

Give me a B! Give me a T! Give me a M! Give me an E!

Four letters which, joined together, herald the week of the year for greenkeepers everywhere

n a world full of acronyms – think of NATO, EMU, PAYE and ERNIE – greenkeeping has two which are intrinsically linked.

If it wasn't for BIGGA there would be no BTME and there can be no other grouping of four otherwise disjointed letters which can make a greenkeeper's pulse quicken in quite the way BTME does.

You cannot think about BTME without an image of Harrogate creeping into your head... and everything else which goes to make up the BTME experience.

Harrogate week, which for many begins with the National Education Conference – part of the Learning Experience, in association with Ransomes, is the event of the year for many in the fine turf management family whether they be greenkeepers, or a member of any one of the related areas which bring people to the Conference and Show.

Among the changes this year is the inclusion of the new Hall G to replace Hall E, which keeps all four halls on one level and ensures a superior flow to the show.

Hall G is a state-of-the-art marquee which BTME takes over from the Toy Fair, the exhibition held at Harrogate the previous week.

■ Due to an amendment to his travel arrangements Mr Jaime Ortiz Patino will not be able to attend on Wednesday 21 January, however, he will be speaking on Thursday 22 January at 1pm. This seminar is a must for anyone wanting to hear how Valderrama was prepared for the 1997 Ryder Cup.



Facts you need to know...

BTME Opening Times

Wednesday January 21: 9am-5.30pm Thursday January 22: 9am-5.30pm Friday January 23: 9am to 1.30pm

Booking System

Any delegate wishing to book hotels, seminar sessions, or the banquet should contact Sami Collins at BIGGA Headquarters Tel: 01347 838581

AGM

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will take place at the Majestic Hotel at 5.45pm on Wednesday January 21, 1998. All members are urged to attend but membership cards must be produced.

Competitions

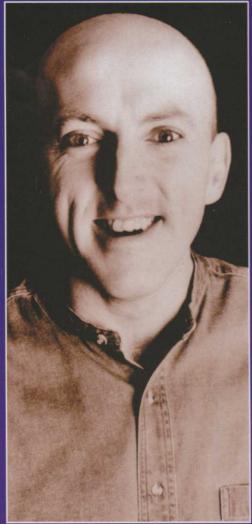
The winner of BIGGA's superb prize draw to win a trip to Harrogate for three nights at a top hotel and entry to all educational seminar sessions is Nigel Aiken of Belfast.

In second place and winner of a trip to Harrogate and accommodation for two nights as well as entry into the educational seminar sessions is Mr J. H. Bragg, from Crete and third is Michael Smith of Southampton who wins one night's accommodation and entry to all seminar sessions.

The winner of the Christmas Hamper for registering before November 14 was Steve Holmes of Hyndhead GC in Surrey.

Workshops One and Three and now SOLD OUT. For details of course availability please contact Sami Collins on 01347 838581

Entertainment at BTME







We thought our search was over... it is now!

ver the last few months the staff at BIGGA Headquarters have spent many hours on one of the biggest problems the Association faces on an annual basis how do we improve on the previous year's entertainment at the Thursday night banquet?

As you can imagine each year this task becomes more difficult as standards continue to rise. You will no doubt remember the last three years with Tom O'Connor, Stan Boardman and Bobby Davro topping the bill.

At the end of each of these evenings people left feeling they had a whale of a time and often ribbed us about how difficult it will be even to match it the following year.

It is a responsibility we have

not taken lightly and this year the search for a star has taken many telephone calls and long arduous hours watching videos ensuring that what we will present to our guests on that memorable **Thursday** evening next January will be the best we could possibly

Often we thought it was all over and we had succeeded... only to have our hopes dashed as some of the biggest name entertainers in the country couldn't wriggle out of previous engagements to free up a date BIGGA has had set in stone for years.

Undoubtedly it was all for the best because our patience was rewarded tenfold with the signing of one of the country's finest stand-up comedians – a

man who has simply exploded onto the scene over the last three years and following innumerable television appearances and a nationwide tour is one of the highest profile - and funniest - comedians in the land.

