certificate at this year's BTME – has grown-in 11 golf courses across the United States alongside Jack Nicklaus, Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish, Tom Fazio, Pete Dye and Ted Robinson.

Terry comes from a family of golf course professionals is a former PGA Tour agronomist and advancement on the regular US Tour. He will speak in Harrogate on growing in philosophies on a

new golf course.

Forty six year old Terry is also a contributing editor to an American golf course news magazine and writes a column 'the savvy superintendent'.

Growing in Philosophies on a New Golf Course by Terry Buchen MGC is presented at 3.20pm, Wednesday January 19 in the Royal Hall.



With 24 years as a head greenkeeper and a burning ambition to achieve the Master Greenkeeper status, Ian MacMil-

lan is an ideal candidate to present The History of Golf and Greenkeeping.

The course manager at Balbirnie Park Golf Club started his greenkeeping experience when as a junior member of Cambuslang Golf Club in Glasgow, he was more often to be found helping the greenstaff than playing golf.

Ian's been with Balbirnie Park, in Fife, for over ten years and appreciates their support in his quest for knowledge. "Education plays an important part in my life," he says. Ian spent five years at Elmwood College and is now back there in the second year of a HNC in golf course management – a qualification he hopes will lead to HND.

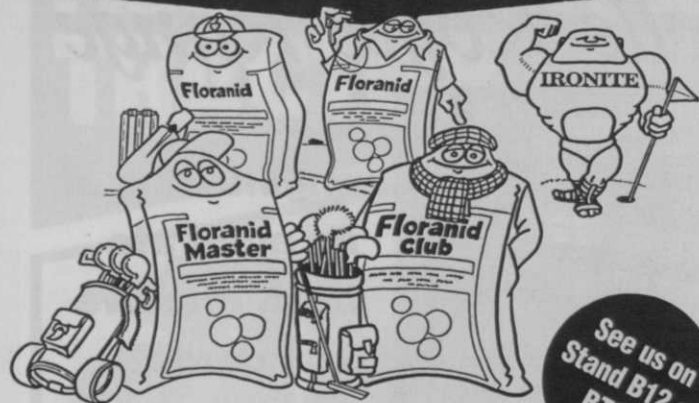
The History of Golf and Greenkeeping by Ian MacMillan is presented at 11.40am, Thursday January 20 in the Royal Hall.



You can't know it all, reckons Andrew Boyd, and the best way forward is to keep on learning.

Andrew will be applying his knowledge as head greenkeeper at Bridlington Golf Club to his chosen subject when he asks, do trolleys really damage our golf courses?

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a brighter future



Andrew's love of the land started at a very early age and he went straight into greenkeeping when he left school. He moved to a firm of horticultural engineers but it wasn't long before the lure of the golf course brought him back to where he belonged. Andrew, aged 36, is committed to his education and has attended a variety of BIGGA courses.

Trolleys – Do They Really Damage our Golf Courses? by Andrew Boyd is presented at 3.50pm, Wednesday January 19 in the Royal Hall.

Speaking in Harrogate will be

something completely different from the time Peter Greenhough took to the stage in 1988: then he was lecturing in India, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand.

Peter, a former Yorkshire County Player and member of the Royal & Ancient Rules of Golf Committee, will speak on The Greenkeeper and the Rules of Golf.

The joint managing director of an insurance group and present captain of Brough Golf Club, has a extensive knowledge of his subject for the educational seminar programme. He was guest lecturer at the Royal Canadian Golf

Association Rules Seminar and Examinations in 1988 and is presently serving on the R&A's championship committee.

The Greenkeeper and the Rules of Golf by Peter Greenhough is presented at 9.30am, Thursday January 20 in the Royal Hall.



Peter Dickens, chief surveyor with the Ordnance Survey Office, brings his experience to bear in his presentation **Ordnance Survey – More than Coarse Maps**. Hear Peter at 10.30am, Friday January 24 in the Royal Hall.

Engineering group holds first meeting at BTME

'Golf course engineering – from green field to fine turf' is to be the theme of the inaugural open meeting of the Institution of Agricultural Engineers' newly-formed Amenity and Ecological Engineering group. To be held in conjunction with the BTME, the seminar is scheduled to take place between 2pm and 5pm on Thursday, 20 January 1994 at the St George Swallow Hotel, 1 Ripon Road, Harrogate.

The meeting will address three areas of specific interest to engineers, greenkeepers and others concerned with the future development and application of machines, methods and systems employed within the professional turf and

grounds maintenance industry.

A trio of authoritative speakers will be chaired by Brian Hurtley, vice president of Kubota (UK) Ltd. First to take the floor will be leading golf course architect, Peter McEvoy, who will consider the design and development of new courses, working in harmony and sympathy with the natural landscape and local environment.

The second speaker, Dr Bill Adams from the University of Wales, will discuss developments in the construction and drainage of golf greens, tees and fairways with particular emphasis on the different approaches needed in the design and maintenance of sports turf drainage

compared with systems used in agriculture.

Finally, Alistair Beggs of the STRI will present an overview of current turf maintenance equipment and ask whether greenkeepers have available to them the best machinery designs and technology for the job. An open forum is planned for the concluding session, when delegates will be able to quiz the speakers and air their views on the matters discussed.

Free registration: contact John Gowing, secretary of the Institution of Agricultural Engineers' Amenity and Ecological Engineering group on 091 222 6811 or by fax on 091 222 6720.

Special hotel rates for BTME delegates

For the third year running the The Old Swan has been chosen as the official exhibition hotel. Conveniently located for the Exhibition being less than five minutes walk away and enjoying excellent standards, its special rates are as follows:

Double/Twin	£64.00
Double/Twin for single occupancy	£50.00
Single	£45.00

Prices are inclusive of breakfast and VAT.

The Old Swan will be the venue for the pre-Exhibition Workshops and the social programme. A hospitality room will be open in the evenings where everyone connected with the BTME can meet and relax.

Each of the hotel's 135 rooms has its own bathroom, colour TV and direct dial telephone.

Should you wish to stay at The Old Swan please contact them direct on 0423 500055, quoting the BIGGA Exhibition to make sure of these special rates.

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Opening times

The 1994 BTME runs from Wednesday January 19 until Friday January 21. The exhibition is open from 9am on all three days. It closes at 5.30pm on Wednesday and Thursday and at 1.30pm on Friday.

The opening ceremony and presentation of industry and education awards, by the Rt Hon The Lord Griffiths MC, takes place on Wednesday January 19 at 10.30am and is followed by the first public viewing and launch of the BIGGA career video.

Getting there

If you're driving into Harrogate, RAC road signs will direct you to where you want to go. There are plenty of car parks or off-road positions within easy walking distance of the show.

Rail links to Harrogate are good and there are direct Intercity services from London King's Cross.

The nearest international airport is Leeds/Bradford (13 miles/20 minutes by taxi). Manchester Airport is one and a half hours drive away.

Getting in

Use the pre-registration card in this magazine and gain preferential admission to BTME. This helps cut the inevitable queues and means you can simply collect your badge and walk in. What's more, when you pre-register you also stand the chance of winning £200-worth of prizes. The pre-registration card is post-paid, so you don't even need a stamp. Send yours off today!

Quiz night

Just for fun, a general knowledge quiz night will take place at the Old Swan Hotel starting at 8.30pm on Wednesday January 19. There's no charge for taking part, but let BIGGA HQ know if you'd like to join in but you haven't indicated as such on your booking form. Call Samantha on 0347 838581.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will for the first time be held during the BTME. Please make a note of the date and time:

**Wednesday
19th January, 5.15 pm at
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Who to look out for at the show

A taster of what's in store. Full catalogue next month.

Turf-Actant

It is almost impossible to imagine an end product that is subject to so many influences during its production as turf grass.

When you add the strongly held opinions of each individual greenkeeper to the endless variety of climatic, soil and numerous other conditions, it is clear that a consensus management view is impossible to obtain.

It is therefore a relief to know that a range of products exists that can be depended on both in terms of consistent high quality and value, and that they can be seen and discussed with Richard Davies and Edward Clarkson on Turf-Actant Sales stand C7. We look forward to seeing you.

Grace Sierra

Constant nutrient availability over an unrivalled longevity is the key to the continuing success of Grace Sierra controlled release fertilisers in the UK turf market.

In new course construction where grass swards can be rapidly established over a short period with only one application of the unique resin coated granules.

Tees, fairways, surrounds and approaches are also ideally suited to the five and six month release of Osmocote N-39.0.0, Sierrablend Turfmix-28.5.7+Fe and Sierrablend NK-15.0.22+Fe.

The temperature controlled release mechanism ensures that the grass receives the nutrient as and when it requires and if soil temperatures drop, nutrient will not be wasted by harmful leaching.

Kings Horticulture

Kings Horticulture, as the UK importers of both the BASF Floranid range and Ironite Superferrite granular iron, will be featuring them on their stand. These high performance products are both innovative and unique and are proving invaluable in the management of modern golf courses.

Easy and safe to use they are already widely used in Europe and the UK.

Kings are also major distributors of chemicals and topdressings as well as other products to golf courses. Come and talk to their specialist team about what they can do to help you.

ICI Professional Products

ICI Professional Products, leaders in the turf grass industry, are looking forward to another successful BTME. As manufacturers of the very popular Longlife fertiliser and turf care products ICI will be promoting their full product range and services. Emphasis will be placed on the more recent range additions, Mini-Gold sulphur coated ureas Ultra-Green soluble fertilisers and Turf Mark which have proved so successful in 1993.

ICI staff will be pleased to talk about products, their soil analysis service or the unprecedented free

empty pesticide container disposal scheme. This year will also see further significant new product launches as well as an introduction to ICI's new identity, 'Zeneca'. Visit stand B21 for a friendly welcome.

Atterton & Ellis

For over 100 years Atterton & Ellis have led the field with the innovative design and manufacture of cylinder grinding machines. Their market leading Express Dual offers the modern workshop an accurate and efficient means of cylinder grinding by either the in-situ method, with the cutter unit still in the machine or by the separate cylinder method, when the unit's stripped down for full servicing.

