

Feature listing from June 2001

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; Caldly 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 Annuua - 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

November 2002; Toro Student of the Year; National Championship; Drainage; St Andrew's Bay; Autumn Problems

December 2002; BTME & ClubHouse Preview; R&A Golf Course committee; Dr Kate Entwistle; Pennard GC

January 2003; Beedles Lake Profile; Talking Heads - Chemical Application; Rebuilding Golf Greens; Constructive Advice

February 2003; BTME/ClubHouse Review; Royal Liverpool Profile; Irrigation; Nematodes

March 2003; The Berkshire Profile; Meloidogyne; Overseeding Golf Greens; Talking Heads - Health & Safety

April 2003; Oakmere Park GC; Spraying; Golf Course Security; Bernhards Delegation; Ransomes Jacobsen Profile

May 2003; Cardrona Golf & Country Club; Poa Annuua; Rough Mowers; Mole Control; Rootzone; Green Construction



A Frustrating Start to the Season

At long last there's been some sort of normality about the weather. Cold, windy and rainy. Yes, that's more like we are used to and, unlike the golfers who are playing the course but like my fellow greenkeepers, I'm pleased.

At the time of writing it has been the most difficult and frustrating start to a season that I can ever remember. The grass is going almost backwards and one doesn't normally experience this heading towards the end of May. But no doubt by the time you read this page I expect we will have grass around our ears and will be struggling to keep up with everything.

Unfortunately I have attended three funerals within the past two weeks with one of them being a staunch BIGGA member, Alex Robertson, Head Greenkeeper at Grangemouth Golf Club. The number of people who attended the service, many of them from the greenkeeping world, speaks volumes for how popular and genuine he was. Alex's passing is a tragedy and a great loss to our profession and our sincere thoughts go out to his family.

I have also just learnt today of the death of Mark McCormack, probably the greatest innovator in sports management and a man who was rightfully known as the most powerful man in sport. As a young lawyer he offered to manage Arnold Palmer's career and so founded the International Management Group (IMG). Arnold Palmer went on to become the greatest name in sport in the 60s and Mark McCormack went on to manage virtually every top name in sport, not just golf. In golf, however, that list included Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman and Tiger Woods. IMG were also responsible for the introduction and running of many tournaments including the long running World Matchplay at Wentworth.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr McCormack at Turnberry on a number of occasions. There is no doubt that his work contributed immensely to raising the standard of golf and gave the game a global focus that in turn gave Greenkeeping Management a higher profile. Those of us who earn our livings in golf owe Mark McCormack a great deal.

That also reminds me that I attended a management meeting last week with IMG, the PGA and the R&A when it was announced that the British Seniors, being played over our own Ailsa Course at Turnberry, is now to be classed as a Senior Major with a purse of £1 million.

Most of the top stars such as Tom Kite, Hale Irwin, Ray



Floyd, Gary Player and Arnold Palmer are competing but for many the appearance of Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson will provide the excitement. Their epic Dual in the Sun classic in The Open of 1977 produced, some say, the most exciting Open in history. Just the appearance of Nicklaus and Watson together at Turnberry will create a buzz in the galleries and although it may be too much to expect them to reproduce the quality of golf they did during that Open, just a small taste of it will send people home happy.

It will be a busy week for our staff preparing two courses for the Tournament as the qualifying is being played over our second course, the Kintyre. With Barrassie further up the coast also being used as another qualifying course I am sure Brian Finlayson and his crew will produce a first class test.

As I write this report Derek Wilson and his crew are busy preparing Irvine Bogside for the qualifying of The British Amateur Championship, as is Billy McLaughlin, from Royal Troon, over which famous Links the finals are being played. We wish them well for a successful week.

As well as the Seniors in July, this month we also have the Scottish Amateur Strokeplay Championship, closely followed by the Scottish Greenkeepers Championship which are both being played on the Kintyre Course. Plus we have our own Club Championship on the Ailsa Course. So we are in for a busy time, over the next couple of months.

I suppose by now most folks' diaries are filling up, I know mine is. I know I could be accused of being away from my workplace too often, yet if I do not attend certain functions that would also be wrong in some eyes.

I do know one thing. With a busy and important schedule ahead my priorities must lie at Turnberry until the Tournaments are over.

George Brown
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