

Feature listing from February 2004

February 2004; Harrogate Review 2004; Tyneside GC; Utility Vehicles (sit on); Irrigation

March 2004; R&A Best Practice; Trentham Park GC; Drainage; Spraying

April 2004; Know your Rules; Tournament Preparation; Landmarks in Greenkeeping; Security

May 2004; Goodwood Club; Seed or Turf?; Biological Product Survey; Water Features; Recycling; BIGGA Environment Competition

June 2004; Fairy Rings; Biologicals; The Grove; Kubota Profile; Turf; Sand and Rootzone

July 2004; Royal Troon Open Preview, Mowing, Disease Analysis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chairman's Column



Back to the Future

One sunny evening, back in the summer of 2004, I was enjoying a family barbecue when the phone rang and to my surprise it was Kerran asking if I would consider becoming his Vice Chairman. In utter shock I asked Kerran for time to consider such a honourable and illustrious position.

After discussing the role of Chairman with my wife, family and employers and with their full support I contacted Kerran with my acceptance. In turn, I would like to thank you, the members, for doing me the honour of appointing me Chairman for the forthcoming year at the AGM. I would also like to thank my employers, Burnham & Berrow Golf Club, together with my dedicated greenkeeping team for the encouragement and support they have shown for my coming year as Chairman.

This year is likely to be challenging with regard to Harrogate Week 2007, but I can ensure you that we will uphold an excellent level of communication with all parties. Your elected Board and staff will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of you, the members. I would like to welcome Billy McMillan as my Vice Chairman and Ray Day to the Board; I am sure both gentlemen will be of great benefit to our Association. I would also like to thank our retiring Chairman, Andy Campbell, and George Barr for their business-like approach during their time on the Board.

Time has already moved on so quickly, my children tell me it's an age thing! However, now is the time to reflect on the very successful Harrogate Week. With record numbers of people involved in our industry gaining quality education which was catered through an educational programme of workshops and seminars organised brilliantly by Ken and Sami, who succeeded in providing more quality and breadth than ever before.

The week commenced on Sunday January 22 delivering five excellently presented workshops. Feedback from all Delegates concluded that the workshops were very productive and fun which set the tone for the rest of the week and encouraged the closing workshop's - Maintaining the Sustainable Golf Course, presented by the R&A - attendance of over 250 Delegates.

Turning my thoughts to the BTME and ClubHouse Show - which again was a sell out - I am happy to say that this was truly the only place to look at the suppliers that matter within our industry. All of the exhibitors I met were very pleased with the quality and quantity of visitors they welcomed onto their Stands.

I can recall the very first BTME, many years ago, where people I met could not believe I had travelled all the way from Cornwall to attend. It is fantastic and a real reflection on Harrogate Week that today we welcome Delegates from all over Europe and various parts of the World.

As I am writing this, my thoughts return to 15 years or so ago when travelling back from York with Gordon Child. He informed me of his vision of a week when greenkeepers would be able to get together and see the latest products while discussing and developing their skills. We have now achieved this and more, as we welcome and support the Secretaries' Association, R&A, GTC and the Golfing Unions during the week.

At this point it would be incongruous of me not to thank John and the whole team at HQ who worked tirelessly to ensure Harrogate Week turned out to be yet again hugely successful.

This year I intend my monthly articles to recognise members who have given so much to our Association in a feature called Champions of BIGGA. This month's Champions of BIGGA are my own staff, who work to a very high standard, sometimes without the recognition they deserve. So stand up and be proud lads, namely Mike Dodd, Paul Dunn, Andrew Briggs, Noel Smith, Craig Dunbar and Gary Pither.

On closing my first article I would like to pay tribute to the retiring Chairman, Kerran Daly, for his excellent year in office. He did not let on how well he would write his articles over the last year but he had a wee smile on his face when I approached the subject recently.

My aim as Chairman is to continue the work Kerran has done alongside John Pemberton and all of our staff to improve overall communication at all levels.

Richard Whyman
Chairman