



# GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

£5.50 | JANUARY 2018

BRINGING THE

# HEAT

Featured Inside

## BTME 2018 IS HERE

Iprodione | Rescue | Royal Portrush | Tractors  
Workwear | Macclesfield | Greenkeeping brothers





# PROVEN HYBRIDS

Why trust anything less? Our E-cut hybrid technology reduces potential leak points and controls reel speed for safe, consistent operation and a truly clean cut. And with over 10 years experience in the field, our results are proven.

**Trusted by the best courses on earth.**

Freephone 0800 085 25 22



BY APPOINTMENT TO  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
SUPPLIERS OF AGRICULTURAL, GROUNDS CARE  
AND HORTICULTURAL EQUIPMENT  
JOHN DEERE LTD NOTTINGHAM



OFFICIAL  
GOLF COURSE  
EQUIPMENT  
SUPPLIER



**JOHN DEERE**

**NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE**





**BIGGA Patron**  
Sir Michael Bonallack, OBE

**BIGGA President**  
Sid Arrowsmith MG

**BIGGA Chairman**  
Les Howkins MG

**BIGGA Vice President**  
Chris Kennedy

**BIGGA Board Members**  
Rob Welford, Stuart Taylor, Scott Reeves, Tom Smith, Jaime Acton, George Barr, Chris Sealey

**BIGGA Chief Executive Officer**  
Jim Croxton | jim.croxton@bigga.co.uk

**BIGGA General Manager**  
Tracey Maddison | traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

**BIGGA Finance & Procurement Manager**  
Steve Wragg | steve@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

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

**GI GREENKEEPER  
INTERNATIONAL**

## Editorial

**Editor**  
Karl Hansell  
Tel — 01347 833829  
karl@bigga.co.uk  
@karlhansell



## Production

**Design & Artwork Production**  
Libbie Waddleton  
libbie@bigga.co.uk  
Tel — 01347 833817



## Advertising

**Business  
Development Executive**  
Lauren Frazer  
Tel — 01347 833832  
lauren@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 June 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  
© 2018 British and International Golf  
Greenkeepers Association Limited

# Welcome



Chris Wood and Course Manager James Braithwaite at Long Ashton



Chief Executive Jim Croxton

**I hope you had a fantastic Christmas and were able to escape from the golf course for long enough to celebrate with your family, recharge your batteries, and prepare for what is certain to be another high-pressure year in turf management.**

As always, the first date in 2018 of note is BTME. The exhibition, the Continue to Learn education programme, the other associated events and the delights of Harrogate will once again combine to kick off the year in style.

The exhibition continues to grow in stature and reputation each year, and you can rest assured that 2018's incarnation will be no different.

As you look around the halls at BTME, you'll see companies launching their latest products and machinery. The exhibition is the same for us within the association in that it marks the start of our season, when the eyes of the golf and turf industries are looking at BIGGA and its members. It is therefore the ideal time to launch our own innovations.

We worked extremely hard throughout 2017 to communicate the challenges you face to the industry. We have brought the undue stress imposed upon greenkeepers to the forefront of discussions within the golf industry, and are making good progress in this area. We raised it at the very highest levels of the game and received tremendous support.

Our task now is to ensure that golfers at all levels of the game have the same knowledge and understanding.

With that in mind, we're proud to announce that we are launching a new initiative, Your Course, a magazine directly targeted at golfers, which is intended to educate and inform them about all the work that you do on their behalf.

Fronted in its first edition by Ryder Cup player Chris Wood, who carries the BIGGA logo on his golf bag as a demonstration of his support for greenkeepers, the magazine will be distributed to every golf club in the country, and we recommend you show it to everyone you can. The contents touch upon the basics of greenkeeping, as well as some more complicated topics — all intended to promote the good work of BIGGA members.

This is just one of a whole host of schemes that we are undertaking to raise the profile of BIGGA members across the United Kingdom and further afield.

As always, communication is key, but the success of these schemes also relies upon the buy-in of BIGGA members, which is why we're urging you to bring along your club manager, chairman or other club members to see what's on offer at BTME and GolfBIC, and to really show them the vast scale of this great industry, and the level of expertise and professionalism that goes into managing a golf course.

Here's to a happy and prosperous 2018.

**Scan the QR code on the right to see a message from Chris Wood**





## Regulars

- 3 Welcome
- 6 Newsdesk
- 10 Across the Board
- 12 Ecology
- 14 Around the Globe
- 16 Talking Heads
- 18 Young Greenkeepers' Committee
- 20 Membership
- 56 Around the Green
- 66 Buyer's Guide
- 68 Learning & Development
- 70 Apprentice Corner
- 72 Recruitment
- 74 9 Hole Heroes

# From the Editor



An overview of this month's edition of Greenkeeper International, with your editor, Karl Hansell

## A support structure unlike any other

BTME isn't just about how many exhibition halls we can fill. It isn't even about machinery or the latest products. The beauty of BTME is it brings people together, where friendships are forged and relationships built, whether across a desk, exhibition stand or while sharing a pint.

It's impossible not to take the ability to speak for granted. The same goes for the ability to write, to walk, or do your job. These aren't everyday things, they're things we do a thousand times each day without thinking.

I can't imagine what it would be like to wake up one morning unable to do any of these simple actions. Terrifying, probably.

But that was the situation faced by Colin Denny, a BIGGA member I had the pleasure of meeting at his club, Macclesfield, and whose story is told in this month's magazine.

Colin is an extremely brave and determined individual who, when he suffered a stroke that rendered him unable to communicate through the usual means, refused to give in to despair, instead dedicating himself to regaining a position within greenkeeping.

When things are going well, we imagine that we don't need any support, and the safety net we provide as an association is often invisible to those who are doing well.

I wouldn't wish the trauma that Colin endured upon anyone. However, be assured that should you need our assistance, BIGGA is here to help.

Membership of the association gives you access to a whole wealth of knowledge and expertise, and never is this more apparent than during BTME, when thousands upon thousands of greenkeepers and other turf management professionals converge in one place.

Take a look at the BTME Breakfast Club session, taking place on Wednesday morning in the Royal Hall. Sat in discussion, and awaiting questions from the audience, will be the head guys from Wentworth, Tottenham Hotspur FC, Twickenham and Essex Country Cricket Club. Nowhere else is such expertise made so accessible than at BTME, and within the BIGGA network.

Here at Greenkeeper International we're looking forward to an exciting year ahead. We're looking to develop the magazine even further, and take you places you've never been. We're going to be engaging with members in more ways than ever before and we're going to continue to ask questions of industry regulators to ensure our position as the voice of BIGGA members continues to be heard.

BTME's a great place to start, and I look forward to speaking to many of you there. I'll have a notepad and a pen on me, so if you want to stop me and have a few words about what you'd like to see within the pages of the magazine, or as part of the wider communication structure of the association, please don't hesitate to do so.



# In this Issue

## Our contributors

### 20 Colin Denny

When a stroke took Colin's ability to speak, write and perform his job, he could have given up. Instead, with the support of his friends, family and the association, he was able to get back on his feet. He spoke to us at his new club, Macclesfield, about his incredible recovery.



### 24 Graeme Beatt

In 2019 The Open will return to Northern Ireland for the first time in 70 years. The championship is taking place at Royal Portrush, and Graeme and his incredibly talented team have done a huge job renovating the historic links to ensure Colt's masterpiece is up to the challenge of the world's top golfers.



### 28 The Grand brothers

This trio of course managers brings a new meaning to the phrase 'family business'. Simon, Garth and Malcolm Grand all work at courses on England's south coast, and yet their experiences are very different. There is a fascinating story of three brothers who share a love of the greenkeeping industry.



### 70 Anthony Stockwell

Hadlow College tutor Anthony is our guest columnist on Apprentice Corner this month. He took the opportunity to talk about what skills apprentices should focus upon developing as they make their first steps within the industry.



## Featured this month

24

#### Royal Portrush

How do you build a modern links course that matches up to Major standards?

28

#### The Grand brothers of greenkeeping

From Littlestone to North Foreland via Rye, we meet three greenkeeping siblings

30

#### Rescue Removal

How cultural changes are necessary in the face of product removals

32

#### BTME 2018

What to look out for at Europe's largest turf management exhibition

38

#### BTME Hall Plan

How to find your way around the Harrogate Convention Centre during the event

44

#### Littlehampton - Durabunker

The team at Littlestone has made its own piece of greenkeeping history

46

#### Life after Iprodione - Bayer

Neil Pettican explains what greenkeepers can do following the loss of this product

48

#### Workwear

Have you got the appropriate equipment to ensure you are mowing safely?

50

#### Purchasing Tractors

What to look for when shopping for your next heavy machinery purchase

54

#### Kubota UK

The machinery manufacturer is expanding its range during the coming season

# FTMI team gets Ryder Cup call

## Jacobsen and BIGGA have chosen six Future Turf Manager Initiative graduates to join the course maintenance team for the 2018 Ryder Cup at Le Golf National in France.

One delegate from each FTMI in the past five years has been selected to volunteer at the event, with one more person due to be chosen from the FTMI class of 2018.

Jacobsen and BIGGA have worked closely with Alejandro Reyes, course manager at Le Golf National, to provide this potentially career-defining opportunity for BIGGA members for the very first time.

### The chosen members are:

Leigh Powell, Windlesham;  
Peter Moore, The Wentworth Club;  
Gavin Neill, St Andrews Links Trust;  
Richard Johnstone, Nairn Dunbar Golf Links;  
Andrian McCullough, JCB.

Andre Andrade, director of international golf sales at Textron Golf, said: "We feel privileged to be able to offer FTMI delegates the experience of volunteering at the Ryder Cup. It is a huge event, and one I am sure they will remember for the rest of their lives. Jacobsen is proud to be an official supplier to the 2018 Ryder Cup, and we look forward to taking six FTMI delegates with us to France next year."

Aimed at up and coming greenkeepers who want to make the leap to course manager, FTMI focuses on personal and professional development. The FTMI programme

utilises the expertise of leading course managers, dynamic trainers and industry experts to mentor and educate the next generation of industry leaders.

BIGGA CEO Jim Croxton said: "It may only be six years old, but FTMI has already proven to be an incredible success, with many of the programme's graduates going on to secure management roles, and the association is grateful for Jacobsen's continued investment in BIGGA members.

"I'd also like to thank Alejandro Reyes for enabling this incredible opportunity for six FTMI graduates. The 2018 Ryder Cup is sure to once again be a passionate, hard-fought competition, and with an estimated 500 million viewers worldwide in 2016, the course will no doubt be under closer scrutiny than any other in history. I wish Alejandro the greatest success, and I hope that our guys are able to help the home team achieve their

goals in whatever way they can."

In 2018, The Ryder Cup will be held in Continental Europe for only the second time in its history. Le Golf National will be hosting the biennial match on its spectacular L'Albatros course.

During the Ryder Cup, which takes place between 28-30 September 2018, 180 members of staff, including 140 volunteers, will be manicuring the golf course to ensure that the playing surface is in pristine condition for the duration of the competition.

Situated around 20 miles south west of Paris, the spectacular course is one of the best in the world for spectators and is consistently ranked in Europe's top ten courses. Le Golf National has also hosted the French Open every year, except for two years, since 1991.

You can find details of the 2018 delegation on page 68.





## Brian Lemmon



**Tributes have been paid to a course manager who passed away during December following a long illness.**

Brian Lemmon, dedicated 38 years of his career to Barnham Broom in Norwich, which he first joined as a 14-year-old.

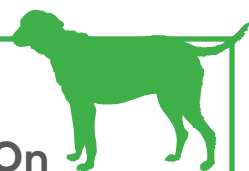
His deputy, Alan Elliott, worked with Brian for more than three decades.

Alan said: "After he was diagnosed, Brian worked as long as he possibly could. He had spells where he came into work or I would pick him up and he could come in for an hour or so. "He was very strong and had a good attitude to his illness. He was positive throughout and he kept going. He was a grand lad, he really was."



# Dogs

On  
Course



**Name:** Molly

**Age:** 12

**Owner:** Paul French

**Course:** Beedles Lake

**Breed:** Border collie

**Favourite treat:**

The greenkeepers' sandwiches

**Favourite spot on the course:** Driving range

**Naughtiest moment:**

Stealing a ball off the green

**My dog is happiest**

**when...** She's looking for golf balls

**If you know a dog we should feature, email**

[karl@bigga.co.uk](mailto:karl@bigga.co.uk)



Newsdesk

# Be a part of history

**Apply to join the  
BIGGA Open  
Support Team 2018.**

**Log in to the membership area and  
download the application form.**





## This month @BIGGALtd



### @Harleyfordgreen



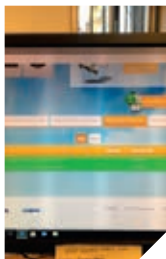
@TyrellHatton thanks for your kind contribution to the Harleyford greenkeepers' Christmas night out #golf #topgolf @Topgolf

### @RobGroves78



@BIGGALtd turkey trot day @lincolnlgc. Good day out with staff and volunteers. @Spalding\_GC

### @rmsgc\_course



BINGO!  
@avoncropamenity £750 of BTME18 education vouchers claimed and a 63% saving on the @BIGGALtd invoice for all the @rmsgc\_course staff to attend Continue to Learn 2018!

### @hertsgcccm



Might be closed but the place looks beautiful at the moment @HertsGCC @CrownGolf

### @chloe\_gall



What a place  
🇬🇧🇬🇧🇬🇧 @BIGGALtd  
#NewZealand  
#Greenkeeping

### @scooshyaitch



Chuffed with myself today. Well done to all winners and thanks to everyone involved in organising the awards and making the day special @BIGGALtd

### @CraigJHempseed



Proud to receive this at the @BIGGALtd awards at Auchterarder GC today representing @BIGGA\_ES. Thank you to all involved.

## Ronan Rafferty

**The BIGGA Scotland Golf Industry Conference is due to take place next month, with a seven-time European Tour winner joining the line-up.**

Ronan Rafferty, a former winner of the European Tour Order of Merit and player on the 1989 Ryder Cup team, will be appearing at the conference, to be held at Perth Concert Hall on 27 February.

BIGGA Scotland Chairman Stuart Ferguson MG said: "Ronan is one of the biggest names in golf and we're looking forward to hearing from his life on tour and his unique perspective on how golf courses have changed throughout his career.



"Alongside a talk by R&A Chief Executive Martin Slumbers and a whole host of other world class speakers, the 2018 Scottish conference is due to be one of the largest and best ever."

**To book tickets and for more information, email [johnyoung@bigga.co.uk](mailto:johnyoung@bigga.co.uk)**

## Stuart Ormondroyd retirement

**After 37 years, Stuart Ormondroyd has retired from his role at the STRI.**

Stuart graduated from University of Sussex with a degree in Plant Biology. He joined the grounds management team at STRI's Bingley headquarters in 1980, progressing to the agronomy team within two years.

Alistair Beggs, STRI head of agronomy, said: "One of Stuart's first consultations was at Wembley Stadium, who preparing the pitch for the Charity Shield. The surface had seen better days, and was suffering the aftermath of a Rolling Stones concert. Mass resignations from the Wembley groundstaff left Stuart in charge of preparing the UK's premier football surface for one of the calendar's biggest showpiece matches. It is a reflection on Stuart's ability that he managed to salvage a good outcome from a dire situation.



"My abiding memory of Stuart is seeing him in a semi-clothed, saturated state after a stint on the tools during the 2015 Open at St Andrews. The Friday morning of that Open will live long in everyone's memory, for the deluges and delays that prevailed, but seeing Stuart afterwards in the STRI cabin in his smalls was a sight to behold. I don't think any of us who were there have ever recovered from the experience!"

# TOPSPORT BUNKER LINING. A BETTER CHOICE AT EVERY LEVEL.



Improved sand retention  
and reduced washout,  
for maintenance and sand  
replacement cost savings

Engineered, long life liner

Effective drainage capacity for  
improved playing performance  
all year round

Topsport Bunker Lining is the flexible  
engineered solution for better draining bunkers  
and lower overall maintenance costs. It's quick to  
install - about 3 hours for the average 100m<sup>2</sup> sand  
trap. Better still, it can be laid in nearly all weather  
conditions, all year round. For more information  
or to book a survey visit, call our Sales Team on  
**0345 600 7704** or email [topsport@tarmacbp.co.uk](mailto:topsport@tarmacbp.co.uk)





# Across the Board

Les Howkins MG | The Richmond | BIGGA Chairman

Well the shortest day has been and passed, Christmas is out of way with the only reminder a spattering of dead, needleless spruce trees adorning the pavements of the UK as we await the special collection vehicle.

Personally I find it much easier to just throw it through the wood chipper, but that's one of the benefits of living on a golf course.

BTME 2018 has been the focus for the staff for over 12 months. In fact, planning is already well underway for 2019, which promises to be BIGGA (that's deliberate and not a typo) and better than ever before.

The 2018 exhibition halls have been sold out for months and bookings for Continue to Learn are excellent, we're all set for our highest-ever attendance.

All in all, BTME 2018 looks set to be another amazing week with lots of education, networking, research and purchasing.

The entire Board and team of staff will be around all week. If you have any ideas, thoughts, feelings or questions, use the time to come and have a chat. Listening to the membership is what has driven the association for over 30 years and will continue to do so. Although there are now many modern communication conduits, a face to face conversation has much more meaning than a social media rant.

The winter so far has been a split across the country. Down in London the weather has been kind and lots of courses in this area look amazing for the time of year.



I have seen some pictures of my old course in Cleethorpes, it looked great and a credit to Steve Beverly and his team. It never looked that good when I was there!

This also demonstrates that the weather has been fairly kind on the eastern side of the country.

The north west and Scotland, on the other hand, have had another horrific winter with far too much rain and I really feel for everyone dealing with it.

As an association I would love us to be able to share solid data, such as rainfall, closures and buggy bans. Fair geographical comparisons can then be made, instead of being told by members that no other course in the area ever closes! I am sure we have all heard that one before? If anyone has any good ideas how this could work, I'd love to hear from you.

The late part of 2017 saw several regional conferences taking place. They have all been well-attended, which is a positive sign, and they have provided some valuable lessons to many. I would like to thank all the committees that work so hard with the regional staff member to make these events such a valuable part of the association's educational offering.

At our November board meeting we had a very intense few days where some decisions were made about the future of BTME. As a very successful event we needed to make provision for growth and to improve the visitor and exhibitor experience. Details of how the event will look in 2019 will be released at Harrogate during BTME 2018.

The banning of another commonly used fungicide, iprodione, may possibly make life a little harder for us in the coming years and if all the signs are correct there are still more to follow in the coming years. On that we will have to wait and see, but at least Glyphosate is safe for another five years.

Moving forward I am confident that as an industry we will find a way to combat these challenges. It may even be as simple as promoting free-draining surfaces and more dominance by fescue and bent. Only time will tell.

Linking in seamlessly, stress is still high on greenkeepers' agenda. Please don't forget we have the lifestyle counselling helpline on 03330 002082, which is a free member benefit.

BIGGA has started running stress awareness days and plans to continue to do so up and down the country. If you are feeling the strain of work or home life, please feel free to come along.

It's also worth remembering that BTME offers many hours of education.

Just learning a new skill or sharing your thoughts with your peers may help deal with a stressful situation.

So I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Harrogate from Sunday 21 to Thursday 25 January. If it's a free beer you are after, come along to the BIGGA Welcome Celebration in the Royal Hall on Tuesday from 5pm for what promises to be a fantastic evening.

**See you all there.**



# Funding your future

The Continuing Professional Development and world class education we provide would not be possible without the assistance of BIGGA Partners and BIGGA Education Supporters. Ensuring our members stay at the forefront of the turf management industry takes considerable investment, and we are hugely grateful to the following for their ongoing support.



TEXTRONGOLF



BERNHARD



Individual Contributors: Steven Tierney MG ■ Chris Lomas MG ■ Andrew Campbell MG CGCS  
Richard McGlynn ■ Jaey Goodchild ■ Frank Newberry ■ Greg Evans MG ■ Jon Kiger





# Ecology Roundup

James Hutchinson | BIGGA Sustainability Executive

GI Ecology  
sponsored by  
Rigby Taylor



Ecology



Not content with putting on a fantastic array of young greenkeeper education, Stuart Imeson's Dunstanburgh Castle has a ridiculous collection of beautiful birds flying around.

Take these RSPB red-listed fizzers having a bath near to the clubhouse. House sparrows used to be a familiar sight around the UK, but habitat loss, such as hedgerow reduction and suitable feeding grounds being minimised, resulted in a dramatic decline in these charismatic passerines.

But guess what? Dunstanburgh has them in droves.

Fantastic stuff and congratulations on such a successful Bunker Camp 2017, Stu.

Onto a slightly more conspicuous bird now, the kingfisher. Here's Moor Allerton's beaut, which can be found rambling around the course's waterways.

How about an interesting law regarding these belters? They are listed as a Schedule 1 species under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Thus you are not allowed to take a snap of a kingfisher nest, or even of the bird near it's nest, without a licence from Natural England – take note of this regulation during breeding season guys.

Cattle and Great White Egrets are known to be gaining in numbers of late and can be seen in about 30 counties nationally.

Little egrets have gone berserk since they first bred in 1996 with many courses sending in snaps of these graceful birds, here's Whitley Bay's fizzer.

Send your sightings to @Ecology1BIGGA or [james.hutchinson@bigga.co.uk](mailto:james.hutchinson@bigga.co.uk)

Top to bottom:

Coxmoor's 'drooper'

Moor Allerton kingfisher

Dunstanburgh's sparrows

Abergele's router skills

Whitley's egret



# TAKE THE HARD WORK OUT OF GREAT GREENS

WATCH THE  
VIDEO 



**Thatch-Away®**  
**SUPA-SYSTEM**

As well as mowing and verticutting your greens, you also need to scarify, groom, topdress, brush, slit, spike and roll them.

