



NEW ATTENDANCE RECORDS ARE SET AS 4,967 VISITORS MAKE THE TREK

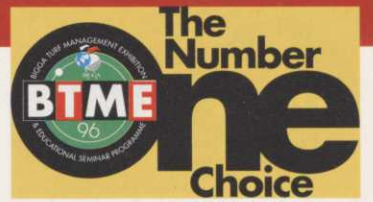
The ever more difficult goal of improving on the year before was achieved, yet again, by BTME 96 which saw record attendances and an approval rating which would put Santa Claus in the shade.

Over the three days of the Show 4,967 people took the opportunity to visit, a figure which is 22.6% up on the 1995 total. If that looks like setting ourselves a daunting prospect for next year we are already on the way to setting new records in '97. Since returning to Aldwark Manor the post has been heaving with yellow application forms from exhibitors requesting more stand space for next year.

As one letter reminded everyone "there are only 356 booking days to go!" which is very true but for goodness sake don't leave it until the 356th day as we invariably sell out well before the final deadline.



# BEST EVER BTME



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

Promotions girls handed out leaflets directing visitors to examine the BIGGA merchandise on show; below, Barry Heaney dispenses with mere scissors for a much more macho way to cut the tape to open BTME. PHOTOGRAPHS BY SCOTT MacCALLUM and TIM MOAT



## New top team looks ahead

The Annual General Meeting on Wednesday evening was a resounding success with the revised Constitution, which had been crafted by the Review 2000 committee over the last two years, being passed unanimously by the substantial number of members who attended.

The new Constitution saw Board of Management Members Robin Greaves, Gordon Moir and Chris Mardon stepping down and Guardians appointed in the shape of Bill Lawson and Brian Gilbert, representing the R&A.

Outgoing Chairman Barry Heaney helped his successor,

Dean Cleaver, Course Manager of Gay Hill GC in Birmingham, into his Chairman's Blazer (pictured below) and Dean then thanked Robin, Gordon and Chris for their work while on the Board of Management.

A new Vice Chairman will be appointed at the next Board of Management meeting in March.

# VER



BTME is a rare occasion for Past Chairmen to meet up and 1996 was no exception. In addition to a Past Chairmen's Dinner on Tuesday night they gathered together at the Chairman's Lunch the following day. Pictured are five of the recent Past Chairmen, from left, John Millen, John Crawford, Roy Kates, George Malcolm and Ivor Scoones



Working for the good of the fine turf industry



Alec Davies of Didsbury Golf Club won the Mommersteeg Prize draw of a visit to the Mommersteeg Headquarters in Holland. BIGGA Chairman Dean Cleaver made the draw on the Friday of BTME 96.



Richard Whyman of Bude and North Cornwall Golf Club won the Vitax Draw made by BIGGA Chairman Dean Cleaver. Richard qualified for the draw having purchased the new Ultra Flow Diluter launched at the Show and he wins a £150 BIGGA voucher



It was rare for anyone to leave BTME empty-handed. Here, BIGGA's Neil Thomas (above) and John Pemberton (below) hand out vouchers to lucky visitors



## Elected to greenkeeping's elite

John Wells, of Brockett Hall, and David Winterton, of Donnington Grove were each presented with their plaques and Master Greenkeeper blazers by outgoing BIGGA Chairman Barry Heaney.

John and David join the elite band of 11 Master Greenkeepers

throughout the world - Laurence Pithie, Gordon Irvine, David Whitaker, Kerran Daley, Anthony Davies from the UK and Richard McNab, Terry Buchan, Bob Maibusch and Bill Montague from the United States.

The award of Master Green-

keeper shows that the recipient has reached the highest standards of excellence within the profession and is based on experience, ability and education. John Wells is pictured left, with David Winterton on the right.



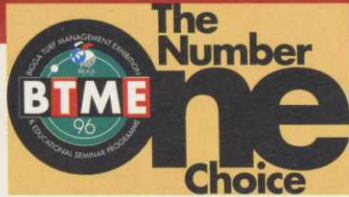
★ The three winners of the BIGGA BTME 96 competition run on three consecutive months of *Greenkeeper International* were welcomed to the show by Pat Murphy, Chairman of BIGGA's Education Sub-Committee. Paul Compton, Stephen Hartshorn and Mark Rankin, who each won trips to Harrogate and entry to seminar sessions.



Meeting the visitors and exhibitors: Lord Whitelaw on his trip around BTME



Barry Heaney's accident slowed him down but as Neil Thomas said, he'd be pushing to find another Chairman as good as Barry.



