

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR

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 Officer

Jim Croxton

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, Alne, 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 833801
tom@bigga.co.uk



Advertising

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



North of Scotland is where it's at

The new Trump International Links, currently under construction near Aberdeen, is going to be absolutely superb.

The course is cut through some of the
highest and most spectacular dunes to be
found anywhere, and it is a real credit to
Architect, Martin Hawtree; Constructor, Sol
Golf, and, John Bambury who is responsible
for the grow-in.

If the preconception was that a Donald
Trump golf course would be big on cart
paths, ornamental fountains and burger
concessions, discretely located behind every
third tee, you will be pleasantly surprised. It
certainly does not fit the archetypal mould of an
American-style course. It has been designed to
be walked – ideally with caddies - and there is
not a buggy to be found anywhere, never mind
a path for one.

The course is totally in keeping with the
environment and, outside of the tees, greens
and bunkers it would be hard to identify any
man-made touches.

You can read all about this much talked
about new course in our exclusive profile
elsewhere in this issue. It includes interviews
with both John Bambury and Martin Hawtree.

It will open in July of next year which ties
in beautifully with the 100th anniversary of
Martin's family golf architecture firm.

The golf course is sure to establish itself very
at the top of the British and international game
and the arrival of top tournaments will surely
follow.

It confirms the North of Scotland's place as
a must-visit destination for golfers wishing to
experience the best the UK and Ireland has to
offer.

There are established clubs like Royal

Dornoch, Nairn, and Royal Aberdeen, which
received massive plaudits for its hosting of
the recent Walker Cup, as well as the hidden
gems including Cruden Bay, Tain and Boat of
Garten.

Then there is the fantastic Castle Stuart,
which caught the imagination of so many when
it hosted the Barclays Scottish Open in July,
despite being less than two years old.

All are classic, or guaranteed to become
classic, golf courses and each is maintained
to the highest possible standard by Course
Managers, who all know how to cope with the
slightly more extreme weather conditions that
particular area of the UK throws up.

The weather may be cold but as a golfing
destination the north of Scotland is definitely
hot.

I would also like to take this opportunity to
congratulate Jason Hunt on becoming BIGGA's
Champion Golfer for 2011. The BIGGA National
Championship, sponsored by Charterhouse
and Kubota, was a wonderful event made more
so because of the wonderful welcome by West
Lancs Golf Club, and two superb sponsors.
The camaraderie of the players, many of whom
return year after year, is a delight to see, while
the quality of golf, at the top end of the field, is
second to none.

The aim is to identify BIGGA's Champion,
but the competition is open to all –there are
handicap prizes for example, the main one
being won by Mark Blacknell – and it remains
one of the highlights of the BIGGA calendar.

Irvine Bogside, another wonderful golf
course, hosts next year, so why not make a
point of playing?

Scott MacCallum
Editor