



President
The Rt Hon.
Viscount Whitelaw
K.T., C.H., M.C., D.I.

BIGGA Board of Management
Chairman - Gordon Child
Vice Chairman - Elliott Small
Past Chairman - Patrick Murphy

Board Members
Richard Barker
George Barr
Robin Greaves
Jim Paton
Ian Holoran

Executive Director
Neil Thomas B.A.

Administration Manager
John Pemberton

Education Officer
Ken Richardson

Sales & Marketing Manager
James McEvoy

Membership Services Officer
Tracey Maddison

Contact us

You can contact The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association in any number of ways:

Post: BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aine, York, YO61 1UF

Tel: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801

E-mail: bigga@btinternet.com

Internet: www.bigga.org.uk

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

The official monthly magazine of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Editorial

Editor: Scott MacCallum
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801

Advertising

Sales & Marketing Manager:
James McEvoy

Sales & Marketing Assistants:
Jenny Panton, Cheryl Broomhead
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802
E-mail: sales.bigga@btinternet.com

Design

Design & Production Editor: David Emery
Tel: 01347 833800 ISDN: 01347 830020

Printing

Hi-Tec Print, Units 9-10, Houghton Road,
North Anston Trading Estate, North
Anston, Sheffield S25 4JJ
Tel: 01909 568533 Fax: 01909 568206
ISDN: 01909 550561

Greenkeeper International:

Winner of Certificate of Merit in Magazine of the Year category, Editing for Industry Awards 1994 and 1995.

Contents may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission. Return postage must accompany all materials submitted if return is requested. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited materials. The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication.

Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association, and no responsibility is accepted for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £36 per year; Europe and Eire £46. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

ISSN: 0961-6977

© 1998 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

December 1998

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by January 8, 1999

Regulars

News

Pages 7, 8, 9

8 Assistant Profile

10 Letters

14 The Learning Experience

The Appliance of Science. David Rhodes, Senior Lecturer at Merrist Wood College, highlights some of the finer points of the job

33-39 Around the Green

40 Education

Ken Richardson looks back at the success of the Association's big competitions

58 Features Listing

Helping you track down some of Greenkeeper International's previous articles

58 As I see it...

BIGGA National Chairman, Gordon Child, recalls surviving the most nervous moment of his life

Reader Reply Card

Use our post-paid reader reply card to obtain further information on the products and services advertised in this issue. Just state the company's Ad Ref numbers, post the card to us, and we'll arrange for further information to be sent direct to you.

Advertiser	Ad Ref	Page
ADAS	289	39
Amenity Technology	431	60
C+P Soilcare	46	32
Charterhouse	130	36-37
Club Car UK Plc	583	16
Eagle One Golf Products	593	27
Eric Hunter Grinders	73	22
Evergreens	526	32
GrassRoots Trading Co.	479	16
Green-Release™	563	5, 27
Greensward	312	35
Groundsman Industries	602	43
Inturf Ltd	31	16
JD Greasley Ltd	461	10
John Deere Ltd	103	6
Kubota (UK) Ltd	86	2
Lely (UK) Ltd	61	18-19
Marlwood Ltd	501	35
North Staffs Irrigation	217	41
Ocmis (UK) Ltd	360	15
Pattison	35	41
Sovereign Turf	435	43
Textron	9	12
White Moss Amenities	606	39
Wiedenmann (UK) Ltd	326	32

Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

The Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circle. For details, please contact BIGGA on 01347 838581



Golden Key Circle Company Members

Amazone Ground Care, Barenbrug, Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, Hayter Ltd, Jacobsen E-Z-Go Textron, John Deere Ltd, Kubota UK Ltd, Levington Horticulture Ltd, Scotts Turf & Amenity, Mommersteeg International, Ocmis Irrigation UK Ltd, PGA European Tour, Rainbird, Ransomes, Rhône-Poulenc Amenity, Rigby Taylor Ltd, Supaturf Products Ltd, The Toro Company, Watermaton

Silver Key Circle Company Members

Avoncrop Amenity Products, Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd, Lambert/Fenchurch UK Group Ltd, Rolawn Ltd, Sisis Equipment Ltd, Weed Free

Hurry! The last date for you to pre-register is January 5th, 1999. Call the BTME hotline on 01347 833834 if you need more pre-registration cards now!



