



December 2006 – £3.80

# Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL



## Congratulations to Brighthouse Bay GC

**RANSOMES  
JACOBSEN**  
A Textron Company

*CourseCare*  
The Turf Professional's Choice

**Scotts**

**syngenta**





BTME Stand No B9

**SYMBIO**

# The Life in your Soil

## **FINE GRASS PROMOTION**

- BIOLOGICAL 'SOIL LIFE' DEVELOPMENT
- NUTRIENT RECYCLING
- THATCH REDUCTION PROGRAMMES
- DISEASE MANAGEMENT
- DRY PATCH MANAGEMENT

## **COST REDUCTIONS**

- REDUCED NUTRIENT INPUTS
- REDUCE FUNGICIDE USE
- REDUCED WATER REQUIREMENTS

## **PLAYER BENEFITS**

- HIGHER QUALITY SURFACES
- EXTENDED PLAY
- EARLIER SPRING START UP WITH

**SYMBIO**

**COLDSTART**

[www.symbio.co.uk](http://www.symbio.co.uk)

01372 456101

**Symbio**

38 Bookham Industrial Park  
Church Road  
Great Bookham  
Surrey KT23 3EU  
[fineturf@symbio.co.uk](mailto:fineturf@symbio.co.uk)





## A guide to who's who at BIGGA

President  
Sir Michael  
Bonallack, OBE

BIGGA Board of Management  
Chairman - Richard Whyman  
Vice Chairman - Billy McMillan  
Past Chairman - Kerran Daly

### Board Members

Raymond Day  
Jeff Mills  
Gavin Robson  
Iain Macleod  
Bert Cross  
Walter Woods BEM  
Mark Dobell

Chief Executive: John Pemberton  
Email: john@bigga.co.uk

Deputy Chief Executive  
Education & Training Manager: Ken Richardson  
Email: ken@bigga.co.uk

Communications Manager/Editor: Scott MacCallum  
Email: scott@bigga.co.uk

Sales Manager: Rosie Hancher  
Email: rosie@bigga.co.uk

Membership Department: Gemma Lee  
Email: gemma@bigga.co.uk

## Contact us

You can contact The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association in any number of ways:

Post: BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark,  
Alne, York, YO61 1UF

Email: reception@bigga.co.uk

Website: www.bigga.org.uk

Tel: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

# Greenkeeper INTERNATIONAL

The official monthly magazine of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association

### Editorial

Communications Manager/Editor: Scott MacCallum  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801  
Email: scott@bigga.co.uk

Assistant Editor: Melissa Toombs  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801  
Email: melissa@bigga.co.uk

### Design

Design and Production Editor: Marie Whyld  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802  
Email: marie@bigga.co.uk

### Advertising

Sales Manager: Rosie Hancher  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802  
Email: rosie@bigga.co.uk

Advertising Sales Executive: Kirstin Smith  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802  
Email: kirstin@bigga.co.uk / sales@bigga.co.uk

Sales Assistant: Karen Russell  
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802  
Email: karen@bigga.co.uk / sales@bigga.co.uk

### Printing

Warners Midlands Plc, The Maltings,  
Manor Lane, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH.  
Tel: 01778 391000 Fax: 01778 394269

### Greenkeeper International:

Contents may not be reprinted or otherwise reproduced without written permission. Return postage must accompany all materials submitted if return is requested. No responsibility can be assumed for unsolicited materials. The right is reserved to edit submissions before publication.

Although every care will be taken, no responsibility is accepted for loss of manuscripts, photographs or artwork.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Association, and no responsibility is accepted for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £42 per year, Europe and Eire £55. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

ISSN: 0961-6977

© 2006 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

## December 2006

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by January 7 2007.



21 It's all happening at Harrogate Week



46 Choosing the right tyres



50 Helping to transform a golf club



52 Workwear legislation



When you have finished with this magazine please recycle it.

## REGULARS

4,5,6,8,9

News

10 GTC

11 Education

Ken Richardson discusses the department's latest projects.

12 Membership

16 Continue to Learn

Tim Butler discusses how to manage water resources.



63 In the Shed

Greenkeeper International's puzzle page.

64 New Products

The industry's latest machinery and gadgets.

66 News from the Chief Executive

66-74 Around the Green

82 As I see it...

National Chairman Richard Whyman's, monthly column.

## FEATURES

18 Summer Battle gains PGA Headquarters  
By John Stevenson.

21-39 It's all Happening at Harrogate Week  
A preview of the annual exhibition.

41-45 A Long Time Coming!  
For the first time in its 10 year history, a Scottish club has won the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition. Lee Penrose reports...



46 What can a Tyre Specialist do for you?

You would not ask for seed mixture or top dressing advice from a tyre specialist. So why is it we often ask tyre specialists to supply a tyre as opposed to seeking their recommendations? James de Havilland discusses...

50 Paving the Way for the Future

Scott MacCallum looks at the humble cart path and how it can help to transform a golf club.

56 Managing Environmental Pressure

By Henry Bechelet.

52-55 Be Safe and Look Smart

Ok, so protective clothing is essential when working within the greenkeeping industry, but there are so many new and exciting innovations in workwear that nowadays you don't have to look stupid to be safe! Melissa Toombs looks at workwear legislation and four of the best brands.





## Welcome

### SHARING A GOOGLE PAGE

It's always nice to know who your neighbours are. With a few minutes to spare, amid the hectic activity which always accompanies the run up to Harrogate Week I thought I'd check out Google and see where BIGGA ranked on it and with which other websites we shared a page.

It was pleasing to discover that under BIGGA we ranked in the top two places, with the main – soon to be relaunched! - British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association site, and the second which takes you directly to the BIGGA Greenkeeper International pages on the site.

Just below our two is an intriguing site called BIGGAFISH.com, which when visited proves to be no more than a single page with the word BIGGA above a black leaping fish on a mustard coloured background with the words "Coming Soon". We'll wait with baited breath. Gettit!

After BIGGAFISH comes the BIGGA Central Section site, again a good result for them, followed by a site called biggabush.co.uk. Now, it's not what you might think but instead I believe it's a music orientated site and the home page invites you to sign up to their mailing list.

Welcome to BIGGA comes next and you'd be entitled to expect another way into your favourite Association's website. Nope. BIGGA is a Jamaican soft drink – "I'm a Jamaican and I drink no soft drink. I drink bigga" is the phrase which hits you on the home page!

Sirdar Bigga – Sirdar Yarn UK is next which offers you a fabulous choice of knitting yarn for any jumpers or scarves you might want to run up during the cold winter months ahead.

Then up pops The Official J Bigga Website – J Bigga Music Videos which offers downloads and spoof videos etc. Definitely attracting the younger end of the surfing market, it's a busy site produced in America.

Bigga Giggas "specialises in the new, extremely large sample instruments made possible by streaming samplers such as GigaStudio Tascam, Kontakt Native Instruments and HALion Steinberg." I think that means that they sell machines which produced sampled music, but I could be wrong.

The final website on the page is designed to sell the "Notorious B.I.G – Bigga Than Life DVD. A profile, it says, of larger-than-life West Coast rapper and 1995 Billboard rap artist of the year, Christopher Wallace, (a.k.a. "The Notorious B.I.G." and "Biggie Smalls"),

So there you have it. Happily we come out top when you type BIGGA into Google but you certainly wouldn't be able to predict whom we'd share a page with – fishing, music, Jamaican soft drinks, yarn and electronic musical instruments. It's a strange old world out there right enough. Or, at least it is, if you have the word Bigga attached to you in some way.

So keep logging on to make sure we remain at Number 1 and I'm sure the new BIGGA site, when it's launched at Harrogate, will have plenty to keep you interested and coming back.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Scott MacCallum, Editor

### DLF TRIFOLIUM SUPPLIES ROYAL LIVERPOOL

After a hugely successful Open Craig Gilholm, Head Greenkeeper at Royal Liverpool GC, selected varieties from DLF Trifolium for repair and renovation work.

Craig saw the opportunity to introduce more fine fescues, which have stood up to severe drought and heavy foot damage throughout the Open competition. Much of the course had recovered naturally and Craig supported the view that fescue dominated areas were far more resilient than many people believed.

The cultivars were selected for fineness of leaf, shoot density, disease resistance and their natural ability to survive drought and low nutrient inputs. Musica and Carioca chewing fescue combined with Cezanne slender creeping red fescue, featured heavily in the mixtures. Craig

selected the Johnsons J Fescue and Aitkens Blade 4 mixtures for use throughout the course.

Craig stated, "We have been very pleased by the establishment of the mixtures throughout the course and the fact that we are continuing to increase the fine fescue component of the sward."



### ROLAWN LAUNCH TEESSIDE INITIATIVE



(L to R) Cedric McMillan (Rolawn's Sales and Marketing Director) and David Anderson (Joseph Parr's Managing Director)

Rolawn, Europe's largest turf grower and leading topsoil supplier, have formed a business partnership with Joseph Parr (Middlesbrough) Ltd, Teesside's leading independent builder's merchant. Under the new arrangement, Parr's will act as a key distributor for Rolawn covering the Teesside region.

Cedric McMillan, Rolawn's Sales and Marketing Director commented "The association between the two companies is ideal as we share the same principles of quality and service". David Anderson, Joseph Parr's Managing Director added "We believe the partnership will provide customers with the key benefit of being able to source materials from a single local supplier".

### SPRAYING BOOKS NOW EVEN BETTER

BCPC (British Crop Production Council) has revised and fully updated its best selling sprayer operator books.

Field Scale Spraying (formerly Boom & Fruit Sprayers Handbook) and Small Scale Spraying (formerly Hand-Held & Amenity Sprayers Handbook) now include up-to-the minute guidance on such important topics as nozzle selection, equipment choice, safe working practices, calibration and much more.

The Field Scale book is clearly focused on the needs of operators using boom sprayers in arable crops, grassland and field vegetables or large air-assisted sprayers associated with fruit and horticultural spraying. Small Scale Spraying covers a

multitude of sectors where hand-held equipment or small amenity boom sprayers are employed including parks, golf courses, forestry and gardens, pavements and other hard surfaces, nurseries and glasshouses.

The books have a new editor, mechanisation expert Bill Basford. "At the end of the day safe and effective spraying comes down to the skill and expertise of sprayer operators," he says. "Whether you're new to spraying and yet to obtain your Certificate of Competence or an 'old hand', I think you should find these new books helpful."

For more information visit the BCPC website at: [www.bcp.org/bookshop](http://www.bcp.org/bookshop).





## SOIL RELIEVER COMES OUT PUNCHING

Southern Green, manufacturers of the only USA built deep tine aerator - The Soil Reliever, have appointed JSM Distribution as their exclusive distributor for the UK markets (exc. Ireland).

Southern Greens' Vice-President of Sales, Jeff Lawson, comments "It is very pleasing for Soil Reliever to have such a strong, structured, service orientated distribution company such as JSM promoting our range of deep tine aeration equipment"

JSM Distribution takes up their appointment in full from January 1, but is already supporting current users with replacement parts and tines, and technical support. They will also be exhibiting at BTME 2007.



## NEW AREA MANAGER FOR SCOTLAND



Tacit have announced the appointment of Robert Rees as their new Area Manager for Scotland.

In his new position Robert will be responsible for development and execution of Tacit's business strategy in Scotland and the provision of a range of quality products on a bespoke level while tailoring the service to the individual needs of each golf course.

Before joining Tacit Robert had worked for SGM as an Area Manager for the south of Scotland. He has been in land related industries for 30 years and the golf industry for the past 18 including four years at Gleneagles.

## GRASS IS GREENER AT MYERSCOUGH

The resources of Myerscough College's Sportsturf and Mechanisation department have been boosted thanks to a kind donation of equipment.

Mr Frank Moore, a leading innovator in his field, has donated thousands of pounds of machinery to the College for students to use. Mr Moore, from Beaminster in Dorset, is well known for designing the Moore Mower and has now retired after a long and successful career. He created the ride-on lawnmower to reduce machinery operators' exposure to vibration. The Moore Mower is a unique product on the market and has been particularly popular due to regulations introduced in July 2005 to protect employees and the self-employed from health problems caused by exposure to vibration. It is currently used by organisations such as local authorities to mow around graves and in sports fields and playgrounds. An engineer by profession, Mr Moore has worked for companies including Howards, designing and producing rotovators and agricultural machinery, as well as setting up his own business.

The Moore Mower is just part of the equipment donated to the College by Mr Moore, also donated were a prototype model and his research and development work, which will be useful for

Sportsturf and Mechanisation students at the College in understanding a range of mechanical design processes and systems.

Brian King, a Lecturer in Sportsturf at Myerscough College said: "This equipment will be of great value to our Higher Education students as a raw material for their research. The machinery has a market value of over £20,000 so we would like to thank Mr Moore for his generous support for Myerscough College."



(Left to right) Stewart Brown, Brian King, Dave Waterworth and Malcolm Eckton from Myerscough's Sportsturf Team with the newly donated Moore Mower

## NOMINATE YOUR UNSUNG HEROES

Don't forget to nominate your Unsung Heroes. Greenkeepers and Groundsmen who do a superb job and put in that little bit extra. This is your chance to put them forward and get them recognised. Nomination forms are available from the Pitchcare website, the Nov/Dec issue of Greenkeeping magazine and Lynda at Terrain Aeration. If you're pushed for time call her on Tel: 01449 673783 and she will do the paperwork for you. The closing date is December 9.

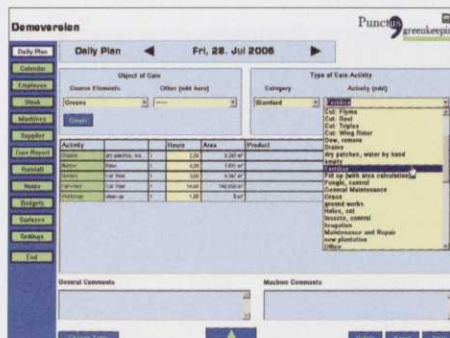


Current Unsung heroes Ian Willett (left) and Arthur Williams (right) open the nominations at Saltex

## SOFTWARE DISTRIBUTORSHIP

Developers of Grounds Management Software, Punctus, have announced that Intelligent Greenkeeping Solutions Ltd will be distributing its market-leading product Punctus Greens in the UK, Ireland and Scandinavia.

Punctus Greens is an electronic diary and office manager. It makes the daily organisation and management of Golf Courses easier by managing men, equipment and materials. Five to ten minutes are usually enough for daily inputs. These cover all common areas: personnel, course maintenance, machine maintenance etc. The resulting reports provide an excellent basis for communication and decision-making.



What has been done today? Clicking instead of typing.



## NEW APPOINTMENT

Water engineering specialists Autoflow Systems have appointed Ashley Proctor as company director following the departure of Jon Mawson.

Ashley has over 11 years experience working within the sports turf industry and is looking forward to his new challenge after progressing through the ranks from irrigation installer, service engineer and irrigation designer. His new position will involve the day-to-day running of contracts combined with the pricing and designing of irrigation and pumping systems.

Jon Mawson's departure comes after 14 years with the company and he will be missed by customers and colleagues alike.

Managing Director David Flawn exclaimed, "Ashley comes with a wealth of experience and his technical knowledge gained over the years will prove to be a welcome positive asset to this new position".



## IRRIGATION USAGE A SUCCESS

The British Turf and Landscape Irrigation Association's revised educational programme is proving to be a great success.

Held at the Thistle Hotel, Brands Hatch, Kent, adjacent to the world famous motor racing circuit, the BTLIA Foundation Certificate Module was aimed at assessing actual irrigation system performance and efficiency and then relating these operational criteria to the turf management environment. The effects of different climatic conditions, soil types, turfgrass species, and micro-climates surrounding golf green complexes were considered in the assessment.

Part of the course provided experience of golf irrigation auditing, including a practical session at West Malling Golf Club, where the attendees set out water collection devices and gathered data such as precipitation rates and coverage uniformity that was subsequently used to produce an irrigation schedule that matched the system to the turf characteristics and conditions.

The British Turf and Landscape Irrigation's new educational programme is set to continue with other modules of the Certificate and Diploma Courses being offered in the near future.



## BOLD NEW APPROACH

The Scottish Wildlife Trust (SWT) has called for a new approach to wildlife conservation by launching its 25 year vision for Scottish wildlife: "Natural connections - a vision for re-building Scotland's wildlife".

Speaking at the launch, SWT's Chief Executive Simon Milne said: "Our vision is about taking a bold approach to protecting our natural heritage. More often than not our attention is focused on individual, threatened, species; we now need action at a wider scale and create wildlife-rich landscapes with networks of habitats. Our wildlife is one of the most sensitive indicators of environmental health and the effect of climate change is already becoming apparent. If we are to meet the many challenges facing wildlife we must strive towards establishing expanding communities of native species across large areas of Scotland."

As a recent review has shown, the UK is still far off meeting its target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010 and in fact 39% of habitats and 27% of priority species are still declining across the UK. As Milne continues, "Traditionally we thought we could protect wildlife in special 'nature reserves'; such places will continue to be important but in the face of climate change they will not be enough. Whether on land or at sea, wildlife does not observe artificial boundaries. Wildlife in small, often isolated pockets of habitat is often prone to extinction and the ability of species to adapt and find a home in isolated patches of habitat diminishes. We must therefore be ambitious in our approach, tackling the threats to wildlife at multiple scales, from the species to the

whole ecosystem. We now desperately need conservation at a landscape-scale if we are to give our threatened wildlife the breathing space it needs to survive. This is why SWT has launched its 25 year vision at such a crucial time in wildlife conservation."

Fred Edwards, President of Scottish Environment LINK (a forum made up of 36 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environment organisations), said: "The Scottish Wildlife Trust is to be congratulated in putting ecosystems at the heart of their vision. The recent consultation by Scottish Natural Heritage on its strategic framework (Making a difference for Scotland's species) is important as it prioritises resources. We however must understand that by trying to fix one element we won't solve a bigger environmental problem. It is time that the government, local authorities, conservation organisations, landowners and politicians acknowledge that an ecosystem approach to conservation bringing together all contributing components, is the only way to truly re-build Scotland's biodiversity in the longer-term."

Backed by a membership of over 28,000 and with a portfolio of over 120 reserves, SWT calls for government to give real recognition of the economic and social value of our environment. To provide sufficient financial support for landscape-scale action as well as ensure that a strategic approach is taken to tackling ecosystem threats. It also calls for greater integration of wildlife-friendly approaches to farming, forestry and land management practices as well as the more urban and rural greenspaces where people can enjoy and appreciate nature.

## BIGGA VS COMBINED SERVICES GOLF MATCH

The third annual scratch golf challenge match between BIGGA and the Combined Services held at North Berwick GC on October 16, produced a nail-biting finish on the 18th hole. In the last match the BIGGA four-ball pairing of Stuart Taylor and Douglas McIntosh needed to win the hole to half their match and win the overall match, both having putts of under four feet for birdies, only to see the Combined Services pairing of Marshall Scott and Steve Davies hole from about 15 feet for a birdie to secure the win to save the Combined Services from a second successive defeat.

Earlier in the day the morning foursomes had finished level, as did the afternoon four-balls, so the overall result was a very creditable half with five points to each team. The golf throughout the day was of a very high standard, with some very close

matches, particularly in the afternoon four-balls.

Our thanks go to the North Berwick GC for hosting the match, played on the outstanding links course superbly presented by Stuart Greenwood and his staff. We were particularly pleased to welcome Stuart and the Club Secretary, John Douglass, to the after match dinner. Our thanks to the BIGGA team for playing with such commitment and skill, and to the Combined Services team for playing the match in such good spirit.

The BIGGA team was Steven Lamb, Kenny Mail, Brian Heggie, Kenny Stirling, Gerald Bruce, Ian Mawer, Brian Storey, John McLoughlin, Stuart Taylor and Douglas McIntosh.

**Match Secretary, Peter Larter**

PS - Apologies, due to technical problems there is no team photograph.

## HELPING CUSTOMERS TEE OFF ON TIME

Golf car dealer, T H White has joined forces with Calor, the UK's leading supplier of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) to promote LPG golf cars to country clubs.

T H White, authorised distributor of Ransome Jacobsen golf cars, has teamed up with Calor to encourage golf clubs to add cleaner, more convenient LPG golf cars to their fleet. As an added

bonus, customers purchasing four LPG golf cars will get 500 litres of free Calor LPG.

The campaign offers customers 500 litres of free Calor LPG on the purchase of four E Z GO golf cars. For further information about the campaign visit: [www.calor.co.uk](http://www.calor.co.uk)



# A tool to groom your bottom line – Toro Financing.



For more than 90 years, Toro has partnered with turf care professionals like you to create the world's most appealing landscapes. Toro is committed to providing innovative, reliable equipment to make your job easier. Now Toro introduces a product to help your bottom line: Toro Financing. Designed specifically for turf care professionals, Toro Financing can help you acquire the equipment you need to create picturesque, playable landscapes - and stay on-budget.

TORO Commercial, Irrigation and Consumer Products are distributed by Lely (UK) Limited  
St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1QH. Tel: 01480 226800 Email: [toro.info@lely.co.uk](mailto:toro.info@lely.co.uk)

TORO Commercial Products are distributed by Lely Ireland Limited, Kilboggin, Nurney  
Co. Kildare. Tel: 00 353 (0)45 526170 Email: [torosales@lely.ie](mailto:torosales@lely.ie) [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)

**TORO**

**Count on it.**



## MARK MAIN

Moray Golf Club and north greenkeeping has lost one of its fine young greenkeepers. Only 22 years old and in his 4th year apprenticeship with us, Mark was an extremely loyal, pleasant and hard working colleague with an assured future ahead of him. His untimely death occurred while travelling to attend Elmwood College where he was studying for his Level III Greenkeeping. As a lifelong Aberdeen Football Club fan he often travelled this road which makes his loss all the more upsetting.

Mark played most of his golf out of the neighbouring Hopeman Golf Club and regularly took part in the North Section outings and National tournaments, he was keen and competitive and frequently picked up some sort of silverware!

We up here will all miss his laid back but professional manner, his quick wittedness and his football friendly banter.

We are shocked at his loss and extend both our comforts and condolences to his family.

George Paterson

## NATURAL SOLUTION



Picturesque Highlands' golf club Royal Dornoch, has made a major investment in the quality of its championship and recreational links courses with a five-year exclusive deal for both Toro machinery and irrigation.

Under the new agreement, the club has acquired a comprehensive range of new Toro machines including tees, greens and fairway mowers, Workman utility vehicles, a ProCore 648 greens aerator and a HydroJect 3010 aerator.

## ANOTHER BRAID COURSE FOR SWAN

The 1897 James Braid designed course on the Kent outskirts of London is about to begin a renovation programme under the direction of Howard Swan and James Edwards of Swan Golf Designs, International Golf Course Architects, based in Essex.

It is likely that works to the course will start this autumn with a bunker renovation exercise.

Howard Swan adds: "I am very pleased to be able to work on another James Braid course, adding Dartford to the likes of Middlesbrough, Workington, Old Fold Manor and, of course, the highly acclaimed renovation and restoration to Goodwood. We shall, as ever, look to sensitive and sympathetic treatment of the course and Braid's design philosophies and intent in bringing the rather lovely, if modest, course at Dartford, to the present day."

## MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR GOLF COURSE

After a two year break STRI is returning to Harrogate week during the BTME/ClubHouse exhibition.

The two-day course for Secretaries, Chairman of Green and those involved in managing golf courses has been completely revised with a new format. The first day takes place in Harrogate at the Holiday Inn. Focus will be on current issues affecting: Turfgrass Management, Managing the Golf Course, Golf and the Environment.

Programme topics include plant nutrition, turfgrass protection, mechanical operations, optimising pace, the disturbance theory, how to benchmark and improve your golf course, water efficiency, responding to the effects of climate change, new diseases, the impact of fertilisers and pesticides.

On the second day a coach will transport delegates to STRI's Head Office and trials grounds in Bingley for the morning and then on to a golf course for a walkabout session, covering both agronomy and ecology, in the afternoon. The coach will return delegates to Harrogate at around 4:30pm.

Attendance will qualify delegates for BASIS, BIGGA CPDC's and Master Greenkeeper Certificate points.

The cost of the two-day course is £325 per person plus VAT. This includes: two days training with course notes, refreshments and two lunches, all transport, a copy of STRI's best seller 'Care of the Golf Course', pre-registration and entrance to the exhibition.

Full details and programme can be viewed and downloaded at [www.stri.co.uk](http://www.stri.co.uk)

To book please Tel: 01347 833833 or book on line at: [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)



## OLD SCOTTISH RIVALS DO BUSINESS

Stewartsturf Limited has recently announced the sale of its Sports and Amenity Business, Stewart and Company Seedsmen Ltd to Richard Aitken Seedsmen Ltd.

These two old rivals formed in 1894 and 1964 respectively, have been the mainstays of the industry in Scotland for generations. Richard Aitken said he was delighted to have purchased Stewarts with all the connections, history and relationships involved. "We can now move forward expanding the quality of service that we offer to our customers

in Scotland and England," he commented.

For his part, Graeme Forbes of Stewartsturf said: "following our decision to concentrate on our turf growing business we enjoyed the successful management buyout of our contracting business to Sportsmasters UK Ltd in July. For our Sports and Amenity Business we could not have found a more appropriate buyer than Aitkens whom we have always held in great respect, both as a business and a family."

## CLEAR AND CONSISTENT RESULTS

Clear and consistent results are now being obtained from the mixture synergy work, currently being conducted at the STRI on behalf of Barenbrug. Recent visitors to the demonstration plots were members of the RTF Turf Group who saw first hand the effect that one species or cultivar can have on another within a mixture.

Eight different Barenbrug mixtures, all with RTF as a component, were sown last October and are now providing the company and the RTF Turf Group with valuable information on mixture synergy and its importance in mixture formulation.

Barenbrug's Jayne Leyland said: "Twelve months on we can now see clear and consistent differences in the mixtures. They are providing us with invaluable data for future mixture formulations. It is very important that we maximise the benefits of an innovative cultivar such as RTF and develop the best mixtures to maximise its outstanding attributes."

The four members of the RTF Turf Group, who are accredited to grow RTF turf in the UK, are Inturf, Lindum Turf, Q Lawns and Tillers Turf.

RTF Rhizomatous Tall Fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*) is a remarkable species, which through its amazing rooting depth capability can tolerate both drought and waterlogging. RTF increases this capability by producing underground stems (rhizomes), offering unrivalled recovery and tensile strength, plus the added benefit of incredibly fast establishment when laid as turf, which could be critical in terms of water conservation.



RTF Turf Group members check the mixture synergy demonstration plots at the STRI. Left to right - Chris Carr, Q Lawns; Barenbrug's Jayne Leyland; Alex Edwards, Inturf and Stephen Fell, Lindum



## HELPING TO SAVE SUMMER-HIT LAWNS

Green-fingered garden lovers from across the South East have been turning to one Suffolk company in their hundreds - after one of the warmest summers on record.

With the clocks officially signalling the end of a particularly warm British Summertime this weekend, Sovereign Turf managing director David Waring says the unprecedented weather prompted huge sales of his new drought-tolerant turf product.

Introduced late last year, Xeris was created after extensive research into Britain's changing climate.



It called upon the experience of Sovereign's Portugal-based sister company - helping to produce a grass of high visual and textural quality without the need for regular rainfall. The knowledge was adapted to meet the needs of Britain's climate trends.

David said: "Without a doubt, gardeners all over the South of the UK have been waking up to the impact of our changing climate.

"The Met Office confirmed recently that England saw the warmest extended period since records began more than 350 years ago.

"That heat takes its toll on our lawns and can leave the garden looking in a really sorry state by the time we head toward winter."

David added: "I think the greatest concern anyone has when they seek out a drought-tolerant turf is that it will look and feel less appealing than real grass.

"We've always been conscious of that fear, so we've gone out of our way to ensure that our product is exceptional - both to look at and feel.

## NEW APPOINTMENT

Vassgro Amenity of Bedford is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Ellis as Technical Sales Representative. This appointment is greatly welcomed within Vassgro, as it will add another dimension to their business promoting a range of products to key customers in Beds, Bucks, Herts, Cambs, Northants and N London.



Mark has 15 years experience in the fine turf industry having worked previously as Golf Course Manager at Stocks and Mentmore GCs in Hertfordshire.

Mark has a long history with BIGGA and continues to support the Association. Mark can be contacted on: 07894 194922 or: 01525 403041 or emailed: mark@vassgro.co.uk

## TRADE OPEN DAY

Cannons Turf hosted a Trade Open Day in Lincolnshire on October 25, inviting visitors, many from the golf sector, for a tour of the turf, irrigation facilities and to view the Trilo 110 BV turf harvester.



A Nearest the Pin competition was held during the Open Day

## AUTOGUIDE GETS MOORE FOR ITS MONEY

Autoguide Equipment has announced its purchase of the manufacturing and marketing rights of the Moore Mower with immediate effect.

The Moore Mower designed by industry veteran Frank Moore, has been added to the growing range of specialist mowing machines manufactured by Autoguide.

The mower is a 36in (90cm) cut ride on cylinder mower offering grass collection with the ability to empty the box without leaving the driving seat. The unique high tip, forward dump grass box allows discharge into containers up to 1.15m (45") high - or onto a compost heap.

Commenting on his new acquisition Autoguide Managing Director Richard Robinson said: "The adding of the Moore Mower to our range confirms our commitment to offer our customers a range of British built equipment for the niche market. We are very pleased that Frank Moore has entrusted us with his product and intend to provide a first class spare parts and service back up to old and new customers."



Richard Robinson (L) with Moore Mower Designer Frank Moore at this year's Saltex

## ABU DHABI GC TO GET UPGRADE



Abu Dhabi Golf Club - home to the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship, the first event of the PGA European Tour's International schedule taking place in January next year - is to get a further upgrade to enhance the playing and spectator experience.

Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority (ADTA), which owns the championship, the largest annual sporting event in the UAE capital, has charged its tourism asset development arm, Tourism Development and Investment Company (TDIC), with enhancing the club's entrance, including major approach landscaping, improved directional signage, and further course improvements to challenge the world's best golfers.

"The aim is to continually refresh the championship experience for all involved,"

explained Mubarak Al Muhairi, Director General, ADTA and Managing Director, TDIC. "This year's inaugural championship attracted a very enthusiastic spectator base which we hope to retain and build on for January 2007. To do that, and in order to enhance the experience, we must continue to invest in necessary asset improvements."

The club upgrade will be accompanied by a series of course revisions aimed at increasing the degree of difficulty for a field of some 120 European Tour players.

"The revisions will extend the course to nearly 7,400 yards and will involve adding championship tees on several holes and lengthening others, creating new bunkers to frame fairways and greens and to ensure we can create fair, but challenging pin positions," said Ahmed Hussein, Chairman, Championship Committee.

"The improvements are already underway with the work being carried out with as little disruption as possible to Abu Dhabi Golf Club members and guests who play the course for the 51 non-tournament weeks of the year."

The Abu Dhabi Golf Championship will run from January 18-21 and has a US \$2 million prize fund.





## GOLF TAKES THE LEAD

David Golding, GTC's Education Director, invites golf club employers and greenkeepers to have an input into the review of the work-based vocational qualifications, N/SVQ Levels 2 & 3.

The GTC has had representatives at meetings arranged by the Lantra Sector Skills Council to review the current Sports Turf work-based qualifications. It is important that our sector is well represented at these meetings to protect the content of these increasingly popular awards. Regular readers of the GTC articles will know how important we see skills training within the range of turf programmes and qualifications. The review group initially reviews the skills employers require to maintain, supervise and manage a golf course or sports facility.

At this stage I should point out that the VQ's are Sports Turf and developed for both greenkeepers and grounds persons, it just so happens that our specialist sector have adopted the VQ's while the other "side" of turf have not.

Personally I believe this is a shame as there is such similarity in the professions however, the GTC has a responsibility to golf and we must remain focused on encouraging the employers we represent through the English, Scottish and Welsh Golf Unions to invest in staff training.

BIGGA is well represented at all meetings relating to development and the reviews of turf qualifications, with leading training providers in attendance the GTC ensures the group work towards ensuring employers needs are met in the standards.

The National Occupational Standards (NOS) are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the range of skills required by employers are identified.

In simple terms the group looks to the skills required by a greenkeeper right through to the manager.

Having identified the long list of skills these are then grouped to develop vocational qualifications and awarded a N/SVQ Level which the Governments accreditation authorities Qualifications & Curriculum Authority (QCA) and the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) approve.

While there is a Level 1 qualification, this includes a broad range of horticulture skills and can be useful for certain learners, I would suggest to the majority of staff either starting off as greenkeepers or spending the majority of their work maintaining the golf course, the Level 2 Sports Turf is the qualification they should be registered on.

It should be noted that the apprenticeship for greenkeepers embraces the N/SVQ Level 2 Sports Turf as well as the key skills of numeracy, literacy and communication.

The current Level 2 Sports Turf includes all the skills a greenkeeper should be competent in as well as the knowledge relating to each skill.

The level of knowledge and understanding required within a vocational qualification is often overlooked, however, please be reassured that the turf review group ensure all the basic information required is included.

The GTC, as the basis for the Level 2 review, invite comments on the current Training Manual sometimes referred to as the Black Book, which has been the main recording document by GTC Approved Training Providers since its introduction in 1994.

If you have any comments on the GTC's Training Manual please contact me direct.

The Level 3 Sports Turf is where the group is suggesting a mix of more technical and supervisory skills are brought together and aimed at providing employers with at least a person competent to supervise the maintenance of the golf course and the first line of management.

The list of skills grouped into units include Managing Information, Estimating resource requirements, Health and Safety, Irrigation, Drainage, Create grasses and planted areas, Managing sports turf areas.

In addition to the above, the review group are recommending at least two optional units be included at Level 3 - Carry out an ecological survey of the golf course and Plan the maintenance of equipment and machinery.

The ecology unit will require the candidate to walk the course to identify plants, animals and habitat types, report on the condition of the environment and record the data.

The planning of equipment and machinery maintenance will require the candidate to prepare a maintenance schedule/plan whether the work is carried out "in-house" or by an outside servicing agent.

The Advanced Apprenticeship includes the N/SVQ Level 3 Sports turf as well as the numeracy, literacy, communication and IT skills.

The consultation process will be co-ordinated by the Lantra SSC - [www.lantra.co.uk](http://www.lantra.co.uk) - but if you would like to discuss the present Sports Turf vocational qualifications please do not hesitate to contact the GTC direct.

The management standards have recently received accreditation and new a new Level 4 Sports Turf qualification is now available.

I will discuss the revised Level 4 qualification in detail in a future article.

Finally, both the QCA and SQA in partnership with industry through Lantra are ensuring that all other qualifications relate to the National Occupational Standards.

For the Sports Turf sector this involves the GTC being involved in with Lantra and the Awarding Bodies, City & Guilds/NPTC, SQA and Ed Excel to ensure all awards are relevant for our sector.

The formal qualifications for greenkeeping range from N/VQ's- Apprenticeships (work-based), to the National Certificate /Advanced NC, Certificate of Higher Education/HNC, Higher National Diploma/Foundation Degree and the B.Sc and Masters Degree which are the college/university based programmes.

The GTC staff and Board representatives will be in attendance at the Harrogate Week exhibition - so please come and visit us, but before that enjoy the festive season!

You can contact David direct at the GTC on Tel: 01347 838640 or email: [david@the-gtc.co.uk](mailto:david@the-gtc.co.uk)

GTC is supported by:





## Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund



Unlock the doors to progress through BIGGA's Education and Development Fund - the key to a great future for greenkeepers, golf clubs and the game of golf.

Golden and Silver Key Membership is available to both companies and individuals.

For details, please contact Ken Richardson on 01347 833800 or via ken@bigga.co.uk

### Golden Key Supporters



### Golden Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
AGCO (Massey Ferguson)	02476 851286
John Deere Ltd	01949 860491
Kubota (UK) Ltd	01844 214500
PGA European Tour	01344 842881
Rigby Taylor Ltd	01204 677777
Scotts UK Professional	01473 830492
Ransomes Jacobsen Ltd	01473 270000
The Toro Company/Lely UK	01480 226800

### Golden Key Individual Members

J H Fry; J H Greasley; WJ Rogers; Chris Yeaman; Andy Campbell MG, CGCS; Iain A MacLeod; Tom Smith; Bruce Cruickshank; Frank Newberry; Andrew Cornes.

