

BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION

# BTME 2000

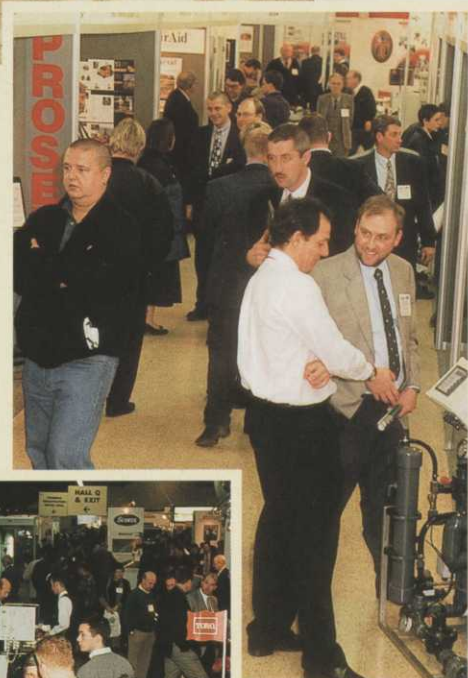
& EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME



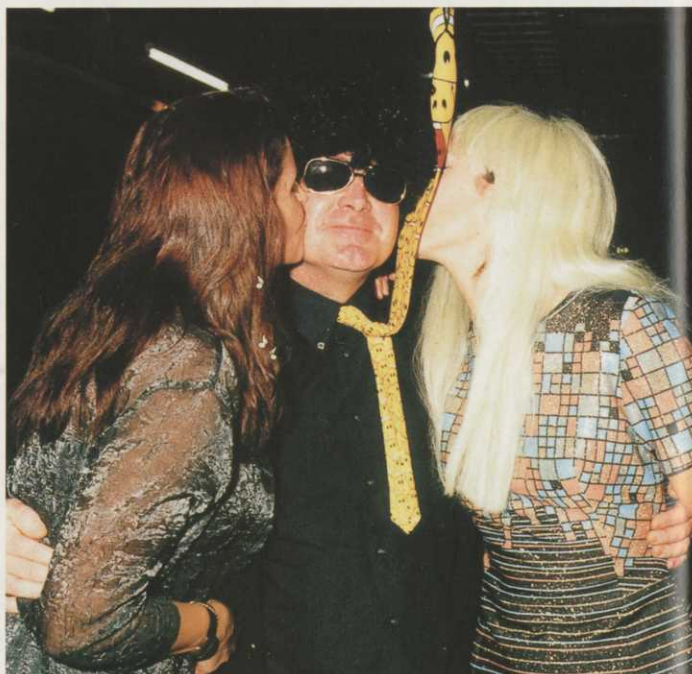
# WHAT A WEEK!



Above: Visitors flood into Hall Q - new this year at BTME



The feeling among those who attended was that BTME 2000 was the busiest they had ever experienced.



Top: Reliving that 'Abbey Road' experience.

Middle: Some guests really entered into the 60s groove

Above: Can you name the famous Course Manager who is the centre of all the attention?

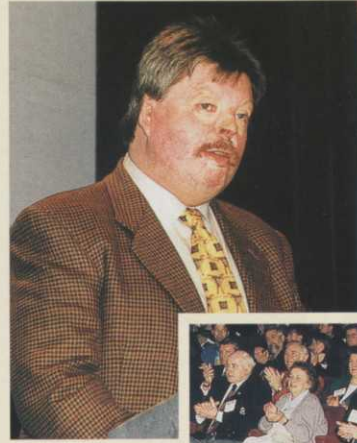
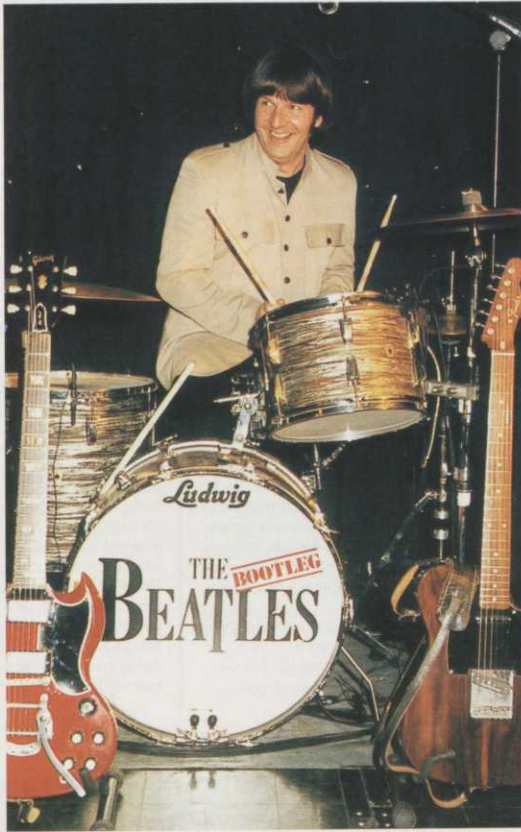
Answer: Billy McMillan



Above: "Paul" and "John" had everyone a twistin' and a shoutin'

Right: "Ringo" enjoys his evening

Below: The Cavern Club or BTME Banquet? Who could tell the difference?



