

## Feature listing from October '97

**October '97:** Environment; Recruitment; Abbeydale GC; Rough Mowers; Soil Analysis

**November '97:** Environment; Competition; Bank Cutting; Risk Assessment; Pumps

**December '97:** Seed Development; Longhirst Hall GC; Toro Awards; Fertiliser Spreaders; Communication

**January '98:** FEGGA Conference; Buying Power Equipment; Elmwood GC; Mobile Phones; Traffic Management; Spraying; Environment

**February '98:** BTME Review; Overseeding; Royal Mid Surrey GC; Drainage; Thatch

**March '98:** Trees, Golf Course Accessories, News from GCSAA, Leamington & County GC, Trevor Smith's BTME Talk

**April '98:** Gleneagles Hotel, Compact Tractors, Environment, Protective clothing, Rain bird, Internet

**May '98:** Greens Mowers, Suspended Water Table Greens, Seeds, Letham Grange Resort, Charterhouse profile, Security and BIGGA's Fund Raising Campaign

**June '98:** Interview with Nick Park, Earthworm special, ATVs, Royal Porthcawl, Grinding

**July '98:** Aeration, Royal Birkdale preview, The importance of research, Architecture

**August '98:** Mill Ride, Fescue, Blowers, Textron, Open Review, Nematodes, Training

**September '98:** Nine holers - Tolladine and Fingle Glen, Turf, Steve Clement profile, Drainage, World Scientific Congress report

**October '98:** Saltex Review, BIGGA Retrospective, Stirling GC, Toro Awards Preview, Tree grants

**November '98:** Royal Opening, Ramsdale Hall GC, Gang Mowers, Hayter International report, Irrigation Systems

**December '98:** Toro Awards, Environment Awards, The Appliance of Science, Engines, Architects, BTME Preview

**January '99:** Pesticide Usage, Life in Colorado, Lyscott Heath GC, Worm Research, Stylo Matchmaker profile, Temporary Greens

**February '99:** Westerham GC; R&A questionnaire results; Finland; grass cutting; BTME99 Review; Bernhard and Co

**March '99:** Loch Lomond, Worm update, GrassRoots, Softspikes, Maintenance facilities, Environment review, Architecture

**April '99:** Carden Park, Telecommunications, Water Management, Rolawn, Seeds

**May '99:** Security, Bude and North Cornwall GC, Spraying Regulations, Jim Arthur, The Acid Theory, Amenity Technology profile

**June '99:** Thorpeness GC, Millennium Bug Busting, Irrigation, Scotts profile, Company adaptability

**July '99:** Carnoustie, Golf Course Furniture, Spike Research, Toro profile, BIGGA Silent Auction

**August '99:** Viscount Whitelaw tribute; Open review; Merrist Wood; Saltex preview; Turf; Trees; Grass Cutting; BIGGA Golf Day review; Redexim profile

**September '99:** Slaley Hall; Tyres; Spotlight on Thatch; Elmwood College Awards; National Championship preview



# GTC update



tion and renovation with Souter of Stirling Sportsturf Ltd.

John Davies represents education. John has too many qualifications to mention here but to give you a sample he holds certificates in agriculture, engineering, health and safety, pesticides and education. He is an Internal Verifier with D32-33 and 34. John has been in education for over 30 years.

As well as its five members, The Technical Committee can call upon other experts in specialist fields as they see fit. Our job on the management must be to support and try to implement their ideas as far as possible. I personally feel this is a good and positive move in the right direction.

On September 7th I joined our team at Saltex. The weather was good for all three days, and although I feel the numbers were down on some years past, the BIGGA stand was very busy. The staff made many new contacts and took in lots of new members.

For myself, I was kept busy stand judging and attending meetings, so I'm sorry if I missed some of you when you visited the BIGGA stand. However, it was nice to meet so many of you, both greenkeepers and trade members. I would like to express my thanks and those of our staff to Chris Kennedy who kindly arranged for us to have dinner at Wentworth Golf Club on Wednesday evening. We were looked after like royalty and the food was superb. Thanks Chris. Also thanks to Richard Fry, who invited us to join him at the Ascot Oriental for a wonderful night, it was much appreciated. Finally I would like to thank the girls who worked so hard for three long days on our behalf.

Here we are at the end of another season, the last of this century. In many ways it's been good for some and not so good for others, depending where you live and work. Down

south, it started off wet with a dry June, very wet July and a dry August, but in the north and more so in Scotland, they have had more than their fair share of rain, but one thing has remained constant and that is the pressure put on greenkeepers, sometimes unfairly, but sometimes by our own stubbornness to accept change. I get many calls and letters from members who have got problems, some you can help and others which are far and away outside my or any other greenkeepers ability to help.

This is where legal advice comes in though your membership. Countless members have been grateful for this part of their package deal, but for many there seems to be a reluctance to use what is their right as a BIGGA member. The advice you can get is invaluable, not just for work related problems, but for home and personal difficulties as well. I don't care how many of you make contact with me, I will always try to point you in the right direction, and I'm happy to do so, but take a piece of advice, when your membership renewal drops through your door, don't just put it on one side, take a good careful read and make sure you know what's in it for you. It is an excellent package and one we should be proud of.

Finally, the seminar season is coming round again and I look forward to the chance of meeting lots of you again, if not at the regional ones, then at BTME in January. There is still lots to learn by us all. We will never know it all, so let's take every opportunity that's on offer.

Gordon Child

I am pleased to report that at the last GTC meeting things seem to have settled down with a more positive move to go forward. It may be early to be sure, but the signs are that everyone at the meeting were there to make a fresh start on the back of the Lantra Report. A new Technical Committee was appointed, and its responsibility is to assist the Education Director and propose to the Management Committee the way forward in its educational objectives, to prepare and maintain a three year on - going plan of GTC activities as well as identifying training priorities. The Technical Committee consists of the following personnel and the bodies they represent.

Dr Mike Canaway STRI, of whose credentials I am sure you are all aware.

Kerran Daly BIGGA, Course Manager at Gog Magog Golf Club, a Master Greenkeeper and also a GTC Assessor. Kerran holds a Certificate of Education along with Phases 3 & 4 and Diplomas in Golf Management and Turf Culture.

Tony Mears GTC, Course Manager Dinsdale Spa Golf Club. Tony is an Internal Verifier for the GTC with a D34 Certificate to add to his D32 - D33 and D36 Assessor and Advisors Certificates.

Iain Ritchie, Golf Superintendent, Portmarnock Golf Club, is currently President of the GCSAI and holds a Certificate in Turf Grass Management, along with qualifications in construc-