



Ganton photograph by BRIAN MORGAN

# End of an Era

**T**he last playing of the Hayter National Final at Ganton was an occasion to reflect on five outstanding years during which time laughs were had and friendships formed at an equal rate of knots.

Like any good thing which comes to an end there is always a tinge of sadness and, although the excellent relationship of Hayter and BIGGA will continue in other areas, the feeling that an enjoyable era had come to a close was just below the surface in Scarborough.

That sadness was magnified many times over by the subsequent news that David Spurden, Head Greenkeeper at Ganton, and member of the Northern Region team during the week, had been killed in a dreadful accident while out on the course less than a week later.

It is perhaps appropriate that the last Hayter Challenge Final should be the final big event, of many huge events, for which such a staunch BIGGA member had

## HAYTER CHALLENGE *the final final*

prepared Ganton. It was an event when David was with his colleagues and he could share in the banter and bon homme for which Hayter events, whether they be at Section, Region, National or International level, have become famous.

There can be no better tribute to David than the stream of compliments he received from the other 62 greenkeepers for the breathtaking quality of the golf course during the week of the Hayter Challenge.

The competition, our friends from Hayter, Ganton itself, but perhaps most of all, David Spurden, will live long in the memories of those who were at Ganton for the last playing of the Hayter Challenge Final.



David Spurden: Breathtaking quality of his golf course is a fitting tribute