Left and Below: Simon Weston held the attention of the large audience with his moving account of the incident which changed his life and how he has emerged from it a better person



Above: BIGGA's Golden and Silver Key supporters were thanked at the Chairman's Lunch which was attended by Sir Michael Bonallack and Simon Weston



Above: Textron's Nigel Church passes on some valuable advice during the Machinery Workshop in the Majestic Hotel



Above: The Design and Construction Workshop saw some wonderful plasticine models produced

## A masterful performance



The two latest members of one of golf's most exclusive clubs were unveiled at Harrogate this year.

The honour of being one of BIGGA's Master Greenkeepers was until this year held by only 20 greenkeepers but this year Seve Schmitz and Steve Jones swell that number to 22.

The Award of Master Greenkeeper, run by the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA), shows that the recipient has reached the highest standards of excellence within the profession and is based on experience, ability and education.

To achieve Master Greenkeeper Status a greenkeeper must first have achieved a minimum of 200 credits based on experience, qualification, additional vocational training and attendance at seminars. He then must have his golf course assessed by someone of Master Greenkeeper status and finally undertake a case study and examination.

Seve Schmitz is Course Manager at the Golf Club Schloss (Castle) Myllefeldofk, Korschenbroich in Germany. He started his career in greenkeeping in 1970 as an assistant greenkeeper at St Ives Golf Club before moving to Cradoc Golf Club as Head Greenkeeper in 1979. He then spent seven years at Ellesborough Golf Club before moving to his current club in 1988. He is the second Master Greenkeeper currently working in Germany.

Coincidentally Steve Jones, a graduate of Rutgers University in the USA, started his greenkeeping career in Germany before moving to the Oxfordshire in 1992 and then to the London Club in 1994. Currently a consultant, Steve is working with golf clubs both in Britain and in continental Europe.

Steve becomes the 17th Master Greenkeeper in Europe, joining five from the US in the elite band.



One welcome visitor to the show on Thursday was last year's Ryder Cup Captain, Mark James, who visited the Rigby Taylor stand with his Golf Design and Management Partner, Andrew Mair, and Brian Robinson of Grass Science. Mark, who lives just a short distance from Harrogate took time to walk round the rest of the show.



## Swiss award

Steven Tierney, a British greenkeeper based in Switzerland, has won a prestigious Environmental Steward Award with the GCSAA - the first time a European based greenkeeper has won such an award.

Ironically Steven, who is Course Manager at Golf Park Nuolen, Wangen, one of Switzerland's 70 golf courses, only entered the competition after he discovered that the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition was only open to British golf clubs. "My golf course is only four years old but as Switzerland is not in the EC our own regulations are extremely tight. For example every six weeks our water is tested by the Government and they have the power to close us down if we are not up to scratch," he explained. Steven travels to New Orleans later this month to receive his award.

## Sharpes + Mommersteeg = Advanta

Amenity grass seed breeder Advanta Seeds UK, took the chance to announce that they had completed a year of corporate restructuring, combining the operations of the two well-known seed suppliers, Mommersteeg and Sharpes International, under the one new company name. Sharpes was previously owned by Booker Seeds, while Mommersteeg International was a part of the Dutch based Royal Van de Have group. The latter merged with Zeneca in January 1998 to form Advanta Seeds.

For the past two years, Mommersteeg and Sharpes have been operating autonomously under the Advanta banner, but since 1 Jan 2000, the two separate companies ceased to exist. Advanta is the fifth largest seed business in the world - breeding and marketing the full range of amenity and agricultural crops, through 35 operating companies in 20 countries.

## Announcing The Lawn Company

Turf Professionals who have dreamed of owning their own business had a look into the future with the launch of The Lawn Company at BTME. The new enterprise, conceived as a van based franchise aims to bring a professional approach to domestic lawn maintenance.

The brain child of Mike Seaton, who has 20 year's experience caring for amenity turf first as a Groundsman and latterly as founder and Managing Director of Weed Free, The Lawn Company will control weeds and moss, aerate, seed, feed, scarify and top dress, in an integrated programme which will leave the home owner nothing to do but cut the grass. "Since I started Weed Free, the domestic market has changed beyond all recognition," said Mike.

