

A guide to who's who at BIGGA

Sir Michael Bonallack, OBE

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

Richard Barker George Barr Robin Greaves Jim Paton Ian Holoran

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

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

Sales & Marketing Manager Steve Hardy E-mail: steve@bigga.co.uk

Editorial Media Scott MacCallum E-mail: scott@bigga.co.uk

Education & Training Manager Ken Richardson E-mail: ken@bigga.co.uk

Membership Services Officer 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

E-mail: reception@bigga.co.uk Internet: www.bigga.org.uk

Tel: 01347 833800

Editorial

Advertising

Design

Printing

Fax: 01347 833801

Editor: Scott MacCallum

E-mail: scott@bigga.co.uk

E-mail: jenny@bigga.co.uk

E-mail: sales@bigga.co.uk

E-mail: david@bigga.co.uk

Greenkeeper International:

Sales & Marketing Assistants Cheryl Broomhead, Diane Bray Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802

The official monthly magazine

of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801

Sales & Marketing Officer: Jenny Panton Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802

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

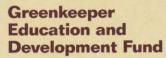
Printing
Hi-Tec Print, Units 9-10, Houghton Road,
North Anston Trading Estate, North Anston,
Sheffield S25 4JJ ISDN: 01909 550561
Tel: 01909 568533 Fax: 01909 568206

The advertising copy deadline for inclusion in the February 2000 edition of Greenkeeper International is Monday, January 24, 2000

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.

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



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

Company	Tel: Head Office
Advanta	01529 302500
Amazone Ground Care	01579 351155
Aventis	01277 301114
Avoncrop Amenity Products	01934 820868
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600
Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd	01428 661222
Gem Professional	01254 356611
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Kubota UK Ltd	01844 214500
Ocmis	01460 241939
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rainbird	01273 891326
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01483 535657
Rolawn	01904 608661
Scotts Turf and Amenity	01483 410210
Stylo	01274 711011
Textron Turf Care	01473 270000
The Toro Company (Lely UK)	01202 319987

Silver Key Circle Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Ernest Doe & Sons	01254 380311
Lambert/Fenchurch UK Group Ltd	0113 246 1313
Sisis Equipment Ltd	01625 503030
Supaturf Products Ltd	01455 639639
Weed Free	07000 481011

Reader Reply Card

Greenkeeper International - January 2000

Advertiser	Page	Adref
A F Trenchers	56	203
Advanta Seeds	5	647
Aeration UK	28	648
Allett Mowers	31	55
Amenity Technology	68	431
Aventis	2	59
Blec Landscape	46	98
Boyd Golf	49	649
British Seed Houses	21	87
Browns Of Wern	48	650
Charterhouse	38-39	130
Eagle Promotions	17	549
Envigrow	19	582
Eric Hunter	33	73
Evenproducts	43	609
Evergreen Products	33	526
Flowtronex	43	610
Gardenland Growers	50	651
Green Releaf	55	563
Greensward	56	312
Hi-Chem UK	22	638
Hunter Golf	21	397
Inturf	46	31
John Deere Credit	50	640
Kubota Uk Ltd	26-27	86
Lely UK	36-37	61
Logic Irrigation	46	545
Marlwood	34-35	501
North Staffs Irrigation	28	217
Ocmis Irrigation	13	360
Par Aide ÜK	28	642
Piltland Technology	56	189
Rainbird	11	443
Roots Company	67	167
Weed Free	33	504
Wessex Software	50	652
Whitemoss Amenities	53	606

BTME2000 catalogue

Advertiser	Page	Adref
A F Trenchers	27	203
Allen Power	32	126
Aventis	2	59
Bernhard & Co	19	535
Biotal	21	614
British Seed Houses	5	87
Even Products	11	609
Flowtronex	7	610
		312
	7	
Flowtronex Greensward Groundsman Industries ING Turfcare Finance Lely UK Major Equipment Europe Markwood Par Aide UK Pittand Technology Q Lawns Richard Campey Roots Company Textron Tonick Watering UFB Group	7 25 27 5 31 12 23 5 25 29 12 14 9 7	610 312 602 639 61 419 501 642 189 485 645 167 646 503 466

Company	ny Tel: Head Office		
Advanta	01529 302500		
Amazone Ground Care	01579 351155		
Aventis	01277 301114		
Avoncrop Amenity Products	01934 820868		
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600		
Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd	01428 661222		
Gem Professional	01254 356611		
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444		
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491		
Kubota UK Ltd	01844 214500		
Ocmis	01460 241939		
PGA European Tour	01344 842881		
Rainbird	01273 891326		
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01483 535657		
Rolawn	01904 608661		
Scotts Turf and Amenity	01483 410210		
Stylo	01274 711011		
Textron Turf Care	01473 270000		
The Toro Company (Lely UK)	01202 319987		

