

## Feature listing from November 2000

**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

**May 2001;** Foot and Mouth Disease Special Report; Maintenance Facility report; Bunker Sand; ATVs; RainBird Profile; Fineturf Genetics; BTME2002 countdown; Electric-powered machines

**June 2001;** Stoke Park Club profile; Stuart Cagle MG; Tractors; Leaf Spot Disease; Take All Patch; Construction

**July 2001;** Royal Lytham profile; Tees Mowers; Fertilisers; Green Grasses; John Deere profile; Sandy McDivot; College Listings

**August 2001;** Aeration Survey; Machrie GC profile; Rough Mowers; Saltex Preview; Dr Alan Gange - environmental research; Hayter Profile; Ponds; Open Championship review; Toro Student of the Year profile;

**September 2001;** Ryder Cup preview; Chafer Grubs; Drainage; BIGGA National Championship preview; Sandy McDivot; Machinery Maintenance; Soil Analysis; Wild Flowers

**October 2001;** Major Award for Walter Woods; Royal Portrush GC; Portstewart GC; Irrigation; Soil biodiversity; Leaf collection systems; Scotsturf preview/ Saltex review

**November 2001;** BIGGA National Championship review; Environment Competition winner; Spraying; Toro Awards Preview; Cutting regimes; Dyke GC

**December 2001;** Toro Award Winners; Southern Gailes GC; BTME preview; Specialty equipment; Thatch removal

**January 2002;** Walton Heath profile; Greenkeeping in Denmark; Moving materials; A first for Andy Campbell; New products

**February 2002;** Harrogate 2002 Review; Drainage; Castlerock GC; Trees; Recycling; Turftrax profile; Barn Owl special report

**March 2002;** Donnington Valley profile; Utility vehicles; Essay competition winner; Irrigation; Seeds; Sandy McDivot

**April 2002;** Heyrose GC profile; Bernhard's Scholarship; De-stress your greens; COSHH assessments; Rootzones and topdressing; Maintenance facilities; Essay competition

**May 2002;** BIGGA Report; Nematodes; Caldyc GC profile; Multi-tasking machinery; Bunker Sand; Essay competition; Fijian GC profile; BIGGA Minimum qualification

**June 2002;** Finding Fungi; Greetham Valley GC profile; Tyres; Calabria GC profile; Lakes and Ponds; Poa Annua - Jim Arthur

**July 2002;** Open preview; Turf; Steve Isacss; Emissions; Grinding; Rotary Mowers; BTME preview; Sandy McDivot

**August 2002;** BIGGA Golf Day; Open review; Talking Heads - Education & training; Trees; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pwllheli GC; Weather; Compact Tractors; Saltex preview

**September 2002;** National Championship Preview; Irrigation; Non Grass Cutters; Hawkstone Park; Careers in Greenkeeping

**October 2002;** Saltex Review; Golden and Silver Key Supporters; Environment Awards; Health & Safety; Sustainable Use of Pesticides



# Where has all the rain gone?



Since writing my October article and commenting on the dreadful weather, I haven't seen a drop of rain for nearly six weeks now and the golf course is beginning to look quite dry. But after our experience this time last year I am not complaining and the course will at least go into winter fairly dry. I think you will agree with me that this makes planning extremely difficult. Last year it was too wet and now we are too dry for some jobs, but then that is the challenge of greenkeeping.

The past four weeks have been a busy time for me and the Association. Back in September I was a guest of the Swedish Greenkeepers Association and presented a paper at their education conference in Vasterås, just north of Stockholm. Fortunately for me the vast majority of them could understand and speak English so, not unlike Harrogate, I could socialise with them after the conference. Unfortunately though, not being able to understand or speak Swedish I relied on them to explain the other presentations later! Again like Harrogate it was nice to meet with people who put your problems into perspective. I thought golfers started to play early over here but can you imagine people playing 24 hours a day certainly in the north of the country where greens had to be cut twice a day due to the light and amount of growth, and also not being able to see your course for several months due to a covering of snow or indeed total darkness! This was in total contrast to that of Bruce Williams, their principal speaker, who presented two superb papers. Bruce works at the Los Angeles Country Club and has a reasonably nice climate year round although still encounters many problems.

Regrettably while I was away it was the Toro Student Of The Year awards at Headquarters which my Vice-Chairman, George Brown attended. I understand all finalists were of an extremely high standard and congratulations must go to you all, in particular Murray Long who came out on top. I know he is in for a super prize and one that can only benefit his future. Thanks again to Toro for their continued support of this event.

On my return from Sweden I picked up a quick change of clothes and headed off up to the National Championship. I am sure most of you will have heard or read in other reports I did not have one of my better days on the course. Hillside was truly magnificent and it was a good walk spoiled for me as I could only manage one over (level fives that is not level par) but

like a true professional I bettered that score by 12 at Hesketh the following day, but had to take some ribbing in between times.

Congratulations to Ian Semple the overall winner and all other prize winners and a big thank you to both greenkeeping teams and sponsors for helping to make our championships such a success. It was much appreciated by all who took part.

And finally, to conclude this busy period, we have had a board meeting and I have attended a golf day and AGM of the Mid Anglia Section. This was held at Stocks Hotel & Golf Club in Aldbury. Thanks must go to that familiar face and BIGGA supporter, Mark Ellis, and his team for a super golf course and the Section committee for all their hard work. This section like many others spoke of what they had accomplished within the year with regards to tournaments and education but weren't supported as well as they would have liked! Come on guys. Let your Section committees know what you want.

With regard to the rest of the month I have a couple of Sections to visit and an invitation to speak in Denmark at their annual conference and on my return I will be at Scotsturf for two days where I look forward to seeing you on the BIGGA stand. I will be reporting on these in my next article.

And finally, you should have received your forms for BTME/Clubhouse. Get them back to Headquarters early to secure the course you want.

It's going to be a busy week!

Richard Barker  
National Chairman