

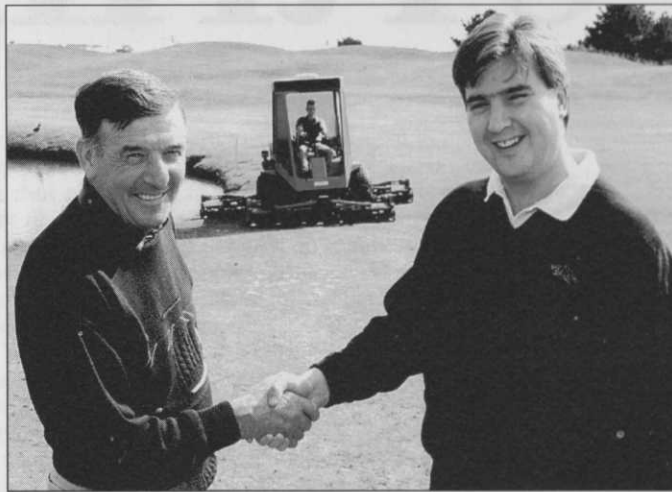
Robert takes top job at St Mellion

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.

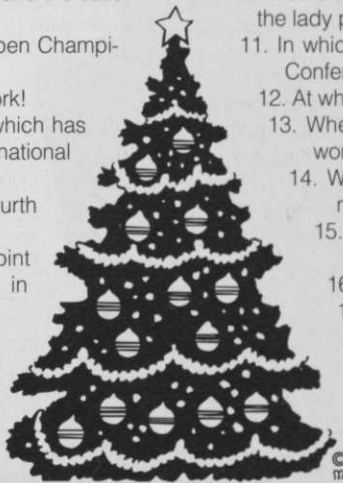
The number – which will be open from January 1 – is 01206 871614.

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*

The Greenkeeper's Version of the 12 Days of Christmas!

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me a BIGGA rain suit, free

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

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)

- 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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GTC

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Covering six tasks from the GTC Training Manual, **GOLF COURSE PREPARATION** is an invaluable aid in the training of all greenkeepers, particularly those recently entering the profession.

The video lasts 30 minutes and is presented in six easy to find sections that can be viewed individually or as a complete package.

BIGGA's contribution in co-producing this training video, with AVS, is thanks to members of BIGGA's Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund. The fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game.

VIDEO ORDER FORM

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

Please send me copy/copies of Golf Course Preparation

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