

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

Board Members

Richard Barker
 George Barr
 Kerran Daly
 Jim Paton
 Ian Holoran

Executive Director

Neil Thomas
 E-mail: neil@bigga.co.uk

Administration Manager

John Pemberton
 E-mail: john@bigga.co.uk

Education & Training Manager

Ken Richardson
 E-mail: ken@bigga.co.uk

Sales & Marketing Manager

James McEvoy
 E-mail: james@bigga.co.uk

Membership Services Officer

Tracey Maddison
 E-mail: tracey@bigga.co.uk

Contact us

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

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

Tel: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801

E-mail: reception@bigga.co.uk

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
 E-mail: scott@bigga.co.uk

Advertising

Sales & Marketing Manager: James McEvoy
 E-mail: james@bigga.co.uk

Sales & Marketing Assistants:

Jenny Panton, Cheryl Broomhead
 Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802
 E-mail: sales@bigga.co.uk

Design

Design & Production Editor: David Emery
 Tel: 01347 833800 ISDN: 01347 830020
 E-mail: david@bigga.co.uk

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:

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

© 1999 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

April 1999

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by May 7, 1999

Regulars

News

Pages 7, 8, 9, 10

12 New products

15 The Learning Experience

Can you hear me mother? Bruce Stanley looks at the best ways for greenkeepers to communicate while out on the golf course

20 Letters

32 Education

Ken Richardson covers the up-coming Carden Park seminar, groundwater regulations, national competitions, Learning Experience 2000 and the Millennium Bug

45-50 Around the Green

64 New products

80 Drawing a line in the sand

Sandy McDivot responds to the torrent of letters on his "Sand Green Destruction" article

82 Features Listing

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

82 As I see it...

Gordon Child looks back at another busy month

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
AF Trenchers	203	54
Amenity Land Services	408	54
Amenity Technology	431	83, 84
Banks Amenity	168	10
Bathgate Silica Sand	543	36
Bernhard + Co	535	31
Bill Head	617	32
Biotial	614	22
Blec	98	64
British Seed Houses	87	42
Cargills	566	2
Cleveland Sitesafe	56	12
ClubCar	583	31
Eagle Promotions	549	57
Eric Hunter Grinders Ltd	73	28
Even Products	609	54
Fairfield Turf	18	36
Firbank Recycling	611	81
Flowtronex	610	19
GrassRoots Trading Company	479	6, 62-63
Green Link International	618	66
Green Release™	563	5
Greensward	312	50
Groundsman Industries	602	61
John Deere	103	51
Kawasaki	544	19, 61
Lely	61	48-49
Levington	102	11
Marlwood	501	46-47
Maxicrop	174	70
North Staffs Irrigation	217	32
Ocmis	360	33
Olivers Seeds	571	43
Perryfields	551	40-41
Pittland Technology	189	12
Rainbird	443	38
Rhône-Poulenc	59	27, 37, 79
Rigby Taylor	127	21, 58
Rufford Soil Technology	5	17
Sharpes International	453	43
Sisis	176	44
Softspikes	616	25
Sovereign Turf	435	34
Textron	9	14
The Roots Company	615	69
Weed Free	504	81
Westurf	-	34
Whitemoss Amenities	606	34

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 833800



Golden Key Circle Company Members

Amazone Ground Care, Amenity Technology Products Ltd, Barenbrug, Bernhard and Company Ltd, Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, Hayter Ltd, John Deere Ltd, Kubota UK Ltd, Mommersteeg International, Ocmis Irrigation UK Ltd, PGA European Tour, Rainbird, Rolawn, Rhone-Poulenc Amenity, Rigby Taylor Ltd, Scotts Turf and Amenity, Supaturf Products Ltd, Stylo Matchmakers, Textron Turf Care and Speciality Products, The Grass Roots Trading Company, The Toro Company

Silver Key Circle Company Members

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



Call Jenny now, on 01347 833800 to reserve your stand at BTME2000!



Photo: Alan Birch

23 A walk in the park: Carden Park feature



71 Win £50 with our Buyers' Guide quiz

Has anyone else got webbed feet?

There have been times over the last few weeks that I found myself thinking that I had JR Ewing for a brother.

No, bear with me, there is a degree of logic to what at first glance might seem to be an outrageous suggestion. After all the only time I've been to Dallas I got no where South Fork but was stuck in the airport for a mind numbing four hours. But no. Who was JR's brother? Bobby. And who was Bobby? Patrick Duffy. And who was Patrick Duffy? The Man from Atlantis!

Yes, over the last couple of weeks I'm sure that, if I look closely, I can see the gaps in my toes joining up. You wouldn't believe it but I'm getting webbed feet.

Well, you should believe it because I live in the part of North Yorkshire which was badly hit by the flooding of the River Derwent. Fortunately our house was unaffected but my route to work was cut off and I had to set off in the wrong direction some time earlier than usual to get to BIGGA HOUSE.

It hadn't even been raining particularly heavily but the water table has been so high it didn't take too much to tip it over the edge.

With similar problems, if perhaps to lesser degrees, occurring all over the country it must be causing you all sorts of problems. I know here at Aldwark the golf course was closed for a while and it did result in some disconsolate golfers.

Multiply that around the country and there is an army of club golfers, who have brought clubs down from the attic, dusted them off and like coiled springs are ready to start their season. But they can't. They've got no outlet for their frustration... unless at the man who is "stopping them from playing".

Yes, unless you have a particularly enlightened membership, or work in one of the few areas to avoid record rainfall, you have no doubt been getting it in the neck.

It just brings it all home that you can be the best greenkeeper in the world but you are only as good as nature lets you be. Let's face it, it wasn't two years ago that I produced a Drought Special for the magazine and looked at the best ways to save and store rainfall. Since then, and I do accept the blame, it has barely stopped tipping it down. The new garden furniture we bought last year is damp, rusting and barely used.

All you can do is arm yourself with facts and statistics about rainfall levels to bombard the Green Committee, or anyone who traps you in the bar. They needn't be delivered in a defensive way but a 'You will just not believe how much rain we've had...' may be enough to nip any potential criticism in the bud.

In the meantime I've got to remember just what happened while I was in that shower. And who was it again who shot JR?

Editor:
Scott MacCallum

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

Features

13 GTC: Where Now?

Neil Thomas puts forward BIGGA's position with regard to the current review into the Greenkeepers' Training Committee.

18 One Heck of a Prize

Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping winner, John Coleman, reports back from his trip to America

23 A Walk in the Park

Carden Park, near Chester, is going to be a wonderful host to the Charterhouse/Scotts BIGGA National Championship, as Scott MacCallum found out

29 In the Shop

Roland Taylor looks at what is required to kit out a workshop

35 Welcome to Westurf

Westurf has a new venue and a new look for '99. It is well worth a visit

39 Removing the Seeds of Doubt

Answering the regularly asked seed related questions

55 Saving Water

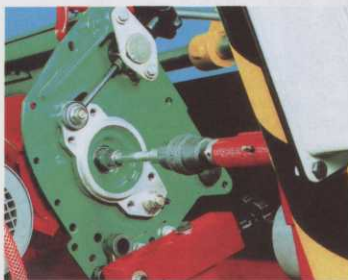
Philip Sharples talks about water conservation. Just because it isn't an issue today...

59 Top Women

Carol Dutton speaks with four women who are making their careers in a male dominated industry

67 Turf's Up

Scott MacCallum visits Rolawn, BIGGA's latest Golden Key Supporter



29 In the Shop



55 Saving Water