Working for the good of the fine turf industry

NEW PRODUCTS LAUNCHED AT BTME 96

# The ideal showcase



**Barenbrug** has launched its 1996 Barenbrug Amenity Grass Seed Mixtures Handbook. It includes an improved at-a-glance mixture selection guide featuring 17 BAR range mixtures six of which have

been reformulated and enhanced for '96. It also includes two new cultivars which make their debut. Barlinda is a perennial ryegrass and sister to Barclay which is the hardest-wearing ryegrass available for groundsmen using fertiliser. It has a good resistance to leaf spot and good colour throughout the year. Barvictor is a smooth-stocked meadow grass whose colour blends well with ryegrass and fescues. It is ideal for golf tee use and inclusion in turf production mixtures.



### The Grass Roots Trading Company

chose BTME 96 to launch GreenGrass, a permanent green pigment designed to restore colour to dormant or discoloured turf and not harm the turf in the process.

GreenGrass can also be pre-applied to divot mix to produce a natural green colour.

Available in five litre bottles GreenGrass is used diluted, the ratio of GreenGrass to water depending on the desired intensity of the colour. A single litre will, however, cover between 100-300 square metres.



BTME 96 saw the launch of the **Ransomes Fairway 305** – a dedicated fairway mower designed to build on the worldwide success of the Fairway 300. Changes to Ransomes' product development and production means that the Fairway 305 is the first of many machines which can be built simultaneously

at Ransomes' factories at Ipswich and Johnson Creek, Wisconsin in the USA. The principle standard features of the Ransomes Fairway 305 are a 2.94m (116in) cutting width, a 38hp (28kW) water-cooled diesel engine and full-time four-wheeled drive, with the ability to engage two-wheel drive for transport. The Fairway 305 will be available for demonstration from early Spring and will cost £28,090 with seven knife cutting reels and £28,190 with 11 knife units.



A new American-designed machine which claims to double your green's root mass made its UK debut at BTME 96. **SubAir** was developed by American Golf Course Superintendent Marsh Benson and features a blower which spreads air into the integral drainage system below the root zone of a USGA spec green. This oxygenates the root zone to increase root zone vigour and transfers water vapour to the root zone from the perched water table. Further information can be obtained from IPU Industrial Power Units in Wolverhampton Tel: 01902 452138.



**Hardi International** launched a new range of Hardy-Rogers Windfoil Boom assemblies to suit de-mount, mounted or trailed Hardi Amenity sprayers. The 4.5 metre boom is available in two versions the full hydraulic folding version which is ideal for large golf course complexes or the budget model with manual fold normally sold to traditional golf courses or local authorities.

Also launched was the new range of Hardy-Rogers Ecofoil and Greensfoil Walking Boom

units. Both are available in two sizes with one and two metre working widths.

Finally the new Hardi Amspread 300 which is a 250 litre tractor mounted spreader capable of applying most mixtures accurately in rate and width.

### Hepworth Mineral and Chemicals Ltd

introduced a new product to its Pro-Sport range or root zones, silica sands and top dressings. Pro-Sport Green is a specially formulated divot mix for golf courses consisting of silica sand and sterilised soil to which a harmless green dye has been added. It is intended to fill divot marks and will allow grass to grow quickly through the mixture.

Pro-Sport Green is available to golf courses through the HMC national distribution network.

**Monestone** chose the show to launch its own range of liquid turf care products which includes liquid fertilisers, liquid blood and bone, sulphur based products, iron products, pH adjusters and a soil penetrating wetting agent.

### British Seed Houses

launched Lex 86 a new which germinates and establishes itself quickly to form a high density low-growing amenity ryegrass with a fine leaf texture and a consistent mid-green colour through both summer and winter. Other pluses of Lex 86 is its cleanness of cut, its good resistance to disease and its excellent winter hardiness and drought tolerance. It is also well suited for mixing with low-maintenance fine fescues.

British Seed Houses also launched its Grade A catalogue at the show.

### Maxicrop International

launched a new seaweed extract based plant growth stimulant/fertiliser formulation at the show. Maxicrop No 4 FineTurf Fertiliser combines the full benefits of Maxicrop Seaweed Extract with a zero phosphate fertiliser formulation. The company believes that it is an ideal, in-season turf stimulant with added nitrogen and potash.

### Toro Commercial Products

launched the industry's first 7-plex fairway mower – the Reelmaster 6700-D – at the show and showed three other turf maintenance machines that are new for the '96 season. The 6700-D is a powerful four-wheel drive fairway mower with seven cutting units and a cutting width of 133 inches designed to give a quality cut at high levels of productivity. It is being introduced to meet the need for producing a good-looking aftercut appearance to fairways by providing high quality cutting in tough thick or fast growing grass.