"The demand for stylish, labour saving areas which are both aesthetically pleasing and able to double as an outside room has been created by a flush of TV programmes and a growing number of gardening magazines. Amid the mountain of paving, decking and gravel, the lack of advice and specialist lawn care services is noticeable by its absence. The Lawn Company is perfectly equipped and positioned to fulfil this need," said Mike. "As every turf manager knows, grass care is a science, not something that is practised on a weekly basis when the lawn receives its trim. Although the concept of hiring professional grass experts for domestic use is relatively new to the UK, the idea has already taken root across the Atlantic."

"We are way behind America, where one out of five households hire lawn and landscape services, spending 14 billion dollars per annum."

Mike believes that The Lawn Company offers commercial opportunities, especially for people already operating within the amenity turf industry. A comprehensive training course, on going support package including an interactive link connecting all Franchisees directly to Head Office, and The Lawn Company Operations Manual - a translation of 20 years turf care experience into accessible advice and straightforward know-how are ready to arm all those interested in making lawns their business.

# BTME DIARY OF THE WEEK – NEIL THOMAS

### Saturday January 15

An early start this year meeting with Bill and Monica Montague at Aldwark Manor. They've just flown in from the USA and it's a real pleasure to show them around BIGGA HOUSE. Bill is one of BIGGA's greatest supporters and flies the flag for us in his homeland where he is a regular on the BIGGA stand at the GCSAA Show.

### Sunday January 16

I reflect that I am driving to Harrogate for BTME number 12. Where have the years gone? It takes me all of 15 minutes and its proximity to home is one sure reason for the BTME remaining in Harrogate. There are many more compelling ones. This year the weatherman is making all the right noises and I reach the Majestic well set for the week ahead. Many of the regulars are already in residence and Ken, Sami and Sarah have registration well under control. Dinner is taken in a pleasant, informal atmosphere and many depart for the pleasures of Harrogate's nightlife. Meanwhile in the Majestic's bar old friends are meeting once again and catching up on news during the past year.

### Monday January 17

The Conference and workshops are off to a smooth start. The Conference is chaired once again by Dr Mike Canaway and we are all keen to assess the success of the new formula this year whereby it is divided into four main intensive sessions. Early feedback is positive and each session maintains a full complement of delegates - a good sign indeed. The Conference Dinner is full of mirth with quick fire Irish comedian Dusty Young a big hit to the extent that greenkeepers are queuing to buy his tapes when he finally sits down.

The Monday night comedy spot seems well established. We are delighted to welcome Andrew Sunaway, Peter Bell and David Withers from Textron to the Dinner and the company's support of the Learning Experience programme, now in its fifth year, is instrumental to the success of the BTME week. Their backing of greenkeeper education stretches back over many, many years and we have much to thank the company for as a Golden Key supporter in terms of the educational and training provisions available to BIGGA members as we enter the new century.

A moderately late night as the week stretches ahead and stamina is all important.

### Tuesday January 18

Delegates are up early and reasonably fit for another day of Conference and workshops. Meanwhile the pace is quickening down at the exhibition halls. This year we are in Hall Q for the first time and with the expansion of the show we anticipate logistical problems. Jenny is doing well however and there are no major issues to concentrate the mind. Why do the great majority of companies decide to arrive at around the same time when there is a two day spread? I don't expect that will change!

In the afternoon there is a short Board of Management meeting with Gordon completing his two year stint and Elliott Small being elected as Chairman with Clive Osgood from Walton Heath as his Vice Chairman. The exhibitors' reception is being held down by Hall Q and everything seems in place. For me the day ends at the seventh Hayter Dinner in the George Hotel. This seems part of the BTME tradition now with Barbara Garton

as the gracious hostess and Kim Macfie, as always, humorously in charge of the evening. Back in the Majestic the Past Chairmen are in evidence by their red blazers and much food for thought emerges from their annual dinner.

### Wednesday January 19

One of Gordon's last duties is to cut the ribbon at 9am at the entrance to Hall A. Meanwhile the new entrance at Hall Q opens and we can't be in two places at once. How many will realise there is a new entrance? Our fears prove groundless as there is a good early response helped by the proximity of the Moat House Hotel. The halls are very busy and numbers seem evenly distributed through halls A, B, C and Q. Make a note for next year to tighten control as a considerable number of people are gaining unauthorised access through both a walkway entrance and from the underground car park. The new Press Centre and Exhibitors' Lounge are widely welcomed.