**HARD WORK!** But NOT if you have the full Thatch-Away SUPA-SYSTEM to do it for you!



Watch the video at  
[www.greentek.uk.com](http://www.greentek.uk.com)

**+44 (0) 113 267 7000**

[info@greentek.uk.com](mailto:info@greentek.uk.com)



**"Get the FULL system!"**

**GreenTek®**





# Around the Globe

Sean Sullivan CGCS | The Briarwood Golf Course, Montana

## What is the most unusual or interesting thing you would tell other BIGGA members about the United States?

It's hard to imagine that anyone would not know about the United States. We are frequently defined by what people see on the news. But those of us in the golf industry are like those from around the world.

We are passionate about our courses, willing to lend a hand when others need help, and readily share whatever knowledge we have to make work easier and more productive. We have every climatic and terrestrial zone you can play golf on.

## How would you describe the style of course that you manage and what are its most defining features?

We are semi-arid desert in the inter-mountain west. I would say our front nine is parkland with cottonwood tree-lined creek running through six of the nine holes. The back nine wraps around a ridge. It has a 300ft elevation change from 10 to 16. The par-3 16th has a 190ft elevation change from tee to green. Holes 13-15 (known as the Three Bitches) are arguably the three hardest holes in Montana.

Another distinctive feature are the coal slag bunkers in place of the more traditional silica-based sand media.

## How does greenkeeping in the US vary from the UK?

I think we have it all, whereas the UK is surrounded by water and has a buffered climate. We have areas ruled by high temperatures and high humidity, high temperatures and low humidity, areas of high temperature swings from morning to the afternoons, and moderate climates. We have every climatic and terrestrial possibility. Despite the varying climates,

the biggest difference in my opinion is that we manage for "wear and tear". Which is where the Americans get our over-fertilise and over-water reputation.

## What is the best part of living in the US?

Everything is affordable and accessible. Everything you can think to do is possible, from "big city" activities to sight-seeing nature's scenic beauty. We even have Mickey Mouse land on both sides of the country.

## What is the worst?

If you are asking about the country, then it would have to be the crime and the politics. If you are asking about greenkeeping, it would have to be the high expectations for course conditions without the accompanying financial inputs.

## How does the weather affect your work?

With relatively low humidity, our temperatures swing dramatically. During the summer the temperatures can move 40-50 degrees in six hours. In the fall, we get frost in the mornings and can be in the 80's by late afternoon. I've witnessed 28F temperatures without the wind chill included. Spring is generally wet and cold. We seem to be always preparing the course for the next seasonal stresses.

## What types of wildlife do you get on the course that you wouldn't in the UK?

We have quite a diverse population of animals in the inter-mountain west. Mammals include black bear, mountain lions, bobcats, lynx, coyotes, skunks, porcupines, mink, beavers, muskrats, mule deer, and white-tail deer. Bird populations include bald eagles, golden eagles, osprey, wild turkeys, blue herons, kingfishers, and great horned owls. Reptiles include prairie rattlesnakes and bull snakes.

## What is your club management structure like?

We are a member-owned private golf club, with a board of directors making the big decisions. Presently we have a general manager for the day-to-day decisions and department heads running the three departments of the club.

## What is the public perception of golf in the US?

With golf in nearly all the communities in the US, I believe the public perception is positive. Here in my region, golf courses are used to help fund all the local charities by way of outside tournaments.

## Why do you choose to be a BIGGA member?

Prior to 2007, I didn't know BIGGA existed. It was only while applying to be a Bernhard delegate that I found BIGGA. It opened up a new world of greenkeeping to me. I've learned new "old" methods, how to do more with less, learned about links-style courses, and made wonderful friends.

## What one tip would you give to British greenkeepers that you have learnt?

Always keep an open mind, don't be so entrenched in a method that you ignore a better way of doing things.

Cover Crew raking bunkers at No. 11

Are you an international member?

Email [karl@bigga.co.uk](mailto:karl@bigga.co.uk) to be featured here







# Club Car

[www.clubcar.com](http://www.clubcar.com)  
[info\\_esa@clubcar.com](mailto:info_esa@clubcar.com)

## Visit us on stand M20

BTME 2018, 23rd-25th January 2018



OFFICIAL SUPPLIER  
2018 RYDER CUP

Official partner of





# GI Talking Heads

Each month we ask BIGGA members the question that's on everyone's mind

## How do you respond to frost?

Talking Heads



**Sam Bethel**

**Position:** Course Manager

**Club:** Chipstead Golf Club

**Region:** South East

**Our first response to frost is to ban buggies until it lifts. Having bruised the turf, the tyre marks leave an unsightly black mark which can take a week or two to disappear. The work vehicles are included in the ban and the lads will walk the course to make sure all is well.**

My opinion on 'greens in play' for Chipstead has changed.

When I started in 2015, the greens were on temporaries for frost and when they were thawing following a deep freeze. But our 3rd and 4th greens had to remain open as there is no room on the holes for a temporary. We noticed no difference on these two greens in comparison to all the others and strangely there was no bruising or footprints, which is something I was fully expecting.

Last winter we went with main greens all the time, and again there was no damage done. I do believe it's horses for courses, but at Chipstead this has worked fine and has kept much-needed money coming in through winter. If I was to move to another club, I would certainly re-assess this method to make sure it suits.

---

**'We noticed no difference on these two greens in comparison to all the others...'**

---



**Keith Burgon**

**Position:** Head Greenkeeper

**Club:** Eyemouth Golf Club

**Region:** Scottish

**Eyemouth is located on the south east coast of Scotland and is positioned on the cliffs above the North Sea. We have USGA-built greens which we play on all year round. We do not have a frost policy in place. The club have never had winter greens and have always played on the full greens in the frost. The club gains a lot of income from playing a full course through the winter, which is important as we are a small club and we get a lot of golfers who travel over an hour to come and play.**

This year we are putting posters up around the clubhouse to try and encourage golfers to clean the frost from their shoes before they walk onto the green. This is because sometimes the frost gathers on the studs and makes golf shoes more like football boots.

My only real problem is when the frost starts to come out and golfers start to make pitch marks that they can't repair. Unfortunately, this is something I just have to live with. It isn't worth changing because the golfers have done it for so long and the greens still perform well after a cut and roll when the frost has come out of the ground.

---

**'The club gains a lot of income from playing a full course through the winter, which is important'**

---





### Scott Reeves

**Position:** Course Manager

**Club:** Leyland Golf Club

**Region:** Northern

At the beginning of my career I was told that playing on greens during a frost was an absolute no-no, and that disaster would follow should you ignore this. At each club I have worked at we have removed flags from frozen greens and dutifully placed them on a 'temporary' or 'winter' green.

I believe you should challenge your own preconceptions, so we are conducting a small trial to see what the effects might be. Two greens remain in play at all times, even during a thaw, which many people see as the most vulnerable time.

I appreciate that there may be some damage, however I have found grass surfaces to be extremely resilient and quick to recover when looked after appropriately. This may mean extra effort, but if this can be comfortably

balanced against more happy members, then it may well be worth the bother.

We are by no means prejudging the outcome, however I think we have to be flexible and sensitive to the needs of our members and customers. We don't learn or advance without taking a few calculated risks, in my opinion. Fortunately, I have the club's support in this and we are all interested to see the effects.

**'I believe you should challenge your own preconceptions...'**



### Rob Hay

**Position:** Course Manager

**Club:** Northamptonshire County Golf Club

**Region:** Central England

**When it is frosty the course remains open for play and, depending upon the severity of the frost, the flags are taken off the greens and put onto our frost holes.**

The club has a frost policy that is circulated to our membership each year, which explains our reasons for using frost greens and the differences between a light frost that doesn't cause long term leaf damage and a heavy frost the can cause root shear and serious leaf damage.

Over the past few years we have extended our greens maintenance out in front of the green to incorporate the frost hole positions. This not only improves the playing surface for summer golf but also improves the condition and playability of the frost holes during the winter.

We are fortunate to have separate winter tees in different locations to the summer tees, so any yellowing of the grass from playing on frost is confined to these areas. Depending upon any competitions being played, the course will remain on the frost greens until the risk of damage to the plant has passed or, if present, the ground has completely thawed, removing any possibility of root shear.

**'We are fortunate to have separate winter tees in different locations...'**



### Grant Peters

**Position:** Course Manager

**Club:** Parkstone Golf Club

**Region:** South West & South Wales

**Play on frosty greens is an issue that has split greenkeepers for some time. Having spent the majority of my career in Scotland, where cold temperatures and frozen greens are more common, my learning has always been to protect our most important asset, the greens. This is especially important at times when they are under extreme environmental pressure.**

We have irrigation to protect from extreme heat, drainage and aeration to protect against excessive moisture and, in my view, protection from frost and freezing in the form of temporary greens. It is very hard to predict when damage will occur during a frost, so I like to protect the greens until they are fully thawed.

The policy we implement at Parkstone is no play is allowed on the greens during frosty

or frozen conditions. It is the greenkeeper's responsibility to make the decision of when play can return to the main greens. At the weekends we make the last inspection at 1pm. If the greens have not thawed then they will remain off for the rest of the day.

It's not the most popular policy, but through the right communication and plenty of updates during frosty mornings, the majority of the members accept the inconvenience of playing to temporary greens.

**'It is very hard to predict when damage will occur during a frost'**



# YGC

## Young Greenkeepers' Committee

Tom Smith | Head Greenkeeper | Whickham Park

**The YGC was set up in 2015, by a group of young guys in the industry.**

It consists of three members per region and is aimed at greenkeepers below the age of 32 with less than eight years' experience.

We organise and host events throughout the year, offering opportunities to greenkeepers all around the UK. This year we have assisted, with the help of volunteers, at a number of tournaments, including The Open, BMW PGA Championship and The British Masters.

We offer fantastic education opportunities such as bunker camps, course walks, spots at BTME week and many more.

Information and insight regarding awards and scholarships is also available, and many members have first-hand experience of attending education, experiences and accolades such as Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year, R&A Scholarship and much more.

From 2015-2017 we have elevated the YGC profile with a regular page

in Greenkeeper International, a Continue to Learn presentation at BTME and we now hold sectional and regional events.

We are proud to say that Scotland has created its own YGC of five members from its five regions, with members then attending our meetings. We also now have a member based in Northern Ireland and we are hoping this will grow into Ireland's own version, the same as Scotland.

The goal is for each part of the country to have active members from all parts of greenkeeping with their own ideas and experiences, representing the YGC and promoting the industry.

The YGC works in conjunction with BIGGA and its regional sections, receiving support and guidance as needed.

Representatives attend the national board meeting each year, relaying innovative ideas and initiatives that we believe are relevant to young greenkeepers.

My involvement with the YGC began in 2016, and in this short amount of time I have become vice chairman, attended regional board meetings, presented at the South West conference, BTME 2017 and will be presenting again in 2018.

Being a member has boosted my confidence and my knowledge, as well as opening a vast network of colleagues and professionals within the industry.

2018 is an exciting year as we are hosting our first ever Young Greenkeepers' Conference, taking place during Continue to Learn at BTME. Places are still available so please book your space.

We will be hosting a new bunker camp and education day in the south west and other educational events and volunteering opportunities will be held according to section's.

**If you have any questions, queries or ideas, contact your local representative or pop in and see us during BTME week. Please follow us on @BIGGA\_YGC. We look forward to hearing from you.**





**Smarter  
working,  
made more  
affordable.**



**Kubota**



## **BX2350 / B50 SERIES / L40-II SERIES COMPACT TRACTORS**

**0% APR**  
OR LOW RATE FINANCE  
**FROM £177 PER MONTH**

Business users only, terms and conditions apply\*

<b>2 + 22 PYMT</b>	<b>2 MONTHS DEPOSIT + INTEREST FREE FOR 22 MONTHS</b>
<b>OR</b>	
<b>3 + 33 PYMT</b>	<b>3 MONTHS DEPOSIT + LOW INTEREST 0.49% p.a. FOR 33 MONTHS</b>

**Hurry. Limited stock available!**

**Don't miss out this winter on a choice of 0% and low interest finance options available on BX2350, B50 series and L40-II series compact tractors.**

### **ROBUST AND VERSATILE**

**Kubota's range of compact tractors delivers exceptional power output, a host of performance enhancing features and unrivalled reliability - for consistent, economic performance all year round.**

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



**T: 01844 873190**

**For Earth, For Life**  
**Kubota**

\*Finance for business purposes only: 0% offer available on the 2+22 payment profile. A low rate offer of 0.49% is available on the 3+33 payment profile. Subject to acceptance and affordability checks. Applicant must be 18 or over. Promotion valid until 31 December 2017. Available on new equipment only. The offer is subject to a maximum balance to finance of 60% (based on RRP). Minimum deposit 10% (plus VAT) required. The finance product offered under this promotion is hire purchase and finance lease. For hire purchase, first payment, full VAT and a documentation fee of £100 are all due on signing. An option-to-purchase fee of £100 plus VAT will be collected with the final payment. You will own the machine when all payments have been made. For finance lease, VAT is due with each rental payment and you will not own the equipment at the end of the agreement. A documentation fee of £100 plus VAT will be collected with the first rental. Terms and conditions apply. Annual admin fee of £40 plus VAT. Images are for illustrative purposes only. Finance provided by BNP Paribas Leasing Solutions Limited, Northern Cross, Basingstoke RG21 4HL. Registered in England No. 901225. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.



Membership Team  
01347 833800 (option 1)



**Tracey Maddison**  
General Manager  
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk



**Elaine Jones**  
Membership Executive  
elaine@bigga.co.uk



**Rachael Duffy**  
Events & Membership Executive  
rachael@bigga.co.uk



**Gil Mason**  
Membership Administrator  
gil@bigga.co.uk

Membership News

Full Members Personal  
Accident Helpline  
0121 698 8046 / 43

Greenkeepers  
Legal Assistance  
0808 181 9194

Lifestyle Counselling  
Helpline  
0333 000 2082

## Membership



They said  
**'you can't  
work now'**

Karl Hansell, BIGGA



## Imagine waking in the middle of the night and your girlfriend is looking at you and screaming.

You have no idea what's happening, and as you try to ask what the problem is, you realise you can't speak.

You try and hug her, but your right arm won't move.

You blink and suddenly you're on the floor and your father is stood over you, dialling an ambulance.

You blink again and you're in hospital, surrounded by loved ones.

It's a scary thought, but nine years ago it became a reality for Colin Denny, a former greenkeeper at Prestbury, when he suffered a stroke that robbed him of his speech, his movement, and his livelihood.

He's 52 now, and has been working at Macclesfield for a year. His is an incredible story of determination and the ability to fight back, when your own body becomes your worst enemy.

"It was five in the morning and my girlfriend, I remember she was crying. I tried to ask 'what's wrong', but I had no speech at all. I was unconscious, down again, up again. Tried to get out of bed, right side was like a brick, went down, and was stuck.

"The next thing, my dad was there. I remember 'get the ambulance'. I knew there was something wrong because I was scared in my head.

"The next thing, went down again. Then the ambulance was there.

"I was scared because I couldn't move my hand, my face, everything was like a brick, I couldn't move."

For Colin, a long road to recovery had begun.

Memory loss remains a problem. Colin pauses when I ask him where he worked when he suffered the stroke, so we move on.

He couldn't speak and lost movement in the right side of his body. Both would slowly return, but the damage is marked and he hasn't yet recovered entirely.

Colin said: "Work came to see me two or three times in hospital and they said 'you can't work now'. My house went, the girl went.

"But Peter Larter from BIGGA was helping me out. I couldn't talk, so he did it for me."

Imagine having words in your head, but not being able to speak. A lifetime's worth of greenkeeping

'I was scared because I couldn't move my hand, my face, everything was like a brick, I couldn't move.'

knowledge, not to mention all the other things that go into day-to-day life, and yet you're silent, trapped within your own body.

And then came the seizures.

"We were on holiday in Spain, then came home and went to a couple of friends' house," said Colin.

"I got a beer, took a sip, and my mate said 'are you alright?' I couldn't even talk, so I was gesturing, 'I'm OK'. I put my thumbs up and the next thing, I got a funny sensation in my head. I shrugged my shoulders, 'I don't know now'. My right hand cramped up and I was getting pain. Next thing I was down, gone. I woke up and the ambulance was there.

"A couple of weeks later my mate told me I went blue and he was pumping my heart, giving me CPR. I didn't know I was gone. I could feel it in my head so I was lucky I could feel it. Some people are fine and then they are just gone.

Continued over

Macclesfield Golf Club







"Second one was in the bath. I could feel myself starting to go, so I jumped out. I remember saying 'next one, next one'. The pain in my shoulder. Right shoulder was hurting. All your muscles are like cramp.

"It's like a loose fuse. It's like when you have three wires and one has

moved and it short circuits in your brain. It's like an electric shock in your brain."

For a former head greenkeeper who had joined the BIGGA Open Support Team, the seizure and stroke meant his driving licence was revoked, with legal requirements meaning he would remain unable



Colin is now an active part of the Macclesfield greenkeeping team

to drive until he had been clear for a year — he would go on to have eight seizures in total.

But he was determined to get back out on the course, inspired by his new partner, Viv.

"I'm not a person who likes to sit and claim benefits. I have got a small garden, so I started to do that. Then I helped a friend's mum do her garden. My muscles had wasted away, so I needed to get stronger."

Colin got engaged to Viv, and she gave him added inspiration to fight his way back to health, when she said she would marry him when he secured a job.

Colin knew the head greenkeeper at Macclesfield, Mark Hillaby, from their time at Wilmslow, and he told Colin there might be an opportunity coming up.

"They were worried for a bit as the hours were quite a lot. But I wanted to contribute, that's my pride. Because I was talking to people, it was good for my mind.



**Long-lasting Medallion TL gives you the confidence and peace of mind that your turf is safely protected.**

**The fludioxonil in Medallion TL is the ONLY Contact+ active – targeting disease on the leaf AND in the thatch.**



**FIND HOW IT FITS IN YOUR FUNGICIDE PROGRAMME BTME STAND B52**



"At the end of the day I was tired. I had never used walking mowers. If people talk to me too fast, it's too much for the brain to kick in. It's like pressing a keyboard and one button doesn't work.

"It's really strange because I have got everything in my head and I can't get it out. All my qualifications, in my head, and I can't get them out.

"But even with the pain, I will keep going."

Colin joined Macclesfield in 2016, and Viv made good on her promise, with the couple marrying in September that year.

It's eight years since his stroke and Colin has slowly been able to rebuild his life. Against the odds, he is back at work full time and he is an active member of the greenkeeping team at Macclesfield.

It would emerge a blood clot had most likely caused the stroke. His migraines subsided and doctors discovered a small hole in the heart. It is believed that the clot had gone into his heart and then up to his brain, causing the stroke.

"I'm a fighter, that's probably why I'm still here," Colin said.

---

'I'm not a person who likes to sit and claim benefits. I have got a small garden, so I started to do that. Then I helped a friend's mum do her garden. My muscles had wasted away, so I needed to get stronger.'

---

## How BIGGA can help

BIGGA isn't just an industry body — we're here to support our members. As Colin's long road from recovery began after his stroke, he was able to attend the Open, meeting up with his old friends, although he was unable to be an active member of the team.

In the ensuing years, BIGGA staff, most notably Rachael Duffy, and the community of greenkeepers, were always present to help Colin get back on his feet again.

Sometimes bad things happen, that aren't anybody's fault, but from which we need help and support. That's why in January 2014 we established the BIGGA Benevolent Fund, for the benefit of members who fall on hard times.

Other benefits of BIGGA membership also include Personal Accident Insurance, the BIGGA Legal Helpline and a Counselling Helpline. More information about these benefits can be found on the BIGGA website.



# Medallion TL

## Bio-inspired explosive performance



Visit [www.greencast.co.uk](http://www.greencast.co.uk)  
for more information



syngenta.



# Royal P

Karl Hansell, BIGGA

Royal Portrush

## In 18 months, the world's greatest golf tournament will return to Northern Ireland for the first time in 70 years.

In 2017 The Open at Royal Birkdale was supervised by Chris Whittle, hosting his fifth Open in total. In 2018 Sandy Reid and his team will host The Open at Carnoustie for the eighth time in the club's history.

But between 18–21 July 2019, The Open will be staged outside of Scotland and England for only the second time in the Championship's more than 150-year history.

Responsibility for ensuring Royal Portrush's Dunluce Links are in world class condition falls to Course Manager Graeme Beatt, a 38-year-old who was appointed to the head role in 2014, despite having no experience of hosting major championships.

Graeme joined Royal Portrush in 2014, before it had been confirmed that the Open would be returning to the club. However, discussions were well underway, and Graeme was aware that he was being considered for a job that would give him little time to settle in, but where the eyes of the golfing world soon be trained upon him.

"I was nervous at the interview, but more excited really," said Graeme, who previously worked at Scotsraig, Kingsbarns, Royal Melbourne and County Sligo. "Every course I have been at, we have had tournaments, but obviously The Open would be the biggest one."

"After the first interview I was quite happy with how it went. Then when I got the second, I spent a lot of time preparing for it. For the second interview I had to write a report on the botanical composition of the greens and the management of them, and then had to give a 20-minute presentation. I think it helped that I had worked at County Sligo, which is also a Harry Colt course, and they wanted someone who would preserve that tradition."

"But thankfully I impressed them enough that they chose me for the job. I remember, at the first interview I didn't stop sweating."

"They asked me afterwards, 'are you OK? You've been sweating the whole time!'"

In preparation for The Open, two holes have been created. Land from the club's Valley Course has been appropriated to develop a new par 5, followed by a par 4. The holes replaced the former 17th and 18th holes on the Dunluce Links, allowing that land to be freed up for use as the spectator village and championship infrastructure.

The work has been overseen by Martin Ebert of Mackenzie & Ebert, the club's architects.

Other major changes moved the 2nd green to lengthen the par 5 hole by around 40 yards. The 10th hole — which will be the 12th at The Open, was extended by 50 yards. The existing 8th, which

Mapping the changes to the Dunluce





# Portrush

was not designed by Colt, was reshaped and several back tees created.

The greenkeeping team's maintenance facility has shifted to accommodate the changes, which has allowed them to move into a new building.