### Silver Key Supporters



### Silver Key Company Members

Company	Tel: Head Office
Bernhard and Company Ltd	01788 811600
Ernest Doe & Sons	01245 380311
Fairways (GM) Ltd	0141 814 3355
General Legal Protection Ltd	01904 611600
Hayter Ltd	01279 723444
Heath Lambert Group	0113 246 1313
Novozymes Biologicals	01789 290906
RainBird	01273 891326
Seoul Nassau	0121 325 9100
Symbio	01372 456101
Syngenta Professional Products	0041 613 233 028
TurfTrax Group Ltd	01722 434000

### Silver Key Individual Members

Clive A Archer; Douglas G Duguid; Robert Maibusch MG; Steven Tierney; Roger Barker; Ian Semple; Paul Jenkins; Robert Hogarth; Nichollas Gray; Trevor Smith; Iain Barr; Richard McGlynn; Alex McCombie; Paul Murphy; Reaseheath College; Steve Dixon.

Ken Richardson discusses the department's latest projects.

What with the results of the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition being announced and the build up to Harrogate Week continuing, it has not been easy for Sami and I to find time to work on our current project, the development of the AGCS/BIGGA Safety Management System.

## The BIGGA Golf Environment Competition



As the results of the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition are announced, I would like to reinforce our gratitude to the four sponsors. Ransomes Jacobsen, Scotts, Syngenta and Course Care without whose support, this, extremely worthwhile competition could not continue. The full results appear elsewhere in this magazine but I would like to congratulate Brighthouse Bay Golf Club on becoming the National Winner.

The Environment Competition prizes will be presented during Harrogate Week.

## Harrogate Week 2007



Last month's article concentrated on Half-Day Harrogate Week Workshops and I intend to look at Seminars this month.

With just 49 days left to the start of Harrogate Week, that's just 29 working days, places on the Harrogate Week Workshops are few and far between. However, there are still places on the Seminars, where there is something for everyone. The programme has continued to develop and we have added a seminar presented by the R&A that will take place before the Opening Session on Tuesday, January 23.

This half hour session will look at two areas, the Turfgrass Climate Map and the Open Road to Sustainability.

The interactive climate map shows where warm or cool season grasses are most appropriate and the Transition Zone where often, difficult choices have to be made with regard the most sustainable turfgrass selection. The map is linked to text on the R&A Best Practice web site ([www.bestcourseforgolf.org](http://www.bestcourseforgolf.org)) that describes the turfgrass species in detail.

The Open Championship at Hoylake last July was considered to be a great success. The R&A Golf Course Committee has produced a DVD that highlights the sustainable nature of the course. With footage taken both from The Open itself and again nine weeks after Tiger Woods picked up the Claret Jug for the third time, this DVD considers the recovery achieved after hosting a major golf event. See this new resource at Harrogate.

The morning continues with the presentation of awards to Master Greenkeepers, to prize winners in the Golf Environment Competition and to those who have gained diplomas in Continuing Professional Development.

This session will be followed by 'Making an Exhibition of Yourself' - a presentation by Frank Newberry. Frank is well known for his exuberant flamboyant approach to presentations and his talk will give an interesting spin on how to get the most out of your visit to Harrogate.

Seminars continue in the afternoon with Dr Kate Entwistle taking a close look at integrated pest management. Kate will be showing us how the accurate identification of problems is the key to successful management.

How often have you had to deal with difficult people, whether at home, at work or socially? The, 'I'm not Difficult, Everyone Else Is!' Seminar, presented by Mike John will help you to cope in these situations.

The first day of BTME ends with a look at Developing a Sustainable Approach to the Management of Amenity Turf. Presented by Jon Allbut

and Joan Reeves. Not only is it free, all delegates will receive the latest copy of the Approved Code of Practice for the Use of Plant Protection Products.

Wednesday sees the return of International Seminars when four greenkeepers will relate their experiences in Canada, the USA, Sweden, Holland, Germany, Belgium, Spain, the UK, Australia and Hong Kong. All four sessions are Free of Charge to all delegates

Thursday morning introduces four Seminars that have the common aim of Keeping the Customer Satisfied. It is becoming ever more important to run golf clubs on a commercial basis. Lose your customers or your members and you will have great difficulty getting them back. One area that always makes golfers complain is green speed. Come and see what Dr Richard Hurley recommends that you do to keep golfers happy. Andy Campbell has had to work within severe financial constraints for many years and he is well suited to tell us how golf club management needs to be aimed at getting golfers to come back.

The majority of golfers play the game for relaxation and enjoyment and they want to have a pleasurable experience. All golf club staff need to be aware of this and do all that they can to present a positive image. David Roy has had a great deal of experience on both sides of golf club management and he will use his experience to show how we are all involved in making golf a pleasure.

Getting the message across can be very difficult at times and yet we expose many greenkeepers and golf club officials to the media without any training or preparation. Roger Greenwood has worked in or with the media for many years on both sides of the camera and in journalism. He will concentrate on how to present a positive image and how to change negative perceptions.

As if all the above were not enough, we are pleased to be able to offer 14 Exhibitor Presentations during BTME. These free of charge Seminars take a close look at a wide range of technical topics from Aeration to Turf.

Make sure of your place by sending in your application form as soon as possible. Remember that if you book all seminars, you get a 30% discount and if you book all seminars through your Regional Administrator, you get a 40% discount.

## The AGCS/BIGGA Safety Management System

We have made progress in developing the Internet based AGCS/BIGGA Safety Management System. Thanks to sponsorship from Ransomes Jacobsen (logo) and cooperation between BIGGA, the AGCS, greenkeepers, secretaries, golf club officials and Health and Safety Advisers, the launch of this internet resource will take place at Harrogate. Come along to the Queens Suite at 5pm on Wednesday, January 24 to see if you it can help you at your golf club.



Rachael and Gemma would like to welcome 39 New Members to the Association and this month will talk about an important change to the Legal Helpline Scheme.

# Membership Update

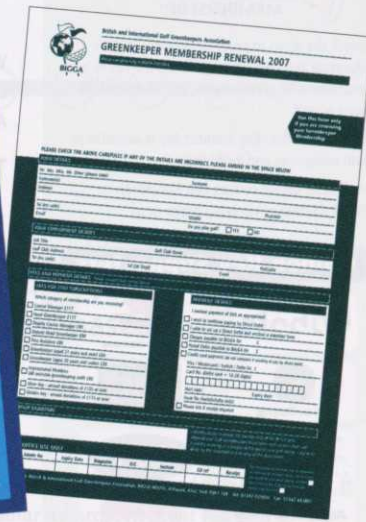
## Renewal Packs

The December and January renewal packs are on their way out to those of you who renew at this time of year. Included in your pack is an application form for you to pass on to anyone interested in becoming a member and a newsletter detailing any changes to your membership.

For those of you who pay your own subscriptions you will also find a direct debit mandate and a tax relief form to assist you in claiming tax relief on your subscription. You are able to do this because BIGGA is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a legitimate professional body.

To make renewing even easier you can now pay for your subscription over the telephone.

If you have not received your pack or have any queries regarding your membership please do not hesitate to call Gemma on: 01347 833800.



## A Fond Farewell

I just wanted to say a few words to you all, as I will be leaving the Association for pastures new on December 8. Thank you to you all for making me feel so welcome and for putting up with me on my many visits to regional and section events. It is down to you that I will be leaving the Association with many happy memories. A special thank you also to all those who have served as Section Secretaries in recent years, for your help and ideas. I wish you all well for the future and only hope that I have the good fortune to work for such a friendly industry again.



## PLEASE READ CAREFULLY...

General Legal Protection (GLP) has provided members with a good quality service for several years and many have benefited from the advice given and legal help provided. In reviewing the scheme the Association has identified an alternative company (Arc Legal Assistance) that it feels will be able to improve on the level of service through their agents Irwin Mitchell Solicitors.

Irwin Mitchell are a leading legal practice with national cover, including Scotland, and through their bespoke call centre in Sheffield they will be able to offer advice and assistance on any aspect of the law for the member and anyone in their household. Please remember that advice is not just available on matters of employment law but also covers many of the everyday situations in which we can find ourselves.

With effect from 1st January 2007 the helpline service will be transferred to Arc although GLP will continue to give legal advice and assistance relating to incidents that occur on or before 31st December 2006. It is important that all potential claims for which GLP may be liable are reported to them without delay. All incidents arising after 31st December will be the direct responsibility of Arc.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

**Before 1st January 2007 - General Legal Protection  
Freephone 0800 019 2569**

**From 1st January 2007 - Arc Legal Assistance  
Freephone 0800 177 7891**

Full policy details of the cover with Arc will be sent out to members as they renew however, anyone requiring a copy before that time should contact Gemma by telephone: 01347 833800 or e-mail: gemma@bigga.co.uk

### BIGGA welcomes...

#### SCOTTISH REGION

Matthew Baird, Central  
Calum Fraser, North  
Brian Marmion, Central  
Robert O'Donnell, North  
John Wilson, Ayrshire

#### NORTHERN REGION

Jonathan Roberts, North West  
Greg Wellings, North West

#### MIDLAND REGION

Luke Fogarty, BB&O  
Matthew Howes, East Midland  
Wayne Oseman, Midland  
Robert Reeves, BB&O

#### SOUTH EAST REGION

Wayne Aris, Kent  
Richard Gugacz, Essex  
Michael Hind, Sussex  
Liam Somers, Surrey  
David Taggart, Essex

#### SOUTH WEST REGION

Darryl Gardner, South Wales  
Luke Habgood, South Coast  
Graham Hastie, South Coast  
Vincent Ley, South Coast  
Robert Patrick, South Coast  
Adam Payne, South West  
Clive Staddon, South West

#### INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

Philip Laws, Spain  
Paul Monaghan, Germany

#### STUDENT MEMBERS

John Casserly, North West  
Rob Jones, North West  
Andrew Knott, North West  
Will Law, North West  
Ian Lucas, South Coast  
Allan Macdonald, East Scotland  
Michael Slater, Devon & Cornwall  
Matthew Thomas, South West

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

David Binks, Midland  
Ceri Davies, South West  
Andrew Eckley, South West

#### GOLDEN KEY MEMBERS

Mark Keysell, East Anglia  
Mark Robinson, Sheffield

### DECEMBER'S MEMBERSHIP DRAW WINNER

Just introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA and your name will be placed into a monthly draw to win a £10 Music Voucher. Our congratulations go to Angus Macleod of Newport Golf Club.





# Close, but not quite the part!



**Only genuine Toro parts will give the performance you've come to expect.**

Many lookalike parts fail to meet Toro standards for form, fit and function.

So get one that doesn't measure up and you'll be replacing it early and often. It could even damage your Toro equipment and affect machine performance. Or jeopardise your warranty.

It's how we design and make our parts - with quality materials and advanced technology - that makes them superior to lookalike components.

Now with our competitive prices and 24-hour delivery - straight to your door, if you wish - there's absolutely no need for inferior imitations anymore.

After all, you didn't compromise when you chose your Toro. So give it the care it deserves.

And remember, no one can look after your Toro better than your local, specialist Toro dealer or service centre. So contact yours today.

For your copy of the new Toro Performance Parts Catalogue, call 01480 226845 now.



TORO Commercial, Irrigation and Consumer Products are distributed by Lely (UK) Limited, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1QH. Tel: 01480 226800 Email: [toro.info@lely.co.uk](mailto:toro.info@lely.co.uk)  
[www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)

**TORO** Count on it.



# 50 Years of Greenkeeping

It's unusual, nowadays, for an individual to find a career and industry they enjoy enough to spend 50 years of their life working within.

Les Easthope of Hillsborough Golf Club, Sheffield, is set to retire this December after 50 years service. He left school at 15 and went straight into an Assistant Greenkeeper position. GI found out why Greenkeeping can be a career for life...

## What age were you when you started greenkeeping?

"I came to Hillsborough straight from school at the age of 15."

## What was your last position at the club?

"I have been an Assistant Greenkeeper for all the 50 years I have worked here."

## What first attracted you to the industry?

"I wanted to work outdoors, having gone to look down the mines when I was at school - I didn't fancy that."

## What is it about greenkeeping that you enjoy the most?

"Fresh air and also you get to perform a wide variety of jobs. I also enjoy working on the machinery."

## Do you play golf? If so, what is your handicap?

"No, I've never had time to play anybody at the club since I first started working there."

It's unusual, nowadays, for someone to stay in the greenkeeping industry for so long. Why have you chosen to stay in the same career and golf club for 50 years?

"It's been a big part of my life, having never been married you can say I have been married to the job."

## Do you feel a certain sense of loyalty to Hillsborough GC?

"Yes they showed a lot of loyalty to me when I first started work there, so it is only right for me to do the same."

## You must have seen a few greenstaff come and go at the club, have your fellow greenkeepers contributed to your staying at the club?

"Everyone who has worked with me I have got on well with, it is very strange now, when I first started it was sickles to cut the tee banks now its ride on mowers, it was overgreens to cut the greens and now its ride on triple mowers, and its gone from wheel barrows to four wheeled trucks - all the changes I have seen have definitely been for the better."

## Will you spend some time playing on the course, now that you have retired?

"No, with having arthritis in my back it is now difficult to walk but I will make time to come and see the greenstaff."

## What would your advice be to someone thinking about getting into the greenkeeping industry?

"It's now a good career for someone who is willing to work hard and listen to any advice given to them."

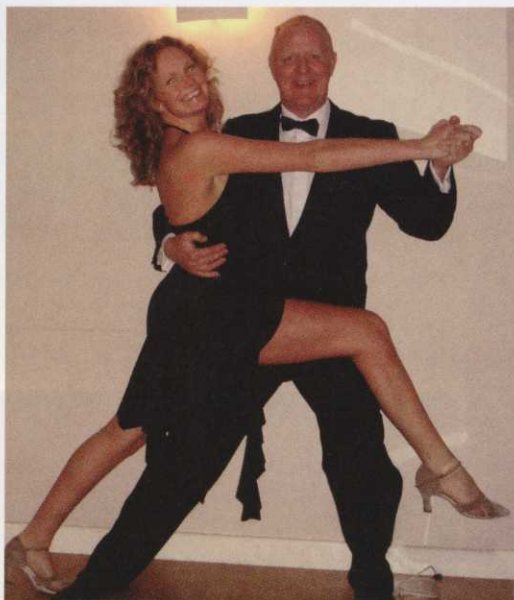
## How do you plan to spend your retirement?

"I will be spending time doing jobs in the house and garden."

## HOBBIES

GI has begun a new feature, finding out what greenkeepers get up to in their spare time. Here's something you didn't know about me...

**Name:** Graeme Macdonald  
**Age:** 48  
**Club:** Newark GC  
**Position:** Head Greenkeeper  
**Hobby:** Ballroom Dancing



## When and how did you get introduced to dancing?

"When I got divorced eight years ago I was introduced to dancing. I was single at the time and it was a great way of meeting people, especially females."

## What is it about dancing that appeals to you?

"It's a great way of keeping fit, meeting people and socialising. It's fun, energetic and a stylish partner dance. It is now the fastest growing partner dance in the UK. It is easy to learn with over a 1000 moves and you can dance to any style of music from 1950s right up through to today's hot rhythms."

## Where does it take place?

"It takes place all over the country, but I dance regularly in Nottingham. But at weekends I can be dancing all over the country from Blackpool Tower to Hammersmith, London."

## How many years have you been dancing?

"Eight years."

## Have you entered any competitions or do you intend to?

"I have been entering competitions for five years and am the reigning Scottish Champion, which I won in September in Edinburgh. I am also part of the UK Team Champions from Nottingham which we have won for the last two years and I have been a UK Finalist many times."

## Have you been following Strictly Come Dancing?

"Yes, I am a keen follower of Strictly Come Dancing and have been lucky enough to dance with two of the professional lady dancers from the series, Nicole Cuttler and Erin Bourg."

Do you or your fellow greenkeepers have an unusual hobby?

If so, get in touch, email: [melissa@bigga.co.uk](mailto:melissa@bigga.co.uk) or tel: 01347 833800.



## FALSE ASSUMPTIONS

I write to point out some of the false assumptions in the article written by John Jinks (Osprey Irrigation) published in the October issue of GI.

The main premise of the article is that irrigation consultants present a significant additional expenditure to the project cost of an irrigation installation, "adding a further 10% or so to the total bill".

Firstly, while I can't speak for our competitors, I can assure your readers that our fees to design and specify an irrigation system are considerably less than half the amount asserted by the author of the article.

The second fallacy, which is inferred by the article, is that a design submitted by a contractor, distributor or manufacturer is somehow "free".

The reality is that a free design submitted by a contractor is no such thing. The cost of producing that design has to be covered somehow. In the case of a contractor the cost is built in to the quotation to supply and install the system. In other words it is a buy-now-pay-later design.

To some this might sound an attractive proposition, especially considering that if the project does not go ahead it hasn't cost the client any money to get an irrigation design. However this method of procurement is not so attractive when the full picture is revealed.

For every five "buy-now-pay-later" designs that a contractor, distributor or manufacturer produces and submits to the customer, he may be successful on at best one of those bids. This is because some projects never go ahead and some projects are lost to competitors (no contractor wins every job they bid on). So when covering the cost of the irrigation design in a bid, the contractor has to cover the cost not only of the design pertinent to that particular project but also the designs that never got built or were lost to competitors.

In the bad old days of when the industry was predominantly based on "free" design and build, for every 10 irrigation systems that were installed perhaps 50 designs were actually produced, most ending up in the dustbin (I have witnessed projects where, over a period of time, seven separate irrigation designs were solicited for a golf course).

Somebody has to pay for the cost of those discarded designs. Since there are no irrigation design charities producing free designs and since in business the customer pays for everything the cost of these rejected designs is paid for in higher construction costs, which is ultimately paid for by the industry's end-users.

Actually what a customer gets with this model of procurement is a "get-one-now-pay-for-five-later" design.

When hiring an independent irrigation consultant the client pays for only one irrigation design, the one pertinent to their project. So even if a consultant was only half as efficient or competitive at producing an irrigation design as the "free" design and build model, he still works out at less than half the cost of the so called "free" route.

There are obviously many more advantages to hiring an independent engineer to design an irrigation system. These are too numerous to include in this letter but explained in the FAQ section of our website [www.irriplan.net](http://www.irriplan.net).

Yours sincerely,

Giles Wardle BSc. MSc. MIAgrE. ASIC.

Irriplan Ltd.

Consulting Engineers - Irrigation Drainage Soil & Water

## GREENS SPEED! OR DO THEY?

The daftest question any greenkeeper will hear is, 'What speed are your greens?' It's obvious to us all that the green has no speed at all, 'it never moves', but most of us will answer by giving a stimpmeter reading. What we don't say is that the stimpmeter measures the resistance of the grass, not its speed. The less resistance the grass offers, the further the ball will roll. The problem that we keep to ourselves is that if we lower the grass's resistance for too long it's more prone to drought, temperature, disease and insect stress.

Loss of leaf blade is the greatest stress that grass faces, yet in the last 20 years, we have started to cut lower, more frequently and more efficiently than we've ever done before. We've moved from the Troon Open of 1962 when it seems the greens were cut at 1/4 inch (6mm) twice in the week, to today when many courses are cut at 3mm at least daily and often double cut, for ordinary members' play. These modern mowing practices are extremely stressful to our greens, so why is it being done.

The answer given is that golfers want fast greens at any cost and it is our duty to give it to them! This might be acceptable if the speeds we are providing at these low heights were pleasing the leading golfers, but from a recent trade survey it appears that many greenkeepers feel they need to provide greens one foot quicker than at present. I'm worried what they might do in future to get that extra foot and even then will we satisfy the demand for speed? or will it simply increase? We've had very mild winters in the past 10 years and I fear what would happen to our greens cut low and stressed if we return to cold ones, or have another foul spring like this year.

Most golfers don't care about speed and few understand it. One asked what that was in feet and inches when told the stimp reading, so why should we stress our greens to please those who may never be satisfied. The lower we cut our greens the less resistance they have. Is this what we want?

David Woodbyrne

Southerness Golf Club

## 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](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk).



# MANAGING WATER RESOURCES

Water is one of the most precious of our recyclable resources, as well as being a source of natural beauty and recreation. The concept of water as a natural resource, which must be carefully managed, is becoming increasingly important as global needs continue to increase. With global demand for fresh water doubling every 20 years, competition for this resource will continue to increase in future years.

*Continue  
to learn*



Tim Butler collects water

Yet the amount of water used is not our only concern. Water quality has also become a critical issue in recent years. The spotlight has been turned onto the turfgrass industry in recent times, as course managers and greenkeepers are well aware, with some people saying that turfgrass management may be negatively impacting upon water quality.

For golf courses, water quality is often linked to fertiliser and pesticide usage, and any loss of these chemicals into water systems. So what is it that often makes people think negatively about water and water quality in relation to turfgrass management?

Nutrient concentrations at natural levels are essential to maintain diverse aquatic ecosystems. Nutrients are regularly applied onto intensively-managed turfgrass swards, and some people feel that this may be lost through leachate or run-off and contribute to pollution of water supplies.

This negative image has been particularly given to golf courses, because streams, ponds and lakes often border golf course fairways and greens and public perception may be that there is pollution potential. These water features are an important part of the aesthetic component of golf courses and are often used to increase course challenges. Much of this bad publicity is speculation but as greenkeepers are well aware there has been a lot of pressure placed upon turfgrass managers in recent years over this issue.

## SO WHAT EXACTLY ARE THE PUBLIC CONCERNED ABOUT?

Probably one of the main concerns that people express is leaching of applied chemicals through soil profiles in water bodies. Sand-based rootzones have become increasingly popular in golf green construction in recent years. These rootzone types are very beneficial to golf courses because they have good drainage properties and resist compaction. However, it is well publicised that sand-based rootzones have low organic matter content, poor buffering capacity and limited water-holding capacity. This has added to the speculation in relation to turfgrass systems as high-polluters.

A term that I am sure you have all heard of in the past is eutrophication, which is the increase in the nutrient load of a water body over time. Eutrophication can occur in water bodies, such as lakes, estuaries, or slow-moving streams, and can cause the growth of plantonic algae and blue-green algae, which will result in a depletion of available oxygen in the water

and thus fish-kills, as well as loss of ecological diversity and foul smells.

Nutrients can come from many sources, such as fertilisers applied to golf courses, agricultural land, home lawns, erosion of soil and sewage treatment plant discharges.

Fear has also been expressed regarding human health issues resulting from polluted water. Of all nutrients, phosphorus and nitrogen are probably the two most widely talked about in water quality issues. Phosphorus is probably the most limiting element for algal growth, since many blue-green algae are unable to utilise atmospheric  $N_2$ . Trials carried out on nutrient leaching from turf at Michigan State University, in the United States, showed that:

- sandy soils are more prone to leaching losses than clay soils
- nitrogen losses can be reduced by applying nitrogen in smaller amounts on a more frequent basis
- in putting green construction, mixing peat moss with sand significantly reduced nitrogen leaching compared to pure sand rootzones during the year of establishment

It is known that large applications of N, particularly from soluble sources, may be leached through golf greens by heavy rains or irrigation before the nitrogen can be taken up or fixed. For the protection of human health, the National Surface Water and Drinking Regulations and the European Union require that nitrate concentrations in raw water intended for human consumption and in drinking water must not exceed 50 mg/L  $NO_3$  (or 11.3 mg/L expressed as nitrogen). Concentrations of phosphorus in most soil solutions should not lead to environmental problems. However, some sandy soils require special precautions to avoid pollution because of low phosphate buffering properties and extensive use of irrigation.

## SURFACE RUN-OFF

The water available for surface run-off is the portion of the precipitation which is not lost via evapotranspiration and does not penetrate the surface soil to infiltrate into groundwater. Several factors affect surface-loss of nutrients and pesticides including: (i) amount of precipitation; (ii) soil moisture content previous to rainfall; (iii) time of chemical application; and (iv) fertiliser type applied. Trials carried out by Shuman (2002) showed that: (i) the first rain event after a fertiliser application will produce the great majority of the transport by run-off water both of phosphate and of whatever form of nitrogen was applied; and (ii) the quantity of nitrogen and phosphate transported from turf is linearly related to the rate of application.

Having said all this, I feel that turfgrass facilities, be they golf courses, sports pitches or parks, are vital to protecting fresh water resources. Turfgrass areas are green belts that, particularly in built-up areas, in a sense offer safe environments for many forms of wildlife. Numerous golf courses have strategies in place to protect water quality while consequently maintaining top-class playing surfaces.



By Tim Butler

The general public can forget that turfgrass managers often strive to protect water resources. This is clearly evident with the decline in the amount of nutrients applied to many turfgrass areas in recent years.

Coupled with this there has been a drive to finding ways to reduce required nutrient inputs. Turfgrass and soil scientists have come up with novel nutrient management approaches such as the use of live bacteria and fungi in nutritional programmes, which are claimed to increase nutrient uptake. Turfgrass varieties with pest resistance and tolerance to stress are often used. Integrated pest management through the use of natural predatory insects has become on many golf courses common practice. Some courses have created buffer strips using plants such as reeds along water ways in order to trap sediment and act as natural filters. It is easy for people to forget other management practices that have been implemented by the turfgrass community.

As a PhD student at Michigan State University, I have had the privilege of seeing first-hand some of the strategies that are being implemented in the United States by golf courses in the fight to ensure that they protect the environment by reducing mains and well-water usage. I have visited many courses in the state of Michigan with my supervisor at Michigan State



Filter on wetland

University, Professor Kevin Frank, and have seen how numerous golf courses are actually collecting water run-off from the parking lots and roads in many towns and cities, water which would otherwise end up in sewage treatment plants at an additional expense. The collected water is channelled into very large settling ponds on the golf courses, which can hold millions of gallons of water and are directly linked to large ponds or lakes which the golf courses use for irrigation water.

In fact, I am at present helping Professor Frank to carry out research on measuring the quality of the water in collection ponds on various golf courses throughout the state of Michigan. The goal of the research is to study if the water contains any pollutants from the parking lots, etc, which may negatively impact upon the turfgrass performance.

In Michigan, the weather is normally around 35°C during the summer months, yet many golf courses are able to store enough water during the winter and spring so that well and mains water may not be required up to and including August, with the saving of millions of gallons of water and thousands of dollars in water bills.

I am sure that there may be some people thinking that the water requirements in the UK and Ireland would be much less than, for instance, in Michigan. However, it is very important to remember that as the world population increases, and thus demand increases, more scrutiny on water usage by turfgrass systems will occur.

The turfgrass industry has had its fair share of bad publicity regarding water pollution, yet I believe that properly-managed turfgrass systems are a very important component in the constant struggle to maintain clean, non-polluted water supplies in the future. In fact, research indicates that when fertilisers and pesticides are properly used, the chances for movement of these chemicals into water sources from turfgrass systems is minimal. Many turfgrass managers are doing excellent jobs in preventing pollution of water bodies under their management. However, in my opinion, water usage and regulation will become a critical component in turfgrass management in the years to come.

*Tim Butler is carrying out research in the area of turfgrass nutrition for a doctorate degree at both University College Dublin, Ireland, and Michigan State University, USA.*



Lake on golf green

**Brown, K.W., Thomas, J.C., and Duble, R.L.** 1977. Influence of management and season on fate of N applied to golf greens. *Agronomy Journal* 69: 667-671.

**Carton, O.T., Coulter, B.S., Herlihy, M., and Hackett, R.A.** 2002. Nutrient applications to tillage crops and their environmental implications. p.21-49. In: National Tillage Conference 2002. Crops Research Centre, Oak Park, Carlow.

**Duncan, R.R, Carrow, R.N., and Huck, M.** 2000. Understanding Water Quality and Guidelines to Management. *USGA Green Section Record* 38 (5): 14-18.

**Peaslee, D.E., and Phillips, R.E.** 1981. Phosphorus dissolution-desorption in relation to bioavailability and environmental pollution. p.241-259. In: Stelly, M. (Ed.), *Chemistry in the soil environment*. American Society of Agronomy Special publication No. 40. American Society of Agronomy and Soil Science Society of America, Madison, Wisconsin.

**Shuman, L.B.** 2002. Nutrient leaching and runoff from golf courses. *USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online* 1(17): 1-9.

**Snow, J.T.** 1996. Loss of nitrogen and pesticides from turf via leaching and Runoff (Online). Available at: [www.usga.org/turf/articles/environment/pesticides/loss\\_nitrogen.html](http://www.usga.org/turf/articles/environment/pesticides/loss_nitrogen.html)

**Toner, P., Bowman, J., and Clabby, K.** 2000. Inland waters. p.101-123. In: *Ireland's Environment. A Millennium report*. Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland.

**USGA.** 2004. Golf and Water Quality (Online). Available at: [www.usga.org/turf/articles/environment/water/golf\\_water\\_quality.html](http://www.usga.org/turf/articles/environment/water/golf_water_quality.html)

**Watschke, T.L.** 1990. The environmental benefits of turfgrass and their impact on the greenhouse effect. *Golf Course Management*. February: 150-154.



# Summer Battle Gains PGA Headquarters

By John Stevenson

In March 2005 I was approached by the new Irish company - Carnoustie Holdings Ltd - about the Superintendent position at Golf de Fontenailles, which is situated about 40 minutes southeast of Paris. The course is 15 years old and consists of 27 holes. 18 of which make up the Championship course.

The course was taken over from Japanese company - Taiyo, who also had Golf de Clement Ader and Golf des Aisses, which were sold off around the same time. Fontenailles had massive inputs for the first few years, which even included tarmaced roadways made through the forest areas and was recognised as a top golf course in France. From around 2001 there started to be big financial difficulties and eventually the last two years saw no finance at all, resulting in a big decline in the condition of the golf course. At this time I was positioned at Golf de Joyenal on the west side of Paris.



As I made several visits early in the season, around April, before I had signed the contract, there started to be a worry about the irrigation system which needed major work doing in the pump station - to the value of around 25.000 euros. Due to the takeover process and the person responsible for the maintenance at the time, the greens began to decline rapidly each time I visited. Handwatering was being done with a galvanised tank with no pressure at all, at a rate that was impossible to keep up with the 27 holes. The temperatures were around 25°C and some greens were only getting watered every three or four days, which wasn't enough. At the start of May I signed the contract for the Superintendents position, as it was an absolutely fabulous site. Having a month's notice to work in my existing job, I had to settle for weekend visits. The next month was a horror, as each time I visited the greens appeared worse, due to no irrigation system and temperatures rising. By the end of May I was distraught. I was going to start a job in 10 days and there were 15 greens that showed burnt areas like you've never seen before. At this stage I was starting to have second thoughts as I thought that any kind of revival was impossible. I knew that 12 of my 27 greens were fine but I didn't know what I was going to do with the other 15. Each weekend in May the members appeared more and more angry and were more and more doubtful of any revival. There were two major blocks for me that made me think it would be impossible. Firstly, after the lack of Japanese funds there had been three staff kept on to maintain the course, which resulted in no mechanical verticutting and one aeration in three years that resulted in a thatch layer of around three inches - this made a block on the surface. The other problem was that there was no aeration equipment on site or verticutters to control the thatch. (PHOTO 1).

On June 7 I got a call from Fontenailles to inform me that they'd hired an irrigation



company to get the system up and running. I was satisfied and began to have a glimmer of hope but I knew the light at the end of the tunnel was a long way away and that this situation was the rise or fall of my career - as bad news travels fast. After exceptional experiences working at Oakland Hills for the 1996 US Open, and Valderamma for the 1997 Ryder Cup and World Championship, plus irreplaceable experiences at the Pinehurst resort, I started to think that even with the difficulties, pressure and levels demanded, I have never been faced with a situation as difficult as this.



June 13 and my first day at work, where do you start? The first thing I thought was there is a massive concern for the greens - that is a negative topic. I thought lets do something good and quick to get people talking positively while taking care of the negative. With the fairways starved I thought I'll put some ammonium sulfate at 15g m2 to give them a quick response. Not wanting to take the risk with the irrigation system until I had time to check it all, I waited for the first rain. The result was brilliant. I bought new flags and flagpoles and tidied up and pruned the trees at the front entrance and the hotel entrance, which gave a good first impression. The members started to talk a little more positively and I went to work with my major problem. (PHOTO 2).

My first concern was to check all the sprinklers on the greens that were looking really bad. Going through the first three or four greens was no problem, and then all of a sudden there was a big drop in pressure, until eventually a cut off. I ran down to the pump station to find that the pumps would no longer run on automatic, but manual. The pump station is a type PEME with a jockey pump that gives 30m3 an hour and the two main pumps which each give 60m each. With still no dejoiner installed I decided not to fiddle as the electrical wardrobe was like a time bomb and there were wires dangling everywhere. I decided to call the company back to fix the problem and continued my tests with the jockey pump on manual. The company came back and fixed the problem with another two wires added to the time bomb. After my testing of all the irrigation system there were 25 sprinklers either to be replaced or installed, as they were non-existent. The next step was to get the pump station in security. We had had a quote for 7,000 euros to be installed by a company. After





asking for prices I could purchase one for 3.000 euros so I decided we'd install it ourselves, which we did. I set the cycles for the evening watering as usual. I came back the next morning and the first green I saw was drier than the previous day - the temperature had been around 32°C but if watered, the green should have been OK. I went to the satellite to test it. There was nothing, I verified a second one to make sure it was not an isolated problem but there was nothing. I went to the pump station to find it had dejointed. You think to yourself, I've done the right thing by making it secure but it's backfired. I started to go through all the normal tests to find out what the problem was. All the pressures on the outside of the tank were fine. All the pumps on manual worked fine and when put to the off position would stop. Then testing the pump on automatic there was a main pump that would not shut off once started which would eventually cause the whole system to dejoint. An electrician was brought to find the problem. After his diagnosis a wire had moved position. The next month would become a nightmare as we were getting our cabling sabotaged by an outside party. There must have been six or seven situations in the pump station where wires had been pulled out of place or moved, or disconnected. With tiredness playing a big part - at first I thought it was the vibrations that were causing the wiring to dislodge but as time went on this became inevitably impossible. I decided to make plans of



Photo 5

every electrical wire as to where it was connected and also change the lock on the pump station. Everything at this stage settled down until a very hot weekend of around 35°C-37°C. In the morning my assistant called me to say the irrigation cycle had shut off about an hour into its cycle and also the well pump had stopped feeding the lake which had caused shutdown. He had looked in the electric box to find wires had been disconnected and he couldn't find the solution. I set off and prayed on the journey, please let it be something I can solve as tomorrow is Sunday, no one works in France and it's scorching. I went to the office to get my plan and the work I'd done with the plans saved my bacon. The well pump functioned so I let it run for a few hours and came back early morning to get some water on the greens and bought another lock for the well pump house.

Towards the end of July some of the greens that had stayed in decent condition started to get yellowing. I figured there was a shortage of food and after speaking to my assistant the greens were last fed in March with a relatively soluble material, which I figured was finished and the greens were now stressed. I was worried about fertilising with this heat but maybe they would suffer more if I didn't. Then there was the heavy thatch, I made the decision that when maximum temperatures went below 25°C, I would use a Scotts fertiliser with a high slow release at a low dose of 10gmn2. I applied it only to note two days later temperatures soared up to above 30°C and we had to water heavily for the dry areas which resulted in a pythium outbreak which was surely due to excessive watering and thatch. Not every choice or decision we make will work but always know the consequences and have the solution ready. I saw it very early and sprayed with fosetyl-al, which cleared it up.



Photo 6

Now was the time to purchase aeration equipment that was essential, as the greens had taken a knock back with all the electrical difficulties, this was a critical stage. I purchased the new Toro procore 648 aerateur, which I used on its closest spacing to alleviate as much thatch as possible as I had only tried one verticut as I thought the stress would be too much. When I arrived here they were mowing all the greens at 3.7mm that I moved up to 5mm from the first day to allow for better photosynthesis and recovery. The aeration went great and then I verticut only the major worn areas I thought may not recover. On some greens there were spotty areas that needed reseeding. These areas were raked with a leaf rake seeded with pencross and toppedressed. (PHOTO 3). These works all went really well. All I needed now was the irrigation to stay working. After the seed had been out for three days, I got a call from the hotel to say I had a visitor. I drove over and entered the hotel to find a gentleman dressed in a military style uniform who turned out to be from the water police, he had come to place his heavy restrictions on water use. Just as I felt I'd got my head above the surface of the water, someone's come and stood on it and pushed me under. At this stage I really thought I was not destined to get out of this situation. I could water from 8am-8pm and only the greens. Heavy fines are implemented if the rule was broken but I thought I needed four or five syringe cycles in the day to keep the seed moist. I decided to purchase some penmulch that really helped me retain the moisture during the day. The restrictions actually passed quite quickly and after a fortnight I managed to see big stands of pencross growing, at this stage I really felt the battle would be won. (PHOTO 4). I was granular fertilising the seeded areas once a week with predominantly slow release fertilisers but also a little soluble, the results were impressive and only two greens had to be put on temporary greens through all this.