A large audience gathers for the Keynote Speaker session. I have the privilege, a real privilege, of spending some time



## New degree from BIGGA

The British Institute of Golf Course Architects used the show to announce the formation of a degree course in golf course architecture to be established at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, in conjunction with the University and its specialist college, Edinburgh College of Art, as well as Merrist Wood and Elmwood Colleges. The course, which will take the form of a nine month diploma in golf course architecture, which will lead to a full time residential three month Masters' Programme and will parallel, in its first stage, the present part time and distance learning diploma operated by the Institute at Merrist Wood College. The two year diploma course will be expanded to take in a two-centre field study programme, which will be conducted not only in Surrey, where the Institute is based, but also in Fife, so that diploma students can experience, at first hand and in practical terms the historic links courses of that part of Great Britain. In February 2000, there will be a total of 31 students at Merrist Wood, from 14 different countries.

## Blizzard hits Harrogate

Allen Blizzard couldn't believe his luck when he visited the BIGGA Career's Clinic, run by Brin Bendon and Frank Newberry, during BTME 2000. Having gone in for advice on the presentation of his CV Allen left with a conditional place at Ohio State University. In the ultimate case of being in the right place at the right time Allen, whose ambition had always been to attend that particular university, found himself chatting to Master Greenkeeper Bill Montague who had popped in to see how a CV differed from the American Resume. Bill, who is from Ohio, revealed that he lectured at the University and tracked down Michael O'Neil, who was also attending the show and whose job it is to clear all European applications for Ohio State. Michael checked out Allen's CV and told him that if he passed his Cannington College course a place was his! As he is progressing well at Cannington and passing all his exams to date he is as good as there. Now that's service! The Careers' Clinic was a great success with Brin and Frank handling 120 cases over the course of the two days.

## Everyone's a winner



The prize winners in the BIGGA Charity Raffle to raise money for the Imperial Cancer Research Campaign were

A Holiday Break at Carden Park G&CC - Neil McIntyre  
Epani Software - David Marnoch  
Education Pack 2001 - Philip Bennett  
Majestic Holiday weekend - Iain Macleod  
St George Hotel Break - Roger Eade  
Vauxhall Car Hire - Dougal Duguid  
Crown Hotel Weekend - Andy Smith  
2000 Open Tickets - Richard Barker  
Two Banquet Tickets for BTME 2001 - Andy Campbell  
Tzoid Driver - S. Yates  
Snooker Cue - Ernie Walker  
Champagne - Terry Hamel and Steve Hasell.

The winner of the £600 Holiday voucher for introducing new members to the Association was Mark Smith, Head Greenkeeper at Drayton Park Golf Club.



# BTME - BEING THERE MEANS EVERYTHING

talking with Simon Weston. A fellow Welshman, we talk of rugby and many other things Welsh. He is an impressive man in so many ways. His talk receives rapt attention from a large audience and not a few tears along the way. It ends with a standing ovation. Simon surely sets a supreme example of how to cope with adversity and to get the very best out of life. Quickly to the Majestic to set up the presentations at the Chairman's Luncheon to our Golden and Silver Key company supporters. A special pleasure to welcome our new President, Sir Michael Bonallack, who seems to thoroughly enjoy his visit. Back to the halls for a busy afternoon and then to the AGM. Wonder of wonders, Cecil does not ask a question - quite worrying really! The Chairman thanks Gordon for all his work for the Association in the past two years and for a job well done. He welcomes Clive as Vice Chairman and says farewell to Pat Murphy, George Barr and Robin Greaves who are standing down. Ian Semple and Paul Jenkins are welcomed to the Board. There is no peace for the wicked and I am

quickly off to Rolawn's 25th Anniversary Dinner in the company of Terry Ryan and fellow guests. This proves a pleasant, relaxing evening in the middle of the week.

### Thursday January 20

The numbers are excellent pouring into the halls and another busy day is in prospect. The seminars are in full flow and a buoyant atmosphere prevails. The Chairman and I attend a Press Conference and I am soon on my way to the FEGGA AGM where it is all change. Claus Detlef Ratjen from Germany is now Chairman with Joe Bedford of the GCSA as Vice Chairman. Board members are Jean-Michel Hérisse from France, Pirjo Hotti from Finland, who maintains the ladies' input, and Hans-Peter Thaler from Italy. Dean Cleaver takes over as FEGGA administrator. The afternoon sees me linking up with Sami as our major social event, the BTME banquet, draws nearer. This year it's the Bootleg Beatles to entertain and the set up of the banqueting hall is tremendous with a 'balloon' expert having been engaged and with pictures