The overall length of the course has increased by just under 200 yards to 7,337 yards and the number of bunkers increased by three to 62 in total, although Royal Portrush will still have the fewest bunkers of any course on The Open rota.

With these changes all in hand, the pressure for doing the course justice falls upon Graeme and his relatively young, talented team of 28, including part-time and seasonal staff.

"During 2018 we're going to begin practicing our set-up for The Open," said Graeme. "We're hosting the Boy's Amateur in and that will be a real dress rehearsal.

"Each year we have sent a greenkeeper to The Open to gain some experience, and we've also had quite a few tournaments, so they have a lot of experience of hosting events.

"When I started here, everyone used to come up to me and ask

'what am I doing now?', 'what do you think of this?' and the first thing I would say is 'what would you do? What do you think?'. I was trying to get the guys thinking for themselves, which is a change of culture. I like people to take ownership of what they're doing, as they'll invest in it more.

"I think we have a real mixture of experience and enthusiasm. The staff are well-qualified and although we're a new course on The Open rota, we're a new team that's going to bring its own ideas."

Also supporting Graeme is his family, who are well-used to following him various venues as he attempts to build his career.

"My wife, Katriona, and I have been together since we were 18, so we've moved round together. She settled in within six weeks, which was amazing. My eldest, Charlotte, was just about to start primary school, which helped her. She and Emily, my youngest, settled easily because they were so young.

"When I was interviewing for the role, the committee were aware I had a young family, and wanted to know how I would cope with the commitment that would be required out on the course. They asked me whether I thought I could find the

balance between family and work, and I thought that was brilliant, that they were already thinking about my family in that way.

"I suppose you miss bits and pieces when you start work at 5.30am in the summer and you come home at 8pm, tired after a long day and you're just ready for bed. But my youngest was here yesterday and she had a cup of tea and biscuits, so it's great that they can come along and be a part of this whole experience."

Graeme Beatt



Continued over



# Building the new holes

at Royal Portrush

Royal Portrush

8

Hole left unplayed for a year

7

Existing Valley 6th Green

Existing Valley 5th Tees

7

Head greenkeeper sets out a maintenance schedule for fairways to be fertilised, overseeded and sprayed.

6

Fairways left for two weeks to germinate.

Picture with thanks to Mackenzie & Ebert Ltd





1

Holes designed and shaped  
by 1st golf

2

Royal Portrush's own turf was used  
for the project, except for tees and  
grass paths, which was imported. The  
7th and 8th greens were turfed using  
the club's putting greens

Existing Valley 6th Tees

Existing Valley 5th Green

3

Existing fairways on the  
Dunluce hollowcored and  
hauled to new holes.

8

5

Fairways heavily irrigated to  
keep cores wet and heavy to  
prevent being blown away.


4

Cores raked by hand  
and shaped, following  
the foundation shape of the  
fairway. This allows the same  
germination and grass species  
as the existing fairways.



# The GRAND BROTHERS of greenkeeping



  
Malcom, Simon and  
Garth Grand

**W**hile many follow in the footsteps of their father when choosing a career, for Simon and Garth Grand it was big brother Malcom who inspired them to join the greenkeeping profession.

Today this band of brothers is plying its trade as course managers at three of south east England's finest courses; Littlestone and North Foreland in Kent and Rye in East Sussex. With over 115 years of knowledge and expertise between them, the trio are a 'grand' force to be reckoned with.

Malcom, the eldest of four brothers and seven sisters is extremely proud of his younger siblings, although a healthy rivalry exists between all three.

**How long have you been at your current club and how long have you been a greenkeeper?**

**Malcom:** I've been at Littlestone for 31 years but have actually been in the trade for over 46 years! It's all I've ever known and all I ever wanted to do, man and boy as they say.

**Simon:** I have been at North Foreland for just over a year, but been greenkeeping for 36 years.

**Garth:** I started at Rye as an apprentice 32 years ago after

completing Plumpton Agricultural College and have gradually worked my way up from apprentice to course manager.

**What was the influence that got you into greenkeeping?**

**Malcom:** Our father was the steward at Rye so we all grew up in the golf environment. Garth and Simon both worked there as caddies when they were children too.

**How long were you working in the trade before you became a course manager?**

**Malcom:** I started off at Rye when I was 16 and then moved to Newark as deputy head greenkeeper. After two years I was promoted to head greenkeeper, before returning six years later to my first love — a natural links course — here at Littlestone.



**Simon:** I became course manager at Lydd after 13 years in the industry. Before then I had worked with Garth at Rye, at Highgate, London Golf Club and Hadley Wood.

**Garth:** I started at Rye as an apprentice and worked my way up to course manager earlier this year.

### Are you competitive with each other?

**Malcolm:** Yes, definitely. As the oldest brother, I always know best, of course!

**Simon:** We are naturally competitive, coming from a family of 11 children. We regularly play the "Grand Boys" fourball with our other brother Lewis, who isn't in the trade but plays more golf than us three put together.

**Garth:** I would say that with regard to work we all have a vision of how we want our courses to be, but it's just that we sometimes get there in different ways. Littlestone is a similar links course to Rye and being a few miles apart has the same weather, so Malcolm and I are probably more competitive with each other. I think he knows which is the better links course, so let's just leave it at that!

### What are the advantages of having brothers in the trade?

**Malcolm:** We bounce thoughts and ideas off each other all the time. It's nice to have brothers who understand the stress that comes with the job, plus between us we have close to 115 years of combined knowledge and expertise that we can share and draw upon.

**Simon:** We often talk through our ideas and act as a good sounding board for each other. Malcolm is very good at reminding me about the traditional methods of greenkeeping, which still add value today, whereas Garth is more into discovering the new technology available to the trade.

**Garth:** The advantages of having the three of us in the trade are massive. If any of us wants a second opinion or just get a different angle on things we get straight on the phone.

### What's the hardest issue to deal with on your particular course?

**Malcolm:** At Littlestone it has to be the weather. We are in one of the driest places in the country and we can watch weather systems roll over the downs and miss us completely. This has been a very dry year in particular so trying to maintain the pinch points without irrigation is a constant headache.

**Simon:** Ditto, lack of rainfall because of the impact on growth rates.

**Garth:** Again, watering. We have a very precious and ancient links course at Rye and it is a fine balancing act to ensure playability all year round. You'll get the moisture levels just where you want them — for Rye that's 15 to 20% — then that night have 30ml of rain, which can change everything. We installed a state of the art irrigation system at Rye in 2015, which has made my job a lot easier, but still the weather is always the most challenging part of the job.

### What would make your life easier at work?

**Malcolm:** I am fortunate to have a great team working for me but have to say an extra couple of staff and a reservoir would not go amiss!

**Simon:** I expect most course managers would say more resources, and I would say the same. We always want to provide the best conditioned courses for our clubs.

**Garth:** As course managers, a lot of our time is spent in an office dealing with budgets and paperwork. Fifty years ago, head greenkeepers were more hands on — I'm not saying it was any easier then, but it's just different now, and so are the expectations of the golfers. More hands on deck would always be welcomed.

### What challenges are facing the industry today?

**Malcolm:** Climate change has become a massive challenge, plus the changes in the use of particular chemicals. Although absolutely right for the environment, it brings new challenges.

**Simon:** Essentially the industry is faced with the challenge of producing very high levels of presentation while dealing with increasingly volatile weather patterns and a reduced number of pesticides.

**Garth:** In addition, the golf industry needs to adapt to keep the game moving forward. Rye is a long-established, traditional private members club, so not commercially-orientated like many other clubs, but one of the greatest challenges is to get young people interested in the game. I think there is a place to introduce more short courses and even 6-hole courses so parents and children can play for an hour after school or work. We need to offer options and be ready to evolve and change.

### What would you like to see in the future within the industry?

**Malcolm:** I would like to see greenkeeping made a career option at schools. It needs to be made an attractive option for young people with good apprenticeships, easy access to technical courses and a distinct career path with good financial rewards at the end of it.

**Simon:** Once in the profession, there should be ongoing qualifications and specialties, but we need to improve the way young greenkeepers are attracted into the business in the first place, making it an appealing option in schools and highlighting the benefits of it as a career choice.

**Garth:** I would like to see less pressure on green speed and more emphasis on the sustainability of the whole course and number of rounds played. With the withdrawal of so many chemicals available to us, course managers will need to look at more natural and organic methods of controlling pests. In 2015 I went to the San Diego GCSAA conference and met a lot of very interesting, like-minded people and visited Torrey Pines. We heard about global developments in greenkeeping technology which promises an exciting future ahead.

# Cultural changes

## Combating Rescue removal | James Hutchinson, BIGGA

**T**here's good news and there's bad news in this short feature, so let's start with the bad news and get that out of the way.

Rescue is being withdrawn from the market on 30 June 2018 with a one-year use-up period to spray the remainder of your stock — that's the bad news.

The good news is that it will likely be brought back for use in the UK by 2020 (pending successful registration), therefore the mathematicians among us will have worked out that there will only be one full season without one of our more useful tools.

There's more good news as well, if, for whatever reason, you do not wish to carry on using Rescue after its withdrawal. There are many other projects you can be getting on with to create a habitat for fescues, sweet vernalis and bents in the rough, but before we take a look at holistic management methods, here's a little information from Daniel Lightfoot, Rescue guru and Syngenta business manager on why it is being removed:

"The active ingredient in Rescue, pinoxaden, required re-registration to comply with EU Directives. Syngenta decided not to support the re-registration of Rescue since it believed that an unrelated EU review of co-formulates would have soon lead to the revocation of the current Rescue formulation, regardless of the re-registration.

"Rescue passed all Chemical Regulations Directorate risk assessments and no safety or health issue has ever been reported with Rescue in the UK. However, the current regulatory process does not assess risk —

it now assesses the inherent hazard. That means even if Rescue represented no significant risk when used as directed, it is still likely to be classified as a hazard.

"Syngenta is developing a new formulation of Rescue to meet with these revised regulatory standards. It is hoped to have this new product on the market in 2020, pending successful registration.

This planned timescale would leave only a relatively short period from the end of Rescue use-up, in June 2019, to the potential launch of the new product."

With chemical provision unreliable in the modern climate, good cultural controls are more important than ever.

Golfers will not tolerate thick grasses which gobble up golf balls to a point where they cannot be found — cocksfoot, yorkshire fog and meadow grass to name but a few. However, these are valuable to the environment as butterflies will use these as either a food source or a habitat to lay their eggs on. So, with this in mind, keep an out-of-play section full of fat grasses for the aforementioned reason.

There are alternatives to selective herbicides — you can use the 'cut and remove' method of management to thin out your grasslands. Cut and remove is a very simple procedure, but you do need some heavy tackle for the larger areas, including a 40-plus horsepower tractor and a suitable flail mower.

Sheep at Royston





Many courses I visit, such as Hockley, Askernish and Royston, have a deal with local farmers to bring sheep onto the course in the autumn. Sheep, certainly the Hebridean kind, are ideal at thinning rough grasslands out. There are costs to using sheep, such as mobile electric fences, but this is far more cost-effective than having a tractor, trailer and labour costs for eight hours a day. I understand that this method will not be suitable for all and it's not that easy to locate a farmer willing to loan his stock out, but for some it works a treat.

How does cutting and removing work? Fatter grasses need more food than thinner grasses to live and when we mow and let the clippings fly, they lay on the surface and decompose. These clippings turn into humus — plant food, basically — and are consumed by the fatter grasses. This is now a sustainable environment for the dreaded yorkshire fog and others, which have little use in a golf setting.

But if we remove the grass clippings, we are removing the food source for not only the fat grasses but also mud cast-making



Example cut and collect at Gog Magog

earthworms. You can actually make tea from worm castings, but that's a story for another day.

There's no reason why you cannot cut and collect in the drier summer months, but summer grassland management is an option nonetheless — just be sure there are no ground-nesting birds present and the wildflowers should have almost finished to minimise invertebrate disruption and seed dispersal.

In terms of wildflowers, many of our native species are at risk of extinction because of land management changes, new housing developments and so on — the Centre for Hydrology and

Ecology suggests almost one fifth of our wildflowers species are under threat, with many more classed as 'near threatened'. This won't do at all, so please let me know about the great work you are doing so I can collect records for the future.

You've probably gathered by now that I am not a chemical fan, however, by using Rescue along with one of the cultural practices mentioned in this feature, then the chances are that you will create a beautiful grassland worthy of an Open venue — good luck whichever route you choose and as always, I am here to help BIGGA members in their quest to become more environmentally-minded.

Rescue removal

**DURAbunker**  
Next Generation Bunker Edging

Tiburón GC,  
Host Venue LPGA Tour  
Championships and PGA Tour

- Patented Synthetic Bunker Edge Technology
- 20+ Year Life Design
- Proven Cost and Maintenance Savings
- Unparalleled Bunker Edge Stability
- Resistant to Washout
- Free Initial Consultation

*"The maintenance and costs savings have been staggering. The product has transformed our bunkers and the design ideas presented by Durabunker helped ensure a successful outcome to our bunker renovation"*

Kirk Richmond, Course Manager, Tiburón GC

info@durabunker.com

Tel: +44 (0)1656 336576

www.durabunker.com



# GI Industry Update

# BTME Special

BTME 2018

**The stage is set, the awards finalists revealed, Continue to Learn speakers are practicing their presentations, and the biggest companies are preparing to unveil their latest products: It's time for BTME 2018.**

Packing out four huge exhibition halls at the Harrogate Convention Centre, BTME 2018 sees the return of the ever-popular Welcome Celebration sponsored by Textron Golf and the countless other networking and industry events held throughout the town across the week.

More than 4,500 attendees from all corners of the globe are expected through the doors of the Harrogate Convention Centre for BTME, which will take place on 23–25 January 2018.

Over 140 exhibitors will pack inside the centre, with the biggest names in the turf management industry preparing announcements and machinery launches to coincide with the event.

**You can find a full list of exhibitors by heading to the BTME website or by scanning the QR code opposite.**

Kicking off the festivities will be the BIGGA Welcome Celebration sponsored by Textron Golf, once

again hosted by Naga Munchetty, who will be returning for her third BTME.

Naga, a champion of greenkeepers and lady golfers alike, will introduce the exciting evening of entertainment, as she announces the winners of the 2018 BIGGA Awards. A whole host of other certificates and prizes that have been awarded to BIGGA members will also be recognised. Rounding off the evening will be comedian Ian Moore, who proved a huge hit on his BTME debut in 2017.

Naga will return to the Royal Hall on Wednesday morning to chair The BTME Breakfast Club, which will follow on from the success of last year's Ryder Cup and Olympic Golf discussions. This year's panel will comprise of: Kenny Mackay, The Wentworth Club; Darren Baldwin, Tottenham Hotspur FC; Stuart Kerrison, Essex County Cricket Club; and Keith Kent, RFU Head Groundsman, based at Twickenham.

Other highlights that will take place across the BTME 2018 programme include the Turf Managers' Conference and the Golf Business & Industry Convention (GolfBIC), while a selection of other events have been timed to coincide with the exhibition, such as the STRI Golf Environment Awards, that will be held at The Majestic Hotel on Wednesday evening.

The announcement in October that BTME 2018 was a sell out to exhibitors coincided with the launch of the ever-popular Continue to Learn programme, produced by BIGGA for the benefit of its almost 6,000 members. The education programme is once again the largest within the turf management industry outside of the United States.

Commencing a couple of days before BTME, there will be over 250 hours of education included within Continue to Learn, the Turf Managers' Conference and GolfBIC.

Continue to Learn runs from 21–24 January 2018 in the Harrogate Convention Centre's Queen's Suite and The Majestic Hotel.

In 2017, Continue to Learn added up to 6,096 combined hours of greenkeeping education — enough for more than two hours' education for every golf course in the UK.

In addition to the hundreds of hours of education will be new innovations such as the Careers Clinic, hosted by Tony Martin, managing director of Golf Recruit. Mock interviews will also be held with some of the leading names within the turf industry on hand to give BIGGA members the chance to practice their interview techniques.



Scan here to  
find out more



**You can get the latest information about the exhibition by heading to the BTME website and by following us on Twitter at @BIGGA\_Ltd and @BIGGA\_BTME or download the BTME 2018 App.**



# Visit the BIGGA team at Stand B28



Head to the BIGGA stand at BTME 2018 and you'll have the opportunity to join, renew and ask about member benefits. BIGGA staff will also be on hand to discuss the services we offer, ask about career development opportunities or talk about the ways we communicate with members.

The Regional Administrators from BIGGA's five regions will be around to discuss what's going on in your part of the country, while the membership team can talk about the extra benefits that you receive as a member of the association.

Sustainability Executive James Hutchinson will be on the stand to discuss how BIGGA can help you with your ecology and conservation goals.

This year has also marked 30 years of BIGGA and you'll be able to take a look back on the history of the association by checking out our timeline.

The display marks three decades of commitment to promoting the hard work of greenkeepers and producing more opportunities for education and career development.



## Aqua-Aid Battling against black layer

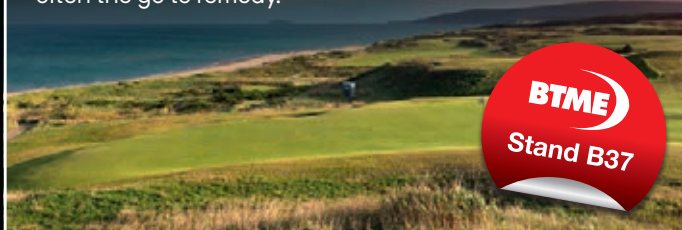
Aqua-Aid Europe BV are returning to BTME to demonstrate the power of Verde-Cal G against black layer and the benefits of WormPower Turf.

Common golf course issues such as compaction and thatch are tackled using machinery, but the causes of these problems can be tackled and prevented using Verde-Cal G and WormPower Turf.

Black layer is a common problem that all golf courses can face, and once this layer is established drainage is greatly reduced, with machinery often the go to remedy.

Verde-Cal G uses gypsum and 'thCa' to remove this layer and provide a healthier root zone with no surface disruption.

Detailed information on Worm Power Turf will also be available on stand B37. This product increases root mass by enhancing the availability of plant nutrients, and accelerating root initiation, establishment and development. In turn, this increase the water holding capacity of the soil, reducing irrigation frequency and increasing the stress tolerance.



## CubCadet & ATT Leading edge products

The CubCadet INFINICUT and ATT TMSsystem can offer tangible benefits to the management of fine turf surfaces.

Unlocking the full potential of all main-stream makes of triplex greens mowers and lightweight fairway mowers, the ATT TMSsystem is used the world over to maintain fine turf.

With the continued non-renewal of plant protection products, skillful mechanical maintenance of turf grass has never been more necessary. During these challenging times, turf managers must

ensure the plant and its immediate vicinity is preserved in a manner to encourage a suitable micro-environment able to tolerate environmental stress. In this regard, the carefully engineered TMSsystem excels.

For those turf managers that wish to perform the same maintenance tasks with a pedestrian mower, the TMSsystem can be coupled with the highly-regarded CubCadet INFINICUT mower, the most technologically advanced mower available to turf managers.





# Join us for the BIGGA Welcome Celebration 2018

Sponsored by **TEXTRON GOLF**

**One of the country's leading comedians and the return of a popular television presenter will be among the highlights of the BIGGA Welcome Celebration sponsored by Textron Golf, taking place in the Harrogate Convention Centre's Royal Hall on Tuesday 23 January.**

The evening of entertainment is free to anyone attending BTME and attendees will be greeted with a welcome drink upon arrival, from 5pm, before the annual reception gets underway.

Naga Munchetty will return to the Royal Hall stage to host the event, while comedian Ian Moore will provide the laughs after the comedian proved a huge hit in 2017.

Ian is a regular on TV and radio, is a best-selling author and a headliner at London's world-famous Comedy Store. He is a regular on BBC 5Live's Fighting Talk and BT Sport's The Football's On, and is a sometime co-host and regular guest on TalkSport's The Warm Up.

Doors open for the BIGGA Welcome Celebration sponsored

by Textron Golf at 5pm, when attendees to the informal event will receive a drink on us, before festivities get underway at 5.30pm.

**'I'm really chuffed to be asked back to the BIGGA Welcome Celebration, and especially back to Harrogate as I left a pair of cuff-links in the hotel last year and they promised to hold on to them.'**

Ian Moore, Comedian



The reception is an opportunity to celebrate all of the fantastic achievements of BIGGA members in the past 12 months and will recognise many people who have contributed to the industry throughout their careers.

During the event, the winners of the BIGGA Awards 2018 will be revealed.

**Also celebrated will be the achievements and successes of BIGGA members including:**

- BIGGA Life Members
- BIGGA President and Vice President
- Continuing Professional Development Milestones
- Master Greenkeeper Certificates
- BIGGA Photographic Competition winner
- Toro Student Greenkeepers of the Year

The BIGGA Welcome Celebration sponsored by Textron Golf will be followed by an informal drinks reception.

The Welcome Celebration will be held in The Royal Hall  
5.30-6.30pm  
Tuesday 23 January 2018



# BIGGA Awards 2018

The finalists of the BIGGA Awards are:

**Championship Greenkeeping Performance of the Year sponsored by Rigby Taylor**



Adam Matthews and the team at Moor Allerton Golf Club (Leeds).

Frank Clarkson and the team at Dundonald Links Golf Club.

Kenny Mackay and the team at The Wentworth Club.

**BIGGA Young Greenkeeper of the Year sponsored by Textron Golf**

**TEXTRON GOLF**

Alistair Morrison, Greenkeeper, Durness Golf Club in Scotland

Angus Roberts, Greenkeeper, Roxburghe Hotel and Golf Course in Scotland

Carl Sharp, Greenkeeper, Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club in Surrey

**BIGGA Greenkeeping Achievement of the Year sponsored by Baroness**

**BARONESS**  
Quality on Demand

Andrew Brougham, Head Greenkeeper, Astbury Golf Club

Neil McLoughlin, Course Manager, Deeside Golf Club

Stuart Imeson, Head Greenkeeper, Dunstanburgh Castle Golf Club

## Barenbrug Yellow Jacket Water Manager

BTME 2018 will see the official product launch of Yellow Jacket Water Manager, a game-changing grass seed enhancement product that improves germination and seedling survival in tough environments. The patented technology is the result of a research project by Barenbrug and Aquatrols and has been independently tested by the STRI.

