



LOCKER SOLUTIONS LTD

"As first time exhibitors the show was very worthwhile and a number of good leads were obtained. We will certainly be back in 2005."
Carl Foreman

Three More Members of the Master Greenkeeper Club

The group of greenkeepers who have achieved the prestigious Master Greenkeeper Award reached 39 when the latest three to earn the right to put the letters MG after their name were honoured at Harrogate.

Phil Gates, Course Manager at Trentham Golf Club; Norbert Lischka, Course Manager of Hamburg Falkenstein Golf Club, in Germany and Stephen Matuza, Superintendent of the Town of Oyster Bay Golf Club, Long Island, New York State, formed a cosmopolitan group at the presentation of their Master Greenkeeper Blazers and plaques by outgoing BIGGA Chairman, George Brown and BIGGA's first Chairman, Walter Woods BEM on Wednesday, January 21.

Three stages of qualification means candidates have to collect 200 credits for education, training and experience, followed by a detailed assessment of their golf course operation and then a two part written examination.



▲ Norbert Lischka with George Brown and Walter Woods BEM



▲ Stephen Matuza, of Town of Oyster Bay GC with his plaque and jacket



▲ Phil Gates, of Trentham GC, was the only "home grown" Master Greenkeeper this year

Unsung Heroes

Brian Payne, Head Greenkeeper of Burnham Beeches GC, High Wycombe, and Tim Parker, groundsman for the Royal Hospital School, Ipswich, and part time groundsman for Woolpit Cricket Club, Suffolk, have been chosen as Unsung Heroes for 2003.



▲ Brian Payne (left) and Tim Parker (right) celebrate with David and Lynda Green, of Terrain Aeration

Brian Payne, nominated by Burnham Beeches' General Manager Mr T. P. Jackson, was praised by the judges for his tireless hard work over 33 years, always keeping the course in superb condition and instigating many improvements. Although it is widely accepted that Burnham Beeches owes its reputation for excellence during important golfing occasions to Brian's efforts, he has always shunned any form of official recognition.

Mr Jackson, who kept his nomination secret until the judges had made their selection, commented that Brian would be devastated to think praise may be heaped on him.

Tim Parker, who holds a full time job as groundsman during the day, was nominated by the Chairman of his village cricket club, Mr E. Walker, for his unpaid after work activities which have made Woolpit's cricket wicket one of the finest in the county.

Tim Lodge, of the STRI, announced the winners during BTME, on behalf of his fellow judges, Gordon Child of BIGGA, and Derek Walder of the IOG, before the Unsung Heroes were presented with the keys to a house in Neffies, South of France, by Lynda Green, of Terrain Aeration, who has mounted the award. Chris Biddle and John Richards, (the award's sponsors), presented a cheque of £150, to each man, towards travelling expenses. The winners will enjoy a week's holiday this year, in the Neffies house.