

## Greenkeeper gets new job in education



BIGGA's chairman of education, Huw Parry, has got a new job – in education. Huw, head greenkeeper at Bristol and Clifton GC, has been appointed lecturer in greenkeeping and golf course management at Cannington College, Bridgwater, Somerset.

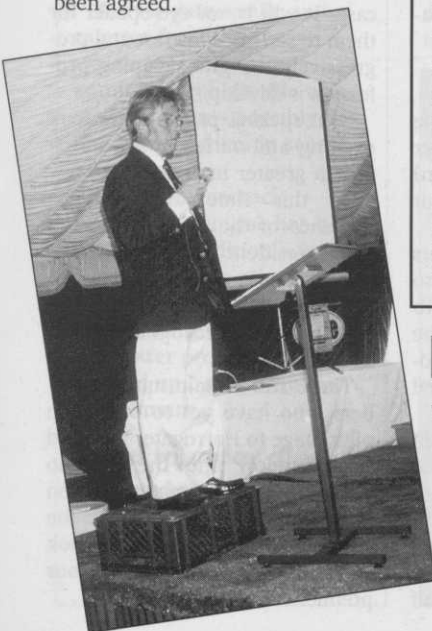
He took up his new post on September 1 after 20 years in greenkeeping and said he's looking forward to the new challenge. "With all my work in education, I see it as a natural development," he said.

As well as serving on the education sub-committee, 37-year-old Huw has also been liaison officer for Pencoed College and was on the working party that produced the GTC training manual. His father is a teacher and his elder brother is a university lecturer in New Zealand. Their subjects are history.

"I'm sad that my work on the education committee has come to an end, I've thoroughly enjoyed it, but this is an exciting opportunity and I hope it will be a role model for other colleges to get someone from industry involved in furthering greenkeeping," he said.

## Race ace to buy golf course

Racing driver Nigel Mansell plans to buy Woodbury Park Golf and Country Club, near Exeter. A price rumoured to be around the £2m mark is believed to have been agreed.



# NEWS



## Sausage theory to reduce algae

Want to control algae growth in your course's lakes and ponds? Try a straw sausage. That's the advice from Contimex, the distributors for Christmas Tree Packaging Netting in the UK. They claim that studies have shown that barley straw packaged in netting (like a large sausage) and submerged is an effective method of controlling algae. As the straw decomposes in the water, chemicals are produced which limit and control algae growth. Fine mesh netting is recommended over large mesh netting as it contains the straw better, it is easier to handle and small fish are less likely to get gilled in it and subsequently drown. Tel: 0825 766135.

## Derek has crate plans

The Belfry's Derek Ganning, pictured left, rose to new heights during Sisis Equipment's Grounds and Greens seminar at Newmarket. The previous speaker, Wembley's Steve Tingley, left the vertically-challenged course manager a beer crate to stand on while he described plans to improve the Brabazon and Derby courses in the hope of getting the Ryder Cup back there in 2001. Barkway Park GC's head greenkeeper, Ken Stewart, had a productive time at the seminar, too – he won a pocket TV.

## FLYING DIVOTS

■ A workshop on Health and Safety at Work is to be held at Cannington College on October 12. The speakers are John Allbutt and Richard Newman. Price of the Westurf-sponsored event is £10, with preference for the 50 places going to greenkeeping members of BIGGA. For further details call Marion Child on 0803 844056.



■ If you want to see Hayter's range of professional grass cutting equipment in operation on your course, call newly-appointed demonstrator Tony Carr. Tony previously worked in the company's machine and plate shop.

■ Course Care claims its waste removal package is now in use in 10% of golf clubs in England and has celebrated this "major success" by becoming patrons for BIGGA's northern area.

"We are pleased to be part of the patron scheme," said marketing director John Wood. "It is our plan for Course Care staff to give lectures, attend meetings and give advice on lubrication, fuel treatment and static equipment matters. We are very much looking forward to a long and interesting relationship with BIGGA."



