

## Feature listing from July '98

**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, Lyshott 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

**October '99:** The Manor House, Castle Combe; Aeration; Saltex review; Mycorrhizas; Toro Award preview

**November '99:** Sir Michael Bonallack interview; The Pines GC; Oil; Bunkers; National Championship review

**December '99:** Agronomy; Security; Environment Competition Winner; Toro Award Winners

**January 2000:** Greens Construction; Awkward Jobs; Sandy McDivot; Agronomy; Toro Award review

**February 2000:** BTME2000 review; Committed to Green interview; Rookery Park GC; Engines; Chairman's profile; Environmental Management

**March 2000:** Cleobury Mortimer GC; Course Furniture; R&A Conference Report; Cutting heights; Avoncrop profile; Valderrama report; Westturf preview

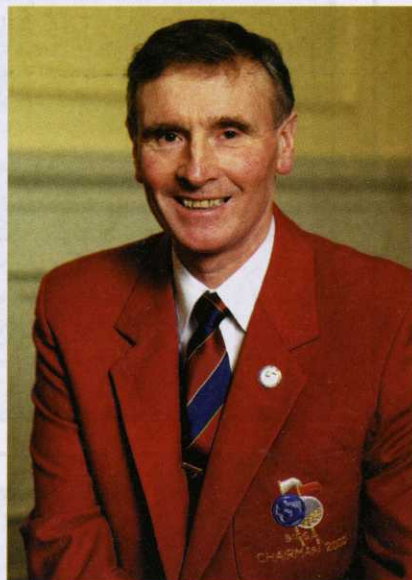
**April 2000:** Fortrose & Rosemarkie GC; Utility Vehicles; Irrigation; Seed breeding; Gem Professional profile.

**May 2000:** Ross-on-Wye GC; Top Dressing; Course Mapping; Compact Tractors

**June 2000:** National Championship preview; Spraying; World Education Conference review; Environmental Management; Mowers



# Beneath your feet...



At last I have had my first full game of golf this year. - 25 May at Buckpool Golf Club, the North Section Spring outing. While my golf left a lot to be desired the weather was okay with just a couple of showers and the company was excellent. My thanks to the North Section for a grand day.

The North Section Secretary is Dougal Duguid, Head Greenkeeper at Westhill Golf Club near Aberdeen and it was great to get the news last week that the court in Aberdeen had found in his favour in the case brought against him by a lady member (see story on page 12). She was struck in the eye by a ball, which ricocheted off a stone in the rough. The case has been going on for months and I hope Dougal can relax now and put it behind him. This was in my eyes a decision for common sense, the ramifications for greenkeepers everywhere if the decision had gone against Dougal could have been mind boggling.

As always the weather is part of our every day lives especially greenkeepers. The green staff at both Sunningdale and Wentworth must have wondered what they had done to deserve the rain that they had for the Seve Ballesteros Trophy and the Volvo PGA Championship respectively. On both occasions we could

have expected both events to be foreshortened, but fantastic work by both sets of greenkeepers meant that both tournaments not only went the full distance but the courses were highly praised for their condition.

Congratulations to Brian Turner and Chris Kennedy and especially all their staff. You did a marvellous job. But it's not only at big televised events like that that these things happen. Many times during the season greens staff, at courses all over the country, will be out clearing water away to allow their Captain's Prizes, Ladies' Open, Club Championships, etc to play to a finish. To all you guys, I say well done, you also do a marvellous job. Contrary to what I sometimes read in papers about the condition of courses, there is no doubt in my mind that the condition of courses now, is far superior to days gone by, and it's all down to the professionalism and training of greens staff.

Earlier this year I was invited to speak at a Millennium Turfgrass Conference held by the AGCSA or the Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association in Melbourne and so on June 1 I headed off "Down Under". Unfortunately it was winter-time and the weather was reminiscent of Britain in spring. However Melbourne is a lovely city with a marvellous skyline with the tallest building in the Southern Hemisphere, Rialto Towers, its crowning glory.

It is certainly a city on the up if all the new buildings and expensive shopping malls are a barometer of wealth. It also has the biggest casino I have been in (only looking, honest!) and it was packed most of the time. However, the reason I was there was the Millennium Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show. The proceedings started off with a bang at 8am Monday morning with a skit on greenkeepers including dancing girls.

Well that certainly woke everyone up. It was an excellent week conference, trade show workshops all well attended and even on the last day there were still a large number listening to the closing speaker at 5.30pm. One of the most noticeable aspects of the entire overseas conferences etc I have been at this year is how they often have seminars or workshops on early in the morning and sometimes in the evening. Now Ken and Sami what about a 7am start and 7pm finish at Harrogate next year?

I was most impressed with the great thirst for knowledge most of the delegates showed in Melbourne. No matter a person's title be it Head Greenkeeper, Course Manager, Superintendent we are all doing the same job and the principles of greenkeeping are the same the world over. I believe the contacts and communications we are making with all the greenkeepers' associations around the world is important and hopefully I would like to see the day when we will have exchange systems set up to allow greenkeepers to spend a few months in other countries extending their experience.

You think we have problems in this country with pests? At Anglesea Golf Club, near Geelong, they have a resident population of wild kangaroos. Now they are a lot bigger than rabbits I can assure you. When I think about courses in Canada with bears, moose, deer and geese and America with alligators and other creatures, well Britain's not such a bad place to work on a golf course after all.

Working on a golf course has its ups and downs and sometimes you are asked to do things you do not agree with, however when that happens remember this:-

Accept that sometimes you're  
the pigeon and sometimes  
you're the statue.

*S. H. R. Small*