

Sportsturf Conference for Millennium

The first event of a new biennial European Scientific Sportsturf Conference - EuroTurf 2000 - is being planned for the first week in July, 2000, by Rhone Poulenc Amenity and the STRI.

"We have asked sportsturf researchers across Europe what length of conference they would like and the majority have requested a

two day event," said Austin Davies, Business Manager at Rhone Poulenc.

"Creating a forum for the exchange of ground breaking research in European Sportsturf is seen by Rhone Poulenc as a great means of starting the new millennium with renewed drive and commitment."

Dr Mike Canaway, Chief Executive of the STRI, is planning to launch a

European Turfgrass Association at the conference.

"I am currently discussing with colleagues in Europe the possibility of the formation of such an Association to improve the flow of information between EU Member States and between researchers, commercial companies and end users," explained Mike.

Stephen Noye

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Stephen Noye, Head Greenkeeper of Purdis Heath Golf Club, at Ipswich. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, members of BIGGA and the members of Purdis Heath.

Ian Willett
East Anglia Section Secretary

An eventful life

News of the death of one of the greenkeeping's elder statesmen has reached BIGGA HOUSE.

Pat Kirkpatrick, Head Greenkeeper at Dulwich and Sydenham Hill GC, for almost 30 years, and father of John Kirkpatrick who succeeded him for a further 20 years, was 94.

In an eventful life he was a professional golfer and worked in the professional shop beside another assistant by the name of Henry Cotton.

In 1926 he became Professional/Greenkeeper at Lake Garda in Italy and played in the first Italian Open in 1926 finishing third.

In 1939 he moved to Pallanza where he took over from JH Taylor who had laid out the course. From there he moved to Lugano where among others he gave lessons to the Aga Khan and Baron von Thyssen, who warned him of the forthcoming Second World War and advised him to return home.

At Dulwich he also helped serve behind the bar and was universally popular, and he even after his retirement in 1975, he continued to work part time.

A workaholic, the lady of a house which backed onto a green asked Pat that as it was 6.30am could he not leave the green in front of her house until last.

"Madam, this is the last," he said.

Derek Hargreaves



It is with great sadness that Sisis report the death of their retired Chairman, Derek Hargreaves, at the age of 86.

Derek Hargreaves was the son of the founder of Sisis and father of Roger and William, the current Joint Managing Directors. He received the Institute of Groundsmanship Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998.

John makes award a 'Shaw thing'

Toro Commercial Product's dealer, John Shaw Machinery, has carried off the top prize in the latest annual dealer awards having been voted Best Overall Dealer for 1998. It comes at a particularly busy time for the company which last year added Surrey, South London and East Berkshire to its existing territory of Sussex and Kent while it is also opening a new service depot in Gomshall, Surrey.

Managing Director, John Shaw is pictured receiving a plaque to commemorate the win from Peter Mansfield, General Manager for Toro Commercial Products at Lely UK. Other members of the John Shaw team also pictured are David Cole, Marketing Director; Steve Vogels, Sales Director, and Miranda Meaden, After Sales Director.



Investors in People

But just how many people does it take to put up a plaque?



Following last month's announcement that BIGGA had achieved "Investors in People" status the Association now boasts a fine plaque for the wall of BIGGA HOUSE. A formal presentation will be made to the Association at a later date but Neil and the rest of the team are currently busy working out how to put this up.

Eamonn Wall introduces new Directors



Eamonn Wall & Co has appointed Alastair Seaman, (top) and John Nicholson, (above), as Company Directors, joining Managing Director, Eamonn Wall on the Board following the firm's recent incorporation.

Alastair, 30, joined the company in 1994 and is based at the firm's Dollar office. He graduated from Edinburgh University with a joint forestry/agricultural degree and has since obtained a MSc in Forestry from Oxford Forestry Institute.

John, 42, joined the firm in '95 having completed an HND in Arboriculture at Houghall College in Durham and is based in Durham. He is a keen golfer, lectures occasionally at Houghall College and is currently writing a book about Trees in the Golfing Landscape.

Eamonn Wall & Co has a team of ten, seven in Scotland and three in England.

Two new faces at BIGGA HOUSE

Two new faces... and voices can be seen and heard at BIGGA HOUSE with the appointment of Diane Bray, left, as the latest member of the Sales and Marketing team, and Christine Thackrah, right, as Receptionist/Clerk.

