

Your Letters...

Standing up for himself

I wish to express my thanks to Ian MacMillan MG, Course Manager Murrayshall Golf Course. Ian acted as my Paralegal consultant in my recent unfair dismissal. Thankfully we won handsomely, where Aberfoyle Golf Club settled out of court. I am sad not to be in the trade now after studying to Hnc Golf Course Management. I have began as a Landscape Contractor, taking over my Father's business. Hopefully I will get an opportunity to return to my chosen career. I would advise any greenkeeper having problems at their golf club, through no fault of their own, to seek legal advice and stand up for themselves as it seems to be getting more common.

Niall Gibb
Via email

YOUR LETTERS ARE REQUESTED!

Send to: Scott MacCallum, Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, or email them to: scott@bigga.co.uk

Too fine by half

Your article 'Too fine by half' in July's edition raised some very interesting points regarding the problem of finding the right product for the right job. The author is right to have highlighted the problem, what the industry needs is a solution, which is where I believe WRAP can help.

WRAP (the Waste & Resources Action Programme) are proactively promoting the availability of recycled products, which are both competitively priced and, more importantly, fit for purpose.

For those greenkeepers wanting particular grades of sands, recycled glass derived sand can be processed and graded to any particle size required, as tested and reported on by the STRI.

Similarly, the author stated his preference for 'fen soil' due to its source of essentially needed organic matter. Good quality compost derived from organic matter, which is well decomposed and carefully screened has been found to yield excellent results.

These recycled products are on the market and suppliers are capable of providing a consistent and reliable supply.

Anyone who wants more information should visit the WRAP website, www.wrap.org.uk.

Andy Dawe

Market Sector Manager (Glass)

Waste and Resources Action Programme

A fond farewell

I am writing to your magazine as I thought it might be of interest to your readers that my father will be retiring this coming month. My father's name is Richard Neil Maltby (but everyone knows him as Neil!) and on September 13 he will have celebrated his 65th birthday and by the end of that same week his retirement. After 47 years of greenkeeping he's finally parking up his mower for the last time!

He began his long career at the age of 15 in 1954 when he became an apprentice at Woodhall Spa GC in Lincolnshire.

He stayed there until 1966, taking three years out to complete his national service in 1959. He then moved on to Sherwood Forest GC and spent seven years as an assistant greenkeeper.

His final move was to Doncaster and Wheatley GC as Head Greenkeeper in 1973, where he has been now for 31 years. As well as being a long serving member of BIGGA for many years he was also chairman of the Sheffield Section and has recently been voted in as President.

This past year though he stepped aside as Head Greenkeeper and has decided to take it easier as he works towards retirement. The world of greenkeeping is such a different place now compared to my father's day and now after 47 years it seems a perfect time to bow out in style.

My mother, brother, sister and I are very proud of what he has achieved during his long career.

Miss Alison K. Maltby