The product was successfully trialled by four Open Championship venues in 2017.

Visit the Barenbrug stand to interrogate the team on this highly-anticipated innovation and find out what it can do for you.



**BTME**  
Stand A41

## Campey Turfcare Koro Field Topmaker

The new Koro Field Topmaker models are launching in 2018, with the smaller 1.6-metre model designed specifically to work on golf courses.

The FTM will be joined on stand B58 by the industry leading Vredo DZ Overseeder.

This generation of overseeders provides a 96% germination rate by placing the seed in direct contact with the soil, with their small yet

robust build ideal for all golf courses.

These machines will sit alongside the Air2G2 Air Inject, an aeration machine that is becoming a stalwart of the Campey range.

Completing the line-up on stand is the Dakota 310.



**BTME**  
Stand B58

## Charterhouse Problem-solving machines

Going into its 36th year, Charterhouse Turf Machinery kicks off the year at BTME, where visitors see the range of solutions for the golf industry, including highlights from the Graden range of verticutters, along with a wealth of machinery from Redexim.

The flagship Graden machine, the Contour Sand Injection (CSI) unit has the ability to scarify to any depth between

1mm-40mm whilst simultaneously backfilling the grooves with either sand or a combination of sand and seed.



**BTME**  
Stand B48

## Dennis and SISIS

With a focus on aeration, scarification and mowing, visitors to the Dennis and SISIS stand can speak to experienced staff who will be available to answer any queries and offer valuable advice.

Featuring prominently on the stand will be the SISIS Javelin Aer-Aid 1500 tractor mounted vertical action aerator and the SISIS TM1000— a tractor mounted scarifier.

The Javelin Aer-Aid gained rave reviews following extensive STRI trials led by Dr Christian Spring. These examined how and if the Javelin Aer-Aid had an effect on the hardness

of the turf, the root depth, water infiltration and disease.

"Following successful trials on an established sand-based golf green, this aerator, when used as part of an integrated turf management programme, would be a very useful tool for managing soil and plant health," said Christian.

The SISIS TM1000 is a purpose designed, tractor mounted scarifier with a choice of five contra rotating quick release reels for maximum thatch removal and minimum surface disturbance.



**BTME**  
Stand A5

## Headland

### Non-pesticidal disease management

The withdrawal of some turf fungicides has made it essential that greenkeepers look for ways to minimise plant disease by using other strategies. Producing a strong and healthy grass plant is more likely to make it difficult for disease to take hold and Headland Amenity will be focussing on this approach. Headland's Technical Support Team will be on hand to discuss disease management that has been trialled, researched and proven to benefit turf managers.

It is not new ground for Headland. For over 10 years the company has carried out product trials at

the STRI, to evaluate and design a proven approach to limit disease using non-pesticidal products that enhance plant health.

The research supported the introduction of Headland's '20-20-30' tank-mix of plant protectants and elicitors — namely Seamac ProTurf, Liquid Turf Hardener and Turfite — a unique combination of nutrients working together to strengthen the plant against disease.



**BTME**  
Stand B39

## Germinal

### Disease and stress resistant bentgrass

Grass seed and turf care specialist Germinal will be showcasing its latest greens-specific seed mixture at BTME.

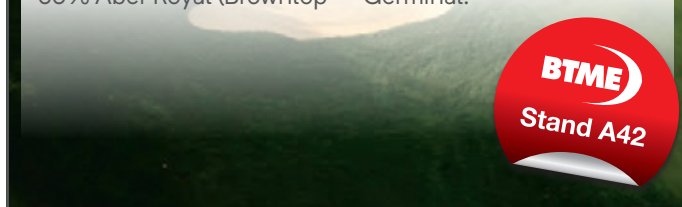
Designed specifically for use on soil or sand-based golf greens, Forefront Greens is a blend of three bentgrass varieties, all of which have been selected to offer increased wear and heat tolerance, vigorous growth and good all-round disease resistance for hard-working, modern golf greens.

Comprising 35% Aber Regal (Browntop Bent), 35% Aber Royal (Browntop

Bent) and 30% 007 DSB (Creeping Bent), Forefront Greens produces a sward with enhanced disease and stress resistance and which retains a superb year-round green colour.

007 has won plaudits wherever it has been used, including Ryder Cup and US Open courses, and has recently been announced as the variety of choice for the greens renovation ahead of the PGA Masters at Wentworth.

AberRoyal, AberRegal and 007 DSB are available exclusively in the UK via Germinal.



**BTME**  
Stand A42

## ICL

Visitors to stand B54 can expect to learn about innovative new products and find out about exciting new Turf Rewards developments — and of course enjoy a much-needed coffee from the ICL barista team.

The ICL stand will feature the Vitalnova range of biostimulants with a specific focus on Stressbuster.

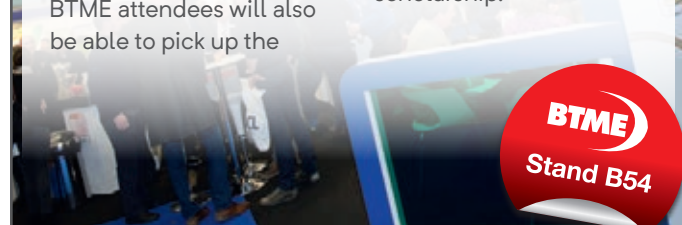
In further exploring methods to improve the health of a course, visitors to the stand may also benefit by learning more about Banner Maxx II.

BTME attendees will also be able to pick up the

new ICL 2018/19 Product Guide which features an up-to-date portfolio including some new and unique products and services.

A visit to stand B54 will also be an ideal opportunity to find out about some exciting new developments in Turf Rewards including a new look website and the launch of a brand new app.

ICL is a long-term supporter of the Continue to Learn programme and has once again teamed up with BIGGA to provide the ICL Continue to Learn scholarship.



**BTME**  
Stand B54





---

**INNOVATE**  
FOR GROWERS WORLDWIDE

**IMPROVE**  
WATER MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

**INSPIRE**  
AN ENTIRE INDUSTRY

---

Honoring our heritage. Embracing our future.

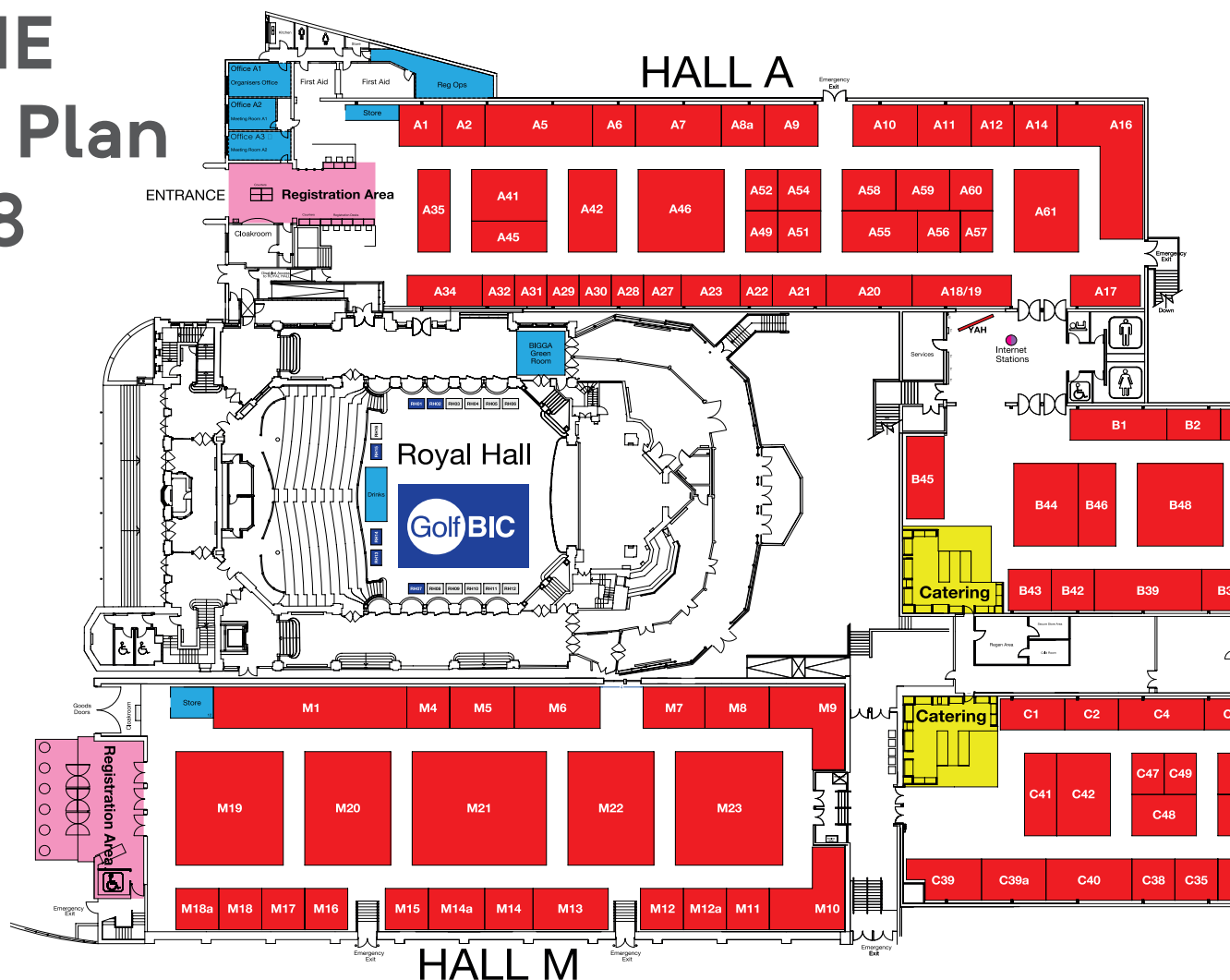


**PORTHCAWL**



Learn more about our new direction at [UK.aquatrols.com](http://UK.aquatrols.com)

# BTME Hall Plan 2018



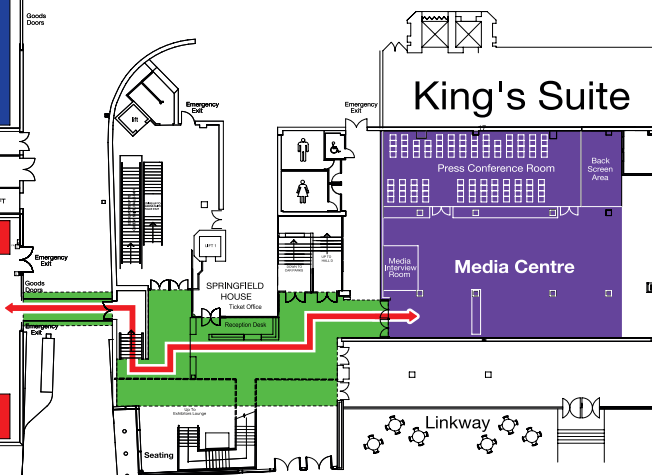
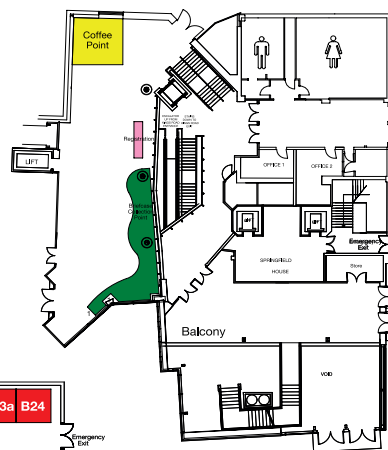
Acumen ClearWater .....	C12	Chikara / Katana .....	C11	GolfBIC – Club Systems .....	RH10
AFT Trenchers Ltd .....	A23	Club Car / Ingersollrand .....	M20	GolfBIC – Creative Golf Video .....	RH07
Agronomic Services Ltd .....	A21	Compo Expert UK Ltd .....	A58	GolfBIC – GRN OGRO .....	RH01
Aitkens .....	A55	County Sport Surfaces .....	C8	GolfBIC – Intelligentgolf .....	RH14
Amazone Ltd .....	M18a	County Turf Ltd .....	A12	GolfBIC – Majestic Coffee .....	RH15
Apex Soil Solutions Ltd .....	A6	CRL – Clive Richardson Ltd .....	A45	GolfBIC – Remus Rewards Ltd .....	RH13
Aqua Aid Europe .....	B37	Dalton Cooper .....	C50	GolfBIC – UKGCOA .....	RH02
Aquatrols Europe Ltd .....	A18/19	Delta-T Devices .....	B30	Greenacres Artificial Grass .....	A17
Askham Bryan College .....	A29	Dennis & Sisis .....	A5	Greentech Sportsturf Ltd .....	B36a
Automated Managed Services Ltd. ....	C39a	Duncan Ross Ltd .....	A60	GreenTek Solutions .....	C40
B. A. Hydro Solutions Ltd .....	C9	Durabunker Ltd .....	C47	Grillo Agrigarden Ltd .....	B1
Bailoy Products .....	C54	Eagle .....	B50	Groundsman Industries Ltd .....	A56
Barcham Trees Plc .....	C49	Ecobunker Ltd .....	C53	Headland Amenity Ltd .....	B39
Barenbrug UK .....	A41	Ecosol Turfcare .....	A10	Humber Palmer .....	B10
Baroness .....	C62	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd .....	M5	Hunter Industries .....	C27
Bayer .....	A46	European Turfgrass .....	A22	Hurrells & McLean Seeds Ltd .....	A32
Bernhard and Company .....	B44	Laboratories		Husqvarna .....	M9
Better Billy Bunker .....	B29	Fineturf Machinery .....	M10	Huxley Golf .....	C1
Blec Global Ltd .....	B38	Forthroots Ltd .....	A59	ICL .....	B54
BMS .....	C13	Gambetti UK Ltd .....	A61	Indigrow Ltd .....	B43
Border Sports Services Ltd .....	C4	Garfitts International .....	B42	Institute of Groundsmanship .....	A28
British & International Golf .....	B28	GBR Technology Limited .....	C35	Inturf .....	A57
Greenkeepers Association		GCSAA .....	B23a	ISEKI UK & Ireland .....	B22a
British Sugar TOPSOIL .....	B22	Germinal .....	A42	Jac. Uittenbogaard & Zonen BV .....	A31
Campey Turf Care Systems .....	B58	GKB Machines .....	M14a	John Deere .....	M23
Carrus .....	M18	Global Turf Equipment UK Ltd .....	C48	Johnsons Sports Seed .....	A20
Charterhouse .....	B48	Golf Club Managers Association .....	B2		





Comedian  
Ian Moore will  
returning to  
the Welcome  
Celebration

**BTME**



Kiotti .....	M1	Profusion Environmental .....	C52	Thorntrees Amenity Ltd .....	C23
Koch Turf & Ornamental .....	C38	Rain Bird Europe .....	A9	Tillers Turf .....	A51
Kubota .....	M22	Redlynch Leisure .....	C20	Toro Commercial on .....	M21
Lastec UK .....	C55	Richard Peel Groundscare .....	B20	Reesink Turfcare stand .....	
Limagrain UK .....	C39	Rigby Taylor Ltd .....	B60	Toro Irrigation on Reesink .....	M21
Lindum Turf .....	B9	Sheltons Sportsturf .....	B11	Turfcare stand .....	
Lloyds / Hunters .....	B56	Drainage Ltd .....		Trimax Mowing Systems .....	B59
LS Systems .....	M4	Sherriff Amenity .....	B34	Triton Golf Ltd .....	C18
M H Goals Ltd .....	M15	Sibelco .....	C42	True Surface by Turfline .....	C41
Martin Lishman Ltd .....	A52	SISGrass .....	A7	Tru-Turf / Double A .....	C56
Maxicrop UK .....	B19	Soil Biology Ltd .....	C14	Turf Machinery Spares .....	A11
Maxstim .....	B2	Spectrum Technologies .....	A54	TurfCare .....	C31
Merrist Wood College .....	B17	Sports Metals .....	C30	Turfkeeper Ltd .....	B18
MIXTO UK .....	A16	SRC Group .....	A8a	TYM Tractors .....	C32
MJ Abbott Ltd .....	A49	Srixon .....	M17	Ultra Soil Solutions Ltd .....	C10
Mosquito Magnet .....	A2	SRUC Elmwood .....	B12	Union Press Ltd .....	B24
MTD Speciality Turf Products .....	M7	St Andrews Management Centre .....	B27	Vale Engineering (York) Ltd .....	M12
Myerscough College .....	B13	STRI .....	B36	Vanmac (Trilo) .....	M6
One Ash Training Ltd .....	B8	Sustane Natural Fertiliser .....	A14	Velvit Ltd .....	A1
Otterbine on Reesink .....	M21	Symbio .....	B7	Verde Sports Ltd .....	C5
Turfcare stand .....		Syngenta .....	B52	Vinylguard Golf .....	A27
Parnells .....	M11	Tacit .....	C61	W. L. Gore & Associates (UK) Ltd .....	M12a
Perennial .....	A30	Talbot Sports Turf Installations .....	C28	Waste2Water Europe Ltd .....	B46
Perrot .....	C2	Tarmac Topsport .....	A34	Wiedenmann UK Ltd .....	C58
Pinseeker Ltd .....	B45	Team Sprayers .....	M14	Wildflower Turf Ltd .....	M16
Plastech Limited .....	M8	Textron Golf .....	M19	XL Horticulture Ltd .....	C5a
Price Turfcare .....	M13	The Grass Group .....	A35	Yamaha Motor Europe .....	C6

## Rigby Taylor

### More new products for a New Year

BTME attendees who are searching for something new are urged to visit the Rigby Taylor stand at BTME.

Announced at the exhibition will be details of a major distribution agreement, the introduction of products and a new, vibrant and interactive stand.

While enjoying a freshly made cup of coffee, visitors can discuss the technical features and benefits of the company's exciting range of turf management and plant health products.

Also, presentations via touch screen monitors will involve some of the industry's newest technologies.

At the recent SALTEX, Rigby Taylor won the award for the exhibition's most exciting product innovation...There's more to come at BTME!



## Textron Golf

Textron Golf, the Ipswich-based manufacturer of Jacobsen commercial mowing equipment, will be showcasing the new AR series and TR series at BTME.

The Jacobsen AR and TR series replaces the existing AR-3, TR-3 and Tri-King machines. Created with usability in mind, the new machines are built on a common platform, and are offered as standard or premium models.

The standard AR321 and premium AR331 are 3WD rotary triple mowers featuring 24.8hp Kubota diesel engines. Brand new

cutting decks offer a quick height-of-cut adjustment system and eliminate the need for castor wheels.

The standard TR320I and the premium TR330 are triplex cylinder mowers. The TR320 has many great features including the ability to raise the cutting units to a vertical position, reducing the width of the mower to a minimum of 1.55m.

Textron Golf will also be showcasing other equipment from Jacobsen plus Cushman utility vehicles, ISEKI tractors and turf maintenance equipment from the Turfco and Ryan brands.



## Toro & TYM Reesink brings latest launch

Toro's latest UK launch, the GreensPro 1260, will be headlining the Reesink Turfcare stand at BTME 2018. This year is also the first year that Reesink will have two stands. Joining the Reesink stand in Hall M is stand C32 dedicated entirely to TYM tractors to accommodate the range as it expands and where the new T393 will be on show.

The GreensPro 1260, which takes all the excellent features of the previous Toro GreensPro models and adds a hydraulic drive system to eliminate leaks and prevent potential contamination of the grass.

On the TYM stand will be the latest addition

to the compact tractor range, the T393. It has been brought to the UK by Reesink Turfcare because of its perfect positioning to bridge the gap between the compact utility range and the mid-duty range in the TYM line up.



## Trilo Turf and waste management solutions

Following the news that €1million has been invested into its manufacturing facility, Trilo will return to BTME with its range of solutions for turf and waste management. Trilo will be on hand to discuss scarification requirements with the S-Line verti-cut and collect range, as well as its selection of VCU verticutters.

The adaptable and versatile Trilo S3 and S4 units find a natural home on the golf course. The

S-Line range, available with hopper capacities of up to 20m<sup>3</sup>, is available with a dedicated verti-cut shaft, ideal for scarification and collection over large areas such as fairways. Users then have the ability to upgrade their chosen model with the optional flail shaft, or with the 'autumn package' containing the brush shaft, wander hose and dust suppression kit.

The Trilo team will be on hand to answer questions and discuss the complete machinery range, including original parts which are available to order through the UK dealer network.







# Breakfast Club:

## Cutting Edge Turf Management

**They're at the top of their game, and on Wednesday morning four of the UK's leading names in the turf management industry will come together to discuss the challenges they face in their respective sports.**

With tales from throughout their stellar careers, everyone who attends is sure to take something away from the event.

There's no better way to start your BTME day.

### **Keith Kent | Head Groundsman**

#### **Rugby Football Union | Twickenham Stadium**

After 15 years as head groundsman at Old Trafford and another 17 at Leicester City, Keith now oversees the maintenance of the pitch at Twickenham. He works widely with rugby clubs around the country to educate volunteer grounds staff on ways of maintaining club pitches.

#### **Do you look forward to BTME?**

"Very much so. It's a good cross section of groundsman from all over the country, including

from Scotland. It's great to see old faces and friends, which makes it a great week. I really look forward to it, it's a highlight of the calendar.

"There may be a new invention or method of doing things that someone in a different game might have come up with, that we might be able to adapt to suit our needs. It's all about knowledge sharing."



### **Kenny Mackay | Director of courses and grounds**

#### **The Wentworth Club**

With the European Tour's flagship event taking place at your course each spring, the pressure is always on for Kenny Mackay and his team at Wentworth. This was increased furthermore during 2017 as the new-look West Course was unveiled following a multi-million pound overhaul.

#### **How important is education?**

"We are looking at the guys that want to progress in the team and want to get some more education.

"We offer the chance to come to BTME out to our team and it helps identify the guys who are wanting to move forward in the careers and really continue to develop. Education is everything."