Just after catching my breath we would run into more problems, which involved heavy damage to the course but this time it was by wild pigs. (PHOTO 5). Another detrimental problem was having over 100 Canadian geese that were leaving their deposits everywhere but the real concern for people was the problem of bird flu that scared people. To tackle the pig problem I took a five tonne excavator to make a path at the side of the neglected fence and started to push up 60cm of soil to the bottom so they couldn't push underneath, when the soil froze it made it like concrete which seemed to work as the pigs are only a seasonal problem. I also had to change to 500m, which had been abandoned for years and was in an impossible state to repair. An outside company carried out this work, the geese problem were very time consuming and we eventually stopped the problem with explosives.

Getting to where we are now we have managed to get a deal with the French PGA, which will become the home course of the PGA. Through hardwork from Carnoustie Holdings Ltd, Ireland and excellent work from my crew it all came together above our expectations. I am now recruiting staff to help out on a heavy workload and we are also in the process of buying all new equipment. We have a project of bunker renovation to do on the championship course, which will bring a lot of changes and more challenges; the bunker work is already underway. (PHOTO 6). There are also unforeseen problems like this one on the island green, which can hamper your current planning. (PHOTO 7). French Tour pro Jean-Françoise Remsey, will be involved on a consultancy basis on course upgrades and development which will be a great experience for myself and my crew.

If I got out of this summer the way I did, it's because I looked back on my previous experiences especially at the US Open where I lived with the Superintendent who is probably the person I respect most in the business (Steve Glossinger CGCS) many thanks to him, he was a good mentor. To conclude, if anyone is faced with a similar situation and you're self confident, go for it, things can only get better and I think it's easier to look good than take something on that is already good and make it better.



Photo 7



# Turf Maintenance Lifts from Rotary Lift

Slider block bearings of Tivar® 1000 polyethylene are self-lubricating and maintenance free

## Benefits:

- Highest rise available in the market with extended height models
- Lift can accommodate both three and four-wheel turf equipment
- Can also be used for golf cart maintenance
- Unique design permits easy access to reels and hydraulic systems
- Two cylinder design for greater dependability and smoother operation
- Can easily be converted to lift passenger cars and light trucks



Rotary UK Ltd  
Tel: 01787 477711

VISIT US AT HARROGATE WEEK STAND M6

# OnCourse



## The powerful organiser keeping your golf course green!

Golf Club members and owners are continually demanding better quality playing conditions, which brings the roll of Golf Course Managers into sharp focus. Not only are they expected to keep the course in excellent condition they also have to be skilled administrators and personnel managers. Additionally, Golf Club Managers need detailed and well-structured reports on golf course operations, which can be a time consuming task. *OnCourse™* has been developed to make all of these things easier.

For more detailed information and a **free** demonstration CD, please contact [ken@bigga.co.uk](mailto:ken@bigga.co.uk) **01347 833800** or from Stand M15e Harrogate Week 2007

**Epani**

**Close, but not quite the part!**

## Only genuine Toro filters will give the performance you've come to expect.

Many lookalike air and oil filters fail to meet Toro standards for form, fit and function.

So get one that's not quite the part, and you'll be replacing it early and often. It could even damage your Toro equipment and affect machine performance.

It's how we design and make our filters - with quality materials and advanced technology - that makes them superior to lookalike parts.

Now with our competitive prices and 24-hour delivery service - straight to your door, if you wish - there's absolutely no need for inferior imitations anymore.

Afterall, you didn't compromise when you chose your Toro. So give it the care it deserves.

And remember, no one can look after your Toro better than your local, specialist Toro dealer or service centre. So contact yours today.

For your copy of the new Toro Performance Parts Catalogue, call 01480 226845 now.



TORO Commercial, Irrigation and Consumer Products are distributed by Lely (UK) Limited, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1QH. Tel: 01480 226800 Email: [toro.info@lely.co.uk](mailto:toro.info@lely.co.uk) [www.toro.com](http://www.toro.com)

**TORO** Count on it.

London-based Marilyn lookalike, Suzie





Harrogate Week 2007

# It's all Happening at

# Harrogate week

- A comprehensive educational programme
- Over 200 exhibitors covering the entire industry
- A critical Careers' Clinic
- A magnificent Media Centre
- The greatest choice of groundcare products and services
- Advice from industry experts
- Invaluable networking opportunities
- A blissful banquet
- A painfully easy Park and Ride

**BTME** **ClubHouse** **Continue to learn**

**EDUCATION 21 - 25 January 2007**  
**EXHIBITION 23 - 25 January 2007**

[www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)

## Time You'll Treasure Forever

To turn the modern day phrase on its head when you've wasted time on something you'd rather not have been doing - "That's x amount of my life I'll never get back" - for those of you who attend Harrogate Week 2007 it will prove to be a case of "That's a week of my life I'll treasure forever." From an educational, commercial and recreational perspective you can be sure that it's time well spent.

The most comprehensive education programme that BIGGA has ever put together will get the brain going into overdrive, while four halls packed with exhibitors representing every element of the fine turf industry should ensure plenty of assistance with those difficult purchasing decisions. After a long day in the lecture theatres and the Halls where better than the restaurants and bars of Harrogate to share experiences and laughs with friends and colleagues?

And it's as valuable for the Harrogate rookie as it is to the experienced campaigner. Attend Harrogate Week and you can be sure you will leave with many more friends and acquaintances than you arrived. That equates to more shared experiences and more potential solutions to the types of greenkeeping problems that plague greenkeepers at every golf club in the country.  
You'll never spend time more wisely.



## Exhibitor List 2007

- Abbott (MJ) Ltd  
 Acorn Golf (UK)  
 Advanced Drives & Paths Ltd (Netlon)  
 Advanta Seeds UK Ltd  
 AFT Trenchers Ltd  
 Air-Eze Ltd  
 Air-Seal Products Ltd  
 Aitkens Sportsturf Ltd  
 Allett Mowers  
 Amenity Land Services Ltd  
 Arden Lea Irrigation Ltd  
 Askham Bryan College  
 Association of Golf Club Secretaries  
 Avant Tecno UK Ltd  
 Badcock Services Ltd  
 Barcham Trees Plc  
 Barenbrug UK Ltd  
 Bathgate Leisure  
 Bayer Environmental Science  
 Bellwood Trees  
 Bernhard & Co Ltd  
 Bioiberica  
 Blec Landscaping Equipment Co Ltd  
 BMS - Europe Ltd  
 Border Sports Services Ltd  
 Boughton  
 Bowhayes Trees Ltd  
 British & International Golf Greenkeepers Assoc  
 British Seed Houses Ltd  
**BUPA Cash Plan**  
 Campey Turf Care Systems  
 Careers' Clinic  
 Charles Mador Chartered Architects Ltd  
 Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd  
**Cheeseborough - Since 1872**  
 Club Car - Ingersoll-Rand  
 Complete Weed Control Ltd  
 Course Care  
 DENNIS  
 DJ Turfcare Equipment Ltd  
 DLF Trifolium Ltd  
 Dryject  
**Dryspell Irrigation Solutions**  
 Duncan Ross Sports Turf Drainage  
**Dunweedin Ltd**  
 Eagle Promotions Ltd  
 East Durham & Houghall Community College  
 Econoplas Ltd  
 Ecosolve Limited  
 Elmwood College  
 Environmental Turf Technology  
 European Golf Machinery  
 European Turfgrass Laboratories Ltd  
 Europipes (UK) Ltd  
 Evenproducts Ltd  
 Fairway Credit  
 Farmura Ltd  
 Fleximas  
 FMW Distinct Ltd
- Foley United  
 Gambetti Barre UK Ltd  
 Garfitts International Ltd  
 GCSAA  
 Gem Professional  
**Gibsons Garden Machinery Ltd**  
 Golf Course News International  
 Golf Tee Signs  
 Graden (R & K Kensett Ltd)  
 Greenkeepers Training Committee (The)  
 Greenkeeping Magazine  
 Groundsman Industries  
 Hardi Limited  
 Harrogate Week Re-bookings  
 Headland Amenity Ltd  
**Hoggs of Fife Ltd**  
 Hunter Grinders Ltd  
**Hunter's Promotions Ltd**  
 Huxley Golf  
 Imants BV  
**Indiflow Ltd**  
 Institute of Groundsmanship  
 Internet Cafe sponsored by Pitchcare.com  
 Inturf  
 Irri-Supplies  
 ITT Lowara UK Ltd  
**JB Corrie & Co Ltd**  
 JK Inc Ltd  
 Job Shop  
 John Greasley Ltd  
**JSM Distribution**  
 Kawasaki Motors UK  
 Ken Whites  
**KNW Training**  
 Korec  
 Landscape & Amenity Product Update  
 Lastec UK Ltd  
**Lawn Master UK Ltd**  
**Lawnkeeper**  
 Lindum Seeded Turf Ltd  
 Links Leisure Ltd  
**Little 3 Creative Solutions**  
 Lloyds & Co Letchworth Ltd  
 LS Systems  
 Major Equipment Ltd  
 Massey Ferguson  
**MeteoGroup UK Ltd**  
 Myerscough College  
 New Holland  
 Normandy Sports CMC Ltd  
 North Staffs Irrigation  
 Novozymes Biologicals  
 Ocmis Irrigation  
 Oilean Glas Teo  
 On Course  
 OnCourse Software-SYSteam Epani AB  
 OptimizeGolf  
**Orkney Seaweed Co Ltd**  
 ORM Professional Products Ltd
- Pentagon Amenity Marketing Ltd  
 Pro-Tine  
 PSD Agronomy Ltd  
 Rain Bird Europe S.A.R.L.  
 Range Servant UK Ltd  
**Readyshine Co Ltd (The)**  
 Reaseheath College  
 Reco  
 Revaho UK Ltd  
 Rigby Taylor Ltd  
**Rivendell**  
**Rotary Lift UK**  
**Safety Kleen**  
**Sand daM**  
**Saxon Industries**  
 Scotts Company (UK) Ltd  
 Sheltons Sportsturf Drainage Solutions  
 Sheppy HumberPalmers  
 Sherriff Amenity Services  
 Speedcut Contractors Ltd  
**Steelmaster Products**  
 STRI  
 Sub Air Systems/Turf Breeze Fans  
 Symbio  
 Synergy Products Ltd  
**Syngenta**  
 Tacit  
 Talbot Farm Landscapes  
 Techneat Eng Ltd  
 Tenax UK Limited  
 Terrain Aeration  
 Thorntrees Amenity Ltd  
 Tildenet Ltd  
 Tillers Turf Company Ltd  
 Tomlin (DW)  
 Topsport  
 Toro Irrigation Products  
 Tower Sport Europe  
 Trilo (UK) Ltd  
 True Surface by Turflin  
 Tru-Turf Equipment  
 Tuffa UK Ltd  
 Turfcare Solutions Ltd  
 Turfdry Ltd  
 Turffit Ltd  
 Verde Sports Ltd  
 Vitax Ltd  
 Waste2Water Europe Ltd  
 WBB Minerals  
 White Horse Contractors Ltd  
 Whitemoss Eco Supplies Ltd  
 Wiedenmann UK Ltd  
 Writtle College  
 Yamaha Motor (UK) Ltd

Companies listed in red are new to Harrogate Week  
 List correct as 28/11/2006



# Trilo vacuum, sweep, scarify, cut, spread and blow!



**The world's No 1 in Vacuum Sweepers**

With 35 years' experience and a range of quality machinery, it's easy to see why Trilo is the world-leader in vacuum sweepers.

Built to an extremely high standard, the wide choice of models and numerous options available ensures you can trust Trilo to make your job easier and more efficient.

Trilo have a range of quality high specification groundcare equipment which offers the complete solution for scarifying, cutting, spreading, mowing and blowing.



**SG700**



**SG400**



**SF150**



**b1960**

HIRE, SALES, PARTS & SERVICE

**Trilo UK Ltd**

Wadebridge Farm, Landwade Exning, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7NE  
Tel: (01638) 720123 Fax: (01638) 720128 www.trilo.co.uk

Call us today for a demo



## SHARPEN MOWERS FOR GREENER GRASS



Sharpening mowers with  
**EXPRESS DUAL & ANGLEMASTER**  
produces a surgically sharp cut leading to  
superior turf and a lot of happy golfers.



**SHARPER SOLUTIONS**

**01788 811600 • www.bernhard.co.uk**





# See the Sights

It seems Harrogate isn't just famous for its annual BTME and Clubhouse Exhibitions!

A pleasant spa town situated south east of the Yorkshire Dales, Harrogate is famous for its tea shops and Turkish baths, and is also associated with the great English crime novelist Agatha Christie, who "disappeared" there for a few days in the 1930s.

Melissa Toombs takes a look at what Harrogate has to offer.

## WINE & DINE

### Le D2

7 Bower Road  
Tel: 01423 502700

Run by the two D's – David and Dominique - Le D2 offers excellent food, freshly made using local ingredients.

### Horoscope

1 Cheltenham Crescent  
Tel: 01423 508144

### Raj Put

11 Cheltenham Parade  
Tel: 01423 562113

The Rajput is a family run business, specialising in regional dishes from Rajasthan, Goa, South India, Delhi, Punjab and Mumbai (Bombay).

### Damn Yankee

4 Station Parade  
Tel: 01423 561424

Established for over 30 years, The Damn Yankee serves freshly prepared American food – and plenty of it. Choose from homemade burgers to authentic fajitas.

### Cattlemen's Association

17 Cheltenham Crescent  
Tel: 01423 561456

This popular eatery is a meat lover's paradise, with steaks on the regular menu up to a huge 20oz! Vegetarian options and kids meals are also available and the restaurant has recently changed its opening hours to include lunchtimes.

### Chez La Vie

92 Station Parade  
Tel: 01423 568018

Chez La Vie offers a range of classical Mediterranean dishes and a wide range of wines from all over the world.

### Loch Fyne

Town Centre House, Cheltenham Parade  
Tel: 01423 533070





## Salsa Posada

4 Mayfield Grove  
Tel: 01423 565151

The Salsa Posada serves up an enjoyable authentic Mexican feast. The menu ranges from nachos to burritos and chimichangas.

## The Jinnah Spice Club

The School House, Cheltenham Parade  
Tel: 01423 563333

This restaurant is renowned for its exotic Asian food, using the freshest ingredients, prepared by expert chefs.

## WHERE TO SOCIALISE

### The Muckle's

11 West Park  
Tel: 01423 858153

Muckle's is a large one room operation, comprising a bar area, restaurant and beer garden. Good quality food is served daily.

### Blues Bar

4 Montpellier Parade  
Tel: 01423 566881

Two doors down from the infamous Betty's Tea Rooms, the Blues Café Bar has perhaps the most unusual stage backdrop ever – with a full size shop window with a panoramic view of Harrogate's Montpellier Gardens and the Stray beyond.

### Old Bell Tavern

6 Royal Parade  
Tel: 01423 507930

### Alberts

4 Albert Street  
Tel: 01423 568446

Alberts serve food all day from noon in the non-smoking dining area, as well as in the less formal bar area. From a latte to one of the unique beers, to a cocktail or a bottle of wine from an extensive list, Alberts has it all.

### Montpellier

14 Montpellier Parade  
Tel: 01423 817248

### Montey's Rock Café

3 Corn Exchange Building, The Ginnel  
Tel: 01423 526652

## WHERE TO PARTY

### Mansions

14-18 Kings Road  
Tel: 01423 531896

Four great rooms...four nights a week.  
Free entry all night on a Thursday and drinks from £1.

### Carringtons

90-96 Station Parade  
Tel: 01423 525551

### Cardinal Sins

9-11 Station Parade  
Tel: 01423 701737

Thursday DJ's – Frambo and Russ (I-Rok)

### Ministry of Sound Mini Bar

1 Royal Baths Complex, Parliament Street  
Tel: 0870 0494900

Minibar residents every night with guest DJ's, one off promotions and the creation of the best club space in town.

### Flares

46-48 Parliament Street  
Tel: 01423 566576

## THINGS TO DO

### Odeon Cinema

East Parade  
Tel: 0871 2244007

### Harrogate Theatre

Oxford Street  
Tel: 01423 502116

### UK Super Bowl

Tower Street  
Tel: 01423 529191





# VERSATILITY!

*Top Dressing*



*Sand Slinging*

*Back Filling*



**ultra  
spreader**  
international

*Spreading*



For UK sales contact Synergy Products on 01380 828337  
or visit [www.synergyproducts.co.uk](http://www.synergyproducts.co.uk)

For rest of the world, please contact Ultra Spreader International on  
+44 (0)2887 747582 or visit [www.ultraspreader.com](http://www.ultraspreader.com)



# WIN

## A NOKIA 6233

at

# Harrogate

week

To be in with a chance to win one of 4 phones all you need to do is join or refer a new member to join BIGGA at the Show. Visit the BIGGA stand B47 to collect an application form and hand it in before the end of the show on Thursday 25th January 2007.

Bluetooth enabled phone with 2 mega pixel camera, large high quality screen with stereo speakers also boasts MP3 player and video ringtones. This phone takes a memory card for additional storage.





# What's going on in 2007 at Harrogate Week



## Internet Café

The BIGGA Internet Café, supported by Pitchcare.com, will help you to keep in touch with the outside world while you are away from home.



## What will I see?

The modern face of the industry. Your only difficulty may be having enough time to take it all in! The industry's major players will be showcasing the latest equipment, technology and innovations all under one roof, many of them reserving their new product launches for the exhibition.

## Who will be there?

Anybody that's serious about the turf management industry and club facility management. Whatever your particular interest, you'll find it covered during Harrogate Week, an event that combines both elements of turf management and clubhouse management.

## Why should I visit Harrogate Week?

Your time is valuable, a single visit to Harrogate Week will save you hours of exhausting and frustrating research. Instead of having to make endless telephone calls or search the internet, you can meet the people you need to meet face to face. You can see the products, equipment and service providers, take away relevant literature, arrange site visits, and discover those new ideas that are the lifeblood of the turf industry and club management.

## What special events will there be?

The Continue to Learn educational programme is larger than ever, with top speakers addressing topics of interest right across the industry spectrum. They will help you be a part of an efficient business by offering a wealth of learning opportunities for you to take back to your team.

## What else is on offer?

A visit to Harrogate Week will enable you to get all the answers you need. BIGGA is committed to the continual growth of the event, enhancing the whole experience for visitors and exhibitors alike and creating the greatest show on turf. New for 2007 is the introduction of a free Park & Ride facility, visitors will be able to park at the Great Yorkshire Showground and take a shuttle bus to the show.

Admission to the Exhibition is FREE of charge to all visitors. For more information and to register today visit [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk).

## Job Shop

The Job Shop will be promoting job opportunities from all aspects of the industry.



## The Media Centre

The Media Centre has relocated to the front of Hall A and will offer much improved facilities. Exhibitors will be encouraged to display press information on their new launches and general company information while anyone wishing to hold a press briefing can book a slot with Scott MacCallum ([scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)). Audio visual facilities will be available in the Media Centre. The more informal area within the Centre is used as a meeting area and general Exhibition base for the press. Helpful staff are always on hand to ensure that a friendly welcome is the order of the day and pass on messages where required.





"Men are only as good as their technical development allows them to be"

George Orwell (1908-1950)

## TOMORROW'S TECHNOLOGY ...HAS ARRIVED!!



**TOWER SPORT EUROPE**  
*the right formula*



**GROWING TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**

Would like to invite you to a **free** seminar

**The Majestic Hotel, Harrogate**  
**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007**  
**11.00am**

Jim Turner (highly acclaimed GCSAA speaker) will present on some of the latest technology that is now available to you. He will also look at ways in which new chemistry and cultural practice can be used to achieve the best results within an ever-tightening budget.

We are delighted that Jim will unveil 5 of our exciting new products as well as introduce the updated version of our surfactant technology.

**correctOAR's** the next generation of surfactant technology is officially  
**launching !!!**

Lunch will be served at 12.30pm and the seminar will finish at 4.00pm. Please use one of the contact points below to register yourself for both the seminar and lunch. Please also inform us of any special dietary requirements.

R.S.V.P.

Tower Sport Europe  
First Avenue  
Grangefield Industrial Estate,  
Pudsey,  
Leeds  
LS28 6QN

Tel - 0113 256 8111

Fax - 0113 256 9111

Email - [sales@towerchemicals.co.uk](mailto:sales@towerchemicals.co.uk)

I look forward to seeing you at what promises to be an informative, humorous and exciting start to 2007!

*David Goldstone*

Managing Director





# Harrogate Week 2007

## The BIGGA Stand

The BIGGA staff will be on hand to give advice and information on all Association matters. Visit the BIGGA Stand for a chat and the chance to meet all the people you only ever talk to on the telephone.

Services provided on the BIGGA Stand include:

### Membership

The Membership Services staff will be on hand to give you information on the different types of membership available, the benefits of being a BIGGA member, provide application forms, direct debit and tax relief forms. You can renew your BIGGA membership (no renewal form is necessary) and update your personal and golf club details. The Members Handbook will also be available to visitors to the Stand.



## The Continue To Learn Education Programme

The Continue to Learn programme, supported by The Greenkeepers Training Committee, includes a varied, comprehensive workshop and seminar programme, aimed at greenkeepers, groundsmen, their supervisors, golf course managers, sports ground managers, club managers and others working in the turf industry.



The 2007 programme has been extended to include more one-day workshops including a Sward Improvement Workshop presented by the R&A and additional half-day workshops featuring intermediate computer skills.

The Association of Golf Club Secretaries and the English Golf Union are, once again, working together with BIGGA to present a full day of seminars and two workshops specifically aimed at golf club managers, golf club secretaries, and golf club officials. The STRI are also returning to the Continue to Learn programme presenting a two-day course on Making the Most of Your Golf Course.

BIGGA is pleased to welcome the Professional Golfers' Association to the education programme, where they will present The United Kingdom Coach Certificate (UKCC): The Impact on the PGA and PGA Professionals.

## Exhibitor Presentations

Exhibitor presentations will be given by some of the exhibitors at BTME and ClubHouse and will offer additional opportunities to keep up to date on topical issues. Most of the presentations are included in this brochure, however further details will be published in Greenkeeper International and on the Harrogate Week website ([www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk))

## Merchandise

A range of BIGGA merchandise will be on display and can be ordered during your visit.

## Greenkeeper International

Staff from the Sales Department will be on hand to provide copies of Greenkeeper International or discuss advertising and sponsorship opportunities available with the Association.

## Careers' Clinic

Tuesday 23, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 January 2007  
Exhibition Halls, Harrogate International Centre

Follow in the footsteps of many greenkeepers who have used the services provided at the BIGGA Careers Clinic to find that next job, improve your prospects in your current job or to negotiate your salary package. You will be able to book a private consultation session at the Careers Clinic during BTME & ClubHouse.

## The Banquet

Thursday 25 January 2007, The Majestic Hotel  
7.00pm - 7.30pm

A highlight of Harrogate Week is the very popular Banquet, held in The Majestic Hotel. With pre-dinner drinks available in the North Lounge from 7.00pm, guests will be seated in the Main Dining Room at 7.30pm.







## What's On, Where and When

### Sunday 21 January 2007

10.30 - 17.00	Health & Safety for Greenkeepers	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Moving into Management	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	An Introduction to Golf Course Design	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Every Drop Counts - Use Water Wisely	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	A1 Assessor Award	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Working With People Who Cause You Stress!!!	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Budgeting - Making Numbers Count	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Coaching in the Workplace - Continuing Professional Development Award	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Drain Before the Rain	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 17.00	Update Workshop to the A1 Assessor Qualification	Queen's Suite

### Monday 22 January 2007

9.00 - 17.00	Health & Safety for Greenkeepers (day two)	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Moving into Management (day two)	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	An Introduction to Golf Course Design (day two)	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Every Drop Counts - Use Water Wisely (day two)	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	A1 Assessor Award (day two)	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Environmental Management	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	R&A Sward Improvement Workshop	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Effective Communication	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Are Your Finances Below Par?	Queen's Suite
9.00 - 17.00	Making the Most of Your Golf Course (STRI)	Holiday Inn Hotel

### Tuesday 23 January 2007

9.00 - 17.00	BTME & ClubHouse Exhibition	HIC
9.00 - 17.00	Careers Clinic	HIC
9.00 - 17.00	Making the Most of Your Golf Course (STRI) (day two)	STRI, Bingley
9.00 - 17.00	The United Kingdom Coach Certificate (PGA)	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 12.30	The Basics of Microsoft Word	Queen's Suite
10.15 - 10.45	The Importance of Soil Analysis in the UK and the Rest of the World	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 12 noon	Opening Session and Presentations - Making an Exhibition of Yourself	Queen's Suite
11.00 - 11.30	The Scientific Approach to Drought Management	Queen's Suite
11.45 - 12.15	Product Compatibility and Tank-Mixing for Efficient Turf Maintenance	Queen's Suite
12.30 - 13.00	It's Hardly Rocket Science	Queen's Suite
12.30 - 13.30	Integrated Management of What?	Queen's Suite
13.15 - 14.15	New Strategies to Prevent and Correct Localised Dry Patch	Queen's Suite
13.30 - 16.30	Intermediate Microsoft Word	Queen's Suite
13.30 - 16.30	So You Want to Get Sued?	Queen's Suite
13.45 - 14.45	I'm not Difficult, Everyone Else is!	Queen's Suite
14.00	GTC Training Providers Seminar	Holiday Inn Hotel
14.30 - 15.00	Rephlex - Safely Reducing Soil and Irrigation Water PH and Carbonate Levels	Queen's Suite
15.00 - 16.00	Pesticides and Amenity Turf - Developing a Sustainable Approach	Queen's Suite
15.15 - 15.45	Trees Down to a Tee	Queen's Suite
16.15 - 17.15	Greencast - Interactive Decision Support and Disease Control	Queen's Suite
16.30 - 17.30	Women's Forum	Queen's Suite





### Wednesday 24 January 2007

9.00 - 17.00	.....BTME & ClubHouse Exhibition.....	HIC
9.00 - 17.00	.....Careers Clinic.....	HIC
9.00 - 17.00	.....The United Kingdom Coach Certificate (PGA).....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 12.30	.....Basic Agronomy.....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 12.30	.....The Basics of Microsoft Excel.....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 10.30	.....Speed of Play.....	Queen's Suite
9.45 - 10.15	.....The State of Greenkeeping in Canada.....	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 11.00	.....A Drive to Thrive.....	Queen's Suite
10.30 - 11.15	.....Course Set Up for a Qualifying Competition.....	Queen's Suite
11.15 - 11.45	.....Golf in Sweden - Working Against the Odds.....	Queen's Suite
11.15 - 12.30	.....Sources of Funding for Golf.....	Queen's Suite
12.00 - 12.30	.....Finding a Cure for Itchy Feet!.....	Queen's Suite
13.30 - 16.30	.....Intermediate Microsoft Excel.....	Queen's Suite
13.30 - 14.30	.....The Joy of Real Golf - Firm and Dry Surfaces!.....	Queen's Suite
14.00 - 15.00	.....Professional Career Development.....	Queen's Suite
14.45 - 15.45	.....The Winter Sports Pitch Evolution.....	Queen's Suite
15.00 - 16.00	.....Dispute Resolution in a Golf Club.....	Queen's Suite
15.00	.....Master Greenkeeper AGM.....	Queen's Suite
16.00 - 17.00	.....Why Your Club Should be Climbing the Sustainability Ladder.....	Queen's Suite
18.00	.....BIGGA AGM.....	Queen's Suite

### Thursday 25 January 2007

9.00 - 16.00	.....BTME & ClubHouse Exhibition.....	HIC
9.00 - 16.00	.....Careers Clinic.....	HIC
9.00 - 17.00	.....The United Kingdom Coach Certificate (PGA).....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 12.30	.....The Basics of Microsoft PowerPoint.....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 12.30	.....Agronomy for Golf Club Officials.....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 10.00	.....Drought, Drainage and Conservation - Aeration's Role.....	Queen's Suite
9.30 - 11.30	.....Keeping the Customer Satisfied - Green Speed.....	Queen's Suite
10.15 - 10.45	.....Fungicides and the Future.....	Queen's Suite
11.00 - 11.30	.....Current Issues of Interest in the Greenkeeping World.....	Queen's Suite
11.45 - 12.15	.....Save Money - Variable Speed Pumps in Irrigation.....	Queen's Suite
11.45 - 12.45	.....Keeping the Customer Satisfied - Golf - Just a Game?.....	Queen's Suite
12.30 - 13.00	.....The Right Turf for the Right Job.....	Queen's Suite
13.15 - 13.45	.....Maximum Benefits From Organic Inputs.....	Queen's Suite
13.15 - 14.15	.....Keeping the Customer Satisfied - We're In The Happy Business.....	Queen's Suite
13.30 - 16.30	.....Intermediate Microsoft PowerPoint.....	Queen's Suite
14.30 - 15.30	.....Keeping the Customer Satisfied - Media Skills.....	Queen's Suite





the  
reservation highway

**WE OFFER A COMPREHENSIVE  
AND FREE HOTEL BOOKING SERVICE  
FOR HARROGATE WEEK 2007**

**CONTACT US NOW** to receive a full list  
of all hotels and guesthouses available, with  
special rates, for Harrogate Week 2007.

**TEL: 01423 525577**

**FAX : 01423 525599**

**EMAIL : [admin@reservation-highway.co.uk](mailto:admin@reservation-highway.co.uk)**

**OR BOOK ON-LINE**

**view all the hotels and place your booking  
- with immediate confirmation.**

**Visit: [www.reservation-highway.co.uk](http://www.reservation-highway.co.uk)**

**Access code "bigga" (lowercase)  
or [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)**

**Wells House, 8 Cold Bath Road,  
Harrogate HG2 0NA**



## AFT TRENCHERS

Stand: B11



Visit us on Stand B11 for information on our range of trenching, drainage and backfilling machines. As well as the versatile AFT45 compact tractor trencher, we manufacture the famous, original Wizz Wheel<sup>®</sup> slitting trenchers plus the popular AFT100 chain trencher for larger sportsfield and fairway tasks. Added to this we can offer the AFT Sandbander for installing sand filled slits plus the Multi-Use Trailer, which can carry out a diverse number of operations around a golf course or sports facility. We can provide a complete solution to your drainage requirements, big or small.

## BERNHARD & COMPANY

Stand: B31



Visit stand B31, to see Express Dual and Anglemaster from Bernhard and Company.

Focusing on ease of use and operator safety, grinders are now offered with touch screen panels.

Manufactured to the highest standards including colour-coded machine function, digital indication of grind angles and straightforward design - Express Dual and Anglemaster are now easier than ever to use.

With Bernhard and Company you achieve the best possible results with less operator effort and more efficiency.

Visit stand B31 to find out more and to arrange for a free demonstration.

## EAGLE PROMOTIONS

Stand: C43



Eagle: the best choice for your club's marketing collateral – Signage, Course Guides, Scorecards. From St Andrews in Scotland to Santana in Spain, Eagle is the leading provider of quality marketing collateral for over 1,500 golf clubs; Superior course and clubhouse signage – timber or rock, with zinc, bronze, and now our new range of polished granite tee plates to suit every style of course and clubhouse Innovative yardage guides – from the new Eagle Eye photographic style to traditional designs. The widest range of scorecards – from tailor-made to off-the-shelf in four, six or more page formats Bag tags and green fee tickets – designed to project your club's branding EGU approved course measurement and certification. Clubs like dealing with Eagle: contact us on 0044 (0) 1883 344 244, or e-mail us at [info@eagle.uk.com](mailto:info@eagle.uk.com).

## GROUNDSMAN

Stand: A10



Groundsman Industries specialise in Turf Aerators and Turf Cutters. The incredible Turf Multi Cutters are without doubt the most complete range of Turf Cutters available anywhere. Blades from 12 to 18inch cuts plus Mole, De-compaction and Trench Blades. Budget priced 2 wheel drive and high traction 4 wheel drive units, plus newly launched Hydro Drive with Reel Insertion Attachment (RIA) to bury dripper pipe for irrigation or cables. See the time proven Pedestrian and Tractor Mounted Turf Aerators and Accessories. Core and Collect in one pass with the Flexblade Core Collector now available separately in a three point linkage frame.

## INDIFLOW

Stand: B28



Indiflow will be presenting Re-Phlex, the new revolutionary soil and irrigation water conditioner. With the increasing use of alkaline bore-hole water more turf managers are facing the challenges that come from decreasing water quality and associated high soil pH.

Re-Phlex will safely reduce pH, carbonate and bicarbonate levels without the use of toxic or corrosive harsh mineral acids.

Indiflow will also be presenting its new Magnum wetting agent range of liquids, pellets and "One Shots," along with a full irrigation "one stop" equipment supply catalogue.

## LASTEC UK LTD

Stand: C40



Lastec's new 2261 Articulator is the world's first 1.5m (61") commercial articulating mower. This zero turn radius ride-on mower features three fully articulating 535mm (21") decks and a unique modular baffling system that allows for true rear or side discharging as well as a mulching capability. The new machine incorporates the latest developments in Lastec's patented Articulator technology which, since its introduction in 1990, has transformed rotary mowing on uneven or undulating terrain.

Powered by a 22hp Yanmar diesel engine and built to the highest standards in 4mm (3/16") steel plate, the 2261 Articulator has been developed specifically for the commercial and local authority mowing markets. Lastec, now internationally recognised as the mower manufacturer of choice for golf courses, believes that the introduction of a rear discharge facility to the established Articulator specification opens up significant new opportunities for the company.

## MASSEY FERGUSON

Stand: A23a

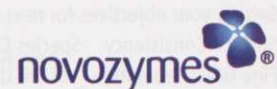


MASSEY FERGUSON

Massey Ferguson are pleased to continue their support of BIGGA with an enlarged stand for the 2007 BTME & ClubHouse exhibition. Massey Ferguson will feature a selection of tractors including their "NEW" highly acclaimed Dyna QPS series from 32 to 46hp, with "on the button" gear selection and power shuttle, a must for those intending to aerate or use a loader. An optional factory fitted cabin enhances this tractor. The "NEW" 20hp 3cyl Diesel 2-seater utility vehicle with selectable four wheel drive and fully independent suspension, will also be on display. If you are intending to purchase a new tractor or utility vehicle, then look no further than Massey Ferguson, the name you can trust with a nationwide dealer network and a committed specialist Groundscare sales team, always ready to assist.

## NOVOZYMES BIOLOGICALS

Stand: A29



Novozymes Biologicals and its Plant Care division will be again present at BTME with its innovative range of biological products for the turf industry.

Novozymes Biologicals is the leading biological company for turf care, with biostimulants, microbial and mycorrhizal products, organic fertilisers, aquatic specialties and biological fungicides. Hugh Frost, Technical Manager for the UK market, will be pleased to welcome you onto the stand to discuss these products, and to show you field results.



## RAIN BIRD

Stand: A7



Why do 7 out of 10 Golf Courses in Europe choose Rain Bird? May be it is because you have direct contact with an irrigation specialist or because you receive the best service or even it is just for our 'Intelligent Use of Water'. Whatever the reason call in to the Rain Bird stand to see the large selection of golf and turf sprinklers and accessories or have a demonstration of our PC based Central Control Systems. Rain Bird is committed to developing more reliable and efficient irrigation products for all applications from golf to landscape areas to sports pitches.

## RIGBY TAYLOR

Stand: C23



Rigby Taylor, a BIGGA Golden Key Member, will be displaying their Premier-HG and Guardian granular fertilizers and Microflow-CX liquid fertilizers.

Also featured is the Breaker family of wetting agent products and Mascot soil conditioner products including Activate-XL, a soil microbial biostimulant that also helps in degrading thatch. Mascot chemicals featured include Masalon fungicide and Gallup HiAktiv Amenity glyphosate.

Rigby Taylor, a seed agent in its own right, will be featuring their 2007 Mascot grass seed range which exclusively incorporates cultivars from TopGreen SAS, one of Europe's major seed research companies. This includes Greenvie, a new strong creeping red fescue that is No:1 in the STRI 2007 list for shoot density.

## SCOTTS

Stand: B34



Scotts is launching three new turf products at the show. Sierraform GT is a powerful and well-balanced range of fertilizers for golf greens, containing both slow-release nitrogen and potassium. This delivers the dual effect of even plant growth and a stronger plant more resistant to external stresses.

Effect is an iron liquid containing seaweed which uses slow-release technology to ensure a gradual release for up to eight weeks. It also has an almost immediate effect of greening the turf while hardening the sward to help withstand stress.