Diane joins the Association from Plumb Centre where, based in the Head Office in Ripon, she worked in the marketing department working on sales and designing and producing the company's brochures.

She has a Business Studies Diploma and is currently studying for Charter Institute of Marketing qualifications at York College of Further Education alongside one of her new colleagues, Jenny Pantou.

Diane, has a 12 year-old son, James, and has previously worked for the Ministry of Defence in Germany.

She enjoys travelling, having



notched up an impressive array of passport stamps.

Christine actually began working at BIGGA HOUSE on the day it opened in a part-time capacity but she has recently taken up the newly-created full time position.

She previously worked for the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust in

York and before that was Secretary to the Marketing Director of Waddington Games, the company which produces Monopoly.

She is a season ticket holder for Leeds United, having been a fan since the age of 10, and enjoys walking her two King Charles spaniels, Becky and Cassie.

A double whammy for Elmwood College

Elmwood Golf Course has achieved a unique double award for its commitment to the Environment and Wildlife Conservation Initiatives.

Jonathan Smith, of the Scottish Golf Course Wildlife Group, presented the Golf Course with the international award for protecting the environment - ISO 14001 and The Scottish Wildlife Charter to John Quinn, Director of Elmwood Golf Developments, with Elmwood the only UK course and one of only two in Europe to achieve the former.

"The ISO14001 Award represents a major advance in integrating environmental management into all aspects of their operations. As the first college and golf facility in the UK to receive the award this is a milestone not only for the college itself but also for colleges and golf courses across the country," said Jonathan.



"We look forward to assisting the college in their progress towards full certification in the Pan-European Committed to Green programme."

Pictured are Steve Johnstone, John Salter, Andrew Morrison, Jonathan Smith, John Quinn, Irene Jones and Stuart MacDonald.

Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd has been named by Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products as United Kingdom Dealer of the Year for 1998. The Dealer of the Year award recognises outstanding sales growth and excellence in parts and service support for customers. The presentation was made at a dealer meeting during the recent Golf Show, held in Orlando, Florida, USA. A special guest at the meeting was golf legend Arnold Palmer, who participated in the presentation.

Ernest Doe & Sons Sales Manager Andy Turbin accepted the award from Palmer (centre left). Also pictured (left to right) are Textron Golf, Turf Care and Specialty Products Group CEO Carl Burtner; Textron Turf Care And Specialty Products Marketing Director Peter Bell and Sales Manager Andrew Sunaway.

From Arnie to Ernie



St Andrews contract won by E-Z-GO



Ian Forbes shakes hands with Harold Pinto, with Eddie Adams and Andrew Sunaway looking on

Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products has signed an agreement with St Andrews for the exclusive supply contract with the club for the company's E-Z-GO golf cars.

St Andrews has taken delivery of eight E-Z-GO petrol golf cars for the rental market, ten E-Z-GO cars for use as ranger vehicles and five E-Z-GO Workhorse utility vehicles.

David McInroy, Managing Director of Scottish Grass Machinery, distributors of the Textron range of products in Scotland, said, "Obviously this is a

very high profile contract to win so we are delighted to see E-Z-GO on the course at St Andrews. It was particularly pleasing to us as we already had an exclusive supply contract with St Andrews for Textron turf car products."

The eight golf cars will be available to hire on the New and Strathtyrum Courses for senior citizens and the disabled. The ten range vehicles are E-Z-GO golf cars specially fitted with Mauser cabs to protect the operators from the elements and have two seats with an

additional flip-flop seats for increased flexibility. They will be used for the rangers to patrol the courses.

The five E-Z-GO Workhorse 1200s feature a 48-inch bed fitted with large cage attachments for litter collection and maintenance work.

As part of the four year contract, Textron will also be supplying additional E-Z-GO golf cars and Workhorse utility vehicles for the 2000 Open to be held at St Andrews next year.

Chinese delegation in Fife

Elmwood College has hosted a delegation of top-level academics and business people from the People's Republic of China. Elmwood is developing the enormous potential of the Chinese market for training and consultancy in greenkeeping, golf course management and golf course maintenance.

