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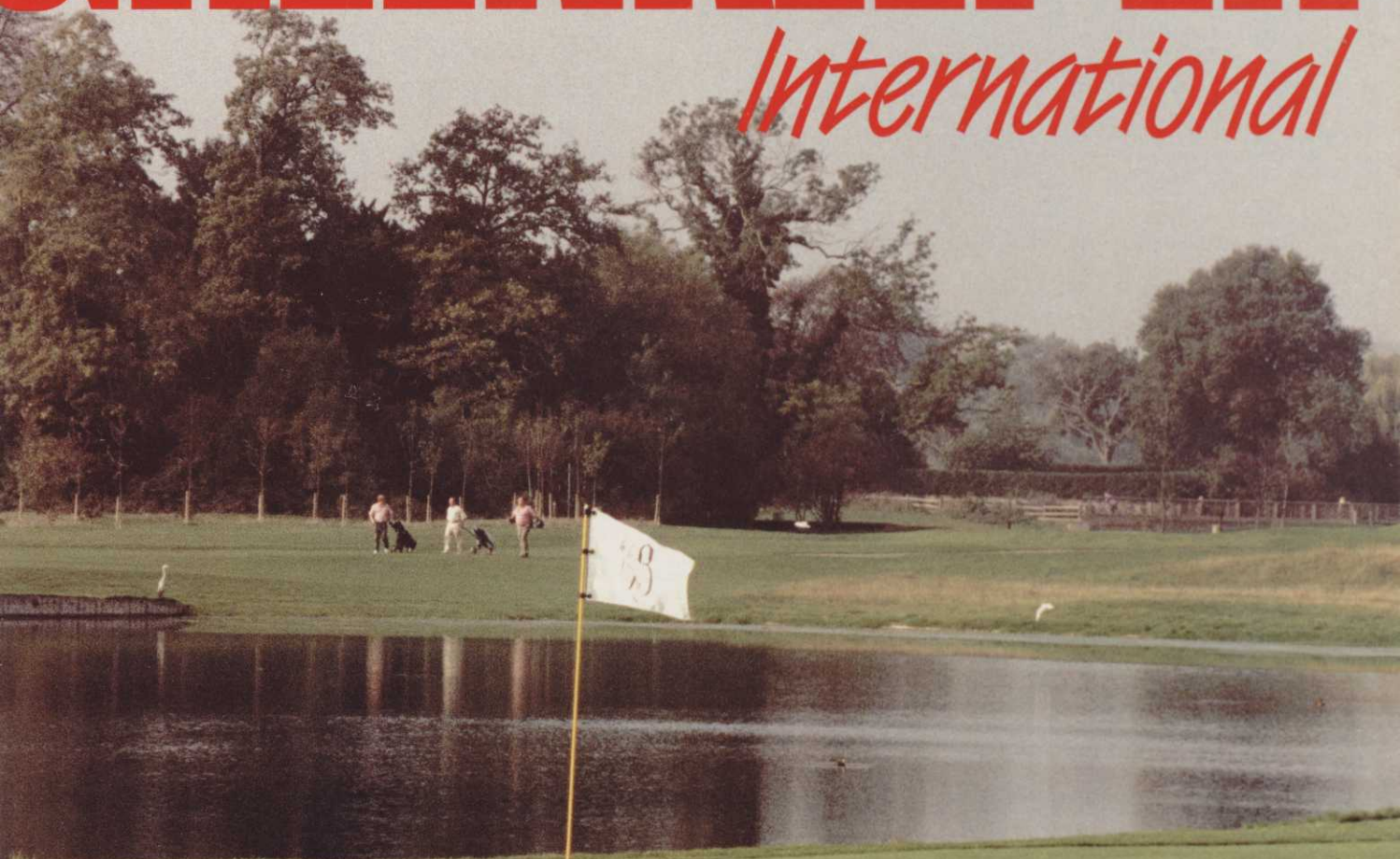
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NEXT MONTH:



# GREENKEEPER

*International*



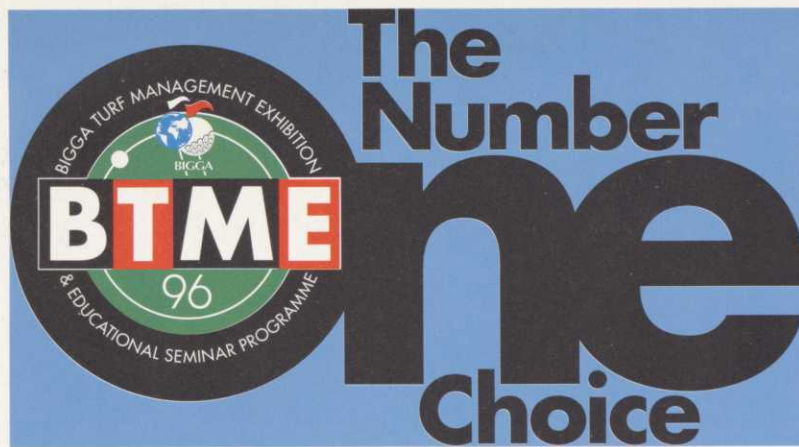
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BTME and the Educational Seminar Programme is organised by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NE. For more details, or for a copy of "The Learning Experience", call Ken Richardson, BIGGA's education officer, on 01347 838581.



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Golf Greenkeepers Association

*A Happy  
Christmas to  
all our readers  
and advertisers*

# GREENKEEPER<sup>2</sup> International

DECEMBER 1995

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Course Manager at The  
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a new course with big  
ideas for the future

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01347 838581.

Pre-registering for BTME means speedy admission and you could win a prize: See the inserted card in this issue



# The common bonds of greenkeeping

This has been a very busy autumn in terms of fact finding on the future international role of BIGGA and how best we can serve the interests of our growing numbers of international members. During the course of a week, visits were made first to the German Greenkeepers Conference in Cologne and then the exhibition in Dublin of the newly named 'Golf Course Superintendents Association of Ireland', where for the second year BIGGA had a stand. Both visits proved most informative as the respective Associations seek to meet the needs of greenkeepers and move forward on a professional basis.

The German Conference was held for the first time in conjunction with the Areal Exhibition which takes place every two years and featured over 400 turf industry suppliers from 15 countries. The Greenkeepers Association of Germany (GVD) was formed in 1993 and currently has some 480 mem-



## BIGGA in focus

BY NEIL THOMAS

bers. It enjoys close links with the Swiss Greenkeepers Association (SGA) and the Austrian Greenkeepers Association (IGO) with meetings held under the auspices of the International Greenkeepers Association which is constituted from delegates of the three Associations. The 'Greenkeepers Journal' is the official publication of the four bodies and is

the only German language greenkeepers specialised journal. Through the kind invitation of Claus-Detlef Ratjen, President of the GVD, I was invited to present a paper to the Association's AGM. This paper was translated into German by our Memberships Services Officer, Janet Adamson, who then had the daunting task of reading it to some 150 German greenkeepers. This she did expertly and we were made very welcome by the Association members and their President.

We made the point that BIGGA is actively seeking to develop international activities for the benefit of greenkeepers and the profession and that in our view it is essential that there is a close European cooperation, highlighting as a strong example the need for cooperation on environmental matters. However it was important to point out that it is not the wish of BIGGA to interfere in any way in the running of national greenkeepers associations. Indeed it is important that in each and every country in Europe where the profession is growing, strong and independent greenkeeping associations are established and developed. Within this context, BIGGA can and will offer support where needed through its established organisation and administration, albeit only on request. A brief visit but one which established a number of contacts and a basis for on-going dialogue and cooperation. Our thanks are extended to Claus-Detlef Ratjen, his officers and members for their welcome and hospitality. Membership of BIGGA in Germany currently stands at 62 and we benefited from meeting some of our own members during the visit and hearing their viewpoints.

So to Ireland. The timing of our visit was auspicious in the sense that it coincided with the announcement in October that the 'Irish Golf Greenkeepers Association' was no more, having been reconstituted as the 'Golf Course Superintendents Association of Ireland'. The new Association will be run on a twin level of regional and national. Four regions have been formed covering the South West, South East, North East and North West within which will be incorporated the 26 counties - two regions of seven and two of six. At present there are 255 registered Golfing

Union of Ireland clubs in the Republic of Ireland. The aim is for the regions to control the organising of events and recruitment of new members while encouraging their members to be active and support the Association at regional and national level. The Association will encompass all categories of greenkeeper. Education and training will be to the forefront as the Association's efforts are concentrated on developing one strong representative Association, better understood and recognised. A more professional approach to management is sort and closer links with the golfing media while working in conjunction with other relevant bodies for the general good of the industry.

We met with the officers of the new Association whom we feel we know from past meetings and friendships formed during Hayter Challenge Finals in recent years. One cannot fail to be impressed by their enthusiasm and determination to successfully establish the new Association. They recognise the task ahead and they are aware that they can call on the experience gained by BIGGA since 1987 whenever they feel in need of assistance. We wish them every success.

In updating readers on developments in Germany and Ireland one is moved to reflect on the common bonds of greenkeeping. Everywhere there is a thirst for education and training amongst those determined on a path of professional development. There is a recurring theme of concern on environmental matters as there is in terms of greenkeeper relationships with the Club and Green Committees. Rare within professions these days is the concern of man for his fellows but this is never more apparent than within the greenkeeping profession. It is something which knows no boundaries and is not hampered by differences of language and culture. Whatever the problem there is someone able and willing to give practical guidance and assistance. We can therefore find both strength and comfort in the international brotherhood of greenkeepers and move confidently forward to strengthen our relationships and secure an increasing recognition of the stature of the greenkeeping profession.



## A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT OF THE GOLF COURSE

Written by RS Taylor, STRI ecologist and published by BIGGA and the STRI, this new book is an invaluable source of reference for greenkeepers.

Presented in compact A5 format with 103 pages and full colour illustrations, this practical guide was put together after BIGGA identified the need to assist greenkeepers, golf club officials, especially chairmen of green and anyone interested in the ecology of golf courses.

BIGGA's contribution in co-publishing this vital guide, is thanks to members of BIGGA's

Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund.

### ORDER FORM

TO: BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Aline, York YO6 2NF

Please send me ..... copy/copies of A Practical Guide to Ecological Management of the Golf Course

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# Swedes discover delights of Scotland

A Study Trip taking in some of Scotland's finest golf courses was completed by 16 Swedish greenkeepers recently.

The group combined the educational element of the trip with the opportunity of playing some golf and visiting the Alfred Dunhill Cup in St Andrews.

Among the clubs they visited were Elie, where Head Greenkeeper Brian Lawrie gave them a tour of the course and led a discussion on all aspects of links maintenance; Gleneagles where the format was the same but the style of course completely different; Ladybank, where Head Greenkeeper Ian Menzies played host. They also visited Elmwood College to discuss greenkeeper education.

They were also welcomed by Scottish Regional Chairman Gordon Moir at St Andrews who gave them a tour of the Old Course and a look at the St Andrews sheds and Scottish Regional Administrator Elliott Small, who hosted the group at Tulliallan.

In addition to those courses they also squeezed in a game at Auchterarder, thanks to Head Greenkeeper Archie Dunn and the Jubilee Course at St Andrews.

## German connections

BIGGA member Craig Smith has used his German golf club contacts to assist him with organising "Golf Tours to the Home of Golf".

In conjunction with a Scottish associate he has targeted Gleneagles, the St Andrews' courses, Turnberry, Royal Troon and Old Prestwick. "It could be a valuable and exciting experience for a group of greenkeepers and any interested parties can contact me in Germany (Tel/fax 06284 1799) or Doug Robertson in Scotland (Tel 01738 623668)," said Craig.

# NEWS



Chairman Barry Heaney and Membership Services Officer Janet Adamson man the BIGGA stand at the GCSAI Turf Maintenance Exhibition at the RDS in Dublin.

## Back on the mats again!

The artificial turf mats which were tried out for fairway play on the Old Course at St Andrews last winter have proved so successful their use is to be repeated.

This winter, however, the mats will only be in use for four months – December to March – compared with five months last year. The decision to re-introduce the mats which were originally brought in to protect the course for The Open Championship was taken by the Links Management Committee.

"For some time we have been evaluating the effects of the experiment of last winter," said Robert Burns, Chairman of the Links Management Committee. "The

impact of using the mats has been dramatic and the improvement in the course's condition has been apparent to all golfers."

It is estimated that the use of the artificial turf mats saved the Old Course from over 150,000 divots last year. The 10cm x 25cm mats are issued to golfers at the beginning of their round and handed in at the end for re-use. Their introduction last winter was as a result of seeing the effects of their use on other courses in Scotland.

As last year the green fee for a round on the Old Course while mats are in play will be discounted from the normal winter rate of £40 to £30.

## FLYING DIVOTS

■ Tim Yardley, Hayter's Marketing Manager, tragically died on Snowdonia in October. He was 30 and single. "Although he had only been with us for eight months he had become an integral and indispensable member of our team," said Kim Macfie, Sales and Marketing Director. "Seldom have I known anyone to settle in so quickly and so well to a new job and his tragic death has shocked us all at Spellbrook."

■ Ocmis Irrigation (Scotland) Ltd have moved to new larger premises offering increased storage and service facilities. The office, at Broad Meadow, Harburn, West Calder, West Lothian, Scotland EH55 8RT will work in conjunction with other offices throughout the UK.



■ Following the launch of the new business operation Miracle Professional (formerly ICI Professional

Products) to the Sports Amenity and Landscape industry, management changes have been announced. Roger Mossop, previously Marketing Manager, has been promoted to Business Manager assuming responsibility for both marketing and sales. He will respond directly to Chief Executive John Wilson, a main board member of Miracle Garden Care Ltd.

■ For the fourth year, Atterton & Ellis Ltd, main agents for Toro grass machinery in Suffolk and parts of Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, has supported the West Suffolk Greenkeepers Challenge.

The Challenge is played at four venues throughout the summer with the team's Stableford scores for all matches added together.

The winners once again were Gog Magog GC comprising Lyndon Upham, Julian Hill and Peter Mallows with a score of 371 beating Haverhill GC into second place by just six points. Newmarket GC finished third with Bury St Edmunds GC fourth. Alan Carter of Haverhill had the highest individual total of 137.

## HMC Pro-Sport launched for the sports market

Hepworth Minerals and Chemicals Ltd has launched HMC Pro-Sport onto the Sports market.

Pro-Sport has been designed for use in the construction and maintenance of golf courses, sports pitches and leisure facilities.

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## Courses are well received



## Education Update

BY KEN  
RICHARDSON



Ken Richardson bids farewell to greenkeepers and course managers from Module 3 of the Management Course at Aldwark Manor.

November has been Supervisory Management month with three of the four Supervisory modules and the first of the level 4 management modules taking place.

The courses have been well received by all of the delegates with comments such as "Long may it continue" and "Very helpful, I have learned a lot" appearing in the course evaluation questionnaires. However, each course was, on average, only half full. Does this mean that all greenkeepers are fully trained in management skills or that the golf course do not want their greenkeepers to be trained or are there other reasons? I would be interested to hear from anyone who has an idea on how to attract more greenkeepers to future courses.

### Local Management Courses

Following the reasonably successful Supervisory Management two day course at Elmwood College in October, nine similar courses will be held throughout England and one course will be held in Killarney, southern Ireland. Full details can be found in the leaflet inserted with this magazine but if anyone needs further information then please contact me at Aldwark Manor. Applications are flowing in at a steady rate so if you want to attend one of the courses then apply NOW.

### Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year

The final of the Miracle Professional Greenkeeper of the Year was due to be held at Aldwark Manor on 4 December. Full

details of prizewinners will appear in next month's magazine.

### Library

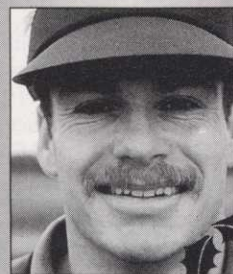
More books have been added to the list of BIGGA library books. Copies of the list are obtainable from BIGGA HQ or from Regional Administrators. Books can be borrowed by any BIGGA member for up to six weeks, at no cost to the borrower except return postage. Books can be requested by writing to me at Aldwark Manor.

### The Learning Experience

The Learning Experience, in association with Ransomes, takes place in Harrogate from 22-26 January. Applications to attend the National Education Conference, Workshops and Seminars are arriving at Aldwark Manor in increasing numbers.

Make sure that you can attend the session of your choice by booking NOW.

### WHAT I'D LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS



Owen Browne, Duke's  
Course St Andrews:

"A sign which reads, 'Every third rep will be shot. The last two just left'."







## Pebble Beach signs up with Ransomes

The Pebble Beach Company has selected Ransomes as its exclusive supplier of turf maintenance equipment.

The three-year rolling agreement with the world famous Pebble Beach resorts states that all new equipment for their golf courses and grounds maintenance will come from Ransomes/Cushman/Ryan product lines.

man/Ryan product lines.

"The exclusive agreement to supply Pebble Beach is significant because it emphasises our company's leadership role in the turf maintenance industry," said Peter Wilson, Group Chief Executive of Ransomes plc.

Pebble Beach is recognised not only as one of the leading golf

courses in the world, but also one of the most beautiful. This agreement links two companies which have leading brand recognition and share a concern for, and give an industry lead in, environmental, safety and quality issues.

Pebble Beach considered all the leading turf machinery companies before reaching its decision.

## FLYING DIVOTS

■ A Stihl Chainsaw mounted on a portable sawmill has set a world record by producing the longest plank of wood ever to be cut from a log. The plank measured 109 feet long (33.02 metres) and was cut from a five ton log.

The record sawing operation was achieved at the Jonkoping Fair for Forestry Products in Sweden by Bengt-Olov Brystrom, pictured below, who designed the 'Logosol' portable sawmill which, for the mammoth cut, was fitted with an 85cc Stihl 064 chainsaw.

Bengt-Olov said "It wouldn't surprise me if someone in a country with taller trees than Sweden tries to beat our record." In the meantime the next edition of The Guinness Book of Records will feature the Stihl cut 109 foot plank.



■ Preparations are well under way for the 1996 Grounds & Greens seminars organised by Sisis Equipment (Macclesfield) Ltd. Following two very successful events at Newmarket Race Course and Lancashire Country Cricket Club, Old Trafford, next year's event will take place on June 11 and 12 at Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh. Speakers will include Eddie Adams, Head Greenkeeper of the Old Course at St Andrews, Steve Isaac, STRI, Duncan McGilvray, Letchworth GC, David Lucas, Golf Course Consultant, Jay Dobson and David Rhodes, Myerscough College and Terry Robinson Haydock Park Race Course.

■ Fine Agrochemicals Ltd has appointed Steven Wilson as Technical Manager. Steven, who was formerly Technical Service Manager of Herbicides with Zeneca Crop Protection, will take responsibility for product development, technical service and quality management of Fine Agrochemicals' range of products.



■ East Midlands section is the first in the country to make a contribution to the BIGGA Building Fund, set up to facilitate a move of Headquarters to a larger building.

Tim Allard, the newly elected Chairman of the section, is pictured presenting a cheque for £300 to Barry Heaney which, added to the association's initial transfer of £5000 out of the general fund, is an excellent boast on the way to the target figure of £250,000.

The section also made a donation to the Matthew Fell Appeal, which was highlighted in November's magazine.

## Monty wins our vote to scoop top golfing title

The Johnnie Walker Golfer of the Month for October was chosen by a panel of five golf writers including your Editor Scott MacCallum.

Scott joined John Hopkins, golf correspondent of The Times; Colin Callander, Editor of Golf Monthly; broadcaster, John Fenton, and Chairman Renton Laidlaw, golf correspondent of the London Evening Standard at the Halcyon Hotel in London to select the player most deserving of the award.

There were several candidates in contention. Colin Montgomerie who helped Scotland to their first Alfred Dunhill Cup victory and finished runner-up in the Volvo Masters at Valderrama, playing the tough back nine in one under par to snatch the Volvo Order of Merit title from Sam Torrance by one shot.

Alexander Cejka, the young German, who birdie five of the final eight holes at the Volvo Masters to win his third tournament

of the year.

Scotland's Alfred Dunhill Cup team which in addition to Montgomerie included Sam Torrance, whose heroic final round in the Volvo Masters, two better than anyone else in the field, took him to within one shot of a first Volvo Order of Merit title in 24 years on Tour and Andrew Coltart, who became the first player to make a hole-in-one in the Alfred Dunhill Cup at the Old Course's 8th in the final. He now boasts an Alfred Dunhill Cup record of played eight won seven.

