

Feature listing from August 2004

August 2004; Neil Thomas Memorial Golf Day; Open review; Royal Cinque Ports; Irrigation; Mowers (2); Saltex Preview; Best Practice; Top Dressing

September 2004; Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Preview; Ravensworth Golf Club; Turf Disease; Royal Holloway College; Tractors; The Greener Approach to Greenkeeping

October 2004; STRI 75th Anniversary; Kenwick Park GC; Ecology; John Deere National Team Championship; Best Practice; Top Dressing; Saltex Review; Aeration

November 2004; Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year Final; The BIGGA National Championship; Comrie GC; CV Advice; Drainage; Construction; Fences

December 2004; BTME & ClubHouse Preview; Henley GC; Grass Identification; Trees; Environmental Winner; BIGGA Delegation; Interview Advice; College Listings

January 2005; Sir Michael Bonallack; Parkstone GC; Machinery Servicing; Ransomes Jacobsen Scholarship; Recycled Products; John Deere Team Championship; Tees; Negotiation Advice

February 2005; Harrogate 2005 Review; Meet the Chairman; Environmental Competition; Tyres; Coombe Hill GC

March 2005; Alwoodley GC; Difficult Areas; Drainage; Irrigation; Greens

April 2005; Augusta Syndrome; Thornhill GC; Difficult Areas Part 2; Turf Tonics; BIGGA Delegation; Fescue Grass

May 2005; Hellidon Lakes; Power Mowers; Pest Control; Cutting Heights Survey; Nozzles

June 2005; Minchinhampton GC; Aeration; Rigby Taylor Profile; Chemical Usage; Top Dressing; Jim Arthur Tribute

July 2005; Loch Lomond GC; St. Andrews; Mini Excavators; Disease; Finance; Scholarship

August 2005; Ramsey GC; Open Review; Quad Bikes; Top Dressing; BIGGA Golf Day; Anthracnose; National Championship Preview

September 2005; John O'Gaunt GC; Drainage Special; Security; Student of the Year; Massey Ferguson Profile

October 2005; Laleham GC; Dollar Spot; Utility Vehicles; Bio Oil; Pneumatic Fracturing; Best Practice

November 2005; Chipping Norton GC; National Championship; Course Construction; Fertilisers; Servicing

December 2005; Harrogate Week Preview; BIGGA Delegation; Environmental Competition; Fescue Debate; Irrigation

January 2006; Bearwood Lakes GC; Course Furniture; Nicklaus Design; Seed; Alternative Fuel; Disease Survey

February 2006; Cold Ashby GC; Netting; Chemical Fertilisers; Turf Construction

March 2006; Seed; Ride-on Mowers; Pesticides; Irrigation; Bio Stimulants

April 2006; R&A Conference Report; Scornie GC Profile; GCSAA Delegation Report; Wastewater

May 2006; Stock Brook GC Profile; Spraying; Aeration; Line Marking; Growth Retardants

June 2006; Disturbance Theory; Hand Tools; Surveying; Thatch/Scarification; Drought

July 2006; Hoylake Profile; Difficult Areas; Japanese Course Management; Top Dressing; Askernish Project

Time to consider

As we sit out in our gardens, enjoying the August sunshine with family and friends, serving those burnt offerings from the barbeque, I would like you to give some thought to your Sections AGM, which will take place in the next few months (check your Sections notes for the date in your area). This is your opportunity to voice your views on your association. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every Section committee member for their devotion to our association, sometimes without recognition by others.



In an interview earlier in the year, with Scott our Editor and Communications Manager, I expressed my desire for each Section to have at least one young person (21 and under) elected to the Section committee, so these young members both female and male can be nurtured over time to become senior figures within our association.

To the youth of today, what has being involved at Section level got to offer? It will give you the opportunity to express your views on the way forward for our association, the opportunity to network with many of our professions top names - which can only raise your profile. In return you offer fresh ideas and the opportunity for the Section to reach out to your generation.

I believe the lifeblood of our association is its Sections, as this is the educational entry point for most greenkeepers who have a desire to progress within our industry. What do I mean by progress? Well, this is for each member to be encouraged through continued personal development to reach his or her goals.

Member's goals are quite diverse but one thing all members have in common is to perform at his or her chosen goal to the highest standard. Sections need to be active and encourage members to take part in their events, one way we can achieve this is by making Section events enjoyable and educational, so members have a desire to return. Each and every one of you can help by getting involved in some way and drive our association forward.

Our International membership is an area where I feel the association can develop by working with senior International members, to provide educational opportunities for their staff by using our expertise at BIGGA house and the associations close links with the GTC. With this in mind your Board of Management decided at the June meeting to re-apply for membership of FEGGA as it was felt that our association could assist with the educational developments within the European greenkeeping

industry. If any International members out there have any good ideas on how the association can assist please, drop John or Ken a line.

Probably, in this technological world we live in, one of your associations most important communication tools is the BIGGA website, which has been around for more years than I can remember and is still looking very professional. But we do have a major problem with administrating the site, due to its old style format, that doesn't allow for any in-house updating of the site. Presently, any updating of the site has to go through our present web designer, which, as you can imagine, is a slow process, as well as expensive. Your board has taken the decision to develop a new site, which can be easily upgraded in house and will contain many of the membership items that you, the members, have requested over the last 12 months. The board hopes this new site will be up and running before the end of the year.

Champion of BIGGA

This month my champion of BIGGA is a young man who represents the theme of this article, Jonathon Scoones Course Manager at Caversham Heath GC, has followed his father into the greenkeeping industry and through the education opportunities offered to him,

Jonathon has become a manager in his own right. Jonathon has never lost his desire to be an active member of our association, which has seen him undertake the duties of Section Secretary, a task I know well! Jonathon has recently become vice chairman of the midland region.

Richard Whyman
Chairman