■ Claymore Grass Machinery have appointed Clive Pentecost as product manager for the SABO Roberine range of commercial mowers and Columbia ParCar's golf cars, utility vehicles and people movers. He will be responsible for the southern part of the UK including the west country.

■ Safeguard Business Systems has launched a system for golf clubs which combines visitor book with cash received journal, and visitor badge with green fees receipt. Tel: 0270 500921.

■ The Halliloo golf course, currently under construction in Surrey, has had three underground reservoirs built. The concrete reservoirs, pictured below will be able to hold a total of 20,000m<sup>3</sup> of water. When the course opens next year the reservoirs, designed by Booth Concrete Ltd, will be invisible to golfers and will not affect the use of the ground surface.



## Greens are wrecked in salt spillage

Goswick Golf Club greenstaff have been re-laying two greens after salt contaminated the irrigation system.

Authorities are investigating how salt got into the stream from which the Berwick-on-Tweed club draws its water.

Several other greens have been affected to varying degrees, but not as severely.

A river gate a mile and a quarter from the course which prevents water coming in at high tide was wedged open – possibly the work of poachers in search of salmon.

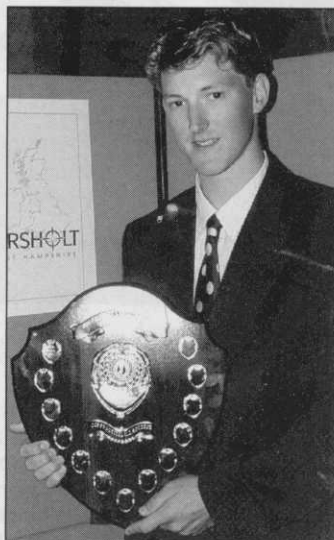
“It’s a real setback because the course has been in superb condition – we’re just praying for rain because we can’t use the irrigation system until we’re sure the salt water problem has cleared up,” said a club spokesman.

## Seed founder dies

The founder of Gerson Grass Seed, Frank Gerson, has died following a short illness. He was 73.

## Students collect prizes

Andrew Boyce, pictured below left, receives the BIGGA Shield for Best Practical Student at Sparsholt College, near Winchester. Andrew, from Bath, has been studying on the National Diploma Horticulture Golf Course and Sportsground Management course and hopes one day to become a course manager on a major course. His tutor said: “Andrew’s award reflects not only his ability at Sparsholt but also a creditable performance during his middle year placement at Lansdown Golf Club, Bath, as assistant greenkeeper.”



Andrew was presented with the shield at a ceremony in Winchester Cathedral, where the guests included Lord Wakeham, Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal, and Lord Sainsbury, president of the college.

At the same ceremony James Haywood of Owslebury, Hants, also pictured, was presented with the Rufford Cup for top student on the National Diploma Horticulture Golf Course and Sports Management course. He is now working at Barshaw municipal golf course and associated sportsfields in Paisley, Glasgow.



## FLYING DIVOTS

■ Martin Smith, the head greenkeeper at Porters Park in Hertfordshire recently rushed to help a damsel in distress. A lady member came into his office crying, “Help me, please, I’ve had an accident on the practice ground.” But visions of another player lying unconscious after being hit by a wayward shot were misplaced. The distressed female had, in fact, got her new graphite-shafted 3-wood stuck in a tree!



■ Acorn Equipment has appointed a new sales rep for the North West. Andy Powell, formerly with Richard

Campey machinery, will be driving to courses in Acorn’s new mobile equipment van. Tel: 0378 162162!

■ A conference on vegetation and slopes (stabilisation, protection and ecology), organised by the Institution of Civil Engineers, is to be held at the University Museum, Oxford, on September 29-30. Price is £205.95. Tel: 071 839 9803/5.

■ The opening of the Brian Huggett-designed Park course at Orchardleigh, in Somerset, has been postponed until the spring. The park, one of two 18-hole championship layouts originally planned for the 420-acre estate near Frome before the receivers moved in three years ago, had been due to open late this summer.