58 As I see it...



14 The Appliance of Science



49 Win £50 with our new Buyers' Guide quiz

A potential cast of thousands

It seems that at this time of the year the spotlight tends to fall on one particular part of the country.

Last year it shone on one little corner of Surrey with Hankley Common clinching the BIGGA Golf Course Environment Competition, in association with Amazone Ground Care and Rhone Poulenc Amenity, and Hankley's Course Manager, Ian McMillan, collecting the Toro Excellence In Greenkeeping Award. Quite a remarkable double.

Well, this year there was another double. Not by the same golf club but by the same city. Lindrick, while not exactly in Sheffield does possess strong Steel City connections, won the Environment Competition and Abbeydale, in the south of Sheffield, is the home club of new Toro Excellence Award winner, John Coleman.

A Full Monty of BIGGA's premier awards, you might say. How lucky we are to have such fine winners and it reflects well on the development of both competitions that by general consent the quality of finalists in both was the highest ever.

Lindrick has long set the benchmarks for quality, and sustained, environment work and to have Lindrick's name on the cup is a boost to not only the club, but the competition as well.

John Coleman is a rising star in the profession. He's educated, articulate, determined and ambitious and is keen to promote the industry wherever and whenever possible.

He feels, and there is merit in his thinking, that for too many people greenkeeping is not top of the list when it comes to thinking about a career. People fall into the job, discover what great opportunities it offers, and go on from there. They don't tend to do what John did himself, and start straight from school.

He reaps the benefits from that because, at the age of 28, he is the finished article and the education he's about to start is to add to his considerable knowledge and not to fill gaps.

Congratulations also to Sally Doherty on winning the Toro Student of the Year Award. Another fine Champion, Sally is a university graduate and has quickly risen to the position of First Assistant on the famous Brabazon Course at The Belfry. Another excellent example of the quality of young people in the industry.

* This month I suffered a disaster which could only happen in this, the modern age. While in the 80s it may have been like losing a Filofax; in the 90s it is losing a hard disc on a computer. This I managed on the computer which contains all my magazine work as well as all correspondence... just as the deadline for this magazine loomed!

However, out of adversity comes inspiration. Not to say perspiration, and we piloted the issue home. On three wheels you might say.

However, if you expected to see something promised in this issue and it's not include, or I've not answered a letter please show a little understanding.

It just remains for me, on behalf of everyone at BIGGA HOUSE to wish you a Merry Christmas and a sensational New Year.



Editor:
Scott MacCallum

Greenkeeper

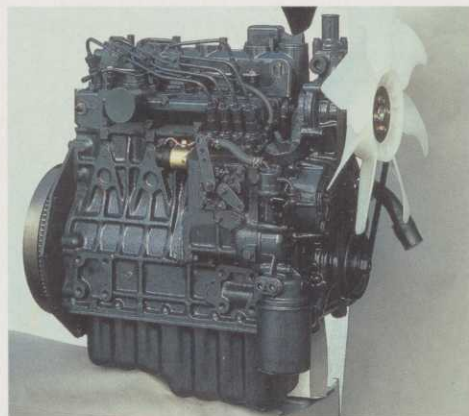
INTERNATIONAL

Features

- 11 Flowing Conversation**
Neil Thomas reports from the second FEGGA Conference in Spain
- 17 Smog Alert**
Roland Taylor discusses engines and how to do our bit to reduce the amount of toxic gases released into the atmosphere
- 20 Equal Partners**
Howard Swan, President of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects, talks of the dream ticket - the partnership between the greenkeeper and architect
- 23 The Toros**
Read how John Coleman and Sally Doherty became Toro Excellence In Greenkeeping Award winner and Toro Student of the Year respectively
- 28 Ecological Excellence**
BIGGA Golf Course Environment Award, in association with Amazone Ground Care and Rhone Poulenc Amenity
STRI Ecologist and competition judge, Bob Taylor, takes us on a tour of the winning golf courses while Scott MacCallum visits Lindrick, the deserved overall winner
- 41 BTME Preview**
Prepare yourself for the week of the year!



Lindrick, CC. Photo by Eric Hayward. Tel: 01302 320974



17 Smog Alert!