Many times we thought our search was over ... but - with the signing of Lee Hurst - it is now!

But that's not all. There is one person who is still talked about in hushed tones amid greenkeeping circles on both sides of the Atlantic following her outrageous performance at BTME '95 and, you've guessed it, we've brought her back. Linda Nolan will be strutting her stuff again at BTME '98.

You know where to go for tickets. Don't wait to be disappointed.

Keservations!

Where else would you rather spend a week in the middle of January than Harrogate?

There are several locations which tend to be chosen for the many exhibitions and conferences found up and down the length and breadth of the country.

Political parties tend to favour the seaside and Bournemouth, Blackpool and Brighton, the three Bs, appear on monotonous regularity giving politicians a rare opportunity to look windswept and interesting.

Big population centres are chosen for the likes of the Motor Show, British Fashion Week, The Boat Show and the Ideal Home Exhibition at the likes of Olympia, Earl's Court, in London. the NEC Birmingham or the Manchester Arena. In Scotland, of course, they have their own SEC in Glasgow.

However there can be few locations to match the delights of Harrogate which doesn't fall into either of the above categories but does offer a unique blend of atmosphere and facility which combined to make the town perhaps the most attractive of all the Conference

and Exhibition venues.

Slap bang between Edinburgh and London there can be few more accessible locations - particularly not with Leeds Bradford airport to service the needs of those who need to be in and out in a hurry. The Harrogate International Centre, itself is in the middle of town which means snatching an hour's shopping is not out of the question while the array of hotels, has something for every budget and many are in walking distance to the town centre.



Hospitality Inn

Special accommodation rates for

BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition 1998

Prospect Place, West Park, Harrogate HG1 1LB Tel: 01423 564601 Fax: 01423 507508



- Five minute walk to exhibition complex Free private parking
 - Cosy bar specialising in single malt whiskies
 - Comfortable, en-suite rooms
 - Colour TV (including Sky) in all rooms
 - Delicious evening meals

36-40 Franklin Road, Harrogate Tel: 01423 507474

PARNAS HOTEL

Proprietors: Robert and Pauline McKay



Driver and 3-wood from Exhibition Centre

98 Franklin Road, Harrogate HG1 5EN Tel/Fax: 01423 564493



The Britannia Lodge Hotel

Beautiful 19th Century town house, with private parking. Cosy lounge and bar with open fire and 12 en-suite bedrooms, all with TV, telephone and hospi-

tality tray. We are ideally situated, being only a few minutes walk to the Conference Centre, Exhibition Halls, and Harrogate town centre

ETB COMMENDED

AA* (72%)

Please contact Nigel or Julia MacDonald for reservations or information 16 Swan Road, Harrogate HG1 2SA Tel: 01423 508482 Fax: 01423 526840

The Bay Ho

INN & RESTAURANT

Burnt Yates, Harrogate HG3 3EJ Telephone: 0423 770230



Hosts Alice, Mandy and Wendy Donockley welcome you to this charming olde worlde, clad 18th century inn. Set at the gateway to the Yorkshire Dales, you have glorious view Nidderdale. This friendly inn offers superb cuisine and the best of Yorkshire hospitality.

From Harrogate: Take the A61 for 4 miles, then the A6165 to Pateley Bridge for 2 miles.

The inn is situated next to the village church in the village of Burnt Yates

The Langham Hotel

Family owned and managed 50 en suite bedrooms

SPECIAL RATES FOR BTME GUESTS

Contact Stephen Ward 01423 502179



Russell Hotel, Harrogate



RAC ***
Privately owned Hotel with 37 en suite bedrooms
SPECIAL RATES FOR BTME GUESTS
from £25 per person per night B&B

Freephone 0500 655464

MBERCOURT HOTEL**

Warm bedrooms, real breakfasts, bar and personal service.
Ten minutes stroll to conference centre.
£25.00 B&B single occupancy
£45.00 B&B double occupancy