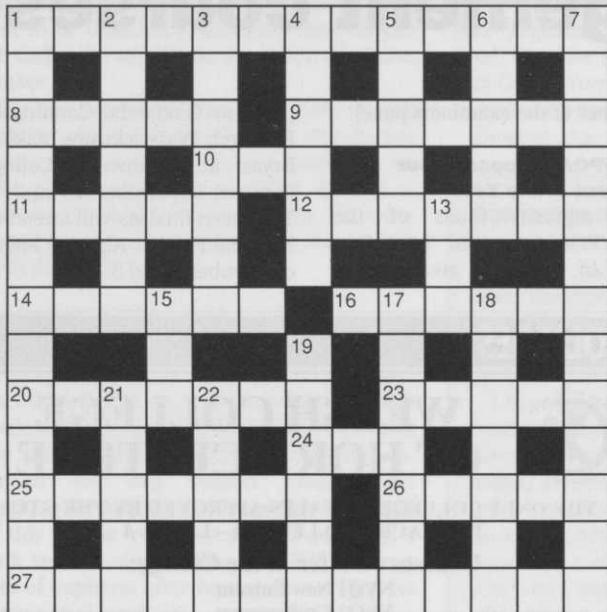
■ Turf Irrigation Services Ltd (TIS), the UK’s largest Toro dealer and installer, has opened a new office in Beckenham near Bromley in Kent. Tel: 081 6584030.

■ Rhone-Poulenc Environmental Products has appointed two new distributors – Eden Park Ltd for London, Middlesex, Kent, East Sussex and Surrey and Driving Force Leisure for the Home Counties.

■ £500,000 is being spent improving facilities at Castle Coombe, bought recently by hotelier Guiseppe Pecorelli.

# GREENKEEPER'S CROSSWORD

Compiled by Mark G Smith



Ransomes make the claim that their E-Plex is the world's first all-electric greens mower, bringing quiet, pollution-free operation to golf courses

## Electric machines on the brink of a quiet revolution

Now that Ransomes has brought out an all-electric triple greens mower, greenkeepers in the UK and in America are asking about other electric products – especially fairway mowers and bunker rakers. Next year boys, next year, is the word.

The big advantage that electric machines have is they are super quiet. The Ransomes E-Plex we saw recently at Foxhills in Surrey could not be heard when it was being test-driven at speeds of up to 7.5mph. Only when it started cutting was there a sound, but it was still very quiet compared with traditional greens mowers. This will be of great importance to greenkeepers who want to cut early in built-up areas and those who are maintaining courses in resorts.

The E-Plex, which will be launched at this month's Saltex show, draws power to drive its wheels and cutting cylinders from eight 6-volt batteries which provide up to three hours operation

from a single charge. This equates to a minimum of nine greens, or up to 18 depending on terrain, ambient temperature and the distance between holes.

Another appealing feature of electric mowers is that because they have no engine nor hydraulic system, daily maintenance and running costs are kept to a minimum. The cutting heads are powered by three 48-volt direct-coupled electric motors and the centre reel is mounted on a swing-out arm for ease of servicing. Further advantages of the mower's all-electric drive are no worries over oil leaks or exhaust fumes.

The downside is that it is nearly as expensive as a diesel mower – £17,000 – and that the eight batteries will need to be replaced once they have been recharged about 350 times.

● Ransomes' half-year results show turnover up 14% to £102.1 million and profit up to £11 million, more than double the £5.4 million achieved in 1993.

## Success for greenkeepers who curry the can

Tests on a new range of chemical agents to get rid of worms show that one of the best antidotes is... curry powder sprayed on the grass in a gallon of water. STRI researcher Emma Kirby says: "Worms don't like it. It acts as an expellant which irritates them and brings them to the surface. Then greenkeepers can swish them off or pick them up." She added: "Some years ago it was found that Coleman's English Mustard worked, but we haven't tested it ourselves."