Bottom blades are equally handled by the Atterton Anglemaster, a heavy duty grinder that features power traverse.

This unbeatable partnership represents the finest in precision engineering and both will be demonstrated at the show.

Mommersteeg

Mommersteeg's new introduction for 1994 is MM9, a special blend of bents for overseeding golf greens.

The best way to improve the year round performance is to establish new plants of the ideal greens species. MM9 comprises 25 per cent each of the three browntop bents - Sefton, Tracenta and Highland - and 25 per cent of the creeping bent, Carmen, all tolerant of repeated close mowing.

John Akers, commercial director, and his golf and amenity marketing team will be on stand C9 at BTME to tell you more about MM9 and the full range of established Mommersteeg MM blends for every part of the course.

Hayters

Visitors to Hayters' stand at the BTME will be the first to view the company's latest range of grass cutting machinery for 1994.

Designed especially for the golf course is the

new TM520 hydraulic five-gang mower. Driven from the tractor's pto, this lightweight unit offers a highly economical way to maintain golf courses. Independent 20cm cutterheads can be operated in fixed or floating mode, and overall cutting width is 3.55 metres.

For Fairways, the TM729 is a seven-gang mower, with choice of 25cm high-output fixed head cutterheads, or 20cm fixed or floating units. The hydraulic system is completely self-contained and offers in-cab remote control of all cutterheads. Backlapping facility is standard, and for thatch removal there is the option of vertical mowing.


Hayter's latest hydraulic triple ride-on mower, the T224, is a rugged and highly manoeuvrable machine. Individually controlled cutterheads give high-output

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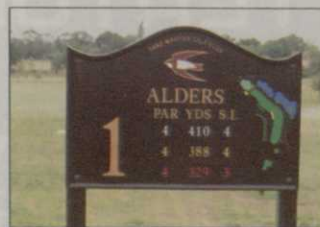
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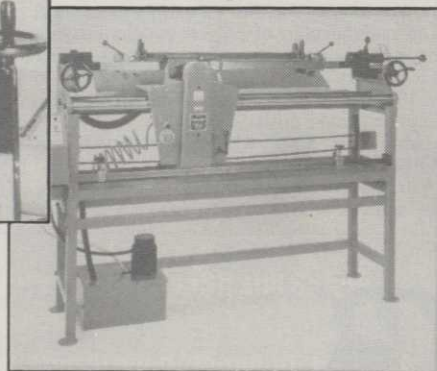
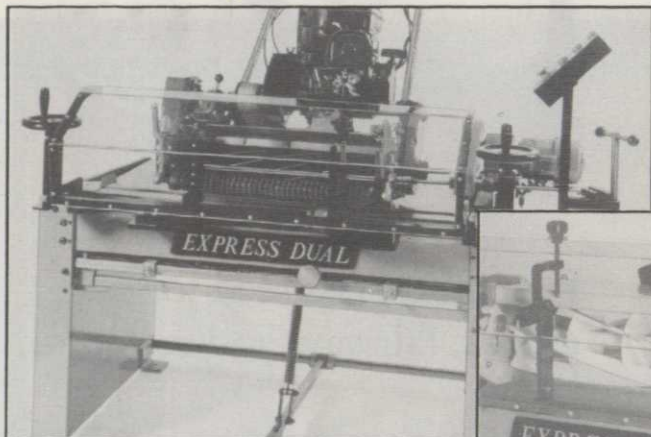


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Our ANGLEMASTER bottom blade grinder performs with the same accuracy and efficiency, to provide the ultimate duo for today's modern workshop.



An Atterton grinder is versatile, it will grind just about every cutting unit available, it's ultra reliable and it's backed by an enviable spares support service...but most of all it'll do a very good job!

You can find an Atterton in all the best workshops, from the tip to the toe of our own country, in fact all over the world from the USA to the South Pacific... *he knows all the songs... Bali Hai and all that... but then again he would sitting on the best grinder in the world!!*



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Iron Works, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 8QH
Tel: 0440 702312 Fax: 0440 712138

27 → at speeds of up to 12.7km/h in 4 wheel-drive. Power options include the latest Kubota 39hp or Lister Petter 37hp water-cooled diesel engine. With fully electronic cab controls, the operator can switch from 2WD to 4WD on the move.

Also seen for the first time at the BIGGA exhibition, a three-wheel version of Hayter's T93 fully hydrostatic triple greens mower.

Supreme Mowing

Supreme Mowing supply high quality replacement cutting cylinders and bottom blades. Continuing their efforts to further improve the quality of grass care products, Supreme Mowing laid down plans to design and manufacture a range of new grinding machines with emphasis on accuracy and operator safety. After lengthy tests, the company launched their own 'Leader' range of grinding machines.

Built around a modular concept, the Leaders enable the smallest of workshops to purchase a state of the art grinding machine, assisting them to build up a good reputation. It is built around a solid free standing frame fitted with easily adjustable anti-vibration units, which when used in conjunction with the built-in spirit level enables quick and easy installation and the ability to re-site the machine without worry.

Supreme Mowing aim to provide a machine to suit every size of operation with the facility to upgrade the machine as needs dictate.

Inturf

Greenkeepers will be interested to see the complete range of Inturf's mature golf green turf and golf tee turf which is available in all agrostis, all fescue, fescue/bent and, specifically for tees, with added smooth stalked meadow grass or dwarf perennial ryegrass. All mixtures are offered in seed sourced from our leading seedhouses and all turf is grown on stone-free sand land and is harvested in either one square yard rolls, 25 square yard big rolls or 3 inch thick 'lay 'n play' turf tiles.

A full turf installation service is available operated by qualified greenkeepers all year round and anywhere throughout the country.

Inturf were first with big roll, first with turf tiles and first with BS5750 quality assurance and their proud boast is that they can offer the most advanced and comprehensive range of turf and turf laying systems anywhere. Ask for Simon, Chris or Derek on the stand.

Amenity Technology

Amenity Technology formed in June 1993 and so will be at the BTME for the first time. We will be providing a full range of specialist products for the greenkeeper from around the world.

From the United States comes Green Lawnger, a turf colourant; Tank Cleaner, a specialist pesticide tank cleaner; Hydraulic Oil Dye, for early identification of oil spills; Lake colourant, for bluer water in your ponds; and Spill Response Kit, for spill containment.

From Canada comes the Bayco golf equipment and from Scandinavia, the unique golf hole cutter Hio.

From the UK comes Scuttle, rabbit and deer repellent; Go Green, unique liquid iron plus wetting agent from the makers of Turfex; Spray Wet, wetting agent tablet; Saltex, non-salt de-icer that will not harm turf, again from the makers of Turfex; and Turfex Premium – a "new generation" of Turfex.

Also, brand new from the United States, will be De-Fine. Details from stand B36 in January.

Agriland

Following the successful launch of Tournament Total Turf Feed last year, Agriland are pleased to use the 1994 BTME as a launchpad for more new products. Names to watch out for are Cascade



and Seven Iron.

Friends – and rivals – are invited to come along and admire the best amenity liquids available. Drop in on stand B4, and you might even win a prize.

Amenity Land Services

ALS are increasing their range of premier brand fertilisers. Another batch will be launched in the spring.

To expand our activities of our renowned contracting spray services, we are offering a weed and feed service. This is weed control with a well proven herbicide together with our new premier liquid feed range, to cover any course in England and Wales.

This combined service will make the whole process cost effective. The success of ALS is due to our high regard for efficient and quick service to our customers with the least disruption to golfers.

Hardi

Hardi, a long established agricultural sprayer manufacturer, has recently entered the amenity groundcare market and claims to have quickly become the market leader.

Machinery for this market requires all the robustness and simplicity common to agriculture, but needs the sophistication found only in the best sprayers.

The complete Hardi range delivers this spraying accuracy with consummate ease. Technically advanced features such as the BK 180 control unit, and Hardi diaphragm pump ensure that application rate is maintained even with changing of forward speeds. Hardi can supply machines from small pedestrian controlled wheelbarrow sprayers, up to the refinement and safety of large hydraulic folding booms.

Please visit the Hardi stand at BTME for see one or two new surprises.

Sovereign Turf

Sovereign Turf Limited are experienced growers and suppliers of cultivated turf for all applications.

Our reputation for quality, professional and personal service with our ability to meet the customer needs, means our growing list of satisfied clients continue to buy with confidence. Grown on light, free draining sandy soil with careful management enables quality turf available to you all the year round. With local distribution depots throughout East Anglia and London, a first class service will full technical support can be provided.

On the stand at BTME will be Steve Williams and David Waring, who will be pleased to discuss your requirements.

Allen Power

Allen Power Equipment will be displaying their range of quality park equipment especially suited for the Golf Greenkeeper.

The popular National 68" Triple Mower, standard equipment in hundreds of Golf Clubs, and Mustang Ride-on 42" All Terrain Mower will be on show as will the Reciprocator, the evolutionary machine for cutting around golf bunkers, ditches and even under water.

The Allen Hover Mower powered by a Suzuki MI20X engine and the Walkover Professional Sprayer and Zenoah Brushcutters all make a call to stand A47 for the show visitor.

Eric Hunter Grinders

Hunter Grinders are showing their popular machines already installed in many golf course maintenance sheds, the Jupiter and Juno. They excel at 'relief angle' grinding which cuts down metal to metal contact with the bedknife, thus providing a cleaner cut with other benefits such as less maintenance, longer bedknife life, fewer adjustments and less back-lapping. Many cutting units can also be ground in situ. Apart from grinding reels perfectly parallel and with coolant, Hunter's machines also precision grind the bedknives, thus saving space, expense and the need to buy two machines. Be sure to see them demonstrated at BTME.

PSD Agronomy

PSD Agronomy Limited provide a complete agronomic consultancy service for the golf course. Whether upgrading a mature course to cope with today's increased play or developing a new course, PSD Agronomy can help you.

Many mature golf courses are suffering severe agronomic problems and PSD Agronomy can provide the technical and analytical support necessary for a busy greenkeeping team.