After each of the panel had outlined his thoughts to the others and the representatives of Johnnie Walker and the PGA European Tour who were also present a vote was held and Colin Montgomerie, carrying Scott's vote, emerged the winner.

He wins a trophy while the Golf Foundation and the PGA European Tour Benevolent Fund each receive £1000.



# NITROGEN facts

**Arne van Amerongen sheds some light on nitrogen and the release characteristics of its various sources.**

Nitrogen is a vital constituent of the chlorophyll molecule, amino acids, proteins, nucleic acids, enzymes and vitamins. Nitrogen has been shown to affect turfgrasses in several ways including colour, density, shoot growth, root growth, susceptibility to diseases and environmental stress, composition of the turfgrass swards, and recuperative ability.

Many different sources of nitrogen are used currently in the turfgrass industry. The nitrogen sources vary considerably in their release characteristics, and these factors should be considered when fertiliser programmes are developed. The following survey describing each form of nitrogen-source will be a benefit to all turfgrass managers dealing with fertiliser programmes.

There are several ways in which nitrogen sources may be classified; however, the most widely accepted means is to classify nitrogen-sources as quickly available or slowly available fertilisers.

## **1. Quickly available nitrogen-sources**

Quickly available nitrogen sources are often called quick release, water soluble, or farm grade fertilisers, and contain nitrogen in the  $\text{NO}_3$  or  $\text{NH}_4$  form. Nitrate-nitrogen is immediately available for plant uptake, but is also easily leached from the soil. Ammonium nitrogen is less prone to leaching but more prone to volatilisation. Nitrification of  $\text{NH}_4$  to  $\text{NO}_3$  is fairly rapid in most soil conditions, therefore the nitrogen from  $\text{NH}_4$  fertilisers is also quickly used by turfgrass plants.

### **1a. Inorganic Salts**

Inorganic salts commonly used for turfgrass fertilisation include  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ , and several ammonium phosphates. These sources are water soluble and may be applied in dry form or liquid delivery systems. They are commonly used in turfgrass fertiliser formulations rather than alone. Application of inorganic salts to turfgrasses produced a rapid initial flush of growth of short duration. Inorganic salts have relatively high salt indexes, therefore the protection for foliar burning exists with these sources.

### **1b. Urea**

Urea is produced by combining atmospheric nitrogen with methane to produce ammonia gas and  $\text{CO}_2$ . The ammonia is then reacted with the  $\text{CO}_2$  under high temperature and pressure to form urea, which contains 45-46% nitrogen. Urea has been evaluated on both warm and cool season turfgrasses. Characteristics of urea include a quick initial release rate of short duration. Urea nitrogen is prone to leaching and volatilisation losses. A urea based fertiliser programme must be based on several light applications through the growing season.

### **1c. Urea formaldehyde products**

Urea formaldehyde (urea form, UF) is a generic name for several methylene urea polymers that are the condensation product of urea with formaldehyde. The initial reaction product of urea and formaldehyde is methyllol urea. Methyllol urea is a water-soluble form of chemically combined formaldehyde which in many respects is similar to formaldehyde; that is, it is a strong bactericide. Methyllol ureas have been commercially available for turfgrass fertilisation as products containing about 50% of the nitrogen from methyllol urea and the rest from urea. Methyllol ureas have produced turfgrass responses similar to other water-soluble sources; that is a rapid initial response of short duration.

## **2. Slowly available nitrogen-sources**

Slowly available nitrogen-sources can also be called slow release, controlled release, or water insoluble fertilisers. Slowly available n sources include those that contain nitrogen either in an insoluble form or as a water-soluble source encapsulated in an impermeable coating. Release of nitrogen from slowly available sources may involve biological or physical processes. General characteristics of slowly available nitrogen sources include low water solubility, lower salt index, and slow initial turfgrass response of longer duration than quick release sources.

Slowly available nitrogen sources can be classified further as natural organics, synthetic organics, and coated materials.

### **2a. Natural organics**

Prior to 1950 natural organics were the only slow release nitrogen sources available to turfgrass managers. Examples of natural organic nitrogen-sources include bone meal, dried blood and other waste products

of the food industries, activated sewage sludge, soy bean meal, and sottom seed meal. The n in natural organics is tied up in complex organic compounds that must be broken down by soil organisms before the nitrogen can become available to the turfgrass plants. Therefore environmental factors that influence microorganism activity such as soil pH, temperature, and moisture will govern nitrogen release from these materials.

### **2b. Synthetic organics**

The synthetic organic class of slowly available n sources includes urea formaldehyde reaction products and IBDU. IBDU isobutylidene diurea is a synthetic organic slow release fertiliser, introduced in the mid 1960s from Japan. Isobutylidene diurea is the condensation product of the reaction of urea with isobutyraldehyde.

It is a white crystalline material that is marketed in two particle sizes: coarse, (0.7 -2.5mm) and fine (0.5-1.0mm). IBDU contains 31% n, of which 90% of the total n is water insoluble in the coarse material and 85% of the total nitrogen is water-insoluble in the fine material.

Nitrogen release from IBDU is influenced by temperature, moisture, particle size and soil pH.

### **2c. Oxamide**

Oxamide is a synthetic organic nitrogen source still in the experimental stage of development. High production costs of oxamide have hindered its commercial production, but a review of research results indicated that it has potential for use as an nitrogen source for turfgrass. A diamide of oxalic acid oxamide is white, non hygroscopic powder with a nitrogen content of 31.8% and very low water solubility. The release of nitrogen is the result of hydrolysis of oxamide in the presence of the enzyme amidase.

### **2d. Coated materials**

Coated nitrogen sources are made by coating urea or soluble semi permeable coating. The coatings prevent the wetting of the soluble nitrogen sources so that the release of the nitrogen from the final product is delayed. The release of nitrogen may depend on the degradation of the coating, or controlled by the physical make up of the coating. The two most common forms of coated fertilisers include SCU and Resin coated urea (RCU). Sulphur coated urea is made by spraying atomised molten sulphur

on preheated urea granules or prills. The sulphur coating provides an insoluble barrier that prevents the immediate dissolution of urea. As the sulphur solidifies on the urea, however, pinholes, cracks and other defects occur in the coating. Usually the sulphur coating is then sealed with a thin coating of wax of a combination of polyethylene and heavy weight oil. A conditioner (diatomaceous earth) is added to the decrease stickiness and to make the product hydrophilic. The final product contains 32-38% n, 13-22% S, 2-3% sealant, and about 2% conditioner. The sealant and conditioner are absent from SCU. The slow release of nitrogen from SCU results from differences in the time periods required for individual granules to begin releasing urea through their pores.

### **2e. Resin-coated ureas (RCU)**

Resin-coated ureas (RCU) are a class of nitrogen sources that include two product: Agriform and Escote. Agriform fertilisers are resin-coated fertiliser manufactured by Osmocote primarily for the nursery and greenhouse industries. Agriform fertilisers available for the turfgrass market have been evaluated for fertilisation of creeping bent grass turf.

### **2f. Escote RCU**

Escote RCUs are made by spraying a thin plastic coating onto a urea prill. Talcum is added to the process to alter the physical characteristics of the coating. More specifically, the amount of talc added during production will influence the pore size and number on the coating. Therefore, RCUs of well defined and reproducible release rates may be made. The final product contains 41% nitrogen. The exact mechanism of release is not documented, but it has been suggested that the release of nitrogen is the result of a "controlled" osmosis of water into the pellet. The fertiliser pellet will swell until the internal pressure either causes the pellet to crack open, release the urea, or forces the urea solution back out through the pores.

**References:** Allen, S.E., and D.A. Mayas. 1971. *Sulphur-coated fertilisers for controlled release: Agronomic evaluation.* J. Agric. Food. Chem. 19:809-812.  
Hummel, n.W., Jr., and D.V. Waddington. 1981. *Evaluation of slow-release nitrogen sources.* Soil Sci. Soc. Am. J. 45:966-970.



# Robert takes top job at St Mellion

Roy Battishill, Head Greenkeeper at St Mellion for the last 18 years, has retired and handed over the reins to Robert Brewer, the former Assistant Course Manager of Sunningdale's Old Course.

Roy, a former agricultural contractor in the Tamar Valley area of Cornwall was offered a green-keeping job by St Mellion's owners, Hermon and Martin Bond, prior to the opening of the Old Course at St Mellion.

"It has been tremendous being part of the Bond brothers' dream to make St Mellion International one of the world's top golf complexes and I feel very proud of their achievements," said Roy.

Roy began his association with the course by landscaping bunkers, greens and tees and took over as Head Greenkeeper when Jim Rowland retired.



Roy Battishill, left, welcomes Robert Brewer to St Mellion

He went on to look after the Nicklaus Course which hosted the Benson and Hedges International Open until earlier this year. As part of his training he

spent a year in the United States with the Nicklaus Organisation.

Robert also has extensive tournament experience having prepared Sunningdale for two European Opens and two PGA European Tour Seniors Championships.

He is a keen golfer playing off a 12 handicap and holds a private pilot's licence.

General Manager Ken Hunt said, "Robert is one of the country's top course managers with a wealth of experience and we're delighted he has agreed to come to St Mellion International."

Austin Davies has been appointed to the post of Rhône-Poulenc Environmental Products Business Manager. Austin moves to the position from Product Stewardship, he previously had worked in Environmental Products as Account Manager and as a Product Manager.

Jonathan Hill has taken up the

newly created post of Market Development Manager for Environmental Products within the Rhône-Poulenc Agriculture Ltd organisation.

The network of Regional Managers and office staff remain unchanged and continue Rhône-Poulenc's commitment to high standards of customer service.

## FLYING DIVOTS

### Service helps take it easy

As of January 1 BIGGA will be providing members with a stress counselling helpline which will provide a range of practical help and advice for relieving stress related symptoms, as well as offering a friendly ear.

There is no such thing as a "pressure free job", every job has its demands and some pressures can be beneficial – the challenges which keep us motivated – but when demands become excessive this can have a potential for causing stress related problems. These may take the form of physical and emotional symptoms affecting work and home life, for example, an increase in alcohol consumption and smoking or feeling more irritable or tense.

The stress counselling helpline will help clarify and define areas of stress and advise on ways on ways of dealing with these problems. The service is available 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year and is staffed by qualified nurses offering a caring professional service.

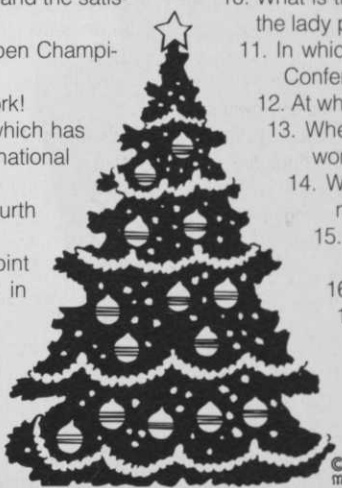
The number – which will be open from January 1 – is 01206 871614.

## Greenkeepers' Christmas Quiz

### Test your knowledge in our fun competition!

You all work on golf courses but how much do you know about the great game of golf? Like some of the greatest golf events in the world – the Ryder Cup, the Amateur Championship, the Walker and Curtis Cups – there is nothing to win but pride and the satisfaction of competing to the best of your ability!

1. Who was the last man to win back to back Open Championships?
2. MAD LANK ROAR – A famous building near York!
3. Who designed the famous St Mellion course which has played host to the Benson and Hedges International Open for several years?
4. Name the greenkeeper who produced his fourth Open Championship course this year.
5. Who was the Irishman whose winning point sealed Europe's famous Ryder Cup victory in September?
6. Name the two players who had holes-in-one in the Ryder Cup this year.
7. How many bunkers did the BIGGA Green-keeping Support Team rake at St Andrews this year? To the nearest 50.
8. Who was the first British player to win the US



Masters?

9. Colin Montgomerie's father is the secretary of which Open Championship course?
10. What is the name of the cup played for every other year by the lady professionals of Europe and the United States?
11. In which US city is next year's GCSAA Trade Show and Conference being held?
12. At which course will the 1997 Ryder Cup be held?
13. Where was this year's Walker Cup played and who won.
14. Who will become the new Chairman of BIGGA at next year's AGM?
15. Who did Ernie Els defeat in a play-off to win the 1994 US Open?
16. Over which course was it played?
17. Which golf course was the most recent to be added to the Open Championship rota?
18. Who is Course Manager at that course?
19. From which county does BIGGA Chairman Barry Heaney come?
20. Where is next year's Open Championship to be played?

Answers on Page 50



# WORKING

**The interaction of maintenance operations, by Steve Isaac, Regional Turfgrass Agronomist (Scotland), STRI**

## **Every action has a reaction**

The well trained greenkeeper knows all about golf course maintenance operations. He has a sound understanding of the need for mowing, scarification, aeration, feeding, watering and top dressing. This is very important, but how much thought is given to the way in which each of these individual operations affect any of the others? Every action has a reaction and the way in which works are carried out and, just as important, the timing of treatments will have implications for the rest of the management programme.

The golf course is ever evolving. Seasonal change is fairly obvious but there is also variation imposed by maintenance. Let us consider a few management scenarios and how individual operations affect the rest of the package of treatments.

## **Irrigation is not just watering**

Irrigation is a good place to start, particularly after such a dry summer. Watering has many benefits and pitfalls. Sensible irrigation can sustain growth and quality surfaces enabling other treatments to perfect the green, eg. routine mowing and verticutting. As water encourages growth at a time when without it there would be none there is a fertiliser implication. If the irrigation is to be truly effective in retaining root development through dry summers when the natural growth pattern is

for a return of roots towards the surface then complementary aeration and wetting agent applications are called for. If there is irrigation to teeing grounds; and tees possibly have a greater need for automatic watering than do greens, it allows for enhanced recovery from play and makes divoting with seed a sensible practice. Watering and seeding can only do so much, however, and to get the best result from repairs a package of measures has to be undertaken to relieve compaction and to get the seed into the soil.

The damage done to putting greens from over-watering has been well publicised – to such a degree that there are a few greenkeepers so afraid of the consequences that they deliberately under water to the detriment of summer surfaces. The action: Reaction principle is never more clear than with over-watering. Stimulating lush growth and thatch will demand an increase in mechanical operations, i.e. scarification and aeration, and a larger amount set aside in the budget for fungicide.

## **Building up headaches with top dressing?**

One maintenance procedure where the long term evolution of greens and its effect on other practices is often overlooked is top dressing. Firm, dry surfaces are vitally important to the possibility of year round golf in this country. For years clubs have been using high sand content top dressings to produce such greens. Many have not anticipated the need to adjust other practices to cope with improved drainage and firmness. Subtle changes to irrigation and fertiliser may well be necessary in relation to timing rather than quantity.

Indeed, with a deeper rooted turf there may be a requirement for less water and feed but in such a situation greens may warm up earlier in the year giving an opportunity to promote faster growing bent with judicious spring feeding.

We are seeing more variety in fungal activity to golf greens these days. The demise of mercury fungicides has been suggested as a cause but the accumulation of sandy dressing to former soil-based surfaces could well be a contributing factor. Fairy rings are far more common on sandy greens. Anthracnose is always reported as a pathogen favoured by compaction yet we see it frequently on compaction-free greens. Anthracnose is a disease that attacks weak annual meadow-grass and is becoming more prevalent on sandy greens where moisture and nitrogen availability are greater influences in susceptibility to this disease than is compaction.

The build up of a few inches of sand will also have an effect on pH and all that entails with regard nutrient availability. The incoming sand may have a different pH to the native soil and the lack of buffering capacity within the accumulated depth of sandy dressing can mean less stability of pH than was previously the case. Sand profiles growing turf fed with sulphate of ammonia tend to become increasingly acidic. It is often said that the pH you have is the best with which to work. This may be true provided that pH is stable but it is feasible that heavy programmes of top dressing, say combined with coring to get on top of thatch, may create unstable chemical conditions.

## **Punching holes in the maintenance programme**

Aeration is generally regarded as an essential element of any maintenance package but what of the consequences of aeration? The simple solution to thatchy greens is to core them, slit them, Verti-Drain them and so on. Is any consideration given to the turf that has grown quite happily on the thatchy ground, albeit most likely dominated by annual meadow-grass? It must be like being thrown out of a home full of luxurious comfort, the grass pampered by the retention of water and nutrients within the thatch hardly having to exert itself to enjoy an easy living. All of a sudden you are out on the streets and it is a battle to obtain enough to keep you going. Stressed turf is prone to disease and lacks durability under wear. The consequences can well be imagined but may have to be suffered, within reason, if the maintenance regime is to tip the balance away from annual meadow-grass in favour of bent and fescue.

On a grander scale, well aerated greens tend to be the driest, firmest place on the golf





# TOGETHER



course come the winter. Courses close more often these days because the ground between tee and green is unfit for traffic. If they stay open there is tremendous damage around greens and to other navigational routes which must be repaired in the spring just when all your efforts should be turning to the preparation of greens for summer play.

## **When time really tells**

Hopefully, the real consequences of everything that is done on a golf course is beginning to sink in. The interaction of maintenance operations is so great that it is difficult to grasp the "global" implications of any single treatment. Let us confuse the situation further by considering the importance of timing.

Back to irrigation and fertiliser. The dangers of watering and feeding late in the year are well known. Greens must be dry when entering the, potentially, wetter autumn months. Late feeds with nitrogen do encourage disease.

When do you need top dressing most? Not at the height of summer when the different grasses which make up greens turf are growing uniformly and true surfaces can be produced with the right combination of mowing,

grooming and verticutting. Dressings through the best growing months of the year interrupt verticutting regimes, blunt mowers and do little to nurture good relations with golfers. Concentrate dustings of dressing through the spring to true up surfaces and protect the turf from drying winds.

The best time for aeration is a great subject for discussion. Greenkeepers know that aeration is most successful when there is life in the soil and growth in the grass. Golfers want aeration kept to the winter. How often are greenkeepers forced to punch holes into their pride and joy in October, November or even deeper into the winter? How surprising to hear complaints about bumpy green from golfers come the spring when the holes from the late tining are still open! If greens are being cored or Verti-Drained with a view to heavy top dressing then timing is even more critical. The dressing must be worked in thoroughly to avoid smothering and weakening turf and bringing on disease. This means that the ground has to be reasonably dry and the grass must still be growing to absorb the dressing.

## **To conclude**

The examples discussed here are not complete

in themselves. No doubt other reactions to the actions mentioned, or entirely different systems of interaction, will come to mind as you sit down and think the processes through. It would be wrong to ignore the value of individual treatments. Turf would be difficult to look after if watering or aeration were omitted but they form part of the package and if you want pro-active, rather than crisis management, then it is vital that a cohesive strategy of complementary works is implemented.

Greenkeepers are, generally, aware of the consequences of most of their actions. Of more concern is the influence of committees who would like to dictate policy completely oblivious to the delicate balance needed to sustain quality turf.

The interactions of maintenance policy are too complex for the majority of laymen to understand and many members are not overly interested anyway, provided the course is in good nick whenever they are on it.

If only golfers could appreciate that managing quality turf demands a programme of carefully timed works which cannot always accommodate ever increasing golf fixtures and competitions.

That nut is a hard one to crack.



**Phil Chiverton is a Course Manager whose progressive ideas are ensuring that The Buckinghamshire becomes one of the best new clubs in the country.**

**T**he dates of Captain's Day, Club Championship, Pro-Ams and any regional and national tournaments due to be played at a club can usually be seen ringed in black ink on the office calendar. They are invariably preceded by an intensive programme of work designed to bring the course to its peak, looking its magnificent best, on just the right weekend.

At one new club, however, it is slightly different. The Buckinghamshire, in Denham, a few miles off the M25, is maintained at its absolute peak at all times with presentation given the number one priority.