### WIN A BIGGA BLAZER OR £50 IN CASH!

#### CLUES ACROSS

- 1 The crane fly (5,4,4)
- 8 High grade palm oil from W. Africa used as a lubricant (5)
- 9 Metallic equivalent of the 4 wood (3,4)
- 10 Subscription owing but unpaid (3)
- 11 ..... Ash tree (L. Fraxinus Ornus) (5)
- 12 ..... Claydon European Tour Professional (7)
- 14 Tool for enlarging drilled holes (6)
- 16 A sprinkler head does it when activated (4,2)
- 20 Surname of the US Tour Professional, known as 'The Walrus' (7)
- 23 Tree inhabiting marsupial found on Australian courses (5)
- 24 Large branch of tree where the trunk divides (3)
- 25 Discover or remove the wire from neutral perhaps (7)
- 26 Tea ....., the floral name of the 1st hole at Augusta National (5)
- 27 What were played on the final day of the 1991 and 1993 Ryder Cups? (6,7)

#### CLUES DOWN

- 1 Full name of the 1933 Open Champion (8,5)
- 2 I dig any mixture, with two carrels (anag) (7)
- 3 Distance from the ball to the target (7)
- 4 Large aquatic mammals of the weasel family (L. Lutra Vulgaris) (6)
- 5 Medal score before deducting handicap (5)
- 6 The nest of a bird of prey, particularly an eagle (5)
- 7 They have no 'standing' on a golf course (6,7)
- 13 The vital juice of trees (3)
- 15 Soil suspended in water (3)
- 17 ..... C.C. Pittsburgh, Pa, venue of the 1994 US Open (7)
- 18 Nationality of Jose Maria Canizares and Jose Rivero (7)
- 19 Surname of the Australian winner of the 1981 US Open Championship (6)
- 21 A cocktail of ale be the white poplar (anag) (5)
- 22 The 1.68" ball, large or small (5)

★ Solve the crossword puzzle and you could win either a BIGGA blazer (worth £87.95) or £50 in cash! Send completed entries to: Crossword Competition, Greenkeeper International, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF.

Closing date September 23, 1994. First correct entry drawn after the closing date will win the prize. Photocopy your entry if you don't want to cut up your magazine.

→ This is the solution to last month's crossword, and the winner was David Leith, first assistant at St Andrews Links Trust.

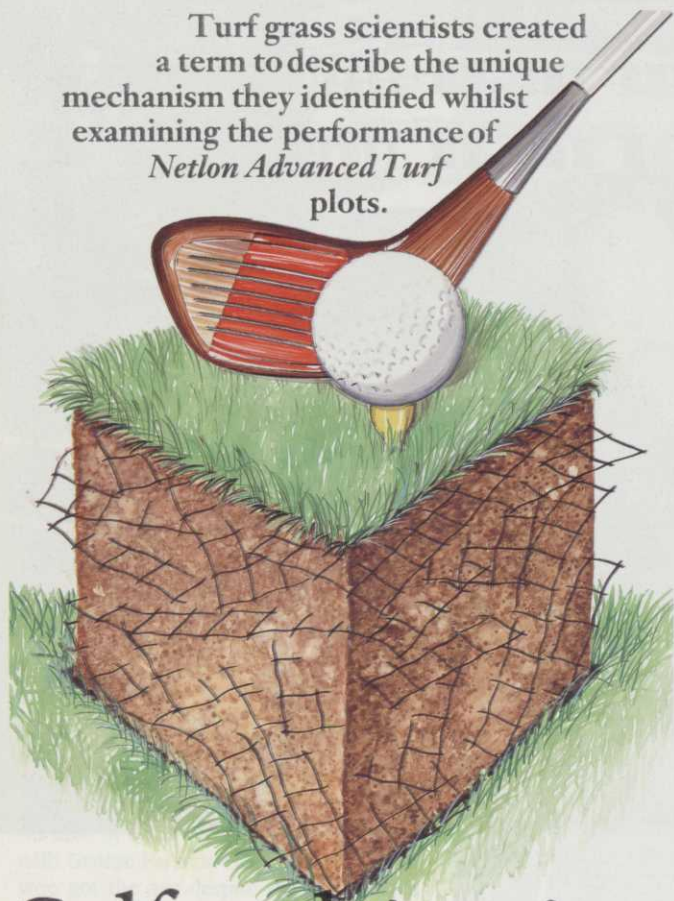


Name: .....