New golf courses are being planned every week. Having PSD Agronomy as part of the team will help ensure a high quality, well managed project. See Mike Habridge, John Hacker or David Stansfield on stand A13 for further details of services.

Multi-Core Aerators

Multi-Core have increased their exhibition space for 1994 and as a result are able to feature both the TM1000 and TM1500 tractor mounted aerators.

Both combine robust construction with ease of maintenance and therefore downtime is kept to a minimum. A vast choice of tine spacings and sizes are available, from mini hollow and solid to 19mm hollow, giving up to five inch penetration. All these will be on display.

Also featured will be the popular greenkeeper pedestrian aerator. Available as a 16 inch or 21 inch machine, the greenkeeper is offered ultra reliability at an affordable price.

If you are looking for an aerator in 1994, why not visit our stand, where a warm welcome awaits customers old and new.

Lely (UK) Toro

Toro commercial distributors Lely UK Ltd will be exhibiting the highly acclaimed "Workman" utility vehicle at the forthcoming BTME.

This closely follows the successful Workman nationwide demonstration tour which took place throughout September and October, where users were able to view and test drive a wide range of vehicles with accessories and attachments.

Those who were unable to attend a Workman tour event will be able to view the vehicle on the Lely stand, number A23, along with products from Toro's extensive range of golf course and grounds maintenance equipment.

BIGGA South West and South Wales Region

Don't forget, you can take advantage of a subsidised package trip to BTME which includes:

- ★ Coach travel to Harrogate (18 January)
- ★ Three nights bed/breakfast
- ★ All seminar sessions

★ Return coach, afternoon of 21 January

All this for just £95 for members, plus £70 for spouses, or £120 for non-members (if space).

Contact Marion Child for details on 0803 844056.

GREENS DESERVE A LITTLE GOLD

See us on
Stand B21 at
BTME



HIGH NITROGEN

SLOW RELEASE

MINI-PRILLED

REDUCES FLUSH

NO SPECKLING

NO SCORCH

REDUCES LEACHING

FLEXIBLE RATES

'Mini-Gold', the latest addition to the 'Longlife' range from ICI Professional Products, is a high nitrogen (31:0:0) mini-prill fertilizer. It can be used on all types of turf, particularly golf greens and bowling greens.

'Mini-Gold' is a sulphur coated urea fertilizer giving a slow release of nitrogen lasting up to 14 weeks. 'Mini-Gold' has the added benefits of eliminating

the risk of scorch as well as reducing nitrate leaching.

The choice of application rates provides the turf manager with flexibility, making 'Mini-Gold' an ideal component of any turf fertilizer programme.

A NEW
QUALITY TURF
FERTILIZER FROM

Longlife



Professional Products

TEL: (0428) 645454

Easing the burden

As many readers are aware, Neil Baldwin has recently entered the world of industry to continue his work on turfgrass diseases from a commercial viewpoint. Whilst Neil was a regular writer for *Greenkeeper International* in the past, this is the first in a series of articles in which he describes current research and development in industry on products to combat turfgrass diseases.

During the winter months, two principal diseases of fine turf may cause particular problems for the greenkeeper. These are fusarium patch and anthracnose, both primarily diseases of *Poa annua*. In the earlier part of this century fusarium patch was described by the scientist who first discovered the disease and gave it its name as "the most common, most disfiguring and damaging disease in fine turf during the winter months." It is a measure of the endemic nature of fusarium patch that despite over 80 years of research and development, it is still the number one disease with which greenkeepers have to contend. The reason for this is that essentially fusarium patch is favoured by cool, wet conditions (ie. the British climate) and to which *Poa annua* is extremely prone to attack. As *Poa annua* is present in virtually all established fine turf, often comprising the major part of the sward, it is not surprising that the disease may cause severe problems.

In contrast to fusarium, anthracnose is a more recent problem. This disease was first seen on a cricket square in the 1950s and has become a problem on golf greens over the last few years. Anthracnose is favoured by low fertility, poor drainage and heavily worn, compacted surfaces. Given the low fertility programmes that are currently in fashion, the exceptional play and wear to which courses are subjected, and the ever present *Poa annua* which is highly susceptible to the disease, it is no surprise that anthracnose has given problems.

One feature of the 1993 season has been the high rainfall in most parts of the country for most of the season. Whereas fusarium patch and anthracnose are usually confined to the autumn, winter and early spring, disease attacks in this exceptionally wet year have occurred on many courses throughout the playing season. This is especially true on inland parkland courses, where greens are built in the traditional way and surface drainage has not been able to cope with the longer than normal rainfall patterns. One result of this has been the use of fungicides on a routine preventative basis in an attempt to combat both diseases. Whilst preventative spraying is not normally recommended, this season has proved an exception to the rule and good results have generally been produced in this way. In the UK, greenkeeping is perhaps 10 years

behind agriculture in the range availability of effective modern fungicides, though this situation has changed slightly and 1993 saw the introduction of fenarimol for control of fusarium patch, red thread and dollar spot diseases. This highly effective material has already seen widespread usage and won many favourable reports.

Currently several UK agrochemical companies are developing new fungicides for use on turfgrass. These experimental materials are highly effective at lower dose rates than those products currently available. In particular, certain new fungicides appear to have curative properties, ie. they can clear up established disease infestations, a property current fungicides lack. It is hoped the new fungicides will clear MAFF registration procedures in the next couple of years, for new and effective products are certainly needed.

In these environmentally conscious days, increasing attention has been focussed on non-chemical means of disease prevention and control. Whilst such methods are not intended as replacements for fungicides, recent research has shown that they can certainly reduce the incidence and severity of disease in fine turf situations.

In the USA there has been several research studies on the potassium situation of turfgrass. Currently these requirements are usually determined by soil analysis, with adequate potassium applied as part of a fertiliser programme. However, when excessive potassium is applied, less disease and increased wear resistance has been observed. It is this observation that has led to current research on the dis-

ease implications of supplying excessive potassium. This hopefully could be incorporated into fertiliser programmes and therefore is of obvious interest to fertiliser manufacturers.

Another technique for disease prevention in the UK is the recent launch of cosmetic or green-up products, based on chelated iron and iron sulphate in combination with wetting agents. It is well known that iron sulphate, through its acidification properties, will inhibit fusarium patch. Now cosmetic treatments combine this effect with the dew dispersal properties of the wetting agent component and can therefore help prevent disease.

Another interesting advancement is the development by BIGGA of a disease identification manual, the most up-to-date available on the subject, which it is anticipated will be available in the new year.

In conclusion, there are several promising avenues of research in industry that aim to develop new treatments for turfgrass disease. Whilst progress in this area is never quick, it is hoped that new fungicides in particular will soon find their way to the greenkeeper.



Remote controllers are highly effective

Greenkeepers are finding the new remote version of the CIC range of controllers highly effective. The unit provides remote operation of the solenoid valve, avoiding the need to lift a valve box lid to operate the sprinklers manually. The CIC range has the facility to change the EPROM as new functions are available, for example the latest issue has the remote facility together with a global percentage key. The greenkeeper enters the 'remote' mode on the controller, then all decoders are active. By entering the decoder number, or entering 'OO' on the hand-held unit, if the decoder number is not known, the decoder will then be activated, which in turn operates the solenoid valve and sprinklers. Existing CIC systems can be upgraded by fitting of remote decoders - all CIC decoders are programmable and interchangeable between models. Details: 0858 463153.

SISIS on the up

Orders started flowing in almost as soon as the deal was done on SISIS Equipment's acquisition of the worldwide licence for Squier land clearers and beach cleaners.

Squier machines are used for stone removal prior to golf course construction, among other uses. They will now be produced by SISIS at their plant in Cheshire.

Two thirds of the Squier range is used in the landscape market. Call SISIS on 0625 503030 for details.

Contacts in north

Standard Golf (UK) Ltd and Envirogreen Ltd have announced Kingston Leisure Services Ltd as distributors and agents in the north east. Kingston are at Brunswick Industrial Estate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE13 7BA, or contact Standard Golf/Envirogreen on 091 217 0070 for advice and details.

Lindum Turf

Colour reproduction on the Lindum Seeded Turf advertisement was not up to our usual high standard on a limited number of copies of the November edition. We apologise to Lindum for any inconvenience or embarrassment caused.

GREENKEEPER

THE COLLEGES AND THE

The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of colleges offering greenkeeper training courses.

The directory shows colleges offering courses to craft, supervisory and management levels, but it must be stated that until the GTC review is completed only the green coded colleges are approved to train greenkeepers beyond craft level.

The introduction of vocational qualifications into industries, has caused the colleges

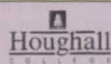
to re-think their training policies and the GTC will be issuing guidelines for the golf greenkeeping industry as to which colleges employers and their staff should be supporting.

Until the report is complete, anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF, telephone 0347 838640.

NORTH



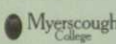
ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 0904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2, City & Guilds Phase III and IV Greenkeeping.



HOUGHALL COLLEGE Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 091 386 1351. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture/Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship – 1 Year; National Diploma in Horticulture Turf Option – 2/3 years. *Part time courses:* Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management Level II – Day Release; C&G Phase III Enterprise Management – Afternoon Evening. *Short Courses:* Health & Safety Legislation; Turfcare; Machinery and Mechanisation. All courses contribute towards NVQ Levels I and II.



KIRKLEY HALL COLLEGE Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 0AQ. Contact Dr Ron McParlin. Tel: 0661 860808. NVQ Level II with greenkeeping option. Day release or block release – one to two years.



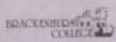
MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 0995 640611. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Groundsmanship and Greenkeeping – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Turf Science and Sportsground Management – 3 Years; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Turf Science and Technology – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; Phase III Supervisory Management; Phase IV Business Management; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTILA).