The Course Manager is Phil Chiverton who masterminds the policy of ensuring the course is seen at its Sunday best, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

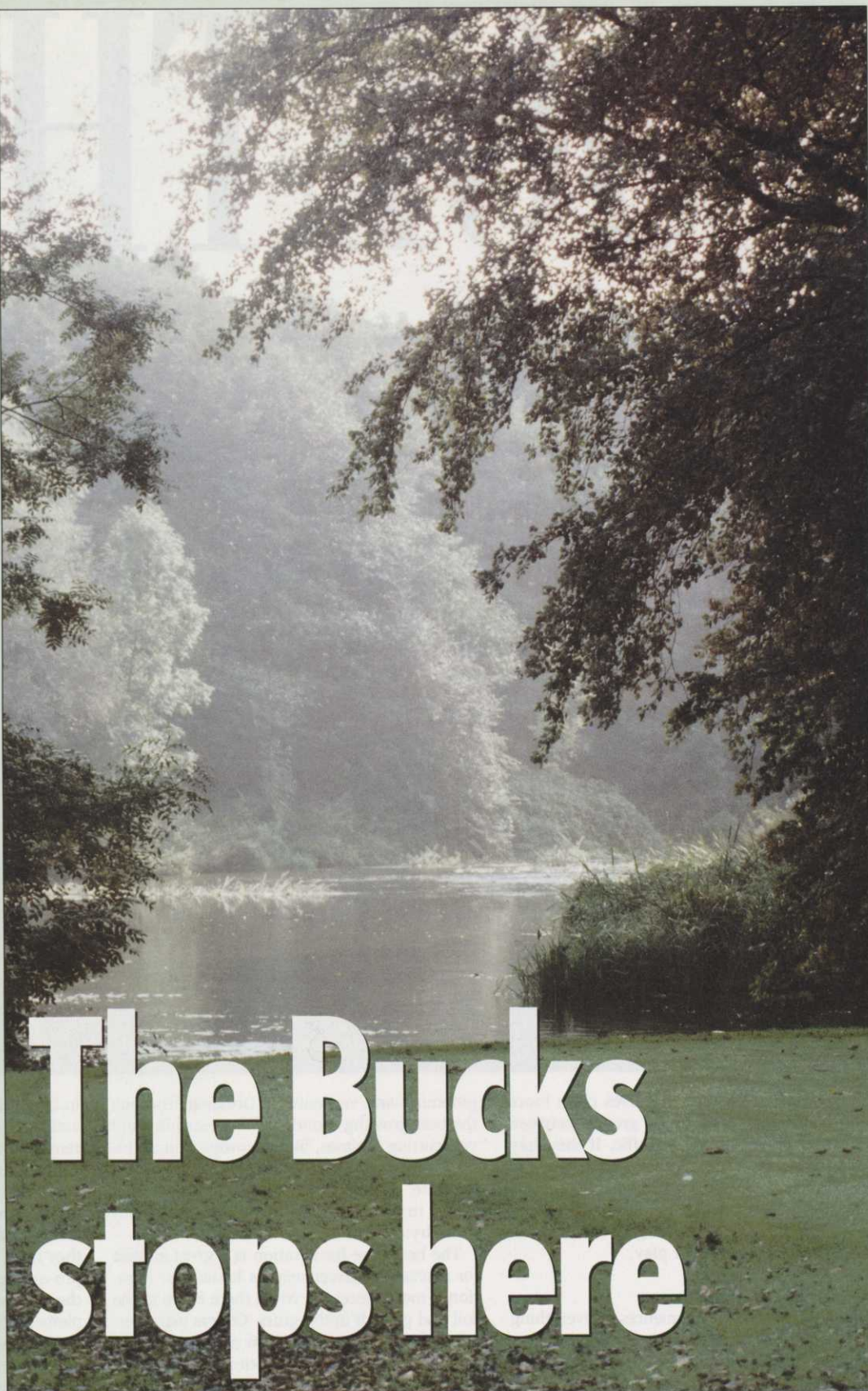
"We hand mow greens right throughout the summer and the winter to avoid triplex ring wear and tear. We also hand mow tees, collars and approaches and will have eight people out on walk behind mowers at any one time in the morning which takes four hours," explained 27 year-old Phil, who previously worked under Chris Kennedy at Wentworth, looking after the West Course.

The care is not confined to the greens, though, as it is normal practice to box off on fairways and collect all the clippings all year round.

"If we didn't hand mow greens and tees and box off clippings it would allow us to do a lot of the other jobs like bunker maintenance but presentation takes a high priority at The Buckinghamshire," explained Phil, who has a full time staff of 11 excluding himself.

"Luckily I've got the resources to maintain the high standard of presentation but I would still like two months to prepare for a big tournament. For a club competition a couple of weeks notice is all that we would need to polish off and get the course up to scratch."

Phil has been at the prestigious new Japanese-owned club since May 1990 just after it was constructed, and been involved all the way through as First Assistant under Kevin Munt, who has since moved up to be General Manager, before being promoted to Course Manager at the beginning of '94.



"Initially I looked after the irrigation system, a Toro Network 300. We hope to update this to a CDS next year. We have wall to wall irrigation pumping about 400 gallons a minute. It's all mains water and we spend £25,000 a year on water bills."

Phil began his greenkeeping career at Bridport and West Dorset GC before moving to Wentworth where his immediate boss was Jim McKenzie, now

Course Manager at Celtic Manor.

The decision to move from one of the most illustrious, high profile courses in the country to a similar position on a course still to be built was one a lot of young greenkeepers would not have made. But Phil was tempted.

"This course was such a new development with new Bent grasses, high maintenance and I decided I wanted a change. I felt that I had spent long enough at

Wentworth there was not anything more to gain from being there. I wasn't really moving ahead quickly enough," he explained.

It is a decision which has certainly paid off and it has allowed Phil to do things his own way.

"It is a new course and there are lot of improvements to be made. There are a lot of scraggy areas which could be improved upon and Rye grass was the only





real option. There are not many grasses which withstand wear and tear better than the Rye grasses or Dwarf Rye grasses these days. It helps with presentation and uniformity of cut and even playing surface. The benefit to the golfer is that the ball tends to sit up more on the fairway. You don't get as a big divot with a Rye grass fairway as you do with a Creeping Bent grass fairway.

"The down side is that it grows a lot more, particularly if you keep the nutrition up as we do here. You have got to keep mower blades very sharp as Rye grass is very tough to cut but you can rip it very easily. However it doesn't need as much verticutting, top dressing and hollow coring as Creeping Bent grass does.

"My main priority at the moment is to put bands of Rye grass around the greens. We get a turf cutter and strip off round the green and turf with 100% rye grass and bring that back down to collar height. It prevents poa from creeping in from the edges and onto the putting surfaces."

**'I do tissue tests regularly to determine the amount of nutrient on the leaf which allows me to determine when the plants need another feed.'** PHIL CHIVERTON

"I've also been working on the root development on the greens and managed to get down to about six inches – we did have that down to an inch but we've got rid of that completely now. This was thanks to a more intensive verticutting and slitting programme and cutting out. We put on a light top dressing at least once a fortnight in the summer depending upon the conditions and instead of mowing the following day go over it with the turf iron.

"We also try to water the greens better and rather than do a little bit every night try to do a flood once a week and hand water in between so roots go down to find water rather than



sitting in a wet moist layer on top all the time.

Another policy which Phil has introduced should help to take the guess work out of the introducing of nutrition.

"This year, working with Scotts, we now know exactly how much nutrition we are putting on the course at any one time rather than doing it on an ad hoc basis. We're basing it on kilogrammes per hectare of nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. I keep a record of how many grammes go on per square metre.

"For example I've just finished putting 389 kilos of nitrogen, 34 kilos of phosphorous and 397 kilos of potassium on the greens.

"The benefits are financial on

one side and I do tissue tests regularly to determine the amount of nutrient on the leaf which allows me to determine when the plants need another feed. I've got records of that right throughout the whole year so it's given me a much more scientific approach. It is the way greenkeeping is going now. It takes guesswork out of it.

It is quite a daunting prospect for a young greenkeeper to be managing a top golf course with a £500,000 a year budget and a staff which, with seasonal workers, rises to 18 in the summer.

"I found it difficult at first to move into a more sedentary, desk bound, job but I'm now beginning to enjoy it because it was more of a challenge. I was more of a hands on person but now I'm behind a desk or a computer a lot more.

"I do an annual programme, a monthly programme, have a senior staff meeting once a week to discuss the work ahead and give a sheet to the Head Greenkeeper and he gets on with it. I'm not involved in when the greens and tees get cut or the bunkers





are raked.

The Buckinghamshire boasts £500,000 worth of equipment with £140,000 worth bought this year as part of a five year replacement programme.

Jamie Bennett of Grass Roots Ltd sponsored him to go to San Francisco last year for the GCSAA Conference.

"I went on a two day James Beard course on Basic Physiology and Anatomy of Turf Grasses and that was just brilliant. Americans are much more advanced and professional in their greenkeeping although I think were getting better at it.

"I now have enough points to do the Master Greenkeeper Award so might like to do it next year.

"During my visit to California I hired a car and drove down to Pebble Beach and the Monterey Peninsula Spyglass Hill, links at Spanish Bay. I walked around Cypress Point and it was just

## MACHINERY LIST

Three Jacobsen LF 100s  
Two Jacobsen Greenskings  
Two Jacobsen Trikings  
Four Toro GR1000 Pedestrian Greens Mowers  
Four Jacobsen 22" Pedestrian Greens Mowers (used for tees)  
One Toro 4500  
One Ransomes T51  
Two Kubota F2400s  
Two Toro Sandpros  
Four Jacobsen 810 Express Utility Vehicles  
Toro Workman with deep splitter,  
Vicon Varispreader Top Dresser and box  
Two Cushman Trucksters with Vic Variaspreader and AMP 300 Hardi Sprayer  
One Massey Ferguson 362

One Kubota 5450 with loader  
One Kubota 4200  
One Kubota 1750  
One Toro Fairway Aerator  
One Jacobsen Hollow Corer  
One 2m Vertidrain  
One Sisis Twinplay with Brush and Spiker  
One Hardi NK600 Sprayer  
One Farmura Turf Iron  
One Ryan Mataway  
One Ryan Turfcutter  
One Charterhouse 2m Overseeder  
One Hayter Scarifier 308  
Two Sisis Drop Seeders  
One Richard Long Scarifier Collector  
One Woodchipper  
Two Fraser Trailers  
One Sorrel Roller

unbelievable, *Poa Annua* everywhere, including the greens, but the setting of the bay and the design of the course is just incredible.

"I pick up ideas from books and other greenkeepers. I keep in touch with Andy Wood at London GC and Martin Jones at The Oxfordshire a lot. They are similar types of golf clubs and operations – all Creeping Bent grass greens and fairways and we often get together and talk about the way we do things.

"Clubs are often too secretive. If we got together more perhaps we could help each other out a bit. Dealing with things like *Poa Annua*," he said.

Phil has become a close friend of Jamie Bennett and is a member of the recently launched Barenbrug/Grass Roots Go Parting team but he also appreciates the work that Grass Roots does.

"The benefit of working with

Grass Roots is great from a service point of view. When I first became Course Manager I was constantly on the phone to about six different companies chasing up materials, supplies, prices and quotes. I got Jamie in and talked though my whole programme in November '94.

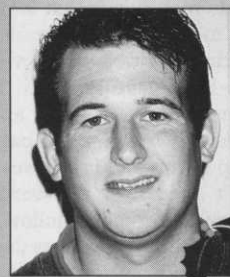
The benefits of working for a Japanese funded club are immense but they also lead to some extra work which wouldn't normally have been budgeted for.

"We're owned by Asahi Breweries in Tokyo and the Managing Director during one of his visits said he wanted the greenkeeping sheds painted because he didn't like the colour. We had to go ahead and get that done in a hurry," said Phil.



Phil (centre) with some of his team

## WHAT I'D LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS



**Dean Jones,  
Gerrard's Cross GC:**

"Either a machine which can pick up every single leaf from a green or getting a fat cat water boss as a member of our course."





**W**hen Bob Savine and Chris Gilroy spent more and more time building tees and bunkers when they were assistants at Mid Herts Golf Club they saw an opportunity to combine their 22 years of experience and start a business of their own.

That was seven years ago and was the start of S&G Ltd which has slowly developed into one of the best regarded small construction companies in the country.

At the beginning of this year they were joined by Chris Foreman who added Project Manager experience and opened the door to potentially bigger contracts and possibly their own 18 hole golf course to construct.

"Our aim as a company is to construct an 18 hole golf course but we're quite happy to do the work we're doing at the moment," said 35 year-old Bob, as we surveyed the nine new greens and surrounds the company was building at Hessle Golf Club in Hull.

"Then I think we'd feel ready to compete with the big contractors. We are tendering for 18 holers at the moment and if we get one I would feel we were on our way."

Chris and Bob started the company as finishers and with the introduction of Chris Foreman as Project Manager, one of them can go with Chris to construct, finish, grow in and maintain a golf course leaving the other to carry on the work which they have always done."

In many ways the arrival of 29 year-old Chris Foreman has meant that the company has reached a cross roads and given the two founders much to contemplate.

The works which we can now compete for are bigger, larger contracts. We would compete with Southern Golf but on the other hand we couldn't because we don't have their labour force or their back-up. If we did want to compete we would have to say to all the small jobs, I'm sorry we can't do them but these are the jobs which S&G has been brought up on. These are the jobs we enjoy doing," explained Bob.

The benefits of being first and foremost greenkeepers are enormous according to Chris Gilroy.

"As greenkeepers we have a



Bob Savine, Chris Gilroy and Chris Foreman

# ON THE WAY UP

**'As greenkeepers we have a good eye for the finishing of greens and, for cutting purposes, where a mower can get round and where it can't from a maintenance point of view.'**

good eye for the finishing of greens and, for cutting purposes, where a mower can get round and where it can't from a maintenance point of view.

"We also have the knowledge that we are being paid by the golf course to do a job and we respect the fact that the members pay a large amount of money to play golf on a private golf course. We appreciate the fact that they want to play golf and they don't want to see people working in front of them stopping them from playing.

"We also work alongside the Head Greenkeeper so as we can give the job that the Head Greenkeeper and the committee wants. At the end of the day, when we finish on site, it is important everyone is happy – most of all the Head Greenkeeper because what we leave he's got to maintain," explained 30 year-old Chris.

In the last few days on site we go out with him and ask if it's how he wants a particular job left," he added.

The downside is that greenkeepers are sometimes wary of having other greenkeepers on their course.

Some greenkeepers get intimidated by Chris and myself because from a greenkeeping aspect we know as much as they do but from a construction point of view we know more than they do because we've been out here for seven years and learned a hell of a lot in that time – especially as specialist finishers and in

growing in. We've picked up tips from the likes of Chris Foreman as contractors and the like and we use their techniques to make ourselves better and a lot of greenkeepers feel intimidated by us," said Bob.

Both began their greenkeeping careers in the '70s.

Chris Gilroy started as an assistant at Welwyn Garden City GC and remembers seeing Nick Faldo practising there before he became well known. He then moved to Wheathampsted GC Mid Herts and went to college and passed his exams. He stayed there for three or four years before moving on to the Japanese-owned Hatfield London Country Club.

Bob started at Mid Herts then went to Welwyn Garden City as an assistant before going to Hatfield London as Assistant Head Greenkeeper.

"I'd known Chris for a while but we ended up together at Hatfield London and in the early days were doing regular greenkeeping but then a new company, Tokyo Leisure, took over and they wanted to revamp the whole golf course," remembers Bob.

"The Japanese took a shine to us because of our work rate. It must have been the Japanese work ethic. We were putting the hours in, doing the overtime, chasing money reconstructing tees, greens, bunkers, doing ditching work and draining and they gave us more and more to do. Eventually we thought we could combine our experience and give it a go on our own."

It was a major step to take as Bob had a mortgage and although Chris didn't he had the usual living expenses.



# 'It's a case of getting the course in play as quickly as possible'

"We discussed the idea for about a year before we went out on our own. It was a big gamble and we lived on our savings which got us on our way for the first three years which was a struggle.

"We went blind we didn't sound out the guys we knew to find out if there was an immediate supply of work. There was one club which gave us work the rest didn't want to give us work for fear of upsetting the Head Greenkeeper/Course Manager so all our work was away from our regular area. We took a job in Stratford we picked up work at Hanbury Manor, doing remedial work then we got all the bunkers to shape up and sand on the front nine. That was five years ago.

They then wrote to all the big construction companies asking for finishing work to be subcontracted to them. The only company which gave them work was Southern Golf.

"We've got a good relationship with Southern Golf. In our opinion they are one of, if not the, best constructor in this country. Through Southern Golf we've met

Jack McMillan and George Shiel – some of the big boys in our industry," said Bob.

The newest member of the team has great respect for his two new colleagues.

"Without a word of a lie I believe they are the best finishers in the country and where major constructors fall down, almost without exception, is in their finishing," said Chris Foreman. "They just can't finish a golf course. They don't know how to but ex-greenkeepers do because they know what it should look like. Most of the big companies are not geared up for that.

"We thought that by my joining the company we could become a major force in the country. We feel that we have something a little bit unique to offer. I really do believe that," said Chris Foreman.

S&G has six full time staff who have each been trained in the ways of the company by Bob and Chris Gilroy. "They would sooner get things right the first time than have us come and tell them to do it again," says Bob.

"At Hessle we have 10 people on site, including Chris and

myself, two shapers on big machines who are owner drivers tied to us but if we have nothing for them have to find their own work – it is the most economical way of doing it. It is not worth us buying two big machines and having them sitting around.

Not that anyone connected with S&G will spend much time sitting around. The company has portable bedrooms which are moved on site to allow the teams to work from 6am to 9pm to get jobs completed.

"We have enough people so we can run three jobs at any one time. We'd like to do more but wouldn't want to spread ourselves too thinly," said Bob, who readily admits to have got it wrong on one occasion.

"We were offered a job at Penina recently which I jumped at but having spoken to the two Chrises I realised I was wrong as we would be overstretching ourselves."

"Unlike the big boys we can still send our 'A' team to every job we do," said Chris Foreman.

The company has worked in Ireland and France and in future would like to do more interna-

tional work.

S&G picks up a lot of its work from word of mouth and it is testimonials from clubs like Hessle which lead to more work.

Hessle GC has been extremely impressed by the quality of the work done by S&G.

"We are an ambitious club and wanted the quality of the greens and the course to match the quality of golf we wanted to play on them," said Chairman of the Greens Committee, Geoff Hardaker. "David Hemstock redesigned the greens and surrounds and we chose S&G for the construction work."

"We were extremely pleased with S&G as they struck us as a growing company with a good pedigree. We were impressed by their initial presentation and they took the trouble to send both Bob Savine and Chris Foreman to take a look at the site before we interviewed them.

"We had an excellent relationship with them while they were on site and cleared up the site superbly at the end. Also they finished on exactly the day they said they would, having taken nine

## ANNOUNCING OUR NEW REELMASTER 2300-D.







One of the re-designed greens and bunkers at Hesse

weeks to complete nine greens," said Mr Hardaker.

Another avenue for business comes when the company is brought in to finish work which has been left incomplete through disputes between other developers and contractors.

"Mid Sussex - another of the company's recent works - was a case where the developer ran out

of money and the banks took over and sold it on to the company we worked for. We'd worked for him previously and he knew what we could do and wanted us to continue. He was the third owner and he's the one making the money. He has a great golf course," said Chris Foreman.

"It's a case of getting the course

in play as quickly as possible and it's a case of the devil you know and getting in people they know do a good job and not going out to tender," he added.

Another good provider of work has been the VAT windfall which is producing money for work on courses and an area which S&G has a policy of chasing.

"It is opening a large sector of

the market up and hopefully the big boys aren't interested in it. It's work that Chris Gilroy and I have been doing for the last six years," said Bob.

Speaking with the Bob and the two Chrises it is hard not to be impressed not just by their work ethic and commitment to excellence but by their ability to carve a place for themselves in a very competitive market.