57 Valley Drive, Harrogate Tel: 01423 502573 Fax: 01423 562696



Rudding Park

Yorkshire's Hotel, Golf and Conference Centre

○ 18 hole, par 72, parkland course ○ Luxury 4 star AA/RAC hotel
○ Grade 1 Regency period listed Conference centre ○ 2000 acre estate
○ Corporate days welcome ○ Affiliated to the Academy health spa

Rudding Park, Follifoot, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 1JH Tel: 01423 871350 Fax: 01423 872286 E-mail: sales@rudding-park.co.uk

Plenty to see and lots to do

There can be few towns with more to offer in the middle of January than Harrogate and if you can drag yourself away from the attractions contained in our four huge halls, or are looking for somewhere to spend an evening, Harrogate will not disappoint.

With Harrogate International Centre bringing people to the town on a regular basis it has ensured that it plays home to a variety of entertainment normally only sustained by towns and cities much larger that Harrogate.

A visitor could easily spend an entire holiday, not travel more than 10 miles from the centre of Harrogate and still feel they have had a rewarding break.

Following some intensive research from within BIGGA staff members who reside in the Harrogate and surrounding area the following facts about the town were established:

- Agatha Christie chose the town, and the Old Swan Hotel in particular, for her now famous disappearance when at the height of her literary powers.
- 2. Norman Lamont was a beaten parliamentary candidate at the last election.
- The town is the home of the world famous Betty's tea room and Taylor's Tea and Coffee.
- The water of the town have special healing powers and the Pump Rooms offer traditional Turkish Baths and more modern spas.
- Harrogate is the home of the Northern Horticultural Society and hosts a twice yearly flower show which attracts visitors from far and wide.

- A new swimming pool is soon to be built in the town.
- The town has three fine golf courses, Pannal, Harrogate and Rudding Park which was the '96 winner of the National Golf Environment Competition.
- 8. The town houses the excellent Black Sheep Brewery Visitors' Centre.
- Old Mother Shipton's Cave is in nearby Knaresborough.
- You will bump into a large number of greenkeepers and members of the greenkeeping industry during a certain week in January.





Who to look out for at

COURSE CARE

Safety and The Environment are the keywords form Course Care at BTME '98. Our extensive display will include: Course Care 30 long drain oil to minimise waste; Bunded fuel tanks to prevent leakage; Clipping Tip to keep clippings under control; Green Concept wetting agent to ensure maximum benefit from expensive irrigation; Oil interceptors to prevent pollution from wash-down areas; A Blue Angel range of biodegradable oils and greases; New Vivusol fuel treatment to prevent black smoke and protect engines; Respirators for all spraying applications; The Full Course Care Environmental Services range - waste oil collection. chemical packaging collection, filter collection.

TORO COMMERCIAL

Toro is displaying a large selection of turfcare equipment from its wide product range, including many new products that are making their first European showing.

Leading the line-up is a newgeneration tees mower (NGT) incorporating many innovative features.

Also making debuts are the new top-of-the-range bunker vehicle, the Sand Pro 5020, which replaces the Sand Pro 5000, and a new addition to Toro's highly-popular greensmower range, the Greensmaster 3050. The ride-on triplex unit is a lighter weight economy model.

There is also a new version of Toro's Greensmaster 500 pedestrian mower with improved handle configuration for easy operation.

Visitors can also see the new 78in Trailed Turf Aerator.

HAYTER LTD

Hayter has been producing top quality grass cutting products for over 50 years without compromising on quality. On Stand C42 this is more than evident with the products on display for golf course and local authority markets.

LEVINGTON HORTICULTURE

Levington Horticulture will be exhibiting the new Greenmaster Liquids range of turf fertilisers at BTME this year. Ideal for use on both fine and outfield turf, the range comprises formulations designed to meet the needs of turf managers throughout the season and in all situations.

One of the key benefits of the new Greenmaster Liquid Fertilisers is that they are not only designed for specific purposes in themselves but are also formulated to be tank mixed in order to achieve nutrient ratios previously very difficult to market due to storage instability.

Full information will also be available on the complete range of Levington turfcare treatments, including Greenmaster granular fertilisers, Sportsmaster, Tritox and Turfcare.