REASEHEATH COLLEGE Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF. Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 0270 625131. *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma in Horticulture (with Sports Turf Option) – 1 Year; BTEC National Diploma in Landscape and Amenity Horticulture (with Sports Turf Option) – 2 Years (both subject to approval); BTEC Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management – 3 Years. *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 1 Greenkeeping – Day Release; NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day or Block Release; C&G Phase III Greenkeeping – Day or Block Release; C&G Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release; IOG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release; C&G Phase II Greenkeeping Machinery Maintenance – Block Release. *Short courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting and Manual Handling; Chainsaws, Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



CITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER Wythenshawe Park Centre, Moor Road, Manchester M23 9BQ. Contact Peter Riley/Martin Webb. Tel: 061 957 1526. Day Release and Full Time courses leading to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with the Greenkeeping option.



BRACKENHURST COLLEGE Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0QF. Contact Brian Osborne. Tel: 0636 812252. *Full time courses:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture; Nat Cert Horticulture, options in Greenkeeping & Sportsturf and Landscaping; BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture, options in Greenkeeping & Sportsturf, Landscape design, Woodland Management; BTEC Higher National Diploma in Landscaping. *Day Release and Short Courses:* NVQ levels 1-4. Technical, Supervisory and Management subjects. (Subject to approval/availability).



BROOKSBY COLLEGE Brooksby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Paul Greene. Tel: 0664 434291. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management. *Part time courses:* Day Release training to NVQ Level II in Amenity Horticulture – Greenkeeping option. The course is based around the GTC Training Manual. Short courses also available in Horticultural Machinery and Arboriculture.



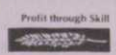
BROOMFIELD COLLEGE Morley, Ilkeston, Derby DE7 6DN. Contact Admissions Officer. Tel: 0332 831345. NVQ Level I and Level II Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping) Block Release course. Two years duration presented in 12 one-week blocks following guidelines of GTC Training Manual.



CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact David Haigh. Tel: 0223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences October 1994.



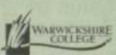
LINCOLNSHIRE COLLEGE Lincolnshire College of Agriculture, Caythorpe Court, Caythorpe, Grantham, Lincs. Contact Neil Rowbottom at Student Services. Tel: 0400 72521. Day Release NVQ Level II. NCH with Greenkeeping pending approval.



MOULTON COLLEGE Moulton, Northampton NN3 1RR. Contact Stuart Phillips. Tel: 0604 491131. *Full time courses:* BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with Turfcare Option) 2 Years; BTEC First Diploma in Horticulture with Turfcare Option, 1 year (subject to approval); BTEC First Diploma in Business and Finance with Horticulture Option, 1 year. *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture (Options include Turfcare (including GTC requirements), Hard landscaping, Interior landscaping and Arboriculture) – Day Release or Block Release; NVQ Level II Turfcare – Day Release. *Short courses:* Safe Lifting and Handling, Chain Saw Operation and Maintenance, Off-Road Vehicle Driving.



STAFFORDSHIRE COLLEGE Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 0785 712209. Courses offered: Craft Level NVQ Level I, II and III. Day Release. Duration: Over two years, each of weeks duration (September – June). Registration Date: Please contact the College.



WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL. Contact Chris Gray. Tel: 0926 651367. *Greenkeeping courses:* NVQ Level I – Day Release; NVQ Level II – Day Release; NVQ Level II – Block Release; NVQ Level III/City & Guilds Phase II – Day Release; NVQ Level III/City & Guilds Phase II – Block Release. *New for 1993/94:* Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture with an option in Turf Culture (Subject to approval). *Professional updating courses include:* Groundsmanship, Machinery Maintenance and Repair, Managing Conservation Areas, Plant Identification, Hedgelaying, First Aid, FEPA Spraying Courses, Chainsaw Courses.



BRINSBURY COLLEGE North heath, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 1DL. Contact Keith Harrison. Tel: 0798 873832. *Full time courses:* New Entrant to Greenkeeping Course – 36 weeks. NVQ II Greenkeeping option plus core. Approximately a third of the course is delivered on college's and local golf course. *Part time:* Day Release to NVQ II level. Both full time and part time students with work both to the NVQ II work book and the Greenkeeper manual. NVQ Level II (National Technical Certificate) with Inst. of Groundsmanship manual may be delivered as an evening course. At present Phase III is offered in Greenkeeping Supervision and Enterprise Management. As this qualification is phased out, NVQ III and IV will be offered. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management).



HADLOW COLLEGE Hadlow College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 0732 850551. NVQ Level II Part time Day Release over two years with two periods of Block Release. Short courses in Golf Greenkeeping and Horticulture.



MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE Worpleston, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact the Academic Registrar. Tel: 0483 232424. NVQ Levels I and II Amenity Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Specialism. Part time... one day per week for 30 weeks commencing in September.

MIDLANDS

SOUTH EAST

ER TRAINING

E COURSES AVAILABLE

GREENKEEPER

International

KEY TO COLOURS

Currently GTC approved as Regional Training Centres, offering courses at Craft, Supervisory and Management levels

Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only

Please note that all college details on these pages were provided by the colleges themselves.

Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for accuracy of information provided.

Contact the colleges direct for prospectuses and comprehensive information.

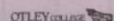
SOUTH EAST



NESCOT North East Surrey College of Technology, Reigate Road, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3DS. Contact Dr S Shaw. Tel: 081 394 3099/3111. NVQ Levels I, II and III in Amenity Horticulture (Greenkeeping options) Training and assessment for the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Part time, Day Release. Duration: Two years to Level II. FEPA Spraying Courses.



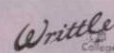
OAKLANDS COLLEGE Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 0727 850651. *Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management*: Two year part time, one day per week. Level II Year One leading to NVQ Level II. Level II Year Two leading to City & Guilds 022-4. *Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management* or NVQ Level II/III. *Amenity Horticulture and Greenkeeping Business Management*: Part time, one day per week. National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management: One year - full time. All courses commence September 1994.



OTLEY COLLEGE Otley College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact John Pearson. Tel: 0473 785543. *Full time courses*: National Certificate in Horticulture with options in Sports Turf Management. BTEC; GNVQ Level III. *Part time courses*: NVQ Levels I, II and III. Short Day and Evening courses.

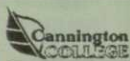


PLUMPTON COLLEGE Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 0273 890454. *Full time courses*: BTEC First Diploma (Greenkeeping Option). *Part time courses*: NVQ Level II - Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Sports Turf and Sportsground Maintenance - Block and Day Release; City & Guilds Phase III - Enterprise Management, Greenkeepers Supervision - Block and Day Release; City 7 Guilds Phase IV - Business Management - Day Release. NCH Full time with a greenkeeping bias. (Subject to approval).



WRITTLE COLLEGE Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 0245 420705. City & Guilds Golf Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management (Day Release); NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, Sports Turf, Sports Ground maintenance to include BIGGA Manual (Day Release); a Golf Course Management option is also included in full time three year HND landscape and Amenity Management Course. Courses for next academic year commence 4 October 1994.

SOUTH WEST



CANNINGTON COLLEGE Cannington Bridwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 0278 652226. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management (inc. European Studies). NVQ Level 1 and 2 Golf Greenkeeping. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management. NVQ Level 4 Greenkeeping Management. FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off Road Vehicle Certification, Golf Course Engineers Course.



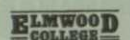
HARTPURY COLLEGE Hartpury House, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Contact Stefan Drew. Tel: 0452 700283. Fax: 0452 700629. Courses: NVQ I, II, III, IV. (part time). Higher National Diploma Land Use (Greenkeeping & Sportsturf Management - 3 year sandwich (full-time)). All courses are September start.



SPARSHOLT COLLEGE Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Contact Bob Young. Tel: 0962 776441. *Full time courses*: National Diploma in Golf Course & Sportsground Management (3 Years); National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sportsground Management. *Part time - further training*: Level/Phase III and IV Courses. Short courses: ie. Sprayer Legislation, First Aid and Chainsaw Use. *Part time - New Entrant and Craft Level*: Level I: New Entrant, Level II: Craft Continuation. *Greenkeeper Training Committee - Manual*: All courses, according to the appropriate Level, will encompass the demands and requirements of the GTC Manual.



DUNDEE COLLEGE Old Glamis Road, Dundee DD3 8LE. Contact Graham Carr. Tel: 0382 819021. Fax: 0382 88117. Courses offered: SVQ Units at Levels I and II linked with GTC Training Manual. SCOTVEC National Certificate Modules for Greenkeeping. HNC in Golf Course Management (available as Distance/Flexible learning from September 1994) Duration 36 weeks from September each year. Attendance, Block Release and Day Release. Short courses including Use of Pesticides available on demand. Registration: June and August.



ELMWOOD COLLEGE Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 0334 52781. Fax: 0334 56795. SVQ Levels I and II, block release. National Certificate in Greenkeeping: available on a 3 year block release and full time course. Six week specialist modular programme including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures in the winter. National Certificate in Supervisory Skills: available as a distance learning course with one week at College. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management: available as full time, day release and distance learning. Progression into the Higher National Diploma in Golf Course Management from September '94.



KYLE AND CARRICK DISTICT COUNCIL Burns House, Burns Statue Square, Ayr KA7 1UT. Contact J Dudgeon. Tel: 0292 281511. SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping - Day Release up to three years. Students can enrol at any time.



LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 041 647 6300. SCOTVEC National Certificate - 3 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



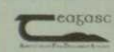
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Northern Ireland



GREENMOUNT COLLEGE Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Antrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Geoff Jenkins. Tel: 08494 62114. Day Release course in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. Two Year course leading to NVQ and Certificate in Greenkeeping for those completing additional working practices as specified by the Greenkeepers Training Manual. Course runs from September-May.

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TEAGASC COLLEGE Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 0103531 371 636. Phase II Greenkeeping - Block Release two weeks, three times per year. Phase III Greenkeeping - Block Release, one week, three times per year.