#### WHAT I'D LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS

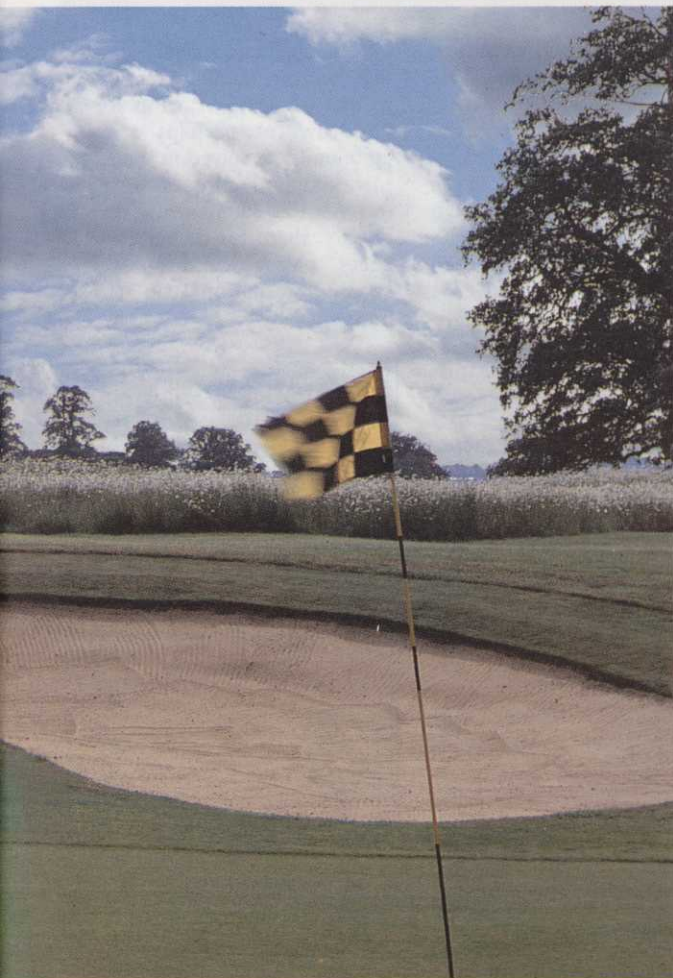


**Paul Tatlow,  
Kedleston Park GC:**

"To have all our members do the fairway divoting for a year."



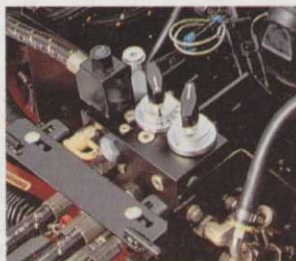
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# In the clutches of pythium

**Royal Porthcawl Course Manager David Ward looks back at the disease which hits his course just before this year's Walker Cup match.**

**R**oyal Porthcawl will go down in history as the venue for a magnificent performance by Great Britain and Ireland's amateur golfers who inflicted a rare defeat on their American cousins in the Walker Cup match in September.

The whole occasion was a triumph for all concerned not least for Course Manager David Ward and his team who survived an outbreak of disease which affected the Royal Porthcawl greens just before the event.

Now two months after the Walker Cup David can look back, reflect and analyse the events leading up to and after the match.

"Fortunately the disease affected the presentation of the greens but not the quality of the putting surfaces. The daily stimp-meter readings showed the greens to be running evenly at 10 feet," recalls David.

"A preventative spray had been applied three weeks earlier as the odd and feint yellowing patch – as with fusarium – could be seen on the 16th green. Taking no chances all greens were again sprayed but 72 hours later the disease had ripped through five greens with early signs of the disease showing on a further three," explained David.

"It was running randomly through the sward, sometimes forming into circular areas. The affected areas were a brown/orange colour and it was difficult to ascertain which grass species were affected most."

The agronomists appointed by the club and the R&A diagnosed the disease as Take-All Patch as the circular areas showed the classic signs of the disease but the extent and rapid spread were unusual and it was decided to send soil samples to a plant pathology unit for further diagnosis. In the meantime Rimidin was used at its maximum dosage rate.

The prolonged dry spell and the need for irrigation may have contributed to the outbreak.



David Ward (centre) with his team

"The club extracts water from an on-site bore hole and the pH of the water does not change dramatically even in drought conditions," explained David. "Water samples tested in September '95 had a pH reading of 7.3 while a reading of 7.6 had been recorded in August '94."

Pop-up irrigation was kept to a minimum and supplemented by hand watering. Ridges and the tops of greenside bunkers are the areas that stress out the most and where hand watering is most concentrated.

"These were the areas that were severely hit by the disease. We then stopped night time irrigation altogether and restricted hand watering even further in an attempt to reduce the spread of the disease," said David.

"In isolated areas the Catch 22 situation applied when turf affected by drought mingled with turf affected by disease.

"After 14 stressful days the disease finally stopped spreading. The fungicides used appeared to have had little or no effect while reducing the irrigation had certainly helped to slow the spread

and a drop in day and night time temperature did have a beneficial effect."

The orange colour faded to dull brown and the early signs of natural regeneration could be seen in some areas although other areas were completely lost.

Laboratory Diagnosis revealed that Take-All Patch was not detected but that the disease was the even rarer Pythium.

"Pythium is at its most destructive in hot humid weather and increases at an alarming rate. The Lab report concluded by saying that there is no approved product available in the UK to control Pythium," revealed David.

"It would appear that climatic changes, whether it be wettest winters or driest summers are bringing about problems in turf management which have not been seen before in this country.

"In my view it is important that information is pooled and therefore it would be interesting to hear from greenkeepers, plant pathology units and pesticide manufacturers about the problems they have encountered this year and how they see trends

developing," said David.

● If you have similar experiences to that of David Ward at Royal Porthcawl or perhaps are an agronomist involved in the identification and cure of unusual diseases this summer and would like to share his or her experiences please contact Greenkeeper International on 01347 838581.

## WHAT I'D LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS



**Norbert Lischka, Hamburger GC, Falkenstein, Germany:**

"More hand mowers and from a personal point of view that my family stays healthy."





BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION

BIGGA

# BTME

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& EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME



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In golf it is The Open Championship or the Augusta National lawn during the Masters. In horse racing it is either Ascot or Cheltenham. In greenkeeping it is undoubtedly Harrogate in January for BTME. If a pound was donated to BIGGA's Building Fund for every conversation which ends "See you at

Harrogate" we would have shot past our target figure already.

The popularity of BTME continues to grow by leaps and bounds not only with the number of companies which choose to exhibit or by the increasing numbers of delegates who take the time to fill in pre-registration cards thus avoid queues on arrival but by top class speakers who have reserved space in their hectic schedules to talk at the National Education Conference, Educational Workshop Programme or the Educational Seminar Programme.

## Looking ahead to BIGGA's main event, January 24–26, 1996





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# See you in Harrogate

## THE EXHIBITION

The growth and success of the show had brought about the need for more exhibition space and this year, for the first time Hall D at the Harrogate International Conference Centre has been introduced to cope with the demand. The decision was vindicated immediately with every square metre of floor space being booked.

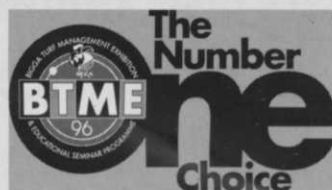
A total of 162 companies will be exhibiting at BTME '96, many taking much larger stands than in previous years and many exhibiting for the first time.

As with last year exhibitors will be issued with light pens so they can



note to whom they have been talking by simply scanning the barcoded

delegate badges. Coventry Data Services has once again been commis-



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

## BTME OPENING TIMES

Wednesday January 24 9am-5.30pm

Thursday January 25 9am-5.30pm

Friday January 26 9am-1.30pm

## BOOKING SYSTEM

Any delegate wishing to book hotels, seminar sessions or the Banquet should contact Sami Collins at BIGGA Headquarters on 01347 838581.

## AGM

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will take place at the Majestic Hotel at 5.45pm on Wednesday January 24, 1996. All members are urged to attend but membership cards must be produced.

sioned by BIGGA to operate this scheme.

# Most comprehensive education programme in Europe



The Learning Experience was given a huge boost by a major agreement signed by BIGGA and Ransomes which will ensure that its status as the finest of its type anywhere in Europe is reaffirmed. The agreement, initially for three years but with options beyond that, ensures that considerable opportunities for the development of the Learning Experience in association with Ransomes will be opened up and exploited.

Among the speaker on this year's National Education Conference, Educational Workshop Programme and Educational Seminar Programme is Dr Joe Vargas Jnr.

Dr Vargas has been professor of Botany and Plant Pathology at Michigan State University for the past 25 years where he was involved in teach-



ing and research. He has published over 200 articles on turfgrass diseases and related subjects and spoken at over 1,000 conferences throughout the world.

*Something for everyone!*

## National Education Conference

What you can look forward to:

**TRANSITION ZONE JULY THROUGH**

**DECEMBER:** Stanley Zontek, Director, United States Golf Association Mid Atlantic Region

**GRASS SPECIES FOR GOLF:** Ian McMillan, Course Manager, Hankley Common Golf Club/Dr A J Newall, STRI

**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT:** Peter Jones, Peter Jones Associates/Dr C A York, STRI

**AN ALGARVIAN EXPERIENCE:** Peter Wisbey, Technical Director, Sociedade Do Golfe Da Quinta Do Largo

**A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH:** Jonathan Hill, Product Manager, Rhône Poulenc  
**THE BUDGET PROCESS:** David Whitaker, Course Manager, Wisley Golf Club

**GOLF COURSE CONCEPT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT:** Neville Pearson, ADAS

**OVERWINTERING IN CANADA:** Trevor Smith, Past President, Canadian Golf Superintendents Association

**PESTICIDE USAGE SURVEY - PRELIMINARY RESULTS:** Dr Alan Gange, University of London and David Garthwaite, Central Science Laboratory

**FROM SOIL TO SAND:** John Wells, Master Greenkeeper, Course Manager, Bocket Hall

**THE TRANCENDANT RESOURCE FOR ALL SEASONS:** David Winterton, Master Greenkeeper, Course Manager, Donnington Grove Country Club

**COURSE MANAGEMENT UP A**



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# Wealth of information is available

**MOUNTAIN:** Ian Tomlinson, Course Manager, Lausanne Golf Club  
**ANNUAL BLUEGRASS/BENTGRASS WHICH IS STRONGER?** Joe Vargas, Professor of Botany and Plant Pathology, Michigan State University.

## Workshop 1. Golf Course Design, Construction and Establishment.

Presented jointly by BIGGA and the British Institute of Golf Course Architects and hosted by Howard Swan MSc and Simon Gidman BSc, members of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects.

## Workshop 2. Stress Management Techniques

Presented by Brin Bendon, Vector Training.

## Educational Seminar Programme

**THE CANADIAN GOLF SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION:** Trevor Smith, Past President, Canadian Golf Course Superintendents Association

**WHO ME?** David Walden, Zeneca Premier Greenkeeper 1994

**BACK DOWN TO EARTH:** Euan Grant, Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year 1994

**THE ROLE OF THE UNIONS TODAY:** English Golf Union



**THE EVOLUTION OF GREENKEEPER TRAINING IN IRELAND:** Joe Furlong, Golfing Union of Ireland  
**THE GREENKEEPER, THE GOLFCUB AND THE SCOTTISH GOLF UNION:** Bob McLaren, Scottish Golf Union  
**ACCURATE MODERN WATER SCHEDULING:** Peter White, P&D Water Management  
**LIFELONG LEARNING - OUR FUTURE:** Lorraine Hatton, Plan-it

### COMPETITION WINNERS

Paul Compton, First Assistant at South Beds GC, is the lucky winner of our BTME competition. Paul wins a trip to Harrogate for three nights, staying in a top hotel, and entry into all educational seminar sessions.

Second, and winner of a trip to Harrogate, two nights' accommodation and entry into the educational seminar sessions, is Stephen Hartshorn, Course Manager at Heyrose GC in Cheshire. Third, winning one night's accommodation and entry to all educational seminar sessions, was Mark Rankin, First Assistant at Portpatrick GC, Dumfries.

**Training and Consultancy Ltd**  
**IN THE WOODS:** Andrew Boyd, Head Greenkeeper, Bridlington Golf Club

**PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT FOR VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:** Brin Bendon, Vector Training

**STRESS MANAGEMENT:** Jenny Rolf, Lecturer and Stress Counsellor

**THE EXPANDING ROLE OF THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT:** Gary Grigg, President GCSAA

**LUBRICATION TECHNIQUES:** R J Coleman, Managing Director, Lubrication Engineers

**NEW TRENDS IN TURFGRASS MANAGEMENT IN THE US:** Stanley Zontek, Director, United States Golf Association, Mid Atlantic Region

**SIX SIMPLE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE YOUR GOLF COURSE AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE COST:** John Armitage, Chairman of Green, Littlestone Golf Club and Director of Green Eagle Golf Ltd

**AN IPM APPROACH TO THE MANAGEMENT OF TURFGRASS DISEASES:** Joe Vargas, Professor of Botany and Plant Pathology, Michigan State University

There is also a **STRI/BIGGA Chairmen of Green/Secretaries Course** on the Tuesday and Wednesday.



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

### SOCIAL PROGRAMME

As ever there is something for everyone in the social calendar for everyone with the Majestic Hotel playing host to the formally organised events.

The Conference Dinner on the Monday night features David Gunson the Air Traffic Controller and winner of the Benedictine After Dinner Speaker of the Year title.

The Karaoke Night on the Wednesday is the occasion when you are the entertainment always bearing in mind that Matthew Kelly might be hiding in the shadows waiting to frog march you on to "Stars in Your Eyes" if you show any potential.

The Exhibition Banquet on the Thursday night is the grand finale of the social programme and this year features comedian Stan Boardman, pictured, a recent victim of Michael Aspel's big red book on "This is Your Life" and Lyn Paul, the former lead singer of the New Seekers. They are joined by the City Lights Show Band to complete the entertainment for the evening.



**WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR AT THE SHOW: SEE PAGES 29-35**

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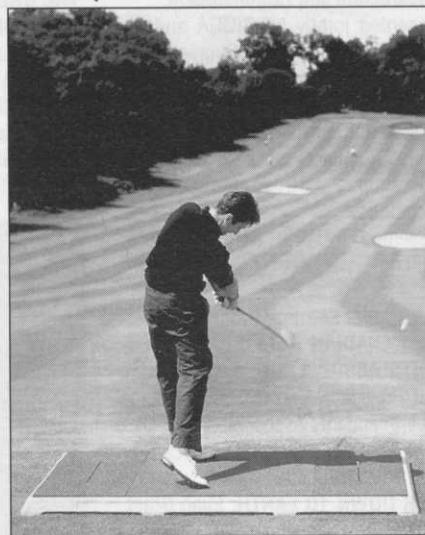
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# Around the Green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the regions

## North of Scotland

The Section Autumn outing and AGM took place at Peterhead at the end of October. There was a turnout of 62 with 56 golfing and the results were as follows: Scratch – 1. B Wood, Westhill, 73; 2. AG Maclaren, Abernethy, 80; Class 1 – 1. G Mitchell, Newmarcher, 74-3=71 (also winner of Nett aggregate Meldrum Trophy); 2. K Peace, Inverurie 77-4=73; 3. C Mackay, Cruden Bay, 81-6=75; Class 2 – 1. B Cameron, Inverurie 81-9=72; 2. G Leslie, Duff House Royal, 82-7=75(bih); 3. G Moir, St Andrews, 82-7=75; Class 3 – 1. B Cocker jnr, Drumoig, 90-14=76; 2. H Maclatchie, Peterhead, 99-21=78 (also committee trophy winner); 3. K Wood, Hazlehead, 101-22=79; Veterans – 1. A Grant, retired, 81-8=73 (also winner of veteran aggregate M&M trophy), 2. A Williamson, retired, 83-7=76; Apprentice – 1. B Edmunds, Nigg Bay, 77-3=74; Trade – 1. J Robertson, Aitkens, 95-20=75; Guest – J Forbes, Aboyne, 80-4=76; longest drive and nearest the pin – J Milne, Elgin; Booby – B Strachan, Auchmill. 200 Club winners Sept. £30-42- A Fowler, Grantown, Oct. £30-22- J Craik, SISIS; Nov. £40-128 – H Maclatchie, Peterhead; Dec. £100-79- J Low, Murrayshall. N Sadler, Grantown, was the lucky winner of the BIGGA blazer.

Thanks to all at Peterhead for a great day, the course was in superb condition and we were well looked after in the clubhouse.

The AGM followed the outing. Alasdair Maclaren and Neil Macdonald retired from the Committee and were replaced by Wilson Morrison, Alford, and Kevin Peace, Inverurie. Chairman Andy Wilson welcomed the new Committee men and paid tribute to the two men retiring and thanked them for all their work over the years. Yours truly resigned as Secretary and was replaced by Douglas Duguid, Westhill. After the AGM, the new Committee met and it was agreed that the Secretaries duties be split up. The new Committee and their main duties are as follows: Chairman Andy Wilson, Letham Grange, Vice-Chairman and outings organiser Hugh Maclatchie, Peterhead, Treasurer Gordon Moir, St Andrews, Secretary Dougal Duguid, Westhill, 200 Club and magazine report Gordon McKie and Iain Macleod, both Tain, Raffles/prizes Wilson Morrison, Alford, Education Kevin Peace, Inverurie and Stewart McBain, Nigg Bay, Sam Morrison, Royal Aberdeen, completes the Committee line up and will understudy the Treasurers role, he will also become Scottish Chairman next year.

Congratulations to Strathlene's Alan Dempster on his new job as Head man at the Island Golf Club near Dublin. It is also good to report Royal Dornoch's 13th place and Cruden Bay's 99th in an American magazines top 100 golf courses in the world.

Finally I would just like to thank everyone who has helped me during my term as Secretary and I wish all friends and fellow BIGGA members a Happy Christmas and all you wish for in 1996.

Iain Macleod

## Buck, Berks & Oxon

The Autumn Golf event was held at Hadden Hill Golf Club on October 9. Although the number of entries were down on previous years it proved to be a suc-

cessful tournament. Those who participated enjoyed the day immensely. My thanks to the Golf Club for hosting the event and congratulation to Mike Woods and staff for presenting the course in first class condition. Also thanks to the catering staff for laying on superb food at lunchtime and in the evening.

The day would not be a success without the help of certain trade members who very kindly donate the prizes for the tournament so many thanks to Rodger Bowles, Rigby Taylor, Denys Foringdon, Parker Hart, and Bernie Wall, Stabrite.

Results as follows: Best Overall – Shane Cooke and Steve Lamb (they are now banned for winning two years in a row!), Best A.M. – Carlos Apprecio and Dave Wilding, Best P.M. – Adrian Cooper and Alastair Pollock, Nearest the Pin – Jim Socket, Longest Drive – Geoff Wheeler.

If anybody is interested in taking on NVQ training then contact Martin Gunn, Temple GC. Martin has been appointed NVQ Adviser for our region. He can be contacted by phone on Thursdays between 9.30-4pm on 01628 828541.

Lindsay Anderson

## West of Scotland

In the last issue mention was made of a five a side tournament, the event has now been successfully concluded with an excellent response. The day was set for October 19 at the Firhill Complex and 12 teams contested the prizes. A good dry day had been hoped for and we were in luck. Most teams turned out in their colours, full of high spirits (some from the night before). Four clubs qualified for the semi finals East Kilbride with Pollock, Glasgow, Balmore and Souters. Hard lines to Campsie who lost to Souters on goal difference. A hard fought battle was experienced between Souters and Balmore in their semi, with Balmore emerging eventual winners. The other semi saw East Kilbride overcome a tired Glasgow squad, but all credit to them East Kilbride had to produce their best to go through. The final saw East Kilbride beat Balmore in a well contested, clean, skillful exhibition of football. Overall the degree of skill was better than expected but in most cases the fitness was lacking.

Thanks are due to all who competed and especially Cawder for filling in at the last gasp. The Referees are to be thanked for withstanding the taunts and abuse hurled at them – its amazing how people change on a football pitch. I thank everybody for what appeared to be a successful day and to that and would be grateful for any suggestions to improve on for next year.

Other information to mention is the football (again!) to be played against the East Section. A trial will run first in December, so interested parties please make your intentions known by contacting Gordon Kerr at Gleddoch House or myself at 0141 942 5554.

Other business includes the AGM and games night arranged for December 7, if time allows then please come along and support your section, mini buses are arranged so if you want a lift contact either John Scott JNR or Steven Hogg to discover the pick up points.

Any interesting information for the magazine

should be given to myself at the afore mentioned number, as yet nobody seems to want to pass on any details. Things to include are retirements, births, new positions or deaths. I would appreciate the information.

J Stuart Taylor

## East Midlands

Our annual match versus the Midland Section was this year played at the Warwickshire with the Midland section winning back the Rigby Taylor Shield 10.5 points to 4.5 points. Well done to the Midland Section and we will try to put up more of a fight next year. Our section was represented by the following players: Richard Barker, Paul Tatlow, Pete Forshaw, Dave Leatherland, Steve Goode, Pete Billings, Anthony Foulds, Graham Arnold, Mark Bindley and Gavin Robson. Our thanks go to the Warwickshire Golf Club for their courtesy and hospitality on the day, and also to our sponsors for the day, Rigby Taylor.

