

## SINCERE CONDOLENCES

I was sorry to hear of the untimely death of Bert Cross recently and wish to offer my sincere condolences to his wife and family. Bert was, of course, a member of the Board until his term of office expired. I took over his position on the Board and for the short time we worked together was extremely grateful to him for his advice and wisdom. He was well liked by all who knew him both on and off the Board of Management and will be sorely missed. He worked tirelessly for the members and tried to involve them at all times.

*Tony Smith*



## THE SAD LOSS OF A FRIEND

I first met Bert in Korea in 1951 while serving in the King's Regiment. Bert was always a larger than life character who was a joy to be with. He made his presence felt wherever he was, even stopping our troop ship in the Suez Canal, where he was lowered over the side on a stretcher to go to hospital with an appendicitis. Even then you could not keep a good man down. He joined us later in Hong Kong, before going on to Korea.

Bert will be best remembered for his friendship and help he gave to many greenkeepers. His hard work and dedication was well known. As for his contribution to BIGGA, it is probably best summed up by saying he was Mr North West. The Open Championship, National Championship, and many other events will not be the same without him.

He will also be a sad loss to the village children in Africa, where he and his good lady spent so much of their time helping.

We should all be very proud to be considered a friend of Bert. He leaves us with fond memories that will never be forgotten and he will be sadly missed.

*Gordon Child*

Donations can be sent to the orphanage that Bert regularly visited:

Sister Mariola,  
Kasisi,  
Orphanage,  
PO Box 33441  
Lusaka,  
Zambia

Please email your letters to Scott MacCallum, [scott@bigga.co.uk](mailto:scott@bigga.co.uk)  
or Melissa Jones, [melissa@bigga.co.uk](mailto:melissa@bigga.co.uk)  
or post to: BIGGA House, Aldwark Manor, Alne, York YO61 1UF