WALES



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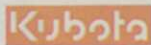


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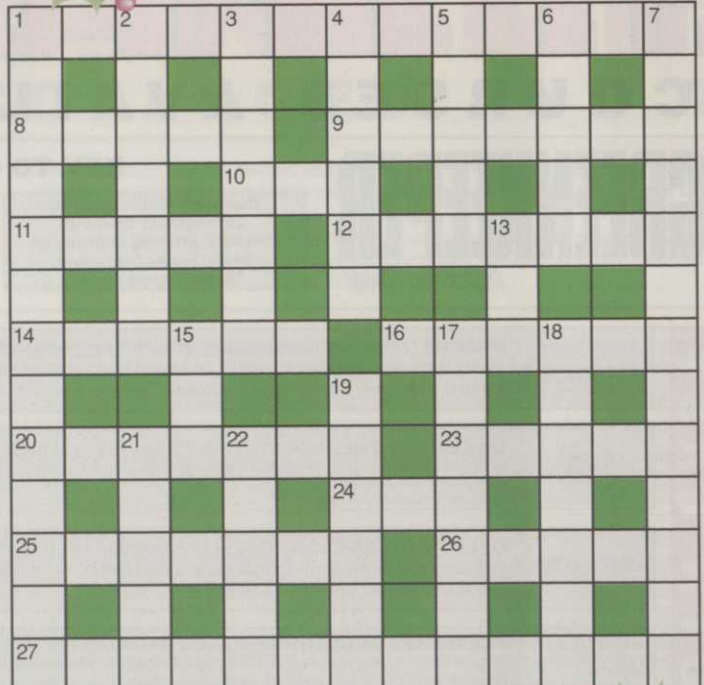


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GREENKEEPER'S CROSSWORD



Compiled by Mark G Smith

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1 A round of golf (8, 5)
- 8 Surname of the 1989 US Masters champion (5)
- 9 What a clutch does when converting engine power to drive (7)
- 10 Receptacle for parts or garbage (3)
- 12 Where the final drive is played from (4, 3)
- 14 See 5 down
- 16 Western phenomena near closing time of course (6)
- 20 Try for a birdie (7)
- 23 _____ William (L. Dianthus Barbatus) (5)
- 24 To putrefy or decay, as in grass clippings (3)
- 25 Latin generic term for the Broom family of shrubs (7)
- 26 _____ Acids, chemicals compounds basic to all proteins (5)
- 27 Inter club golf competition without reference to handicaps (7, 6)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Bring about movement, of pin placements perhaps (6, 7)
- 2 Users of clubs (7)
- 3 A pair of golfers (3, 4)
- 4 How top dressing should be spread (6)
- 5 and 14A Fortified venue of the Scottish Open from 1983-1986 inclusively (5, 6)
- 6 Energy source converted to plant food by photosynthesis (5)
- 7 An unreliable putting action (7, 6)
- 13 Hole number on the Old Course at St Andrews named after Bobby Jones (3)
- 15 That part of the face of a golf club furthest from the heel (3)
- 17 Relative position of the 1995 Ryder Cup venue, Oak Hill CC, Rochester, N.Y., in relation to the 'Big Apple' (7)
- 18 Alternative to turfing as method of establishing grass (7)
- 19 Surname of The Open champion in 1865 (6)
- 21 Hollow _____, a device for aerating a green (5)
- 22 Must I relocate, in fence through which animals pass (anagram) (5)

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BIGGA: BUILDING A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

SURREY

Another good turn-out of over thirty section members gathered at Epsom GC on 21 October for our Autumn Tournament, played over 27 holes. With a cold wind blowing over exposed areas of the course, plus Epsom's tricky undulating greens, a real test of golf ensued.

RESULTS: 1st overall R Christie 49 pts, 2nd D Fernie 48 pts, 3rd D Walder 45 pts. AM - J Roberts 37 pts, PM - M Haynes 17 pts. Trade B Willmott 46 pts.

Following a superb evening meal the club captain presented the prizes; kindly donated to the winners by Rigby Taylor. Thanks went to the club for having us, the catering staff, to Doug Fernie and all his staff for presenting the course so well, and to Ron Jobson for all his help on the day.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of qualifying players, the Veterans Cup has been held over until the Turkey Trot, which is our next golf event on 14 December at Ashford Manor GC. Following the golf, but before the evening meal, our AGM will take place - remember, this is your chance to air your views on any business - and to elect committee members for the new year.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish all our section members and readers a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year.

ROGER TYDEMAN

LONDON

The autumn meeting was held in October at Brookmans Park GC. RESULTS: 1st. Darren Burdis 42 points. 2nd. Jimmy Jay 34 points (back nine playoff). 3rd. Barry Moggridge 34 points. The longest driver was Craig Handyside, with nearest the pin prize going to Robert Washbrook. The course was in excellent shape and we thank Chris Carpenter and his staff for their hard work. I would also like to thank Brookmans Park for their hospitality and the catering staff for providing an excellent meal.

Congratulations to Donal Penn-Howard and Paul Cooper on their recent win in the Summer Knock-Out. They defeated Chris Carpenter and Darren Burdis in a very exciting final. The match was played at South Herts, won on the first extra hole! I would like to thank South Herts for allowing us to use their course. Please contact me with any news on 081-959-5629.



TONY DUNSTAN

KENT

October 27 saw the Kent section host the South East Conference at Hadlow College, a very popular venue which attracted some 110 delegates to listen and join in discussions on our topic of "Golf 365 Days A

Year". After the very wet weather experienced during the early autumn, some were perhaps looking for answers to their problems. Following introductions from a representative of Hadlow College and our SE Region chairman, Chris Mardon, the first speaker was Gordon Jaaback, with a very topical presentation on the influences of the weather in the southern part of the UK, the methods and benefits of recording details and how they apply to our situations. Mike Travers, Lamberhurst GC, followed, presenting his experiences of winter golf. Following Mike's article earlier this year, this generated great interest and debate. Our special thanks to Mike for coming along, especially as he is currently not in the best of health. The last speaker before lunch was the London Golf Club's soil scientist and irrigation expert, Colin Sainsbury, with a very interesting presentation on soil characteristics and conditions and their effects on plant growth.

A brief question and answer session preceded lunch, delegates then able not only to demolish a superb buffet and partake of liquid refreshment, but also to visit the assembled trade stands. Hadlow College again kicked off the afternoon session with an introduction to NVQ qualifications in greenkeeping, plus a brief outline of some of the very good courses they are running.

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Around the Green



➔ 35 The post lunch speakers were Jack McMillan and Brian Pierson. Jack's presentation could best be summed up as a cautionary tale concerning the detrimental effects of winter golf and general over-play and traffic on our courses, with well known golf course constructor and contractor, Brian Pierson, outlining some modern aspects in design and specification to try to cope with some of these problems. The rest of the afternoon was given over to a rather heated debate, the topic of which, once more, revolved mainly around our old friend *Poa annua*.

I think we all enjoyed our day, but to sum up my personal appraisal of the day would take more space than allotted here. At this point, I am still digesting it, but cannot escape the feeling that in general some of the attitudes discussed were somewhat defeatist and negative. I am still of the belief that given a certain set of problems, materials, machinery and techniques exist to solve them. Yes, some compromise and understanding is needed from our golfers during winter play, but the overriding problem appears to be higher up, with direction to our golf clubs and courses regarding adequate budgets to implement maintenance works desperately needed, plus congestion and pure bad planning of golf fixture lists, not enabling works to be carried out at the correct, optimum times of the year. A bit of give and take would go a long way.

Finally, I'll sneak in details of our annual Turkey Trot and AGM at Darenth Valley GC on 16 December. Please bring along a prize between the value of £5-£10 (no bottles of booze please!). The cost will be around £14, with an 18 hole Stableford teeing off circa late morning, followed by Christmas dinner and our AGM. This is your chance to have your say – even get yourself elected to the committee and do your bit for our Association. Some of you must by now think that you could do this (scribes) job. All you need is the back of a fag packet, a broken Biro, a vivid imagination (no one ever provides information to enter in), no sense of humour, and a large chip on your shoulder. That could possibly



narrow the field down to 100 likely candidates – I wonder how many will turn up on the day?
PAUL COPSEY

SOUTH COAST

Although I was unable to attend our

Autumn Tournament in October, which had a record entry of 56 members and guests, I am pleased to include the following report provided by our chairman, Ken Lodge.

The Autumn Tournament was held at High Post GC on 5 October. Scheduled originally as a 36-hole greensome, due to atrocious weather only eleven holes were played in the afternoon. The stars of the show were Nick Weller and his staff, the course being in superb condition. The greens were out of this world and a number of members and guests said they were the best greens on which they had played this summer. Well done Nick!

Results: 29 Holes. 1st Prize & Jacobson Trophy – Don Friend and Roger Searle (High Post GC) 56 points (better p.m. score). 2nd Ian Rickman & R Allison (Basingstoke) 56 points. 3rd Bernard Emberley & Paul Hector (Knighton Heath & Broadstone) 55 points. 4th Brian Newcombe and Derrick Todd (Woodcote Park) 54 points. Best Surviving Score a.m. Derek Cheatham & M Cummins (Knighton Heath) 34 points. Best Surviving Score p.m. (11 holes), Rob Bailey & Dave Reed (S Wilts & High Post) 21 points. Longest Drive: Graham Bungay (Wellow). Nearest the Pin: Paul Hector (Broadstone).

The weather did not deter members and guests from enjoying themselves. Thanks must go to the host club for making us so welcome; to the captain and committee who granted us the courtesy of their wonderful course; to Maureen Illingworth and her helpers who made sure we were well fed; and to Bill Goodwin, the club manager, who helped out with the score cards and in general looked after us all day.

Lastly, thanks to our main sponsors, Vitax Commercial and Amenity Products, represented by Alan Stow, and Avoncrop Amenity Products, represented by Brian Stephens. Also thank you to all other people who made donations to the prize table.

The next winter lecture will be on Wednesday, 12 January at the Dorset College of Agriculture. Our speakers are Ed McCabe and Arthur King from Brokenhurst Manor GC and the talk will commence at 2.00pm. Refreshments will be available.