of the original Beatles adorning the walls. The sense of the 60s prevails and a great night is in prospect. At 6.30pm I make a brief visit to the Chairman's reception for VIP guests and then to the banquet. Guests are arriving in hordes and some of their 'gear' is drawing attention. Upstairs the bar area is a hive of activity and noise. The announcement of dinner is ignored not once but many times with claims that the announcements were not heard above the din. Dining eventually commences some 20 minutes late. However, we start catching up and at 10.10pm I am able to introduce the Chairman to say a few words and then the moment has come and the Bootleg Beatles take to the stage. Simultaneously our intrepid members take to the dance floor. I am told that the Bootleg Beatles voted it their best corporate show in 20 years. As they finally take their leave, the Funtime Music disc takes over with hits from the 60s and 70s all the way through to 1am before the dancers depart for further revelry at the Majestic bar. Indeed a night to remember.

### Friday January 21

It's Friday morning and you know the feeling well. The pace in the halls is sedate yet this is a good day to visit for those who want easy access to the stands and to get their business done. They won't get trampled in the rush but at least they will be able to talk with those whom they are seeking. The seminars end on a strong note with Dr Joe Vargas. The Chairman makes a grand draw with proceeds going to the Imperial Cancer Fund. Farewells on all sides for another year. I thank my exhausted staff who have done a fantastic job. The years roll on but BTME remains very special. It is unsurpassed as a gathering for greenkeepers from all over the world. It is now a truly international show anticipated eagerly by companies and members alike. There is a unique atmosphere and already we look forward to 2001. I would urge members to be strong in their determination to be there for they will most certainly be better for the experience and feel very much a part of the great community of greenkeepers.

**Toro's** new Workman 2100 utility vehicle offers a big payload capacity and the Toro-exclusive 'twister' Active In-Frame Suspension

This consists of a unique rubber joint that attaches the front operator platform to the rear section containing the engine and cargo bed. The 'twister' suspension allows 15 degrees of flex in both directions, so the vehicle can travel over uneven terrain and still keep all four wheels on the ground.

These features and more make the vehicle ideal for use in a host of different working environments such as golf courses.

The vehicle has a roomy operator platform with excellent leg room. There's also more storage space in the Workman operator platform, including a centre tray for storing items such as hand-held radios, clipboards and tools. A 12-volt outlet allows for the recharging of radios and other equipment.

The front axle of the Workman uses independent front suspension which allows for the tight turning radius of just 2.9m with 70-degree steering. The Fuji rear axle is powered by an automatic, constantly variable transmission.

A pedal-start accelerator and pedal-stop brake make the vehicle as easy to drive as a golf car.

The Toro Groundsmaster Contour 66 is a new version of the Groundsmaster rotary. But this time it is fitted with the company's ground-breaking Sidewinder system that enables all three cutting decks to shift from side to side up to 61cm.