AMENITY TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS LTD

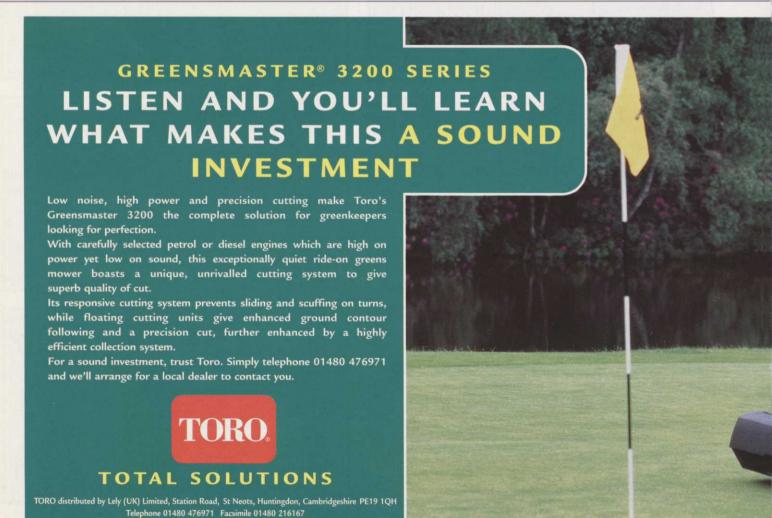
Amenity Technology will be in

unfamiliar territory at this years show, moving their stand to G20-G24. However as always visitors can be assured of the finest selection of innovative new products combined with Amenity Technology's existing ranges of bio-stimulants, micro-nutrients, wetting agents, water management, course accessories and fertilisers.

Exclusive to the show will be a special promotional offer on Indicator Green, the new spray pattern dye. Since its release, Indicator has enjoyed unparalleled success, leaving the opposition GREEN with envy. Make Amenity Technology on stand G20-G24 your first point of call, to keep up to date on what to use for the green environment.

AITKENS SPORTSTURF

Richard Aitken and his staff will be pleased to welcome customers old and new to their stand at BTME '98 Harrogate. On display are a number of new and interesting products, furthering the choice Aitkens can offer to green-



the show



keepers, groundsmen and turf managers. The most comprehensive choice available.

CHARTERHOUSE TURF MACHINERY LTD

Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd will again be displaying its full range of turf maintenance equipment with particular focus on the new verti-drains which were announced last year and which have received such wide acclaim throughout the last 12 months. Also included for the first time will be the Robin Dagger and the new Charterhouse pedestrian aerator. We look forward to meeting all our old friends and many new ones, so do not hesitate to contact any member of staff for added information or even a copy of our verti-drain video.

M J ABBOTT LIMITED

M J Abbott Ltd offers a range of specialist services to the golf and leisure industry. State of the Art Techniques together with fine workmanship ensure quality and efficiency throughout the company. M J Abbott Ltd concentrate its activities in the field of land drainage and irrigation. Recognised as one of the top companies in the UK offering Rain Bird Irrigation Systems, water sourcing, distribution, construction, maintenance and landscaping complete the range of services provided. Illustrated examples of the types of projects undertaken will be on display with technical staff on hand to answer questions and advise as required.

JOHN GREASLEY LTD

John Greasley Ltd is a specialist contractor who carries out alterations to and refurbishment of existing golf courses. The company established in 1984 has unrivalled experience in completing such works with a minimum of disruption and disturbance to the club and its members.

Over these years John Greasley has developed a wealth of experience and expertise in the way contracts are carried out, using his unique fleet of specialist equipment. This ensures works are completed efficiently with little or no damage to the course.

The company has been involved with the total reconstruction of the championship greens at Royal Birkdale.

KAWASAKI MOTORS (UK) LTD

Kawasaki Motors (UK) Ltd will be displaying the new innovative range of brushcutters. The six models ranging from 23cc to 48cc will be on display along with the already well established Kawasaki Mule-Utility vehicle. In addition to the brushcutter range, later in 1998 there will be a full range of hedgetrimmers and leafblowers.

