

An Open invitation to help at big event

Applications are invited from members to join BIGGA's Greenkeeping Support team for the Open Championship at Royal Lytham & St Annes GC.

Members wishing to be considered must be working greenkeepers and should be available from Wednesday evening July 17 to Sunday evening July 21, 1996. The opportunity to take part in the most important golf event of the year is open both to team members from previous years and also those members who are wishing to participate for the first time.

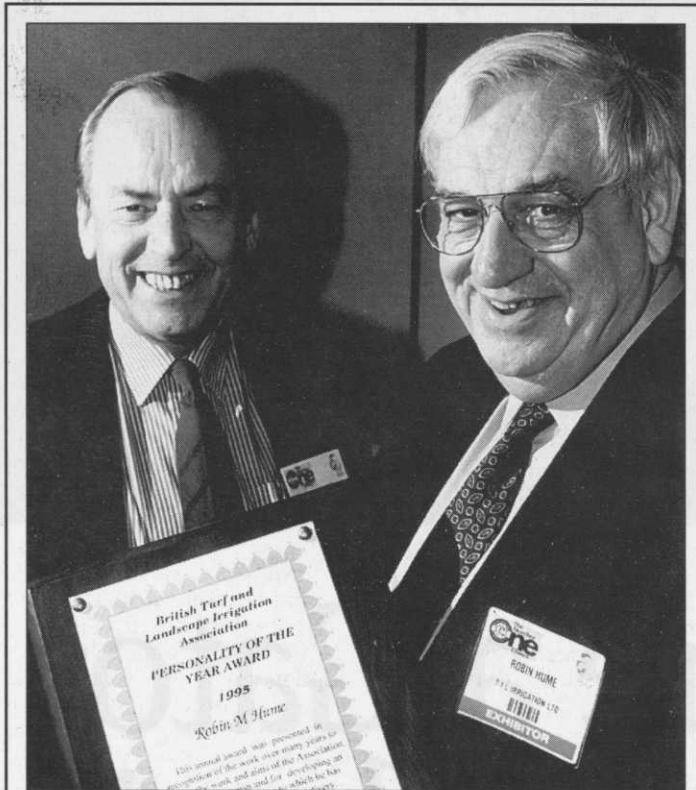
Duties will be allocated on a rota basis over the four days of play and include early morning course preparation, bunker raking while matches are in play and evening course maintenance. Members may also be asked to co-operate with the gathering of information for distribution in the Press Centre which helps raise the profile of the Association at the Championship. All members of the Support Team will be expected to remain on the course throughout the day and be available in the event of any unforeseen circumstances arising.

Accommodation, all meals and transport will be provided by the Association but successful applicants will be expected to pay their own travelling expenses from home to the Championship and return.

Those members wishing to be involved should put their names forward in writing to John Pemberton, Administration Manager at BIGGA's HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Ane, York YO6 2NF to be received no later than March 18, 1996. All candidates' names will then be placed into a draw to select the successful applicants.

If you have not been to this event before in this capacity and wish to learn more about what will be expected please do not hesitate to contact either John Tel: 01347 838581, Bert Cross Tel: 0151 7245412 or Elliott Small Tel: 01259 731445.

NEWS



Robin Hume has been named the first British Turf and Irrigation Association (BTLIA) Personality of the Year. The award was presented during BTME 96.

"Robin was nominated for this new award in recognition of his outstanding contribution in assisting in the establishment of BTLIA sponsored educational courses in irrigation," said Association Chairman Philip York.

"Robin not only helped to provide the framework for the development of block courses, designed to promote a greater understanding of the turf irrigation techniques, he used and continues to use his extensive knowledge, gained in this country and in many parts of the world," he added.

'Food blender' tackles debris

Charterhouse Turf Machinery's latest import, the Eliet shredder, is giving golf courses the chance to re-cycle general debris and use it as compost or walkway material.

The shredder works in the same way as a large food blender with 24 reversible blades mounted on a 500mm shaft at compound angles. It drives at 3000 RPM and will digest virtually any vegetation. The different gratings, with varying apertures, are available to produce ideal results for any type of material.

Further information can be obtained from Charterhouse Turf Machinery Tel: 01428 661222.

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, in conjunction with Dowdeswell Engineering are pleased to announce the signing of an agreement for future development and cooperation.

Initially Charterhouse will be marketing the Dowdeswell Titan range of Spikers together with the Dowdeswell Roller Mowers and the re-designed Dowdeswell Camcorer.

FLYING DIVOTS

■ Bert Senior, who worked for Parker Hart for over 40 years, has died at the age of 68. Bert was Tractor Workshop Manager at the company's Worcester Park Headquarters for many years and spent the last four years working part time in the Sales Department. He is survived by his wife Sheila.

■ York based company Rolawn (Turf Growers) Ltd has taken legal action to prevent another turf grower from infringing its Rolawn trademark when another company began advertising as "Rollon Turf" and "Roll On Turf".

In the High Court of Justice in London Mr Justice Jacob order that Mr Alan Le Blond of Sunderland Tyne & Wear be restrained from infringing Rolawn's registered trade mark and that Mr Le Blonds use of the terms "Rollon" and "Roll On" infringed Rolawn's trade mark. He also ordered that Mr Le Blond should pay Rolawn's costs in bringing the action.

"Rolawn's management and staff have spent over 20 years working extremely hard to build up the company's brand name and top class reputation. We are simply not prepared to allow anyone to misuse our good name," said Rolawn's Sales and Marketing Director Terry Ryan.