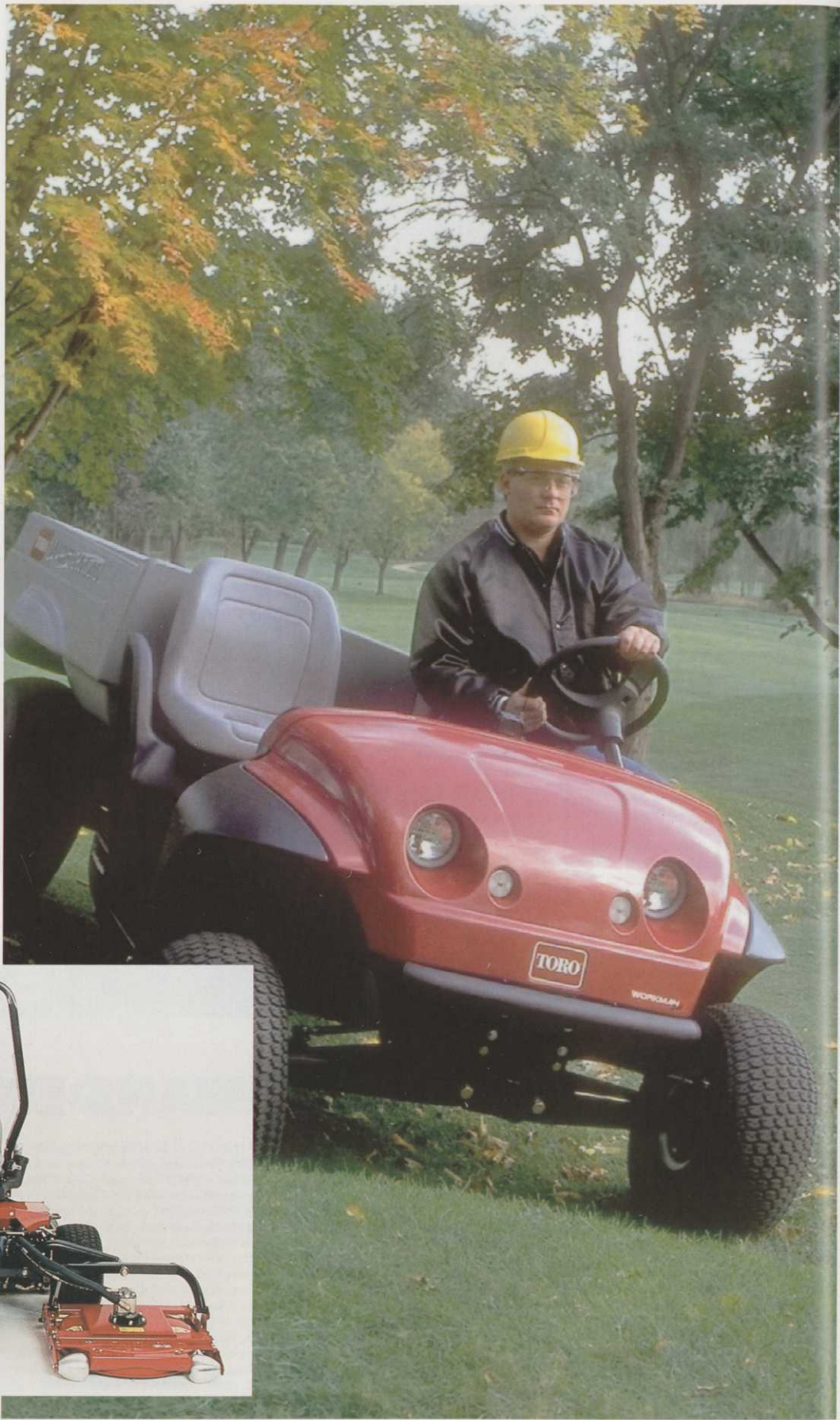
It follows on from the Reelmaster Sidewinder fitted with cylinder cutting units, which is receiving outstanding universal acclaim after its introduction to UK golf courses last season.

All three rotary decks can shift from side to side up to 61cm by the use of a joystick control. Shifting the cutting units to the sides means they can mow bunker overhangs, fringes, approaches and edgings that might otherwise need tackling with a push-mower or strimmer.

Such a greater mowing range substantially increases productivity on all fronts.

Additionally, jobs that traditionally needed follow-up mowing can be completed by the Groundsmaster Contour 66 because the operator can shift the mowing deck positions without leaving the seat.

The ability to shift the decks sideways also varies the tracking of the mower's wheels so reduces tyre tracks and turf damage.



Developed by Greenkeepers for Greenkeepers, the new Intake Range of Foliar Feeds offers the perfect complement to existing granular and liquid feed programmes. It will be distributed in the UK by **Amenity Technology**.

The range has been developed in the United States by Gary Grigg, Master Greenkeeper and former President of the GCSAA, and is backed up with over 20 years of research.

The "organic facilitators" or chelates used in each of the Intake products mimic the plants natural chelating actions and increase nutrient penetration into the plant's cells.

The foliar action of the range has shown to be of dramatic benefit on low cut turf where a poor rooting systems can be an inherent problem. Intake bypasses root uptake and delivers readily available nutrients direct to the leaf blade, rapidly correcting nutrient deficiencies.

The latest development from the Koro Design and Manufacturing Centre in Holland is being shown for the first time on the **Richard Campey Ltd** stand. The now established Recycling Dresser has given birth to a 'Mini' version for specific work on Golf Greens and Tees. The GT model, RD130KR has been produced to provide the same remarkable benefits to surface management in the Golf sector, as in the general sports and amenity areas, already transformed over the past few years. As with its father' version, the 'son' alleviates the need for top dressings by recycling the original soil. The equipment is 3 PT. linkage mounted for attachment to 30 35hp Compact tractors. In addition to Richard Campey Ltd in the UK, the machine will be available on an international basis from Hummer Sports Turf (USA), Manoeuvre Mow Pty (Australia) and Barthela Motorgerate (Germany).

Parent company **Textron** announced a new generation of Ransomes compact tractors was on show for the first time at Harrogate with the introduction of the TT series.

Replacing the smaller models in the CT range, the TT series offers a more ergonomic control layout; improved engine technology producing greater power and quieter performance, a new hood design for improved accessibility and a more rounded shape to aid operator visibility. This new Class 1 series is available with hydrostatic or mechanical transmission for the 18hp and 21hp derivatives and hydrostatic transmission on the 24hp option.