### **Darren Baldwin**

#### **Head of playing surfaces and estates, Tottenham Hotspur FC**



When Tottenham Hotspur's brand new 61,500-seater stadium is unveiled, Darren will be responsible for a completely retractable grass field that can be removed to reveal an artificial surface underneath.

#### **Why do you enjoy speaking at conferences?**

"I've always worked in football and after spending six years at Arsenal, I made the switch to Tottenham — I was one of the less-publicised summer signings of 1996. But that whole time I've tried to get to BTME as much as possible as it's a great show. It's nice to tell the stories and share knowledge. I don't claim to know everything about what I do, so it's great to have interaction when you're speaking. It's great to give something back to the industry which has been very good to me and given me a great career and a good life in professional sport."

### **Stuart Kerrison,**

#### **Head Groundsman**

#### **Essex Cricket Club**



Head groundsman at the county cricket venue since 1991 and four-time runner up of the Groundsman of the Year award.

#### **What is the value of cross-sport education?**

"We are all using grass at the end of the day and everyone is working towards a budget, which doesn't seem to be improving anywhere. We are having to adapt how we do things and there might be things we do that greenkeepers can learn from, such as how we recover our turf from the incredible stress we put it under. It's going to be really interesting for them to learn more about that."

The BTME Breakfast Club will be held on  
Wednesday 24 January, 8.30-9.30am  
Royal Hall, Hosted by Naga Munchetty



## ISEKI ISEKI UK has been announced as title sponsor of GolfBIC, the Golf Business & Industry Convention.

The Japanese tractor manufacturer has recently announced the launch of a dedicated UK & Ireland business from 1 January 2018 and in addition to hosting GolfBIC, ISEKI UK has also pledged to join BIGGA's Education Supporter programme.

ISEKI UK Managing Director David Withers said: "While ISEKI UK is a brand new venture, we already know and understand the philosophy and attitude that we will bring to the market. Part of our approach is a respect for and commitment to education.

"There is no doubt that while the golf industry can be a tough challenge, those people who learn from others, invest in their own education and strive to deliver year-on-year improvements tend to thrive, despite difficult conditions.

"Attending GolfBIC is one of the ways people can help themselves achieve these goals and we are delighted to be able to participate in what will no doubt be a great event."

GolfBIC 2018 takes place in Harrogate Convention Centre's Royal Hall on Wednesday 24 January and will be hosted by self-confessed golf fanatic Naga Munchetty.

Produced in partnership by BIGGA, the UKGCOA and OGRO, GolfBIC is

a fantastic opportunity for golf club owners and operators to gain access to some of the best education and networking opportunities available within the industry today.

### The GolfBIC 2018 education programme will feature:

- Leadership and Management Challenges, presented by Eddie Bullock of Eddie Bullock Golf Consultancy
- The Impact of Understanding Your Market, presented by Abbie Lench, head of club support at England Golf and Richard Haygarth, owner of Maple Leaf Golf
- The Power of Social Media to Drive Business to your Golf Club, presented by David Standing, CEO of Accordant Partners
- How Reframing the Driving Range Experience Allowed Us to Charge More! presented by Nick Solski, golf professional at Boomers & Swingers
- Changing the Face of Golf, presented by Paul Dellanzo, chairman of the Dellanzo Group
- What Golf Can Learn from the Wider Leisure Industry, presented by Robert B Cook, UK managing director of Virgin Active UK



## Ask Dr Mumford

With Colin Mumford, Bayer Turf Solutions

Do you need advice with your turf problems?  
Email [info@bigga.co.uk](mailto:info@bigga.co.uk)

### How does weather impact turf disease?

Some weather conditions are more likely to cause turf disease than others. And as we progress into the winter months, the environment becomes conducive to Microdochium Patch development. This is a result of:

- Fewer daylight hours and a lower lying sun, with reduced intensity, meaning there more shade over the turf
- Increased moisture levels from morning dew, and less evaporation due to less sunlight
- Fluctuating temperatures that can inhibit grass growth, and therefore recovery from disease, if the temperature remains below five degrees centigrade
- Lying snow can encourage Pink Snow Mould to develop

You may think that managing weather patterns is out of your control, which is true to an extent. However, there are various measures that greenkeepers can take to help mitigate disease spread in response to seasonal changes.

For example, 'grow lighting', used in football stadiums to encourage grass growth when natural light is poor, is becoming more popular on golf courses. This can help encourage sward development and lessen disease risk.

Frequent switching to remove dampness from the leaf tissue can be very effective at reducing the chance of disease. In an ideal world, you should remove dew every morning, and again if it reappears during the day.

There are lots of products that can be used to enhance plant health. If you have a healthy sward prior to the disease season, you stand a better chance of preventing disease outbreaks.

Frost can stop disease in its tracks, but it's a different story with snow, which insulates the turf like an igloo. Pink Snow Mould is a form of Microdochium Patch, and can develop underneath snow. For this reason, removal of thawing snow is advisable, but preventative fungicide treatments can be applied if you know a heavy snowfall is on the way.

Tweet us your turf questions @BIGGALtd using #AskDrMumford for your chance to win a hamper!



BTME  
Stand B22a



# How are you improving the health of your greens and tees?



Traditional cold pressed seaweed product, containing 75% waste.

[ OR ]



Goemar oligosaccharide extract seaweed concentrate, containing 100% Biostimulants.

**GOËMAR Turf**  
GA142 Seaweed Filtrate



**Goemar Turf** is a high performance liquid seaweed spray. By using a unique process unwanted materials that make up the bulk of raw seaweed, such as alginates and cellulose, are removed. The remaining filtrate consists of high concentrations of physio activator molecules. These molecules are the key minerals and trace elements responsible for stimulating plant nutrition, faster recovery after wear, increased tillering, greater root mass and higher vigour of turfgrass.

PHYSIO  
ACTIVATOR  
TECHNOLOGY  
COVERS UP TO  
**2.5X**  
THE AREA  
OF MOST  
TRADITIONAL  
SEAWEED EXTRACTS

For further information please visit: [www.arystallifescience.co.uk](http://www.arystallifescience.co.uk)

Use plant growth products safely. Always read the label and product information before use. Pay attention to risk indications and follow the safety precautions on the label. Goemar contains GA142 Seaweed Filtrate. Goemar are registered Trade Marks of Arysta LifeScience. ©Arysta LifeScience Limited 2018



# Littlehampton creates bunker history

Littlehampton - Durabunker

**L**ittlehampton recently made its own small piece of golfing history by becoming the first course in the UK to combine Durabunker's Synthetic Bunker Face with the Better Billy Bunker Liner.

Working together with our partners





The combination of products results in a 'Fully Sealed Bunker System' and has been built at a number of venues outside of the UK, the most recent being the new build at Golf Park Zurichsee in Switzerland and Ryder Cup venue Kiawah Island Resort in the USA, but this is the first UK project to do so.

Michael Mead, course manager at Littlehampton, said: "We met Durabunker at Harrogate BTME in 2016 and were taken by the idea of combining a seamless liner with the synthetic bunker walls that Durabunker offer. Durabunker Director Rhydian Lewis visited the site here at Littlehampton to share some design ideas and explain the process, speaking about the seamless liners available, as well as their own synthetic bunker walls.

"We were pretty convinced that the BBB liner was the way we wanted to go here at Littlehampton, before meeting with Durabunker. Following the site visit we particularly liked the idea of one company taking complete responsibility for the entirety of the project and installing both the synthetic walls and bunker liner."

Work began at Littlehampton GC in September 2017, with design work being

led by Rhydian Lewis, founder of Durabunker and co-inventor of all design patents associated with the product.

Michael continued: "We had tried over many years to build traditional revetted bunkers but, similar to many links courses, they were a nightmare to maintain and eventually became eyesores and very problematic for us as a greenstaff. We did though want to recapture the links character of the golf course so felt synthetic bunker revetment was the way to go.

"The design Durabunker brought to site was very evident. They led us through the preparation and shaping phases of the project, and importantly we all bought into the vision they laid out. Rhydian recommended quite radical changes in some cases, and more subtle re-shaping on other bunkers that we felt were in need of more traditional renovation and the results have been truly transformational."

Rhydian explained how the entire project was fuelled by the possibility of re-introducing traditional revetted bunkers to Littlehampton, without having the burden of time-consuming and costly maintenance that accompanies that particular style of bunker. He

added: "When the club informed us that the liner of choice was Better Billy Bunker we were pleased to inform them that we could install both products for them under the Durabunker umbrella.

"Durabunker is being represented in the USA by Better Billy Bunker and as such we have been able to secure a number of projects there in recent times, including a major renovation at Kiawah Island Resort, home of the 1991 Ryder Cup, which is probably the best known name to combine the two products thus far. It's important though to emphasise, that we have combined Durabunker with most leading liners and will continue to do so. If the liner of choice happens to be Better Billy Bunker, we are able to offer both products under one roof, but the majority of our projects thus far have involved other bunker liners."

Meanwhile, the work at Littlehampton has been met with high praise from every quarter. Michael concluded: "The reaction of the members and neighbouring clubs has been incredible, not one negative comment, which is unheard of and I can honestly say most people have no idea the bunker faces are synthetic, they look fantastic!"





# Life after iprodione

**I**n November it was announced that all products containing the active ingredient iprodione, including Chipco Green and Interface from Bayer, will be withdrawn from the European market.

Ahead of the iprodione based 'Tech-Talk' sessions on the Bayer stand at BTME, Greenkeeper International asks Neil Pettican, Bayer head of sales, what life will be like after this vital contact treatment for Microdochium Patch is lost for good.

## Should greenkeepers be alarmed about another loss of chemistry to the market?

The loss of iprodione from the greenkeepers' toolbox is further indication of pesticides coming under increased regulatory pressure.

It's another chemical group lost, which means rotating products to reduce resistance will become more important, with few products capable of the same mode of action. Chipco Green and Interface are both local contact penetrants, with the ability to stop diseases in their tracks.

However, all is not lost, as long as a new mindset is adopted with a greater emphasis on prevention rather than cure. Now more than ever, greenkeepers should plan a preventative integrated approach to disease management, with the view to reduce reliance on chemicals that deliver control after infection has taken hold.

## How long can greenkeepers continue to purchase and use Chipco Green and Interface?

Sale and distribution of iprodione-based products will cease on 5 March 2018. Users must stop applying them, and dispose of any stocks by 5 June 2018.

## What should greenkeepers do with existing stocks?

Greenkeepers should carry on as normal for the time being, purchasing and using iprodione if they need to. Although any stock left over after the use-up date has passed must be disposed of responsibly as hazardous waste.

## What happens when it's gone for good?

Greenkeepers will have to look at changing management practices to a preventative approach rather than curative.

In light of this, Bayer is managing preventative integrated disease management programme trials with the STRI. The season-long trials will be reported on in the spring, and advice on best practice, resulting from the trials, will be included.







## Will Bayer bring out new products in place of Chipco Green and Interface?

There isn't a direct replacement yet, but Exteris Stressgard was launched earlier this year to assist in tackling Microdochium Patch. However, it's important to note that due to different chemistry, and modes of action, Exteris Stressgard should be used as a preventative product.

Bayer is always working to develop new solutions. Around 10% of Bayer's turnover is invested in research and development, equating to around €4.6 billion for the whole organisation. It can take a decade to bring a new product to market, assessing millions of potential active ingredients, to ensure the right solution is found to meet greenkeepers needs.

## What cultural controls can be employed to reduce disease outbreaks?

The first thing to note is that each course is different, and it therefore requires a disease management plan that's individually tailored to it.

This includes looking back into the disease history, identifying patterns, and being aware of high risk areas as well as optimum times for disease outbreaks, as this will help with planning.

The golden rule of successful cultural control is to always strive to improve turf health, because the healthier it is, the better it is able to stand up to disease.

Practices such as aeration, scarification, ensuring adequate nutrition and irrigation, should all be employed to ensure that come the high disease risk autumn and winter months, you have a healthy, robust turf sward.

## What biological controls are advisable?

You can improve the sward by overseeding with disease-tolerant grass species, to take you into the autumn months with minimal disease pressure.

In addition, the use of microbial inoculants can enhance plant health and break down organic matter (thatch) to improve and enhance the nutritional status of the root zone.

Before you purchase and apply a microbial inoculant product, it is always worth considering having the soil tested to see if it would benefit from a microbial inoculant.

Cultural and biological practices should be considered ahead of any pesticide usage. This will reduce the risk of disease outbreaks, so that chemical applications are only applied when necessary.

## What if disease takes hold?

If chemical control is required, it's important to select the right fungicide for the individual disease outbreak.

There are still effective products available, and the introduction of Exteris Stressgard — a turf SDHI, fluopyram — temporarily increased the available number of fungicide groups available.

Unfortunately, the loss of iprodione will reduce the available turf fungicide groups back to five, meaning rotation strategy remains a critical element of integrated disease management.

Chemistry must be used as a last resort and if it is employed, always adhere to application rates stated on the label. The more responsible users are with applications, the longer vital products will be available.

**See us on  
Stand A46**

Visit the Bayer stand (A46) at BTME from 23-25 January to attend one of the 'Tech-Talk' sessions and to find out more about working without iprodione, and gain a BASIS points for attending.

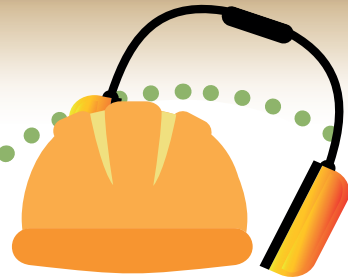


# What to wear when mowing



## Eyes

Wear safety glasses to keep debris out of your eyes.



## Head

Some safety helmets incorporate or can be fitted with specially-designed eye or hearing protection. Do not use head protection if it is damaged — replace it.

Check the mowers operator's manual to see what level of hearing protection is required.



## Hands

Wearing gloves for long periods can make the skin hot and sweaty, leading to skin problems. Using separate cotton inner gloves can help prevent this.

Avoid gloves when operating machines where the gloves could get caught.



## Clothing

Wear close fitting clothes, no jewellery and pull back long hair, so none can get caught in the machine's moving parts.



## Feet and Legs

To protect legs and feet, wear long pants and sturdy, non-slip boots.

Footwear can have a variety of sole patterns and materials to help prevent slips in different conditions. It can also be anti-static, electrically conductive or thermally insulating.

Do not wear trainers as they provide little protection from underneath the mower deck.

## Walking the Walk

### World-class golf club tests new technology footwear

Royal Lytham & St Anne's is a world-renowned course that has hosted many major tournaments.

Keeping its greens tip-top is a vital component in its success and the club's reputation. The club's greenkeepers work year-round in all weathers, seven days a week, eight hours a day. Staying warm, dry and comfortable is a huge challenge and protection from the elements is essential so the team can stay healthy and remain job-focused.

Head greenkeeper Paul Smith purchased GORE-TEX Black Eagle 50 Mid Boots from safety footwear manufacturer HAIX for his team in 2016. Following 10 months of wear, feedback showed the entire team found the boots waterproof and reported the fit and comfort of this style as very good. 90% said they were better or significantly better than previous footwear.

The team then tested one of two new styles: GORE-TEX Airpower XR3 or GORE-TEX Airpower XR21 — mid and high ankle boots, with outstanding results. They all found the boots waterproof and with very good re-drying. Ninety per cent said the same about the boot's weight, with similar scores for fit, cushioning, flexibility, slip resistance and

durability. Nine out of 10 also said they would recommend the Airpower boot to other greenkeepers.

Paul Smith commented: "We were already delighted with the comfort and protection offered from the GORE-TEX Black Eagle 50 Mid Boots. The Airpower XR3 and XR21 styles offered the team a robust and warmer solution to foot protection during really foul, wet and very cold winter weather conditions."

Visit: [www.gore-tex.co.uk/professional](http://www.gore-tex.co.uk/professional)  
[www.haix.co.uk/workwear](http://www.haix.co.uk/workwear)



## Get the *Xtra* Benefits

Save time, money and even the cost of your membership with the BIGGA Xtra Benefits Scheme, offering you fantastic discounts on a wide range of products and services.

Log in to [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) to start saving





# Buying a Tractor

## What should you look for?

**W**ith the introduction of ISEKI UK to the market, the industry spotlight has turned to tractors, and the choices available to the country's greenkeepers.

Tractor brands are easy to list off, and loyalties go back many years, but if you make the right choices, a tractor can serve a course for decades. Get it wrong, and that unwanted tractor could become a white elephant parked in the corner of your maintenance facility.

**So, what should you look out for when shopping for your next bit of kit?**

### Engine power

The temptation may be to go for as much power as possible as this will only increase the versatility of the machine. However, would your budget be better spent elsewhere?

### Transmission

Hydrostatic drive may be the way to go for variable speed applications such as mowing, but mechanical drive is often preferred for precision jobs such as spraying or topdressing.

The key is having the right speed choices within the critical 0.5 to 10kph working range, as that's where you'll spend most your time.

### 2WD or 4WD

Few courses will require the extra traction that you get from 4WD. However, does the additional weight and inertia that comes from a heavier 2WD front axle increase the risk of the front tyres scuffing the turf when accelerating and during a turn?

### Power take-off (PTO)

Most tractors will come with a single 540rpm PTO, but a more powerful model may benefit from a 750rpm 'economy' PTO speed choice. This allows 540rpm to be delivered to the PTO at greatly reduced engine speeds. A simple lever and live PTO system is a good starting point, with electronic selection an optional extra.

### Seating area

The advantages of a cab over a rollover protection structure (ROPS) are obvious, given the ability to have an air conditioned and heated cab. From a risk assessment aspect, will you be spraying using the tractor? Some tractors may have sealed cabs with carbon filters, reducing the need to wear personal safety equipment.

### Operator comfort

This is where you're going to spend all your time, so take into consideration the way the controls are laid out, levels of noise and vibration, plus the type of seat fitted. While the specifications may seem like what you're after, there's no substitute for sitting in a number of driver's seats and deciding which you prefer.

### Rear linkage

How much can be raised, without having to add front ballast to the machine?

A larger tractor with a longer wheelbase may produce less of an imprint on the turf, given the right tyres.

### Front linkage

A front linkage allows ballast to be fitted and removed, offsetting the weight at the rear of the tractor. Other applications include sweeping, front-mounted mowers, an extra spray tank or even a transport box.

### Hydraulic oil

Modern tractors are unlikely to leak oil, but in case an accident does happen, the use of biodegradable oil in the hydraulics will reduce the damage caused.

### Front loader

This may not be an immediate requirement, but purchasing a tractor with the capability of attaching a loader — such as mid-mount remote valves with a joystick control — will pay dividends if the situation arises.

### Tyres

There is no reason why a tractor should be used with just one set of wheels and tyres. Various turf tyres available include flotation, or balloon tyres, a mid-range 'halfway' tyre, or turf tyres that feature a small chevron block pattern.

With correct tyre pressure adhered to, the weight of the tractor can be distributed to the extent that the pressure placed upon the turf is actually less than that of someone walking on the green.

## Case Study: Racing slick tyres at Moorings Country Club

Treadless tyres may be found on mowers and other equipment, but rarely are they used on tractors. With a lack of traction, any damp turf or inclines will cause a treadless wheel to sleep, causing more damage to the turf than good. However, in the right circumstances, they can be a useful tool.

At the Moorings Country Club in Florida, the tractor has been fitted with slick tyres, such as you find on a racing car.

"I have been using this method for over 20 years," said Course Superintendent Dale Walters CGCS. "Compared to using a walk spreader, it's a labour-saving method of application."

Dale estimates that each year over 230 hours of labour are saved by using a tractor.

He explained: "I fertilise greens approximately twice per month throughout the year. Typically, two people were used to make an application, taking three hours. Using the tractor, one person finishes in an hour and a half."

"With less passes necessary to cover the turf area, I have found that I get good coverage. It just takes a little practice."

Equipping the tractors with smooth tyres has led to significant savings in time and labour, and Dale reports the

bermudagrass turf is completely undamaged by the tractor.

The rear-mounted Vicon spreader holds up to 500lbs of fertiliser. Because the machine is larger and requires more skill to control than a push spreader, there is a risk that coverage would be less uniform. However, after a little practice, Dale said there's been no reduction in coverage and the results are as good as push spreading.

"My only apprehension would be if the tractor were used on wet turf or pulling a trailer on a steep slope. But using the tractor carefully, I have had no issues whatsoever and the tyres leave no impressions on the turf," he added.



# Did you know...

**BIGGA now has a dyslexia-friendly version of Greenkeeper International available to download.**

Log in to [www.bigga.org.uk](http://www.bigga.org.uk) to get the latest edition.





## ISEKI Tractors



Japanese machinery manufacturer, ISEKI, has announced the launch of Iseki UK & Ireland, which according to the company is an exciting development showing great investment and commitment in this key market.

ISEKI UK Ltd is a company formed with investment from ISEKI for the sole purpose of distributing the ISEKI range of products, and growing market share in the UK & Ireland.

For a number of years, the ISEKI product line has been distributed in the UK and Ireland by Ransomes Jacobsen in Ipswich, Suffolk, and former Jacobsen CEO, David Withers, will head-up the new operation as managing director. Withers is well known in the industry having served for many years at Ransomes and Jacobsen, and more recently working as a business consultant in the golf industry.

"On behalf of ISEKI, I would like to sincerely thank Ransomes Jacobsen for all their hard work and dedication over this period and look forward to building on this foundation," said Withers. "I started working with ISEKI when the franchise came to Jacobsen in 1996, and have always enjoyed being involved with such an exciting and reliable product line. When ISEKI outlined their strategic vision of getting closer to the customers by investing in their own distribution in the UK it made sense to me — I am really looking forward to joining ISEKI UK in the new year to head up this exciting new venture."

Based out of new premises, also in Ipswich, Withers has plans to double the size of the business over the coming years. To help him with this goal he has been joined by John

Clifford, sales manager, Matthew Whyte, customer support manager, Graham Hooper, commercial manager and Richard Tyrrell — former general manager for E-Z-GO — as product and marketing manager.