The new Greenmaster Organic range of granular fertilizers is a mix of organic and natural ingredients that delivers essential nutrients and stimulates soil microorganisms in one treatment.

## SYMBIO

Stand: B9



Setting your objectives for next season? \_ Playing Surface Consistency \_ Species Composition Change \_ Fine Grass Promotion \_ or are there specific problems to tackle? Thatch Reduction \_ Dry Patch Management \_ Disease Reduction, then start with your soil's life. Symbio's biological approach to these objectives will weight the balance in your favour while reducing your consumables costs.

We are also launching ColdStart to assist turf managers overcome inconsistent early season growth. Come and meet your regional Symbio technical manager who will explain this vital addition to quality turf management and assist you in achieving your turf management objectives.

## SYNGENTA

Stand: B33b



Syngenta is a research and development based manufacturer of world class; control, growth management and decision support products for the turf industry. Innovation in the delivery of high quality playing surfaces and improved plant health are at the core of the business.

GreenCast is a unique web based decision support and disease management system designed specifically for turf managers and a class leading new generation fungicide will be launched at BTME.

There will also be opportunities to discuss the use of Primo MAXX following a tremendous reception from professional turf managers in 2006 as well as Syngenta's market leading fungicides; Heritage and Daconil Turf.

## TORO IRRIGATION

Stand: M21



Toro Irrigation is unveiling its innovative new Golf Decoder Controller (GDC) irrigation control system for golf courses, as well as other applications.

The new system uses modern technology to provide a low-cost decoder system using a single 2-wire path. Its performance and flexibility enables irrigation consultants to design irrigation plans without the need for complicated calculations. The system is easy to install, simple to use, and flexible enough to meet contractor and greenkeeper needs.

Users can choose between two versions. The stand-alone system accommodates up to 200 stations and features a new easy-to-use programming interface. The PC-based system uses Toro's SitePro central computer system and can accommodate up to 3,200 stations, pump station integration and sensor input decoders.

## TOWER SPORT EUROPE

Stand: C42



Tower Sport is delighted to announce the unveiling of the next generation of advanced chemistry.

As well as preventing dry patch by stripping the non-polar humic acid content from the soil correct OAR's will now attack fairy ring as well as save you water consumption.

Also unveiled is Chaperone, a spray adjuvant that will give you a quicker and broader control of fungus.

As well as the above there are three more new and exciting products launching both injectable and sprayable Ph reducer as well as a moss killer.

Tomorrow's chemistry brought to you by today's proven experts!

## TRILO UK LTD

Stand: A32



TRILO have been manufacturing top quality vacuum sweepers for over 40 years.

There are now 30+ models, all of which have a range of accessories and all have particular specialities.

We have the huge BL960/BL740/BL400 blowers and vacuum units like the unbeatable SU40B & SU60 truck loaders, the SF150 which mounts on most utility vehicles, the SG200 for compact tractors, the SG400 high tip, multifunctional unit which can scarify/flail/brush and collect in one pass, the SG700/400 with the 3-piece 2 metre flexible scarifier, also available as a 3-point linkage unit. We also manufacture and supply the TRILO scarifier/flail collectors and Top-dressers and Green Clipper electric mowers for large grass areas. For Sales, Parts, Service and Hire contact TRILO UK Ltd 01638 720123.



# HIGH PH?

## REDUCE YOUR SOIL OR IRRIGATION WATER pH

### SULPHUR FREE FORMULATION

Re-Phlex is a new revolutionary state of the art acid replacement system. Re-Phlex replaces products like nitric acid, liquid sulphur and out performs urea-buffered sulphuric acid without the use of toxic or corrosive harsh mineral acids.

## Re-Phlex™ turf spray ts

- REDUCE YOUR TURF pH
- revolutionary spray application
- blended with soil surfactants for improved water penetration
- reduces soil bicarbonates
- sulphur free formulation will not aggravate black layer

## Re-Phlex™ direct injection di

- REDUCE YOUR IRRIGATION WATER pH
- revolutionary acid replacement product
- for use in acid injection systems
- safely reduces water and soil pH
- reduces bicarbonates and descales
- sulphur free formulation will not aggravate black layer

To request further details please e-mail:

[growth@indiflow.co.uk](mailto:growth@indiflow.co.uk)

Tel: +44 (0)118 971 0995

Fax: +44 (0)118 971 0990



[www.indiflow.co.uk](http://www.indiflow.co.uk)

Lower Farm Barns, Wasing, Nr Aldermaston, Berkshire, RG7 4NG. UK

Powered by



# EAGLE

GOLF COURSE SIGNAGE



SCORECARDS - SIGNAGE - COURSE GUIDES - BAG TAGS - GREEN FEE TICKETS - MEASUREMENT

Tel: 01883 344244

Email: [info@eagle.uk.com](mailto:info@eagle.uk.com)

Website: [www.eagle.uk.com](http://www.eagle.uk.com)





## How to Get to Harrogate



### Rail:

Harrogate is served by the main line stations in Leeds and York. Trains run approximately every 30 minutes at peak time. Harrogate International Centre is a 10 minute walk from the station. Taxis are available outside the station and will cost around £3.50.

For further information on rail services to Harrogate contact National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 or visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk).

### Air:

Leeds Bradford International Airport [www.lbia.co.uk](http://www.lbia.co.uk)

Leeds/Bradford airport is approximately 12 miles from Harrogate. Taxis are available at the airport at a cost of approximately £18. You may wish to visit the following websites for flight information.

[www.flybe.com](http://www.flybe.com) • [www.jet2.com](http://www.jet2.com) • [www.airsouthwest.com](http://www.airsouthwest.com)

The "Bus 2 Jet" 767 service links Leeds Bradford International Airport with Harrogate town centre. The service runs every 90 minutes between 0615 and 2245, with an average journey time of around half an hour. For further information on this service please contact Harrogate & District Travel Ltd on + 44 1423 566061 or visit [www.bus2jet.com](http://www.bus2jet.com)

Manchester International Airport [www.manchesterairport.co.uk](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk)

Manchester International Airport is situated halfway between London and Edinburgh, 75 miles from Harrogate. Public Transport links are available 24 hours a day offering services to Harrogate via Leeds or York.

### Coach:

National Express [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)

National Express is the UK's largest scheduled coach network, offering several services a day to Harrogate from all over the UK.

### Car:

Directions: [www.theaa.com](http://www.theaa.com)

From M1: Leave at Leeds and take the A61 to Harrogate, approximately 15 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From M62: Leave at Leeds and take the A61 to Harrogate, approximately 15 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the South A1(M): Leave the A1(M) at Wetherby and take the A661 to Harrogate, approximately 10 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the North A1(M): Leave A1(M) at junction 47 and take the A59 to Harrogate, approximately 8 miles. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the East: Take the A59 to Harrogate. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

From the West: Take the A59 to Harrogate. Harrogate International Centre is signposted.

### Parking:

[www.harrogate.gov.uk](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk)

Underground car parking is available at Harrogate International Centre, however, places will be limited and because of this we would encourage car sharing wherever possible. Please use lifts from the car park to level 4 (ground level) for the reception area and Exhibition Hall.

HIC underground car parks are open on an individual pay basis at the following times:

			Tariffs:
Sun 21 Jan	Closed		
Mon 22 Jan	0800 - 2000 hours	Up to 3 hours	£ 3.50
Tues 23 Jan	0800 - 2000 hours	Up to 6 hours	£ 5.50
Wed 24 Jan	0800 - 2000 hours	Up to 12 hours	£ 7.50
Thur 25 Jan	0800 - 2000 hours	Up to 24 hours	£10.00
Frid 26 Jan	0700 - 1800 hours		

Harrogate Town Centre Car Parks

MULTI-STOREY: Victoria • Jubilee • West Park

SURFACE LEVEL: Odeon • Park View • Montpellier Shoppers • West Park

All town centre car parks are open 24 hours. Charges apply all days at all times (including Public Holidays). Free parking for Blue Badge holders and motorcycles.

Pay and Display parking is in operation in most town centre streets in Harrogate. Charges and restrictions apply on Sundays and Bank Holidays in all parking areas unless otherwise stated.

### Sea:

Direct Ferries [www.directferries.co.uk](http://www.directferries.co.uk)

Direct Ferries are part of Direct Ferries Ltd, an online travel provider based in the UK offering ferry crossings to the UK from the continent. Registered agents of the ferry operators are listed on the website, they sail to 14 Countries and 54 ferry ports on over 60 routes.

North Sea Ferries, from Rotterdam/Zeebrugge to Hull, 59 miles from Harrogate.

### Park & Ride:

From the A1M: exit A59 towards Harrogate, follow the ring road to the Great Yorkshire Showground (A661).

BTME & ClubHouse provides a FREE Park & Ride service from the Great Yorkshire Showground to Harrogate International Centre on Tuesday 23, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 January 2007.

If you are planning to drive to Harrogate, this service will help you avoid the traffic problems in town and save you looking for a parking space.

The journey from the Great Yorkshire Showground to the HIC normally takes around 10 minutes but does depend on traffic conditions.

The shuttle service will run at the following times:

- Tuesday 23 January 8.30 am to 5.30 pm
- Wednesday 24 January 8.30 am to 5.30 pm
- Thursday 25 January 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Secure overnight parking is available Tuesday and Wednesday nights at no cost. However, drivers should note that access to vehicles will not be allowed outside the above operating times.



# Harrogate week

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Please note that the Annual General Meeting of Members of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association has been rearranged as follows:

**Date: Wednesday 25th January 2007**

**Time: 6.00pm**

**Venue: The Queen's Suite,  
Harrogate International Centre,  
Harrogate, North Yorkshire**

## Turf Maintenance Lifts from Rotary Lift

Slider block bearings of Tivar® 1000 polyethylene are self-lubricating and maintenance free

### Benefits:

- Highest rise available in the market with extended height models
- Lift can accommodate both three and four-wheel turf equipment
- Can also be used for golf cart maintenance
- Unique design permits easy access to reels and hydraulic systems
- Two cylinder design for greater dependability and smoother operation
- Can easily be converted to lift passenger cars and light trucks



**Rotary UK Ltd**  
**Tel: 01787 477711**

**VISIT US AT HARROGATE WEEK STAND M6**

The perfect approach to quality course signage

# Signs & Design

## Granite Tee Signs



Get in contact with us now for our new 2006 catalogue.

Or visit our new website at  
[www.golfcoursesigns.co.uk](http://www.golfcoursesigns.co.uk)  
for the latest offers and news.

Tel: 01606 738833 Fax: 01606 738547  
Email: [info@golfcoursesigns.co.uk](mailto:info@golfcoursesigns.co.uk)  
Web: [www.golfcoursesigns.co.uk](http://www.golfcoursesigns.co.uk)



# TALKING HEADS

Compiled by Melissa Toombs



**Name:** Mark Dempsey  
**Position:** Support Services Manager  
**Company:** Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council  
**Location:** Halifax

**1**  
Are you a regular attendee of Harrogate Week? If so, why?

Yes I like to attend every year, it is a good time of year to consider buying new machinery for the new Season, we either have some budget left or in the new financial year have some new budget to spend. It is a good opportunity to network with Dealers, Manufactures and other amenity professionals, being based in Halifax the Harrogate show is our local exhibition.



**Name:** Gregor McGillivray  
**Position:** Lecturer in Sportsturf  
**Company:** Oatridge College  
**Location:** West Lothian

No last year was the first time I'd attended.



**Name:** Chris Moore  
**Position:** Secretary  
**Company:** Royal Liverpool GC  
**Location:** Wirral

Irregular/occasional and dependant on other commitments.



**Name:** William Blair  
**Position:** Grounds Supervisor, Sodexho  
**Company:** Sodexho Prestige Ltd  
**Location:** Edinburgh

I am a regular attendee because I believe it is one, if not THE, best shows in the trade.



**Name:** Andrew Pledger  
**Position:** Head Greenkeeper  
**Company:** Frinton GC  
**Location:** Essex

Yes I do regularly attend Harrogate week, I attend to so I can keep up to date with the latest techniques and technology, and see what is new in the market place. It's all very well reading about new products, but I find being able to check out all that's new, in the flesh, is better.



**Name:** Brin Bendon  
**Position:** Guest Speaker  
**Company:** Vector Training Ltd  
**Location:** York

Yes I am, because I think I've been a guest speaker and workshop tutor since about 1995.



# 2

**Which company stands are you hoping to visit and/or do business with during the week?**

I am Looking forward to Seeing Alpha Amenity, Pitchcare, Scotts and meeting up and discussing new opportunities with training and Health and safety Providers.

The ones that are relevant to the subjects I teach at college, mostly greenkeeping related subjects to collect the most up to date information on products etc. to keep my teaching notes up to date!

Irrigation companies - Architectural Firms - Equipment Manufacturers - Suppliers various.

I try to visit as many stands as possible especially the machinery and over the years I've done a great deal of business.

I would have been there this year, however my wife is expecting our second child on the 18th January and I felt that it would have been terribly selfish of me to have booked some time away. But if she decides to produce our child early I may try and pop up for the day to have a walk around.

Well, I'm not there as a purchaser as such as I'm a training provider. I ran the Career Clinic last year and was guest speaker with Andy Campbell on Managing Finance.

# 3

**Which courses have you booked on and how do you rate the Continue to Learn Programme as a whole?**

The Seminars that I am intending to attend are on Tuesday "Product Compatibility and Tank Mixing for efficient turf maintenance" and "Its Hardly Rocket Science" Pesticides and Amenity Turf Developing a sustainable approach, both Seminars are areas that I am working within in the Amenity sector with a particular interest in Quality and Environmental management systems. It also allows me to obtain NROSO and Basis CPD points for my personal professional development.

None at present, as I don't know for certain what dates I am attending yet.

None at present.

I have not booked any courses but I rate the Continue to Learn programme very highly.

I have not booked anything from the Continue to learn programme, because of the reasons given above. The program as a whole is improving each year.

My delegate have told me that what I do has been well received and since we have moved to the Queen's Suite the lectures have been brilliant - the programme as a whole is marvellous but unfortunately I'm so busy I cannot attend any other courses.

# 4

**Is there anything BIGGA could do to make Harrogate Week better?**

For me perhaps a little more emphasis on the amenity sector although I do appreciate it is mainly a golf course and fine turf show.

Nothing I can think of as I have only been there once, the problem with car parking has been dealt with the shuttle service on offer this year.

It is a broadly based programme that allows delegates to choose their preferred options.

I am sure there are many out there who are better qualified than I am to answer this, and I am sure they will say yes. After all, it is their show and they should be proud to be a part of it. They should also get off their bottoms and do something instead of criticise.

The amalgamation of BTME and Clubhouse has improved the stature of the show, to make Harrogate Week better; to keep improving the education side and try and entice the major exhibitors back to attending every year.

BIGGA could look at attracting people from other industries, as the world of sport is a huge place. We could widen the audience by not just focusing on golf and trying to incorporate cricket, bowling greens, tennis and the Royal Horticulture Society.

# 5

**What is your favourite memory of Harrogate Week?**

Last year I was really impressed with Dr Karl Danneburger's presentation on Primo Maxx Growth Retardant, which inspired to undertake a trial using Growth retardants to establish wildflower colonisation with amenity grass areas along the Hebble Trail in Calderdale.

Meeting up with past students and present employers, seeing what they are up to now and putting faces to a names.

General optimism for the way ahead.

Having been associated with BIGGA and Harrogate for more years than I care to mention, there are far too many memories. I have met and kept in touch with so many people over the years that the memories will last a lifetime, and I will meet many of them again in January – and hopefully for years to come.

Meeting up with contacts and friends, and sharing best practices.

I love meeting up with old friends. One of the fondest memories I have was at the Banquet at the Majestic Hotel. The guest speaker one year was a Scottish gynaecologist and I was expecting his jokes to be on that subject, however he told various golf related jokes and had us all in stitches. It was a good laugh.



# Kubota®



## F80 Series - The team that works as hard as yours



Designed to make your job easier, Kubota's F80 Series high performance, out front ride-on mowers deliver outstanding durability and superior operator comfort for all professional mowing needs. Powered by Kubota's unique E-TVCS water-cooled diesel engine, the F80 series offer exceptional productivity and fuel economy whilst maximising power delivery for demanding day-long commercial mowing operations.

**Tel:** 0800 023 1111

**Email:** [sales@kubota.co.uk](mailto:sales@kubota.co.uk)

**Visit:** [www.kubota.co.uk](http://www.kubota.co.uk)

Kubota (UK) Ltd, Dormer Road, Thame, Oxfordshire. OX9 3UN





# A Long Time Coming!

For the first time in its 10 year history, a Scottish club has won the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition. Brighthouse Bay GC near Kirkcudbright in Galloway, have scooped this year's prize with one of the most holistic and deserving entries ever. Lee Penrose reports...



Brighthouse Bay Golf Club, Dumfries and Galloway

The course forms one of the principal attractions within the larger Brighthouse Bay Holiday Park and is managed by a team of only four greenstaff under the guidance of Head Greenkeeper, Richard Davis. Owned and managed by Tom and Evelyn Gillespie, the overriding policy for the whole site states; "We at Brighthouse Bay Holiday Park are endeavouring to become the most environmentally sustainable tourist resort in the United Kingdom." Having already achieved the 'David Bellamy Gold Award' for sustainable tourism 10 years in a row, they can't be far off!

Overall Winners	Brighthouse Bay Golf Club, Dumfries and Galloway
Runners up in Winners Region	Reay Golf Club, Caithness
Northern Region Winner	St Annes Old Links Golf Club, Lancashire
Midlands Region Winner	Notts (Holinwell) Golf Club, Nottinghamshire
South West and Wales Region Winner	Royal St. Davids Golf Club, Gwynedd
South East Region Winner	Rookwood Golf Course, West Sussex
Best Newcomer	Guildford Golf Club, Surrey
Best New Initiative	The Grove Golf Centre, Herefordshire
Highly Commended 2006	Beaconsfield Golf Club, Buckinghamshire
	Bude & North Cornwall Golf Club, Cornwall
	Budock Vean Hotel Golf & Country Club, Cornwall
	Caldy Golf Club, Merseyside
	Dunnerholme Golf Club, Cumbria
	Farnham Golf Club, Surrey
	Manchester Golf Club, Gtr Manchester
	Marriott Worsley Park, Gtr Manchester
	Montrose Golf Links, Angus
	Newbury & Crookham Golf Club, Berkshire
	Newport Golf Club, Gwent
	Ratho Park Golf Club, Mid Lothian
	Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, Mid Glamorgan
	South Essex Golf Centre, Essex
	Stocksfield Golf Club, Northumberland
	The Honorable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, Muirfield, East Lothian
	The Pines Golf Club, Dumfries and Galloway
	Wilmslow Golf Club, Cheshire

The club have previously been the recipients of two BIGGA Scottish Regional Winners Awards. These prizes have largely been awarded for the progressive environmental management throughout the clubhouse and associated complex, in addition to the excellent outreach and communication with the surrounding communities. Recently completed and ongoing projects in these areas include; construction of a reedbed for wastewater treatment, use of solar panels on clubhouse/leisure club, onsite production of compost from green waste, use of grey/recycled water for course irrigation, energy transfer technology in clubhouse/leisure club, creation of environmental signs and booklets for visitors and a comprehensive recycling programme involving almost all arising waste streams.

2006 saw a tremendous improvement in the nature conservation side of the Club's application with a significant number of habitat enhancement projects on the course. The 18 hole course nestles beautifully into its dramatic clifftop setting and appears to be timeless in character despite being only seven years old. The development of appropriately sited and managed deep rough grassland contributes to its air of naturalness while providing home to breeding skylark, adder and a host of other wildlife. Gorse has become a dominant feature of the



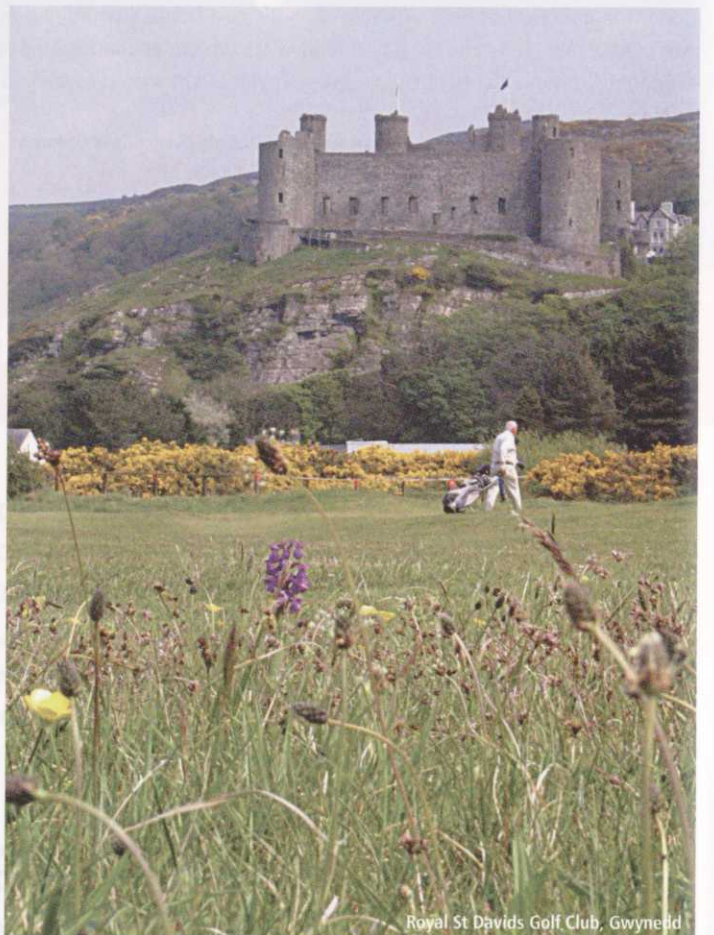
## A Long Time Coming!



Reay Golf Club, Caithness



St. Annas Old Links Golf Club, Lancashire



Royal St Davids Golf Club, Gwynedd



central section of the course in recent years as it has developed into a mature to degenerate plant and marched aggressively through the high quality acid-grasslands. A strong gorse management programme has now been put into place in order to retain good quality specimens in the correct places while restoring grassland where appropriate.

Complete species lists of all flora and fauna (including a comprehensive mollusc list) have been professionally compiled so as to provide a basis for ongoing management and a record of the value of the course for local wildlife. The club have also engaged the services of the Scottish Golf Environment group to undertake an 'Appraisal of the Landscape and Cultural Heritage' of the course which recognises and provides management advice on all aspects of archaeological interest. One of the most important features highlighted within is the extensive network of dry stone walls (known locally as dykes) which provide outstanding habitat for specialist birds, reptiles and several types of lichen.

The most northerly golf course on mainland Britain is the proud title held by the Runners Up in the Winners region, **Reay GC**. Managed by a 'team' of one greenstaff (plus an extra man in the summer!), the traditional link course sits adjacent the sea 12 miles to the west of Thurso in Caithness. Do not be fooled, however, into thinking that such a modest club only contribute to the environment by accident. Proactive grassland, stream and dune management, composting and scrub removal are all excellent on course projects that are emphasised to the local community and tourists by nature walks and wildlife leaflets available. Perhaps Reay's best asset however is the minimal input approach to the whole site. Traditional greenkeeping and maintaining the status quo mean that this course is one of the most truly 'sustainable' in the UK.

In the North of England, **St Annes Old Links** were successful in only their second application to the competition in securing the regional title. An excellent individual project in the creation of a large practice tee utilising waste spoil from other onsite work was the highlight of this year's entry. As with all other winners in 2006, a holistic recycling policy is well in place with other important projects such as relict heathland restoration and scrub control on the golf course. Down into the Midlands; **Notts (Hollinwell) Golf Club** secured the regional title for the third year running. The club are widely recognised for their extensive heathland creation and specific habitat management on the golf course and have been highlighted in previous years of the competition for the construction of reedbeds for wastewater treatment.

**Royal St Davids GC**, in Harlech, have won the South West and Wales Region in their first year of entry, and staved off some very stiff competition this year in historically the weakest region. Working closely with The Countryside Council for Wales and STRI in maintaining the Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) which covers some 95% of the course, the club are undertaking extensive grassland management trials in order to develop the most appropriate techniques in maintaining a good quality sward for both wildlife and golf.

The South East Region has previously hailed more overall winners than any other in the history of the competition. 2006 again saw some extremely strong entries from a range of golf clubs. After much deliberation by the judges, the public pay and play **Rookwood Golf Course** in West Sussex were finally chosen as regional winners. Owned by Horsham District Council, the course is managed sympathetically for wildlife with buffer zones developed around all water bodies for breeding water fowl. In 2006 when concerns about golf courses using excessive water for irrigation made national news, Rookwood took it upon themselves to put a few ill-educated pessimists straight and produce a series of signs and leaflets about the strict water use policy on the course. The promotional materials that contain the tag line 'Using water wisely' are professionally produced. What is more, they have been displayed in high profile areas, on the roadside at the entrance to the course, on the



## Harrogate week

**Don't be left out in the cold...**

### THE ESSENTIAL EVENT FOR DECISION MAKERS & THEIR TEAMS

World Class Turf Management Education Programme

Leading European Turf Management Exhibition

Personal & Career Development Seminars

Special Events & Product Launches

Valuable Networking Opportunities

FREE Admission to Exhibition

Career Advice & Job Shop

FREE Park & Ride

**...Team up with others at Harrogate Week**

For more information and priority registration visit [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)



EDUCATION 21 - 25 January 2007

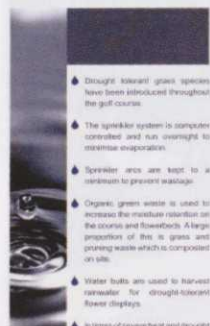
EXHIBITION 23 - 25 January 2007

**MORE THAN JUST A GREENKEEPING SHOW!**

Organised by BIGGA telephone 01347 833800



## A Long Time Coming!



- Drought tolerant grass species have been introduced throughout the golf course.
- The sprinkler system is computer controlled and run overnight to minimise evaporation.
- Sprinkler areas are kept to a minimum to prevent wastage.
- Organic green waste is used to increase the moisture retention on the course and flowerbeds. A large proportion of this is grass and growing waste which is composted on site.
- Water butts are used to harvest rainwater for drought tolerant flower displays.
- In areas of overheat and drought heights of cut are increased and additional organic dressing is spread to reduce evaporation.
- Flocks and water features are ecologically maintained to ensure maximum collection and storage, whilst encouraging the biodiversity of these natural wildlife habitats.

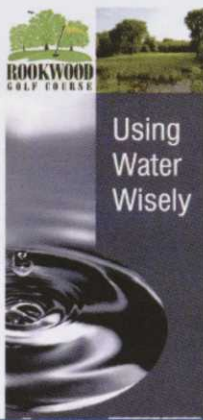
### Further Information

Rookwood Golf Course is an exceptional public pay and play golf course. No membership fee is payable. The course is set in an area of gently undulating parkland, providing excellent use of the large number of mature trees with indigenous coloured greens. The course is rich in wildlife and complements neighbouring Wainham Nature Reserve.

For further information on Rookwood's water-saving measures please contact:

Stephany Blake,  
Rookwood Golf Course,  
Robin Hood Lane,  
Wainham, Horsham,  
West Sussex, RH12 3RH.

Telephone: 01403 252123,  
Email: info@rookwoodgolfcourse.co.uk  
www.rookwoodgolfcourse.co.uk



Rookwood Golf Course,  
West Sussex



### Why do we need to think carefully about our use of water?

Water conservation is increasingly becoming an important consideration for us all. Drought levels in South East England are at their lowest in 20 years.

As of 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2006, almost 13 million people have been restricted from using lawnmowers and sprinklers. Under the Water Resources Act 1981, Drought Orders are now being put in place across parts of the South East, to limit water use even further.

Low rainfall continues to put pressure on the region's limited water supply.

### How does Rookwood Golf Course currently manage its water usage?

• Using water wisely has always been a high priority at Rookwood Golf Course through its design, construction and on-going management.

• No mains water supply is used for the irrigation of any part of the 18 hole golf course or 9 hole pitch and putt course. The irrigation system only uses rainwater and harvested water.

• This water is collected from the course drainage system and external roadways. This is topped up from the neighbouring millpond but only during flood conditions and over the autumn and winter months. The lake provides an important natural resource (lake). The lake holds enough water for over three years of drought and over seven years at current consumption. The lake provides not only an invaluable water storage facility, but is also a feature in itself offering an attractive habitat for wildlife.



• The use of irrigation water has been carefully monitored over the past few years and has been reduced to under half the recommended maximum, for courses of a similar or smaller size, as recommended by the Environment Agency.

• In 2005, Rookwood Golf Course won the South East England BGGGA (British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association) Golf Environment Award: conservation of natural resources including water contributed to this success.



course and in the pro shop and club house leaving no-one who passes or visits the course in doubt that the club is fully committed to water conservation.

Water use features strongly in the 'Best New Initiative' prize in the 2006 competition also. **The Grove Golf Centre** in Herefordshire (not to be confused with its namesake in Hertfordshire) have recently installed a collection and treatment system, which will capture all water used in the clubhouse and surroundings, in addition to rainwater landing on roofs and hardstandings. The water is treated via an underground series of chambers before passing through a reedbed and into a storage lake and used for course irrigation. This makes the club completely self sufficient in terms of course irrigation and moreover makes each litre of water paid for work twice as hard!

**Guildford GC** have clinched the coveted Best New Entrant Prize this year for their excellent conservation work on the course. Restoring relict heathland on a presently wooded golf course,

forms a large part of the greenstaff's annual workload and involves assisting in maintenance of a nearby nature reserve in return for heather seed/turfes. An outstanding project emphasised to the judges is the Club working closely with Surrey Wildlife Trust in placing 30 dormouse boxes alongside the 8th hole. Over the last year the Mammal Recording Officer has recorded two mating pairs - pretty good for a species named on the IUCN Red List and the subject of a UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

All in all, 2006 has been another excellent year for the BIGGA Golf Environment Competition, Brighthouse Bay finally came out overall winners, however they were pushed all the way to the last by one of the regional winners. The competition is consistently getting harder to judge as the clubs involved in sound ecological management has risen from a small percentage to a majority. The full list of clubs achieving a prize or highly commended certificate is printed below, which I hope highlights the fact the competition is open to all clubs irrelevant of size or history and that no biased is placed on prestige...only effort and attitude.

As always, I would like to offer the sincere appreciation of all involved with The BIGGA Golf Environment Competition to our generous sponsors at Ransomes Jacobson, Syngenta, CourseCare and Scotts. If it were not for the support of these environmentally progressive companies, the Competition would not be sustained as the most prestigious annual environmental event in golf.



Guildford Golf Club, Surrey





The Grove Golf Centre, Herefordshire



Co-sponsoring the competition for the first time this year are Course Care and the company are proud to be associated with BIGGA and sponsor the Environment Competition.

They see environmental issues as a priority and do as much as they can to protect the environment by recycling, taking their environmental responsibilities seriously. They manage a Waste Transfer Station at their Keighley base and are fully licensed by the Environment Agency (licence No. EAWML/65417). They operate in an environmentally responsible way and, for instance, have installed purpose made plant and equipment to process and recycle much of the collected waste. Currently 95% of the waste collected from golf and turf management customers under their Waste Away scheme is recycled. This includes the many thousands of plastic chemical containers. Instead of taking them to landfill, they are turned into chips, which are re-processed and turned into useful rot proof items for use around the course; fence posts, seating, walkway, sleepers etc. Many other products are recycled and include; waste oil, aerosols, filters, fluorescent tubes, batteries, redundant plastic wheelie bins and window frames, old oil tanks, etc.

With the advent of the new WEEE regulations (waste electrical and electronic equipment), they have expanded their waste management services to include items such as old fridges, computers, TV's and monitors, printers, radios and phones etc. They are encouraging waste reduction through recycling and composting by customers too. Their new composting machines will turn grass clippings, twigs, branches, leaves, green kitchen waste and all that cardboard from the pro-shop into compostable material.



## Don't end up in the rough...

### THE ESSENTIAL EVENT FOR DECISION MAKERS & THEIR TEAMS

#### World Class Education Programme Including:

Working With People Who Cause You Stress!!!

Course Set Up for a Qualifying Competition

R&A Sward Improvement Workshop

Budgeting - Making Numbers Count

Health & Safety for Greenkeepers

Environmental Management

Golf - Just a Game?

Basic Agronomy

Green Speed

Drainage

## ...Drive straight to Harrogate to stay on course

For more information and priority registration visit [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)

FREE Park & Ride - FREE Admission to Exhibition



**EDUCATION 21 - 25 January 2007**

**EXHIBITION 23 - 25 January 2007**

**MORE THAN JUST A GREENKEEPING SHOW!**

Organised by BIGGA telephone 01347 833800



Tyre specialists will typically carry a wide assortment of both new and used tyres, the latter perhaps providing a more economical means of kitting out a little used but still viable item of equipment

# What Can A Tyre Specialist Do For You?

You would not ask for seed mixture or top dressing advice from a tyre specialist. So why is it we often ask tyre specialists to supply a tyre as opposed to seeking their recommendations? James de Havilland discusses...

First things first. It is all too easy to assume that a tyre wholesale company or fitting outlet is also a tyre specialist. The reality is that it can take some shopping around to find someone who really understands your needs and can source the right tyres. By the right tyres, incidentally, that means more than just supplying the correct size and tread pattern. Although they all have being round and black in common, tyres can vary hugely in what they can offer.

Buying replacement tyres for an existing item of equipment should be easy enough. A like for like replacement will typically be a sensible choice. This will apply particularly to ride on mowers. Most designs do not really allow for a different size of tyre to be fitted. That is not to say a 'better' alternative brand may not be available, but in most cases the same type and size of tyre to the original will remain the best choice.

It is when looking at other equipment, to include trailed equipment and tractors, that a bit of lateral thinking can help. A good example is an old four tonne capacity trailer used for odd jobs in winter. Fitted with rock hard tyres, the trailer has restricted use. The right wheel and tyre combination, however, could see the same trailer used to ferry materials around the course year round behind a suitable shod tractor.



Modern mowers will typically be supplied with tyres optimised to suit their application, with little room for alternatives. Tyre design and size availability does change, however, so it may be worth checking with a specialist if seeking alternatives, particularly on an older model





You cannot tell which of these tyres will be the best for working on turf simply by looking. Different carcass strengths and construction methods will influence load bearing capacity and inflation pressures. It is better to seek advice than try and become a tyre expert

Buying a new set of wheel rims and tyres for an old trailer may seem a bit extreme, particularly with modern flotation rubber costing as much as it does at present. Weigh up this cost against the cost of investing in a new trailer or alternative such as a utility vehicle however, and the sums can start to make sense. The trick is to see what is on offer.

#### RADIAL VERSUS CROSS PLY

If a tyre supplier blankly states radial tyres are superior to those with cross ply construction, then you all you need to know is that they are not a specialist. Although radials may well suit modern cars they are not always right for equipment that operates on turf. Indeed the Goodyear Terra Tire, which many would argue set the 'flotation' ball rolling back in the 1970s, was and remained a cross ply until production ceased in 2005. (Goodyear sold its agricultural division in the US to Titan Tire).

Frankly the tyre's construction is not something to be concerned about. What is far more relevant is the tyre's ability to do a specific set of tasks. So instead of asking for a radial tyre to fit a certain make and model of tractor, the better approach is to outline what the tyre will have to do.

#### SELECTING THE RIGHT TYRE

There are two elements to this. The first is to determine what existing tyre and wheel rim are fitted. If these are not doing what is asked of them, identify what the problem is. In most cases it will be that the tyres footprint and inflation pressures are incompatible with working on certain areas of the course.

At this stage, the solution will seem to be obvious. Fit as large a set of tyres as possible onto the existing rims. As long as the diameter of the tyres matches those of the originals, the axle ratios on 4WD equipment should remain the same. The problem is that this is actually more difficult to achieve than may at first be appreciated.

An alternative approach is to consider what the machine in question is used for. In the case of a tractor, it can pay to retain the original wheels and tyres and take a second approach; purchasing a new set of wheels to go with what may be purpose designed flotation tyres. A good tyre specialist will be able to come up with a broad choice, offering recommendations that could allow a 45hp tractor to have a large enough footprint to safely work on the greens.