The region is providing a 'feeder' coach from various points in the section to connect with a coach travelling to the BIGGA Turf Management Seminar and Exhibition on 17-21 January. Please take advantage of this facility and let Ken Lodge

➔ 38

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Finally, after nine years in the post, I shall be standing down as your secretary at the section's AGM. I would like to thank all members for their support and assistance.
BOB DENNIS

NORTH WEST

In the October issue I asked members to give more support to section events, and with the Autumn Tournament coming up on 21 October, I expected the usual 25 to 30 members and guests. Well, what a surprise, I was completely gobsmacked when eventually 89 members and guest turned up to enjoy a superb day at Mere G&CC. I will admit it caused me some anxious moments and sleepless nights, as the numbers built up during the last two weeks and with the realisation that we needed a good bright day and possibly the use of two tees to get everybody back before darkness, especially as we were not teeing off until noon. No need to have worried, the weather was perfect, and with all the NW committee and the very professional staff at Mere working together, the day progressed very smoothly.

Mike Sheehan and his staff had the course, which is in some of the most beautiful Cheshire countryside, in pristine condition, the staff fully deserving all the kind comments uttered on the day. Many thanks to Mere G&CC for allowing us the courtesy of their fine course, also the catering staff for looking after us so professionally.

RESULTS: Best Gross. Mike Sheehan. (Sisis Cup). Best Nett. C. Leeming. (Ransomes Cup). 2nd C. Hulme. 3rd N. Wolfrey. 4th W. Horvath. 5th A. Peel. 6th J. Pearson. 7th P. Pearse. 8th F. Platt. Over 55's B. Cross. (Wm Hargreaves Cup). Aggregate Trophy. N. Wolfrey (Superturf Trophy). Putting Competition. M. Sheehan (Acorn Trophy). Four Ball Knockout: P. Pearse, M. Davey (High Speed Lubricants Trophy). Once again we were blessed with a well stocked prize table, for which we thank our friends in the trade. It is hoped to visit the GEM professional factory in January. Members wishing to make this visit, please contact me ASAP on 051 724 5412, so that arrangements can be made for transport. That appears to be all for now, other than to wish you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
BERT CROSS



NORTH WALES

On Wednesday 6 October the North Wales section held its Autumn Tournament at Pwllheli GC, with over 100 players taking part. RESULTS:- Members: 1st Jason Moody (79-10-69) - The Gem Shield, a tankard and a bottle of wine. 2nd Paul Jeffries (91-20-71) - a Major Owen Trophy and cut glass tankard. 3rd Dave Proctor (85-14-71) - a windproof top. 4th Chris 'the Socks' Davies, also 71, - a putter. 5th Pat 'Curly' Valentine, 73, his prize - a hair-net - sorry, I mean a putter. Guests: 1st Mr. P. Williams (77-10-67) - a golf bag. 2nd Mr. G. Perks (74-6-68) - bottle of whisky. 3rd Mr. N. Kelly, 68 - an umbrella. 4th Mr. E. Roberts, 69, a golfing hat. 5th Mr. D. B. Williams 71, a set of head covers. Low gross (members) Alan Lewis, 74, a Major Owen Trophy and set of waterproofs. Nearest the pin on the 12th hole, Mr. J. Fullard - bottle of whisky.

Many thanks to Pwllheli GC, its committee and members, for allowing the section to stage its Autumn Tournament, also special thanks to president Charles Jones, club captain, Dennis More, and club secretary, Eric Williams. The run up to our golf tournament was not an easy one for head greenkeeper Dewi Hughes and his staff, with heavy rain hampering work, but I know I speak for all those

Around the Green



who played, the course was in excellent condition. Thanks also to the steward and stewardess, Wilf and Jane Childs, for an excellent meal and service.

A big thank you to our sponsors for all the prizes donated: GEM PROFESSIONAL, MAJOR OWEN, ACORN EQUIPMENT, RICHARD CAMPEY, MARTIN BROTHERS, RIGBY TAYLOR, BRUERA. PRO-TURF, JOHN OSMAN.

A special thanks to the 'Mighty Midget'; our Terry Adamson, for all the hard work he puts in to make our golf events successful. I hope that I have not missed any sponsors off the list, but if I have, my apologies.

On behalf of your committee, may I take this opportunity to thank all greenkeepers and guests who have supported our tournaments this season, especially our sponsors, without their kind donations to our competitions, it would be difficult to make them so successful. May we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Nadolig Llawen - Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.
DAVID PROCTOR



BUCKS, BERKS & OXON

A great day was enjoyed by all who attended the Autumn Invitation at Calcot Park GC. Greenkeepers and their guests all had a fine time, none more than Terry Jackson, who walked off with two prizes, also head greenkeeper Simon Robinson, who with benefit of 'local knowledge', picked up third prize. Our many thanks to Simon Robinson and his staff, to secretary Alan Bray, and to the catering personnel, for a very well run and enjoyable event, also to our trade friends: County Mowers for donating the Toro Shield, plus Sta-Brite, Risboro' Turf, Rigby Taylor, and Driving Force (Europe) Ltd.

RESULTS: (nett) 1st R Woodward & T Jackson. 2nd D Goodchild & K Benton. 3rd S Robinson & J Leach. Nearest the pin: T Jackson. Longest Drive: P Clark.

Winter Lectures: May I remind members of our winter lecture programme, as follows: Dec 14: "Use of modern turfgrasses on a golf course" - Jonathan Franks. Jan 11 'Use of chemicals in the environment' - Graham Pawl. Feb 8: 'It's here, 'weather' we like it or not!' - Gordon Jaaback. Any queries, contact me on 0628 - 829208.

Rigby Taylor FourBall Trophy: Once again the section would like to give sincere thanks to Roger Bowles and Rigby Taylor for providing an excellent day of golf for our finalists.

Never having heard other than good things said about this event, praise was again heaped upon Roger for his masterful handling of a hugely popular tournament. RESULTS: Semi-finals (a.m) D Childs & D Goodchild beat G Irvine & P Wier. B Payne & R Wooton beat J Teixeira and P Clark. Finals (p.m) B Payne and R Wooton beat D Childs and D Goodchild.

Thanks to Frilford Heath GC, and David Heads of course, for producing wonderful playing conditions.



Finally, a 'get well soon' message to Bob Morton of The Berkshire. We all look forward to seeing your colourful self at our next event.

RAY CLARK

MIDLANDS

On 14 October our section travelled to Willesley Park GC to play against East Midlands, an event generously sponsored by Rigby Taylor, now in its ninth year. This year's match was no different from others, both teams being highly competitive. Our team displayed some new faces, however, with some 'old faithfuls' being disappointed not to qualify for this enjoyable event, organised so capably by Rigby Taylor.

The morning matches were close, but events took a change in the afternoon - with our lads doing 'the business' in convincing style. The evening once again proved to be most enjoyable, an excellent meal fully backed up by 'entertainer' Dave Leatherland. Our many thanks go to Willesley Park GC and their staff for looking after us so well, in particular Tony Howorth, who presented the course in such good condition under difficult weather conditions.

The following week saw the final of the Green-somes Knockout, contested over the delightful Coxmoor Park GC, Nottingham. Mike Hughes and I took on the very strong pairing of Paul Loffman and Trevor Morris, the match a tremendous battle going to the final hole, Mike and 'yours truly' winning the match by a single hole. Again, a superb day was enjoyed by the players. Many thanks to Rigby Taylor (and staff) for sponsoring this event, also for working hard to support BIGGA. Also many thanks to Coxmoor Park GC and their staff for making our day so enjoyable.

The final of the Singles Knockout, played over the Walsall GC course during October, was won by Mike Hughes, who beat Paul Loffman in a close match. Many thanks to Walsall GC for allowing us to use their course for this important final.

Finally, you may remember a couple of months ago my mentioning the raising of money (at our Autumn Tournament) for little Amy Nonn, whose grandfather is head greenkeeper at Kidderminster GC. Amy's mum and dad wrote a lovely letter, thanking us for our generosity. The money raised will be used to purchase a talking computer that hopefully will aid Amy in her education.
DEAN CLEAVER



SUSSEX

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the Autumn Meeting at Cooden Beach GC, though I understand from 'the lads' that the course, looked after by Stefan Antolik, was in superb condition, with the weather - surprisingly - staying dry for most of the day (all save the last group, who got rained upon!).

The meeting, sponsored by Parker Hart, was a 36 hole event. RESULTS: (medal round a.m.) 1st Roland Hughes 69 nett, 2nd Robert Short 77 nett (back nine), 3rd Robert Hudson 77 nett. Trade & Guests: 1st C Myers, 2nd D Taylor. (Stableford p.m.) 1st Andy Ford 30 points. 2nd Alistair Cale 28 points. 3rd Chris Reed 27 points. Trade & Guests: 1st B Willmott 37 points, 2nd D Taylor 30 points. A nearest the pin competition was also held, winners being Chris Reed (7th), Jim Coppin (16th) and Stefan Antolik on the 18th (after three shots). The section wish to thank sponsors, Parker Hart, the green staff, committee and caterers of Cooden Beach GC - all contributed toward making the event a memorable one.



MARK WILTON

MID ANGLIA

The Hayter Challenge national final was held in September at Sandmoor GC, Leeds and produced a good performance from Jon Moorhouse of Brocket Hall GC, who finished third in the individual event, category one. The Midlands region (of which the Mid

Anglia section forms a part) came second overall in the team event.

I was lucky enough, with my partner Dick Coogan of Stockwood Park GC, to reach the final of the Lodgeway Fourball final held in October at Brocket Hall. We were matched against Tony Freeman and David Low from Northants County, both of whom played the more consistent golf and came out worthy winners by three and two. Unfortunately the weather was appalling, which probably accounted for only two spectators turning up for the final nine holes! The bad weather could not however detract from the enjoyment of the whole day, which was superbly arranged by Chas Ayres of Lodgeway. Many thanks, Chas. It was a sheer pleasure to play on such a superb golf course, which under John Wells' guidance is developing into something very special indeed. Thanks to John and his green staff for their efforts.

