

Feature listing from February '99

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 Bonalack 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; Westurf 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

July 2000; Open Championship Preview; Dougal Duguid Court Case Report; Pest Control; Aventis profile; Course Conditioning

August 2000; Open Championship review; Water Features; Saltex preview; Charcoal; Malone GC; Royal County Down; Grand Tour Scholarship

September 2000; Blowers and Sweepers; Berkshire College Academy; National Championship roundup; Gordon McKillop interview; Winter health checks

October 2000; Toro Awards Preview; Ronald Fream; Irrigation; Saltex Review; Pest Control; Woburn GC

November 2000; Grass Cutting Machinery; Clandeboye GC; Drainage; National Championship review; Leatherjacket management

December 2000; Toro Awards; Making the most of your Dealer; Budget Boosters; BTME2001 preview; BIGGA/Bernhards CGSA delegation preview

January 2001; Communication; Tyres; Turf diseases; Kingsbarns Golf Links; Environment Competition Winner - Dyke GC; Talking Heads - Pest Control



A fresh start



It was a huge honour and privilege to take on the Chairmanship of our Association at this year's AGM held during Harrogate. I am under no illusion about the work I have ahead of me as BIGGA made great strides under Elliott Small's Chairmanship and I want that to continue. We all owe Elliott a great debt of gratitude for what he has achieved over the last 12 months and I hope that I can come close to doing as fine a job as he did.

The AGM was also a sad occasion because it saw Gordon Child stepping down from the Board after many years of over-and-above-the-call-of-duty work for the Association. As well as his two year period as Chairman, he spent a number of years on the Board and several years before that as South West and South Wales

Regional Administrator.

It would be remiss of me not to make mention of Edna Small and Marion Child, both of whom were the other half of the Edna and Elliott and Marion and Gordon Regional Administrator Double Acts, who each continued to provide such support when Elliott and Gordon were Chairmen.

Fortunately we are not losing Gordon totally as he will remain as BIGGA's representative on the GTC.

Well, what a great week. Record attendances, and, from what people have told me, the best week ever for a great many visitors and exhibitors. It should help us to forget about the awful weather and springboard us into the new, and hopefully better, season.

I was particularly pleased to see how

well attended the Conference, Workshops and Seminar sessions were. It was interesting to see so many people from all corners of the globe talking greenkeeping and also interesting that so many problems are common to us all.

As we all know education is the bedrock of the Association and the fact that so many people took advantage of the superb opportunities available to them augers well for the future of the profession. On that very point it was interesting to listen to Dr Paul Rieke, of Michigan State University, who said he had 40 years in the industry and was still learning.

That I have been able to take on the role of Chairman owes much to the support of my family and Walton Heath Golf Club. Any doubts I may have harboured were swept away thanks to the number of people who came up during the week and wished me well. It has certainly given me the confidence to tackle the year ahead.

As I have said I'm particularly looking forward to meeting so many of you over the course of the next 12 months but please feel free to pop into Walton Heath if you're passing. I'd be delighted to see you.

Speaking of the golf course despite the wet weather and frost, we have got well into our tree and scrub clearance work which is ongoing work to keep the heathland open. I hope you have achieved what you set out to do with your winter programmes.

Before I go, those of you who saw Richard Noble's Keynote speech will, no doubt, have been moved by his inspirational words and the video clips which had us holding onto our seats, but I was interested in his final comments about the project which brought about the speed of sound breaking land speed record.

"It was all down to teamwork."

Well worth remembering.

Clive Osgood
Chairman