## Harrogate week

*Team work is what makes it...*

### THE ESSENTIAL EVENT FOR DECISION MAKERS & THEIR TEAMS

- World Class Turf Management Education Programme
- Exchange Ideas with Fellow Professionals
- Personal & Career Development Seminars
- Special Events & Product Launches
- FREE Admission to Exhibition
- Mingle with Industry Experts
- Career Advice & Job Shop
- FREE Park & Ride
- Internet Café
- BIGGA AGM
- Banquet

*...Network with other big hitters at Harrogate*

For more information and priority registration visit [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)



**EDUCATION 21 - 25 January 2007**  
**EXHIBITION 23 - 25 January 2007**

**SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION REGISTER NOW!**

Organised by BIGGA telephone 01347 833800



Hole in one!

At **Fieldens** we have **tyres, wheels** and the **experience** to keep your machines moving whatever the conditions without damaging valuable playing surfaces

*Specialist tyres for pedestrian and ride-on machines, compact and larger tractors, plant and equipment*

**Fieldens**

(Wheels, Tyres and ATVs) Ltd

Starhouse, Onehouse, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 3EL

Tel: +44 (0)1449 675071 Fax: +44 (0)1449 678282 E: sales@fieldens.co.uk  
www.fieldens.co.uk

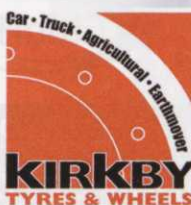
**ALLIANCE** wide flotation  
**380** high speed radial  
specialist tyres for trailers  
& implements.

Available in the following sizes:

550/45R22.5  
560/60R22.5  
600/40R22.5  
600/55R22.5  
650/50R22.5  
750/45R22.5  
650/55R26.5  
650/60R26.5  
750/45R26.5

Ask for the full details today!  
Large stocks always available!

- Wide, flat tread design for increased flotation
- Excellent for high load and high speed use



Tel: 08702 428800

Fax: 0151 4865391

E-mail: sales@kirkbytyres.co.uk

www.kirkbytyres.co.uk



## What Can A Tyre Specialist Do For You?



A wide, small diameter rim is the key to fitting the tyres with the lowest ground bearing pressures. A specialist will be able to come up with a wheel and tyre package to suit specific demands



This well-balanced tractor tyre combination is of little value if used to work with trailed kit without similarly well thought through wheel and tyre equipment. Fitting new tyres and rims to an old trailer can considerably enhance its versatility



It is tractors that will benefit most from the attention of a specialist supplier, the small diameter but wide rim fitted to this tractor obviously allows a tyre choice that would not be possible on standard wheel equipment



Tractor manufacturers will offer a choice of standard tyres, with dealers perhaps offering a further set of alternatives. But it is tyre specialists who may come up with the best package. Before selecting a tractor, see what tyres are available to fit. Remember also that front driven axles need tyres compatible with those at the rear

This level of flotation may simply not be achievable with tyres that will fit the original rims supplied with the tractor. Of equal importance, retaining the 'old' wheels and tyres for other duties, such as loader work, will help enhance the life of the flotation tyres. A set of tyres can easily outlive the original tractor if only used on turf and not hard surfaces.

### GEARING UP TO SWAP OVER WHEEL SETS

Although one set of wheels and tyres for a given vehicle may well suit a course where there is enough equipment to be reserved for certain duties, being able to swap wheels to suit a specific task is a viable alternative. A decent jack and air tools can make removing and fitting replacements much easier, perhaps 20 minutes with practice.

There is also no reason why certain wheels cannot be swapped between different equipment. A wide set of top dresser tyres could well fit a trailer. The trick is to think how tyres can be mixed and matched.

### NO NEED TO STICK TO ONE MAKE OR DESIGN

There is nothing in the rulebook that says it is wrong to mix different brands or patterns of tyre between axles. A tractor can have a set of Galaxy rubber on the back with Titan tyres on the front. As long as the rolling diameters marry up on 4WD axles to prevent torque wind up, there will not be a problem. In some instances, running the 'wrong' tyre combination may be fine if the driven axle up front is not engaged.

### FIND A SPECIALIST AND STICK WITH HIM

As mentioned at the outset, there is a difference between a tyre specialist and a tyre supplier. The latter will be able to source and fit tyres you choose. A specialist will be able to offer advice and come up with tyres to meet specific needs. If you know what you want and know what new tyres are coming onto the market, a tyre supplier will be fine. For the rest of us, it is better to ask a specialist to help out.

*With thanks to Dick Anderson, R H Claydon Ltd ([www.rhc.co.uk](http://www.rhc.co.uk)) and Les Moreton, Sam Moreton and Son ([www.farmerstyre.co.uk](http://www.farmerstyre.co.uk)).*



# Paving the Way for the Future

Scott MacCallum looks at the humble cart path and how it can help to transform a golf club.

Perhaps it's as we get older, but it seems as though modern day living involves looking for labour saving opportunities, or it could even be that we're lulled by marketing gurus into thinking that all self respecting golfers should travel in style.



I'm referring to the fact that more and more golf clubs are offering buggies as an option and that as a result more and more clubs are looking to build cart paths to accommodate them and reduce wear on the playing surface.

Paths are what could be described as a necessary evil at modern day clubs. It can be hard to make them look attractive but they do an important job and with buggy hire a potentially lucrative revenue stream for clubs finding a way of integrating them into the layout of the course is becoming increasingly worthwhile.

Not every golf course is capable of coping with a cart path. Space is an obvious issue. Many courses were built even before cars were a popular form of transport never mind buggies to transport golfers around a golf course and with that in mind, space around greens in particular was not built into plans for any future path. Health and Safety issues are also key, with slopes often rendering paths and buggies unusable - courses split by roads and devoid of tunnels or bridges are also not conducive to buggy golf.

If a course is deemed suitable for four wheeled travel as well as the more traditional two legged variety a path is much the best way to ensure damage to the playing areas is kept to a minimum. Giving free rein to buggies can cause erosion in some areas and compaction in others while, although it sounds all too obvious, a path is far in away the best way to ensure golfers stick to a prescribed route.

If a cart path has been identified as an option to explore the next decision is what it should be made from and there again there are several options to look into.

Woodchippings or shell can be ideal for some clubs for footpaths but not so good for cart paths as retaining the materials within the confines of the path is extremely difficult.

Concrete or paving is much more efficient and long lasting but is expensive to lay.

Other options include artificial turf which assists in blending the path into the rest of the golf course.

"Verdeturf is an 18mm open pile artificial grass, which is UV and colour stabilised. The tufted pile of the grass is to be filled to within 2-3mm off the surface with kiln dried sand. This sand holds the grass in place, eliminating the necessity for nails or other fixings. The sand also protects the tufts from spiked shoes and provides a natural appearance to the finished installation," said Beth Lucas, of Verdeturf.

The company also produces Super Verdegrass which does not require a sand dressing so should be held in place with either all-weather adhesive or galvanised nails. Super Verdegrass can also be used for covering bridges, where the weight of the sand in the Verdeturf may be too heavy. It is also very popular on areas near the clubhouse, where a non sand filled product is preferred," said Beth.

Tenax tackles the problem of erosion with their GridLock pavers. These are injection moulded cellular structures which hold the stabilising material in place preventing any further erosion.

"Manufactured from HDPE, GridLock is resistant to oil, chemicals and extremes of temperature and has the strength to withstand loads in excess of 170 tonnes per square metre," explained Michael Carr, of Tenax





Gridlock Border



No paths and buggies roam the course unrestricted

Photograph supplied by Eric Hepworth

"You can lay the on top of existing materials. I think it was over shell at Bognor and it will work beautifully while they are great for areas around the clubhouse and any soggy parts of the course," explained Tom, who said he'd coloured chippings in his rockery at home.

So there are options out there for any club looking to improve their golf course from a health and safety or revenue generating perspective.

Thanks for Verdegrass, Tenax and Castcrete Ltd for their co-operation with this feature.

"Installation of the interlocking pavers is easily carried out with very little ground preparation required since the pavers are simply laid on to a 25mm sub-base of sand or other granular material. St Neots GC is one of the clubs in the UK which has gone down the GridLock route."

Another material which is finding favour in modern day path production also carries environmental credentials in that it owns its existence to recycling.

Rubber chippings produced from old tyres reduce the wear of buggy tyres, are quiet and once they have been laid compact to make a solid surface - although they are not suitable for sloping areas.

"They can also be coloured to blend in to the surroundings," said Tom Brooker, Director of Castcrete Ltd.

"We sold an initial batch of half a tonne to Bognor Regis Golf Club and they came back once they'd tried it and bought another nine tonnes and then a further five after that," he explained.



Castcrete path



## HAD THAT **SINKING** FEELING LAST WINTER?



AFT 45

- ◆ Suitable for 20-45hp compact tractors
- ◆ Available with boom and chain and/or slitting wheel
- ◆ Removes soil with clean up conveyor or auger system



AFT SANDBANDER

- ◆ For 25mm wide and up to 250mm deep sand slits
- ◆ Will install slits to remove standing surface water
- ◆ Works on golf greens thanks to unique blade design

**INVEST IN A MACHINE FOR COST EFFECTIVE TRENCHING**

AFT Trenchers Ltd. Tel: (01787) 311811 Fax: (01787) 310888 email: [info@trenchers.co.uk](mailto:info@trenchers.co.uk) [www.trenchers.co.uk](http://www.trenchers.co.uk)





# Be Safe and Look Smart

The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (PPEW Regulation) came into force on January 1, 1993 with the main requirement being that personal protective equipment is to be supplied and used at work wherever there are risks to health and safety that cannot be adequately controlled by other means.

Ok, so protective clothing is essential when working within the greenkeeping industry, but there are so many new and exciting innovations in workwear that nowadays you don't have to look stupid to be safe!

Melissa Toombs looks at workwear legislation and four of today's best brands.

Interestingly, PPE is defined in the Regulations as 'all equipment (including clothing affording protection against the weather) which is intended to be worn or held by a person at work and which protects him/her against one or more risks to his/her health or safety'. This is important, as some employers in the greenkeeping industry have thought that waterproof and warm clothing is not classed as PPE. An employer cannot ask for money from an employee for PPE, whether it is returnable or not.

To ensure adequate protection is afforded to employees, risk assessments should be carried out and equipment carefully chosen and supplied by the employer. Ask your PPE supplier for advice if you are unsure, as various options may be available depending on the nature of the risks involved. All equipment purchased, however, should be 'CE' marked and comply with the Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002.

Risk assessments should include the following six main hazard areas. Types of PPE are shown in each case;

- Eyes - Hazards: Chemical or metal splash, dust, projectiles, gas and vapour, radiation. Options: Safety spectacles, goggles, faceshields, visors.
- Head - Hazards: Impact from falling objects, risk of head bumping, hair entanglement. Options: A range of helmets and bump caps.
- Breathing - Hazards: dust, vapour and gas. Options: Disposable filtering facepiece or respirator, half or full face respirators, air-fed helmets, breathing apparatus.
- Protecting the body - Hazards: temperature extremes, adverse weather, chemical or metal splash, spray from pressure leaks or spray guns, impact or penetration, contaminated dust, excessive wear or

entanglement of own clothing. Options: Conventional or disposable overalls, boiler suits, waterproof jackets and trousers, specialist protective clothing, e.g. Hi-vis clothing, spraysuits, chainsaw wear.

- Hands and arms - Hazards: abrasion, temperature extremes, cuts and punctures, impact, chemicals, electric shock, skin infection, disease or contamination. Options: Gloves, gauntlets, mitts, wristcuffs, armllets.
- Feet and legs - Hazards: wet, electrostatic build-up, slipping, cuts and punctures, falling objects, molten metal and chemical splash, abrasion. Options: Safety boots and shoes with protective toecaps and penetration resistant mid-sole, gaiters, leggings, spats.
- N.B. Hearing protection and respiratory protective equipment provided for most work situations are not covered by PPEW Regulations because other regulations apply to them. Training is essential for those using PPE and should include reasons for use, how it is used, repaired or replaced and its limitations. Maintenance of PPE is important. It should be properly stored, cleaned and kept in good repair. Replacement should be in accordance with manufacturers requirements, e.g. Helmets, which are used daily and exposed to sunlight, have a realistic life span of about two years and should be replaced after this period, irrespective of any signs of wear or damage.



## SAFETY EYEWEAR FOR GREENKEEPERS

The peace and tranquillity of the golf course early in the morning may seem a strange place to be concerned about eye protection - but health and safety issues surrounding greenkeeping are a major concern. When you have to work all day every day in all weather and light conditions - sometimes with golf balls flying towards you - then it's reassuring to know that today's safety eyewear is not just stylish and comfortable. It has been engineered to the highest safety standards and can actually enhance vision in poor light.

Nowadays, all safety eyewear used in the work environment has to meet rigorous European safety standards. You might be familiar with the oft-quoted code EN 166 1F. It sounds impressive - but what does it actually mean?

Effectively each group of numbers tells you just how good these products are - EN designates the European Safety standard that is certified for the product. 166 is the designation for eyewear. 1F tells you that the glasses are grade 1 optical quality - and 'F' is a level of impact protection - this test standard demands the lens can withstand a ball bearing fired at 80mph without shattering. Now isn't that good to know when you are in the firing line out on the fairway?

Amazingly safety eyewear is engineered to performance standards that may put expensive performance sports sunglasses to shame. This is best illustrated by looking at some of the top models on the market today.

### SAFETY GLASSES: BEST BUYS

Course Care's bestseller is the Course Care Eyeshield - the superb safety spectacle. Available with clear, amber or brown lens and approved to EN 166 1F KN, these glasses feature:

- Impact protection up to grade F
- Ergonomical design, good field of vision
- Soft temple arms with spring effect
- Adjustable length to five positions
- Integrated brow, side and cheek guards and simple lens replacement.



Course Care Eyeshield's cost £14 per pair plus VAT

Safety glasses offer superb impact protection - but some jobs demand total wraparound protection - mixing and using herbicides for example. This is where goggles are so vital. There's no compromise with Chemor.

- The head strap is easily adjustable for a secure fit
- The lenses are anti-scratch on the outside and anti-fog on the inside
- They can even be worn over prescription spectacles

Specify Chemor for your safety goggles and you can be confident that it gives splash and airborne droplet protection - one size really does fit all.



Strathallan Safety Supplies Chemor safety glasses (£5.96 plus VAT) - offer full protection with built-in comfort and ventilation

BIGGA Regatta Safety/Sun Glasses provide complete protection against speed particles for your eyes. Features include:

- Soft touch
- Non-slip frame/arms
- Lightweight polycarbonate construction
- Full UV protection



Supplied with a drawstring microfibre pouch, which doubles up as a cleaning cloth, Regatta Safety/Sun Glasses cost £15 per pair or £25 if supplied with a protective case and three pairs of interchangeable lenses for varying sunlight strength - available from BIGGA HQ

Sometimes, budget is the main pre-requisite for safety glasses - and here Exor stands head and shoulders above the crowd. For the price you get a superb specification. The wraparound style provides unsurpassed all-round protection. The arms adjust for both length and angle - so Exor can be personalised to fit heads of all shapes and sizes. Here too the grade one lenses come in every variation you need - clear, grey sun lens or orange for low light levels. The glasses are still approved to EN166 1F and there's even a free neck cord to help ensure you don't forget which hole or fairway you left them on!



Exor safety glasses cost £3 per pair plus VAT and are available from Strathallan Safety Supplies

One final word on safety eyewear - lenses. Today's safety eyewear lenses are highly sophisticated and offer remarkable levels of protection. They are probably far superior to many sunglasses. Clear lenses don't just protect against impact - they can be anti-scratch, anti-fog - or both! They also give 100% protection against harmful UV radiation. This menace may be lurking unseen even on overcast days.

Yellow and orange lenses enhance vision in poor light - and grey sun lenses filter out intense light to make working in bright conditions so much more comfortable - again while blocking harmful UV radiation.



# WINTER WARMERS



## GET DRESSED FOR WINTER

Features include:

- Fully taped seams
- Double layer fabric
- Concealed hood, cuff and waist adjustment.

Normally selling at £120 plus VAT, readers can purchase the suit (while stocks last) at only £85 plus VAT.



The Course Care Driza-Bone Greenkeeper Suit is high quality, waterproof, breathable, lightweight and practical



The First Base Cap is a ventilated, attractively styled bump cap offering an affordable degree of head protection. Available from Course Care in navy or green, the cap costs £13.85 plus VAT



Showa has been a pioneer in the design of coated knit gloves for 25 years. They specialise in the creation and manufacture of gloves, building their development process around innovation and ultimate quality. This gives the wearer greater safety, greater dexterity and greater comfort, thereby reducing the need for wearers to remove their hand protection. Gloves pictured cost £2.99 plus VAT from Strathallan Safety Supplies





Strathallan Safety Supplies in Fife has discovered how well Mascot® comply with the needs and demands of greenkeepers. Some of their most popular products among greenkeepers are the Genova Pilot Jacket (£66.80 plus VAT) and the Savona Parka Jacket (£92.24 plus VAT), in combination with the Wolfurt Overtrousers (£41.99 plus VAT). All three of these products are waterproof, windproof, breathable and tough.



This does exactly what it says on the tin. The Four Seasons Breaker is just that - perfect to wear all year round. This item is a multi-option pullover style top with a short zip and elasticated draw cord. This breaker zips off in two places to create three different garments - full sleeve, half sleeve and sleeveless top. The Four Seasons breaker costs £26 and is available from BIGGA HQ



Made with porelle membrane sandwiched between two textile layers, these SealSkinz gloves are 100% waterproof and breathable and designed to offer excellent grip and dexterity in wet conditions. Retailing at £22.50, BIGGA offer a discount price of £16 + £1 p&p to members



Functional fleece jacket. An extremely hard-wearing jacket in 100% windproof fleece with Cordura reinforcement to exposed areas. RRP £64.58 plus VAT, available from Blaklader

Blåkläder products are designed with the latest technical fabrics that offer the wearer excellent durability and strength together with the comfort and freedom of movement required for working garments. Trousers in cotton or harder wearing polyester/cotton can now have Cordura® knee pad pockets and functional pockets for extra tools, pencils and mobile phones. Winter jackets are made with Blåkläder "WabTech" fabric which is waterproof, windproof and breathable. Based on many years of experience of making working clothes for those harsh Swedish Winters, Blåkläder are promoting the three-layer principle for working outside in the cold winter months.

This includes:

- 1). A base 'wicking' layer that wicks any moisture away from the skin and regulates body temperature.
- 2). An intermediate layer that wicks the moisture further away from the body and insulates against cold thereby maintaining your body heat.
- 3). A breathable outer layer that protects you from the cold, wind and rain and releases the moisture so it can evaporate on the outside.

*Arco were approached and asked if they wished to contribute to this article but declined the invitation. BIGGA members are entitled to a 20% discount on certain Arco products.*



**See this month's buyers guide for other workwear specialists**

Heavy-duty trousers. Made in extra hard-wearing 330gsm polyester/cotton with Cordura reinforcement to exposed areas. RRP £49.91 plus VAT, available from Blaklader

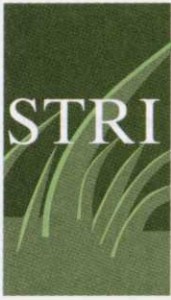


Craftsman's trousers. Made in hard-wearing 300gsm polyester/cotton with Cordura knee pad pockets and many functional pockets. RRP £29.08 plus VAT, available from Blaklader

The combination of these Mascotex® products generates a fully waterproof set that keeps you warm and still allows the body to transport perspiration away from the skin.

The Mascotex® products are certified according to the norm EN 343, the European standard for wind and weather protection.





# Managing Environmental Pressure

By Henry Bechelet

## WAY OF THINKING

"Changing The Nature of Your Greens" introduced the idea of greenkeeping as environmental management. The article gives an understanding of the nature of the grasses and it shows how to select the finer species by setting the environment correctly. For the finer grasses to flourish they need the environmental pressures to be managed properly. This way of thinking has become known as The Disturbance Theory.

## A NEW WHEEL

Traditional greenkeeping method has always sought to use stress to encourage the finer grasses. But, it is now a markedly different world from the days of Old Tom and we have to adopt slightly different strategies when creating our putting surfaces. Modern golf demands year-round play and ever-quicker putting surfaces and our industry has provided us with an arsenal of super effective machines designed to help us satisfy the situation. As a result, the pressures impacting on our turf are more intense than ever. It is becoming more and more difficult to favour the finer grasses but it is not impossible. This theory aims to bring greenkeeping for the finer grasses up-to-date for everyone's sake.



## NOW NOT STRESS

Disturbance is the physical damage occurring within the environment. This is particularly pertinent for golf greens, which rely on regular mowing as its fundamental preparation treatment. As you can imagine, regular disturbance imposes a huge selection pressure on the environment. Quick growing weeds are the natural beneficiaries if there is too much damage and too often. Naturally slow growers find it hard to recover. Disturbance includes wear, disease, pitch mark damage as well as the mechanical treatments. The articles "Do Not Disturb" and "Is Verticutting Necessary" cover the issue of disturbance in relation to the surface preparations.

## AND NOT LEAST

The final environmental pressure is competition. This is the battle between plants to survive and possibly assume dominance within the environment. Some plants have evolved to naturally assume dominance given the right conditions. The bents and fescues will do this if you let them, BUT their competitive edge will struggle to exert itself if the stress/disturbance are overriding. Constant hacking will not allow plants to force themselves on the situation. You need to ease the wider pressure to let the stronger better nature of the finer grasses take over. "Competitive Edge" takes a look into this area.

## ALL IS EVERYTHING

These pressures do not act in isolation, they work together to all create the nature of the growing environment. As turf managers, we simply need to move towards the environmental balance that is suited for the desired species. We have to use the weather when it comes.

Of course this isn't going to be easy. We already know that the innate pressures are naturally high and with the golfers level of expectation the environment is usually intense. Who said it was going to be easy? Believe me that all you need to do is understand the

## PRESSURE'S ON

You'll be pleased to know that modern day environmental pressure now comes in the forms of disturbance and competition as well as stress. To achieve the finer grasses you just need to understand both the nature and impact of all of these pressures and then use them properly. Success is reliant on your powers of observation as well as your skill as a greenkeeper.

## STRESS ACTUALLY...

Stress is more precisely defined as the environmental constraints to growth. This may include droughting, starving, shading, drenching, freezing, soil compaction and potentially soil acidity and salinity. They are all the elements that restrict the growing environment. Environmental stress can be used to progressively select desirable species from those less tolerant. The problem with stress is that it comes in many different forms that each exert different types of selection pressure. So, when thinking and talking about stress we need to be clear about its exact nature and individual impact. Stress tolerators aren't necessarily tolerant to all stresses and so salinity can kill a drought tolerant plant. (See the article "The Salt of the Earth" for more detail).



pressures acting on your environment and work to direct them in a positive way. Take heart from all the greenkeepers who are already on the road and heading forward. This is the early days of the Disturbance Theory.

### AN ENVIRONMENTAL YEAR

Let me quickly run through the seasons to give you an idea on how to think in a Disturbance Theory way. To recap on the ideas of CNOYG; for the finer grasses to flourish we need to minimise disturbance and control beneficial stress to let competition take hold. Overseeding is required to continually improve your starting point. Simple stuff. We minimise disturbance through considerate winter management and with our year-round mechanical maintenance. To reduce the level of disturbance pressure we can cut fertiliser and irrigation inputs and so minimise the need for aggressive verticutting and mowing. We can play with droughting as a beneficial stress against the annual meadow-grass given the chance. The vegetation will soon change if you manage the environmental pressures considerately. Here's what you need to do...

### SPRING

In spring we need to boost growth sufficiently to generate recovery growth and allow the early season surface preparations to take place. The use of sulphate of ammonia feeds will bring acidity stress to bear against the annual meadow-grass if chosen. Verticut and scarify to prepare the surfaces by all means but don't go over the top. Top dress to prepare your surfaces without getting too aggressive. Minimise disturbance within reason and growth.

### SUMMER

Once you have created your surfaces, try to keep them quiet so that their playing qualities don't quickly grow out and constantly require regular aggressive verticutting treatments to get them back. Top dress and roll/iron to create firm, fast and true surfaces rather than constantly verticutting and scalping. Use ironing to add the polish. You must also prevent the development of dry patch stress with spiking, the use of wetting agents and focused irrigation. With this in place you can confidently exert drought pressure towards the end of summer (given the chance) to weaken the annual meadow-grass in preparation for the late summer/early autumn overseeding programme. Rather than burning-out the annual meadow-grass why not try for a touch of easier anthracnose? Minimise disturbance and control stress to let competition take hold later in the summer.

### AUTUMN

Prevent undue weakness moving into autumn with the use of a low NK plus Iron turf hardener. Really remove thatch at this time because the meadow-grass isn't seeding into the gaps. This is the natural time to overseed to get more of the good stuff in. Always use top rated seed. Renovate while growth is strong to bring quick recovery and get the fixture list organised well enough to allow a couple of weeks minor disruption afterwards. A late Captains day can ruin your plans for the year. To overseed properly it really needs to be carried out with a couple of months establishment growth still available. Connect the seed with the soil at the correct depth. Top dress to perfect the playing surfaces for a prolonged autumn playing season. Take care with the establishment. Raise the height of cut and continue to vibratory roll or hand mow to maintain playing qualities through until the end of the season. Disturb only for overseeding sake and minimise all else as growth tails off. Raise the height of cut early. Always prevent disease disturbance through integrated control methods as they aim to favour the finer grasses anyway.

### WINTER WEAR

Winter play can be very damaging. The wear disturbance is magnified at this time as plant growth tails off and the turf has less strength to recover. Try to keep the players off when they are damaging the surfaces. Simply provide decent alternatives and they won't grumble too much. Also, do not be stupid with your cutting height at this time of year, it might be the difference between long-term success and failure. Greenkeeping isn't about making friends at times but it's better in the long-run. Vibratory rollers can still help if dovetailed with aeration. Don't disturb the surfaces with aeration if ground conditions aren't right. Enforce pitch mark repair. Only verticut at this time if you want annual meadow-grass. Minimise disturbance. Minimise disturbance. Minimise disturbance.



### THE WAY FORWARD

So much of greenkeeping is about the attitude of the head man. If you want the finer grasses you have to try to understand your own turfgrass environment and be prepared to manage the pressures properly. Dogmatic recommendations aren't much help but they can help you stay focused in the right area. It is very simple; we want to create an environment that is more suited to the development of the finer grasses. To be successful in this approach you just need to be alive to any opportunities that will allow you to manipulate or regulate the pressures. This isn't rocket science, it just means you tuning-in better to the environmental conditions. You can do it. If you are patient enough then the finer grasses will come. Give yourself five years and stop fretting. Be confident enough to make the finer grasses happen and it will make your life easier. Better surfaces for longer in the year. No pressure from me.

*Henry Bechelet is the STRI Turfgrass Agronomist covering North and Eastern England. Henry may be contacted by email at: [henry.bechelet@stri.co.uk](mailto:henry.bechelet@stri.co.uk) or via: [www.stri.co.uk](http://www.stri.co.uk)*





# BIGGA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

## FREE LEGAL HELPLINE

Access 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for you and your family (living at the same address). Advice on employment matters, health and safety issues, consumer rights and any other legal matter. Medical costs and expenses should personal injury be sustained in an accident and Legal expenses up to £50,000 per annum. Call 0800 019 2569 For Greenkeeper Members Only.

## FREE PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Cover for time off work due to an accident at home, work or even on holiday as well as one off payments dependent on the type of injury. Call 01277 251000 and ask for Ira Mullish For Greenkeeper Members Only.

## FREE MEMBERS HANDBOOK

A free yearly copy of this indispensable tool, enabling members to track down professional help and keep contact with contemporaries.

## FREE FIELD GUIDES

A set of field guides is available to every member on request. This handy guide is produced in an easy to use format and is an aid to course identification. Call 01347 833800.

## FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

A monthly copy of the Association's award winning magazine delivered free to your door, keeping you up to date with all that's new in the industry.

## BIGGA LIBRARY

The BIGGA Library boasts over 650 books available to borrow for up to six weeks. The only cost is that of returning the book to HQ.

## BIGGA REFUND OF FEES SCHEME

Members may apply for an 80% refund of education and training fees up to a maximum of £350. Conditions apply. Call 01347 833800 for an application form.

## BIGGA REGIONAL TRAINING

BIGGA provide quality education and training courses at a minimum cost thanks to the support of Golden and Silver Key Members who contribute to the Education and Development Fund. Call 01347 833800.

## DISCOUNTED WORKWEAR

BIGGA have teamed up with ARCO, the leading supplier of workwear, safety clothing and maintenance products to offer members 20%\*discount off a choice of goods. Call 01482 611773.

\*Discount not available on selected products.

## CAR LEASING

Driving a brand new car couldn't be easier. Bigga has teamed up with Lex FreeChoice to offer an exclusive scheme which allows you and your family members to drive the car you've always wanted at a price you can afford. Call 0800 419 930 and quote BIGGA.

## CAR RENTAL

BIGGA have enrolled in National's Affinity Leisure Programme that offers members exclusive rates on car and van hire in the UK and on international car hire in over 80 countries. Ring 0870 191 6950 and quote A099084 for UK Car hire, A099085 for UK Van Hire and 8573290 for International Car Hire.

## INSURANCE QUOTATION SERVICE

A quotation service is available to members on a wide range of insurance products. Call 01603 828255 and quote UniBG0306.

## NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

When you join you are automatically given membership of one of the 27 sections around the country. As an active member you can attend golf days and other social events on a regular basis enabling you to network amongst others in the industry. Look at the 'Around the Green' section for contact details.

## BIGGA WEBSITE - [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

Exclusive access to the Members area of the website. Interact with other greenkeepers on the bulletin board or check out the latest recruitment vacancies in the industry. For Greenkeepers and Student Members only.





# GREENKEEPER TRAINING

BIGGA is actively involved in raising the Standard of Greenkeeper Training. The Association is a member of the Greenkeepers' Training Committee and strives to enhance the level of education through various means, including Section, Regional and National workshops, seminars and conferences.

The range and quality of training now available throughout the UK means that there is a training course for every greenkeeper. This should improve the quality of greenkeeping and help to produce better quality golf courses to the benefit of all within the industry.

Golf Course Managers should ensure that their staff are trained to the highest standards. This begins by selecting a training provider that meets the criteria laid down by the GTC. There is a clear link between education, training and economic success and all clubs should invest in the education of their staff.

Ken Richardson, Education and Training Manager, British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association  
Tel: 01347 833800 Email: [education@bigga.co.uk](mailto:education@bigga.co.uk) Website: [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

## Training providers guide Available courses guide

The guide overleaf is not exhaustive and a full list of GTC approved training providers can be obtained from the GTC. The Greenkeepers Training Committee (GTC) are continually reviewing the approved status of training providers offering greenkeeper training courses. Anyone with a query regarding greenkeeper training should contact the Greenkeeper Training Committee at Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, Tel: 01347 838640 or visit their website at <http://www.the-gtc.co.uk>

### SCOTLAND

#### ELMWOOD COLLEGE

Cupar, Fife, KY15 4JB

Contact: Sam Letham

Tel: 01334 658842 Fax: 01334 658888

Email: [sletham@elmwood.ac.uk](mailto:sletham@elmwood.ac.uk)

Web: [www.elmwood.ac.uk](http://www.elmwood.ac.uk)



**Information:** Information: Full Time National Certificate Greenkeeping: Block Release. SVQ Level II and III Block Release and Workbased options available. SVQ IV ILM Management, HNC & HND Golf Course Management available as Full time and Online Distance Learning. Golf Course Environmental Studies, Construction and Design Management Online Learning Courses. HNC & HND Golf Facility Management. PDA for Football, Cricket Management. SVQ Level II & III Landbased Service Engineers and Golf Course Mechanics Course. BTLIA Irrigation Management Block Course Various times throughout the year. FEPA and COSHH Health & Safety Courses Available. Chainsaw, tree climbing and Rescue Techniques.

#### GOSTA TRAINING LTD

50 Brook Street, Glasgow, G40 2AB

Contact: Chris Bothwell

Tel: 0141 556 3999 Fax: 0141 556 4999

Email: [learn@gostatraining.co.uk](mailto:learn@gostatraining.co.uk)



**Information:** SVQ II, III and IV also Modern Apprenticeship in Sportsturf including other options and GTC Training Manual. Attendance Day release from November - March. Distance Learning also available. Short courses with certification include Pesticides, Chainsaw, First Aid, Risk Assessment, Abrasive Wheels, Full Range of Machinery Courses, Manual Handling and Fire Extinguisher training. Consultancy service for Health and Safety Policy development, Site Risk Audits, Machinery Permit to Use system, COSHH and Noise Assessment.



## SCOTLAND

### LANGSIDE COLLEGE

Rutherglen Campus,  
Buchanan Drive,  
Rutherglen,  
Glasgow, G73 3PF



**Contact:** William O'Neil  
**Tel:** 0141 272 3823  
**Email:** woneil@langside.ac.uk

**Information:** SVQ, SGA, HNC, HND. Full time and part-time courses in Greenkeeping, Groundsmanship, Golf Course Management, Horticulture, Land and Environment and Applied Ecology. Short courses for land-based industries including Pesticides.

### SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL GREENKEEPING COURSE

Chief Executive's Department,  
Training & Development Centre,  
15 Links Road, South Ayrshire



**Contact:** Gordon McGinn  
**Tel:** 01292 678861 **Fax:** 01292 671790  
**Email:** gordon.mcginn@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

**Information:** SVQ Level 2 Amenity Horticulture: Sportsturf, SVQ Level 3 Amenity Horticulture: Sportsturf and the Modern Apprenticeship in Amenity Horticulture



## The grass is greener with Myerscough

Providing both Sportsturf and Mechanisation

training and education from entry level to degree, Myerscough College provides first class facilities with the opportunity to study and enjoy placements at the world's most prestigious sporting venues.

**We also provide various short course programmes and our own turf management consultancy service.**

**Now Recruiting**  
For online Foundation Degree  
and BSc Turfgrass Science  
September 2007

For a prospectus and details of our regular Open Mornings call Course Enquiries on

**01995 642211**

Email: enquiries@myerscough.ac.uk  
Website: www.myerscough.ac.uk

Myerscough College, Bilbottle, Preston, Lancashire PR3 0RY



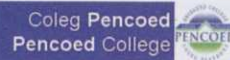
Myerscough College

Providing opportunities for all

## WALES

### PENCOED

Pencoed, Bridgend, Cardiff, CF35 5LG



**Contact:** Paul Discombe or John Sullivan  
**Tel:** 01656 302672  
**Fax:** 01656 302601  
**Email:** pfdiscombe@bridgend.ac.uk  
**Web:** www.bridgend.ac.uk

**Information:** NVQ Sportsturf Level 2-3, HNC/HND Turf Management. National Certificate/Advanced National Certificate - Sportsturf Management. Short courses: PA1, PA2 PA6a and Chainsaws. NCH National Certificate in Horticulture. Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture.

## ENGLAND

### ASKHAM BRYAN COLLEGE

Askham Bryan, York, North Yorkshire, YO23 3FR

**Contact:** Central Admissions  
**Tel:** 01904 772211  
**Email:** enquires@askham-bryan.ac.uk  
**Web:** www.askham-bryan.ac.uk



**Information:** First Diploma and National Diploma in Horticulture. Foundation & Extended Foundation Degrees in Horticulture, Landscape and Garden Management or Arboriculture. All available full or part-time. Block release courses: NVQ Levels 2 & 3 Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Maintenance. Short courses: FEPA spraying, chainsaw and brushcutter courses.

### BERKSHIRE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Hall Place, Burchetts Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 6QR

**Contact:** Deborah Smirfitt  
**Tel:** Freephone 0800 0711 666  
**Fax:** 01628 824695  
**Email:** enquiries@bca.ac.uk **Web:** www.bca.ac.uk



**Information:** Located in the Thames Valley, BCA has excellent resources for horticultural based training including a six-hole golf training facility opened by HRH The Duke of York. Programmes include the First Diploma, National Certificate and National Diploma in Horticulture, with Landscape Design and Greenkeeping options plus Apprenticeships, Higher National Diploma/Certificate programmes. Part-time programmes include NVQ Level 2 and 3 Amenity Horticulture, Sports Turf. Residential accommodation is available and free parking on site.

### BRIDGWATER COLLEGE CANNINGTON CENTRE FOR LAND-BASED STUDIES

Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 2LS

**Contact:** Course Enquires  
**Tel:** 01278 441234 **Fax:** 01278 444363  
**Email:** enquiries@bridgwater.ac.uk  
**Web:** www.bridgwater.ac.uk



**Information:** National Certificate in Horticulture (Sportsturf), Advanced National Certificate in Horticulture (Sports Turf), Certificate of Higher Education in Golf Course Management, Foundation Degree in Golf Course Management, NVQ Level 2 Sports Turf, NVQ Level 3 Sports Turf, FEPA Training, Chainsaw Certification, Greenkeeper Mechanics. Note: The Certificate of Higher Education and the Foundation Degree are available as part-time options.