"This team has a tremendous amount of industry experience and contacts, and having worked with them over many years, I know how competent and hard-working they are," said David. "This core group shares my vision for ISEKI, and we are all extremely excited about the challenges and opportunities that await us in 2018."

**Richard Tyrrell shared with us some of the highlights of the product range...**

The ISEKI TG6 range of compact tractors has proven to be very popular with the golf market. Updated models, compliant with the newly introduced Tractor regulations are being introduced and range from a 36 hp tractor up to a 65 hp model. There are three transmission types available either mechanical (TG6675 Mech), hydrostatic or ISEKI's own IQ Dual Clutch transmission. This has three ranges each with 8 speeds. The dual-clutches allow quick and easy gear changes, without having to use the clutch pedal. The ergonomic gear lever provides finger-tip control of the gears, ideal for tasks on a golf course such as aeration and top dressing where consistent speed is important.

An automatic mode may be selected where the transmission changes gear automatically using the top five gears in the selected range. This is ideal for general transport or for towing.

Rear lift capacities range from 1270 kg to an impressive 1700kg at the ball ends. The new TG6675 Mech model can lift 1600kg 24" behind the ball ends.

Upgraded cabs are available on all models with powerful air-conditioning and improved dust sealing for added operator comfort. All cabs feature excellent visibility and easy access for the driver. The tractors can also be specified as ROPS only models.

Further details of the all the ISEKI tractor ranges are available from ISEKI UK or the ISEKI dealer network.





# Bayer



## The clock is ticking for iprodione

What does the latest chemical loss to the turf industry mean?

Join the Bayer Turf Solutions Team at BTME on stand A46 where they will present on:

### “Life after iprodione”

Topics will include:

- Current and future chemistry
- Importance of product rotation
- Tips on achieving successful preventative control

The talks will take place at the following times:

Tuesday 23 January – 10:30 and 14:30

Wednesday 24 January – 10:30 and 14:30



**BASIS points awarded for attending talks**

### Timeline for withdrawal of iprodione based products

**Entry Into Force (EIF)**

**Dec 5th 2017**

Clock starts ticking

**End of sales:**

**March 5th 2018**

Products can no longer be purchased legally after this date

**Last use up:**

**June 5th 2018**

Products can no longer legally be applied after this date



Bayer CropScience Limited  
230 Cambridge Science Park  
Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 0WB  
Tel: 00800 1214 9451  
Email: [turfsolutions@bayer.com](mailto:turfsolutions@bayer.com)

[www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk](http://www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk)

Contact the Turf Solutions Team with your questions at [turfsolutions@bayer.com](mailto:turfsolutions@bayer.com) or on 00800 1214 9451.

Technical support Tailored advice Training & seminars

You can also subscribe to receive regular updates from the team at [www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk](http://www.environmentalscience.bayer.co.uk)

Turf  
Solutions  
Backed by Bayer

Interface® contains 256g/L iprodione and 16g/L trifloxystrobin (MAPP 16060) (PCS 04882). USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. PAY ATTENTION TO THE RISK INDICATIONS AND FOLLOW THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS ON THE LABEL. TRIPLE RINSE CONTAINERS AT THE TIME OF USE, PUNCTURE AND INVERT TO DRY.  
Chipco® Green contains 255 g/L (25% w/w) iprodione. (MAPP 13843) (PCS 02714). USE PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS SAFELY. ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND PRODUCT INFORMATION BEFORE USE. PAY ATTENTION TO THE RISK INDICATIONS AND FOLLOW THE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS ON THE LABEL. Chipco® and Interface® are registered trademarks of Bayer CropScience Limited. Packshot for illustration purposes only, pack may vary





# Kubota UK's groundcare range set to pack a punch in 2018



**K**ubota UK continues to expand its extensive groundcare range with the introduction of three new compact tractors and a zero-turn ride on mower for the 2018 season.

Designed to meet the ever-changing needs of greenkeepers, the new machines deliver exceptional power, performance and versatility, regardless of the task at hand.

The premium BX231 sub-compact tractor features a streamlined and durable design, with a drive over mower option for the 54" and 60" Kubota mower decks, enabling users to easily and immediately attach the implement. Although the vehicle features a compact design, it boasts a Kubota three-cylinder diesel engine to provide an impressive 23 horsepower for maximum performance.

The new and improved standard B1 Series and premium B2 Series compact tractors also leave professionals spoilt for choice, superseding the company's existing B Series range of compact tractors.

The premium B2 Series builds on from the industry leading B50 Series, offering four new models ranging from 23–31 horsepower. The new models contain a wider range of features including Kubota's unique Bi-speed turn, which enables operators to achieve a significantly reduced turning radius for increased maneuverability in tighter spaces.

The premium B2 Series are an enhanced specification tractor with HST transmission and cab options over the B1 utility tractor series, which feature three models that range from 16–24HP. The series features a refreshed styling that is based on enhanced ergonomics and safety, with a new slanted bonnet to offer users a clear view of all operations.

The latest ZD1211 zero turn mower offers a range of unique operating features, equipped with

a three-blade, 140mm deep deck, that is available with rear or side discharge systems. The robust three-cylinder diesel engine offers a powerful 25 horsepower with HST transmission for smoother responses in all conditions.

Adrian Langmead, business development manager for Kubota UK's groundcare division, said: "Within the groundcare industry the Kubota brand has been associated with reliability, durability and performance for many years. Our new machinery range is a reflection of our continued dedication to providing greenkeepers with the best machines and unrivalled support on the market."

Kubota will be showcasing a number of its exciting new and enhanced machinery ranges on stand M22 at BTME 2018 as it continues to keep the needs of turf professionals at the heart of its product innovation. A number of live social media Q&A sessions will be carried out during the event, so be sure to visit the Kubota UK Facebook page ([f @KubotaUK](#)) to submit your questions.

Top: Kubota BX231 Sub-Compact tractor

Left: B2 Series Compact tractor

Right: ZD211 Zero Turn Mower





# Around the Green Scotland & N. Ireland



**Chairman**

**Stuart Ferguson MG**  
07947 859062  
stuferg@btinternet.com  
@stufergusonmg



**Regional Administrator**

**John Young**  
07776 242120  
johnyoung@bigga.co.uk

## 2017 BIGGA Scotland Awards

The 2017 BIGGA Scotland Awards took place at Auchterarder Golf Club on Wednesday 6 December.

Sid Arrowsmith MG, BIGGA President was guest of honour and provided a short talk along with presentation duties.

This year's Harry Diamond Award for top Scottish student greenkeeper was presented to Angus Roberts. Angus works at The Roxburghe in Kelso and thanked his boss, Ross Owens, among others for putting him forward for the Toro Young Student Greenkeeper of the Year award, which he won.

Our Patron winners this year are Scott Aitchison (North Section); Lyle Davidson (West Section); Neil Hamilton (South West Section); Craig Hempseed (East Section); and Era van Zyl (Central Section) who all thanked their relevant section for the honour as well as thanking the Scottish Patrons for their continued support.

Walter Woods is a legend in Greenkeeping as we all know and he was on hand to help present the Lifetime Achievement award, named after Walter, to Jimmy Neilson. Jimmy is the first recipient of this award and was quite emotional in accepting the award bringing a few tears to the audience.



Stuart Ferguson MG, Angus Roberts, Sid Arrowsmith MG



Stuart Ferguson MG, Lyle Davidson, R Myles



Stuart Ferguson MG, Craig Hempseed, P Bulter



Jimmy Neilson and Walter Woods



Stuart Ferguson MG, Jimmy Neilson and Sid Arrowsmith MG



Stuart Ferguson MG, Era van Zyl, R Jenkinson

## Central



**Craig Boath**  
@CraigBoath  
cboath@caroustie  
golfclinks.co.uk

Happy New Year to you all and best wishes for 2018.

A bit of a cold spell hit our coast pre-Christmas, enough to shut some courses with water lying on top of frost. Hopefully we are all ok now and back to normal working ways.

BIGGA Scotland recently held the Awards Lunch at Auchterarder Golf Club and it was good to see some old faces there. Special mention to Era Van Zyl who received the Central Section Patron Award. As part of the prize Era will make the trip down to BTME for some further education. Well Done Era.

Gavin Speedie, Michael Doris and John Myles have departed Gleneagles following a restructuring of the course management team.

Short but sweet this month, hope to see some of you down at Harrogate.

## East



**Grant Moran**  
@BIGGA\_ES  
grant@mortonhallgc.  
co.uk

## North



**Martin Turna**  
@martin\_turna  
martin.turna  
@googlemail.com

At the time of writing, Storm Caroline has passed and most of the country is under snow. Temperature dropped below zero, which means golf courses are getting well deserved rest from the golfers, but it does not mean rest for greenkeepers.

Congratulation to Robert Patterson, course manager of Royal Aberdeen, who became the vice chairman for the Scottish Section.

Well done to Richard Johnstone of Nairn Dunbar, on making it to "The Magnificent 10", BIGGA Delegation to the Golf Industry Show in San Antonio.

Just a few reminders. There are no changes to 200 Club. Make sure your email address is up-to-date.

Anyone playing in the outings must pre-pay by cheque or BACS. Outings: Nairn Dunbar on Thursday 3 May 2018 and Banchory on Thursday 27 September 2018.

I am pretty sure the majority of us are looking forward to BTME Harrogate week to gain new knowledge, experience and most importantly meet a lot of friends from industry.

Finally, thanks to Neil Sadler for his past contributions to this news section and for letting me to take over.

Wishing all fellow greenkeepers and patrons a Happy New Year and best wishes for 2018.

## SW Scotland



**Steven Carmichael**  
@gkstevie79  
stevius79@icloud.  
com

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas period and the weather is favourable for everyone going into the New Year. As our attention turns to BTME in Harrogate, I would like to congratulate Head Greenkeeper Neil Hamilton from Powfoot, who was the lucky recipient of our section's Patrons award.

Well done to Andrew McIntee from Royal Troon for being selected to be a part of FTMI, which will take place in March at Jacobsen HQ in Ipswich.

Thank you to Derek Wilson for hosting our recent AGM at Bogside. There are a few changes to the board and before I say welcome, I must say farewell. Derek Wilson has resigned his post as secretary after 22 years. The lengthy time is testament to Derek's commitment and passion for our association. The association could not function without the voluntary services of the members. Derek will remain on the board and assist with the organisation of the section. Ian Smith has also resigned his post after completing his 3-year term. Best of luck to Ian and perhaps we'll see him back on the board in the near future. Thank you to Stephen McBlain for his time as chairman. Stephen now moves on to the past chairman role and will be on hand to pass on advice and share his experience. Welcome to Jim Paton who has taken up the post as secretary, to Alan Patterson as education convenor, to Andy McIntee and myself Steven Carmichael as communication officer. Congratulations to Rick Fulton, our new chairman. Amanda Dorans has taken up a new role as vice chair and as such is looking forward to working with Rick and the rest of the board.

## Section News

We want to hear what's been going on in your section

Email your news to  
Karl@bigga.co.uk

Congratulations to Steven Miller from Dundonald Links who married Kirsty Thomas at Western House.

## West



**Scott Davidson**  
@BiggaWest  
headgreenkeeper  
@cathcartcastle.net

Autumn outing was held at Haggs Castle. Thank you to the club for courtesy and to Scott Ballantyne and team for having the course in great condition. The winners were: Scratch, Dominic Dougan; 1st Class, Chris Prior; 2nd Class, B Cruikshank.

The AGM was held at Drumpellier on 26 October. New section chairman is Scott Davidson. Outgoing chairman Ronnie Myles has taken on the role of education officer.

Following on from the AGM, we were given a very enlightening and interesting talk on the Rules of Golf by PGA professional and tournament rules official Ian Taylor.

The annual curry night is taking place at the usual venue, Mr Singh's in Glasgow. We have 36 members attending. There will probably not be a report of this in next month's edition of the magazine, for obvious reasons.

Lyle Davidson, deputy head greenkeeper at The Carrick, has been announced as this year's recipient of the Patrons' Award. Congratulations Lyle, enjoy BTME 2018.

## Northern Ireland



**Andy Barr**  
@3andybarr  
Andybarr\_3@hotmail.  
co.uk



**Phillip Snellin**  
@PhillipSnellin  
philsnellin77@hotmail.  
mail.com

Myself and Andy want to wish you all a very Happy New Year. With this being one of the biggest months in BIGGA's calendar, with BTME taking place. I'm going for the first time and I can't wait. I'm not sure what really to expect, but I've met so many great people over the years in greenkeeping that I'm sure they will keep me right. I'd love to hear any stories you might have or if anyone wants to do a feature, please let me know.

Thank you  
to our section  
sponsors

## What's on near you

See our events page for details of what's happening in your region



# Around the Green Northern



**Chairman**

**Chris Sheehan**

07531 760545

wdgcgreenkeeper@gmail.com



**Regional Administrator**

**Sandra Raper**

07866 366966

@BIGGANorthReg

sandra@bigga.co.uk

## North East



**Paul Walton**

@paul\_walton20

paul\_walton14@

hotmail.co.uk

## Cleveland



**Anthony McGeough**

amcgeough@

aol.com

I would like to start by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This year is going to be a bit different for me because I am actually getting into the spirit of Christmas — jumper, hat, the works — and putting aside my grumpy man's apprenticeship to make sure my little boy's first Christmas is the best and he has a great time! Boxing Day, the apprenticeship is back on!

Thank you to Karl Hansell for using such an up-to-date picture of me in the Talking Heads section of last month's GI. I can assure you I have plenty more grey hairs than the picture shows.

Thank you  
to our section  
sponsors

**What's  
on near  
you**

See our  
events page  
for details  
of what's  
happening in  
your region

The annual TSL Greenkeeper vs Groundsmen Christmas quiz saw the greenkeepers win for a fourth successive year. The scoring was tight after round one, but once we got our noses in front we managed to put the game to bed.

The scores were 140 to the greenkeepers and 126 to the groundsmen. Thank you again to quiz master Allan Morton of TSL for the evening. It was a great night and although numbers were down, there were some new faces to add to the regulars. Hopefully we can get a few more attending next year's walkover! I may regret saying that.

The section AGM was held at Teesside on 21 November. It was good to catch up with familiar faces and to be introduced to a few new faces. Again numbers were a little on the low side, but there was some positive discussions with a view to try a few different things next year to engage a larger proportion of members.

Out and about, Dave Jobey, head greenkeeper at Bishop Auckland, and his team have been busy reconstructing seven tees and two bunkers, with everything going well and on schedule.

Finally, Mark Brown of Brancepeth Castle has caught the running bug! He recently completed a 100-miles in a month challenge. Well done mate.

produced very trying conditions and the December snowfall gave many a break from the norm, allowing time to catch up with admin or carry out risk assessment renewals.

As well as carrying out necessary drainage or construction projects, the winter is also the time for many to attend training courses. Two recent days focussing on stress management were well attended and the feedback was excellent. More will be carried out on this very important matter in the coming months. Thanks to Sale and Hesketh golf clubs for hosting.

The committee are working hard to organise as many events as possible throughout this coming year. If there is something you think would be good to focus on then please get in touch. The February conference is being held on 27 February at Garstang, so keep a look out for the line-up, announced soon.

We welcome Daniel Ashelby to the committee, thanks for coming on board, your help is much appreciated.

Congratulations to Bolton Old Links greenkeeper Stewart Angus and his partner Michelle on the birth of Archie.

Hopefully you can all make it to Harrogate and attend the show as well as taking advantage of the array of education seminars available, many free of charge. All the best for 2018.

## Northern



**Rob Gee**

@Rob\_Grn

robgee.03@

blueyonder.co.uk

Happy New Year to everyone, I hope you've all had a fantastic Christmas and Santa brought you all the goodies you asked for!

January's Harrogate time so no doubt I'll hopefully see you all there!

No real news happening in the section. Anyone with any news or gossip please get in touch!

## North West



**Steve Hemsley**

@BIGGANorthWest

steven.hemsley1@

ntlworld.com

On behalf of the committee I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and here's hoping 2018 brings you great success (as well as a few dry days!) The festivities must come to an end and we look forward to Harrogate, as well as preparing for another busy year out on the course. The last couple of months have



Cleveland: TSL Greenkeeper vs Groundsman annual quiz



We've been busy at West Bradford, draining the 15th green. Hopefully what is one of the wettest greens will now become one of the driest!

I would just like to thank our sponsors for all the support they gave in 2017 and look forward to seeing them all again in 2018!

## Sheffield



**Adrian Keys**  
ajkeys79@hotmail.com  
@SheffieldBigga

The start of December saw the Sheffield Section Christmas competition and AGM at Worksop. Many thanks go to Mike Brear and Rigby Taylor for sponsoring the event. In a change from the norm a team format was used, rather than individual. This led to a very competitive day with the top three teams only split on countback. But course specialist Matt Holden, who won there last year, led his team of himself, Joel France and Steve Fletcher to victory. 1st, Matt Holden, Joel France, Steve Fletcher, 84pts (44 BB9); 2nd, Andy Union, Mark Hopkins, Peter Fell, 84pts (41 BB9); 3rd, Rob Acheson, Adrian Keys, Mark Robinson, (49 BB9); Nearest the pin on 11, Andy Unwin;



Nearest the pin on 18 Mark Hopkins. Many thanks go to Worksop for once again giving us courtesy of the course, the catering staff for a fantastic Christmas meal and to Rob Acheson and his team for getting the course in exceptional condition. During the subsequent AGM the current committee were re-elected, gratitude going to the current committee as they give up their time to help run the section for our benefit.

Over the past couple of months quite a few of the section's greenkeepers have had the pleasure of being able to attend seminars held by Rigby Taylor to discuss fungicides and other chemicals with Peter Corbett. These have been very informative, with Peter passing on his knowledge of how to get the best out of the current crop of fungicides while also giving us an idea of other chemicals which are being developed.

## North Wales



Can you become the face of BIGGA North Wales? Email [sandra@bigga.co.uk](mailto:sandra@bigga.co.uk) @BIGGANorthWales

It was only thanks to a huge effort from the team at North Wales — Stuart Macdonald, Bobby Newell, Dan Hughes and Cameron Richards — that the Christmas golf competition and AGM could take place.

Having had 10mm rain on the Tuesday evening and another 22mm in the morning it was looking unlikely, but the chaps worked their magic and got nine holes open for the competition. Thanks go to 360 degrees for sponsoring the day, North Wales for their hospitality and to all who attended.

Results:  
Winners, Caldý, Carl Crocher, Phil Collinson, Paul Lowe and Ben Hall; Runners-up, Harlech, Rhys Butler, Owain Aeron, Emyr Price and Ilan Hughes;

Nearest the Pins sponsored by Thorntrees Amenity, 17th hole, Emyr Price; 16th hole, Ritchie Stevens.

# New Members

## Scotland & Northern Ireland

Graeme Black	Affiliate – Thorntrees Amenity
Jonathan McMaster	CM – Ravenspark
David Sibbald	GK – Rouken Glen
Reece Mourning	GK – Hamilton
Cameron Campbell	Student – SRUC (Elmwood)
Gregg Hood	Student – SRUC (Elmwood)
Tiarnach Magee	AGK – Royal County Down

## Northern

Nathan Berry	DCM – Marriott Worsley Park
Andrew Bland	GK – Waterton Park
Jamie York	GK – Warkworth
Oliver Ashton	GK – Royal Lytham & St Annes
Michael Angell	HGM – Phoenix S&SC
Callum Atkinson	AGK – Shrigley Hall
Sam Thompson	AGK – Dunstanburgh Castle
Tom Silcock	AGK – Macclesfield

## Central England

Adam Floyd	DH GK – Frilford Heath
Chris Barlow	GK – Robin Hood
Ian Palfrey	GK – RAF Marham
Sam Fisher	GK – Bradfield College
Craig Moss	AGK – The Henley
Milos Bilic	AGK – Oxford GC

## South East

Adrian Simm	Affiliate – Specialist Lawn Solutions
Daniel Clarke	CM – The Wentworth Club
Sean Wilson	CM – The Oxfordshire
Stewart Rogers	HGK – Crondon Park
Simon Parke	Mechanic – Gerrards Cross
Alex Balycky	AGK – Beaverbrook
Callum Whybrow	AGK – Beaverbrook
Chris Lyons	AGK – Beaverbrook
Chris Shepherd	AGK – Chipstead
Daniel Hammond	AGK – Canterbury



# Around the Green

## South West & S. Wales



**Chairman**

**Steve Lloyd**

07578 276082 | [@GreensMalvern](#)  
coursemanager@theworcestershire  
golfclub.co.uk

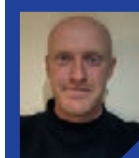


**Regional Administrator**

**Tracey Walker**

07841 948110 | [@biggaswsw](#)  
tracey.walker@bigga.co.uk

### South West



**Dave Taylor**

[@DaveTaylor101](#)  
dt\_taylor101@  
hotmail.co.uk

### South Coast



**Mike Cartwright**

[@mikehgc](#)  
mikecartwright1  
@hotmail.co.uk

Well it appeared that the festive attire was dug out of the wardrobe for the last of the section's events, the Turkey Trot, which was held at South Winchester. I know it gets said a lot, that courses are in great condition, which by and large they are, but South Winchester was in remarkable condition. Quick greens and nice tight lies on fairways, all in the

**What's  
on near  
you**

See our  
events page  
for details  
of what's  
happening in  
your region

depths of December. I doth my cap to Kevin and the team, and I'm sure all who played would do the same. Unfortunately the team of which I was part didn't claim any prizes on the day, but I was treated to a golfing masterclass by Andy Brown from Boundary Lakes. So the winners on the day are as follows (drum roll, please): First place went to Southampton FC (who must have dragged my old mate Mark Millar around!); second place was claimed by Crown Golf, the team of South Winch CM Kevin Tigg; third spot was won by Debbie's Boys, she must be very proud!; Longest drive (that must have been knocking on 300yds) was won by Andy Rideout, and nearest the pin was impressively won by Luke Elgie. All-in-all it was a great day, with a very pleasing turnout of around 70 players.