This year's singles K/O winners was again Paul Tatlow, Kedleston Park, who retains the Supaturf Cup by beating Dave Leatherland, Kedleston Park, in this year's final.

Two dates for next year's diary Spring Tournament Rothley Park April 25 and Autumn Tournament Ramsdale Park September 12. Finally I would like to wish all members a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year, and I hope to see you all at Harrogate for the BTME next month.

Antony Bindley

## London

I would like to congratulate Don Wilson, Dyrham Park Golf and Country Club, in qualifying for the last stage of the Miracle Professional Greenkeeper of the Year Award. He goes through to the final stages after beating Derek Mason, Highgate Golf Club. Unfortunately only one person can qualify for the last stage and I would like to wish Don all the best on behalf of the London Section.

The annual challenge match against the Mid-Anglia Section was held in October at Hadley Wood GC. The weather was superb and the course was in excellent condition. I would like to thank Craig Handyside and his staff for preparing the course. The match resulted in an overall win for the Mid-Anglia Section (2.5 to 1.5). I would like to thank the Mid-Anglia Section for an enjoyable day and we look forward to the return match next year. Finally I would like to thank Hadley Wood GC for their hospitality and the Grass Roots Trading Company for sponsoring the event.

Tony Dunstan

## East of Scotland

Welcome to this month's report, just a few things to let you know about this month. Everyone's winter programme will be well on the way so we hope the weather stays decent so we can get on, not like past Winters. By the time you read this we will have had a Christmas shopping trip to the Metro Centre in Newcastle for wives, girlfriends, kids, family and friends so we hope you did not forget anything. Also the annual Dinner Dance which was a sell out and also a great success more details next month. If anyone is



thinking about going to the BTME at Harrogate get your name down now (details from Elliott Small Scottish Regional Administrator or they were also in October's magazine).

Speaking from experience it is a great week and worth making the trip, so see you there. We are just finalising some winter lectures details soon. The AGM was in November so I will give you a report in January's magazine, if they keep me on the Committee (hopefully). So if you have nothing to do on these long dark nights put pen to paper and drop me a letter about anything you fancy and if it is relevant I will put it in one of my reports.

We had a skittles night in October and as usual it was very poorly attended 21 people which is a disgrace from 150+ members as nearly half of the people were friends or guests, yours truly missed out as I was away on holiday that week so I have got a good excuse, what about the rest of you out there, where were you? If there is no improvement for the next one then it will be another activity to disappear from the East section's calendar, so come on, support us as it is your Section. By the way the people that were there had a great night. Well that's all for this month's all I would like to say is from myself and the Committee we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you all in 1996.

Chris Yeaman.

### Devon and Cornwall

On the week Roy retired as Head Greenkeeper at St Mellion Golf & Country Club it was fitting that the section held its first meeting of the winter programme at his complex on Wednesday October 25.

With such large numbers of members requesting to play golf for the D O Hunt Trophy over St Mellion's internationally renowned Nicklaus course meant that starting times has to be brought forward by an hour to 7.40am. Non golfing members were treated to a guided tour of the course by retiring Head Greenkeeper Roy Battishill which was most informative and included the viewing of Roy's pond! After lunch Don Hunt of Roffeys presented the prizes he had kindly donated for the morning's D O Hunt Stableford competition to: 1st - Steve Worrall, Stover 33pts; 2nd - Chris Bland, Dainton 32pts; 3rd - Steve Milne, Exeter, 31pts. Our congratulations and thanks are extended to Robert Brewer and his crew for presenting the course in excellent condition after the recent down pour of rain.

Our afternoon educational talk was presented by Roy Battishill on the maintenance of the St Mellion Complex from the growing in period through to staging the Benson & Hedges PGA Tour event. After Roy's talk our Chairman Bill Mitchell and President Alan Dommatt presented Roy with a tankard from the section and cut glass crystal from the trade, they wished Roy a happy and enjoyable retirement from

## Around the Green



all the sections members and trade.

The section would like to thank Peter Andrewartha, D Hunt, Roffeys; Alan Dommatt, DGM; Patrick Flegg, P J Flegg, Clive Ralph, Willcocks; Dave Harrison, SISIS; Allan Stow, Vitax; and organiser John Palfrey, Avoncrop, for donating towards the trade's gift. The raffle rounded off a most successful day, with thanks to all the trade who donated prizes to the raffle table. Our thanks to Don Hunt and Roffeys for donating the morning's golf prizes, with thanks also to St Mellion for allowing the section use of their complex for the day and to all of St Mellion's staff.

There are still a few places left on the region's 1996 trip to Harrogate and BTME but you need to hurry as places are going fast. To recap the Westurf-sponsored trip includes return coach travel from your nearest pick up point, three nights B&B and entry to all seminar sessions for only £99 per member, wives are welcome at only £75 which does not include seminar sessions. For more details please contact Gordon Child on 01803 844056.

Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year and I will hopefully see you all at Fingle Glen on Wednesday 17th January for our STRI seminar day.

Richard Whyman

### Cleveland

Norman Sheddon from Aitkens Sportsturf was presented with an inscribed whisky decanter and glasses from Cleveland Section for his kindness and help over the years. He always acts as scorecard marker, and acts more like a friend to all greenkeepers, young and old. His advice and cheerfulness is sound and pleasant. We wish you Norman a happy retirement and our best wishes to both yourself and your caring wife Joan.

In October our first meeting was Norman, talking about fertilisers. He introduced Peter Cotton from Farmura who spoke on the advantages of organics and mechanical aeration and seaweeds. The question asked, can we manage our courses without pesticides as in Germany now. We are encouraged to build up bacterial soil activity. Norman's advice is avoid ammonium nitrate = lush growth, get a balance of

organic and inorganics, root acids and soil acids, needed to breakdown fertilisers. IBDU relies on temperature for release of nutrients, controlled release, nutrient resin type shell, csome temperature and length of time = it lasts longer. For 1 unit of N = 3/4 unit of potash. Potash is useful for chlorophyll, colour and strength of plant.

It was nice to see younger members present, and how smart they all looked with collar and tie and jacket on. Well done chaps.

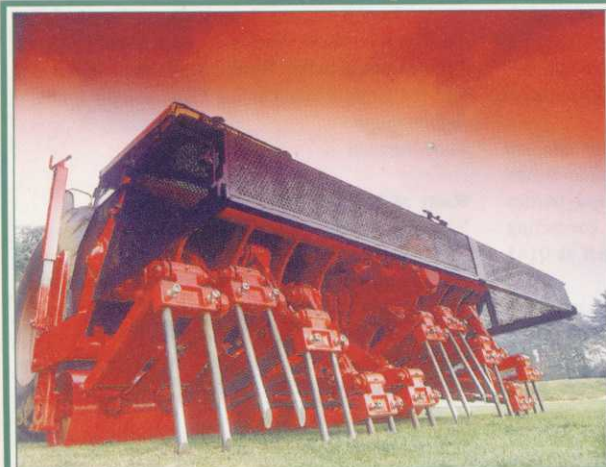
Dinsdale has a young trainee called James Applegarth. Ian Pemberton who passed Phase 4 recently is moving house from Middlesbro to Bedale. This will save him travelling 60 miles a day. Tony Mears, our Internal Verifier, held our first meeting of Assessors. James Braithwaite from Hallgarth Hotel Golf Club, Darlington, is the Toro/PGA European Tour Student of the Year. Congratulations.

Bruce Burnell.

### East Anglian

The "Wells-Go-Far" mailing system finally made it to Norfolk with our invitations and what a great day it was at Royal Cromer GC, some might say "Bootfull". It didn't rain, the course was in great shape thanks to Roger and the lads, and it was one of the best, if not the best turn outs for yonks. Essex men turn up in the charabang which was thoughtfully arranged by Dennis Smith and there wasn't a can of lager or Rotweiler in sight. It was good to see some new faces Dave Ireson, Eaton; Brian Lemmon, Barnham Broom; as well as the old scathulls especially George Newsome whose cheerful personality is really welcome these days.

Enough of the niceties, now the results. There are three sections plus guests so here we go: 0-9 or Category 1: Have we gone metric! 1. A Toomey, 2. R Whiting, 3. R Plummer, 4. A Carter, %. P Howard. 0-19 Category 2: 1. S Pigott, 2. A Goodman, 3. I Willitt, 4. J Russell, 5. P Gould. 19+ Category 3: 1. S Curtis, 2. M Dumbrell, 3. E Hart, 4. S Millard, 5. J Sheldon. Guests: 1. S Plummer, 2. E Collaw, 3. B Howsil. Nearest the pin on 9th Alan Carter, Nearest the pin on 17th M Dumbrell, Longest drive Richard (Mother's) Pride. Trade prize won by Dave (Jack) Hawkins. If you think that was a long list wait till you see this lot. They are of course our long suffering trade gang who are as follows: Anglia Mowers, Jacobsen, Toro, Rhone-Poulenc, Turf Actant, Collier Turf Care, Kubota, Parker Hart, Kings, CMW, Cromer Pro (Robin Page), Does, Cooks (Norwich), Pattison, Alan Carter, Levingtons, Nicholsons, and our good friends Butch and Sundance alias Rushbrooks and Sisis. If I have missed anyone out you will find them in Yellow Pages. Our thanks once again to Royal Cromer GC for a really great day. The Captain Mr Gotts received us warmly and I'm sure most of us will remember the President 'cos he's Paul's dad, Mr



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## THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONSHIP C



David Sego who said to me "I really enjoy the Greenkeepers' days out" Amen to that Mr Sego, Amen. Paul, incidentally, is in Scotland and working hard as usual. Hock-ey-the-noo as they say. I must just mention Steve Millard who did a good job in my absence it's good to know we've got some reserves. Well done.

Did you hear about the lad who did 25 years at the same club got £100 handshake, that's a penny a day (wow)! Been reading too many nursery rhymes. If this gets in before Christmas have a nice one. If it doesn't well, hope you had a nice one!  
Mick Lathrope.

### Sheffield

Firstly, on behalf of the Committee I would like to thank Ron Ullathorne for all the hard work he has done in keeping the Section running smoothly in the past year.

Our thanks go to Mr John Hacker of PSD Agronomy, whose lecture and slide show on golf course construction was enjoyed by 57 of our members at Rotherham Golf Club. If there is anyone interested in taking a spraying course, they should contact our section's education officer Steve Hurd on 01724 841827 who will give you more information.

Congratulations go to the following people who have taken up new posts recently, Ron Ullathorne, Head Greenkeeper at Hirst Park GC, Jeremy Duffield, Head Greenkeeper at Howley Hall GC and Steve Hird Assistant Greenkeeper at Forest Pines GC. Good luck to you all. New members this month include James Dean, Rotherham GC; Stuart Taylor and Leonard Firth, Buxton High Peak GC and Craig Potter, Hirst Priory GC. Finally I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

John Lax

### Northern

The Autumn Tournament was held on Wednesday 25th October at Easingwold GC. The course was in excellent condition and everybody had a very enjoyable day in unpleasant autumnal weather. The winners were: Division 1 – 1st G Potter, 2nd G Hewitt, 3rd R Harris. Division 2 – 1st P Thompson, 2nd A Baxter, 3rd D Collins. Division 3 1st D Cockburn, 2nd L Kirkbright, 3rd K Alderson. Nearest the Pin – L Kirkbright. The Veteran's Trophy was won by R Smith. 1st Division Aggregate – G Potter, 2nd Division Aggregate – D Collins, 3rd Division Aggregate – D Cockburn. The Associate members' prize went to A Dyson. After an excellent meal thanks were expressed to the Committee and staff by Secretary Marcus Cordingley, as the Chairman was not present.

I would again like to take this opportunity to wish all Northern Section Members a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

A Gamble

## Around the Green



### South West & South Wales Region

Well it looks like another year has gone by and nobody knew where it went, but in spite of some real dry weather in this region, it isn't so bad.

Before the reminders, I didn't get round to writing about the Hayter Challenge Tournament. I'm afraid Marion forced me to take her on holiday. I will mention it now. Although we won nothing, taking part was the key to our enjoyment at the West Lincs GC in September. The University was excellent as was the golf course, and it was nice to see Scotland, who have never won before, in such fine fettle. Our congratulations to them. As for our own lads, they were immediately handicapped with a late withdrawal, and had to put up with yours truly playing in the team. I was proud of our lads' refreshing attitude to the game led by Sean Richards who lives life with a smile on his face, and plays his golf the same way. This seemed to spread throughout the team, The only member who suffered jovular jestism was Trevor, but he is more than able too. Roll on next years.

By the time you read this the yearly Regional Seminar will have gone. More details about that later.

Just a reminder about the trip to BTME, Harrogate – a very few places left. £99 for members, £75 for wives and £125 for non members. Give us a ring on 01803 844056. It just remains to wish all our members, traders, sponsors, helpers and friends a very Happy Christmas and good fortune in the New Year.  
Gordon Child

### Surrey

The Autumn Tournament was played on October 12th at Home Park GC. Thanks must go to Bill Machin for his efforts on the golf course, thanks also to Home Park for allowing us to use the golf course in their centenary year. Unfortunately the entries were a little sparse but those who entered enjoyed the day. Results are as follows: 1st A Locke Blackmoor GC, – 56pts, 2nd R Glazier, Foxhills GC – 54pts on countback, 3rd D Walder, Reigate Heath GC, – 54pts. The event was played over 27 holes.

The Huxley Bown this year became an all Foxhill affair. With the final being played over 36 holes the

eventual victors were Course Managers and Assistant – Nevil Shade and Terry Ingram beat Head Greenkeepers Dave Wyborn and David Langheim.

The Dinner/Dance had to be cancelled due to lack of support. Again I would like to mention that a trip to Ransome Ipswich has been proposed for the new year, a coach has been kindly supplied should we get a good response. If you are interested in the visit please contact any of your Committee members so a suitable date can be arranged.

Congratulations go to Robert Brewer upon his appointment of Course Manager at St Mellion and to Euan Grant upon his appointment as First Assistant at Royal Jersey Golf Club.

Position upon the Committee have become vacant anybody within our section intrested and have a little time to spare a month please contact Derek Walder on 01737 246088.

The second of our Winter lectures have now been organised for February 12th at Walton Heath Artisans, the lecture is to be given by British Seed Houses 7.30pm. Venues for 1996 are still required for the Autumn Tournament, Parker Salver an Turkey Trot, if interested please contact myself on 01737 832015 after 6pm.

Now the festive season is fast approaching may I take this opportunity to wish all our members on behalf of the Committee a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

P.S. Please support us in 1996.  
David Gibbs.

### Midland

What an interesting 12 months I have had as Midland Section Secretary. Not all of it enjoyable, but on the whole a good experience. I have learnt a lot about the Association and its members, as well as how to type!

I still feel there is a lot of new ways our section can go forward in the future, and try to get more participation from the members organised by the Section and Region.

On October 9, Nick Bennett (Grass Roots Trading), organised a Go-Karting evening. Only 16 Greenkeepers out of the 48, who said they would like to participate, attended. With eight people making up the numbers outside of greenkeeping. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

The event went very well with four heats of six laps each to start with, then three semi-finals of 10 laps with the karts finishing 1st and 2nd in the final. The final was 15 laps with the results as follows: 1st – P Holtman, 2nd – N Dowty, 3rd – K Blake.

I must say that I had a stroke of luck when Nick Bennett slowed down on the last lap, or was it? Many thanks to Nick for organising the evening, and for the buffet and coffee provided, from all who attended. Hopefully, our next evening will be as suc-

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## COURSES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



cessful and have a few more participants to support our section.

The match between our Section and East Midland Section was won by East Midland Section. Congratulations to them. The Section would like to thank Rigby Taylor for its support.

New members to welcome to the Section are as follows: Richard Thwaites, Julian Chesson, Phillip Robbins and John Allen.

Finally can I wish all the members a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Kim Blake

### South West Section

Grey skies but a warm welcome awaited us at Saltford GC, venue for this year's Autumn Tournament and Section AGM.

A good attendance of 47 members played in the morning round of golf on a course with some panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. The new course layout certainly had a few people confused as to which hole to play next but most people came in with a completed score card so I assume they negotiated each hole correctly.

Thanks are given to Ian MacFarlane and his staff for their efforts in preparing the course for the day and to Club Captain John Champion for taking time to join us.

Prizegiving followed an enjoyable lunch with Rigby Taylor being the sponsors for the event for the first time this year.

Thanks go to Martin Samuel and Dave Carvey of Rigby Taylor for presenting a superb piece of glassware as the winning trophy, and pieces of Edinburgh Crystal for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes. The results were as follows: 1st – Craig Fudge, Tracey Park 36 pts (back 9), 2nd – Paul Garland, Knowle, 36 pts, 3rd Chris Sealey, Chippenham, 35 pts (back 9), 4th – Paul Worcester, Minchinhampton 35 pts, 5th – Peter Baynton, Long Ashton 32 pts. Before the AGM started we were given an informative short talk by Pipewise regarding the products available from themselves. These ranged from PVC fittings to irrigation boxes to land drainage coil. Thanks are given to Bob White and Gary Sergeant of Pipewise for their time and preparation.

And so on to the last item of the day that of the Section AGM.

This year it passed off relatively smoothly but some items of concern were centred around college education within the Section and inter Section team matches.

Officers for 1996 are as follows: Chairman – Ivor Scoones, Vice Chairman – Chris Sealey, Secretary – Kevin Green, Assistant Secretary (Fixtures) – Nick Wilson, Regional Board Officers – Robin Greaves and Peter Cox, Team Captain – Terry Humphrey and Vice Team Captain – Peter Baynton.

## Around the Green



Thanks to Saltford GC, and in particular the Secretary Mrs Valerie Radnedge, for their hospitality.

Another reminder that the Regional Management Course to be held at Thornbury Golf Centre, Bristol, takes place on February 12 and 13 1996 with our final Section event being the Christmas Tournament at Puckrup Hall Hotel and Golf Club on December 14. For those not intending on going I wish you a Happy Christmas and thank you for your support.

Kevin Green

### South Coast

Our first Winter meeting was held on Wednesday November 1 and took the form of a quiz night. It was a very disappointing evening as only ten people turned up and the quiz had to be cancelled. We hope to hold it at a later date. A lot of effort goes into the organisation of these events, so if members don't support them they will not survive. So will you all please note that we have a visit to Huxleys Grass Machinery on Thursday January 11 at 2pm and we hope that as many members as possible will attend.

Congratulations go to the Alan Mitchell and Ed McCabe on gaining their D32 and D33 assessor certificates.

Also to Ed McCabe for reaching the finals of the Miracle Professional Greenkeeper of the Year Award. We wish him luck.

On Tuesday October 24 an afternoon lecture was held by the GTC at Sparsholt College and was well attended. The subject was NVQs and the need for industry assessors.

Anyone wishing to become an assessor should contact David Golding at the GTC. Also I would like to hear from any members going to BTME by coach from Bristol. If there is enough interest we may hire a mini-bus to get us to Bristol, please contact me on 01722 330277.

Jeff Drake

### Mid Anglia

Our Autumn Tournament was held on October 26 at Bocket Hall GC. An 18 hole Stableford was held in the morning followed by lunch and the AGM in

the afternoon. By all accounts the course was in excellent condition so thanks to John Wells and his team for preparing the course so well, and to all the catering staff who served up a superb meal and looked after us so well.

Thanks as well to David Murphy and his company Driving Force Leisure for kindly sponsoring the prize table. Other representatives also attended and donated prizes for the raffle, so thanks to them. It's much appreciated.

The results of the golf competition were as follows: 1. Lee Murdoch, Woburn, 43 pts; 2. Richard Saunders, St Neots, 38 pts; 3. Rupert Lawrence, Berkhamsted, 38 pts. Longest Drive, Jim Burton, St Neots; Nearest the Pin, Mike Franklin, Trade. Congratulations to all winners.

It was disappointing to note that three members who entered failed to turn up on the day or to tell anyone that they could not make it.

I would also like to remind all members that no telephone entries will be permitted for golf tournaments.

Entry is acceptable only by using the appropriate form.

Some other presentations were made at Bocket Hall – to Robert Pearce, Mark Ellis and Mark Whittle for winning the Jubilee Cup at the National Tournament and to the finalists of the Lodgeway Tournament, John Wells, Jon Moorhouse, Rupert Lawrence and Eddie Thompson.