## HADLOW COLLEGE

Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0AL

**Contact:** Sally Flanagan  
**Tel:** 0500 551434 / 01732 853164  
**Email:** enquiries@hadlow.ac.uk  
**Website:** www.hadlow.ac.uk



HADLOW  
COLLEGE

**Information:** NVQ's, Apprenticeships and Work Based Learning courses available in Amenity Horticulture (Sports Turf), Amenity Horticulture (Landscape) and Production Horticulture. We also offer a range of short courses for example, Health and Safety, COSHH, Chainsaw use, Welding and Pesticide Applications. Additionally, full and part-time courses at different levels in Horticulture and a variety of other land-based subjects are available.

## MERRIST WOOD CAMPUS OF GUILDFORD COLLEGE

Worplesdon, Guildford, Surrey GU3 3PE.

**Contact:** Keith Harrison  
**Tel:** 01483 884136 **Fax:** 01483 884001  
**Email:** kharrison@guildford.ac.uk **Website:** www.guildford.ac.uk



**Information:** Part-time courses: NVQ Level 2 Sportsturf college day release and workplace visits/assessments, Level 2 First Diploma college day release, for those without qualified workplace assessors, NVQ Level 3 Sportsturf on-line, Level 3 National Award college day release for those without qualified workplace assessors, HNC Turfgrass Science and Management college day release over 2 years, HND day release 1 extra year plus a Top-up BSc Degree for HND graduates part-time over 2 years, Foundation Degree in Sports Turf Science (subject to validation) plus various short courses including BTLIA Irrigation Certificate Course, throughout the year. Please contact us for up-to-date listings, qualifications and advice. Open evenings are held regularly at the Campus.

## MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE

Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 0RY

**Contact:** Stewart Brown  
**Tel:** 01995 642222 / 642305 **Fax:** 01995 642333  
**Email:** mailbox@myerscough.ac.uk  
**Web:** www.myerscough.ac.uk



**Information:** Full time courses; BSc (Hon's) Turfgrass Science, Foundation Degree Sportsturf Science - (Including an Online option by Distance Learning), National Diploma, National Certificate and First Diplomas in Sportsturf, Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship.

Part-time courses NVQ Level 2, 3 & 4 Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Maintenance (Work-Based Training). All higher education courses can be accessed on a part time basis: FdSc / BSc Turf Science: FEPA Short courses. NPTC Certificates of Competence in the safe use of Mowers and Turf care Equipment. Careers mornings monthly on Saturdays.

## OAKLANDS COLLEGE

St Albans Smallford Campus,  
Hatfield Road, St Albans,  
Hertfordshire, AL4 0JA

**Contact:** Andrew Wight  
**Tel:** 01727 737080  
**Email:** andy.wight@oaklands.ac.uk  
**Web:** www.oaklands.ac.uk



**Information:** Full time courses: National Certificate in Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management. HNC in Sportsturf. Part-time courses: leading to NVQ Level 2 & 3 Greenkeeping, Apprenticeship Training. Short NPTC Courses: Pesticide, Chainsaw. HNC starting in Sept 07.

## PLUMPTON COLLEGE

Ditchling Road, Plumpton,  
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE

**Contact:** David Blackmur  
**Tel:** 01273 890454 **Fax:** 01273 890071  
**Email:** enquiries@plumpton.ac.uk **Web:** www.plumpton.ac.uk



**Information:** Foundation Degree in Horticulture (Sportsturf specialism). National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture, National Award (Garden Design), First Diploma in Horticulture. Part time courses: NVQ Level 1; NVQ Level 2 in Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 3 Landscaping and Sportsturf; NVQ Level 4. Also available are RHS Certificate and RHS Advanced; IOG National Technical and Intermediate National Diploma. Short courses are also available for FEPA spraying and chainsaw. Bespoke courses to order. Centre of Excellence for Horticultural Technologies (CoVE).

## REASEHEATH COLLEGE

Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6DF

**Contact:** Gareth Phillips or Chard Spicer  
**Tel:** 01270 613236 **Fax:** 01270 625665  
**Email:** enquiries@reaseheath.ac.uk **Web:** www.reaseheath.ac.uk



**Information:** Foundation Degree and Higher National Certificate in Golf and Sports Turf Management; National Diploma in Amenity Horticulture with Sports Turf; NVQ levels 2 & 3 in Sports Turf; Apprenticeships; NPTC Qualifications.

On-site facilities include a commercially operating golf course, football and rugby pitches, Crewe Alexandra training grounds

## WARWICKSHIRE COLLEGE

Moreton Morrell Centre,  
Warwick CV35 9BL

**Contact:** Andrew Turnbull  
**Tel:** 01926 318285 **Fax:** 01926 318300  
**Email:** aturnbull@warkscol.ac.uk



**Information:** Greenkeeping Courses: Foundation Degree Sports Turf Management (2 years full-time, 3 years part-time), NVQ Level 2 & 3 Day Release and Work-based Options, NPTC Level 2 National Certificate Sports Turf (1 year full-time, 2 years part-time), City & Guilds Advanced National Certificates (Sports Turf), BTECH First Diploma Sports Turf. Short courses: Spraying Certificates (PA1, PA2), Chainsaw and tree felling, Tractor Driving, Mowing Equipment, Turf Maintenance Equipment.

## WRITTLE COLLEGE

Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR

**Contact:** The Registry  
**Tel:** 01245 424200 **Fax:** 01245 420456  
**Email:** info@writtle.ac.uk **Web:** www.writtle.ac.uk



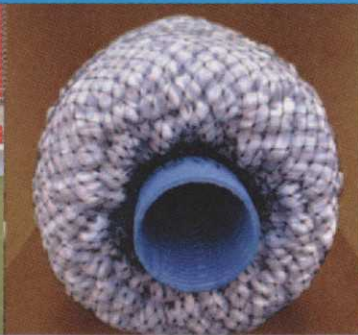
**Information:** SPORTS TURF PROGRAMMES: Foundation Degree- Sports Turf and Golf Course Management Honours Degree- Sports Turf Science & Management Higher Certificate- Sports Turf Management NVQ Level 2 & 3- Sports Turf OTHER PROGRAMMES: BSc (Hons) & FdSc Horticulture BSc (Hons) & FdSc Landscape & Amenity Management BSc (Hons) Horticulture with Business Management BSc (Hons) International Horticulture BSc (Hons) & FdSc Horticultural Crop Production FdSc Landscape Construction MSc/MA International Horticulture MSc Horticulture (Crop Production) MSc Postharvest Technology MA Landscape Architecture MSc Landscape Management First Diploma, National Certificate, National Diploma- Horticulture NVQ Level 2 & 3 Landscaping NVQ Level 2 & 3 Service Engineering (Agricultural & Groundcare Machinery) C&G Service Engineering Progression Award SHORT COURSES: NPTC Chainsaw, Health & Safety plus many more.



We've changed the way you'll think about drainage forever...



Visit us on Stand M4 at Harrogate Week



**COST EFFECTIVE • EASY INSTALLATION • SUSTAINABLE**

Specifically designed for greenkeepers to replace traditional drainage.

Polybed can be used in a wide range of applications on the course, from stormwater drainage through green, bunker and land drainage.

The Polybed system comprises of 3m lengths of 100mm diameter corrugated perforated or unperforated, single or twin wall, plastic pipe surrounded by a 100mm thick layer of lightweight, recycled, geosynthetic aggregate offering, a consistent void ratio in excess of 30%, enhanced water treatment capabilities and a reduction in long term clogging. Polybed overcomes the need for stone or aggregate on the course.

Polybed is extremely lightweight and easy to handle, can be installed up to four times quicker than traditional solutions, saving labour and money, and significantly reduces 'cart-away' from the site and therefore heavy traffic across the course.

For further information or to request a brochure please contact us at:



Forest Group UK  
Stardens Works  
Tewkesbury Road  
Newent  
Gloucestershire  
GL18 1LG

Tel: 01531 828960  
Fax: 01531 828968

Email: [info@polybed.co.uk](mailto:info@polybed.co.uk)



[www.polybed.co.uk](http://www.polybed.co.uk)



# In the Shed

Greenkeeper International brings you 'In the Shed', a puzzle page to keep you entertained when the weather forces you in or for when times are slow.

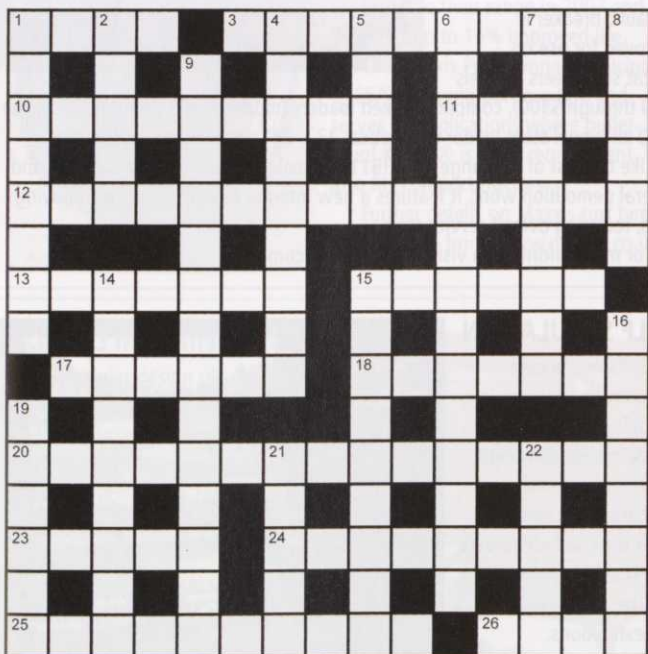
## CROSSWORD - Compiled by Anax

### ACROSS

- 1 Stockpile (4)
- 3 Misaligned (3,2,5)
- 10 Communicated by gesture (9)
- 11 Vertical part of step (5)
- 12 Grand statement subsequently shown to be incorrect (6,4,5)
- 13 Hormone which accelerates oxidation of sugar (7)
- 15 Greek god of light, brother of Artemis (6)
- 17 Soft, often translucent paper (6)
- 18 Having made a will before death (7)
- 20 Not likely to cause offence (15)
- 23 Indian dish of vegetables deep fried in batter (5)
- 24 Italian nationalist who conquered Naples and Sicily (9)
- 25 System by which employees take time off work to attend college etc. (3,7)
- 26 Star Trek race with watchword "Resistance is futile" (4)

### DOWN

- 1 Irish republican movement (4,4)
- 2 Animal toxin (5)
- 4 State of disorientation (9)
- 5 Stares (5)
- 6 Establishment once described by its governor as a "penal dustbin" (8,6)
- 7 The smallest continent (9)
- 8 South African garment of animal skin (6)
- 9 Cocktail - anagram of tisane's liqueur (7,7)
- 14 Mentally unsettled by long confinement (4,5)
- 15 PC protection software (9)
- 16 Answering (8)
- 19 Tanning salon equipment (6)
- 21 Knave, scallywag (5)
- 22 Domed Eskimo structure (5)



## ANAGRAM

Daniel Craig is the latest actor to take on this role.

## DEMONS JAB

## QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

1. What is the 6th planet from the Sun in our Solar System?
2. Alan Shearer is the highest goalscorer in Premiership history. Who currently is second on the list?
3. Which river flows through York?
4. Sergio Garcia is still the youngest. Who in 1993 at 51 years and 20 days became the oldest player to take part in the Ryder Cup?
5. Which of these names does not belong to one of Santa's reindeer?
  - a. Comet
  - b. Prancer
  - c. Blitzen
  - d. Klaxon
6. Who in his test debut this summer took three wickets before lunch on the first day, including a double wicket maiden in his first over of the day?
7. Name the England international who in 1985 as a 13 year old chorister sung backing vocals on Tina Turner's - We Don't Need Another Hero?
8. In the book title, who does author Laurie Lee have cider with?
9. Adele Jones and Becky 'Pink' Williams have just represented Britain in Japan at World Championships in which sport?

## SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

		6		3	5			
		2			4		7	
		7		8				6
9	7					8		
	2						1	
		3					5	9
1				2		6		
	8		6			5		
			9	1		7		

Supplied by [www.dailysudoku.com](http://www.dailysudoku.com)

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Look closely at the pictures below and try and spot the difference between them. You should be able to spot six!



ANSWERS TO ALL THE PUZZLES ARE SHOWN ON PAGE 74



# NEW PRODUCTS

## ZERO-TURN MOWERS

Reco has launched the Typhoon ZT mowers in three basic specifications – the non-collecting Typhoon ZT, the Typhoon 300 ZT with 300-litre collecting hopper, and the Typhoon 700 ZT, which has a 700-litre hopper and is also available in a 190cm high-tip version.

For more information telephone Reco on: 01480 455151.



## SUB COMPACT TRACTOR

Kubota is delighted to announce the introduction of the all-new BX2350 sub compact tractor into the UK and Irish markets. Building on the legacy of the popular BX2200 which has been available in the UK since 2000, the BX2350 is a "ground up" replacement that offers even more power, durability, versatility and is packaged in a new stylish, user friendly design.

For further information contact the freephone enquiry hotline on: 0800 0231111 or visit: [www.kubota.co.uk](http://www.kubota.co.uk)



## RECYCLED RUBBER

Castcrete are currently making rubber chippings from recycled car tyres, to be used in buggy paths and walkways. The product has proved especially effective in and around the T box.

One tonne can be used to cover 50 square metres at 2 inches deep.

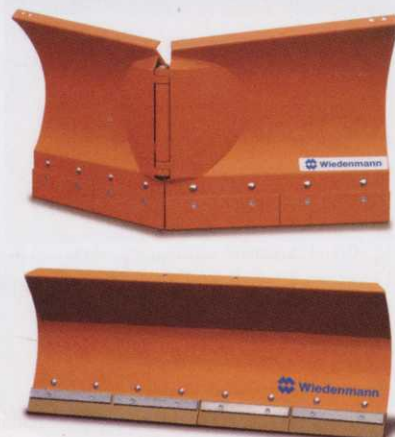
For Further information please call: 01293 515353 or 07768 602420.



## SNOW CLEARING BLADES

The new Vario 3300 and Snow Master 3400 from Wiedenmann UK, are ideal rake blades for contractors and local authority use and can be front mounted to tractors of up to 50hp and 25hp respectively.

For more information contact Wiedenmann UK on: 0141 814 3366.



## NEW HB1180 HYDRAULIC BREAKER

Bobcat has launched the new HB1180 hydraulic breaker attachment.

The new HB1180 is part of the Bobcat family of 80 series hydraulic breakers, designed to meet customer requirements for improved performance, efficiency and reliability, while maintaining familiar Bobcat advantages, such as ease of mounting, versatility and maximum productivity.

The Bobcat® HB1180 hydraulic breaker is approved for use on Bobcat skid-steers (models S220 through S300), compact tracked loaders (models T250 through T300), the A300 all-wheel steer loader and Bobcat 337, 341 and 435 mini-excavators.

Like the rest of the range, the HB1180 breaker is intended for concrete and general demolition work. It features a new internal design with fewer moving parts, reducing overall service time.

For more information visit: [www.bobcat.com](http://www.bobcat.com)



## GOLF SIMULATION

GolfSim is a new company specialising in the hiring of golf simulators for corporate entertainment and promotional activities. Other uses include private hire, coaching, product launches, team building and exhibitions.

Contact James Greenfield on Tel: 01553 767685 or visit: [www.golfsimulation.co.uk](http://www.golfsimulation.co.uk)





## AUTO-STACKING TURF HARVESTER

The new Brouwer RoboMax 1200 auto-stacking turf harvester, supplied and supported by UK distributor, Turfmech, saves time and labour.

The Brouwer RoboMax turf harvester's computer-controlled robotic arm stacks five turf rolls at a time onto a pallet. Each layer of turf is stacked automatically at 90deg to the one below to ensure a secure, tightly packed load.

For more information visit: [www.turfmech.co.uk](http://www.turfmech.co.uk)



## NEW TURBO VERSION

Bobcat has launched the new turbo version of the company's Toolcat 5600 Utility Work Machine.

The turbo-powered Toolcat 5600 model incorporates a new mainframe and front work group including a new lift arm, tilt linkage and lift and tilt cylinders, providing more efficient lifting capability and reduced tilt rollback.

For more information visit: [www.bobcat.com](http://www.bobcat.com)



## TURF TYRES

Turfmaxx are delighted to announce that a new improved tread compound has been developed with large-scale contractors and councils in mind. It will be added to their range in 2007 and will offer up to 15% improved life.

The Maxxis Professional Municipal C165/S is a multi-purpose tyre and serves all applications where bullet-proof Kevlar® is not a requirement. It also fits compact tractors.

Further details on Maxxis turf tyres are available from: [www.maxxis.co.uk](http://www.maxxis.co.uk)



## GRITTING MACHINE

The modular design of the new Combi Spread 5000 from Wiedenmann UK makes it a versatile gritting machine, which can be rear mounted to tractors with 20hp or more.

For more information contact Wiedenmann UK on: 0141 814 3366.



## BEAUTY COMBINED WITH EFFECTIVE AERATION

Leading water quality management specialists Otterbine, have launched a new range of large aerating fountains designed to provide a cost effective solution for those requiring large decorative spray patterns combined with effective aeration.

The company says the best method of dealing with poor water quality problems such as algae, foul odours, and even dead fish, is to introduce much-needed oxygen into the water.

For more information visit: [www.otterbine.com](http://www.otterbine.com)



Otterbine's new range of large aerating fountains combine a stunning decorative display with effective water aeration

## PROFESSIONAL STRENGTH ADDED

STV, the poison-free pest control specialist has now added Professional Strength to their comprehensive rodent control range.

All products have been field tested by pest-controls professionals and can be safely used by domestic users, giving maximum results. The line-up includes pre-baited Rat and Mousetraps for immediate use, Glue Traps that are an effective last resort for rodent control and exceptional value four-pack mousetraps, again pre-baited.

A Professional Strength version of the award winning Quick Clip Rat Trap is also to be included plus a live-catch mouse trap and the new Strongbox Rat Bait Station.

For further details call the customer service line on: 01953 881580.



The Baited Rat Trap one of the new Professional Strength range of products from STV

## NEW RANGE OF COMPACT TRACTORS

JCB Groundcare has launched five new compact tractors - set to become the flagship models of its specialist range for the grounds maintenance industry.

The robust new tractors - which span from 23 to 54 horsepower - are ideal for use by grounds maintenance contractors, landscapers and greenkeepers around golf courses, parks, sports and amenity grounds, smallholdings and equestrian centres. They power numerous attachments enabling operators to perform many grounds maintenance tasks in addition to their primary role of grass cutting.

For more information visit: [www.jcb.com](http://www.jcb.com)



The Groundhog - one of JCB's new compact tractors





## News from the Chief Executive

Some of you may have read in the national press that the Marston Group of hotels has been bought by Q Hotels for the sum of £180m. Q Hotels (formerly Quality Hotels I am led to believe) include in its existing portfolio the Queens Hotel in Leeds, Forest Pines Hotel and Golf Club, Scunthorpe and the Westerwood Hotel and Golf Club, Glasgow. Marston Hotels own and operate Aldwark Manor Hotel and so, by default, we have a new landlord of the land upon which BIGGA house sits. I have no immediate concerns over our tenancy that has a further 990 plus years left to run, in fact a change in ownership will hopefully bring a change in attitude towards our previous attempts to convert the Association into a limited company.

Harrogate Week dominates much of everyone's time at HQ and I am pleased to report that all four exhibition halls are full with the exception of two small spaces that I am confident will soon be taken. Bookings for the education programme are ahead of the same time last year and I know from my travels to various regions over the last few weeks, that there is a big push by members to attend Harrogate for at least one day.

I applaud the efforts being made by Regions, Sections and members in order to demonstrate their support for this vital event in the Association's calendar. Please remember that it's not just for greenkeepers, bring along your Secretary/Manager, your Chairman of Green or your groundsman friend or contact. There is something for everyone both in the exhibition and in the 'Continue to Learn' programme.

The Association's accounts for the year ended on September 30, 2006 and have produced a satisfactory surplus for the period and any member wishing a copy before the AGM should contact either your Regional Administrator, Section Secretary or Tony or Stephen at HQ. I would draw member's attention to the fact that the timing of the AGM has changed from 5.15pm on Wednesday, January 25, 2007 to 6pm on the same day and will continue to be held in the Queen's Suite at Harrogate International Centre.

Rachael Palmer who has efficiently run the Membership department for the last four and a half years, has decided to accept the offer of another job and will therefore be leaving in early December. I would like to thank Rachael for all her hard work and wish her every success in her new position. This naturally leaves Gemma and her colleagues under significant pressure until the staffing level can be rectified and I would ask for some patience from members at what is traditionally the busiest time of the year.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It is hard to believe that as I write this there are only five weeks left of 2006!

**John Pemberton**



### Harrogate Week 2007

The Scottish Region once again offers their members a subsidised package deal for Harrogate Week 2007.

The Package includes: Entry to Continue to Learn Seminars (seven in total); three nights Bed and Breakfast in en-suite twin rooms on 23rd, 24th and 25th January, 2007 in the Holiday Inn, Harrogate, (formerly Moat House Hotel). Package cost: £261.00. Accommodation package only £156.00.

To obtain booking forms contact the Regional Administrator, Peter J.Boyd on: 0141 616 3440 or 07776 2422120 or email: [pj.boyd@btinternet.com](mailto:pj.boyd@btinternet.com)

### Ayrshire

Hello everyone, hope you're all well and prepared for the Christmas season! I think most of you will just be wanting the grass to stop growing for Christmas, there seems to have been a definite shift in the growing season with temperatures not rising till later in the spring and sustained growth continuing much later into autumn.

Our Patrons' Award winners this year are: Duncan Gray, The Pines, and Gordon Haughie, Southernness. Well done guys and enjoy your stay in Harrogate. You could probably pass on the Jim Arthur book to your apprentice greenkeepers as I'm sure you both know it all by now eh?

The Annual Scottish Conference will be held at Lauder College Dunfermline on March 6. This has fast become a very popular event so get back to Peter sharp if you don't want to miss out.

Goswick GC, at Berwick-upon-Tweed, will host the Scottish National Championship on June 21. Yes! I'm sure the powers that be ken that's in England but must figure if it's okay for them to play in the Scottish Football Leagues then surely we can visit for a round of golf. Controversial?

A total of 12 were present at the AGM on Halloween. It was unanimously agreed that Derek should continue as Secretary, while Stephen Higgins takes on the Chairmanship. Vice-Chairman will be myself, as Stevie boy managed to track me down at the Troon Beer Festival and after a couple of pints of Skullsplitter there's not much I wouldn't say no to... apart from the obvious, obviously!

Additions to the committee are Frank Clarkson and Duncan Gray.

Our 12 aside golf match vs the Northern Irish lads went ahead on October 20 at Irvine GC. The weather was good with no wind and the course well prepared. However after a grueling afternoon's play the visitors proved too strong for us and went on to win 4.5 to 1. All participants enjoyed the day and our thanks go to Derek Wilson and the committee at Bogside for allowing us use of the course and facilities. Well done also to Terry Crawford for his part in organising their trip over. There will definitely be a rematch in County Down next year so I'll keep you informed of dates as they arise. So congratulations to the Irish boys but don't get to attached to that magnificent Shield!

A big thank you also to George Brown and General Manager, Stewart Selbie, for getting the tourists a game at Turnberry the following day. I'm sure there were a few cobwebs blowing across the links after a night out in Ayr.

That's it for now so have yourselves a merry little Xmas and happy New Year alright!

Denis Tweddell

07939 104701 or [denis.t@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:denis.t@hotmail.co.uk)



## Central

I would like to start this month's news by congratulating Stuart Greenwood on his appointment to Scottish Chairman, and also to thank Iain Barr for all his support to the Region during his time in office. There is a lot of work carried out throughout the Association, by the members, in office, on a voluntary basis and in an attempt to meet the needs of our members. If you are unsure about any aspect of the Association's work, or have some suggestions to make, I would encourage you to contact your local Section committee and raise the matter. This is the most constructive way to deal with things and ensures that concerns at local level can be communicated to Regional boards and upwards to National level when necessary. Likewise we will endeavour to keep you informed, and will be only too happy to assist you in any way we can. The Association is strengthened by open communication, and uniting together to help our fellow greenkeepers.

Recent new members to the Section are: Matthew Baird, Elmwood GC, James Bledge, Kingsbarns, Brian Marmon, Gleneagles Hotel, and Martin Turna, St Andrews Links. Welcome to the section and we look forward to meeting you at future events.

Congratulations to John Philp - Carnoustie, Innes Knight - Kingsbarns and Euan Grant - The Old Course, and all their respective teams for hosting another successful Alfred Dunhill Links Championship.

The autumn outing was contested over Dunfermline GC, Pitfirrane. The turnout was excellent, especially as it coincided with the aforementioned event, and many of our members come from the courses concerned. The course was in excellent condition, and with the very pleasant weather and the excellent hospitality in the clubhouse, it made for a very enjoyable day. Many thanks go to Kenny Duncan and his team, and the club, for a memorable day.

Congratulations to the prize winners as follows; Scratch - Kenny Stirling, Kingsbarns; Handicap - Michael Love, Grangemouth. 1.1 Kenny Mitchell, St Andrews; 1.2 Kenny Duncan, Dunfermline GC; 1.3 David Gray, Lochgelly. 2.1 Tom Comerford, Grangemouth; 2.2 Dougie Barr, Dundee Council; 2.3 Derek Scott, Scoonie.

The Guest Prize went to C. Murray, from Grangemouth, and the Trade Prize to Peter Taylor. Thanks are also due to the Patrons, and to Peter Boyd, Regional Administrator. Their continued support within the Section ensures the success of these events. Many thanks to Jim Finlayson, a trade member, who despite not feeling at his best, helped with the organisation of the day and met all golfers returning to the clubhouse.

The Section's educational events continue. The combined event with Club Managers Association of Europe at Murrayshall was very informative, and it was good to hear different perspectives on future trends in Golf. For your diary note the following future events: Thursday, December 14 at 7pm, Seminar at Elmwood GC - topic: The influential Head Greenkeeper / Course Manager, presented by Frank Newberry. March 28, 2007 at 3pm - topic: Rules presentation, Presented by Grant Moir, R and A rules official.

Before you read this another evening event with Richard Windows, our Regional STRI Agronomist, will have taken place. These events are free for our members.

I was fortunate enough to attend the Business Management Institute International Conference at Fairmont, St Andrews, at which four of our colleagues had been invited to speak. Neil Ballingall, Fairmont, St Andrews, Scot Fenwick, Gleneagles, Euan Grant, St Andrews, and Ken Siems, Loch Lomond, all delivered very informative and entertaining presentations to a truly international group of Club Managers, who were very impressed.

Your committee is keen to arrange as many of these events as you need, and to provide relevant learning opportunities for our members. Please give them your support and let them know what you want. By the time you are reading this our AGM will have come and gone. More news next month.

To keep up to date and in touch, visit our website.

[www.biggacentralsection.org.uk](http://www.biggacentralsection.org.uk)

All the best,  
Andrew Mellon

## East

I ended last month's report by stating I was paying a visit to sunny Crete, what a joke! The weather was horrendous, but as usual the hospitality of our Greek friends was fantastic and made up for the disappointing weather conditions.

The Section AGM was held on Wednesday, October 25, at Ratho Park GC with, once again, an extremely poor turnout being recorded, The new committee is as follows: Chairman - Graeme Wood, Vice Chairman - Stuart Ferguson, Secretary - Kevin Hodges, General Committee - Jimmy Neilson and Tom Murray.

The committee is currently looking for enthusiastic volunteers to fill the positions of Match Secretary and Education Convenor.

One of the key issues raised at the AGM was the pressure placed on Course Managers by their employers, who often have totally unrealistic expectations of what can be achieved. As a current employer I appreciate there is always two sides to a story but, more than often not in our industry - Golf Clubs pay scant regard to employment law! After the AGM, three teams of three played 12 holes and the winners were the Chairman's team comprising G. Wood, T. Murray and J. Darling. On behalf of the Section I would like to thank Ratho Park for granting us courtesy of the course and to Richard Aitken Seedsmen for sponsoring the days events.

West Linton GC has recently purchased a heart defibrillator and is the first club in the Borders region to do so. The reasoning behind the idea came about when one of the members had a heart attack and passed away in the club's car park. Those present felt so helpless that a decision was taken to purchase the machine literally talks the operator through the process of trying to restart the heart.

The cost to the club has been reduced by a donation of £1000 this year and a promise of £250 next year from the Chris Yeaman Junior Charity Fund.

In the last week of October, 10 members of staff, three of whom were greens staff, received training in the use of the machine. As most of the attendees were locals and the golf club is near the village, it is also anticipated that the machine will be of service to the local community.

The big news this month is that Berwick GC (Goswick) have been awarded the BIGGA Scottish National Tournament in 2007. This, as a direct result of all the hard work put in by George and his team, and the fact that they have been very loyal supporters of BIGGA Tournaments over the years.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Section, to offer many congratulations to Mark Pagan, Head Greenkeeper at Eyemouth GC, and his wife Caroline, who are celebrating the arrival of their new baby son, Jack, who was born on October 22.

### **West Lothian Golf Club Report**

One man's commitment to home grown talent paid dividends when he won a top prize in the small employers Section of the Modern Apprenticeship Awards 2006.

Alan Gibson - on behalf of West Lothian GC, Bo'ness - scooped the award in the Scottish Modern Apprenticeship programme, which celebrated the achievement of individual modern apprentices also showcasing the commitment and contribution made by employers and training providers in the industry.

He won first prize in the "employer of modern apprentices - acknowledging the commitment and support of employers" category for small businesses.

"Golf is a valuable part of the ever growing leisure industry and it needs good greenkeepers to secure its future," said Alan, who was nominated by Oatridge College, which along with his employers, supports his work with trainee greenkeepers.

"Scotland is proud of its golfing heritage and equally proud of the course it has to offer," he added. "But without highly skilled greenkeepers, the industry would have to look elsewhere for skilled professionals."

"I believe that home grown talent is best and I would encourage all course and club managers and committees to look at the training opportunities



available through schemes such as modern apprentices under my care during that time," he said.

"I have been fortunate to have retained three of my former apprentices - one of whom, Iain Marshall, is now my deputy and two others, Jeff Ryce and Wayne Meikle are assistants."

His First Apprentice, Richard McLuckie, took over his own course Linlithgow Golf Club in 2000, and was promoted to General Manager in 2005, while others have moved on in greenkeeping to course such as Dalmahoy and Gleneagles.

On reaching the final three in the awards - which are sponsored by Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise - Alan was interviewed by a member of the judging panel who visited the golf club and also spoke to staff.

"As a golf course manager, I feel I have a responsibility to the sport in which I work to ensure its future is in safe hands by producing young professionals ready to meet the challenges of maintaining their own golf courses," Alan said.

Television star Stephen Jardine, hosted an award ceremony at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Edinburgh in October, where Deputy Minister for Education and Young People, Robert Brown, congratulated the winners.

The Managing Secretary, Ian Osborough, said that the club was honoured that Alan Gibson, their Course Manager, had received this award on behalf of the club. His commitment, enthusiasm and expertise over many years in bringing through our Apprentices to a very high standard, were to be commended. They reflect on the club, but more to the point, reflect the high caliber of the course manager that we have. He should be justly proud of his achievement.

After my negative comments earlier in this month's report, it is nice to see a Course Manager being awarded for his efforts and more importantly being appreciated by his employers.

Until next month.

Don't work too hard!

Mike Dooner

## North

How's it going folks? No sign of any hard weather yet. As I write this report it is November 6 and it is 16 degrees outside with bright warm sunshine. Global warming seems to be upon us. My only concern is that clubs will now try and prolong the golf season and want normal conditions without any autumn renovation work done until the end of the year. Has anybody had this request from his or her committee yet?

I have a feeling this mild weather will bring another epidemic of leather jackets later this year.

Chris Murdoch, from Murcar GC, is now a father after his partner, Kerry, gave birth to an 8lb girl recently. Well done to them all and we wish them well for the future.

The AGM for the Section was held at Royal Aberdeen GC in late October. There was a reasonable turnout of 27 members, which meant we were able to have a Stableford competition. A good day was had by all with the weather being fairly kind overall. There seems to be a trend now even with the outings that the numbers are dropping and there appears to be a lack of interest in the Section. Over the past few years there is a hard core of the membership that attend the outings wherever they are, but it would be nice for the committee

# THE Articulator

3372  
BY LASTEC

721XR  
BY LASTEC

The most capable contoured-terrain mowing deck available  
Full 3.35 metre (11 feet) cut path  
Compatible with most commonly-used traction units  
Transforms mowing capability and quality  
The most productive rotary mowing unit on the market

New zero-turn, three-deck Articulator  
72" cutting width  
Superior manoeuvrability and cut quality  
33hp turbo-charged Kubota diesel engine  
All-purpose, high productivity mower  
for wide variety of applications



For a World That Isn't Flat

01622 812103

[www.lastec.com](http://www.lastec.com)

**LASTEC UK**



to see more members from further a field attend to swell the numbers and ensure that the Section continues to progress over the coming years.

Results from the AGM: 3.1 - Niall Bruce, Montrose Links; 3.2 - Hugh McLatchie, Peterhead; 2.1 - George Simpson, Oldmeldrum; 2.2 - Billy Graig, Kirriemuir; 1.1 - Robert Patterson, Royal Aberdeen; 1.2 - Kevin Thompson, Moray; Trade Winner- Raymond Warrender, Alpha Plus Groundcare.

200 Club: £30- Wilson Morrison, £30 - Kevin Fowler, £30 - James Piece and £100 - Dale Robertson.

Two new members to report this month: Calum T Fraser, Apprentice at Tain GC, and Robert O'Donnell, Head Greenkeeper at Oldmeldrum GC.

Colin Forbes, from Peterculter GC, has moved on and taken up the post of Head Greenkeeper at Aboyne GC. We wish him well in his new appointment.

The next thing on the horizon will be BTME at Harrogate, which I'm sure, will be well attended.

Not much else from me this month, if you have any stories let me know and I will print them as it can be quite difficult to find new and interesting things to talk about each month.

Cheers,  
Robert Patterson, Royal Aberdeen GC

## West

Welcome to this month's report. Congratulations to Gerry Bruen, a former West Section member and committee member. Gerry recently got married to Lindsay, the Section wish you all the best with your future together and hope you are enjoying life in Ireland.

Our autumn outing was held at Hags Castle GC the weather wasn't too good on the day but Robert McClery and his staff had the course in first class condition well done to all concerned. To Captain, Donald Ross, who presented the prizes many thanks for allowing us courtesy of your course and your warm hospitality. The winners on the day were: Scratch - Stuart Taylor; 1 - Scott Mcketerick; 2 - Neil MacLennan and 3 - Graeme Ferguson. Trade prize went to Alistair Taylor and Longest Drive to Andy Peace.

The winner of the new Daval Two Round Trophy was Scott McKeterick, well done to all the prize winner and many thanks to the trade for donations of prizes, last but not least the hard work of the committee but in on the day.

Welcome to new members David Moles and Mathew Salmon, we hope to see you at some of our future events.

This year's AGM was held at Drumpellier GC and there were 28 members in attendance. There were several points brought up which will be discussed at our next committee meeting and reported on in the next Greenkeepers report, Brian Hillan, the Course Manager at Drumpellier, had arranged a fun golf day after the AGM was finished 16 members played and had a very enjoyable day.

The course was in first class condition and considering the weather over the past couple of months this was no mean feat, please pass on our thanks to your captain and committee.

Also I would like to thank Stuart Aird, of Soutars Sports, for sponsoring the day.

The Committee for 2006-2007 are: Douglas MacIntosh - Chairman, Eddie McGhee - Vice Chairman, Fraser Ross - Past-Chairman, Gavin Jarvis - Secretary, Stuart Taylor - Education, Gordon Howat - Match and Handicap, John Barr, Derek Duthie, Brian Boland. Committee members, Brian Hillan - New Member.

On a personal note it has been a pleasure to have been the West Section Chairman for the past two years.

I would like to thank Brian Boland for proposing me as his Vice Chairman and big thanks for his continued hard work on behalf of the Section and we're happy he has decided to stay on.

To all other committee members for their help and support which has been first class, also to Gavin Jarvis for his continued hard work and to Peter Boyd, our Regional Administrator, for keeping me right along the way.

