

BIGGA



President
Sir Michael Bonallack,
OBE

Board of Management
Chairman
Andrew Mellon
Vice Chairman
Tony Smith
Past Chairman
Paul Worster

Board Members

Chris Sealey, Gary Cunningham, Archie Dunn, Arnold Phipps-Jones, Jeremy Hughes, Kenny MacKay, Mark Dobell

Chief Executive

John Pemberton
john@bigga.co.uk

Head of Learning & Development

Sami Collins
sami@bigga.co.uk

Head of Membership Department

Tracey Maddison
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Contact Us

BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Aine, York, YO61 1UF
info@bigga.co.uk
www.bigga.org.uk
Tel – 01347 833800 | Fax – 01347 833801

GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

The official monthly magazine of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited.

Editorial

Communications Manager / Editor

Scott MacCallum
Tel – 01347 833800 Fax – 01347 833801
scott@bigga.co.uk



Design

Design and Production Editor
Tom Campbell

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833802
tom@bigga.co.uk



Advertising

Sales Executive
Kirstin Black

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833802
kirstin@bigga.co.uk



Sales Executive
Jill Rodham

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833802
jill@bigga.co.uk

Printing

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

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 £50 per year, Europe and Eire £65, Rest of the World £95. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.



ISSN: 0961-6977

© 2011 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR



The world caved in on them...

There are many times when we feel that the weight of the world resting very firmly on our shoulders and, to be honest, there are days when, quite frankly, we just feel down.

We could be worried about the onset of disease on the golf course, or a member complaining about an overflowing litter bin, or in my case, an impending magazine deadline or it could be something at home, not work related.

But it's when you think about the people in Northern Japan, that it gives us a proper perspective on life. There, they were going about their business, some of them possibly even believing like us that the weight of the world was resting on their shoulders, when that world caved in on them.

The earthquake, which was the catalyst for a horrific series of events, was a massive 9 on the Richter Scale, the largest since records began. The tsunami which followed half an hour later created devastation that would cast doubt on the believability of any disaster movie plot. The television footage of the flood water sweeping away entire buildings, and gathering cars as though they were made by Corgi or Dinky and not Nissan or Toyota, was jaw dropping and it is impossible to imagine the despair of those unfortunate people who have been caught up in it.

Then, on top of it all, and as if there wasn't enough to deal with, there is the nuclear power station time bomb.

Those brave people who, as I write, are working tirelessly to avoid catastrophic meltdown are putting their own lives at risk and some will be doing so while at the same time in mourning for members of their own families.

With some many towns and villages totally wiped out, "Where to start?" must be the question for those charged with rebuilding, and attempting to bring back some degree of new normality to broken lives.

We can only wish them all well as work begins and offer up support, moral or financial, if it is requested.

What is going on in Japan doesn't take away from the troubles and issues we are dealing with back here but appreciating the suffering of the Japanese puts into context a little bit of Fusarium and a looming deadline.

With April upon us we can well and truly say that the new golfing season is here and what a season it should be. No-one is dominating the game at the moment and every tournament and Major could be won by any one of a huge number of players. In other words, for the first time in over a decade Tiger, on current form, is unlikely to be the favourite in any of the tournaments he enters and I would be very surprised if the Majors were not won by four different players.

With The Masters kicking it all off I have a sneaking suspicion for Bubba Watson so, whatever you do, avoid the eccentric left hander like the plague when you are making your selections at the bookies.

With my lamentable prediction record you'd no doubt be wiser investing your money in a Tiger Slam for 2011!

Scott MacCallum
Editor