January 2000

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by February 14, 2000

Regulars

News

Pages 7, 8, 10

12 Letters

Learning Experience 15

Learning Curves. Ian Miller, of Otley College, gives an insight into modern learning techniques

18 Education

Ken Richardson announces the results of the BIGGA Essay Competition while he also passes on some important information about BTME; training courses; a wonderful scholarship opportunity and noise reduction legislation

- 20 **Membership Update**
- 20 **Finance File**

Trevor Downing of J. Rothschild Assurance advises caution when comparing apparently similar policies

24 **Talking Heads** Six distinguished Course Managers give their views on "Best ofs"

- 34-42 **Around the Green**
 - 64 Sandy McDivot

Future Happiness. Sandy McDivot gives his thoughts on what to expect in the new Millennium

Features Listing 66

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

66 As I see it...

Gordon Child signs off after two years as Chairman but not before he has some strong things to say about the Valderrama Declaration and says goodbye to an old friend



(15) Learning Experience

SERIALS

FEB 2 4 2004



LIBRARIES

ISSN: 0961-6977

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.

Into the New Millennium!

Well, it's arrived and, what do you know, nothing has changed. Here we are, the first people in living memory to set foot in a new millennium and unless we take a look at the calendar we wouldn't even know it.

In many ways, though, that's quite reassuring. Everything is just as we left it back in the good old 1900s. The January Sales are in full swing, our computers work - hopefully - and we have Harrogate to look forward to in a few week's

There is a need to commemorate the occasion, however, and we have chosen to display every single Greenkeeper International cover since its inception in 1991 on this our Millennium Issue cover. Each cover will hopefully hold a memory for someone, and apologies for those of you whose favourite have been obscured in some

Another salutary lesson it gives us is how quickly time marches on. I'm sure I won't be the only one of us who looks at particular cover and thinks "It can't be that long ago!". I'm still coming to terms with the fact that I've now edited more

than 50 Greenkeeper Internationals.

This month is the first when your favourite magazine will be in full colour. Until now there have been certain pages, at the front and the back of the magazine, that were purely black and white but now they have gone, and we have the option of brightening up every one of the pages. It is part of an on going process of making changes and improvements to the magazine, much as happens with BTME.

The old adage - wouldn't it be great if we had the odd new adage occasionally - "If it ain't broke don't fix it" doesn't apply to BTME because, despite its undoubted success over the last 11 years, we have always striven to build and make changes if we felt it could add something extra to the occasion.

This year we've got a superb new hall, giving much more space as well as a new entrance to the Show. This means more exhibitors with bigger stands for you to visit; we've got a career's clinic for the first time; some of the finest speakers ever to grace a platform and the Beatles - well The Bootleg Beatles, who are the nearest thing to the real thing, who will be appearing at the traditional banquet in BIGGA's own Cavern Club - Hall D!

Harrogate will also see Gordon Child step down as BIGGA's National Chairman. He's held the post for two years and by any measure has been a wonderful ambassador, as well as a tireless worker, for the Association during that time.

He and Marion, whose own input to the Association during the past two years has also been invaluable, can now look forward to a retire-

ment that has been well earned. They will do so with the best wishes of everyone ringing in their ears.

> Editor: Scott MacCallum



Features

Committed to Green

But where are the Greenkeepers? Neil Thomas reports on greenkeeper reaction to the recent Valderrama Declaration which followed the Environmental Conference held in Spain

23 A Little Piece of History

Scott MacCallum meets a man with 50 years of service at the same club with a tale to tell about the first Ransomes' Overgreen machine

29 **Awkward Jobs**

Roland Taylor finds out more about those jobs you find yourself doing thoughout the year that might just give you a crick in your neck

32 The Key to Success

Neil Thomas pays tribute to the companies which have supported the Gold and Silver Key programme over the past eight years

Raising the Standards

Walter Woods reports on the six courses which made the final of this year's Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping

47 Taking the Bull by the horns?

Scott MacCallum visits a club which has replaced all of its greens and is now reaping the benefits

52 Into the Third Millennium

In the second of his two part series Dr Stephen Baker looks at what lies ahead in terms of agronomic research projects.

54 Stressful Job

Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping Award winner, Brian Turner, describes how a greenkeeper's life is often a stressful one.



29) Awkward Jobs



(23) A Little Piece of History