Woburn Golf and Country Club was once again the venue for the section's Autumn Tournament. With the chance to play one of the country's top golf courses, the entry list was obviously full with fifty members attending. The course was in first class condition and our thanks go to Neil Whittaker and his team for their efforts. This year the golf was reduced to eighteen holes on the Dukes, followed by a superb meal, finishing in the afternoon with the section AGM and the presentation of prizes. The top three places all went to Woburn players, Lee Murdoch being first with 38 points, P Squire second with 36 points, and on a count-back, Chris Toms third with 36 points also. Our thanks to Woburn for the hospitality afforded us. Also thanks to David Murphy of Driving Force Leisure for sponsoring the day and donating the prizes and to all other trade members who attended and donated raffle prizes.

The AGM followed and it appears from what was heard that the section continues to flourish. The balance sheet is healthy and membership has gone up from 151 last year to 180 this year. To succeed as a section, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes and I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee; Gerald Bruce, Chris Brook and John Wells in particular, for their sterling efforts, as well as support from Stewart Boyes, Ronan McKeown and Richard Saunders.

Finally I would like to wish all members a happy Christmas. I hope that 1994 will be a successful and happy new year for all.



PAUL LOCKETT

DEVON & CORNWALL

Our first meeting of the season was held at the excellent venue of Bowood Park GC, by kind permission of the owner, Mr Ross Cobbledick. Also our thanks to club secretary, Tony Japes, and all the staff at Bowood Park, for making our day such a success.

The day started with 40 golfing members playing a Stableford for the D O Hunt Trophy over the superbly presented course, whilst non-golfers took their usual walk before lunch.

After an excellent lunch our president, Don Hunt, presented the prizes he had so kindly donated, the winner of the D O Hunt Trophy being Malcolm Bosley (St Enedoc) with 38 points, 2nd Kevin Piper (Holsworthy) 37 (on back nine) 37 points, 3rd Chris Pine (Churston) 37 points. Our congratulations to Clive Browning and his team, who had the course in excellent condition.

Our afternoon educational talk on 'The first steps to preparing a course policy document' was given by regional administrator, Gordon Child, who gave a 'hand-out' of his club's policy document before explaining each section. I'm sure in years to come we all will be called upon to deliver such a document to our own club, and after listening to Gordon's talk

Around the Green



I'm equally sure we now can set out the basis of a policy for our committee to consider.

The raffle rounded off a most successful day, with our thanks to all the trade for donating prizes to the raffle table, also to Don Hunt and Roffeys for donating the golf prizes, and to Gordon Child for his excellent talk.

As many of you will know, head greenkeepers of venue courses are asked not to play golf on the day, as many of our non-golfers enjoy looking around their course, suitably escorted by the head greenkeeper.

With this, the last section report David White will receive from me before he leaves his job as editor, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing him every success in the future, also of wishing members and friends a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I hope to see you at Fingle Glen on Wednesday 12 January 1994.

RICHARD WHYMAN

CLEVELAND

Irrigation closing down and draining of pipework, valves, pumps, etc. is necessary, indeed vital, as a frost precaution here in the north east. Potential weaknesses in pump and/or motor need testing after five years. Winter is the time for tests, for we don't want failures next summer. I feel happier with a main agent carrying out servicing.

With the return of wormcasts, fairway gang mowing is virtually impossible on banks after rain. We really do need an effective and lasting worm control. The course is becoming messy, with tractors skidding on grease-like surfaces.

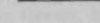
Paul Moore is confirmed as head greenkeeper at Darlington, whilst Stuart Vickers is now first assistant at Brass Castle GC. We also welcome Anthony Hodgson and Geoff Ward, both at Blackwell GC. Brian Skeen of Billingham is now dealing in Jacobsen and Massey Ferguson compacts, also Sabo Roberine, whilst Dick Lawson of Piercebridge is confirmed as the Toro main dealer.

The October meeting, presented by Par 4 Irrigation, featured modern irrigation techniques. They suggest a three-wire system, with controls of various programmes tailored to suit. We live in a modern world of technology and must admire the kit available for golf course maintenance. Thankfully, a good installation can last many years.

The Autumn Tournament staged at Castle Eden GC in September was a great success, with members coming from as far afield as Bedale, N. Yorkshire and Carlisle. Gary Munro reported the course as 'immaculate', with warm, sunny weather and hospitality second to none. Thanks to all at Castle Eden, especially David Crocher and his staff, and to Allan Goodchild, Par 4 Irrigation, Aitkens and Claytons for valued support.

RESULTS: 1st D Crocher and P Robinson (Castle Eden) 66 nett. 2nd R Ord and G Watson (Castle Eden) 68 nett. 3rd K Dyson and P Docherty (Seaham) 68 nett. 4th G Munro and G Wellens (Bedale) 69 nett.

BRUCE BURNELL



EAST ANGLIA

Once again, Sam is our correspondent for the day out at Yarmouth & Caister GC. This time I wasn't on holiday or fishing, rather my absence was due to a full field, me being number 44 in a field of 37! Apparently you all had a good (or better) day without me, so I'll go fishing next time.

High wind and threatening rain greeted 37 bandits as they battled their way around our 'Eney's' patch, which was in excellent condition. No one hit a horse or jockey, as someone had the good sense to call off the racing. Another 'someone', however, ran a 'book' on how long it would be before one of a constant stream of helicopters landed on one of Henry's temporary greens and just to liven things up, someone took long odds and painted an 'H' in the middle of Henry's white circle!

The results, amidst all the shenanigan, were: (0-18) 1st Mike Virley 35 pts, 2nd Ian Willett 31 pts, 3rd Roger Plummer 31 pts. (19-28) 1st (winner of the Parker Shield) Kevin Bunn 36 pts, 2nd Steve Piggett 35 pts, 3rd Steve Davidson 33 pts.

Many thanks to Yarmouth & Caister for their kind hospitality and Henry Stead for the excellent course condition. The day was slightly marred, however, by people not turning up and not notifying the secretary (I could have come after all - ML). The culprits will be billed for the day and I hope it doesn't happen again - You haff bin varned!

Steve Millard has sent me a report on the West Suffolk Greenkeepers Challenge. Now in its second year, it consists of teams of three from Gog Magog, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, and Newmarket, playing home and away evening games, each teams' Stableford points added together over the season. The winners this year were Gog Magog, represented by Lyndon Upham, Julian Hill and Peter Mallons, who amassed 718 points to beat second place Haverhill, with 679 points.

The Atterton & Ellis-Toro Trophy will be presented by Roger Denson (Atterton & Ellis) and David Cole (Toro) at an evening to be arranged.

Finally, our best wishes to Paul Seago on his appointment at Gullane. Paul must be one of the last real apprentices, from an age when 'blessed were they that knew not what to say, but knew what to do instead'. Well done, Paul, and all the best to you and your family.

Goodnight Cockneys, wherever you may be.

MICK LATHROPE

SOUTH WEST

What a peculiar October has been. For the first ten days, rainfall was sufficient to break yet another record, leaving us all wading around our courses (and in some cases, our homes). Just when we thought all was lost, along came the high pressure, leaving the remainder of the month so dry that watering systems were hastily re-commissioned, construction and maintenance programmes re-commenced, and everything in the garden was lovely.

Back to the floods. The section's annual match versus S Wales at St Pierre on 6 October foundered for the first time. Repeated torrential storms caused extensive flooding, and although the old course looked in excellent condition (thoroughly inspected by Merv Gray and myself in the afternoon), exactly the right decision was made to keep it closed. The Welsh team went off and played somewhere else, (thanks, lads), while the South West team went home in dribs and drabs to lick their wounds. There's always next year!

On a sunnier note, the section First Aid Training day at Saltford was a great success. The good offices of Medical Training Services, combined with the bonhomie of Dick Burleigh, made a difficult subject very palatable indeed, all nine candidates ➔ 50

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Judges' decision is final. Not open to BIGGA staff.

★ Christmas has come early for Mr J Fleming, first assistant at Hilton Park Golf Club, Glasgow. Mr Fleming collects £50 in cash as lucky winner of our November competition - so it's congratulations and a particularly happy Christmas to him! It could YOUR TURN for success next month!

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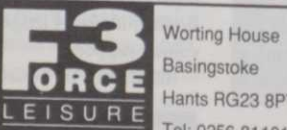
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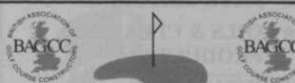
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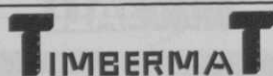
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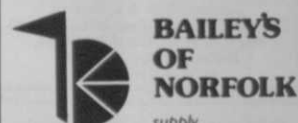
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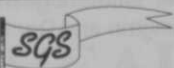
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Applications in writing to include CV to:

**Secretary/Manager, Leasowe Golf Club, Leasowe Road,
Moreton, Wirral, Merseyside L46 3RD**



Due to retirement after twenty two years

Newtonmore Golf Club
requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

The successful applicant will be required to run all aspects of a privately owned 18 hole course, working with two other greenkeepers.

Two bedroom accommodation may be available. Salary negotiable. Contract to commence late March.

Applications in writing with full CV by 15th January 1994, to:
The Secretary, Newtonmore Golf Club, Golf Course Road,
Newtonmore, Highland PH20 1AT

Ellesmere Golf Club

The Ellesmere Golf Club require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be suitably qualified and experienced in all aspects of course management. Excellent prospects for enthusiastic applicant.

Applicants should apply in writing with CV to
The Secretary, Mr A C Kay, Ellesmere Golf Club,
Old Clough Lane, Worsley, Manchester M28 5HZ

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited for the above position at Hawick Golf Club, situated in the heart of the Scottish Borders. Applicants must be fully qualified in all aspects of greenkeeping and have practical knowledge of modern machinery.

Salary negotiable according to experience and qualifications.

Applications in writing with full CV should be sent to:

J H Reilly, Hon Secretary, Hawick Golf Club, Vertish Hill,
Hawick, Scotland TD9 0NY

Huntercombe Golf Club

require a

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be fully qualified with experience in all aspects of greenkeeping.

