Do you recognise this face?



Past Chairman Elliott Small, unearthed this photograph in a copy of Golf Illustrated from sometime back in the 70s with the picture of a younger version of someone many in the greenkeeping industry know very well -George Brown from Turnberry. George, a 2-handicap member of Prince's at the time, had just retained the Aces High Cup held by the Hole in one Golf Society. George had accumulated 40 points and beat the internationally assembled field.

David joins Lantra Scotland

Lantra National Training Organisation has boosted its Scottish operation this week with the arrival of David Stevenson as the new Executive Director for Scotland.

David joins Lantra from his previous role as Group Training Manager at BSW Timber Plc, the UK's largest timber harvesting and sawmilling company. Prior to his role at BSW, David held senior positions with the Road Transport Training Board and the Food and Drink Training Board and brings with him an impressive wealth of training experience.

David has been quick to identify the needs of the Scottish sector and is keen to begin work on transforming Lantra's role within Scotland, especially since the advent of devolution in the country.

"My aim is to raise the profile of Lantra NTO in Scotland, to maintain and expand the network within it and support the land-based sector in every way possible," said David "It will be challenging, due to the sheer spread of activity across the range of industries, but they all require effective support from us and I aim to fulfil that. Coupled with my field-based team of Regional Development Consultants we can offer greater levels of support in Scotland for all of these industries."

Based in Lantra NTO's regional office for Scotland, David is charged with the task of creating and expanding partnerships with the Scottish Executive, key partners, government agencies and all land-based organisations to secure funding and ensure learning and skills targets are met within the land-based sector.



Address your letters to The Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, or email them to reception@bigga.co.uk

Harry Diamond is gone but certainly not forgotten!

It could be said that Sunday July 8 was a day to be remembered in the annals of greenkeeping history. Harry's family thought long and hard about some sort of memorial in his remembrance and came to the conclusion that a golf tournament in perpetuity would have been Harry's wish.

His wife, Jessie, and daughters, Ann, Linda and Rosemary, his brother, Hugh, and a host of grandchildren all turned out at Belleisle Golf Course to witness the first ever presentation of the Harry Diamond Memorial Quaich. The tournament was played over Belleisle as a Stableford, with 110 golfers taking part.

It shows the status Harry was held in at Belleisle when everyone took part in the competition and others who had a special invitation to the presentation of prizes, knew Harry personally and could relate some story or other about the man. Even the Provost of Ayr turned up to present some of the prizes to the worthy winners and, what I considered quite exceptional, each winner got a kiss from the Provost, just as one would expect from a Lady Provost. Harry's three daughters each in turn presented prizes and Jessie had the honour to award each with a large silver quaich and each winner also received a personal usable(!) smaller quaich (which is a Scottish vessel to partake of a large whisky).

It is unique in that I cannot remember a Golf Club which has respected the life of their greenkeeper by holding a competition in his memory.

From the way the competitors were talking the Harry Diamond Memorial Quaich will go on to become one of the most enjoyable fixtures in the Belleisle calendar.

Come next year I am hoping to arrange teams from the Scottish Sections of BIGGA to take part in the Stableford. I am sure Harry would have endorsed this suggestion.

Harry Diamond is missed in this greenkeeping fraternity. We in BIG-GA wish to thank all his family and friends for having the insight and understanding in instituting this excellent tournament in Belleisle in his memory.

Cecil George, Lenzie.

Testers wanted for new trials

We have been appointed to import and distribute a new range of organic growth stimulants that provide the benefits associated with a microbial soil inoculants and a highly humified growth stimulant.

The product has been used successfully by golf courses and turf growers throughout the USA and we have numerous testimonials to this effect. However, we would like to field test the product under conditions in the United Kingdom and would welcome contact with any member of BIGGA who can assist in this regard. Any such test will be undertaken without financial risk to the user.

The product comes in a ready to use liquid form and is supplied in 20 litre drums for easy handling. It is diluted and applied with sprayers in a conventional fashion and it has an economical low application rate. It can be applied with the standard fertiliser programme.

Dacan Agripharm Limited Contact: Ian Slatter - Commercial Director Phone: 01303 891 995 Fax: 01303 894 139 E-mail: dacan.ag@tesco.net

Yelverton update

I thought I drop a line regarding the foot and mouth article which appeared in the May magazine. We reopened at Yelverton on May 5th after been closed for 10 weeks.

All my staff were kept on with full pay which was a credit to the golf club while we are still following strict disinfectant procedures.

I have also sent you a photograph of a rather famous footballer who I met on a recent well earned break to Barcelona. The day after our encounter he scored a hat-trick for Barcelona against Valencia!

Steve Evans, Yelverton GC, Devon



Editor's Note: The player in question is Rivaldo and the hat-trick Steve mentioned has been rated the best hat-trick ever scored. If only Steve could have the same effect on some of his native Welsh players!

Wellingborough's rash problem

During the early summer each year one or two of my members complain to me of rashes on legs after playing golf at Wellingborough but this year there appears to be in the region of 20 people involved, mainly ladies.

Below I list treatments used on the course, the dates and the times and the quantities involved:

Tuesday May 22 - all fairways were treated with fertiliser 28-0-0 at 80 litres per hectare and Estermone at four litres per hectare. This work was carried out at 4.30am

Tuesday May 22 - all greens and aprons were sprayed with 320g of Shortcut per hectare and 2.4 litres Amistar per hectare diluted with 600 litres of water. This work was carried out at 7.30pm. Thursday June 19 - the same treatment was applied, again at 7.30pm Monday June 25 - all greens were

Monday June 25 - all greens were treated with 28-0-0 fertiliser at 40 litres per hectare, Pro seaweed at 20 litres per hectare and Breaker wetting agent at 20 litres per hectare - all diluted with 900 litres water.

Following the several complaints received Mr Paul Tolman, the local Environmental Health Officer visited the club and was perfectly satisfied that correct procedures had been followed.

Unfortunately this does not solve the problem of the rashes so I am hoping you might be able to throw some light on the matter.

Roy Tolman, Secretary/Manager Wellingborough Golf Club

Open thank you from Mike

Just a little note with a BIG thank you, for letting me have the opportunity to assist in this years 2001 open support team. Once again it was a honour and a privilege to represent BIGGA in the most important major championship of the golfing calendar. I was fortunate enough to have a chat and get the autograph of Gary Player, this may be his last open championship, and this alone made the week.

An experience never to be forgotten.

Mike Gash, Deputy Course Manager, Moseley Golf Club.