The next meetup is the first of the new breakfast clubs. This will be held at Hockley on 8 February. Numbers are limited for these clubs and Glen Kirby has emailed the application form, so please make sure you have registered before attending.

### South Wales



**Andrew Hatcher**

[@BIGGASouthWales](#)  
andrewhatcher1@  
msn.com

Happy New Year to everyone in the section, hope you had a good break. What a start to the last month with the snow effecting most of the country.

Lots planned for this year as usual, just hope the weather is kinder to us. We are trying a new format with shared golf days and seminars with the South West section.

The first golf event confirmed will be hosted at Royal Porthcawl on Tuesday 13 February. This will be our first shared event with the South West, tee times from 10.40am-12.30pm. Cost of the day £20 coffee and bacon roll on arrival with a two-course evening meal. Payment for events by cheques or by BACS, more details by email.



South Coast: Graham Hastie & Levi Pethick, Stoneham Golf Club



South Coast: Paul Martin and Steve Jones, Stoneham Golf Club

# New Members

## South East

Darren Buckingham	AGK - Old Fold Manor
David Hyde	AGK - Beaverbrook
James Lumley	AGK - The Wisley
Jason Dobbe	AGK - Beaverbrook
Ruairi Flynn	AGK - Canterbury
Ryan Hodges	AGK - Harpenden Common
Tom Gomer	AGK - Royal Cromer

## South West and South Wales

Samuel Richards	AGK - Sherborne
Daniel Harris	GK - Chipping Sodbury
Jack Wills	GK - Ferndown
Christopher Powell	HGK - St Clements
Richard Rhodes	HGK - Falmouth
Craig Richardson	HGM - Millfield School
Adam Jackson	AGK - Ferndown
Edward Jenkins	AGK - Portmore
Neil Chilver	AGK - Portmore
Stephen Duckett	AGK - Paultons

## International

Agust Jensson	St Leon-Rot
David Cox	St Leon-Rot
Henrik Noren	Svenska Golfbundet
Joshua Raper	Hosel Ev
Karston List	St Leon-Rot
Miguel Guerra	Real Federacion Española de Golf
Mikael Ingeroth	Bolínas



Snow scenes from David Roberts, Morlais Castle



A great networking and learning event will be held at Thornbury on Wednesday 14 March. Leading on from last year's success, this will also be a shared event with the South West. The cost will be £25 per person which will include refreshments and lunch, more details to come.

BIGGA South Wales would like to thank our patrons and wish them the best for 2018.

## Devon & Cornwall



**Neil Rogers**  
 @buckaroo14  
 nrogers@advancegrass.com

On 14 December we held our Christmas meeting at Trevose. It was well supported, as always, with 75 people making the trip down to the Cornwall coast. At 8.30am the weather looked horrendous and there was a lot of people questioning their sanity by even contemplating a round of golf. By 9am the worst of the rain had cleared and we made our way onto the golf course. It was tough going with very windy conditions and a couple of hail storms thrown in for good measure. So all credit to Justin Austin, Dave Daw and Pat Hobbs from Boringdon who scored a very credible 40 points. Christy Worthington, Ollie Tanton and Neil Diamond came second with 38 points on countback in front of Simon Clark, Greg O'Reilly and John Scott. The non-golfers were led on a course walk by Course Manager Neil Ivamy who showed the extensive remodelling work that is being undertaken. We then retired to the bar for an excellent Christmas dinner followed by an entertaining hour with comedian Bob Webb. Once Bob had finished his stint the Christmas raffle took place with all the proceeds going to the

BIGGA Benevolent Fund. We had the pleasure of the company of CEO Jim Croxton at the meeting as we were saying farewell to local legend Billy Mitchell. Billy has been a greenkeeper at Perranporth for 50 years and has finally decided that it is time to retire. There were some old faces who had come to wish Billy well, it was great to see them. I'm sure everyone who has come across Billy will have a story to tell! I'm sure everyone wishes Billy a long and happy retirement.

Onto BTME next in January: if you would like to go on the section minibus please contact Jacko on 07890 991658.

The next date for your diary is the section seminar at St Enodoc on 21 February. Please keep an eye on your email inbox for the invite.

The section would like to thank our patrons for their continued support.

Thank you  
to our section  
sponsors



# Around the Green South East



**Chairman**  
**Peter Smith**  
Pds1@btinternet.  
com.



**Regional  
Administrator**  
**Clive Osgood**  
07841 948410  
cliveosgood@  
yahoo.co.uk



**Regional  
Administrator**  
**Kerry Phillips**  
07715 672568  
@BiggaKerry  
kerry@bigga.co.uk

## Surrey



**Stephen Alabaster**  
@JacUKEast  
salabaster@tip.  
textron.com

We held the Christmas Turkey Trot and AGM during December. Cuddington in Banstead was the venue for the event this year as a late stand-in and my word what good condition it was in for this time of year! With the impending Storm Caroline on the day waiting for us, the thought that the last few holes would be played in glorious sunshine was very welcome indeed. Our thanks go to all the catering staff and management of Cuddington and to Simon Osbourne and his team for supplying a brilliant course. This year we went away from the usual Texas Scramble and we had a 4 Ball betterball event. This year's event was won by the team of Scott Weale, Stephen Davey, Jonny Codwell and Jimmy Butler with 92 points overall. Mark Thompson won nearest the pin and Luke Kendall the Longest Drive.

We have a few events lined up for 2018 and I will announce which months and where they are going to be next month.



Surrey: Cuddington Park Golf Course

## Kent



**Darren Burton**  
@BIGGAKent  
dbawo105@gmail.  
com

Hi guys! Firstly can I just say that I hope you all had a simply lovely festive period and a blinding New Year. 2018 is upon us and as you may have already heard I have taken over the reins from Ben Adams as chairman. I'd like to thank everyone's support from the AGM & Turkey Trot meeting at the beautiful Redlibbets. Kevin Morris and your team, I salute you for a great day, superb course and excellent hospitality. The stars of the day (Handicap Committee will review) and winners of the Turkey Texas Scramble were Ryan 'the bandit' Hyder, 'Precipitation' Pete Leaves, Nick 'the machine' Machin and Russell 'Mr Approach' Bain. Congratulations to you.

We will be sending out information to every golf club regarding events, seminars and golf days in the very near future. In the meantime we ask for everybody in Kent to make sure you are connected to our FB page, BIGGA Kent Section, and Twitter, @BIGGAKent, to keep fully up-to-date with everything that is going on and to share your news, pictures and stories with the crowd.

Here's to a great year ahead.

## East Anglia



**Mick Lathrope**  
@BIGGAEastAnglia  
li.lathrope@  
ntlworld.com

The East Anglia Section had a great day at Royal Norwich with a tour and talk from Peter Todd. We also got to meet the architect and some of the guys that are working there.

Yet another first-class Turkey Trot at



Thorpeness. The course, as usual, was top notch, thanks to Ian and his team. We could not have had a better day, considering the snow showers all around. The main sponsors of the day were CMW and the prize winners were: 1st, Rushmere Hackers, 46; 2nd, The Gogs, 47.5; 3rd, Earnest Doe, 49.25; 4th, Saffron A Team, 49.5; 5th, Eaton Mess, 49.75; 6th, Purdis Whipper Snappers, 58, Gross overall winners. Nearest the pin: 2nd sponsored by Aitkens, Tim Halco; 7th sponsored by Prime Irrigation, Ian Palfrey; 10th sponsored by Reesink Turfcare, Trevor Hurn; 16th sponsored by Tomlinson Groundcare, James Brown. Nearest white line, sponsored by ILW (Ian) Turn Consultancy: G Bitters Vadla. Nearest the pin in 2, sponsored by Tacit: Michael Buck. Longest drive 1st, 15-28 HC, sponsored by Universal Exports: Jonny Kitcher. Longest drive 18th, 0-14 HC, sponsored by Bryan Bridal Services: Kai Cattermole. The halfway house was sponsored by Bartram/Jacobsen. Other trade sponsors were, Toro, Ben Burgess, Rigby Taylor, Ernest Doe, Baileys. If I have left anyone out, please contact Andy Baker who will put it in the next issue (sorry).

The new Section committee is: Chairman Steve Curtis; Secretary Andy Baker; South East Representative Antony Kirwan; Scribe Mike Virley; Treasurer Tony Thacker; Education Rob Phillips. Colin Rushbrook is still the President.

Our thanks to the very long serving members of the previous committee who have put in many, many hours of hard work and dedication to make this section the biggest and the best for the past 20-plus years.

I must also mention our vice president, Roger Plummer, who has always been there for us, should the need arise. He is also standing down to enjoy a well-earned rest. So, we have quite a few new brooms and we wish them all the very best.

After my long stint of 34 years, I am going to finish with the sad news of the death of our dear friend Brian Lemmon,

## What's on near you

See our  
events page  
for details  
of what's  
happening in  
your region



East Anglia: Course walk at Royal Norwich

AKA Jiff, who passed away on Tuesday 19 December. We shall remember him with a smile for many years to come, a real legend. God bless you mate. It was decided that the proceeds of the raffle would be given to Brian's family. The raffle total amounted to £1,000 which included a generous donation of £289 from Wayne, of CMW, for the auction of a mower. Well done everyone.

Well folks, that's all from me. I'll see you on a golf course somewhere.

## Essex



**Ian Wood**  
 @essexbigga  
 ian.wood@romfordgolfclub.co.uk

The South East Regional Conference was held at Writtle College on 16 November. Over 100 members attended from across the region with 35 from the Essex section to hear some informative and impassioned presentations from the eclectic range of speakers. Following a welcome introduction from Regional Chairman Peter Smith, Mark Hunt supplied us with all the tools needed to find weather-related information and explained how this may be used to enhance discussions on course conditions. BIGGA Chief Executive Jim Croxton gave a presentation on the benefits of belonging to the organisation. This includes the advice that can be provided when facing difficult situations at work, which segued well with John Ross's talk about managing stress in the work place. Sun safety was the focus of Steve Boothroyd on behalf of Skcin, a skin cancer awareness charity. David Jones, research biologist from Imperial College, gave an insight into the lives of worms and some possible methods of control as we move into life post carbendazim. Turf talk was tackled from two contrasting angles. Ian Wakeman disclosing the huge changes and improvements he was able to oversee when he took over as course manager at Rosslare. The final presentation came from John Ledwidge, grounds manager at Leicester City FC.

## Section News

**We want to hear what's been going on in your section**

Email your news to Karl@bigga.co.uk

Our thanks go to Writtle College for hosting. Regional Administrator Kerry Phillips and all who were involved in organising an interesting day.

We had a great turn out for our Christmas Texas Scramble and section AGM at Top Meadow on 7 December. The weather was wild with a gusty wind and driving rain, but the determined trophy hunters braved the conditions to play some excellent golf. Credit must go to the team at Top Meadow for the way the course stood up to the weather, testament to the hard work put in on drainage and aeration work. We enjoyed great hospitality in the clubhouse as we thawed out. The results were:

Nearest the pin on 1st, Jack Lawrence; on 5th, Darren Nunn; on 11th, Mark Boundy; on 18th, Spencer Adams-Dunstan. Longest Drive on 3rd, Tom Smart. Straightest Drive on 17th, Darren Nunn.

1st place: Chris Gibson, Steve Cousins, Rob George, Spencer Adams-Dunstan, net score 55.9.

2nd: Martin Guy, Liam Springett, Andy Cracknell, Liam Close, net score 60.

3rd: Darren Nunn, Ryan Winters, Ian Wood, Mark Severn, net score 60.

4th: Ian Nichols, Aaron Alibon, Cassidy Steffens, Trevor Dean, net score 60.4.

The Section AGM was held prior to heading out on to the course. Chairman Martin Forrester thanked everyone for their support during the year, from our essential trade sponsors, the hard-working committee, to the members for attending the varied programme of educational and golfing events.

Ian Nicholls (education) and Michael Fance (golf) reported on an extremely successful year of organisation. Presentations were made to the section Golfer of the Year, Tom Smith of Earls Colne GC, and Trade Golfer of the Year Steve Bush, of Ernest Does.



London: Irrigation workshop

Congratulations to Antony Kirwin on returning to the Essex Section and securing the new course manager's role at Romford. We wish you every success in this new challenge.

The Committee wish all its members a Happy New Year and hope to see as many as possible at events throughout 2018.

## London



**Kevin O'Neill**  
 @kevodale76  
 londonsection@bigga.co.uk

As these notes are written up before our planned Turkey Trot golf event, I normally wouldn't have any results or stories from the course to bring you, but some heavy snow has meant the cancellation of the event. We will try to rearrange for sometime in the New Year.

Huge thanks to all the sponsors for their support of the section and members for supporting the events.

The section hosted a very informative irrigation workshop at Stanmore on 6 December. Course Manager Barry Neville talked us through the decision-making process the club went through in committing to the installation of a new system while there were live demonstrations from Rainbird irrigation about some of the technology being used at Stanmore.

## Sussex



**Chris Humphrey**  
 @CTCChrisH  
 chris@collier-turf-care.co.uk



# Around the Green Central England



**Chairman**

**Andrew Laing**

07870 188619 | [@andrewmlaing](https://twitter.com/andrewmlaing)  
andrew.laing@gaudet-luce.co.uk



**Regional Administrator**

**Roger Butler**

07525 593359 | [@BIGGAcentraleng](https://twitter.com/BIGGAcentraleng)  
roger@bigga.co.uk



The winners of the BB&O Turkey Trot



## East of England



**Ian Collett**

[i.collett@rigbytaylor.com](mailto:i.collett@rigbytaylor.com)

## East Midlands



**Paul Fowkes**

[@pazza20001](https://twitter.com/pazza20001)

[pazza20001@gmail.com](mailto:pazza20001@gmail.com)

## BB&O



**Craig Earnshaw**

[@craigdearnshaw](https://twitter.com/craigdearnshaw)

[craig@harleyfordgolf.co.uk](mailto:craig@harleyfordgolf.co.uk)

A Happy New Year to all the section. I hope your resolutions are still intact, mine surely will have slipped by now.

After the disappointment of cancelling the education meeting, we had a very well supported and successful Turkey Trot. It was great to see so many faces from all over our section support this great event. The course was in tip top condition, the food and service fantastic and the weather played its part too, albeit a bit cold to start. Let's kick off with some results. In third place with a nett score of 58pts, James Osler, Jordan Maslon, Dale Wright and Aaron Moore. In second place with a nett 56.4 was Matt Smith, Paul Harden, Jon Scoons, and Gareth Acteson, and in first with an amazing 54.9 was Paul Gethin, Paul Simpson, Kirk Hall, and Chris Nunn. A special thanks to the sponsor of the day, TH White. Nearest the pins: on the 4th, George Bell; 8th, Shaun Kench; 12th, M Hancock; 14th, Paul Harden; 17th, Paul Hedger; 2nd, Richard Davis smashed a drive onto the green and sank the putt. Longest drive was Shaun Kench.

The order of merit this year was won by Paul Hedger with a great few rounds at both Camberley Heath and Winter Hill. Thanks to Banks Amenity for sponsoring this.

A quick note to all section members, please if you're not receiving emails from our section secretary this may be because we have the wrong email address or no email address for you. Please contact BIGGA to update your details and then we can update you on upcoming events.

## Mid Anglia



**Darren Mugford**

[d.mugford@rigbytaylor.com](mailto:d.mugford@rigbytaylor.com)

As I write this a week before our Turkey Trot, the event is in the balance due to the pretty heavy snow we experienced around 10 December. I am sure the event will be on but Mother Nature has already put pay to other sections' Christmas golf days. As ever, the committee are planning events for 2018 and will aim to supply information on fixtures as soon as possible.

Thanks to sponsors Rigby Taylor, Headland Amenity, Banks Amenity, ALS, Avoncrop Amenity, Banks Amenity as your support of the Mid Anglia Section is, as ever, really appreciated.

## Midland



**Glen Howard**

[howie8447@sky.com](mailto:howie8447@sky.com)

Hi all, I hope you're all coping with the winter and the snow didn't affect you too much. We held our Xmas golf day at Longcliffe and it was a great success, with nearly 50 people playing.

The weather held out, which was a great bonus. It was great to see so many people there and good to see some new faces.

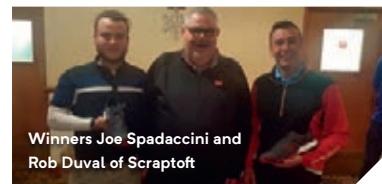
The winners of the day were Rob Duval and Joe Spadicini from Scraftoft who had a cracking round, Rob also picked up the longest drive prize with Glen Miller winning the nearest the pin. Massive thank you to all the staff at Longcliffe and to all the sponsors, without whom we couldn't go ahead.

The committee is finding venues for next year's golf days, hopefully we will have them sorted soon and then can look forward to them.

I hopefully will see many of you at BTME and from me and the rest of the East Midlands committee, we would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

## What's on near you

See our events page for details of what's happening in your region



Winners Joe Spadicini and Rob Duval of Scraftoft

# Upcoming Events

Contact your section secretary to book a place

## ■ Scotland & Northern Ireland

**BIGGA Scotland Golf Industry Conference:** 27 February, Perth Concert Hall

**Northern Ireland:** 8 March, CAFRE – Greenmount Campus, education day

**Central:** 25 April, Leven Links, spring outing

**North:** 3 May, Nairn Dunbar, section outing

**South West:** 10 May, Troon Portland, spring outing

## ■ Northern

**North West:** 27 February, Garstang, BIGGA North West Conference

**Sheffield:** 11 April, Abbeydale, Rainbird Irrigation Day

**North West:** 19 April, Prestbury, spring tournament

## ■ Central England

**East of England:** 28 February, Woodhall Spa, seminar and education day

## ■ South East

**London:** 13 February, Oaklands College – St Albans Campus, education day

**South Coast:** 28 February, TBC, section seminar

## ■ South West & South Wales

**South Wales:** 13 February, Royal Porthcawl, section golf day

**South Coast:** 28 February, TBC, education day

**South Wales:** 14 March, Thornbury, education day

**Devon & Cornwall:** 21 February, St Enodoc, section seminar

**SW&SW:** 14 November, Somerset County Cricket Ground, regional conference

Thank you  
to our section  
sponsors

Upcoming Regional Events

For more information about events log in to the members area of the BIGGA website







To advertise in the Buyer's Guide please contact:



**Lauren Frazer**  
Business  
Development  
Executive

01347 833832  
lauren@  
bigga.co.uk

Aeration

**Agronomy**

All Weather Surfaces

**Anti Slip**

Bunker Construction

**Clothing**

Footwear

**Compact Tractors**

Construction Drainage

**Hedges & Trees**

Irrigation Consultants

**Lake Construction & Liners**

Machinery Wanted

**Rubber Crumb**

Soil Food Web

**Top Dressing**

Tree Moving

**Tree Clearance**

Turf

**Used Machinery**

Vertidrainage Waste

**Wastewater Treatment**

# Buyer's Guide

## Compass seaweed products from Indigrow



**Indigrow has worked to develop a range of seaweed products. To help evaluate their performance, they enlisted the help of Levity Crop Science.**

### Independent Lab Trials

Levity has a specialist team of scientists that has the know-how to test crop nutrition, biostimulants and stress tolerance products. The company run experiments on nutrient and biostimulants week in week out, and has developed world class experimental techniques unique to Levity.

### The Aim

To analyse the effects of the growth enhancer 'Compass Bio-Active OneShot' on the turf grass *Lolium*, at a range of application rates above and below the recommended rate of 4 sachets per hectare (0.8kg/Ha w/v in 300L water). The major focus of this work is on the early growth and morphology of roots.

### Analytical Methods

Root growth bioassay uses controlled conditions combined with high definition image analysis and sophisticated analytical software, to evaluate how exposure to products affects root growth and architecture. They used at least five replicates per treatment to guarantee whether differences seen are statistically significant or not.



### Results

Compass Bio-Active OneShot significantly increases root length, total network length and perimeter within the first two weeks of growth. It also significantly increases the growth of tillers at the recommended application rate. The conclusions drawn by Levity Crop Science indicated that, when applied at the recommended application rate, Compass Bio-Active OneShot will increase the ability of turf grass roots to scavenge deeper soil for water and nutrients from an early stage in their growth development.

### Benefits of Compass Seaweed Products

Compass seaweed products utilise the latest cold cell burst technology and are available in granular, liquid or soluble formulations. As shown in the trials undertaken, they also help to stimulate root growth and are manufactured from a renewable and sustainable source.



## Machinery Wanted

**Invicta Groundcare**  
Equipment Ltd

**We buy used golf course machinery**

Contact: Steve Dyne  
Tel: 01474 874 120  
Email: [invictagroundcare@live.com](mailto:invictagroundcare@live.com)

## Construction



- Golf Course Construction Services
- Green and Tee Reconstruction
- Lakes and Reservoirs • Cart Paths
- Bunker Remodelling • Drainage

T: 01829 771 939  
E: [info@mdowneseearthworks.co.uk](mailto:info@mdowneseearthworks.co.uk)  
[www.mdearthworks.co.uk](http://www.mdearthworks.co.uk)  
f /MDEarthworks t @MDEarthworks



## Irrigation

**irritech limited**  
Independent Irrigation Consultants

- Specialising in:
- Existing system evaluation
- System design & upgrade
- Project management

Contact Roger Davy on:  
**01823 690216**  
[www.irritechlimited.co.uk](http://www.irritechlimited.co.uk)

**Lwsirrigation**  
YOUR ONE STOP SHOP

For all your golf, sportsturf and landscape irrigation needs.