Address: .....

If I'm the winner, please send me  £50 cash or  BIGGA blazer, size .....

Turf grass scientists created a term to describe the unique mechanism they identified whilst examining the performance of *Netlon Advanced Turf* plots.



## Self-cultivation

**Self'-cultiva'tion** (n. the effect of small polypropylene mesh pieces as they flex within a free-draining rootzone material to create and maintain voids and to resist soil compaction. The mechanism takes place as the surface is compressed during play, maintenance or by other activities.

### Maintaining health and minimising damage



You will not find the term self-cultivation in any dictionaries at the moment, but you will find evidence of its effect on tees, greens and paths. There will be deeper root



penetration, higher infiltration, greater divot resistance and faster recovery rates due to the stability and root anchoring provided by the elements.

Telephone Emma Burns on 0800 585012 if you would like more information about *Netlon Advanced Turf* or return the coupon.

Netlon Advanced Turf Systems,  
Netlon Limited,  
Kelly Street, Blackburn,  
England BB2 4PJ  
Telephone: +44 (0)254 262431  
Fax: +44 (0)254 694302

**Netlon**  
ADVANCED TURF

Netlon is the registered trade mark of Netlon Limited in the UK, the USA & other countries.  
Netlon Advanced Turf is patented in the UK, the USA & other countries.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ GI. 9.94

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

## How to play golf in two countries at the same time

When you pay your green fee at Tornio Harparanda Green Zone Golf you get more than a scorecard – you get a borderline passport. The 6180m par 72 course straddles the borders of Finland and Sweden, so when you register at the club's reception you get a scorecard that is also a licence to cross the border. On the back of it, where you'd normally find local rules, there are the duty-free allowances for cigarettes, alcohol and foodstuffs.

The clubhouse, driving range and first two holes are in Finland. From the third tee you hit the ball into Sweden. On the 6th you come back into Finland. The second nine starts with a drive back into Sweden and you play most of this half in that country before driving back into Finland on the 18th.

### Green Swedes

The Swedish Golf Federation has produced an environmental programme. As far as maintenance routines are concerned, it says: ● the use of fertilisers and pesticides shall be judged by the need; ● to check the extent of purification and to register possible leaches of nutrients or pesticides, earth and water tests shall be carried out at regular intervals. As regards the water tests, they shall be carried out at the influx and at the outflux; ● in those areas where grass clippings cannot be left, the clippings shall be composted in places especially established for that purpose; ● roughs are maintained according to a prearranged plan and with consideration to the natural flora (selection of equipment for mowing and the date of mowing); ● if there are ancient monuments within the area, these shall be maintained in accordance with received instructions; ● areas not in play shall be maintained in accordance with a written plan, aiming at biodiversity according to each local circumstance; ● the use of pesticides shall be minimised.

### Bound for Algarve

Peter Wisbey has a new job and a flashy new title. He has been appointed technical director of Planal SA's Quinta do Lago courses in the Algarve.

Peter, 47, has been working in Portugal for the past seven years, moving there to supervise the fin-

ishing works and growing in of the San Lorenzo course. For the following four years he was responsible for both San Lorenzo and the Penina courses in his capacity as regional golf superintendent for Trusthouse Forte.

Having seen San Lorenzo rise into Golf World's top ten of European courses, Peter moved to the nearby Pinheiros Altos course.

After nearly three years moving the course through final finishing and grown-in towards maturity, the lure of the neighbouring Quinta do Lago complex with its 36-hole championship layout, seven times the venue for the Portuguese Open, proved irresistible. Peter will still, however, manage Pinheiros Altos on a consultancy basis.

Since 1987 Peter's expertise in the management of warm-season grasses has become acknowledged throughout Portugal and he has been involved on a consultancy basis with a number of projects, the most recent of which are Salgados, an 18-hole links course in the Algarve, and Quinta da Peru, a new William Roquemore designed course near Lisbon.

