

"To change what nature has done to a piece of property over the years is very stupid and is probably one of the most difficult things you are going to do because you are going against the grain. You cannot plant a different type of grass or different types of trees that are not indigenous to an area and are not used to that climate, it just doesn't work properly."

Nick Price, Former Open Champion and World Number 1 Golfer

Below: The Dyke GC, near Brighton, winner of the 2000 BIGGA Golf Environment Competition



"I use one criteria when judging a golf course which is; 'Would what has been done here convince a sceptic?'. More often than not, yes is the answer as more and more golf courses manage their courses in an environmental friendly way."

Dr Keith Duff, Chief Scientist with English Nature and competition judge.

CGSA trip thanks 1

Just a short letter to thank both Neil Thomas and BIGGA for the part they played in the forming of the delegation of the 10 lucky individuals who were selected to represent the Association at the CGSA Show & Conference in Vancouver and who were sponsored by Bernard and Company.

I think that the exercise was extremely successful from all points of view and I hope that many more greenkeepers get the opportunity to visit our counterparts from other countries and gain valuable knowledge of how others manage their golf courses and resources in different parts of the world.

Many contacts were made and friendships formed and not just in Canada but also among the party from the UK.

Everyone in Canada was extremely friendly and made our albeit short stay a very enjoyable one. Both Peter Hampton and Sam Mclean should be commended for their hospitality as should Stephen Bernhard for agreeing to sponsor this wonderful trip.

Thank you BIGGA for making this possible, for without being a member of our association, this would not have been possible at all.

Peter Lacey, Pennard GC

CGSA trip thanks 2

I would like to take this opportunity to thank BIGGA and Bernhard and company for their support and sponsorship of my colleagues and myself, for the trip to the CGSA and WCTA. This was an absolutely wonderful trip which was made possible by the generous support of Bernhard and company. Apart from the excellent Trade show and seminars which had been very well organised, there was also a tremendous social programme of Salmon cruises and banquets etc.

Also Vancouver is a wonderful city to visit, with ski-slopes, science museums, Stanley Park, Grouse Mountain, a fantastic harbour and shopping centre. But the highlight of the whole visit for all ten of us was the new friends and contacts we have made in Canada. The hospitality was second

to none with three course Superintendents taking the time to allow us all to view their courses, which were all in great condition, and taking us sightseeing and helping to cement ties in our own industry. Hopefully we will all be able to do the same whenever a group of Superintendents from anywhere in the world come and visit us.

Once again I would like to thank our very generous sponsors Bernard's, Sam Maclean and Peter Hampton of Bernard's, who helped us gain so much from our trip and Michelle Morley, of Bernard's, who organised the whole trip for us. Last but not least my nine fellow colleagues for all their help, in making this a great trip.

Antony Bindley
 First Assistant, Kirby Muxloe Golf Club

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Clarification over mailing of Greenkeeper International

How pleased I was to read last night that a fellow member (in a far-away land!) gets his magazine in the middle of the month.

I live in Margate, Kent, and my magazine turns up on the last day of the month. Why? Why? Why?

G. Mills, Chestfield GC, Whitstable

Editor's Note: Sorry that you had to wait quite so long for your February Greenkeeper International.

The fact that it didn't arrive until the end of the month suggests a postal problem as you should have received it within a day or two of February 19 which was the date billed in the January issue. I'm pretty sure the member in the far away land will have had to wait longer still this time.

Canada thanks 3

May 1, on behalf of the Northern Region, thank Bernhard & Co for allowing us the privilege of attending the recent CGSA Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

The experience of exchanging views and ideas with Canadian Green Keepers was most rewarding. The concerns on golf course management were not too dissimilar to ours. We try to achieve near perfect results in the same way as they do.

Without Bernhard & Co and BIGGA organising this trip we would not have made new connections and new friends nor had the opportunity to promote BIGGA on the world stage where it so rightly belongs.

Thank you once again
 We remain yours in golf.

Anthony Davies and Jimmy Richardson
 Northern Region

Canada thanks 4

I am sure that I can speak for all the delegation, that we found the trip to Canada most informative and have come home with a broader view to greenkeeping.

Also the friendships made during the week with the Canadian Superintendents and our own delegation, will I am sure continue for many years to come, hopefully many more BIGGA members will be able to benefit in the way I have from the visit which was made possible by Bernhard & Company's very generous sponsorship.

I have arranged to give a presentation of the trip at the Section's October meeting, which will be held at China Fleet Golf Club.

Many thanks

Richard Whyman,
 Bude and North Cornwall GC

Canada thanks 5

On the behalf of the South East delegates for the Canadian International

Turfgrass Conference in Vancouver. We would like to thank all involved from Bernhard and Company for making possible such an educational and enjoyable trip. It is a trip that all 10 UK delegates will never forget. We all have wonderful memories of the trip. We must not forget to thank all the Canadian

Superintendents for their wonderful hospitality. But a big thank you to Sam and Peter from Bernhard's for looking after us so well in Canada.

Tom Smith & Raymond Day
 South East Region