The AGM followed the prize giving where the secretary, treasurer and Match Secretary all gave their various reports.

It was noted that the Mid Anglia Section now has 270 members in total which again is an increase in numbers. Richard gave a brief report on all the competitions held throughout the year and it was pleasing to note that both matches arranged against other sections were won.

John Wells submitted a balance sheet, which showed our main purchase – a computer which has helped a lot in the smooth running of the section.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Chris Brook; Vice Chairman, Stewart Boyce; Treasurer, John Wells; Secretary, Gerald Bruce; Fixtures Secretary, Richard Saunders; Handicap Secretary, Ronan McKeown; Regional Representative, Paul Lockett.

Mark Ellis was also voted onto the committee as an additional member.

Avoncrop Amenity Products have agreed to sponsor the annual Christmas Tournament and our thanks to Golf and Turf Equipment for sponsoring our Fixture Card.

Finally I would like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you in Harrogate next year.

Paul Lockett

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On stand A26 at the 1996 BTME show, Allen Power Equipment will be exhibiting their range of Power Equipment specifically aimed at the golf club market.

The popular Allen National 68" Triple Mower will be shown along with the range of Walkover Sprayers, now a standard part of the greenkeepers armoury.

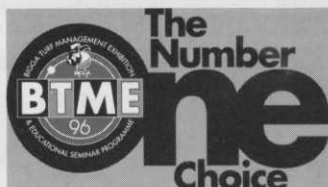
Walkover sprayers are used daily for the application of liquid fertilisers and weedkillers. They are available in push or towed configuration, and the gear pump and marker wheels ensure unsurpassable accuracy.

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Launched at the show will be the new "Wheeltrim Pro". A wheeled trimmer manufactured by Allen Power Equipment featuring the 5hp 139cc engine and big 14" wheels.

Stand No. A14

This exhibit will feature Echo Power Equipment now distributed in the UK by Allen Power Equipment. A repre-



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

### WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR AT THE SHOW

sentation of the comprehensive Echo line up of Brushcutters from 21cc - 46cc will be shown along with the hand held and Back Pack Blowers. Chainsaws and hedgecutters including the new 40" model and the HCA2400 extended handle machine, ideal for those really tall hedges, will be seen for the first time at Harrogate.

#### AMENITY TECHNOLOGY

Amenity Technology is once again pleased to be on stand C40 at the BTME. This year we have pleasure in exhibiting old favourites such as Define, Greenlawnger, Lake Colourant, Moisture Smart, Bout Marker, Hand Cleaner and Shakedown Antifoam. Alongside these you will find the Golf Hole Indicator, Meterite Soil Test Kit, The Drencher Gun Hose end applicator as well as an improved HIO hole cutter, The HIO USA. Hot on the heels of our SALTEX launch of the ROOTS2 range of micronutrient formulation that enhances fine turf growth and stress tolerance.

#### BLEC LANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT CO LTD

BLEC is expanding its range of turf care equipment for 1996 with the launch of two new overseeders at this year's BIGGA exhibition. The first is a pedestrian controlled seeder for fine turf areas. The second is tractor linkage or towed drawbar overseeder for work on fairways.

On display will be a selection of overseeders and top dressers including the unique pro-seed machine. Also for 1996 BLEC are expanding their hire fleet to accommodate the growing demand in this sector of the market. The BLEC team look forward to seeing you all again at BTME.

#### BOURNE AMENITY

Bourne Amenity and Tilcon Ltd are jointly exhibiting at this year's BTME. Bourne Amenity is a major producer in the South of topdressing and root-zones and are representing Tilcon with the promotion of Dunlop Sports Sand. Bourne Amenity will also be promoting its range of amenity services including sportsfield construction, drainage design and installation and winter pitch re-instatement. Dick Reid, Bourne Amenity's drainage expert will be available at Harrogate to offer any help and advice.

#### CHARTERHOUSE TURF MACHINERY LTD

Charterhouse Turf Machinery on Stand A18 has some exciting developments

on display. The verti-Drain has become the turf manager's ally in the fight against compaction and the latest model will be on show. The Turf Tidy, launched at BTME last year will again be on show, as will the Greens Dress III top dresser. Charterhouse Turf Machinery is promising more new products in the coming year making the stand one which should not be missed by grounds managers and greenkeepers. Sales Director Philip Threadgold and his team look forward to meeting established and new customers.

#### CMW EQUIPMENT CO

CMW will be exhibiting the tool that has taken the greenkeeping profession by storm - "Big Dewie" if you have not got one you need to visit stand A21 to investigate further. Also on show will be new cast alloy ball cleaners. Straight plunger and spiral plunger available. As always, from CMW, competitively priced. As well as the extensive range of golf course furniture manufactured by CMW we will also be exhibiting our increasingly popular range of personalised and general workwear, specifically selected for greenkeepers.

#### FOX CONTRACTING (OWMBY) LTD

Fox Contracting (Owmby) Limited, the Construction Division of the Fox Group of Companies was founded in 1991 and today has a turnover in excess of £9 million. Since its formation, Fox

## COMPACTION

A problem recognised by our company and solved 14 years ago with the purchase of the first unique verti drain.

We pride ourselves with working continuously with over 200 clubs. There is little or no choice in verti drain compaction machines but there is in contractors.

Our machines have skilled operators to give you the ultimate compaction relief using the correct tine spacings and forward speed, at the manufacturer's recommended work rate. We now run two 2.5m Fairway Vertidrain in addition to our two 1.45m Greens Machines.

### HALVE THE TIME AND HALVE THE DISRUPTION TO PLAY

**NEW** JEMISON ACRIBAND sand and gravel slit drainage machine for sale and hire.

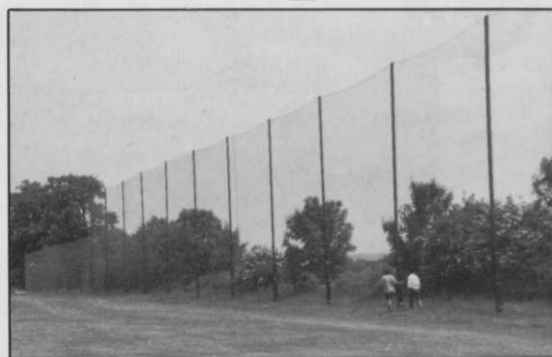
# SEWARD

## TURF MAINTENANCE

Sutton Road, Wigginton, York  
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FREEPHONE 0500 432120

See us on  
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**Tildenet Ball-stop Fence at Farrington Golf Club**

- ★ Ball-stop Fencing
- ★ Anti-ballplugging Net
- ★ Grass Germination Sheets
- ★ Target & Chipping Nets
- ★ Padded & Net Bay Dividers
- ★ Perimeter Safety Netting

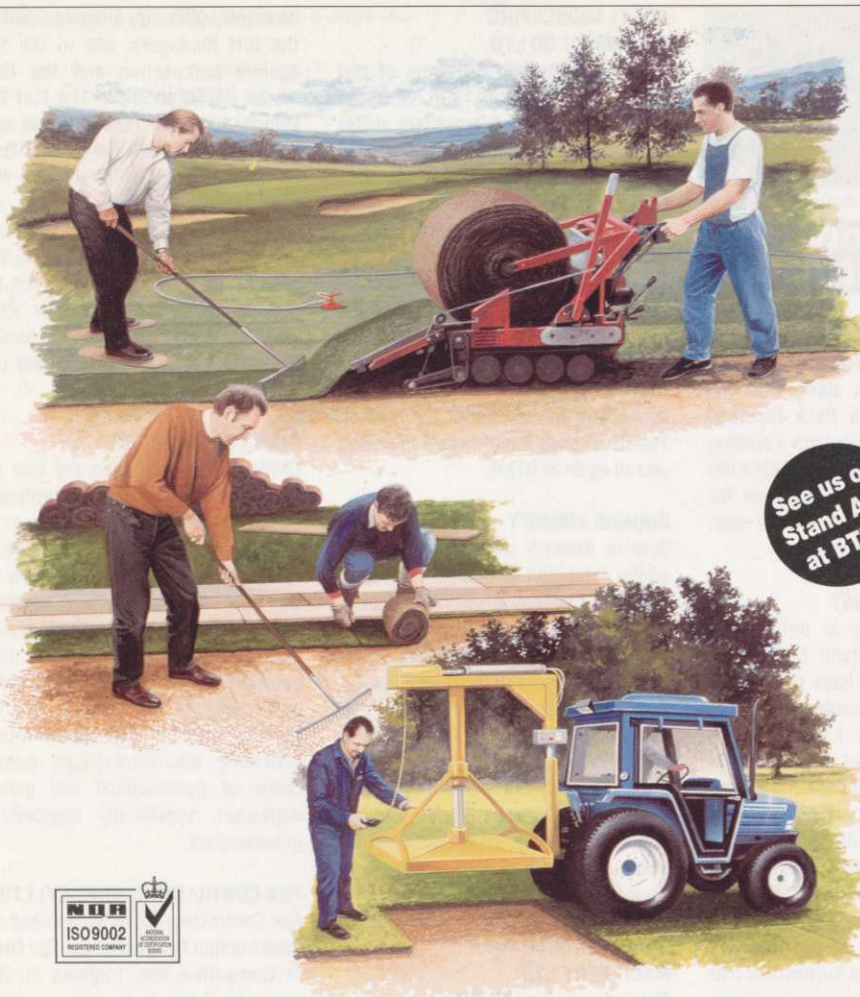
### SEE US ON STAND C23 AT BTME

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**VITAX**

See us on  
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**YOU CAN SPEND ON WHAT YOU LIKE**

e.g. Fertilisers, Wetting Agents, Top Dressings, Equipment etc

New  
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application  
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**TECTO:** A liquid flowable systemic turf fungicide with contact action for the control of fusarium patch, dollar spot, red thread and several minor turf diseases.

- Systemic action prevents reinfection.
- Contact effect even in low temperatures. Stops disease quickly.
- Can be applied even when rain is expected.
- 1 litre treats one bowling green or three golf greens.

Pack size 1 litre. Contains 450g/l thiabendazole.

**FAIRY RING DESTROYER:** Concentrated formulation. Controls all types of fairy ring on amenity, sports and ornamental turf.

- Easy measure ~ 1 litre pack treats 333 sq m.
- Good grass safety record.
- Leaves no powdery deposits on leaf surfaces.
- Pre-treatment the day before application with Vitax Ultraflo Wetting Agent will add to the long-term product's effectiveness.

Contains 190g/l triforine.

READ THE LABEL  
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139



Contracting (Owmbly) Ltd has not only successfully constructed many prestigious new developments but has also been active in the upgrading and improvement of numerous existing golf courses. A few recent Championship courses constructed by Fox Contracting have been, Aston Wood on the outskirts of Sutton Coldfield, The Oaks at Aughton near York, Batchworth Park, Rickmansworth and Waltham Windmill, South Humberside to name but a few.

#### J D GREASLEY LIMITED

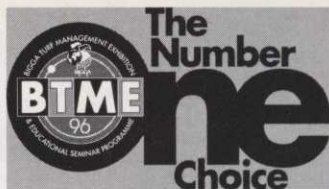
The company has enjoyed a busy year having constructed a new 11 holes at the Gog Magog Golf Club, Cambridge, designed by Hawtree.

Many alterations have also been completed on existing courses including Tynemouth GC, The Leicestershire GC, Chirk G&CC, Whittington Heath GC, West Middlesex GC, West Derby GC; Liverpool, Glen Gorse GC.

Alterations and refurbishment works to greens, tees, bunkers, lakes and water features on existing courses now account for a substantial part of the company's turnover. We offer both a design and construct service or construct in accordance with the clients architects designs. We are pleased to visit your site to discuss requirements and offer free estimates and advice.

#### HAYTER LTD

Hayter will have on show grass cutting machinery designed to meet all needs



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

### WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR AT THE SHOW

for the golf course professional and local authority market. See British engineering at its best on both triple units and gang mowers. The FM514 Fairway mower, LT312 Triple unit and TM520 gang mower are just a few of the machines on display. Visit Stand C42 to view the range and see why Hayter is justifiably proud of its equipment.

#### THE INTURF GROUP

The contributions the Inturf Group has made to the turf industry since 1985 have been highlighted by their ongoing programme of development and refinement works with turfgrass specification and actual turfing systems, including those of the revolutionary Big Roll and Lay 'n'play turf tiles.

A large percentage of Inturf's business is conducted with professional sporting clubs, the remainder being around the prestigious landscaping sector.

#### KUBOTA UK LTD

As well as the Grandel tractor range

and the ST-30 tractor, Kubota (UK) Ltd is showing a new ride-on model at BTME '96. The Grandel series, which comprises three models in the 34hp - 44hp class, features fully synchronised transmission, creep gear box and independent PTO as standard. At the show they are fitted with a variety of Kubota matched attachments. Popular on the golf course, the 29hp ST-30 which incorporates the Bi-Speed turn feature for tighter turning, is fitted with a 'Q' cab at the show.

#### LAMBORGHINI UK

25, 33 and 42 DIN HP compact models, 12x12 synchro shuttle gearboxes. Independent 540/1000 rear PTO 2000 RPM M10 PTO. Powerful hydraulic linkage (1200kg) with position and draft control. Optional weather canopy. Loader, backhoe, mowereck and collector available.

60 and 75 DIN HP lightweight, versatile general purpose models. 60 and 70 DIN HP compact models, high specification with 40 kph road speed, options of reverse drive and front linkage with PTO. All tractors carry a unique 3 year 3000 hour full manufacturer's warranty. Lamborghini designs and manufactures its products in accordance with its ISO 9001 certification.

#### NATURE FIRST LTD

Nature First Ltd offers a comprehensive arboricultural service on a nationwide basis. Experts in supply, planting and maintenance of semi-mature

trees, the company undertakes major contracts for a wide range of clients. Transplanting of trees using their modern fleet of tree spades is regularly undertaken with excellent success rates. Machines with a rootball size of up to 2.1m are available for hire with experienced operators.

Dedicated to the supply of the complete arboricultural service the tree surgery division of Nature First has the facility to offer services such as consultancy, stump removal and brushwood chipping as an integral part of the operation. Highly skilled staff and modern mechanised techniques enable the company to offer competitive quotations in all areas. Enquiries are invited for contracts in Great Britain and Europe.

#### Ocmis IRRIGATION (UK) LTD

Ocmis are irrigation experts with a referral driven reputation in system design, manufacture and supply, installation and service for all sports turf, landscape and amenity areas. We are also specialists in the refurbishment and upgrading of existing systems.

Ocmis are distributors for Rainbird, Buckner & Hunter and can supply and service any other make of equipment. Throughout the United Kingdom Ocmis stock MDPE & UPVC pressure pipe, associated fittings, pumping units, electric cable and mobile irrigators.

Ocmis' unique in house design capa-



# Lamborghini

**From one of Europe's largest specialist tractor manufacturers comes a superb range of models eminently suitable for all groundcare work.**

**Compact models from 25-75HP. All with economical low emission diesel engines; 12 x 12 synchro-shuttle gearboxes; highly manoeuvrable 4 wheel drive; 4 wheel oil immersed brakes from 60HP for greater safety; powerful hydraulics and all with ground preserving low weight for reduced compaction.**

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Transform your course quickly and economically  
by transplanting your own large trees.  
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- ★ Winter Holecup Cutter 607603 £68.00 ★
- ★ Winter Hole Cups 605707 £12.00 ★
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★ **Steel Framed  
Winter Tee Mat**  
with adjustable legs

**£395**

- ★ 60"x52" Rubber Link Mat 007001 £165.00 ★
- ★ 60"x42" Rubber Link Mat 007002 £140.00 ★
- ★ Duraturf Tee Mat 007003 £180.00 ★

See us on  
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### Handy Tools for Autumn

- ★ Polyamide Roller Squeegee 807038 £96.00 ★
- ★ Pop Up Sprinkler Trimmers from £34.00 ★

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THE PUTTING GREEN

TURF MAINTENANCE

EUROPEAN SPECS

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# BLEC

## LANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT



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bilities ensure that the requirements of each client are individually met and that each project is given independent attention.

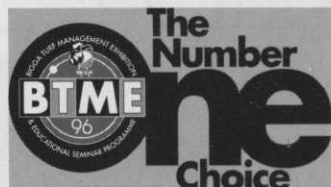
For more information, or a no obligation survey and design contact Ocmis Irrigation (UK) Ltd, Head Office – 01460 241939, Midlands – 01789 414604, Northern – 01924 453102 and Scottish Office – 01312 202102.

#### PATISSONS

Pattissons celebrate their centenary year, and what a landmark it is for the golfing industry. Pattissons will be launching their 100/100/100 club at Harrogate, they will be sponsoring greenkeepers to attend the education programme and details of this will be available from BIGGA. Many surprises lie in store for the year, including the introduction of three new products currently on test. The new limited edition brochure will be launched with a centenary calendar on the centre pages. The calendar shows 100 years support to the greenkeepers – and for some greenkeepers it will be a walk down memory lane.

#### PETROLEUM PRODUCTS & SERVICES LIMITED

Alan Shepard played golf on the moon – we helped put him there! LE oils and greases are currently being used by over 600 golf clubs and turf management companies throughout the United Kingdom. LE's high performance grease contains Almagard, LE's



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

### WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR AT THE SHOW

exclusive wear reducing additive which won't wash-out or pound out. All our products are designed to deliver higher performance levels than others. Maintenance and downtime costs are cut dramatically so you, the end user, will recover the initial cost of the lubricant many times over. Don't just take our word for it, come and see for yourself how our products compare with our competitors. Demonstrations will be given throughout the exhibition.

#### PHOENIX SPORTS TURF SERVICES

If you have never used cockleshell for your pathways then a visit to the Phoenix stand is a must. Our members of staff will give you full details of the product which is now used by over 400 golf courses throughout the UK including St Andrews, Carnoustie and Sunningdale. Also on show will be the wide range of Top Dressings and construction rootzones available from our quarries throughout England and Scotland. Our Top Dressing are some of the best and most affordable in the

country and we can now meet USGA specifications. Phoenix will also be showing the Dunlop Winter tee mat and many other products. Please feel welcome to call for a coffee

#### RANSOMES

Ransomes is introducing a new dedicated fairway mower at BTME. Known as the Fairway 305, this latest ride-on, five-unit mower complements the existing range of Ransomes Fairway 250 lightweight fairway mowers to bring high levels of performance, operator comfort and economy to fairway mowing operations.

Other important products to be featured on the Ransomes exhibit are the T-Plex 185 tees and surrounds mower, a Cushman Turf-Truckster with top dresser, a Ryan GA30 aerator and Ryan Mataway dethatcher/overseeder and three superb greens mowers – the walk-behind Greens Super, the class-leading G-Plex and the electrifying E-Plex, the world's first all-electric greens machine.

#### RHÔNE-POULENC ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS

Come along to the Rhône-Poulenc stand and pick up your free copy of our new, IOG award winning, technical manual.

The manual is produced in full colour and broken down into colour coded, tab marked sections, eg. fungicides. Each section begins with helpful infor-

mation including colour photographs of the major weeds, diseases and pests to help with identification. After all, correct identification is the basis of control! The section then continues with label information and a colour pack shot for each product in our comprehensive range.

#### SERVICE CHEMICALS

The latest product from the makers of Turfex is Budget Iron, and economical liquid chelated iron for winter use on large turf areas. Budget Iron has none of the disadvantages of "soluble" irons. Being based on chelated iron it will harden the grass without over acidification or leading to the formation of iron pans in the root zone. Please see the enclosed information leaflet on Budget Iron, for further information please call Service Chemicals on 01327 704444 for the location of your nearest distributor.

#### SEWARD TURF MAINTENANCE

Specialising in turf compaction, Swards is the first company in the UK to operate the vertidrain, and now has available two 2.5m fairway and two 1.45m greens machines. Swards have now added their own developed sand and gravel slitting machine to their range for both sale and hire. Overseeding is carried out with various types of drills, hollow tining fairway grooming with a collector is also available. Top dressing is carried out with a one and four-ton spreader. We are

# BIG DEWIE

*It's sweeping the Greenkeeping Profession*

A 3 metre wide lightweight brush that can be easily pushed across Greens, Tees and Approaches to remove dew

The "BIG DEWIE" has been available for over a month and is now being used by a considerable number of Greenkeepers. If you have already got one, read no further – if you have not... read on.