During the week delegates from the Golf College Shenzhen University, China Agricultural University in Beijing and Purple Clouds Golf Country Club visited golf courses all over Fife, and played the Old Course at St Andrews.

Discussions took place with Elm-



wood representatives and culminated in the formal signing of letters of intent at a Reception on Thursday 15 April. There to witness the signing were Chinese Vice-consult Chen Wenbing, Sir Michael Bonallack and guests and represen-

tatives of companies who are supporting the project.

College Principal, Christina Potter, is pictured with Julia Minn, Golf College Shenzhen University, following the signing of letters of intent.

Joint venture has mark of prestige

Hepworth Minerals and Chemicals and Tarmac Quarry Products have launched a joint venture company to be known as Prestige Sports Surfaces Ltd., which will specialise in the marketing and sale of sands, gravels, pre-blended root zones and top dressings for use in sports, leisure and horticultural applications.

The aim of the new company will be to satisfy the diverse demands of customers and the market by offering the broadest possible range of consistent quality products.

The range of products, unique to a single supplier, will be available throughout the UK by taking advantage of the extensive number of quarries operated by both companies and using the combined extensive distribution systems.

Day to day responsibility will rest with General Manager of Prestige Sports Surfaces, Cliff Ogden, who will report to the Board of Directors nominated by HMC and TQP.

There will be a dedicated, specialist sales team seconded to the new business, supported by a central sales office where all enquiries, deliveries and technical support will be co-ordinated.

The existing Pro-Sport and TopSport product range including sands, root zones, top dressing, drainage gravels and pathway gravels will continue to be available from the joint venture company along with a developing range of new products suitable for the construction of sports surfaces.



Contact us

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

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Macfie for President



Kim Macfie, Sales and Marketing Director of Hayter Ltd, has been elected President of the Agricultural Engineers Association for 1999/2000. Kim has been Chairman of the AEA's Outdoor Power Equipment Council for the last two years and a member of the finance and general purposes committee since 1993.

Flowtronex help to pump up St Andrews

Flowtronex Europe has just completed the handover of what is probably the biggest ever irrigation pump set in the UK for St Andrews Links. The pump set can pump water at a rate of 540 m³/hour at 9 bar to all of the St Andrews courses.

"It was a complex project and we are absolutely delighted with the progress made," said Links Manager Ian Forbes.

Attending the hand over ceremony, Flowtronex Europe Managing Director, Steve Hockley said; "It is an honour to be part of such a prestigious project."



Two new product ranges from Avoncrop

Avoncrop Amenity Products has launched two new product ranges.

Surf to Turf is a range of seaweed products, imported from the Irish Republic, with five liquids all based on the seaweed species *Ascophillum Nodosum* with added humic acid, chelated iron and various NPK levels.

The products contain naturally occurring bio stimulants and micro nutrients including calcium, helping

to produce healthy turf with increased tolerance to stress.

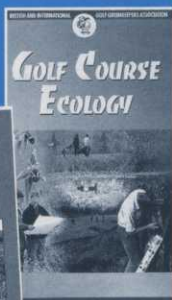
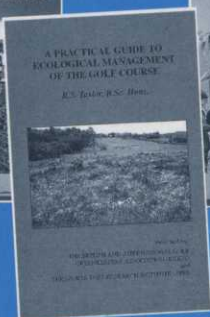
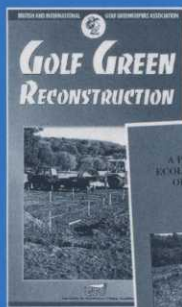
The Roots range of products, imported from the United States, have four formulations. Roots 2 concentrate is a bio stimulant with humic acid kelp seaweed and complex carbohydrates which encourages better root development increasing the root to shoot ratio, improving the plant's ability to cope with stress as well as the uptake of applied fertilisers.

Fe 8% is a chelated product giving green up within 24 hours but with good longevity, leaving no residues in the soil.

Iron Roots is a combination of both Roots 2 and Fe 8% offering the advantages of both in one spray application while Roots 1-2-3 Premix is a three way product designed to prevent and alleviate stress in turf.

For further information Tel: 01934 820868.

ON COURSE WITH BIGGA EDUCATION



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Golf Course Reconstruction Video
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Ecology Book
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Ecology Video
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Raising the Standards of Mowing Management Video
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