Also introduced was the MowerCaddy, a walk-behind mower trailer for transporting mowers from one job to the next quickly and easily.

Designed for durability it features a lift and lower level with a comfortable rotating padded handgrip that makes loading and unloading easier.

Textron also introduced new side discharge cutting decks to the Ransomes AR250 rotary mower.

Complementing the existing 'Envirodeck' - the patented twin blade mulching system, the new side discharge deck will prove popular with greenkeepers that require less frequent mowing regimes. The cut grass is discharged immediately from the side of the deck enabling higher heights of grass to be cut compared to the 'Envirodeck'.

Another feature when cutting around bunkers is the two-position setting for the front caster wheels on the left-hand deck. When the inner position is used it prevents damage to the bunker wall. With a choice of two decks and a wide range of cutting heights, the Ransomes AR250 will provide a quality cut on driving ranges, semi-rough and deep rough, whatever your cutting regime.



Making its first appearance at BTME was the Kubota AM3000 ride-on triple cylinder mower with its hopper grass collection system which can be emptied without the driver having to leave the seat. Powered by a low emissions 33hp Kubota diesel engine, the AM3000 features on-demand four-wheel drive which engages

automatically when loss of traction is detected. All three cutting units are positioned ahead of the wheels and are offered with either five or seven bladed 200mm diameter cylinders. Instead of the standard grooved front rollers, the cutting units can be specified with side rollers which allow the heads to still follow ground

contours, yet without flattening the grass before it is cut.

Other new Kubota products making their debut at the show were the GiS GlideCut - the world's first triple-bladed through-cut mower with integral rear grass collector - and the I4hp B1410 compact tractor with mid-mounted rotary cutter deck.

**Charterhouse Turf Machinery**, who announced sales of over £100,000 on the second day of the show alone, launched the new higher horsepower Ergit TTR Series from Antonio Carraro.

The new TTR 9400 fitted with an 87HP, turbo charged 4 cylinder diesel engine is capable of reaching speeds of 40kph and is well suited for a variety of applications in the amenity market.

With standard features such as ACTIG (full chassis with oscillation), with up to 30 degrees ensures grip and traction, four equal sized wheels with wide track gives good stability, balance and safety when operating in the most testing of conditions.

The short wheel base and steering characteristics of this tractor gives accurate manoeuvrability and a high work rate when working on areas with severe gradients, such as elevated fairways, golf greens and motorway bankings. Four oil bath disc brakes add to the all round safety of this tractor.

The synchro-shuttle transmission giving 16 forward and 16 reverse gears is added to with the addition of a 'Hi LO' transmission which reduces each gear by 20% and is operated through an electro-hydraulic control switch.

The latter is a standard feature on this model, as is the 'RGS' reverse guide system allowing the operator to change the direction of operation and use many attachments in front mounted mode.

The TTR range is also available in 60 and 64hp.

A new form of biological treatment for use in the professional turf and landscape market and developed and manufactured by **Biotal** was on display. The products are available through the recently-formed Pentagon Group.

The health of the grass plant is directly linked to the microbial health of the soil. Microbes are involved in the processes of recycling and processing of nutrients as well as natural defence mechanisms against potentially pathogenic disease. Biotal's 'Restore the Balance' programme is a three part natural solution that utilises standard cultural methods to enable environmentally aware greenkeepers to selectively enhance the microbial profile of their soil.

Combining three products, the programme reintroduces, feeds and boosts beneficial microbial concentrations in fine turf. The three products known as Microbalance, Biofeed and Microbooster, are also available for application separately. Microbalance is a blend of microbes researched, developed and produced in the UK. Selected for its ability to re-balance the soil micro-flora, Microbalance replaces protective microbes destroyed by intensive use of toxic chemical treatments. Biofeed is a natural seaweed extract used as a soil and foliar feed and specifically selected for natural surfactant content. Microbooster is an organic plant extract, which creates a suitable environment for the development of beneficial microbes within the soil profile.

**Vitax's** new Vitax Vitaliser was launched at the Show after trials by the STRI. This 100% organic, naturally slow release fertiliser, is designed for use all year round but, according to Clive Williams, Commercial & Amenity Sales Manager for the company, the product comes into its own before Spring sowing.

"Vitax Vitaliser has naturally occurring trace elements combined with a balance of both quick and slow acting nitrogen which means that the product avoids rapid leaching of nutrients during heavy Spring rains and nurtures the young shoots of an emerging sward rather than encouraging flushes of growth," he said. Vitax Vitaliser is a rich source of humus which improves soil texture and retains moisture, while also providing good colour.