Some comments from Greenkeepers using "BIG DEWIE":

*"It has cut dew removing time by three quarters" • "I use the "BIG DEWIE" on Greens, Tees and Approaches. It gives a very professional finish" • "The advantage I find over the traditional switch is the time it saves and its ability to get the dew off undulating greens"*

We are so confident that, once you have tried a "BIG DEWIE" you will want to keep it, we are offering you the opportunity to try one on a SALE OR RETURN basis. If you do not get on with it, give us a call within 14 days and we will arrange to collect it – free of charge.

**Warning:** CMW cannot accept responsibility for the friction caused by Greenstaff if only one "BIG DEWIE" is ordered. Due to the ease of use and speed over the traditional switch, fights are starting if someone has to go back to the switch, once they have used the "BIG DEWIE".

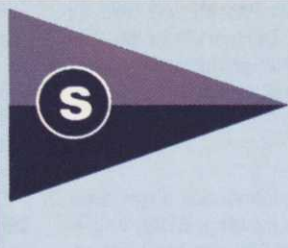
**Price: £78.65, Carriage: £8.40, plus VAT at Standard Rate.**

**Available from: CMW Equipment Company, 3 Priors Way, Coggeshall Industrial Park, Colne Road, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1PW Telephone (01376) 562569 Fax: (01376) 563183**

**SEE US ON STAND A21 AT BTME**



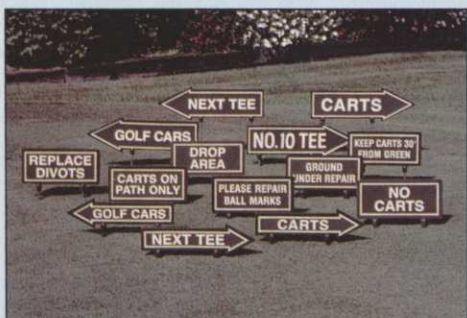
See us on  
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## STANDARD GOLF FOR ALL YOUR COURSE EQUIPMENT

The rugged Pro-Line Standard Tee Console is designed and constructed to last for years. The tee data information sign, hole number, par, handicap and yardages are engraved on tough, resilient acrylic material, and the background colour of the sign matches the ball washer and litter caddie colours. You can specify up to four different yardages which should be coloured to match the tee markers.

**£309.59 complete PLUS VAT**



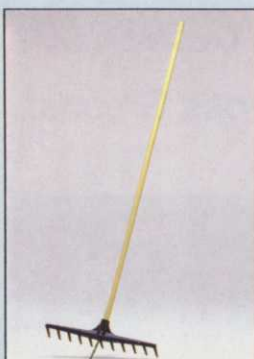
You will appreciate the classic, subtle beauty of our new Green Fairway Signs & Directional Arrows. The bright white type is highly visible and readable. And since they're

manufactured from cast aluminium, they'll last for years and years.

**Fairway signs £17.31 each**  
**11" Directional Arrows £12.86 each**  
**15" Directional Arrows £23.24 each**  
**PLUS VAT**

Our Economy Rake is priced so low, you can order several for each bunker! The full-size 15" head is made from high-impact, molded plastic, and the 4' bright yellow handle is available in wood or long lasting fibreglass. NB: we no longer fit spikes as standard.

**Complete rake w/ Yellow Wood Handle:**  
**£4.70 each plus VAT in packs of 12**



**Ask for our full colour 1996 Catalogue and Price List**

Driving Mat 1.5m x 1.5m guaranteed for 12 months  
@ £195 each (or £165 each for nine).

Contact Paula or Lisa at: Standard Golf (UK) Limited,  
Maxwell Hart Business Centre,  
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# SOLUplex® (Fe)

Water soluble iron

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Professional Solutions  
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**For economical, quick, quality green turf**

Covers **10,000 sq.m.** for only **£25.50**

Compatible with all **ROOTS** products

Contains Iron(Fe) 15% & Sulphur 13%



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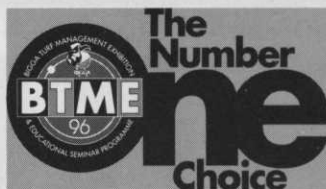
also distributors for force limagrain grass seeds, fertilisers and top dressing.

#### STANDARD GOLF (UK) LTD

Standard Golf UK Ltd will be displaying a complete range and colours of American Equipment and also UK manufactured Golf Equipment. Standard Golf UK Ltd offer a complete range of Golf Course Furniture and are also distributors for Tacit, Patissons and Stewarts of Edinburgh. Standard Golf UK Ltd are truly the one-stop Company for all your Golf Course needs. The 1996 addition to the Standard Golf range will be on show together with Winter tee mats, driving range mats and a complete range of course signage, offering the widest choice available on the market. Duncan, Andrew, Lisa and Paula will be on Stand B36 to answer your queries and to demonstrate the equipment on offer. There is a special show offer to visitors of the BTME and details will be available on our stand.

#### TILCON TRUSCAPE

Tilcon Truscage will be exhibiting its Tyrham Hall peat products for the first time at BTME '96. The materials are produced from Tilcon's extensive reserves of peat at Hatfield Woodhouse located between Doncaster and Scunthorpe. As well as traditional peat Truscage has now developed a peat/soil material produces an organic product which provides an excellent



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

### WHO TO LOOK OUT FOR AT THE SHOW

rootzone medium or topdressing. Visit the Tilcon Truscage/Bourne Amenity Stand at BTME and speak to Dave Lainton for more information on this excellent natural product as well as any others from the Truscage range. Terry McGarrigle will also be on the stand at Harrogate to talk to anyone interested in the very popular Harden Red aggregates. If you want a pathway, car park or decorative feature that is beautiful to look at and yet easy to maintain then come and speak to Mr T about his full range of chippings and the unrivalled Redtrak.

#### TILDENET LTD

Tildenet Ltd will be exhibiting its established germination material while introducing the new economy material. The economy germination material will enable greenkeepers to cover large areas at a fraction of the cost. As market leaders in Sports Balltop netting, Tildenet can offer advice on installation or a free site survey. Other products include antiball plugging net;

target nets; chipping nets and golf practice nets. Adding to this range is the new Epic target greens and their latest net bay dividers as used at Celtic Manor.

#### TORO COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS/

##### LELY UK

Toro is launching the industries first 7-plex fairway mower – the Reelmaster 6700-D – and is showing four other turf maintenance machines recently added to the range. The 6700-D is a powerful new fairway mower with a 133" cutting width, designed to give a quality cut at high levels of productivity. Among many new innovative features, the 42hp machine boasts Toro's unique L-I-N-K-S cutting unit suspension system, to "hug" the turf and reduce "bobbing", even at very high forward speeds. Also on the stand is the Reelmaster 6500-D, a slightly smaller 38hp model with five cutting units and a working width of 96". They are joined by the Reelmaster 2300-D precision-cut tees mower, the ultra-quiet Greensmaster 3200-D ride-on greensmower, and the 4-wheel drive Workman 4000 Series utility vehicle.

#### VITAX LTD

With over 50 years experience of supplying a range of high quality cost effective products to the professional amenity and grower markets, Vitax will be displaying its full range of sport amenity chemicals and key

range fertilisers. Plus with the success of last years prize draw scheme for a BIGGA gift voucher, we shall be running the same prize draw at this year's show. The value of the voucher has been increased to £150.

#### WIEDENMANN (UK) LTD

Wiedenmann (UK) Ltd, the Scottish based importer of the highly successful Terra-Spike machine, will be exhibiting a Terra-Spike P160 on their stand at BTME 96 in Harrogate. Wiedenmann UK sell through a nationwide dealer network, and have sold many Terra-Spikes to golf courses, local authorities and private sports clubs. The Terra-Spike is the most versatile deep spiker available and is packed with operator friendly features such as simple and easy to use infinite heave adjustment, controllable depth adjustment via a single winding handle and a unique line retention design. Choose between 8mm, 12mm, 19mm and 25mm diameter solid tines, 12mm, 20mm and 25mm hollow tines and slitting tines. Extras include rear rollers, brush attachments and a multi-tine holder. For further details on the Terra-Spike range, please call by the Wiedenmann stand at BTME or telephone Gordon McMurdo on 0141 884 2552.

■ Full catalogue listings of the 162 exhibitors at BTME 96 will appear in the next, special issue of *Greenkeeper International*

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# 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.

Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeepers Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF, telephone 01347 838640.

NORTH



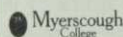
**ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE** Askham Bryan, York YO2 3PR. Contact Christine Biglin, registrar. Tel: 01904 702121. *Full time courses:* National Certificate – Horticulture; National Diploma – Amenity Horticulture; Higher National Diploma – Horticulture (golf management options). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level 2, City & Guilds Phase III and IV Greenkeeping.



**CITY COLLEGE MANCHESTER** Wythenshawe Park Centre, Moor Road, Manchester M23 9BQ. Contact Peter Riley/Martin Webb. Tel: 0161 957 1526. Day Release and Full Time courses leading to NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with the Greenkeeping option.



**HOUGHALL COLLEGE** Durham College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Houghall, Durham DH1 3SG. Contact Tony Milan. Tel: 0191 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.



**MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE** Myerscough Hall, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY. Contact Martyn Jones. Tel: 01995 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 Golf Course Management – 3 Years (Both these courses include one year's paid industrial experience). *Part time courses:* NVQ Level II Greenkeeping; NVQ Level III Sportsturf Maintenance; Certificate and Diploma in Turf Irrigation (in conjunction with BTJIA). A range of short courses including FEPA, First Aid and various technical modules.



**REASEHEATH COLLEGE** Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF. Contact Dennis Mortram. Tel: 01270 625131 Fax: 01270 625665. *Full time:* BTEC First Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 1 year. BTEC National Diploma Horticulture (Sportsturf Option) – 2 years. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management – 3 years. *Part time:* HNC Golf Course Management – Distance Learning. NVQ Level 1 Greenkeeping – Day Release. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping – Day/Block Release. C&G Phase IV Greenkeeping – Block Release. IoG National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture – Day Release. IoG National Diploma – Day Release. *Short Courses:* FEPA Chemical Safety; Safe Lifting; Chainsaws; Off-Road Vehicle Driving; First Aid.



**BRACKENHURST COLLEGE** Southwell, Nottinghamshire NG25 0QF. Contact Student Administration. Tel: 01636 812252. National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management – 1 Year. *Day Release over 2 Years:* NVQ Level 1 Amenity Horticulture; NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with options. City & Guilds Phase 3 Greenkeeping Management. We also offer short courses in Technical, Supervisory and Management skills training appropriate to the Greenkeeping Industry.



**BROOKSBY COLLEGE** Brooksby, Nr Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 2LJ. Contact Ann Hurt. Tel: 01664 434291. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Horticulture, Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management, National Diploma in Horticulture. *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: 01332 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. NVQ Level III gained by 9x 3-day blocks, or APL service.



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COLLEGE** Milton Centre, Landbeach Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire CB4 6DB. Contact Martin Crimmins. Tel: 01223 860701. Part time – Day Release over two years leading to NVQ Level II (Greenkeeping Options), including the GTC Training Manual requirements. Autumn term commences September/October 1996.



**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY School of Agriculture and Horticulture, Lincoln** Caythorpe Court, Caythorpe, Grantham, Lincs. Contact Neil Rowbottom on 01522 522252 or Student Services on 01400 272521. Day Release NVQ Level II. NCH with Greenkeeping. National Diploma in Horticulture with Greenkeeping and Turf Management options. National Diploma in Golf Studies pending approval. Also HND Golf and Leisure Studies.



**RODBASTON COLLEGE** Rodbaston, Penkridge, Stafford ST19 5HG. Contact Nigel Foskett. Tel: 01785 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 G. Martin. Tel: 01926 651367. Greenkeeping courses – day release – NVQ Level I; NVQ Level II; NVQ Level III; IoG courses, National Intermediate Diploma in Turf Culture; Full time two year BTEC National Diploma in Horticulture (with option in Turf Culture); 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: 01798 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. NVQ Level III Sportsturf Maintenance. ND Landscape Studies (Option – Sportsturf Management and Greenkeeping). *New courses and qualifications:* National Technical Certificate (IoG), National Practical Certificate (IoG), Intermediate Diploma (IoG), National Diploma (IoG).



**HADLOW COLLEGE** Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL. Contact Keith Backhouse. Tel: 01732 850551. NVQ Level II and Level III Part-time Day Release with two periods of Block Release or evenings. Level II in Groundsmanship evenings. NVQ Level III Golf Greenkeeping. Centres at Hadlow, Canterbury and Maidstone.



**MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE** Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE. Contact Student Services. Tel: 01483 232424. *Full time courses:* National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. *Part-time:* NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 1, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Greenkeeping Level 2, NVQ Amenity Horticulture Sports Turf Maintenance Level 3. National Diploma in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management (subject to BTEC approval).

MIDLANDS

SOUTH EAST



# ER TRAINING

## E COURSES AVAILABLE

**GREENKEEPER**  
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Centres, offering  
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approved for  
training courses  
up to Supervisory  
level

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approved for  
training  
courses up to  
Craft level only

Pending GTC  
approval for  
all courses

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: 0181 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.



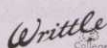
**OAKLANDS COLLEGE** Oaklands Campus, Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL4 0JA. Contact Ian Merrick. Tel: 01727 850651. Part time courses leading to NVQ Level II Greenkeeping, evening courses leading to City & Guilds Phase IV Business Management. One year full time NC Greenkeeping & Sports Turf Management. Courses start September 1996.



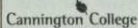
**OTLEY COLLEGE** Otley College, Otley, Ipswich, Suffolk IP6 9EY. Contact Student Applications. Tel: 01473 785543. Full time courses: BTEC National Diploma - Sports Turf Management. National Certificate in Horticulture, option in Sports Turf Technology. Part time NVQ 2 Golf Greenkeeping and NVQ 2 Groundsmanship, NVQ 3 Sports Turf Management. IoG Intermediate and Final Diplomas (Evenings). NVQ Horticultural Mechanics. FEPA Courses PA1, PA2, PA6. Otley College ★ Developing individuals ★ Achieving more.



**PLUMPTON COLLEGE** Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE. Contact David Blackmur. Tel: 01273 890454. Full time courses: National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture (options in Landscape and Sportsturf); National Certificate in Amenity Horticulture; First Diploma; A11 BTEC. Part time courses: NVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture in Arboriculture, Interior Landscaping, Hard Landscaping and Greenkeeping, Sportsturf and Sportsground Management; NVQ Level III Amenity Horticulture; Phase IV Business Management.



**WRITTLE COLLEGE** Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3RR. Contact Dai Edwards. Tel: 01245 420705, Fax: 01245 420456. Part time courses include: NVQ Levels I, II, III and IV Sportsturf & Greenkeeping. Day Release. Includes training and assessment of Greenkeepers Training Manual. Full time courses include: BTEC First Diploma (1 year), BTEC National Diploma with Option in Sportsturf and Golf Course Management, 3 year sandwich course; BTEC Higher National Diploma with Option in Golf Course Management 3 year sandwich course, BSc (Hons) Degree course in Landscape and Amenity Management. Short courses for FEPA, Irrigation, Fork Lift Trucks, Chainsaws and First Aid also available. Associate students welcome, progression routes identified, accreditation of prior learning possible.



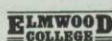
**CANNINGTON COLLEGE** Cannington Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LS. Contact Nick Rigden. Tel: 01278 652226. HNC Golf Course Management. BTEC First Diploma. BTEC National Diploma in Golf Course Management. BTEC Higher National Diploma Golf Course Management (inc. European Studies). NVQ Level 1 and 2 Golf Greenkeeping. NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping and Supervisory Management. NVQ Level 4 Greenkeeping Management. FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Off Road Vehicle Certification, Greenkeeper Mechanics.



**HARTPURY COLLEGE** Hartpury, Nr Gloucester GL19 3BE. Tel: 01452 700283, Fax: 01452 700629. Amenity and Decorative Horticulture: NVQ Level II and III, First Diploma, National Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management: NVQ Level II and III, First Diploma, Certificate, National Diploma and HND Land Use. Golf Studies: National Diploma. FEPA Training.



**SPARSHOLT COLLEGE** Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants SO21 2NF. Contact Bob Young. Tel: 01962 776441. NVQ Level 2 Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FIPA: Short Courses, Chainsaw: Short Courses. All courses, other than Phase IV, are offered on Block release. Full residential facilities available.



**ELMWOOD COLLEGE** Cupar, Fife KY15 4JB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 01334 652781, Fax: 01334 656795. Craft Level courses. Block-release and full-time, following SVQ Level II and the GTC Training Manual. Six week specialist modular programme (January-February), including Golf Course Construction, Pesticide Application and Plant Protection Procedures. SVQ Level III (Supervisory) Block Release. HNC/HND Golf Course Management available as full-time, day-release and distance learning. FEPA, COSHH and Health & Safety short courses also.



**KYLE AND CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL** Burns House, Burns Statue Square, Ayr KA7 1UT. Contact Lesley Keenan. Tel: 01292 281511. SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping - Day Release up to three years. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture. Students can enrol at any time.



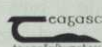
**LANGSIDE COLLEGE GLASGOW** Langside College Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PF. Contact Colin S Urquhart. Tel: 0141 647 6300. SCOTVEC National Certificate - 3 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release. SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with Greenkeeping options plus a range of NC and HNC Horticulture programmes including G SVQ Level III. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides can be negotiated.



**OATRIDGE COLLEGE** Ecclesmachan, Broxburn, West Lothian EH52 6NH. Contact Steve Miller. Tel: 01506 854387. Full and part time courses: Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management; National Certificate in Greenkeeping; National Certificate Modular and Scottish Vocational Qualification Level I and II. National Certificate in Hort. Machinery. Short specialist courses - including safe use of chemicals, operation of greenkeeping machinery.



**GREENMOUNT COLLEGE** Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Antrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Henry Shaw. Tel: 01849 462114. Day release courses leading to (i) Level II Certificate in Greenkeeping and (ii) Level III Certificate in Golf Course Supervision.



**TEAGASC COLLEGE** Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9. Contact Pat Suttle. Tel: 003531 8374 388. Phase II Greenkeeping - Block Release two weeks, three times per year. Phase III Greenkeeping - Block Release, one week, three times per year.



**PENCOED COLLEGE** Pencoed, Mid Glamorgan CF35 5LG. Contact Peter Gillard or Richard Browning. Tel: 01656 860202. Day Release courses in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf at Craft, Advanced Craft, Supervisory and Management levels to GTC requirements, incorporating the Training Manual of the Greenkeepers Training Committee.

SOUTH WEST

SCOTLAND

Northern  
Ireland

EIRE

WALES



**G**olf clubs are investing significant sums of money in workshop equipment to maintain their increasing levels of machinery. Many already have a full time mechanic (see November's Greenkeeper International), others have a mechanically inclined assistant greenkeeper, and even those without a mechanic are finding the need for a well equipped workshop. At basic level this may be little more than hammer and socket set, most are getting a pressure washer and air compressor. Pressure washing is a contentious issue, between those who believe that cleanliness is next to godliness and those who believe that water is bad news for bearings and electricians and that a pressure washer is the best way of putting water into those parts.

Where much thought is given to mowers and other grass maintenance kit, little goes into buying workshop kit and as a result make and model is less important than price. Total reliability is taken for granted and purchase is often made without consideration of back-up, nor for the exact specification required. With pressure washers specifications run from a simple pump with hose and nozzle to steam cleaner with detergent applicator and adjustable lance. For air compressors the options are from a simple pto mounted pump through electric motor pump and hose to petrol or electric compressors with integral air tanks and automatic control, with or without frame and wheels.

There are health and safety requirements for this equipment and its use, often unknown or ignored, and they should be subject to the risk assessment or audit each club should have undertaken. 'The Pressure Systems and Transportable Gas Containers Regulations 1989 - Statutory Instrument 1989 No 2169' requires that pressure systems are operated safely,

examined to a schedule and maintained on a regular basis, by a 'competent person'.

Relatively new systems will comply with the requirements for marking and documentation, and the supplier should have notified the owner of the requirements. The documentation which must be with the equipment should also detail the inspection requirements, however documentation gets lost, equipment gets bought second-hand or from 'supermarket' type organisations where notification of the legal requirements may be less conscientious. Any club with aged equipment - say over six years old should look at the regulations to see firstly if they apply and what they will need to do. The British Compressed Air Society, (Tel: 0171935 2464) has proved to be extremely helpful in explaining the requirements and ready to offer advice and assistance.