Buy online at [www.lws.uk.com](http://www.lws.uk.com)

Tel 0345 230 9697 **RAIN BIRD**

## Top Dressings



Contact Sharon Morris on  
**07932342044** or email  
[Sharon.morris@mansfield-sand.co.uk](mailto:Sharon.morris@mansfield-sand.co.uk)  
[www.mansfield-sand.co.uk](http://www.mansfield-sand.co.uk)

## Drainage

THE UK'S LEADING GOLF COURSE DRAINAGE  
& CONSTRUCTION SPECIALIST



**Survey / Design / Installation**  
**Greens / Fairways / Bunkers**  
For fast & friendly service, contact Melvyn Taylor:  
01283 551417 / 07836 259133 / [melvyn@turfdry.com](mailto:melvyn@turfdry.com)



## All Weather Surfaces



**VERDE 'VLINE' BUNKER LINING**  
A tuff white artificial grass  
Designed to hold the bunker sand in place.



Prevents Vermin Damage  
Reduces Contamination  
Allows Free Drainage  
ANOTHER QUALITY PRODUCT ADDED TO  
THE VERDE RANGE  
[www.artificialgrass.org.uk](http://www.artificialgrass.org.uk) • [sales@verdesports.com](mailto:sales@verdesports.com)

## Workwear



HAIX Professional Safety Boots  
featuring GORE-TEX® Footwear  
Technology.



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

## Turf



**25 years of golf turf experience**  
High quality golf grades to suit the  
particular needs of a golf course  
including high bent greens turf, shade  
and drought tolerant turf, Low Input Fine  
turf and Wildflower turf  
Tel: **01904 448675**  
[www.turf.co.uk](http://www.turf.co.uk)

## Waste/Washwater



**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)

To advertise contact  
**Lauren Frazer**  
on **01347 833832** or  
email  
[lauren@bigga.co.uk](mailto:lauren@bigga.co.uk)

To advertise contact  
**Lauren Frazer**  
on **01347 833832** or  
email  
[lauren@bigga.co.uk](mailto:lauren@bigga.co.uk)

**Are you looking  
for more  
information?**



Download a copy of the  
Earthworms leaflet and poster  
from the BIGGA website or scan  
the QR code to find out more



**Earthworms**  
Turf's casting directors







Learning &  
Development Team  
01347 833800  
(option 3)



**Sami Strutt**  
Head of  
Member  
Development  
sami@bigga.  
co.uk



**Stuart Green**  
Head of  
Member  
Learning  
stuart@bigga.  
co.uk



**Deb Burnett**  
L&D  
Administrator  
deb@bigga.  
co.uk

Learning & Development



The Greenkeepers  
Training Committee Ltd.



**Fiona Lyttle**  
Manager  
01347 838640  
fiona@  
the-gtc.co.uk



**Emma Willis**  
Administrator  
01347 838640  
emma@  
the-gtc.co.uk

www.the-gtc.co.uk

/greenkeeperstraining  
committee

@TheOfficialGTC

## Learning & Development

# FTMI 2018

## Revealing the participants of the Future Turf Managers Initiative 2018

**T**he Future Turf Managers Initiative 2018, made possible by Jacobsen, a Textron Golf brand, will take place at the company's HQ in Ipswich from 6-8 March, and these BIGGA members have been successful in earning a place on the education experience.

Aimed at up-and-coming greenkeepers who want to make the leap to course manager, FTMI focuses on personal and professional development. The FTMI programme utilises the expertise of leading course managers, dynamic trainers and industry experts to mentor and educate the next generation of industry leaders.

Sami Strutt, head of member development at BIGGA, said: "We saw an increase of almost 40% in the number of applications received for FTMI 2018. Every year the selection process gets more difficult due to the quality of applicants.

"The 20 successful candidates can expect to be challenged and pushed out of their comfort zone by the trainers, mentors and

the Textron Golf and BIGGA teams. But they will definitely learn a lot and make some lifelong friends along the way."

The 2018 programme will be the sixth year that Jacobsen has hosted 20 selected BIGGA members for FTMI. The community of delegates is steadily growing, with many graduates earning course management roles since taking part.

Jacobsen, in partnership with Le Golf National in Paris, has announced that one FTMI graduate from each year the programme has been held will be invited to join the Course Manager Antonio Reyes as part of the tournament preparation team for the Ryder Cup. You can read more in GI Newsdesk.



# The FTMI Class of 2018



**Michael Budd,**  
Westerham Golf Club

**Darren Burton,**  
Royal Cinque Ports

**Seb Cavilla,**  
Chippenham Golf Club

**Shaun Cunningham,**  
Mortonhall Golf Club

**Lyle Davidson,**  
The Carrick

**Matthew Gallagher,**  
Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club

**Callum Goodhind,**  
Prestbury Golf Club

**Graham Hastie,**  
Stoneham Golf Club

**Nathan Jones,**  
Royal Porthcawl Golf Club

**Mitchell Jordan,**  
Lingdale Golf Club

**Andrew McIntee,**  
Royal Troon Golf Club

**Scott McTaggart,**  
Ralston Golf Club

**Jon Methven,**  
St Andrews Links Trust

**Chris Mullett,**  
The Belfry

**Scott Parnell,**  
Saffron Walden Golf Club

**Dean Reed,**  
Queenwood Golf Club

**John Reid,**  
The Duke's, St Andrews

**Nick Roberts,**  
Hendon Golf Club

**Timothy Lewis Sethi,**  
Golfpark Zurichsee

**Steve Thorne,**  
Rushmore Golf Club



**Congratulations to the following members who achieved CPD Approved status this month:**

Tom Coulson, Hunley Hotel; Glenn Kirby, Hockley; Michael Budd, Westerham; Paul Armour, Dunbar; Eric Foerster MG CGCS, The Ironbridge; Paul Brown, Ham Manor; Sam Bethell, Chipstead; Tom Pattison, Blyth; Jeremy Hughes, Symbio; Sam Evans, Fulwell; Jon Methven, St Andrews Links Trust; Tim Sethi, Golfpark Zurichsee; Craig Boath, Carnoustie.

Congratulations to the following members who achieved their CPD Milestone this month: Richard Jenkinson, Golf House Club (Elie); Ashley Allpress, Roehampton; Sam Evans, Fulwell; Craig Boath, Carnoustie.



## INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

Steven Tierney MG, Chris Lomas MG, Andrew Campbell MG CGCS, Richard McGlynn, Jaey Goodchild, Frank Newberry, Greg Evans MG, Jon Kiger





# Apprentice Corner

Anthony Stockwell | Hadlow College

Are you a college tutor, industry expert or greenkeeper who would like to contribute to Apprentice Corner? Get in touch by emailing [karl@bigga.co.uk](mailto:karl@bigga.co.uk)

## Do apprentices focus on the correct skills to develop their careers?

Research has identified the precise skills an apprentice should be focusing on in order to have a successful career. It also identified that too many apprentices are focusing their energy and efforts on skills that will not enable rapid progression as much as other skills.

### What is a skill?

Put simply, a skill is the ability to do something well; in other words to carry out an action to complete a particular task. Examples of skills could be the ability to mow perimeters accurately, the ability to mow safely around bunkers, the ability to organise time efficiently or the ability to communicate concisely with a golfer.

Skills are different to behaviours and knowledge. However, many skills have an impact on behaviour and knowledge. For example, the ability to be patient is a skill whereas a patient person describes their behaviour. Skills can also be categorised as being a hard skill or a soft skill. Different skills can overlap the definitions but a hard skill can be defined as industry technical skills; whereas a soft skill can be defined as a general transferable skill that is applicable to a wide range of industries.

### Examples of Hard Skills

Tractor driving  
Spray tank mixing  
Safe use of a chainsaw  
Mowing accurate perimeters  
Completing risk assessments  
Setting the height of cut

### Examples of Soft Skills

Initiative  
Adaptability  
Decision-making  
Motivation to complete tasks  
Listening  
Team working  
Problem solving

### Research Conclusions

The more skills an apprentice has the more value they have to their employer. They are more likely to be successful in their career and progress at a quicker rate.

Most apprentices value hard skills more than soft skills. However, while most golf course managers value soft skills more than hard skills they still believe hard skills are imperative for apprentices to progress.

Therefore, the take-home message for apprentices is to try to upskill with your softer skills just as much, if not more than your hard skills.

Initiative and self-motivation are the most important skills to be successful in the greenkeeping industry. According to the research, these skills are more important than any other such as creativity, ecology and bunker maintenance.

Hard skills can be easier to learn than soft skills but there are many different ways that skills can be

developed. Greater awareness of your softer skills will enable you to improve.

The hard skills that are required in the workplace evolve over time and will continue to do so in the future. For example, the skill of effectively using technology or computers was once not required in greenkeeping. However, this is now a key skill and is likely to grow in importance in the future.

On the other hand, soft skills required in the workplace do not change as much over time. For example, to be a successful greenkeeper 50 years ago, the skills of initiative and self-motivation are likely to be just as important then as they will be in 50 years' time.

### Reflective questions for apprentices

**What** are your five best skills?

**How many** of your best five skills are hard or soft skills?

**Can you** make a list of three skills you need to improve?

**Consider** a strategy, aim or SMART target that will enable you to improve on these three skills.

**Specific** — target a specific area for improvement.

**Measurable** — quantify or at least suggest an indicator of progress.

**Assignable** — specify who will do it.

**Realistic** — state what results can realistically be achieved, given available resources.

**Time-related** — specify when the results can be achieved.



# WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

"The Jacobsen Eclipse2 is one of the simplest machines to use. You can regulate the frequency of clip with the push of a button which means that all of our greens have a superb, consistent after-cut appearance."

"The 15-blade cutting unit is the best I have seen. It is so precise; the finish is out of this world. When it matters, the Eclipse2 always delivers. It is the only machine I would want on our greens for the Ryder Cup."

**Alejandro Reyes**

Golf and Courses and Estate Manager,  
Le Golf National



OFFICIAL SUPPLIER  
2018 RYDER CUP

Visit [www.jacobsen.com](http://www.jacobsen.com) to find your local dealer.

[www.jacobsen.com](http://www.jacobsen.com)



**JACOBSEN**



# U.S.A U.S.A FAST TRACK TO THE FUTURE !



Train on a top 100 golf course in the USA! Be part of the crew for a US PGA Tour event! Improve your long term career prospects! Gain valuable experience & knowledge from the best superintendents in America! Guaranteed to get you ahead of the competition

## Requirements:

- Clean driving / drug record, must be enthusiastic and motivated
- Must have at least NVQ 2 or one year of full time turfgrass education
- Help with visas, travel plans and insurance placement and accommodation arranged, average wage \$2,200.00 per month
- Optional online turf classes available
- Programs from 6 to 18 months

## For more details contact:

Mike O'keeffe at the Ohio Programme  
telephone: 001-614-688-5653  
E-mail C.V to: okeeffe.1@osu.edu  
www.ohioprogam.org/applynow/ia.php

**SEE US AT BTME 2018 ON STAND B23a**

ARE YOU LOOKING TO

# RECRUIT

A NEW TEAM MEMBER?

**Advertise your position here and online for one month at [www.bigga.co.uk/careers](http://www.bigga.co.uk/careers) from £595 +vat for a 1/8 advert.**

Contact **Karen Hughes** on 01347 833800 or [karen@bigga.co.uk](mailto:karen@bigga.co.uk) to book your space.

## Golf Courses Manager Glenagles Golf Club



Be part of 'Our Glorious Playground'... Gleneagles, an iconic 850 acre country estate set beneath the beautiful Ochil Hills in Perthshire, is currently recruiting a 'Golf Courses Manager' to join our team.

## The perfect candidate:

Similar experience of golf course management is essential, within either a 5\* Golf Resort or standalone Championship Golf Course. You must have great people skills and the ability to take a highly skilled team on a journey of training and development to ensure they are maximising on their contribution to the team and the hotel.

## We offer:

- A highly competitive salary
- Hotel based incentive and discount schemes
- Excellent training and development opportunities

If you are the perfect candidate and want to be part of this exciting business please forward your CV today! Send to: [stephen.hamilton@gleneagles.com](mailto:stephen.hamilton@gleneagles.com)

## Seasonal Greenkeepers

Trump International Golf Links, Aberdeenshire is seeking applications for seasonal Greenkeepers. We have 5 positions available from April — Oct 2018. Experience in the use of turfgrass maintenance equipment is required, although full training will be provided. We are seeking highly motivated, flexible individuals with a passion for golf course maintenance who will thrive in a dynamic and challenging environment. Applicants must have a minimum of one season's experience at a golf property and be available to start no later than April, 2018.

Closing date for applications: Jan 31, 2018

Interviews will take place in January 2018 during BTME week or at Trump International Golf Links.

## Benefits include:

- Accommodation (can be provided if required)
- Full training on all aspects of greenkeeping

- Golf privileges and other benefits
  - Frequent project/task rotation
  - Monthly one-to-one superintendent-intern agronomy meetings
  - Trump uniform
- Please send CVs and covering letter to [swilson@trumpgolfscotland.com](mailto:swilson@trumpgolfscotland.com)

# SUNNINGDALE GOLF CLUB

## NVQ Level 2 Qualified Assistant Greenkeeper, Apprentice Greenkeeper and Seasonal Assistant Greenkeeper

Working as part of a world class team in the greenkeeping industry these positions offer excellent opportunities for progression and career development. On a day to day basis you will contribute to the maintenance and development of the golf course, its practice facilities and the surrounding estate and be part of our Tournament teams.

Sunningdale is dedicated to achieving truly World Class standards:

- Investors in People Gold Standard Award
- Platinum Clubs of the World: Ranked No 13
- Golf Course Architecture Magazine World Top 100: Old Course @ No 22 and New Course @ No 53
- Golf Digest Magazine World Top 100: Old Course @ No 23 and New Course @ No 92

Please apply in writing or email with full CV and covering letter to: Clare Livingston, Administration & HR Manager, Sunningdale Golf Club  
Ridgemoor Road, Sunningdale, Berks SL5 9RR  
[jobs@sunningdalegolfclub.co.uk](mailto:jobs@sunningdalegolfclub.co.uk)

Closing date 5pm Wednesday 24th January, 2018

[www.sunningdale-golfclub.co.uk](http://www.sunningdale-golfclub.co.uk)



SUNNINGDALE

## Assistant Greenkeeper Priors Hall Golf Course

Priors Hall Golf Course is searching for a motivated Assistant Green keeper to join their dedicated team.

The Assistant Green keeper will be an essential part of the team to maintain high standards on the 18-hole public golf course and surrounding grounds playing an important role in the ongoing development of the course.

The position is based on a 37-hour week, including weekends, worked on a rota basis; flexibility will be essential, particularly over the summer months and leading up to and during competitions and large society events.

In return, you will receive a highly competitive salary with the option for additional overtime, plus the opportunity to gain valuable experience at a fantastic local course with training and career development.

Apply via: <http://recruitment.corby.gov.uk/>



## Assistant Greenkeeper (permanent & seasonal) opportunities at Royal Norwich



Construction of a new 18 hole and 6 hole academy course designed by EGD is underway as the new home of Royal Norwich. Growing in of the new courses takes place this summer.

A purpose built greenkeeping facility will provide some of the best facilities in the industry including a training room, comfortable rest room, drying facilities and workshop.

Minimum - 3 years relevant experience

Minimum - NVQ level 2 Turfgrass qualification

Flexible approach to work, particularly during the grow in period

Career minded individuals who enjoy working to a high standard, and value learning experiences should apply with a CV and covering letter to:

[peter@royalnorwichgolf.co.uk](mailto:peter@royalnorwichgolf.co.uk)

Peter Todd, Director and Estates Manager

## Seasonal Greenkeeping Positions in Sweden, 2018

### Add European experience to your CV

Our client is looking for keen sports turf professionals of all levels for its expanding portfolio of golf courses across southern Sweden. Whether you're an experienced greenkeeper or just starting out in your career, we want to hear from you!

We offer competitive rates of pay, clothing is included and accommodation is available if required. English is spoken at all locations, in most cases as the main language. Flexibility and a positive attitude are a must and you'll need to be able to work in a dynamic environment.

Formal qualifications in turf management are a benefit and applicants able to assist with the maintenance of machinery or irrigation are particularly desirable.

Contracts are for 6 months and start in April 2018.

Send your CV to  
[info@interactive-management.co.uk](mailto:info@interactive-management.co.uk)

[@IntActiveMan](https://twitter.com/IntActiveMan)  
[www.interactive-management.co.uk](http://www.interactive-management.co.uk)



## Technical Sales Representative South/South East of England



**Due to the continued growth of our business, we are looking for a high-calibre individual to join our expanding turf and landscape team in the South/South East of England, primarily Kent, East Sussex, East London, Essex and East Anglia.**

### About you

The ideal candidate will relish the opportunity to deliver first-class sales and technical support to end-users and distributors of our range of fertilizers, plant protection products and grass seeds.

You will be a highly-motivated and social character with excellent interpersonal skills, engaging confidently and professionally with people in a range of environments.

With a background in technical product sales within the turf and landscape sectors or a proven track record as a successful and dynamic turf manager, the ideal candidate will demonstrate a knowledge of turf management practices and hold an industry-recognised qualification in a relevant discipline. Full product training will be provided on an ongoing basis.

There will be a requirement for flexible working and spending time away from home on occasion to represent the company at industry events.

Is this you?

### About us

You will know our brands, but you might not realise the strength of the business behind them. ICL group employs more than 12,000 people globally. We are world-leaders in the production and distribution of professional horticulture, turf and landscape, and speciality agricultural products.

Our market-leading brands – including Sierrablend, Greenmaster, SierraformGT and Sportsmaster are used and trusted by turf professionals around the world.

Our team is passionate about optimising plant and turf performance. We are a customer-orientated organisation and take great pride in the integrity and precision of our world-class product portfolios, and our commitment to research and development has resulted in the development of unique technologies which have transformed the way turf is managed.

### If you're the person we're looking for:

We offer a substantial benefits package including:

- Competitive salary plus bonus
- Company car
- 26 days annual leave
- Contributory pension scheme
- Subsidised private medical and dental insurance
- Excellent development and career opportunities that come with being part of a global business

To apply, please send a résumé and application letter to:

**Emma Marsay, HR Manager,**  
Everris Ltd, Boulby Mine, Loftus,  
Saltburn, Cleveland, TS13 4UZ  
or email the same to  
[emma.marsay@icl-group.com](mailto:emma.marsay@icl-group.com)

Closing date: 31st January 2018





# 9hole heroes

**Celebrating BIGGA's nine-hole greenkeepers**

Tom Evans | Billingbear Park Golf Club

## 1. What is your job title?

Head Greenkeeper

## 2. How long have you worked in the industry?

16 years — I started aged 15 at The Oxfordshire GC before moving on to Harleyford GC in 2007. I worked my way up to deputy head greenkeeper here before becoming head greenkeeper at Billingbear in 2016. I was also fortunate enough to be a part of the FTMI 2013 and Open Support Team 2014.

## 3. Tell us about your course?

Billingbear Park is a family run pay and play course based just outside Wokingham. The course can be played twice from two different sets of tees which measures at 5,941 yards. We also have a par-3 course which we maintain to the same standards as the long course.

Last year we had Luke Donald play Billingbear, the course held its own to him as he only managed to go round in level par.

## 4. I like working on a nine-hole course because...

Being a part of a small team is great, it means everyone has to be able to do every task so each day can be so varied.

## 5. What is the most difficult part of your job?

Being a pay and play it's important to keep the course busy to pay the bills. We allow golfers to tee off from 6am so this means we have to be on the ball every morning, making sure we are out ahead of play and getting both courses set up. We get a lot of beginners

which is great, but it can also be difficult working in amongst them and also educating them on course etiquette.

## 6. How many staff do you have?

Four including myself. Gareth is my deputy, then assistant greenkeepers Shaun and Charlie. We get on great and I feel very fortunate to have such a great team. We also have our team mascot dog Dot, she comes in most days with me and particularly enjoys lunch times with the boys!

## 7. What is your machinery budget and what do you use?

I don't have a budget as such, being a pay and play it can really depend upon how well we are doing. Saying that, our owners are excellent at re-investing in the business.

We currently run Jacobsen Eclipse/LF570/3400 and G-Plex,

**Do you know a greens team you think deserves recognition on 9 Hole Heroes?**

**Email**  
karl@bigga.co.uk

Smithco Spraystar & Roller, John Deere 2500B/4300 & Aercore, Baroness GM2800B, Wiedenmann Terra Spike/Whisper Twister, Amazone, Gravel Bander, Graden Sand Injector, New Holland TN60D, ISEKI TK546, Toro 360 & Zero and we also have Bernhard grinders.

## 8. What is your chemicals budget and what do you use?

I mainly use Headland Amenity. Iain Richardson has been a huge help since taking on this position and I feel their products and backup are giving us great results.

## 9. What is the best tip you have received?

"Work to live, don't live to work".

My job is very important to me and I love what I do, but I think it's really important to have a good work/life balance.

Left: The team at Billingbear Park

Right: Dot the dog





# BARONESS

Quality on Demand

## Total Mowing!

Baroness mowers .....

the best cutting performance on the market!



LM3210



GM2810



LM2400



LM281



LM285



LM2700

The Baroness range of mowers sets the industry standard, combining high work rate with outstanding quality of cut.

The unique Baroness production process means our cutting cylinders, bedknives and rotary blades set standards others struggle to match.

Whatever your turf conditions or type of grass, we have a mower that will give you amazing results and at a whole life cost you won't believe!

See our 2018 product line-up at BTME 2018, 23 - 25 January!

## [www.baronessuk.com](http://www.baronessuk.com)



[sales@baronessuk.com](mailto:sales@baronessuk.com)



[@baronessuk](https://twitter.com/baronessuk)



Like Us On  
facebook



Stand C62



**K** Kyoeisha UK Ltd. a subsidiary of  
Kyoeisha Co. Ltd. of Japan **CE**





## Get more with a Toro® Hybrid Mower

Greensmaster Hybrid TriFlex 3420



**Clean. Green. Cuts like a dream.**  
**And so quiet, you could hear a pin drop.**

Toro hybrids are fitted with electric cutting units that save you fuel and virtually eliminate damaging hydraulic leaks. What's more, they're so quiet, you can almost hear a pin drop. These valuable green credentials all come with Toro's unrivalled quality of cut and outstanding productivity. It all adds up to much, much more.

[reesinkturfcare.co.uk](http://reesinkturfcare.co.uk)

**Get more from your turfcare partner this year:**

**More products > More advice > More training > More finance**



Member of Royal Reesink

Reesink Turfcare UK Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.  
Images shown for illustration only.