■ Rolawn is offering a reward of £5,000 for information regarding two break-ins in a week at the Elvington Headquarters at the end of January. On each occasion valuable computer equipment was stolen. Anyone with information should call Terry Ryan on 01904 608661.

■ Phil Chiverton, Course Manager at The Buckinghamshire Golf Club, who featured in December's Greenkeeper International, has been named Employee of the Year by the club's owners and has won a trip to the company headquarters in Japan.

■ The photograph of the Toro greens mower which appeared on the January Issue of Greenkeeper International was not, as it should have been, a Toro 3200-D but a much older machine. We apologise for the confusion caused by this error.

Experts join forces to improve standards

Six leading consultant agronomists have joined forces to form a new materials testing laboratory for the golf industry.

The laboratory known as European Turfgrass Laboratories Ltd (ETL Ltd) will be accredited by the USGA Green Section and run to the highest standards to give rapid results for construction work not only in the UK but throughout the world.

The six consultants – pictured from left, Eddie Connaughton, Mike Harbridge, John Hacker, John Souter, George Shiels and Jack McMillan – are well known



throughout the UK and Europe for their high standardised based on both scientific training and practical experience.

Their individual companies McMillan Shiels, Grass Technology International and Professional Sportsturf Design (NW) Ltd continue as independent companies but now have access to a rationalised laboratory ser-

vice.

It will be staffed with qualified and experienced technicians and a laboratory manager responsible for liaison, co-ordination and quality control.

The new laboratory opened for business on February 1 and details of specific services and charges can be obtained by calling 01786 449195.

FLYING DIVOTS



■ John Bradley has been promoted to Sales Manager by Barenbrug UK having previously been working as

Area Manager for the company.

His new role involves supporting distributors as well as consolidating and developing the sales team with the end result of increasing the usage of Barenbrug varieties and mixtures in the UK.

■ Rhône-Poulenc Amenity is the new name for Rhône-Poulenc's golf, sports turf and industrial weed control pesticide business.

"We think it is important for our customers that we have a title that reflects which business we are in," said Austin Davies, the Rhône-Poulenc Amenity Business Manager.

■ David Rycroft, who is currently a Senior Lecturer within the Institute of Irrigation Studies at Southampton University, is to join Professional Sportsturf Design (NW) Ltd.

■ The telephone number within the Sovereign Turf advert on page 57 of the January magazine should have been 01603 664209.

Deere's new range at Belfry

The Belfry – world-famous venue of the 1985, '89 and '93 Ryder Cup matches, and headquarters of the PGA – has invested in nine new John Deere machines worth over £100,000, to assist in course preparation and maintenance throughout the complex.

The purchase comes during an £8 million development programme by De Vere Hotels at The Belfry which includes the new PGA National Training Academy opening this month and a third 18-hole golf course, the PGA National Course, is due to open in spring 1997, alongside the Championship Brabazon and the Derby Course.

Dr Wolfgang Kumpf, lawn & grounds care equipment director for Britain & Europe, flew from the company's European Office in Germany formally to hand over

the new machines to Derek Ganning BEM, Course Manager, and his team of three Head Greenkeepers.

The Belfry's new range has been supplied by local John Deere grounds care dealer GME Ltd, part of the Mitchells Group of companies, and includes: a 3235 lightweight fairways mower; two 2243D diesel greens-mowers; two Gator 6 x 4 utility vehicles; two 2653 utility tees mowers; a 955 33hp compact tractor; a 1200A bunker rake.

"The John Deere machines fitted the bill," he says. "All the equipment we use at The Belfry has to win the approval of all 32 greens staff; following the latest tender John Deere was their top choice for ease of operation and adjustment, quality of cut and serviceability."

Training centre opens

Staff from machinery dealers and customers throughout Britain and Europe are beating a path to Ransomes' superb new International Training Centre at Ipswich.

The building is fully equipped to provide training and instruction in the operation, care and maintenance of all Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan turf equipment. In addition to engineer and

operator training, the building is used also for product familiarisation courses for Ransomes and its dealers' sales staff.

"We are proud of our new centre," said Mike Prentice, the company's technical training officer. "First-class training facilities are an essential part of the total support we provide for our machinery dealers, owners and users."

HAYTER CHALLENGE

Welcome from across the globe

To the names Ryder, Walker, Curtis, Solheim and Dunhill you can now add Hayter if the enthusiastic welcome given to the new Hayter International Cup from all corners of the globe is any gauge.

The Hayter International Cup, which runs alongside the Hayter National Final this year, has already been warmly received by virtually all the invited nations and a successful inaugural event, at West Lancashire Golf Club, this September is all but guaranteed. The Americas team comprising representatives from USA, Canada and Argentina is already complete while the Rest of the World team is all but confirmed.

The Hayter International Cup will be played every two years, alternating between the United Kingdom and the USA, with the four home nation representatives being selected from their performances in the scratch to 12 handicap category in the Hayter Challenge Final the previous year.

The road to the Hayter Challenge Final at Fairhaven GC in September has now been laid with sectional events and the regional finals in place.

Those who survive the first hurdle can look forward to the Regional finals at the following venues: Scotland, Royal Aberdeen May 29; South East, Benton Hall, June 6; South West and South Wales, Salisbury and South Wilts, June 12; Northern, Abergele & Penryn, July 3 and Midland, Peterborough Milton, July 16. As ever some fine golf courses and excellent days, even if you don't quite make it through to the final, to look forward to.

● **Kim Macfie gave more details of the Hayter International Cup at the Hayter Dinner during BTME 96 where he also presented Hayter's annual Outstanding Award for Dealers to Gibson Machinery Sales of Kirkham.**