Salary and conditions are negotiable according to experience but in line with BIGGA rates.

Accommodation available.

Apply in writing, with full CV, to The Secretary, Huntercombe Golf Club, Nuffield, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 5SL



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THE
WHITECRAIGS
GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Our Head Greenkeeper retires in 1994 after 38 years service.

Applicants should have appropriate qualifications and experience in all aspects of course and man management.

Experience in course maintenance, course budgeting and machinery will be essential.

Salary negotiable - accommodation provided.

Applications with full CV to:

The Club Administrator, The Whitecraigs Golf Club,
72 Ayr Road, Giffnock, Glasgow G46 6SW

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

The Leicestershire Golf Club is long established and enjoys a mature parkland course on the outskirts of the City of Leicester. Paddy McCarron, our Head Greenkeeper, has been with the Club for 33 years and will be expecting to retire in the foreseeable future.

We are therefore looking for a Deputy who will be able to take over increasing responsibility for the management

of the Course and, in due time, to become our Head Greenkeeper.

Applicants, probably in their early 30's, should have suitable qualifications and experience in all aspects of course management. A thorough knowledge of machinery and maintenance is essential as well as the ability to motivate and direct staff.

We expect to pay a good salary to the successful applicant commensurate with qualifications and experience. There is no accommodation.

Apply in writing with full details of career to date and present salary by 10th January 1994 to: **The Secretary, The Leicestershire Golf Club, Evington Lane, Leicester.**

39 → passed the course and will collect certificates in due course. Our thanks to Saltford GC for their hospitality, also thanks to our delegates, who were well turned out and did their profession much credit.

I would like to extend sympathy and support to Robin Williams in his employment problems at Enmore. The course was in fine condition when the section played it in July and I can't believe it has deteriorated in such a short time to the extent that the club feels it had to dispense with Robin's services. Robin has been with the club for nineteen years and must surely warrant better treatment than that.

Congratulations to Mark Silk on his recent move to Wootton Bassett GC as deputy head greenkeeper, and best wishes to Anne, Ivor Scoones' wife, for a recovery from her recent set-back in her illness.



Finally, I would like to close by wishing all readers seasonal greetings and sincere best wishes for successful green-keeping in 1994.

PAUL WORSTER

SOUTH WALES

Our annual match against the South West section had to be cancelled, due to an horrendous amount of rainfall on 5-6 October. On arrival at St Pierre G&CC, both courses had been closed because of standing water (we offered to squeegee them, but they wouldn't have it), though there was a possibility of the old course re-opening if the rain held off. It didn't, a 40 minute shower putting paid to that hope at 11am. However, this event is confirmed for next year, 5 October, when we hope conditions will be more favourable and we can thank St Pierre G&CC for again allowing us courtesy for this annual fixture.

On Wednesday 13 October our winter evening lecture programme kicked off at Pencoed College. John Bradley from Barenbrug (UK) Ltd., gave an informative insight into Barenbrug's seed production, soil preparation and production techniques. A truly enlightening evening was enjoyed by all, definitely your loss if you didn't attend.

Both of the PRO-TURF sponsored Match-Play semi-finals were staged recently over Pyle & Kenfig GC, the course as always in excellent condition. Two hard-fought matches took place, Mike Jones (INCO) held off an excellent come-back from Laurence Walter (Wenvoe) to win by two and one. In the other match, Robert Frater (Creigiau) won by five and four from Doug Donne, thus preventing an all INCO final. Results of the 36 hole final will appear in the next issue and we wish Mike and Robert well in what promises to be a tough contest.



The Christmas competition and AGM is on Wednesday 15 December at Pyle & Kenfig GC. This is always an excellent day, so please attend and bring a bottle.

PETER LACEY

NORTH SCOTLAND

Three more new members to welcome, all Associate, two of which are the North section's new regional financial advisers. Donald Macdonald is the proprietor of Ian Macdonald Insurance and Financial Ser-

Around the Green



vices, based in Inverness, while Graeme Nicol is a director of Hanson and Robinson Life Pensions Ltd, based at Dyce, Aberdeenshire. Our third new member is Mr R O Blair of Stonehaven.

As we approach Christmas, I hope the weather has been kind to all, enabling aeration and rebuilding programmes to be completed. This month sees Tain assistant, John Urquhart, setting off on his attempt to travel around the world by land and sea in under 100 days. I hope all goes well and he makes it back in time for the spring rush!

I attended a machinery presentation day at Gleanegles recently, courtesy of Scottish Grass Machinery, a great opportunity to see a wide range of machinery in operation and to meet with fellow greenkeepers to discuss the machinery merits and exchange views. Thanks to David MacInroy and Company for a very worthwhile day - one that hopefully will be repeated.

Work has already started on the planning of the North section's One Day Conference, to be staged in Aberdeen next year. The date is Thursday 1 December 1994, venue the Scottish Agricultural College. Eight potential speakers have been contacted and their replies are awaited. Watch this space for further news - as it breaks.

On a personal note, may I say how sad I am to learn of the resignation of David White, our editor. David was always ready to help me with any request I might have and I will miss our little chats and exchange of letters. I wish him every success in whatever the future may hold for him, whilst hoping that the magazine will not suffer by his departure.

Finally, may I wish friends and colleagues everywhere a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year, especially my American friends reading this across the Atlantic: Ed Walsh, Steve Cadinelli and Max Maxwell. Maybe we will meet up next year. Next stop Harrogate.



IAIN MACLEOD

NORTHERN

By now you should have received a copy of our winter programme for 1993/94. If you do not have one, or want an extra copy, please give me a call and I'll send you one.

The Autumn Tournament took place at Kirkbymoorside GC, though unlike our Invitation Day at Pannal GC, where the sun shone, we had cloud cover and heavy showers all day. However, despite a wet rainy day everyone who took part had a most enjoyable time. This event was again sponsored by our friends Chaplins, and our thanks to John Chaplin and Bob Mitchell for their continued support to our

section. I must also thank our colleague Alan Frost, who has just taken over as head greenkeeper, and his staff, for preparing the course for us under such difficult conditions, also the captain of Kirkbymoorside GC for making us warmly welcome and presenting the prizes.

RESULTS: Division One, Scratch S Midgley, 1st M Hannan, 2nd M Lealman. Division Two, 1st D Collins, 2nd M Cordingley, 3rd D Spurdun. Division three 1st A Gamble, 2nd L Kirkbright, 3rd D Cockburn. Under 25's Shield M Lealman. Over 50's Cup A Gamble, Bottle of Pop, A Smith. V.P's: 1st Allan Dyson (Gem) 2nd Norman Schofield (Trident/Rigby Taylor).

Once again, thanks to Norman Sheddon (Aitkens) for looking after the cards for us, and for donating a prize for the table, also to Norman Schofield, Allan Dyson, Graham Walker, and Patissons for their donations to the prize table. Thanks additionally to Gerald Brady of Rhone-Poulenc, who braved the elements on the 15th hole, measured for nearest the pin prize, which he donated.

Andrew Smith, formerly of Woodsome Hall GC, has now taken up the post of first assistant at Old Fold Manor GC, Hertfordshire. Andrew has also resigned from the committee of our section. Andrew, we wish you well in your new venture and thank you for the time and effort you put in while performing your duties in the section.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 8 December 1993: Christmas Golf and AGM at Shipley GC., Beckfoot Lane, Bingley, W. Yorkshire. Tuesday 25 January 1994: A visit to the Gem Fertiliser Plant. Please phone me, as I will need numbers for catering purposes. Tuesday 22 February 1994: A visit to Moneystone Sand Quarry (Martin Brothers). Bus leaves West Bowling GC car park at 10.15 am. Please phone me to book seats. Saturday 12 March 1994: Our Annual Dinner takes place at Northcliffe GC, High Bank Lane, Shipley, W. Yorkshire. Live entertainment on stage following dinner.



Tickets available at the AGM, price £14.00.

May I take this opportunity to wish all members a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

PAT MURPHY

EVENTS DIARY

January 19-21, 1994: BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition (BTME), Trade Show and Educational Seminar Programme, Harrogate

January 19: BIGGA Annual General Meeting, The Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate, 5.15pm. Membership cards must be produced.

February 4-7: GCSAA Conference and Show, Dallas, Texas

March 5-8: Canadian Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Calgary, Alberta

April 27: Westurf, Turf Care Trade Exhibition, Long Ashton Golf Club

June 29: Southurf, Turf Care Trade Exhibition, Mottspur Park

September 6-8: Saltex (previously IoG) Trade Exhibition, Royal Windsor Racecourse, Berks.

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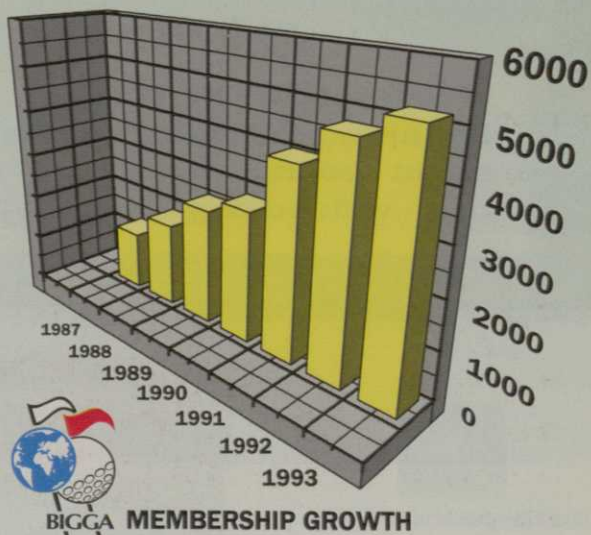
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Refer to the information starting on Page 23 in November's Greenkeeper International to discover how you will benefit from being a member in 1994.

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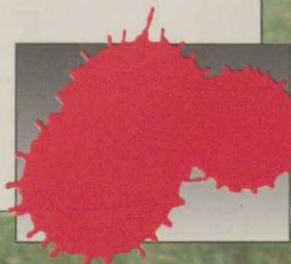
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