



## National Education Conference

8-10 April 1994  
University of Warwick  
Warwickshire

For the sixth consecutive year, BIGGA's National Education Conference in the spring will feature a programme of international speakers.

### Topics and speakers are:

#### Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper – What's In A Name?

Duncan McGillvray, Course Manager, Letchworth Golf Club

#### Top Dressing Successfully

Professor Paul E Rieke, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Michigan State University, USA

#### Everything You Will Ever Need To Know About Annual Meadow Grass Control

Kevin Munt, Course Manager, Buckinghamshire Golf Club

#### The Role Of Higher Education In Greenkeeper Training

Nick Rigden, Head of Horticulture, Cannington College

#### Looking At A Bad Year In A Good Light

David A Oatis, Director, Green Section, Northeastern Region, USGA

#### The Restoration And Conservation Of A Links Golf Course

Philip Baldock, Head Greenkeeper, Royal Portrush Golf Club

#### The Selection, Planting And Management Of Trees For Golf Courses

Dr Ian Campbell, Long Ashton Horticultural Consultants

#### Where Does All The Money Go? – A Review Of Maintenance Costs At Collingtree Park

Peter Jones, Course Manager, Collingtree Park Golf Course

#### Golf Course Management Now And In The Future

Joseph G Baidy CGCS, President, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

#### Soil Analysis: Why, How And What For?

Dr Bill A Adams, The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth

#### Golf Euro Disney – A Case Study

Anthony Black, Golf Course Manager

#### Under Pressure

Barrie Gregson, Course Supervisor, Mottram Hall Hotel

#### From Farmland To Golf Course In 1993

Alan Mitchell, Course Manager, The Hampshire Golf Club

#### Fitting Cultivation Programs To Your Needs

Professor Paul E Rieke, Department of Crop and Soil Science, Michigan State University, USA

#### Concept To Completion – A Case Study Of The Wisley Golf Club

David Whitaker MG, Course Manager, The Wisley Golf Club

#### Conservation And The Golf Course Working Together

Guy H Woods, Course Manager, Lansdown Golf Club

#### Winners And Losers: How US Turf Fared In 1993

David A Oatis, Director, Green Section, Northeastern Region, USGA

Copies of the programme and application form are available from  
BIGGA HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York, North Yorkshire YO6 2NF.  
Tel: 0347 838581 • Fax: 0347 838864



Barrie Gregson



Alan Mitchell



Peter Jones



Bill Adams



David Whitaker

# Lifting the lid on pressure

**A** greenkeeper who counts the Bahraini royal family among his former employers is set to lift the lid on pressure.

At the National Education Conference at the University of Warwick, April 8-10, Barrie Gregson – course manager at Mottram Hall Hotel in Cheshire – will discuss all the various types of pressure involved in greenkeeping. This not only includes the pressure exerted on playing surfaces by players, methods of maintenance, weather conditions and construction methods and materials, but also pressure from owners, committees, salesmen, golfers, the media, and agronomists.

"Although I hope some of this will be humorous, it will all be based on things that have happened to me over the years but will be introduced to the audience as a fictitious golf club and fictitious greenkeepers," reveals Barrie, whose career started in 1968 as an apprentice at the Hesketh Golf Club in Southport. Following a car accident in 1973, Barrie became a hotel manager for three years, returning to greenkeeping at Hillside GC where George Lloyd was head greenkeeper.

In 1978 he became head greenkeeper at Haydock Park where he enjoyed three years before succumbing to the lure of foreign climes (and salaries). From 1981 to 86 he worked in Bahrain, in the Persian Gulf, managing various grass projects, including an 18-hole golf course, a double track horse racing course and parade rings, five football pitches and many other projects, mainly for the Bahraini royal family.

After a spell in Europe working for golf course architect Dave Thomas, Barrie, who is married with two children, returned to England and took up the job at De Vere Hotel's Mottram Hall.

Barrie is just one of 17 – yes, 17 – experts lined up for this year's National Education Conference.

Speakers include top greenkeepers from both sides of the

Atlantic as well as leading consultants.

They will cover a wide variety of subjects. Alan Mitchell will talk about the construction of The Hampshire, an 18-hole pay and play with membership development near Andover. He will cover the problems encountered and overcome considering the limited budget available and compare this with his experiences as a greenkeeper at Test Valley and Botley Park.

Philip Baldock, who started greenkeeping despite his father's advice (he's also a greenkeeper), will discuss the 'Restoration and Conservation of a Links Golf Course'. A former chairman of the Surrey Section of BIGGA, he is now the head greenkeeper at Royal Portrush GC in Co Antrim.

"Where does all the money go?" is the title of Peter Jones' talk. Peter has been involved in golf course construction and grow-in for 20 years, starting with the Dukes Course at Woburn and subsequently the in-house construction of the Duchess Course by the greenstaff.

He left Woburn in 1987 and moved to the Collingtree Park development at the start of construction. Peter stayed with Collingtree Park throughout receivership and now works for the new joint owners, the European Tour and IMG. In his talk he will review the maintenance costs at the course.

As well as fascinating talks, there is also some great entertainment planned, including a quiz night and a banquet with an after-dinner speech by Stan Taylor, a former submariner and Life President of the Comedians' Golf Society.

The price for BIGGA greenkeeper members is £188 including VAT, £164.50 for spouses. This includes accommodation and meals.

For further information speak to Samantha Flint at BIGGA HQ on 0347 838581.