Workshop equipment is extremely desirable

and very prone to theft, thus it should be protected and marked clearly. It may be possible to fasten it to the fabric of the building, or to a ring concreted into the floor.

#### **Earlstone Sands GC**

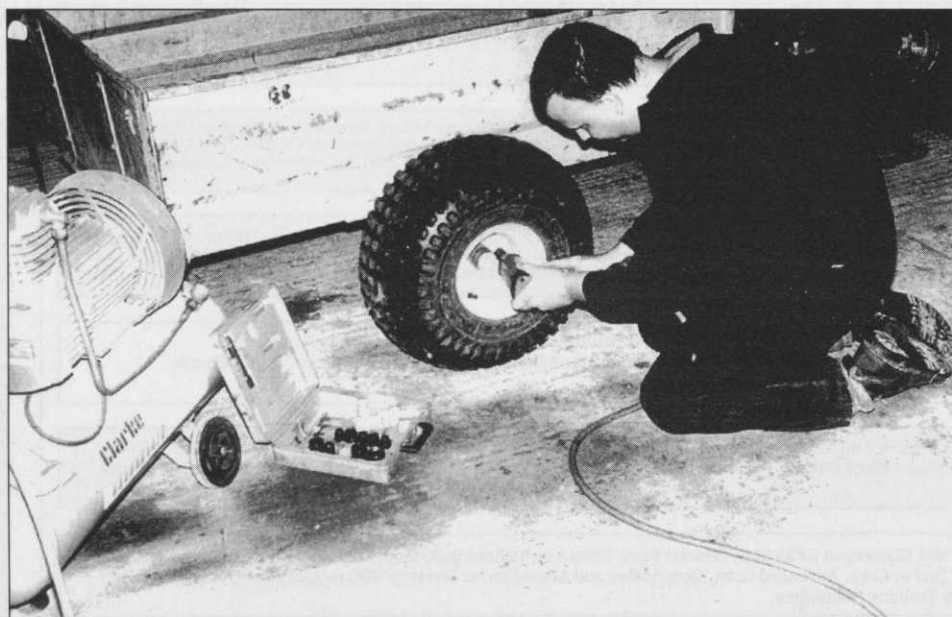
Earlstone Sands is new private 18 hole course initially closely linked to the farm, however it has diverged and so needed to buy its own workshop equipment which is housed in a substantial agricultural building. Trevor Windsor is First Assistant Greenkeeper/mechanic and his well equipped workshop includes a new Clarke Hunter 50 portable air compressor as well as a pressure washer, battery charger/starter and an arc welder. It was bought off the peg from a workshop equipment supplier - "the owner just came back with it," Trevor said, and price was about £350.

Maximum working pressure is 150psi (10 bar) however Trevor normally operates it at about 90 psi. It is highly portable and not too heavy with a 50 litre capacity air receiver mounted under the 12 cfm (cubic foot/minute) compressor driven by a 1.85kW single phase electric motor to put in the back of a truck. Trevor said this capacity is ample, in volume to take air out to a machine and in output in the workshop to provide enough air to drive an impact wrench, the most demanding item in the workshop. Demand is normally intermittent thus allowing the compressor to recharge the tank between uses. Other than to move it around the workshop its portability has not been needed to date, although Trevor does consider portability important.

The other attachments at Earlstone which snap fit onto the hose include a tyre inflator and a small sprayer. The sprayer designed for paint has yet to be used. Maintenance is simple, a weekly check of the oil level and a change every 500 hours, however for simplicity Trevor expects to make this an annual routine.

According to Trevor, the Karcher HDS 550C

# REAL WORLD TEST PRESSURE WASHERS, COMPRESSORS GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL



**Trevor Windsor tightens a trailer wheel nut using air impact wrench/Clarke Hunter compressor**





**A Clarke Hunter compressor and air receiver at Earlstoke Sands**

pressure washer "is used 20 times a day", as Earlstoke insist that all machines are washed before being put away. The machine has a high specification, and a hot water capability which "can melt a golf ball" i.e. up to 90°C or virtually steam heat. This is provided by the integrated diesel oil burner and although this seldom used it is economic in its use of fuel. The machine has two pressures, a low pressure wash mainly for wetting and applying detergent and the main 150psi jet. Detergent is rarely used. About the only time it is used, Trevor said, was prior to the major overhaul of a machine. The machine operates from single phase electricity and is semi-permanently plumbed in to both electricity and water. Both are switched off at the end of each day, although a simple on/off tap is used to remove the pressure on the hoses when the machine is not in use.

The whole machine has small wheels enabling it to be pulled out from the building when required, but an ample length of pressure hose and a four foot hand lance gives the operator good control and accessibility so that it usually remains just inside the door. Cutting cylinders are washed while spinning and this is very effective at removing all the grass from all the blades. No special wash bay nor waste water sump is used, but in fact because of the high pressure a minimum amount of water is needed, Trevor believed it to be about seven gallons a minute. Operating is seen as being mainly a matter of common sense, and no specific instructions have been issued on using the machine.

Maintenance is virtually nil as most parts are self-lubricating. The machine is now 14 months old, the previous machine was stolen, and it has a perfect service record with no problems. No special precautions have been taken to avoid freezing.

#### **The RAC Country Club - Epsom**

Engineer Anthony Worsfold believes in the minimum use of pressure washers although

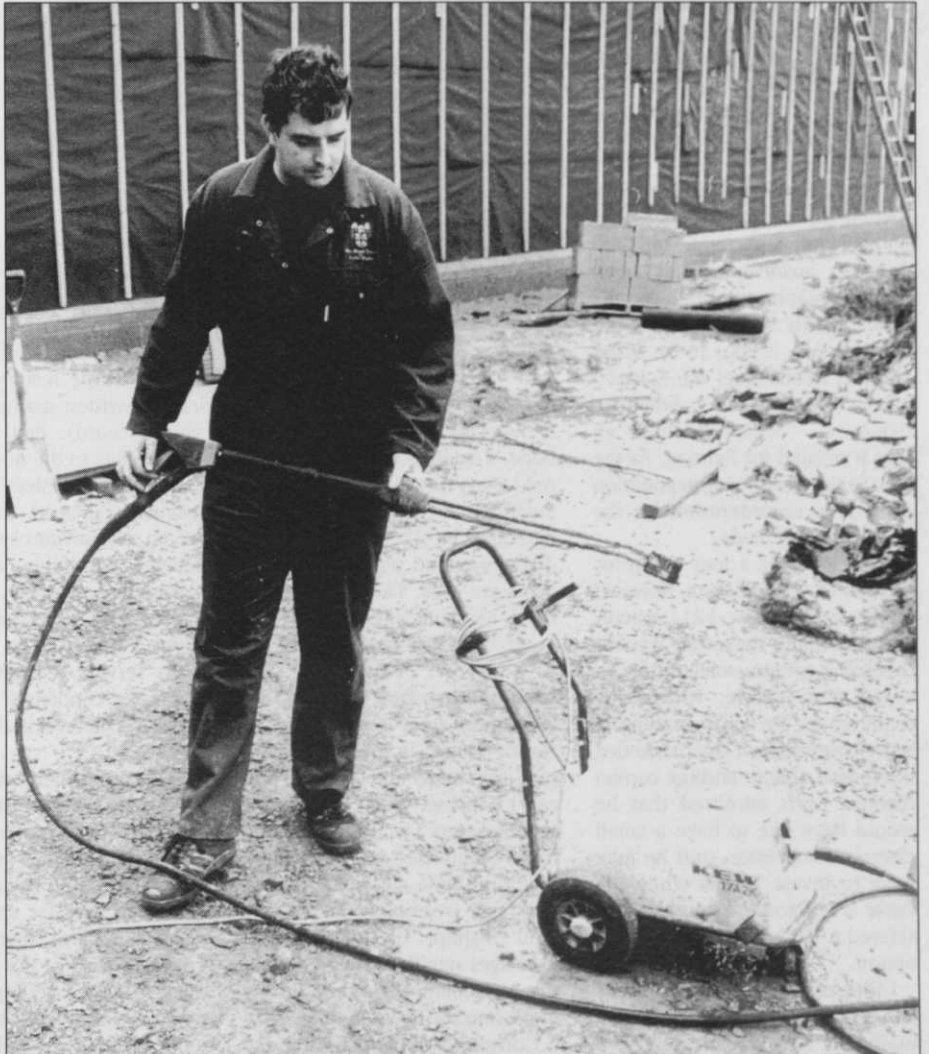
the club has two machines, neither of which has a water heater, nor is detergent used. His preference for cleaning is to use a hand held water hose or an air jet. Where a machine is required to be degreased he used a degreasing

fluid - from the degreasing tank in the workshop. Typical of the equipment for which the pressure washers are used are de-thatching reels and sprayers. One of the pressure washers is kept at the chemical store specifically for washing sprayers, this is powered by a small Honda petrol engine as the site is remote from an electric supply.

The RAC club has a permanently plumbed air pressure system based on a FIAC compressor air receiver with a 200 litre capacity and a 4hp motor. Tony uses the system extensively for power tools as well as for tyre inflation and cleaning, in particular he has air ratchets, wrenches and nut runners, and there is also a seldom used spray gun.

#### **Chippenham GC**

Chippenham is in the situation that the greenkeepers shed is many hundreds of yards from the nearest source of mains electricity. The club was quoted a price of £4,000 or £5,000 to connect it and decided that it was not worthwhile. A small Honda Genset was used, however this was not very satisfactory as it



**Charlie Gaisford with a Kew 17A2K at Manor House**



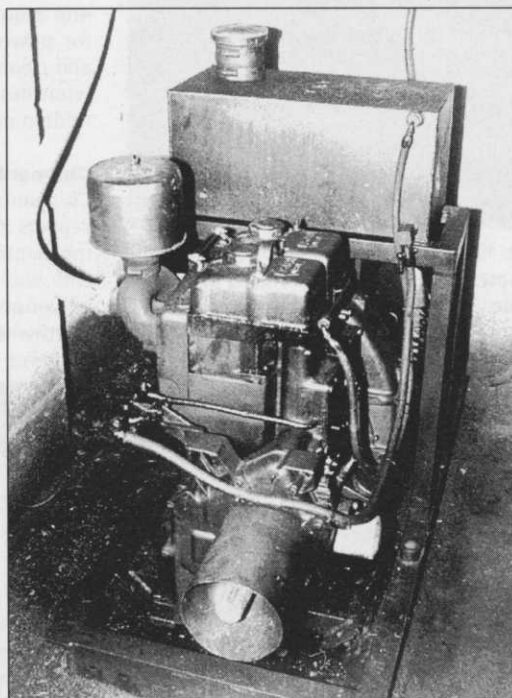
# REAL WORLD TEST PRESSURE WASHERS, COMPRESSORS GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

had insufficient capacity, however one of the members had a redundant Lister/Newage generating set and about five years ago he gave this to the club for the cost of removal. This twin cylinder diesel skid mounted unit has a rated output of 7kVA at 240 volts, a not inconsiderable output which allows Course Manager Chris Sealey to run most of the equipment and lighting he needs without restriction. This unit is now bolted on a concrete pad in a small shed behind the main building. Noise level is not significant, however Chris tries not to use it when golfers are on nearby holes and in fact, the major use is for lighting in the winter months, however it is also used to run power tools, and more importantly, (to most of the greenkeepers), a microwave. The power available means that it could be used to run a small arc welder. However Chris tries to minimise the amount of work carried out as the building is also used for storing sand, and he reckons sand and machinery repair don't fit well together.

Little is known of the past history of the set and there are no manuals nor servicing recommendations, however it has been totally reliable, although it now needs a little servicing to fix the various oil leaks. It is hand cranked to start, fuel use is low – "about a bucket a day when on tick-over" – which is about all that is needed for lighting. As the club lease is up for renegotiation shortly no consideration for the future is being made.

The club uses a foot pump for most of its tyre inflation, however it also has a Zetor 5211 tractor and like many European tractors this has a compressor built in. To access this feature, which is a requirement for trailer braking in some countries, all that is needed is a length of hose and the correct fittings. Chris admitted that he would have like to have a small electric compressor, and he may have to invest in one when the Zetor is replaced he had not considered a PTO driven compressor option.

Chippenham bought a Krcher K1750G cold water pressure washer in May from local dealer John Miller, it is portable and



A Lister/Newage gen set at Chippenham GC

powered by a 5hp Briggs & Stratton Quantum engine. When Greenkeeper International visited it was awaiting repair having burst a seal, but it is normally used every day to clean off greens machines. This machine has detergent incorporation and both degreasing and traffic film detergents are used. The brush attachment has been used but proved not to be robust enough.

## Manor House Golf Club at Castle Combe near Bath

Manor House is still using shipping containers and other temporary housing while their new greenkeepers facility is being built. Mains electricity is laid on and a full time mechanic, Charlie Gaisford, is employed, however Paul Bishop, Course Manager envisages significant upgrading of the equipment when they shortly move into the new building.

Currently there is a 'Snap-on' air compressor manufactured in

1983 with a tank of about 100 litre and little history (it should have a written maintenance and safety record). Paul anticipates moving this to the new workshop and having it tested. Charlie has recently replaced the pressure switch the previous switch having become unreliable, and it now maintains pressure at around the 100psi mark. Rated working pressure is 10 bar – about 150psi. The main service requirement is to drain any condensed water, and check the oil level in the compressor.

Apart from the obvious use for tyre inflation the system is used extensively for running impact drivers and ratchet drivers, however Charlie also has a small drill which he uses for smaller tasks when it is more convenient than an electric drill. For larger and more extensive drilling an electric drill is used, mainly to avoid the nerve stressing of having the compressor constantly cutting in

and out. With fitting out the new workshop there will also be a pneumatic tyre changer and a paint sprayer. The use of an air jet to remove dry grass is seen a better and safer option than using water where possible.

KEW 17A2K Pressure washer is a handy mobile 230v cold water machine about eight months old and has a maximum 150 psi pressure. It has operated during that time without trouble, it is used on a regularly daily basis when mowers and other machines come in. It is also particularly useful for removing the paste after backlapping.

Manor House has the chemical injector kit and a washing brush. The injector kit is used with a traffic film detergent which is bought ready for use in a 25 litre drum. Paul said that prior to the KEW the club had a 'steam cleaner' however when the boiler he did not see the need to replace this ability although he admitted that 'steam' could be useful for some cleaning jobs. He found that used carelessly or by inexperienced operators it will remove paint.

With the new building there will be three hose points running from the club's irrigation system which operates at 10bar. These will be placed alongside a specially build wash bay so that all grass clippings, sand and other rubbish will be collected in a sump for weekly removal while the water is taken to a soakaway. The pressure washer will still be needed and in any case the irrigation is off for the winter.

## WHAT I'D LIKE FOR CHRISTMAS



Chris Carpenter, Brookmans Park GC:

"To wake up on Christmas morning and have a bunker free course."





# Buyers' Guide

The most cost-effective way of reaching readers of *Greenkeeper International*. Simply ring Bill Lynch on 0191 413 7218, Carol Dutton or Louise Lunn on 01347 838581 and ask about an alphabetical category listing: the cost starts from the equivalent of under £25 per month.

## Agronomy

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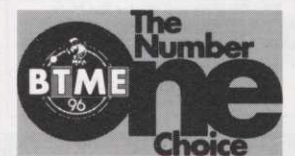
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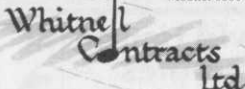


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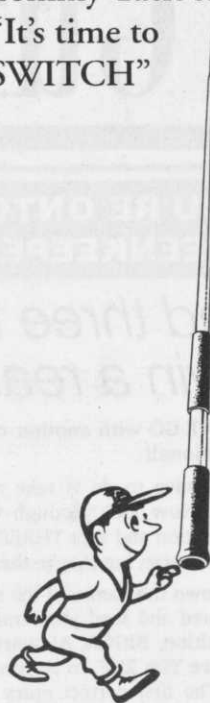
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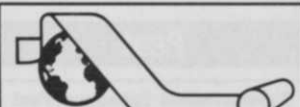
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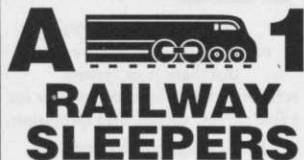
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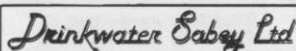
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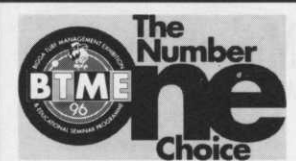
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The successful applicant will be responsible for all aspects of course management and preparation.

He/she must have appropriate greenkeeping qualifications and possess the necessary management and supervisory skills to enthusiastically lead and motivate staff, organise work programmes, work within budgetary controls and maintain Health & Safety requirements.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications.

All applications will be treated in strictest confidence and should be made to:

**The Secretary**  
**Oxley Park Golf Club Limited**  
**Bushbury, Wolverhampton WV10 6DE**



## WORPLESDON GOLF CLUB

requires a

# HEAD GREENKEEPER

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*Apply in own handwriting with full typed CV to:*

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**Worplesdon Golf Club, Heath House Road,**  
**Woking, Surrey GU22 0RA**



## Royal Blackheath Golf Club

requires a

# HEAD GREENKEEPER

for its 18 hole parkland course

Applications are invited from persons with proven ability, qualifications and a minimum of 5 years experience as a Head Greenkeeper or equivalent at an established golf course.

The successful applicant must show management and supervisory skills, ability to organise and carry out work programmes, be capable of preparing and maintaining budgets and working to Health & Safety requirements.

A practical knowledge of automatic irrigation systems and machinery maintenance is required, as is the ability to motivate staff.

The salary and benefits will be commensurate with this responsible position and family accommodation is provided.

Please apply in writing with full CV to:

**The Secretary, Royal Blackheath Golf Club,**  
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## The Williamwood Golf Club

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Apply in writing with full CV and details of current salary to:

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A practical knowledge of automatic irrigation systems and the use of greenkeeping machinery is also required. The ability to lead, motivate and organise an established team of greenstaff is essential.

Apply in writing with full CV, current salary and expected salary to:

**Mr I J Evans, Managing Secretary,  
Copthorne Golf Club, Bowers Arms Road,  
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## WORKING HEAD GREENKEEPER

for our 18 hole parkland course in a pleasant location.

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Applications in writing with full CV to:

**Sandy Aird, Manager, Forres Golf Course, Forres, Moray, Scotland**

## Immingham Golf Club

require a

## HEAD GREENKEEPER

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Applications in writing with full CV to:

**The Secretary, Immingham Golf Club,  
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requires a

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Applications with CV in writing by 31st December 1995 to:

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3. Ability to train and motivate staff
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Paul Hobden, Golf Course Manager,  
Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane,  
Biddenden, Kent TN27 8JX



**Kings Hill**  
GOLF CLUB

## Kings Hill Golf Club

Requires a

## FIRST ASSISTANT & ASSISTANT GREENKEEPERS

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On the third day of Christmas my true love sent to me three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the fourth day of Christmas my true love sent to me four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the eighth day of Christmas my true love sent to me eight tees a building, seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love sent to me nine Chairmen bleating, eight tees a building, seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps,

three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the tenth day of Christmas my true love sent to me ten days a raining, nine Chairmen bleating, eight tees a building, seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my true love sent to me eleven section golf days, ten days a raining, nine Chairmen bleating, eight tees a building, seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me twelve days of training, eleven section golf days, ten days a raining, nine Chairmen bleating, eight tees a building, seven irate members, six BIGGA blazers, five gold key sponsors, four calling reps, three mowers mowing, two assistants raking and a BIGGA rain suit, free.

*Composed jointly by Scott MacCallum and Ken Richardson, with apologies to the original lyricist!*

## Answers to Christmas Quiz (Page 9)

1. Nick Faldo; 2. Aldwark Manor; 3. Jack Nicklaus; 4. Walter Woods; 5. Philip Walton; 6. Costantino Rocca and Howard Clark; 7. 701; 8. Sandy Lyle; 9. Royal Troon; 10. Solheim Cup; 11. Orlando; 12. Valderrama; 13. Royal Porthcawl, Great Britain and Ireland; 14. Dean Cleaver; 15. Colin Montgomerie and Loren Roberts; 16. Oakmont; 17. Turnberry; 18. George Brown; 19. Yorkshire; 20. Royal Lytham

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