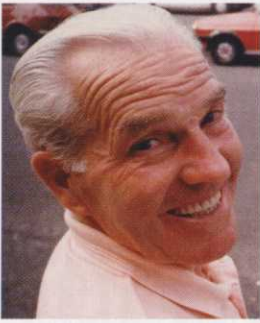


## HUGH MARSHALL



BIGGA Life Member Hugh Marshall has died after a short illness. He was 82.

Hugh began greenkeeping at East Kilbride GC and moved to England in 1962 when he became Head Greenkeeper at Cleckheaton & District GC. Six

years later he moved to Alwoodley GC in Leeds where he remained until his retirement in 1988.

As a Northern Committee man for many years Hugh was a staunch supporter of the Association and a regular in national BIGGA golf matches where he was often in the prizes.

In his retirement he returned north of the border to Ardossan where he remained until his death.

He leaves his wife Ann, daughter Fay, son Peter, a former greenkeeper at Moorallerton GC and now working in the trade, and four grandchildren; Craig, Scott, Ann and Elizabeth.

## GRINDING A RESULT

At a recent Bernhard's demo day Jim McKenzie, Courses Manager of Celtic Manor and Stephen Bernhard joined forces to show the benefits of sharpening and promote non-contact cutting as the way forward.

"What we are trying to achieve is to get the mower to cut like a scythe," said Stephen, Managing Director.

"Before Mr Budding introduced the mower this is how all grass, including golf greens, was cut.

"Our concept is to sharpen the mower and set the blades with no-contact so they function like a scythe. Critically this ensures the grass is cleanly cut like a scalpel."

Jim backed up this theory.

"Grass is a much better quality. On the agronomic side less damage is caused to the grass so it makes less demand for water and fertiliser. Importantly this makes the recovery process quicker".

"Machinery-wise we are making huge savings as we need less spare parts for our mowers.

With less mechanical stress there is a reduction



in fuel, reduced engine wear and overheating hydraulics. This definitely saves my staff time and me money over the old method," said Jim.

"Setting up the mower with contact is like driving a car with the hand brake on," said Stephen.

"With metal rubbing on metal it is only a matter of time before the blades become dull and lose that critical sharp cut".

"A contact set up means the blades drag the material across its surface, which has the effect of making the grass bleed. This makes the grass far more susceptible to disease, it requires more water and loses definition as it actually grows more rapidly to try and recover."

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Eamonn Wall & Co, has promoted Mark Gordon to the position of Associate Director.

Mark, 31, joined the firm in 1997 and has been operating successfully since then throughout England, based centrally in

Nottinghamshire. After graduating from Aberdeen University he gained a few years practical experience in the woods and on large contracting projects. He became a Chartered Forester in 2002 and now co-ordinates the firm's English team providing its existing and new clients with a complete woodland consulting and contracting service.

He is a keen arboriculturist and woodland designer who uses modern technology to promote successful landscape management. He is based at the firm's Retford Office.

## BACK IN EUROPE



Barenbrug has appointed Gerard van Klooster as Product Development Manager for Europe.

For the last three years Gerard has been Research Director for Barenbrug USA, where he set up a testing

facility and research department in Virginia.

Previously he spent 10 years as head of the company's Dutch research department. He will now be based at Barenbrug's headquarters in the Netherlands, with responsibility for the process of innovation and product development of grass species, varieties and specific mixtures. He will also play an active role in the introduction of new products for the international market.

"I am delighted to be working for Barenbrug in Europe again, and to have an exciting new challenge of developing new products," said Gerard.

"Developing new varieties is a fascinating process, and it's so interesting to work with new species such as crested or tufted hairgrass. At Barenbrug we continually look at new species as they can help us to give the customer the solution to their problems," said Gerard.

Commenting on the appointment, Barenbrug UK Managing Director, Paul Johnson said, "Having Gerard on board is an important addition to Barenbrug's UK operation. The expertise and advice he can provide will help to continually improve the total package of services we offer to UK customers."

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