LINKS LEISURE LIMITED

The all weather tee mat is manufactured in 3 sizes -1.0×2.0 mtrs, 1.5 x 1.5 mtrs and especially for the pitch and putt course a new mat 1.5 x 1.0 mtrs. The practice net, strong enough to withstand the most adverse weather conditions, measures 2.5

x 3.5 x 3.2 mtrs high and comes complete with a heavy duty baffle net. The attractive yet functional tee markers and entrance signs made either to a standard shape or to your own requirements, can be supplied in a variety of colours and stands. Introducing for the first time a litter bin made with the golf course in mind. Totally enclosed with a plastic bin liner. The base can be painted to your requirements and can include either your course details or sponsor plaque, if required.

MARLWOOD LIMITED

Marlwood Limited, UK distributors for the revolutionary range of "articulator" floating rotary mowers. Visit our stand (number A29) and see the full range of articulators. This latest generation is proving to be a great success with some of the UK's most prestigious golf courses, being seen as the ultimate semi-rough/rough cut mower. Giving the highest quality finish cut of any rotary mower. Showing for the first time will be





Who to look out for at the show

the latest addition to the "articulator" family – the outfront – available to suit most leading brands of out front ride on rotary mowers.

OCMIS IRRIGATION (UK) LTD

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

Ocmis are distributors for Rainbird, Buckner and Hunter and can supply and service other makes of equipment. Throughout the UK, Ocmis stock MDPE and UPVC pressure pipe, associated fittings, pumping units, electric cable and mobile irrigators. Ocmis's unique in-house design capabilities ensure that the requirements of each client are individually met and that each project is given independent attention. For more information and a no obligation survey and design contact Ocmis

Irrigation (UK) Ltd on: Head Office 01460 241939, Midlands Office 01789 414604, Northern Office 01924 453102 or the Scottish Office 0131 220 2102.

SISIS EQUIPMENT (MACCLESFIELD) LTD

Come and see the new SISIS 21-1D tractor with articulated power steering, patented weight transfer system and 21hp engine. There is an impressive list of options including hydraulic tipping box, speedo, canopy, flashing beacon.

Also on show will be the new SISIS Ecospray. Most sprayers are based on agricultural models, with the attendant problems of spray drifting from the intended target causing damage to adjoining vegetation. Therefore, each unit on the Ecospray is enclosed by a perforated shroud to reduce drift to an absolute minimum. The 5-gang Ecospray can be towed or fully mounted behind virtually any vehicle.

SUPATURF PRODUCTS LTD

Another innovative display from

Supaturf Products for 1998, featuring the world's favourite range of water management products including Primer 604, Aquadoc and Infiltrx. Other products such as the Evensprey 2000 multi-functional and versatile battery powered sprayer and the Supamark range of multi-coloured aerosols will be displayed. New from the Evenspred range of broadcast spreaders will be a top dressing and mulch spreader and new for the technologically advanced supa test soil test system will be a portable test moisture meter and a range of specialist test equipment.

VITAX LTD

Vitax Seaturf Soluble is a 100 per cent soluble concentrated sea-weed extract, ideal for tank mixing with soluble feeds such as the new Vitax Vitaturf range, giving today's turf manager the ability to produce his or her own liquid feed with the added benefit of seaweed.

Vitax Ultraflo Granular is the granular form of Ultraflo Liquid,

with the added benefits of ease of application for specific treatment areas where high irrigation requirements are a problem.

BOURNE AMENITY

Bourne Amenity announce the launch of its new manufacturing plant at Sevenoaks and will be delighted to welcome customers, both old and new, to join them for a glass of their very own 'Bourne' wine to help them celebrate the launch of their new plant. So, don't delay, go and visit their Stand No C13!

Bourne Amenity's own high quality topdressings and rootzones blended at its new Sevenoaks manufacturing plant will be on show. By incorporating Bourne Sports Stand with either peat, loam, fensoil or green organic, they can produce a blend to the clients specification. For more information see Bourne Amenity on Stand No C13 or contact them at Bourne Amenity, Newenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN18 5QG, Telephone 01797 255598.