On the Education front we are arranging a trip to the new course being

built at Loch Lomond, the Carrick, members will be notified as soon as dates are confirmed.

Please try to come along which should be a first class day.

Well that's all for now, please get in touch with any news.

Fraser Ross, Renfrew GC

Mobile: 07970 366 355

## NORTHERN REGION

### North East

On October 25 we held the Section AGM at Tyneside GC, as usual there was a very poor turnout, six people at least made the effort - my thanks to them, also to the Regional Administrator, Peter Larter, who travelled almost 400 miles on his round trip.

Well next year the AGM will most likely be at the autumn competition and that will be held in October, and before the prize giving, then we will at least have better turnout.

I don't know if any of you realise but it will be my 25th year as the Secretary of the Section and dogsbody, and I'm seriously thinking of making next year my last, it's now time for a change. Now I know they're a few moaners out there and so here is your chance to have a go at running the Section.

If anyone is interested just get in touch with me or the rest of the committee - being: Russ Black or Steve Pope.

Talking about retirement Brian Udberg, of Tynemouth GC, is retiring in May next year, as is John Moutrie, of Hexham GC.

Congratulations to Tony McLure, of Whickham GC, on winning the scratch 36 hole National Greenkeepers Championship recently played for in October.

Jimmy Richardson

### Cleveland

By now several of the proposed meetings and get togethers should have taken place. Firstly, the indoor football competition should have been played at Middlesbrough FC's wonderful training complex at Hurworth. Teams from the North East Section, TSL and the 'Boro groundstaff were hoping to wup the Cleveland Section's Galacticos. This is a description of the size of our back four (Pembo and friends), nothing to do with the quality. Reports in the next issue but I hope it was played in good spirit! Thanks to Boro for the opportunity to play in this fantastic venue. Secondly the TSL quiz should have been fought out with the groundsmen at Mount Oswald GC. Have we defended our title?

Lastly, the Section AGM should have taken place on November 28 - I hope this was well supported, as our turnouts seem to be dwindling. It's your Section - please help by supporting all meetings if you can.

The 'Night at the Dogs' took place on November 10. 13 Section members attended ably supported by Alastair Whitby, from Lloyds. A good night was had by all and the lads didn't report too heavy losses. Many thanks must go to Brendan Brown, of Norlube, for kindly sponsoring the minibus.

Finally, it will soon be Christmas again. Where does the time go? May I take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a happy and peaceful festive season. It will soon be time to start thinking about BTME at Harrogate. The TSL bus will be going on the Wednesday as usual. Please book your places with Karen in the Turfcare office on: 01207 505837. Pick up points are usually Morpeth GC, City of Newcastle GC, Chester-le-Street GC and finally the old 'Cock of the North' site on the A167.

All the best

Any news to TC on: 07831214879

Terry El Prez Charlton





**Peter Boyd**  
**SCOTLAND & NORTHERN IRELAND**  
 Tel/Fax: 0141 616 3440



**Peter Larter**  
**NORTHERN & MIDLAND**  
 Tel: 01476 550115

## Sheffield

Another year coming to an end, unfortunately I don't have a lot of news to end the year with. This year has been one of quite a few retirements from within the Section and another to add to the list is Les Easthope, from Hillsborough GC. Les has basically worked at Hillsborough since he left school - after all that loyal service I think you deserve a long and enjoyable retirement Les, all the best from everyone in the Sheffield Section.

We will be running a trip to the new Wembley Stadium (yes it will be finished!) next year in October, so I will keep you informed of dates etc when we have definite details.

Finally may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

John Lax

## North Wales

A big thank you in advance goes to Conwy GC for hosting our Christmas golf tournament, held on December 5. A full report will be in the January issue.

Talking of January and only a matter of weeks to go now before the annual show, the industries biggest one! the BTME in Harrogate, as usual the Section has organised the bus to take you up there. This year it has been kindly sponsored by Danny Tomkins of Tower Chemicals - If you wish to use this facility please contact Jez on: 07876 776265 at your earliest convenience as spaces will go quickly so don't miss out - book early £5 for members £10 for guests - The bus will be leaving a bit earlier this time to give you a full day up at Harrogate, especially for you older folk who like to have the extra time to visit Betty's tea shop for your afternoon scones and cream and as it is going up early it will also be coming back at a more reasonable time leaving around 5pm.

Congratulations to Gareth Woosnam who over at the Ryder Cup, was told by Arnold Palmer that he was better looking than his brother, Ian, as he exchanged his glass of champagne on the balcony of the 'K' Club for a pint of the black stuff Gareth's first trip to the Emerald Isle with all the family, being over there to give his brother a few tips (see results in previous issue Oswestry BIGGA Tournament as to why!).

Well short and sweet this month, but one little golfing tale to end with; I had the pleasure of being invited to go on a two day trip over to Belfast and play golf at the legendary Royal County Down Golf Links, as golf books write it as one of the world's top courses. The date unfortunately clashed with me moving house and I was unable to go, but none the less a four ball team of guys who will not be named for embarrassing reasons elected to go, flights were found on Ryan Air, but as it was a busy commuter time slot they came in a little more expensive than was expected, but never mind it was Royal County Down after all, a hire car was dually booked from Belfast airport to drive the 40 minute trip and the Course Manager there found them a good hotel close by and this was also booked, so all in place and looking forward to the challenge ahead tackling the famous links and watching the narrative Ronan Rafferty video of how to play each hole, the scene was set. They decided to all sleep over at the person's house who was closest to Manchester Airport so they could have an early start for the 6am flight, now who ever it was that set the alarm clock was not in the good books with the rest of the guys? Arriving late at the wrong terminal then getting to the correct terminal five minutes after the flight had closed did not bear well, especially as the weather that day was glorious in Northern Ireland.

But the weary travellers were not to be dashed and with a friendly phone call to the Kerry bros down in Harlech an alternative tee time was booked and the long drive back to Wales started. Still feeling a little down, a pick me up McDonalds helped at Caernarfon and when they decided the format of 10p birdies and 20p bits for the game, all was better... I believe Dave Austin won, Andy Peel was second and Stuart Yarwood and Andy Ralphs were tied 3rd.

All the best for Christmas and the New Year - See you in the M Hall @ BTME

Mesen Cymru  
 Andrew Acorn



## East Midlands

I start this month's report by offering the Sections congratulations to Gavin Robson and his team from Burton-on-Trent GC, for hosting a successful National Championship. The weather preceding the Championship could only be described as awful and I, for a fact, know that Gavin had been working hard and looking forward to hosting the event for many months prior and it wasn't easy to show off your efforts with such poor weather beforehand.

However, with the help of a few extras a couple of days before, the course looked immaculate and to everyone's delight the sun shone for the two Championship days bar the odd shower, and everything worked out fine.

Coupled with a warm welcome and some fine hospitality, the Championship was a great success for all those who attended.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and to all that worked so hard to make it so enjoyable. We hope the Nationals will soon return to the East Midlands.

It's with great sadness that I close this report, passing on the Section's condolences to Past BIGGA Chairman, Paddy McCarron, whose wife, Beverly, recently passed away.

After a short illness, John Carter, known to greenkeepers in the Norfolk area - having started his career there - and also the Leicestershire area, passed away in early November at the age of 45. The Section's thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Richard Barker

## Midland

Some years ago I tried to introduce "Thought/Joke of the month" to which £10 would be awarded to the provider, and such published within our notes. To date I have not received any. So I would like to try again, but with "Excuse of the Month". I shall start you off with a genuine one (honest). Get this: "I couldn't make Saturday because I was in such a deep sleep (drunk?) that I didn't wake up, the wife tried throwing six pans of cold water over me, but I still didn't wake. Sorry Tony." No, it wasn't me! If anyone had thrown cold water on me I would be at her Majesty's pleasure! Just ask John Wilkes. He by the way has just had a little boy.

Our old friend, Craig Beet, and his delightful fiancée, Simone Smith, have just been wed. Wonderful wedding (I nearly had tears, steady now), super reception at Hagley GC. We all wish you both the greatest of happiness for the future.

On October 19, we played our annual match against the East Midlands Section. I'm afraid that we lost the match by two points, if Gashey (five up after six) had won his match in the afternoon, such would have been a draw. I carried him in the morning, and then won my match in the afternoon (I'm fed up with Mike knocking me out off the Scotts Doubles). Sorry mate, it had to be done! As always the match was carried out in the best of spirits and was very enjoyable indeed, great hosts. Our thanks to Kirby Muxloe GC for their hospitality, and Tony Cheese/Rigby Taylor for organising and sponsoring the event. Congratulations to Antony Bindley and his fine team for an excellently presented course. Looking forward to next year's match, which is at home (Midland Section, you maggot), so get practising folks. You of course can do such at our events throughout the year!





Clive Osgood  
SOUTH EAST  
Tel: 01737 819343



Jane Jones  
SOUTH WEST AND WALES  
Tel: 01454 270850

It gives me great pleasure to welcome two new members to our Section, Ashley Merry (D.H.) of Evesham GC, and Daniel Totney (AG) from the lovely Sandwell Park GC. Also, all the best to Mike Hill on his retirement from Stourbridge. Mike has been a long time supporter of the Section, and has served many a fine course over his service within Greenkeeping. Wishing you all the best Sir, I hear that the shares at the Foley Arms have just gone up. See you in there chap.

It is with great pride that I am able to announce Mr Hill's successor will be Mr Beet at Stourbridge GC. Think that being a Deputy was a pain in the arse! The examination starts now (CMEGC). I'll let you now when I get there. Congratulations mate.

Don't forget to contact me with your "Excuse of the Month" or anything else on: 07908 421 015, or email: sean.mcdade@homecall.co.uk. The Hoff has a lot to answer to.

"Spot the Difference". It's Swaney. Congrat's on passing your chainsaw test mate. Well done.

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas.

Sean McDade

## East of England

The Section AGM was held at Spalding GC, with a Texas Scramble being the format for the day. A draw for teams was made and we all set off to do battle. Firstly I must apologise to one of the boat owners on the second hole. I did not mean to broadside your vessel with a surface to air Proc V1, and I am sure a suitable salvage team can be arranged to raise her from the deep. The day was kindly sponsored by Burdens and our thanks go to Jim North for the prize table. The day was won by, yes you've guessed it, Les Howkins! Gary Cooper, Pete Fell and Ian Collett - I think we should rename 2006 as the Les Howkins year, seriously, well done mate - although our new Competitions Secretary will have to do some serious culling of your handicap, won't you Steve. I would also like to say a big thank you to spalding for the day. The course was in magnificent condition and the food was superb.

We then moved onto the AGM with no changes to the committee and it went through quite quickly. A few points were raised from the floor and hopefully answered to the member's satisfaction.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Allan Walker  
07974816927

## BB&O

November! I recently read this entertaining article on the difficulty of weather forecasting by Bob Ryan, of the Meteorological Society, so here goes. Imagine a rotating sphere that is 8000 miles in diameter, has a bumpy surface, is surrounded by a 30 mile deep mixture of different gases whose concentrations vary both spatially and over time, and is heated, along with its surrounding gases, by a nuclear reactor 93 million miles away. Imagine also that this sphere is revolving around the nuclear reactor and that some locations are heated more during one part of the revolution and other locations are heated during another part of the revolution. And imagine that this mixture of gases continually receives inputs from the surface below, generally calmly but sometimes through violent and highly localized injections. Then, imagine that after watching the gaseous mixture, you are expected to predict its state at one location on the sphere one, two, or more days into the future. This is essentially the task encountered day by day by a weather forecaster, and then there is the Greenkeeper?

Welcome aboard to Paul Riching, the new Course Manager for Wexham Park GC - who has recently taken over from Roy Kates. Paul is looking forward to his challenging role maintaining this parkland golf course in Slough, Berkshire. Roy where are you? Don't forget to keep in touch!

A big character and a big farewell goes to Toro representative the unmistakable John Cockburn who, after over 20 years service with A T Oliver, has retired, John will be looking forward to relaxing and rebuilding his boat, so from all the boys in red, green and orange that you have dealt with over many years, wishing you the very best and have a superb retirement!

The Rigby Taylor Pairs final was hosted at the exclusive Bearwood Lakes GC in Berkshire and competing for the title were Steve Horwood and Miles Wood from Chiltern Forrest GC, and Matt Smith and Simon Mallock from Sonning GC. Congratulations to the Hearted Hoofs, from Sonning, who hammered the elderly Team Forrester with an impressive five and four, also Course Manager Dan Lightfoot and his team for arranging a memorable day for the finalists at Bearwood Lakes GC and Gareth, the RT man, for organising this yearly popular event.

Just another reminder that BTME is only a month away, if you have never been before or haven't frequented the show for some time, I ask you to give it a another thought as the Greenkeeping profession make there way to Harrogate for a greater learning experience and a chance to see what the industry has to offer at first hand, so down your tools and come along to what will be a great show in the heart of Yorkshire.

The BB&O mums have been very busy in the Section, some of the biggest ever Christmas presents have arrived early, so here goes and let's hope I get the spelling right, firstly Madeleine Ava was born to proud parents Steve and Abi Gardener, from Flackwell Heath GC, followed by Harriett Florence Rose to Dan Lightfoot, from Bearwood Lakes GC and yet more news as Lee Bishop, from Burnham Beeches GC, has been extremely busy as wife Jo has given birth to twins, Archie and Max, who have only just arrived. Best wishes and congratulations to you all.

Finally! From all the serving BB&O Committee and your Chairman, Sid Arrowsmith, have a great December and fantastic Christmas.

Mark Day



## Harrogate 2007

Symbio have kindly agreed to arrange a coach to travel up to Harrogate on January 23, returning on the 24th. Stopping at various pick up points around the M25 on the way, travel will be free of charge - courtesy of Symbio. Some seats will be available for first time visitors to the exhibition up to the position of deputy, for which the South East Region will contribute towards overnight accomodation.

Please contact Martin Ward on: 07956 898004/martin@symbio.co.uk or Clive Osgood on: 07841 948410/cliveosgood@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

## South East Regional Seminar

Despite a sudden drop in temperature and one of the highest tides of the season over 100 were in attendance for the South East Regional Seminar held at the Thorpeness Country Club on the east coast of Suffolk on November 1.

Following a welcome and introduction by Chairman Ian Willett our Chief Executive, John Pemberton, gave a very informative presentation about The Association past, present, and future with particular regard to the need for all members to support Harrogate 2007. This was followed by Ray Harding, Ecologist to the award whining Thorpeness GC illustrating some of the good work being carried out by Ian and his team at the Club. Dr Kate Entwistle was next with valuable state of the art information on Turf Diseases name changes included! Kate also spent time discussing the increasing problems, some superficial, caused by Nematodes at various sites around UK.



After refreshment at lunch it was time for the duo of Billy and Ian McMillan, who involved the floor in discussion on current topics including thought issues in the south and in particular Sustainable Golf, a subject that probably could have gone on long into the night if allowed. John Grindrod, of Econoplas, was next who talked about recycled products useful to the Golf Industry. The day was rounded off by David Stansfield who gave us a very interesting presentation on some of the course renovation, general revamping and upgrading projects he has been involved with on courses in the UK and Europe

In conclusion after questions time, the Chairman thanked everybody for their participation on the day, and expressed the Region's thanks to the Sponsors of the Seminar, listed below, who as always were most generous with their support.

The South East Region Seminar 2006 Sponsors were, Aitkens, Barenburg, Collier Turf Care, Headland, Lely UK, Rigby Taylor, Scotts, Sheriff Amenity, Tacit, Tower Chemicals.

Clive Osgood, Regional Administrator

## Surrey

Sunday, November 5. Bonfire night. The ghost of Guy Fawkes is wandering the dark cellars beneath the Houses of Parliament. He has found the stash of gunpowder he and his fellow conspirators placed there several hundred years ago. Up above in the main chamber a security guard is smoking a cigarette while leaning against a no smoking sign, completely unaware that far below a ghost has, since 1605, year after year, mislaid his tinder box and would have given a whole week's wages for a loan of the guard's box of matches.

So much for history, back to the present and our boys have once again donned their football kit, kindly sponsored by ETT, and taken to the field of battle on home ground at Colliers Wood. John Jennings and Adam Watt were the scoring stars in the 2-1 victory against the London Section. John Ross, our Section Secretary, was, I am reliably informed, dressed to kill in a pair of shorts that only just covered his ref's whistle.

You have probably realised that I was not present at the aforementioned football match for I was on holiday in Canada. The Rocky Mountains were spectacular and the Rocky Mountaineer train journey through them awe inspiring. They had a poem writing competition on the train and the winner was awarded the Order of the Salmon. As this is a slow news month, here's my entry, entitled Boys' Weekend Away.

I thought I'd swim up from the sea, yes me a handsome he-fish I'm swimming up with other guys, and we're looking for some she-fish. We're going back for old times, sake, the journey is worth doing when we arrive and meet the gals it's time to start a-wooing I'll flick my tail and flash my gills to show I'm in condition, so line up chicks, it's time for love, the end of my sex mission.

But now I lie upon my back, my hold on life is loose when I come back in my next life, my choice - you've guessed - A MOOSE.

So much for love in the river, here's love on dry land. Nigel Morris, Deputy at Epsom GC, married Emma on October 21 at Gatton Manor Hotel and Golf Club. Their daughter Jodie was Bridesmaid. Congratulations and best wishes to you three.

After Canada we flew to Hawaii, one of a group of islands in the North Pacific discovered by Capt. Cook in 1778. Geography and history in one sentence. I only mention this because I survived the 2006 earthquake in Hawaii. The full story when next we meet.

Brian Willmott

Order of the Salmon.

Email [brian.willmott@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brian.willmott@hotmail.co.uk)

## Kent

Welcome to another fun packed edition of your Kent news.

A couple of people moving on to tell you about first of all. Two of my guys at Birchwood Park have decided to move on to pastures new. Richard Burgess has taken up the vacant Deputy Course Manager's role at West Hove GC in Sussex and Gary Jessop has moved down the road to further his training at The London Club. Best wishes to both of them in their new positions.

Our monthly winter seminars are in full swing now at Hadlow College and the next one is on December 12 between 10am and 4pm. The topic for this one will be "Pre-Stress Management of Turf" which shall deal with how to manage your swards effectively when heading for the inevitable droughts. These sessions are completely free of charge and anyone from any Section is more than welcome to attend.

Not much else to tell you about this month other than to tell you that in next month's report there will be news on our AGM and Turkey Trot results. Also who came out triumphant in our long awaited football re-match with Sussex Section.

Merry Christmas one and all.

Rob Holland

## East Anglia

Our small, but perfectly formed band, (40ish) made our way to the City of Ely GC. Nice place, well kept by Andrew Baker and his men.

First we were warmly welcomed by a bacon roll and a cup of coffee, then off we strolled through the rough to battle out the prizes and silverware.

The overall winner was Norman Fenwick with 37 pts; 2. Chris O'Dowd, 35 pts; 3. Mark Henderson, 35 pts.

10-18 Section - 1. Glen Rayfield, 34 pts; 2. Ed Webster, 33 pts; 3. David Farmer, 32 pts. 19-28 Section - 1. David Driver, 35 pts; 2. Mick Lathrope, 27 pts; 3. Richard Mitchell, 27 pts - (two up and coming young men to look out for). G & T Section - 1. Mark Keysell, 37 pts; 2. Stuart Robson, 35 pts - (he knows all the George Formby songs and he's got a whippet!)

Mark Clements won the putting competition; Longest Driver was Ed Webster and Nearest the Pin was Stuart (Mr Banjo) Robson.

The loo seat was presented to Ian Willett for breaking two trolleys. They don't make them like they used to!

The main sponsors were Tomlinson Ground Care (complete with a dog wearing a John Deere cap) and John Deere.

Other sponsors are as follows: Aitkins; Atherton and Ellis; Bartram Mowers; Collier Turf Care; Consultant Clarkson; Headland Turf; Lely UK; Midlube; Rigby Taylor; Sheriff; Sisis; Tacit and Textron.

Thanks once again to the Club Captain, Martin Bright and all at the City of Ely Golf Club, for a smashing day out.

November 1 saw the South East Regional Seminar held at Thorpeness Country Club. Our very own Ian Willett is the Chairman and his first big event went very well with some excellent speakers taking part.

The proceedings were opened by John Pemberton, top brass from BIGGA, on 'The Way Forward for the Association', with obvious concerns about BTME.

This was followed by Ray Harding, the ecologist to the award winning Thorpeness GC, with very interesting views on achieving an area of co-habitation between golfers and wildlife - something we should all be striving for.

Then came Kate Entwistle, on turf diseases. Fusarium is no more! Well that's not quite true, they just changed the name to Constantinople.

After lunch Billy and Ian McMillan, who came in at the last moment, gave an interesting talk on drought and sustainable golf. Made you think a bit.

Now here is a challenge. Stand up and talk to a room of hardened greenkeepers about drainage. John Grindrod, of Econoplas, did it, recycling products to make drainage tiles for bunkers etc. Worth looking into.



David Stansfield rounded the day off with an agronomist's view of course renovation. Very interesting, ask Norman!

There were also some trade stands from our sponsors: Aitkens; Collier Turf Care; Tower Chemicals; Scotts; Rigby Taylor; Tacit; Barenburg; Sherriff (2f's); Headland and Lely UK; where you could have a friendly chat and put the world right.

Our thanks once again to Thorpeness Country Club for an excellent venue and hospitality and to Ian for his excellent organisation.

All those who took part deserve a pat on the back. There were a few empty seats but I'm sure they will all be at Harrogate to give the Association the support it needs in this current climate.

Mick Lathrope

## SOUTH WEST & SOUTH WALES

### Harrogate Week 2007

The South West and South Wales Region are once again offering members a three-night bed and breakfast package to Harrogate, staying at The Cairn Hotel, arriving on Monday, January 22, departing Thursday, January 25. The cost for this package to BIGGA members is: Single room, £216 per person; Twin room for single occupancy, £240 per person; Numbers are limited and places should be reserved before sending your booking form and payment.

The Region is also offering a package for the Educational Seminars taking place. Members can book all seven seminars at a cost of £105 - this being a total saving of 40%. This saving can only be obtained by booking through me. Should you wish to book individual seminars, this must be done through Sami Collins at Headquarters and the cost will be discounted on a scale according to the number booked.

All bookings both for accommodation and seminars, must be made and confirmed with payment by Friday, December 15.

Booking forms and details will be sent to Head Greenkeepers/Course Managers in October. Should anyone not receiving this information and wishing to book, please contact me on Tel: 01454 270850 or mobile: 07841 948110.

Jane Jones, Regional Administrator

### South West

Scary to think that this comes out just before Christmas. The year has gone so quickly, so a huge thank-you to all our committee members who made it all work, and to all the clubs and greenkeepers who made our golf days so enjoyable and educational. Thanks once again also to our Patronage Partners - Messers MJ Abbott, Amenity Technology, BS Mowers, Bredy Irrigation, Tower Chemicals, Irritech, Rigby Taylor, Symbio, Rufford, Avoncrop Amenity, and Countrywide Farmers, your sponsorship has made the Section tick - most important. Remember, places at BTME are up for grabs as a result of this sponsorship - write to: Nobby Knight, 17 St Marys Gardens, Hilperton March, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 7PG, and let him know why you deserve the place and what you hope to gain from the experience.

A total of 42 members attended the AGM at Ogbourne St George in October. Yours truly had to give his apologies and hang his head in shame - so no full report this time, but grateful thanks to Nick Pusey and his team for presenting the course in such great order, and to Ogbourne for their hospitality. New for next year on our committee is an assistant secretary, Roger Neale, who will hopefully be able to help in keeping contact with everyone to improve attendances at Section events. Other changes are Wayne Vincent, as Match Captain, and Shaun Richards, as Vice Captain, and Robin Greaves co-opted on.

Back at Minch, the lake and irrigation system installation is in full swing. MJ Abbott have about 15 guys on site - cutting the trenches looks absolutely brutal, but the backfill team are so skilled and dedicated, that after a couple of weeks you can literally hardly see where they've been. So skilled in fact, that we've hardly lost a single member down any of the holes. Kevin Green's lake however is another matter, you can most certainly see where that is. 7850 cubic metres of rock coming out of it and being landscaped into mounds - you can see where they are as well. Our guys are doing the re-topsailing and seeding so plenty to do there. Getting quite good with a five tonne Takeuchi - only another 5000 cubes and the rest of my life to go. I'm certainly looking forward to the New Year, and switching on my new irrigation next June and seeing something actually work properly for a change. Incidentally, we have a good supply of used nearly-new Tonic Decoders, Logic impact drive sprinklers, and a TW2 with remote - if anyone is interested for spares, give me a shout. Fixtures will be out soon - dates for your 2007 diary so far are as follows, with special thanks to Roger Davey, Jon Jarvis, and Marc Haring for their ideas and offers.

At Stockwood Vale on February 22 is the winter competition and Roger Davey's lecture on Water use; At Cotswold Hills on April 25 is the spring tournament; At Enmore Park on May 17 is Greenkeeper Amateur; Race Night takes place in June - (date from Jon Jarvis); At Cumberwell Park on July 25 is the Summer Tournament and Marc Haring's quiz night; At Farrington Gurney on September 13 is a Match vs South Coast and at Minchinhampton New on October 11, the AGM will take place.

If anyone is interested in hosting a 2008 tournament, or has any local news for this column - please let me know. In the meantime, I'll close by wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Paul Worster  
paulw@mgnew.co.uk  
01453 837355.

### South Coast

Congratulations to ME! At last, I am a Daddy. Rowan Charles Crawley came into this world on October 29, 2006 at 5.27am, weighing in at 8lbs 12oz. Mother and son are doing fine. We are overjoyed and may I say a big thank you to everyone who has been enquiring as to the event. Sorry it was a bit late (eight days overdue) but all very much worth it.

Our autumn tournament was held at Corhampton GC on Thursday, October 12. As usual, mother nature blessed us with a beautiful, dry day. Excellent conditions for a day's golf. The course was in excellent condition and our gratitude goes to Mike Smith, the Course Manager, and his staff for their hard work in preparing the course for our Section. Thank you also to all the staff at Corhampton GC for making us feel very welcome, especially to the catering staff, providing well earned nourishment. As usual, huge appreciation to Rigby Taylor, our Sponsors for the day.

Results were as follows: 1.1 Alan Magee, 37 pts; 1.2 Bill Davis, 34 pts; 2.1 Chris Taplin, 43 pts; 2.2 Kevin Glass, 38 pts; 3.1 Phil Bennett, 39 pts, 3.2 David Miles, 37 pts; Longest Drive - Nick Reynolds and Nearest the Pin - Andy McDonald.

The AGM was held after the day's golf, and all went smoothly and to plan with no major issues. Once again, major tribute must be paid to your hardworking committee for their efforts during the year.

If you get your issue in time, the Turkey Trot, is at Weybrook Park GC on December 6. Please contact Chris Sturgess on: 02380 492084 Mob: 0777313 8409 - after 8pm for more details.

On the subject of Golf Days, I have next year's fixtures: Spring Tournament - Romsey GC - May 3, 2007; Summer Tournament - Andover GC - Tuesday, July 3 2007; Autumn Tournament - North Hants GC - October, 23 2007 and Winter Tournament - TBA.

The South West match will be at Farrington Gurney GC on September 13, 2007 and the Scotts/BIGGA will be held at Stoneham GC on May 31, 2007.



The South Coast Seminar, which Chris Bitten is organising, is taking shape and once again looks to be a fascinating and informative day. Details will soon be distributed to the membership. If you've not been to this event before, I strongly recommend attendance.

We would like to wish the very best to Spencer Haynes, who is leaving Hartley Wintney GC to go on to pastures new, maintaining peoples' lawns and passing on his great experience and knowledge to the domestic market. To both Spencer and his family, our very best wishes for the future and we hope to see you at future golf days.

Well that's it folks for this month. All I need to do now is to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year. I am now off to go and change a nappy!

Joe Crawley

### Devon & Cornwall

Well, our season of meetings has commenced for the 2006/2007 year, the first one was held at Launceston GC on Wednesday, October 11 - which was our AGM. As you will all know by now, at the request of HQ, we have been asked to bring our AGM forward a month compared with previous years. This has not really caused any problems other than the fact that a good many greenkeepers were still finishing their autumn maintenance programme work, which meant that our attendance was rather on the low side compared with past years, however, 45 members attended.

The day commenced with a golf competition sponsored by D O Hunt and Roffeys. The format was a Stableford and in spite of very heavy rain over night - nearly 50mm - the course was in fantastic condition thanks to all the hard work by Grame Gallimore, the Head Greenkeeper and his staff.

The winners were as follows: 1 - Chris Pearson, Newquay GC, 39pts (h/cap 3); 2 - Brian Ridgway, Fingle Glen GC, 36pts (h/cap 14); 3 - Gavin Moore, Launceston GC, 35pts (h/cap 12).

Having indulged in a superb lunch, the afternoon proceedings commenced with the AGM, followed by the prize presentation. We were all pleased to welcome Jane Jones, our Regional Administrator, and of course, our National Chairman, Richard Whyman. The meeting lasted 45 minutes and there were no problems. What really pleased me was that we had some very constructive questions and suggestions from members, which will be on the agenda for our next Section committee meeting, held at Trenthorpe GC in November.

At the request of our National Chairman - RE: Having younger members on the Section Committee - it was decided and approved to co-opt Abi Crosswood, from Newquay GC, onto the committee. I am sure you will have read about Abi in Greenkeeper International recently, she was runner-up in the Toro Student of the Year competition. Hopefully Abi will add some constructive ideas to our meetings.

I would like to take this opportunity to correct a mistake in this year's diary, the meeting at St Enodoc is to be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 - not Friday as printed.

Last but not least, the Christmas dinner will be at Okehampton GC on Tuesday, December 12, you all know it is very popular, so once you have received your form, please return post haste.

See you all soon and good luck.

Donovan O Hunt  
Administrator

**CHECK OUT THE EVENTS PAGE ON THE BIGGA WEBSITE FOR AN UP TO DATE LIST OF ALL THE HAPPENINGS IN YOUR SECTION AND REGION.**

*From Tournaments to Seminars, AGM's to Dinners it's all covered at [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk).*

**If you have a BIGGA event that you wish to place on the Events Page contact Melissa at BIGGA HOUSE on [melissa@bigga.co.uk](mailto:melissa@bigga.co.uk) or 01347 833800**

### SECTION NOTES INFORMATION

In order to improve the sending and receiving of Section Notes, where possible can all future notes be emailed to [melissa@bigga.co.uk](mailto:melissa@bigga.co.uk) by no later than the 5th of the month prior to publication please.

*Word limit for Section notes: 500-600.*

You will receive an email back to confirm receipt of your notes. If you do not receive this confirmation please get in touch with BIGGA HQ.

## In the Shed ANSWERS

### CROSSWORD

S	A	V	E		O	U	T	O	F	W	H	A	C	K		
I	E	T		N	G	O	U		A							
N	O	N	V	E	R	B	A	L		R	I	S	E	R		
F	A	M	O	U	S	L	A	S	T	W	O	R	D	S		
E		I		A						O		A		S		
I	N	S	U	L	I	N		A	P	O	L	L	O			
N	T	A		C		N		D		I		R				
		T		I	S	S	U	E		T	E	S	T	A	T	E
S		R		U			I		C				P			
U	N	C	O	N	T	R	O	V	E	R	S	I	A	L		
N		R		R		O		I		U		G		Y		
B	H	A	J		G	A	R	I	B	A	L	D	I			
E		Z		S		U		U		S		O		N		
D	A	Y		R	E	L	E	A	S	E		B	O	R	G	

### SUDOKU

4	1	6	7	3	5	9	8	2
8	9	2	1	6	4	3	7	5
3	5	7	2	8	9	1	4	6
9	7	1	4	5	2	8	6	3
5	2	8	3	9	6	4	1	7
6	4	3	8	7	1	2	5	9
1	3	4	5	2	7	6	9	8
7	8	9	6	4	3	5	2	1
2	6	5	9	1	8	7	3	4

### ANAGRAM

DEMONS JAB  
ANSWER: James Bond

### SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



### A QUICK NINE HOLES

1. Saturn
2. Andy Cole
3. Ouse
4. Raymond Floyd
5. Klaxon
6. Liam Plunkett
7. Lawrence Dallaglio
8. Rosie
9. Sumo Wrestling



# BUYERS' GUIDE

## CATEGORY LISTING:

AERATION  
 AGRONOMY  
 AQUATIC WEED CONTROL  
 ARTIFICIAL GRASS  
 BUILDINGS  
 BUNKER RAKES  
 CLOTHING  
 CONSTRUCTION  
 COURSE MARKERS  
 DRAINAGE  
 DRIVING RANGE EQUIPMENT  
 FERTILISER MIXING  
 FINANCE & LEASING  
 GOLF COURSE ACCESSORIES  
 GOLF MATS  
 GRINDERS  
 HIRE  
 IRRIGATION  
 IRRIGATION CONSULTANTS  
 LAKE CONSTRUCTION/LINERS  
 PATHWAYS  
 PEST CONTROL  
 RUBBER CRUMB  
 TEE CARE  
 TOP DRESSINGS  
 TREES  
 TREE MOVING  
 TURF  
 TURF MAINTENANCE  
 TYRES  
 VERTIDRAINING HIRE  
 WASTE/WASHWATER TREATMENT

## AERATION

**HYDROJECT**  
 AERATION AND CHEMICAL  
 INJECTION SERVICE  
(WITH NO SURFACE DISTURBANCE)  
**KEITH DRIVER**  
(SPORTSTURF CONTRACTOR)  
 Tel: 01273 679994 Mobile: 07958 532008  
 124 Warren Road, Woodingdean, Brighton BN2 6DB



## F Woodward & Sons. Turf Care

Sisier Aer Aid System, Vertidrainning,  
 Hollow Coring & Collecting, Herbicide,  
 Pesticide, Fungicide & Fertiliser  
 Application. Top Dressing, Overseeding,  
 Stoneburying, Laser Levelling

Tel Phil or David on:  
 01455 220767 or 07747 864677  
 Wolvey, Nr Hinckley, Leicestershire  
 Email: enquiries@woodwardturfcare.co.uk

## AGRONOMY

### B Jamieson Golf Advisors Ltd

Bruce Jamieson Golf Advisors Ltd, is an established company offering expert advice on:

- Golf Course maintenance
- Tournament preparation & presentation
- Machinery selection
- Budgeting
- Staff recruitment
- Soil & turf analysis
- Establishment of new golf courses

Contact: Bruce Jamieson  
 Browntop, 17 Haywarden Place, Hartley Wintney, Hants, RG27 8UA  
 Telephone: 01252 844847  
 Email: bruce.jamieson@btconnect.com www.bigolf.co.uk

## AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

**clearwater**  
 pond & lake management

- Environmentally friendly algae, bulrush, aquatic weed removal and control.
- Complete pond and lake construction and lining service.
- Ongoing maintenance programmes to preserve pristine aquatic conditions.
- Environment Agency and IACR standards.

Contact for survey or free brochure  
 Tel: 01442 875616 / Mobile: 07971 263588  
 www.clearwaterplm.co.uk

Visit [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)  
 and check out the latest chat from the greenkeeping industry

**TIME TO TALK**  
[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

## ARTIFICIAL GRASS

**VERDE SPORTS LIMITED**  
 Tel: 01254 831666 Fax: 01254 831066

- VERDE TEE FRAME  
 Steel platform, woven grass top
- VERDE TEE TURF  
 Sand and rubber infill for top quality all weather tees
- VERDE DRIVING MATS  
 Top Quality - Long Life - Best Prices  
 Replacement inserts for ALL Tee-Mats any size - made to measure
- ARTIFICIAL GRASSES  
 Comprehensive range for pathways, winter tees and putting

Gabbotts Farm Barn, Bury Lane,  
 Withnell, Chorley, Lancashire PR6 8SW  
 www.verdesports.com www.artificialgrass.org.uk  
 email: sales@verdesports.com

Please call for samples & information

## Supatee Tee-Line Turf

- ✓ No sand in-fill
- ✓ No compaction
- ✓ No maintenance
- ✓ Accepts a tee

**It plays just like real turf!**

The **BEST** solution for:

- ✓ Practice ground tee-line
- ✓ Par 3 tees
- ✓ Winter tees

**Supatee**

01780 781249 • 07932 037733  
[turf@supatee.com](http://turf@supatee.com)

## BUILDINGS

### Greenkeepers' Stores Driving Ranges

Machinery Storage  
 Maintenance Workshops  
 Fertiliser and Weedkiller Storage  
 Offices and Staff Mess Rooms  
 FREE initial designs and costings

### THE COOPER GROUP

Industrial and Commercial Buildings  
 Tel: 01538 702282 Fax 01538 702662  
 e-mail: [ivarijcooper@fsbdial.co.uk](mailto:ivarijcooper@fsbdial.co.uk)

## BUNKER RAKES

**BUNKER RAKES from only £2.49 each DELIVERED FREE**

Strong construction with replaceable threaded wooden handle.