### UK arm of US body

The English members of the American Sod Producers Association have set up a turf growers association in the UK: Turf Producers International – UK. Chairman Derek Edwards of the Inturf Group said: "We have for some years recognised the need for a proper organisation to represent our industry and once we managed to get everyone around a table, prompted by earlier ASPA meetings and talks about turf accreditation schemes with NIAB and STRI, everything seemed to fall into place very nicely."

The aims of the 20 founder members are to improve standards of cultivated turf production and distribution, to tackle environmental issues, and to promote a product that is helping to make our environment a whole lot "greener". Tel: 0759 305117.

### San Francisco date

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's 66th International Golf Course Conference and Show is scheduled for February 20-27, 1995 in San Francisco.

## Health and safety book for all in golf

The Health and Safety Executive has published comprehensive health and safety advice for owners, managers and employees of golf courses.

HSE principle inspector James Barrett said: "Our new booklet, Health and Safety in Golf Course Management and Maintenance, contains useful, sensible advice which is easy to follow. People who maintain golf courses come across a wide range of hazards but most accidents happen when agricultural machinery and pesticides are being used.

"However, this booklet is not just aimed at greenkeepers, it is important that golf club managers are aware of their responsibilities too, particularly from making sure that their employees are properly trained."

David Golding, education director of the Greenkeepers Training Committee, welcomed the booklet: "It is essential that all golf club employers and employees keep up to date with health and safety legislation and this booklet will help them do so. It is essential reading for everyone concerned with golf course maintenance."

The booklet, which costs £9.50, is available from HSE Books, PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6FS. Tel: 0787 881165.

## New engine for Victa

Australian mower company Victa has produced a new four-stroke engine for its range which, until now, has been powered exclusively by two-stroke motors. The new Ultima engine is available in three forms – the 4.5hp, and 5hp 207cc domestic engine and the 5.5hp 207cc professional version. It will be used to power the professional push and self-propelled range as well as the Mustang and Commando domestic machines which are imported into the UK by EP Barrus of Bicester. Tel: 0869 253355.

## Courses get quality award

Two golf courses and a driving range have been recommended for registration to Quality Assurance BS5750 after a recent visit from the British Standards Institute. The assessment of the Borough of Thamesdown's Broome Golf Complex and Highworth Community Golf Centre lasted two days and looked at all aspects of the operation.

Tom Watt, Thamesdown's golf manager, says: "The council's courses at Broome Manor and Highworth have developed quite rapidly over the last few years. The quality system has enabled us to provide a consistent standard of service in all our departments. Staff are much happier as they have gained greater understanding of their role and responsibilities within the organisation."

## New MD named

The new managing director of landscape contractor Gerald Davies Ltd is Martyn Hughes who takes over from the firm's founder, Gerald Davies. Mr Davies' daughter recently joined the company as finance director.



Newly-opened Crondon Park in Essex has splashed out £140,000 on John Deere equipment. The Golf Leisure Ltd complex, which has a 6974-yard 19-hole and a 9-hole par 3 course, putting green and 60-bay driving range, has bought: two 1800 utility vehi-

cles, two diesel 2243D greens triple mowers, a 2653 tees and surrounds mower, a 3235 medium height fairways mower, a F1145 front mower, a 955 compact tractor and two 22in pedestrian greens mowers. The club's co-owners, Stuart and Jason (right) Fox are pic-

tured receiving the keys from Dan Sexton, Deere & Company's USA Horicon factory marketing manager (centre) watched by Howard Storey, John Deere grounds care area manager (far left) and Neil Peachey of John Deere dealers P Tuckwell Ltd of Colchester.

SAVANA

TURF GROWERS

THE ULTIMATE SAND-BASED GREENS/TEES

SAVANA TURF GROWERS

SAVANA TURF GROWERS LTD  
 NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK  
 Fax: 0638 560555

TURF GROWERS

(0638) 560111

(0831) 618000

SAVANA

TURF GROWERS