

Feature listing from May '99

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; Clebury 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

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

March 2001; York GC; Greens Maintenance; Meland GC, Norway; Greens Mowers; BIGGA Essay Winner; Grass Science profile

April 2001; Lightning detection; Brockett Hall GC; CGSA report; Fairway Mowers; Irrigation; Sward renovation; BIGGA Essay winner; Turf Disease



Positive attitudes



With slightly fewer BIGGA functions over the past month - with so much packed into my first three months as Chairman I do think I'm due a bit of a breather - I have been able to join with the rest of the Walton Heath team in catching up on the course work which the unbelievable weather meant we couldn't do earlier in the year. We've found ourselves returning and reseeding the isolated areas which have been puddling up. There are areas on the course which are still near saturation point but I must admit we are luckier than some as the heathland is on a hill. My heart goes out to those members working on courses which don't enjoy good drainage after the rainfall levels we've had.

We are currently in that awkward interim state on the golf course when play steps up but the weather is not quite warm enough to repair the damage caused by the increase in play quickly enough and we find ourselves slipping back a little.

This has been definitely the worst winter I have experienced in my time in the industry and looking forward we must hope for something better than

our recent summers. I know some weather forecasters have been saying we shall be in for a good one but in my experience you can't really predict what the weather is going to do much more than a week in advance.

However I suppose the law of averages says that we are due a good one and my fingers are crossed that the sun smiles on us for the next five or six months.

With the Foot and Mouth Outbreak coming on top of the rain many greenkeepers haven't had their troubles to seek over the last few months.

It really is biting deep and the implications for many golf clubs, and BIGGA members will be severe. I've been invited down to Cornwall in the next couple of weeks on a morale boosting visit to an area which has suffered more than most and I'll be keen to offer a few consoling words to the members. For many the knowledge that the Association is there and concerned about their welfare is a comforting thought in their hour of need.

I was at the AEA luncheon in the Savoy a few weeks ago and the speaker, Jonathan Miller, a writer, broadcaster and regular columnist in The Sunday Times, was scathing in his criticism of the Government, unions and other related bodies and their handling of the situation. A small holder

himself, he described the culling and burning of animals as medieval with the cost far outweighing the benefits.

It is also strange that we are told that slaughtering the animals will kill any disease they are carrying but that we are also told by other experts to beware of uncooked meat. Makes you think doesn't it.

On other matters, I was interested to read Dr Kate Entwistle's excellent article on diseases in last month's magazine. With the change in weather we can expect a lot of fungal activity and Kate's article will be a useful one to refer to when and if you get an attack. I note she also asks you to get in touch with her directly or through Scott at BIGGA HOUSE if you want any more assistance.

I'm also delighted to hear that the STRI has promised to submit more articles to the magazine on a range of subjects. The magazine is a good source on articles on problems you may be suffering from while you can always access the BIGGA Library which has a huge fund of books on all subjects available to you for no more than the cost of the return postage.

Clive Osgood