**John Deere Limited** exhibited four new machines at the show, two of which - a wide area mower and a hydraulic top dresser - are being seen for the first time in the UK. The 1600 wide area mower is John Deere's first commercial rotary machine to use hydraulic mower drive, while the TD100 top dresser is a new hydraulic attachment for the heavy duty Pro Gator utility vehicle, which is being featured alongside the super quiet E-Gator electric model. Designed for easy servicing and increased productivity on golf courses and in parks and public areas, the new 1600 wide area mower incorporates an Eaton axial piston pump, which transfers power more efficiently compared with gear type pumps and motors, especially in tough working conditions. John Deere's two pedal forward and reverse foot control combines with a three lever mower deck lift control for easy operation. Good traction is also provided by the two speed transaxle with standard differential lock and mechanical four wheel drive on demand. The new John Deere 1600 wide area mower, is available from February 2000, priced at £25,600.

**Barenbrug** introduced three new varieties at the Show. Barpearl is a new slender creeping red fescue from the same breeding programme as Barcrown which has been shown in tests to have excellent shoot density, short grown characteristics and good resistance to Red Thread. It has also been shown to have good fusarium resistance in both summer and winter. Bar Fescue contains 25% Barcrown, 23% Barpearl, both slender creeping red fescues; 30% Bargreen and 20% Baroxi, both Chewings fescues. Bar Fescue has been shown to have good shoot density, drought tolerance and disease resistance while is extremely fine textured and displays slow re-growth. Bar Platinum is 30% Bareine (perennial ryegrass); 25% Barcrown and 25% Barpearl, 10% Baroxi and 10 Heriot (browntop bent). It displays rapid establishment, good wear tolerance and slow regrowth while it is tolerant of mowing down to five mm. It is the first mixture in Europe to contain perennial ryegrass for applications on golf greens.



**Bernhard & Co** launched its new Anglemaster 3000 at this year's BTME exhibition. Being at the forefront of 'Preventative medicine' for golf green management across the globe, demands that Bernhard & Co., continue to provide a range of equipment which maintains their premier position in this sector. The new Bernhard/Atterton Anglemaster 3000 has been developed to match the accuracy of the Express Dual to one thousandth of an inch. This provides easy loading, flood cooling and an auto cue system angle finding. Other major aspects include a unique central grind position to

minimise error plus an independent 'end feed' and single point advance. To provide stress free grinding a magnetic load assistant has been included plus a quad coolant dispersal and separation system. A worthy twin to the Express Dual 3000, the Anglemaster 3000 bottom blade grinding system is a result of five years research and development. Faster and more convenient than its predecessor, the Anglemaster 3000 has all the power and 'split thou' accuracy and convenience of the Anglemaster 2000. The Anglemaster 3000 is so called because it allows the mechanic to read

and set the exact angle for perfect bottom blade grinding. As the newest version of the world's finest precision grinders, this refined machine is even faster and easier to handle and provides leading golf courses with further affirmation of quality and performance. Also being launched is the Anglemaster 3000 DX, which has an up-rated control and feed system to standard AM3000. Incorporating a digital electronic auto cue control and feed with an 'auto line' feature, this 'high spec' version has a work centre case and operating height control.



**Sisis** launched the Robbi ride-on brush at the show. The Robbi is used on the golf course to disperse the dew; to lightly brush in top dressings; to lift grasses prior to mowing; to improve the presentation of the greens in the winter months. It can also be used on synthetic surfaces to lift the pile; remove scuff marks; level the sand. It features specially designed brushes to

give improved brushing and "float" over contours, which are also ram-assisted to hold them down in use and to lift and fold them back when not in use. Handle bar steering with twist-grip accelerator and axle brake. Fold over seat with suspension springing and carrying box below. wheels have low ground pressure slicks to the rear and low ground pressure ribbed tyres at the front for traction on slopes. 6 forward gears, one reverse and one neutral.



Above: John Akers and Dave Phillips of Advanta Seeds at this year's BTME

BTME saw the Mommersteeg and Sharpes brands of amenity mixtures re-launched under the **Advanta** brand name. These will be available in two distinct ranges - Advanta MM's and Designer from Advanta. "By combining the product portfolios of Mommersteeg and Sharpes International, we now have the strongest ranges of grass seed mixtures in the UK sports and amenity market," said John Akers, UK commercial Manager for Advanta Seeds.

"The merger of the two companies has allowed us to streamline operations, increasing efficiency, while retaining the product and service quality that the two original companies were well known for" explains John. "Our customers will now benefit from a much greater pool of production and research resources and experienced personnel. Advanta's aim is to continue developing new cultivars appropriate to our customers' needs, now and in the future."