# for the industry



A feature of the new mower is Toro's new L-I-N-K-S cutting unit suspension system which allows the cutting units to hug the turf and reduce bobbing. The three other machines new to the '96 season are the Reelmaster 6500-D, the Greensmaster 3200-D and the Reelmaster 2300-D.



The new **SISIS** Cultiseeder, a pto driven disc seeder with a working width of 1.2 m was launched at the Show. The coulters vibrate using a new patented system to ensure a clean deep cutting action without the weight often required by disc seeders. Compaction problems are therefore reduced. The discs can be preset to the required depth at 50mm spacings and are mounted on two independently floating units to follow ground contours.

**Service Chemicals** launched "alleviate" a treatment, based on tenside hydrophobe chemistry, for the specific treatment of dry patch and water repellent soils in turfgrass situations. It is unique and offers a completely different approach to the management of dry patch and is designed to complement the need for ordinary wetting agents. Alleviate should also be used preventatively to get the best results and is fully compatible with the Turfex traditional wetting and penetrating agent managed application.

**Headland Amenity** has expanded its Seamac growth stimulant with the addition of Seamac Pro-Turf specially formulated to stimulate grass development and colour. The free flowing, filtered liquid combines concentrated plant stimulants, derived from seaweed with the key nutrients associated with maintaining grass condition and colour - nitrogen (2.5%), iron (6%), sulphur (3.4%) and magnesium (2%). Available immediately Seamac Pro-Turf is £27.50 per 10 litre pack and is recommended for use at 35 litres/ha in 200 litres of water.

The new 1900 series Tri-Kings from **Jacobsen** has been launched for '96. Among the new features are the three piece



hood assembly which folds back smoothly and the rear cutting unit which slides back to allow total access and ease of maintenance. There is also a major upgrading of the hydraulic drive system incorporating heavy duty wheel motors and automatic 3WD which cuts in when mowing and out when downhill. Power steering is standard and the new Tri-King is available for five or 10 blade reels with a seven blade unit scheduled for introduction later this year.

The T44 5-cylinder mower from **Hayter** is the most powerful and versatile in the Hayter range. It has a 3500 mm (11'6") cutting width and is ideally suited to golf course fairways, sports grounds and other amenity areas. Available with fixed or floating heads for heavy or fine turf areas the high output mower has fully hydrostatic two and four wheel drive with a 48hp Kubota engine. It can also be supplied with a hydraulic tilt kit for use in conjunction with the fully floating cutting heads.

A new larger pack of **Levington Turfclear**, the dual fine turf fungicide and worm cast control product based on carbendazim was launched at the Show. Sales of the Turfclear have increased dramatically over the past three years and as a consequence the company has introduced the five litre size.



**New Chairman Dean Cleaver** was delighted to meet a satisfied BTME 96 exhibitor in the shape of **Kim Macfie** of **Hayter's** who had clinched another sale.



A low cost portable backlapping machine has been introduced by Ransomes' company, **Supreme Mowing Ltd.** Known as the Ecolap the new unit is suitable to anyone wishing to restore a keen edge quickly and economically to mowing cylinders between major regrinds. The Ecolap is ideal for backlapping cutting cylinders of 4in to 10in and has a quarter horsepower single-phase electric motor giving a fixed lapping speed of 140rpm. Supplied with a universal joint and drive adapter, three different cylinder drive sleeves and 500gm of lapping compound the Supreme Ecolap costs £375.

**Green Link International** and **Farmura Ltd** have produced BIGGA's first Official Desk Planner for all

Head Greenkeepers.

Printed in full colour and headed by the BIGGA logo the planner has been designed to provide greenkeepers with a useful work

# It's showtime!



The Karaoke night was a big hit with the star of the show Joe Vargas, pictured below, who gave fuel to the rumour that "There's a guy talks down the conference claims he's Elvis." Also making a bid for stardom were the BIGGA Girls and the Miracle Boys, pictured above and left. Photographs by Scott "Paparazzi" MacCallum



Following in the successful steps of Linda Nolan and Tom O'Connor last year Lyn Paul and Stan Boardman were given the task of ensuring the Banquet guests were whipped into a frenzy of enjoyment and hilarity. They were both up the job and ensured the continued soaring success of the Banquet Evenings. Stan Boardman got on so well with the German guest sitting nearest to the stage that by the end he had been bought a drink to cement the friendship.