Fewer than 50 £2.90 each DELIVERED FREE  
 50 or more £2.49 each DELIVERED FREE

Prices are for complete rakes. Free delivery UK mainland. Rake support pegs 80 pence each.

Made in the UK by **MW Dyason Ltd**,  
 The Old Church, Brentingby,  
 Melton Mowbray LE14 4RX  
 Tel: 01664 411911 Fax: 01664 569546  
 Email: [MikeDyason@aol.com](mailto:MikeDyason@aol.com)

HEAD GREENKEEPER,  
 CHAIRMAN OF GREEN?  
 Ask for a FREE SAMPLE

## CLOTHING

**ACTIVE WORKWEAR**  
 HEAD TO THE PROTECTION  
[www.workwearshop.co.uk](http://www.workwearshop.co.uk)

For all your work and safety requirements  
 Tel: 0113 2567021 Fax: 0113 2566600

High Visibility Clothing • Safety Boots  
 Tradesmen's Trousers • Boiler Suits  
 Personalised Polo Shirts • Full Embroidery Service

**TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME**

Visit our Showroom at 56 Bradford Road,  
 Stanningley, Leeds, LS28 6EF

### Harrogate week

- The greatest choice of groundcare products & services
- Comprehensive education programme
- Careers clinic with free advice from professionals
- Everything you need in one location
- Over 200 exhibitors covering the whole industry
- New technology on display
- Invaluable networking opportunities
- Recruitment adverts in the Job Shop

*It's the ONE show you won't want to miss*

[www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk)

## CONSTRUCTION

**Delta Golf 2000 Limited**

Construction • Remodelling  
 Water Features

Tel: 01604 468908  
 Fax: 01604 474853  
[www.deltagolf2000.co.uk](http://www.deltagolf2000.co.uk)  
 180 Ruskin Road, Kingsthorpe,  
 Northampton NN2 7TA

### J & E ELY GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION

Reading, Berks  
 Tel/Fax: 0118 9722257  
 E-mail: [ely@btinternet.com](mailto:ely@btinternet.com)

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
 1961 - 2001

[www.elygolfconstruction.com](http://www.elygolfconstruction.com)

**John Greasley** Specialists in Golf Course Construction

**JOHN GREASLEY LIMITED**  
 "Ashfield House" • 1154 Melton Road  
 Syston • Leicester • LE7 2HB

Tel: 0116 269 6766  
 Mobile: 07836 553899  
 Fax: 0116 269 6866

### LAND UNIT CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

**Sportsground and Golf Course Construction**

Hanslope, Milton Keynes, MK19 7BX  
 Telephone: (01908) 510414  
 Fax: (01908) 511056  
 web: [www.landunitconstruction.co.uk](http://www.landunitconstruction.co.uk)  
 e-mail: [sales@landunitconstruction.co.uk](mailto:sales@landunitconstruction.co.uk)

### MJ ABBOTT LIMITED

SPECIALISTS IN:

- GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION
- REMODELLING & RENOVATION
- RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION
- WATER ENGINEERING

Dinton • Salisbury • Wiltshire SP3 5EB  
 Tel: 01722 716361 • Fax: 01722 716828  
[www.mjabbott.co.uk](http://www.mjabbott.co.uk)



# BUYERS' GUIDE

## COURSE MARKERS

GressGolf

HANDCRAFTED  
TEE MARKERS,  
YARDAGE POSTS  
AND HAZARD  
STAKES



EXTREMELY GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY

Example: 120 x Augusta style markers - only £399

VISIT [www.gressgolf.co.uk](http://www.gressgolf.co.uk)

For more information and photos  
OR Tel. 07771 986745

## DRAINAGE

### PHILIP DIXON SPORTSTURF DRAINAGE

Golf Course • Sportsfield  
Drainage • Construction • Renovation  
Sand Slitting • Gravel Banding  
Blec Ground Breaker • Sand Master  
Vertidrainage • Overseeding  
Top Dressing • Spraying

Tel: **01772 877289**

Fax: **01772 877479**

Preston, Lancashire

[www.philipdixoncontractor.co.uk](http://www.philipdixoncontractor.co.uk)

**Duncan Ross LTD**  
Sportssturf Drainage Specialists

Piped Drainage Systems  
Sand Slitting • Vertidrainage  
Topdressing • Overseeding  
Design • Installation • Maintenance

Appley Bridge, Wigan, Lancashire WN6 9DT

t: **01257 255321**

f: 01257 255327

e: [office@duncanrosslanddrainage.co.uk](mailto:office@duncanrosslanddrainage.co.uk)

w: [www.duncanrosslanddrainage.co.uk](http://www.duncanrosslanddrainage.co.uk)

Visit [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

and check out the  
latest chat  
from the  
greenkeeping  
industry



MANAGEMENT  
SOFTWARE  
SOLUTION  
PROVIDER



**OnCourse**

[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

## Drainage Systems

Lyttag banding  
of greens & fairways  
plus traditional drainage

### North Staffs Irrigation Ltd

Tel: 01785 812706

E: [NSIrrigation@aol.com](mailto:NSIrrigation@aol.com)

[www.northstaffsirrigration.co.uk](http://www.northstaffsirrigration.co.uk)

## SPEEDCUT CONTRACTORS LTD

### SPORTSTURF

Construction  
Drainage  
Renovation  
Sandslitting

Contact: Kevin Smith

**OXFORD 01865 331479**

## Turfdry

### Golf Course Drainage Specialist

For fast and friendly UK  
service call:

Melvyn Taylor

on 01283 551417

or 07836 259133

[www.turfdry.com](http://www.turfdry.com)



**BIGGA**  
Education and  
Development  
Fund

UNLOCK THE DOORS  
TO PROGRESS

[www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk)

## White Horse Contractors Limited



Southern Office Northern Office  
Tel: 01865 736272 Tel: 01845 587800

[whitehorsecontractors.co.uk](http://whitehorsecontractors.co.uk)

## WORTH DRAINING

VERTI-DRAIN HIRE 2.5 & 1.6M  
2M & 1.5M GROUNDBREAKER FOR HIRE  
SAND SPREADING & OVERSEEDING  
TOP DRESSING • SPRAYING

Distance no object

Tel/Fax: 01476 550266

Mobile: 07855 431120

Email: [bloodworth@onetel.com](mailto:bloodworth@onetel.com)

[www.worth-draining.com](http://www.worth-draining.com)

## DRIVING RANGE EQUIPMENT



### GOLF DRIVING RANGE EQUIPMENT

- Unique Behind Wall & Integrated Ball Dispensing Systems
- Golf Ball Cleaners & Elevators
- Golf Ball Collectors
- Utility Vehicles & Mowers
- Edel "Green" Range Mats
- Fiberbuilt Range Mats
- Range Balls

Plus a full range of Accessories

Approved stockist for

STANDARD GOLF course products

Bucklesham, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP10 0DN

Tel: 44 (0) 1473 659815

Fax: 44 (0) 1473 659045

Email: [rangeball@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:rangeball@tiscali.co.uk)

## FERTILISER MIXING

## DENVER Fertiliser Mixing Units up to 2000Ltr



Telephone  
**01604 875075**  
The Old Dairy, Southfield Avenue, Northampton NN4 6AQ

the Hydromix 2000

## FINANCE & LEASING

### FINANCE:

- Replacement machinery
- Course improvements
- Clubhouse redevelopment  
with a flexible package

**Golf Finance**

### SPECIALISTS IN GOLF COURSE FINANCE

TEL: **01620 890200**  
[sales@golffinance.co.uk](mailto:sales@golffinance.co.uk)

## GOLF COURSE ACCESSORIES

**STANDARD  
GOLF COMPANY**

APPROVED U.K. STOCKISTS

Fast Nationwide Delivery

For all your  
Golf Course &  
Range Supplies



Bucklesham, Ipswich, IP10 0DN

Tel: 44 (0) 1473 659815

Fax: 44 (0) 1473 659045

[www.rangeball.co.uk](http://www.rangeball.co.uk)

Email: [rangeball@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:rangeball@tiscali.co.uk)

## EXHIBITIONS

Harrogate  
week

EXHIBITION 23 - 25 January 2007





## GOLF MATS

### FIELDGUARD

#### HONEYCOMB MATS

- Non slip in all weathers
- Grass Protection
- Muddy areas
- Slippery wood or concrete
- Gravel containment
- Wheelchair friendly
- Choice of types and sizes for specific applications

Fieldguard Ltd

Norley Farm, Horsham Road, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8EH  
Tel: 01483 275182 Fax: 01483 275341  
E-mail: info@fieldguard.com

## GOLF MATS UK

are the manufacturer of the Dunlop Golf Mat System



All weather mat in framework

Tel: 01580 892 002

Fax: 01580 891 918

sales@golfmatsuk.co.uk

www.golfmatsuk.co.uk

## MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE SOLUTION PROVIDER



### OnCourse

www.bigga.org.uk

## IRRIGATION

### AQUAFLOW NORTH

"The Water Specialists"

Drainage & Irrigation  
Free on-site consultations  
Specialists in lytag banding

Hawthorn Farm, Cotwallom,  
Stone, Staffs ST15 8TA  
Tel/Fax: 01889 505773  
Mobile: 07970 237230

## AUTOFLOW SYSTEMS LTD



The independent choice for irrigation:  
DESIGN : SUPPLY : INSTALLATION

Tel: 01603 759701

sales@autoflowsystems.co.uk

How do I irrigate fairways for £3000+ VAT ?



Call 0800 883 0693  
or visit www.uk-irrigators.co.uk

## 25+ YEARS EXPERIENCE



## YOURS FOR THE ASKING...

Irrigation systems, lakes and reservoirs, plus servicing, repairs, system updates and extensions a speciality.



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS & SERVICE LLP  
Unit 34-35, Downton Industrial Estate,  
Batten Road, Downton,  
Salisbury, Wilts SP5 3HU  
TEL: 01725 513880 FAX: 01725 513003

## OAKDALE



Phone: 01427 874200  
Fax: 01427 875333

## OCMIS

bringing water to life

### Irrigation Systems

Design, Manufacture,  
Supply, Installation  
& Service  
throughout the UK

Golf Courses  
Sportsgrounds

Tel : 0870 600 5131  
www.Ocmis.com

## CLASSIFIED

### JOB SHOP & MACHINERY FOR SALE

### ADVERTISE TODAY

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CALL THE SALES TEAM ON 01347 833800

## GRINDERS



CUTTING EDGE PIONEERS

Tel: 01207 270 316

email: admin@huntergrinders.com

www.huntergrinders.com

## HIRE

### Turfleet Hire

A division of Golf & Turf  
Equipment Limited

South East's Leading  
Groundcare Hire  
Specialists

Tel: 01189 796063

Fax: 01189 796064

sales@golfandturf.co.uk  
www.golfandturf.co.uk

## Cameron IRRIGATION

Suppliers of Irrigation Equipment to Golf Courses  
Bowling Greens, Landscapes, Horticulture.  
Existing systems renovated and upgraded  
DESIGN • INSTALLATION • SERVICE  
BS EN ISO 9001 Registered Company

Telephone: +44 (0) 1425 474614  
Fax: +44 (0) 1425 471296  
http://www.misc-irrigation.com  
e mail: enquiries@misc-irrigation.com



## MJ ABBOTT LIMITED

### IRRIGATION SPECIALISTS

- DESIGN ■ SUPPLY
- INSTALLATION ■ MAINTENANCE

### RAIN BIRD

Dinton • Salisbury • Wiltshire SP3 5EB  
Tel: 01722 716361 • Fax: 01722 716828  
www.mjabbott.co.uk

## Irrigation Systems

Professionally designed  
installed and serviced

### North Staffs Irrigation Ltd

Tel: 01785 812706  
E: NSIrrigation@aol.com  
www.northstaffsirrigration.co.uk

## Independent Professional Irrigation

Golf Courses, Bowling Greens, Sports, Racecourses, Gardens +++

Design/Advice Servicing  
New Installations Service Contracts  
Contracting System Upgrades  
Supply & Sales PC Systems



Telephone 01765 602175  
01765 690598  
Fax 01765 603488  
Area Dealer Email: admin@par4.co.uk  
www.par4.co.uk

BTLIA 2001 CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD



Call Lely: 01480 226858 or  
email: toro.info@lely.co.uk  
www.toro.com

## IRRIGATION CONSULTANTS



For impartial advice on your  
irrigation system management,  
water supply, and for  
independent engineering design.

01432 263559 irrigation@2ic.co.uk  
01483 278416 www.2ic.co.uk  
Hereford - Surrey



# BUYERS' GUIDE

## irritech limited

Independent Irrigation Consultants

Specialising in:-

- Existing system evaluation
- System design & upgrade
- Project management

Contact Roger Davey on:  
**01823 690216**

[www.irritechlimited.co.uk](http://www.irritechlimited.co.uk)

## LAKE CONSTRUCTION/LINERS



Liners for lakes, ponds and storage lagoons from the UK's leading contractor

Comprehensive advice regarding design and construction of water areas

Tel: 01206 262676 Fax: 01206 262998

E-mail: [sales@geosynthetic.co.uk](mailto:sales@geosynthetic.co.uk)

[www.geosynthetic.co.uk](http://www.geosynthetic.co.uk)

## PATHWAYS

## Castcrete Ltd

### RUBBER CHIPPINGS FOR YOUR PATHWAYS

*DOES NOT* distract the golfer  
*DOES NOT* freeze in winter  
Ideal for saturated soggy areas

For further information call:  
**01293 515 353 or 07768 602 420**

## PEST CONTROL

## SCRAPEAWAY

A New Organic Rabbit Deterrent  
10 years in the making

Non-toxic  
Biodegradable

**AVAILABLE NOW**

For further details, brochure & sample  
Email: [enquires@swigley.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:enquires@swigley.freeserve.co.uk)  
Website: [www.scrapeaway.co.uk](http://www.scrapeaway.co.uk)  
Mobile 07881 782975

## RUBBER CRUMB

The use of RUBBER CRUMB on grass as top dressing has been granted a PATENT in the UK and Ireland under Number EP0788301B1

### TEBBUTT ASSO. ARE THE LICENSEES

with CROWN III rubber crumb Turf Reinforcement, the licensed product

Contact Tebbutt Asso.  
on 01253 342003 or Fax 01253 346644  
e-mail: [tebuttassociates@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tebuttassociates@tiscali.co.uk)  
[www.tebuttassociates.co.uk](http://www.tebuttassociates.co.uk)

## TEE CARE

### Tidy Tees.

A cost effective solution to debris on the tees.

Visit our website for results of a 6 month trial and full product details.  
[www.tidytees.biz](http://www.tidytees.biz)  
tel: 0121 3521200



## TOP DRESSINGS

*Banks Amenity Products Ltd.*

FENDRESS™ TOP DRESSINGS & ROOTZONES.  
DRESSINGS FOR FAIRWAYS AND TEES.  
SCREENED FENSOIL, LOAM & TOPSOIL.  
BUNKER SAND & PATHWAY MATERIALS.

**01858 464346 / 433003**  
[www.banksamenity.co.uk](http://www.banksamenity.co.uk)

**BOURNE AMENITY**

Manufacturers of quality dressings & rootzones inc. green compost, fensoil & loams, for fairways, greens & tees

Tel: 01797 252299 [www.bourne.uk.com](http://www.bourne.uk.com)

**LOVIE**  
QUARRY & CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Producers of quality Top dressings, Specialist sands, Rootzone soils, Grit, Gravel and Pathway materials for Golf Courses, Playing Fields and Sports Pitches

Cowbog, New Pittsligo, Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, AB43 6PR

Tel: **01771 653777**

Fax: **01771 653527**

## Shirley Aldred & Co. Ltd

Suppliers of high quality granular charcoal for over 200 years

- Use one of the oldest products known to man to treat black layer
- Prevent thatch build up
- Improve drainage and rootzone
- Totally organic product
- Large stock levels of all grades
- Delivery anywhere in mainland UK within 3-4 days

Tel: 01433 620003

Fax: 01433 620388



## TREES

### FAST-GROWING TREES

Growth of 6-8 feet per year

For rapid improvement to new and developing Golf Courses

Hybrid Poplars used for specimen and group plantings to make handsome trees and perimeter windbreaks.

Hybrid Willows used for screens, hedges, wind-breaks, and dense cover on course.

Both are tolerant of poor soils and sites and require little post-planting care.

All sizes available from 12 inch slips to 8 foot well-rooted trees.

Prices including delivery to most areas from £48 per 100, plus VAT or £439 per 1000, plus VAT

Free information pack and advice without obligation  
Phone John or Monica Spanton-Coates on 01404 812229 or Fax on 01404 815800  
Bowhayes Trees Ltd, Lowlands Farm, Toadpit Lane, Ottery, St Mary, Devon EX11 1LQ  
or visit [www.bowhayestrees.co.uk](http://www.bowhayestrees.co.uk)

## TREE MOVING

### Garstang Golf Club

### TREE MOVING SERVICES

Call John today on:  
**07718 782 146**

## TURF

### Fineturf

Dedicated to Growing Quality Sportsturf

Custom Grown Root Zone Turf

Install n Playball Turf Tiles

Tel 01400 250796

Fax 01400 251606

[www.fineturf.net](http://www.fineturf.net)

The Fastest Growing Name in Turf

**Lindum**  
taking grass a step further

20 years of golf turf experience

5 golf grades including high bent greens on USGA rootzone, RTF for stabilisation and drought tolerance, and new Wildflower Turf

Tel: 01904 448675

[www.turf.co.uk](http://www.turf.co.uk)

## Tillers Turf

growers of fine turf

### Specialist Growers of Turf for Golf Courses

#### Rootzone Turf for Greens

Grown on USGA rootzone, top-dressed throughout the year, and mown at 6mm.

Predominantly bent sward

#### Turf for Tees, Surrounds, Approaches and Fairways

Various mixtures including ryegrass/fescue, 100% fescue, and bent/fescue grown on sandy loam topsoil.

#### NEW FOR 2006/2007

RTF - tough turf for drought and wear tolerance.

Fantastic results on pathways and bunker banks

Tel: **01652 678 000**

[www.tillersturf.co.uk](http://www.tillersturf.co.uk)

## TurfTrac

### Course Protector

A portable playing surface for turf protection during adverse ground conditions. Ideal for enabling play during winter months.



**TurfTrac**  
Complete Protection from Tee to Green

Turf Trac Ltd  
11 South Loanhead, Lime Kilns  
Dunfermline, Fife KY11 3LB

Tel: 07955 852725

[info@turfrac.co.uk](mailto:info@turfrac.co.uk) • [www.turfrac.co.uk](http://www.turfrac.co.uk)

## TURF MAINTENANCE



Contractor For Turf Maintenance  
SISIS Javelin Aer-aid System  
Scarification • Hollow Tine Cutting • Verticutting  
Golf Course Construction & Alteration  
All Aspects of Drainage  
Natural & Modern Water Features  
Pest & Turf Treatments  
Seeding & Top Dressing  
Call Mick: 07821 420498 (Daytime)  
Bacup, Lancashire  
[kerbappeallandscaping@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kerbappeallandscaping@hotmail.co.uk)



# RT

rigby taylor

Supplier of grass seed, fertilizers, chemicals, soil conditioners, line markings, top dressings and a broad range of sports and leisure equipment

**FREEPHONE 0800 424 919**

[www.rigbytaylor.com](http://www.rigbytaylor.com)

## VERTIDRAINING HIRE

PETER MANNINGTON



**Professional Verti-Drain and Earthquaking Contractor**

Experienced operator, competitive prices and reliable service

Tel/Fax Peter on 01580 861211 or Mobile 07850 612061

1 White Horse Cottages, Silverhill, Hurst Green, Etchingham, East Sussex TN19 7QA

## WASTE/WASH WATER TREATMENT



Effective wash water recovery systems for remote washing and full environmental compliance

- Competitively priced
- No drainage required
- Reduced water costs
- Low maintenance
- Clean recycled water
- Small footprint
- Indoor/outdoor option



The ENZYMATIC15 wash water recycler. Designed & built in the UK by ByWater

Tel: 01530 833469 Fax: 01530 810795

Email: [sales@bywaterservices.co.uk](mailto:sales@bywaterservices.co.uk)

Web: [www.bywaterservices.co.uk](http://www.bywaterservices.co.uk)

## HYDRO SCAPE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS

The Latest in Biological Wastewater Treatment

TEL: 01425 476261

FAX: 01425 472380

E-mail [sales@hydroscape.co.uk](mailto:sales@hydroscape.co.uk)

Visit Our Website:

[www.hydroscape.co.uk](http://www.hydroscape.co.uk)

## TYRES

# AMERITYRE

World's Finest FLATFREE Tyres



CALL 01564 824343

[www.hancox.co.uk](http://www.hancox.co.uk)

## NATIONWIDE VERTIDRAIN HIRE

SELF OPERATED OR WITH OPERATOR

**TRACTOR WITH 1.6m  
£500 PER WEEK**

**TRACTOR WITH 2m  
£700 PER WEEK**

TEL: **01522 869100**

[www.countygrass.co.uk](http://www.countygrass.co.uk)

## Hydrotech Solutions

- Golf Machinery Wash Water Treatment
- Positive Filtration - Non-Biological
- 200+ systems Installed Worldwide
- Simple, Low Cost Installation
- Low running Costs

Tel: 01925 758099

Fax: 01925 757519

[www.hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk](http://www.hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk)

E-mail: [info@hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk](mailto:info@hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk)

## Waste2Water

BIOLOGICAL VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT WASH-OFF SYSTEMS

ESD Waste2Water Europe Ltd.

Tel: 01782 373 878

Fax: 01782 373 763

E-mail: [info@waste2water.com](mailto:info@waste2water.com)

Web: [www.waste2water.com](http://www.waste2water.com)

# NEED TO RECRUIT?

...but don't know how to go about it

...Look no further than Greenkeeper International

This magazine is sent to every golf course in the country



# Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

## Recruitment Voucher

# 10% DISCOUNT ON RECRUITMENT ADVERTS

TO REDEEM YOUR VOUCHER CALL THE SALES TEAM NOW ON 01347 833800 AND QUOTE 'KS'

This voucher entitles the bearer to 10% discount on any size recruitment advertisement within Greenkeeper International. VALID UNTIL 30 APRIL 2007.





## DUNBLANE NEW GOLF CLUB LTD

### COURSE MANAGER

Dunblane New Golf Club is a high quality parkland course providing an enjoyable and testing challenge for golfers of all abilities. The presentation and maintenance of the course will provide a real opportunity to an ambitious individual in an excellent working environment. The course is located in an area renowned for its scenic beauty and quality and availability of living accommodation, schools, shops and transport links.

The successful applicant must have a minimum of three years management experience and the ability to manage and motivate the greenkeeping team to maintain and develop the course to the highest standard of presentation.

Applicants must also possess all recognised greenkeeping qualifications up to management level including pesticides handling and must have knowledge of statutory regulations including Health and Safety. A sound working knowledge of machinery and irrigation systems is also required.

Applicants must be good communicators, have IT skills and possess the ability to compile and work within an annual budget and produce management reports.

A competitive benefits package including accommodation is available.

**Please apply by e-mail or in writing with a full CV by 5th Jan 2007 to:**  
The Secretary, Dunblane New Golf Club Ltd., Perth Road, Dunblane, Perthshire FK15 0LJ.  
e-mail: [secretary@dngc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@dngc.co.uk).

## ILFORD GOLF CLUB

### DEPUTY COURSE MANAGER

Ilford Golf Club is a testing 18 hole parkland course, celebrating its Centenary Year in 2007. A vacancy has arisen for a Deputy Course Manager. This position would be an ideal opportunity for professional enhancement of an ambitious and driven First / Senior Assistant Greenkeeper.

#### The Role

You will be a highly motivated, hard working, conscientious turf professional who can work within a dedicated team. You will be able to deputise in the absence of the Course Manager, and be able to make contributions to the short, medium and long term maintenance regimes. Conversant with both modern and traditional turf culture practices, and be mechanically minded and thus competent in machinery and irrigation systems servicing and fault diagnosis.

#### Requirements

Qualified / working towards NVQ3

Have a minimum 5 years greenkeeping experience.

Hold PA1, PA2 & PA6 Certificates

Good knowledge of Health & Safety Issues.

The ability to play golf would be an advantage.

Salary negotiable according to experience / Qualifications.

Accommodation may be available as part of a package if required.

**Please send a C.V. with covering letter for the attention of:**

Scott Vass, General Manager at Ilford Golf Club,  
291 Wanstead Park Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 3TR.

Closing date for applications 5 January 2007.



## Rudding Park

### DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

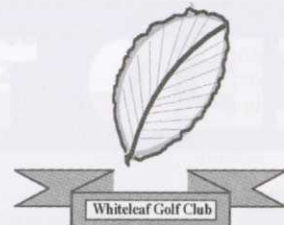
We are looking for an individual who has a minimum of 6 years experience in greenkeeping, some of which has been gained in a deputy role, and who is qualified to NVQ level 2 in Greenkeeping. Must have knowledge of irrigation systems and experience in golf course builds/development is preferred but not essential.

The ideal candidate must be organised, able to prioritise tasks, and help implement procedures. Must be experienced in managing and motivating a team and be an excellent communicator and team player. With a flexible attitude and a keen interest in golf, this individual must be committed to maintaining our high standards on the golf course.

Spraying licence, experience in digger driving and chainsaw qualifications would be an advantage.

For an application form or more information contact  
Joanne Turner on 01423 844 829  
or email your CV to: [recruitment@ruddingpark.com](mailto:recruitment@ruddingpark.com)

Rudding Park, Follifoot, Harrogate, HG3 1JH  
[www.ruddingpark.com](http://www.ruddingpark.com)



## WHITELEAF GOLF CLUB

Established 1907

A very scenic undulating 9 hole Golf Course in the Chilterns

Requires an

### Assistant Greenkeeper

Qualification not essential although knowledge of aspects of Greenkeeping would be preferred.

Some weekend working is required.

Training opportunities available.

Salary dependent on experience and qualification.

Applications in writing or e-mail detailing past employment and experience to: The Secretary, Whiteleaf Golf Club Ltd, Upper Icknield Way, Whiteleaf, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 0LY

For further information please telephone 01844 274058  
e-mail: [whiteleafgc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:whiteleafgc@tiscali.co.uk) • [www.whiteleafgolfclub.co.uk](http://www.whiteleafgolfclub.co.uk)



# Recruitment



## WILDERNESSE CLUB LTD

invites applications for the position of

### COURSE MANAGER

Established in 1890, this Private Members Club is an 18-hole Parkland Course situated near Sevenoaks in Kent. The course has been a venue for Regional qualifying for the Open and has a reputation for being the best inland Course in Kent. The Club has recently invested heavily in modern greenkeeping equipment and facilities to ensure the Course is maintained to its optimum level.

We are looking for a Course Manager of the highest calibre, with a proven experience in managing a dedicated team of greenkeepers. The successful applicant will have to show that they have the necessary experience and ability to maintain a Private Members Club within budget to a very high standard.

The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate:

- Several years of Golf Club management experience at Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper level.
- Qualified to NVQ/HNC or equivalent, plus spraying qualification.
- A sound knowledge of irrigation systems and machinery.
- Experience of current Statutory Health & Safety Regulations/COSHH.
- Ability to lead and motivate a greenkeeping team.
- The ability to manager resources efficiently and exercise strict budgetary controls.
- Formulate and execute a 5-year Course Policy Plan.
- Good communication skills and IT aptitude.

Salary and benefits, to include assistance with accommodation, will be by negotiation depending on experience and qualifications.

All applications with full CV to be sent by 31 December 2006.

Email to: [secretary@wilderness.co.uk](mailto:secretary@wilderness.co.uk)

# WANTED!

QUALITY TRAINEE GREENKEEPERS  
FOR WORK / TRAINING ON THE BEST GOLF  
COURSES IN THE USA

MUST BE ENTHUSIASTIC AND MOTIVATED  
MUST BE 19-28 YEARS OLD, SINGLE,  
HAVE AT LEAST NVQ 2 OR ONE YEAR OF  
FULL TIME TURFGRASS EDUCATION

GOOD WAGES AND PLENTY OF OVERTIME

PROGRAMS FROM 8 TO 18 MONTHS  
HELP WITH VISAS, TRAVEL PLANS AND  
INSURANCE

PLACEMENT AND ACCOMODATION ARRANGED  
OPTIONAL TURF CLASSES AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mike O'Keeffe / John Beardmore

The Ohio Program,

Suite 360, 700 Ackerman Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43202, USA



Telephone: 001-614-292-7720

Fax: 001-614-688-8611

E-mail: [okeeffe.1@osu.edu](mailto:okeeffe.1@osu.edu)

[www.top.osu.edu](http://www.top.osu.edu)

See us on the  
GCSAA  
stand, B18,  
BTME 2007



## Mechanic / Greenkeeper

Ogbourne Downs Golf Club currently has a vacancy for a suitably qualified mechanic, who has also attained skills in greenkeeping, to join our committed course management team.

The successful applicant will report to the Head Greenkeeper and be responsible for all aspects of machinery maintenance and health & safety in the workshop, as well as carrying out general greenkeeping duties on the golf course.

Ideally the candidate will have a proven career record and experience of working in a golf club environment.

NVQ2, spraying qualification and experience in grinding cylinders would be an advantage.

Salary negotiable dependant on qualification and experience.

Please apply in writing with full CV and two references by Friday, 15th December to:

Nick Pusey, Head Greenkeeper, Ogbourne Downs Golf Club, Ogbourne St. George, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1TB

## Forest Drainage Products Ltd

Forest Drainage Products Limited is a subsidiary of The Forest Group UK, a leading player in the UK construction industry of heath and safety products.

A brand new drainage system, POLYBED, has recently been launched onto the UK market and finds itself with an enormous amount of interest in the sports and leisure industry.

We look for a self motivated sales person with experience in the leisure industry particularly with groundsmen, greenkeepers and recreational area managers to develop the sales potential of this innovative drainage solution.

The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic and self directed with substantial contacts in the areas designated and a good sales track record in the amenity market.

Computer literacy would be an advantage.

We look for an individual, working from a home base, who has good negotiating skills with an ability to manage sales volumes and margins whilst offering good customer care and service.

The position provides an attractive remuneration package which will include a company car, mobile phone, computer and company pension scheme. A bonus structure is negotiable.

Applicants should email their CV to Julie Boon

Email address: [julie@forestdrainage.co.uk](mailto:julie@forestdrainage.co.uk)



The Forest Group



## HEAD GREENKEEPER

Shirehampton Park Golf Club is a parkland course with stunning views over the River Avon.

We are seeking an enthusiastic individual who is suitably qualified to manage and develop a small but hardworking team.

The successful applicant must have the ability and dedication to:

- Present the course and its surroundings to the highest standards.
- Apply and adhere to current Health & Safety regulations.
- Manage resources efficiently in line with seasonal requirements and exercise strict budgetary control.

Salary appropriate to experience.

Applications with full CV to be to: The Club Secretary, Shirehampton Park Golf Club, Park Hill, Shirehampton, Bristol, BS11 0UL. Or e-mail: [info@shirehamptonparkgolfclub.co.uk](mailto:info@shirehamptonparkgolfclub.co.uk)



## Feature listing from December 2004

**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; Sconnie 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

**August 2006;** Open Championship Review; Drainage; Burton GC Profile; Sustainability; Japan; ATVs; Trailers

**September 2006;** Building an Irrigation Lake; Toro Student of the Year Preview; Artificial Surfaces; Algae

**October 2006;** Trevoze GC Profile; Aeration; Utility Vehicles; Open Aftermath; Grinding Equipment

**November 2006;** National Championship; BIGGA Photographic Exhibition; Drainage Explained; Greens Brushing

# Chairman's Column



## Harrogate Week Sold Out



Season's greetings to you all.

Christmas is always a special time of year when families get together to rejoice. It is the time to put to one side life's problems and relax recharging the batteries for the year ahead. Our industry will always require us to work at times over the festive period but I am sure you will all find time to relax at some point.

I mentioned families earlier and I'd like to think that as BIGGA members we are one big family pulling together for the benefit of all. The BIGGA families special time is Harrogate week when young and old gather to discuss greenkeeping issues both formally at our excellent continue to learn programme and socially looking around the largest indoor turf trade show in Europe.

I mentioned last month that the board had taken the decision to close Hall Q and I am delighted to inform you that we have completely sold out the trade space within the four main Halls and the educational workshops are filling up very fast - to avoid disappointment I urge you to contact Sami or Ken in the educational department to reserve your place before it's too late.

Harrogate 2007 will see the largest programme of seminars ever held giving you the widest amount of educational opportunities. This year we have also introduced a discount scheme if you book before January 10 you can save up to 30% a massive saving for your club.

For more information about the Harrogate Week programme and the discount scheme refer to the brochure or visit: [www.harrogateweek.org.uk](http://www.harrogateweek.org.uk). Don't forget there are also many free seminars to attend.

Harrogate Week is your opportunity to show the industry your passion and pride for your profession and association, we can arrange seminars and workshops but it's up to you to attend and make Harrogate week a week no one can afford to miss.

It's pleasing to hear that most of our Regions and some Sections are funding special discounted packages for travel or accommodation during Harrogate Week, if you haven't received details of any packages contact your Section Secretary or Regional Administrator who will be able to inform you of any packages available.

The autumn/winter round of seminars programme around the country, are well under way and it's pleasing to hear that numbers attending the south east and south west have been excellent.

During October I was invited to the Danish Greenkeeper Conference held in the beautiful resort town of Vejle in Jutland. This was the Danish Association's first attempt at holding a two-day conference. The conference was very well attended with around 180 delegates, which represents 30% of their membership, an incredible figure listening to a line up of top international speakers.

The conference also gave me the chance to meet many of our international members who work in Denmark. I have mentioned previously that I am very aware that sometimes our international members feel isolated, so I hope my visit reassured many members that we do care.

Finally, I would like to once again wish you all a pleasant and peaceful Christmas and a successful greenkeeping new year.

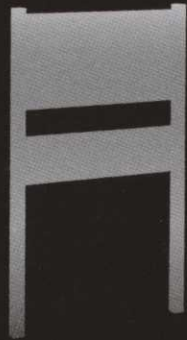
### Champion of BIGGA

This month I have chosen your staff at BIGGA HOUSE and our Regional Administrators, who, under the leadership of our Chief Executive John Pemberton, work tirelessly on our behalf, which sometimes goes unnoticed. This year has been difficult for the sales team as the downturn in the growth in our industry starts to bite and next year looks like it will be a challenging year. My thanks to each and every member of staff in every department - your efforts haven't gone unnoticed.

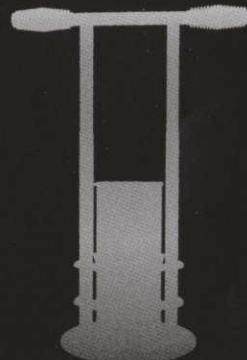
Richard Whyman  
Chairman



Golf Course Accessories  
Turf Care Hand Tools  
Signage & Design



**BMS**



2007

*Products for the Outdoor Professional*



**Visit our stand M13F at BTME Harrogate**

**REQUEST YOUR FREE  
BROCHURE NOW!**

email: [info@bms-europe.co.uk](mailto:info@bms-europe.co.uk)  
tel: 01582 758444 fax: 01582 758555





# The Intelligent Use of Water™



Water. It's what keeps the world alive. As the world's largest manufacturer of irrigation products, we believe it is our responsibility to develop technologies that use water efficiently. Over the past seven decades, our pioneering efforts have resulted in more than 130 patents. From central control systems and automatic shut-off devices to pressure regulating components and low volume drip irrigation, Rain Bird designs products that use water wisely. And our commitment extends beyond products to education, training and services for our industry and our communities.

The need to conserve water has never been greater. We want to do even more, and with your help, we can. Visit [www.rainbird.com](http://www.rainbird.com) for more information about The Intelligent Use of Water.™

# RAIN BIRD®

[www.rainbird.com](http://www.rainbird.com)

© 2006 Rain Bird Corporation

Pebble Beach Golf Links, and distinctive images of the course are trademarks, services marks and trade dress of Pebble Beach Company. Used by permission. Rain Bird is the official irrigation supplier of Pebble Beach Resorts.