

## Feature listing from March '99

**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; 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; Clandebye 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

**February 2001;** BTME2001 review; Winter Mowing; Irrigation; Broadstone GC; Hedges; Security



## Why does it always rain on

# Fridays?



I've only just started column writing but already I'm making it complicated for myself. This is a two parter. The first, I'm writing at home before I head off for the GCSAA Conference and Show and then, when I get to Texas, I'll compile the second part. I didn't think the life of a columnist would be quite so complicated!

Why is it that bad weather always seems to happen on a Friday? I know I'm not the only greenkeeper who feels this is more fact than opinion.

As I write it is Friday morning and we've had just under two inches of rain in two days. That's been followed by a sharp frost and as I sit here, we've got a sunny morning and members are arriving to play but the course is closed. Understandably they can't comprehend why they can't get a game when the weather appears so perfect but the frost coming on top of all that rain means it's just not possible to open the course. Now we've got an interesting decision to make about

whether we're able to play over the weekend.

As I said the weather problems always happen on a Friday - fact.

That said, the entire winter has been a problem. The rain we've had over the last few months has been unbelievable. At Walton Heath we've already painted everything three times.

Having thanked Elliott and Gordon last month I'd like now to take the opportunity to introduce you to my Vice Chairman and the newest member of the Board of Management.

Richard Barker is a man who will be known to many of you already as he is a regular attendee of most BIGGA events at national, regional and section level, while his face is regularly seen in the magazine. Although he looks, and is, a relatively young man still in his 30s he is in fact currently the longest serving member of the Board. I know he will be a big help to me and a huge asset to the Association.

Funnily enough only last year I remember him saying at a Board meeting that he wanted more work to do. Well, I think we'll have fixed that for him over the next couple of years.

Our new Board member is David Walden, from Peterborough, who is very much a greenkeeper's greenkeeper in every sense of the word. I know he has been a tireless worker for the Association at Section and Regional level and, as a former Greenkeeper of the Year, he will bring many skills to his role on the Board. Part 2.

The Texan welcome has been absolutely wonderful and everything possible has been done to make us feel at home... even to the extent that it has rained every day. In one night five inches of rain fell - would you believe.

Dallas is an awesome place in every way - I think that's the phrase you use in these parts and the GCSAA Show, which this year celebrated its 75th anniversary is an incredible occasion.

Our presence at the Show has been very much appreciated by everyone on this side of the Atlantic and our booth has been very busy. It is interesting that the thing which attracts most attention is our Master Greenkeeper Scheme which is very highly thought of by American Superintendents. Almost every conversation we have had at some stage gets round to talking about Master Greenkeeper and it just proves what an excellent programme it is for us.

One of the highlights of the week for me was the keynote speech by General "Stormin'" Norman Schwarzkopf of Gulf War fame who talked about what it took to be a great leader.

Another of the memories I shall take with me from Dallas was the sight of Iain Ritchie and Eddie Adams using the corridor of the hotel to test their new golf clubs.

Well that's it for this month. I'm off to put the finishing touches to the paper I'm giving at the Canadian Conference and Show in Vancouver.

Clive Osgood