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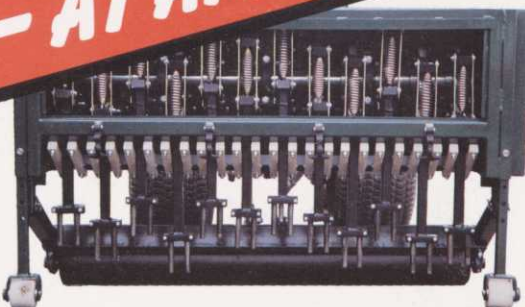
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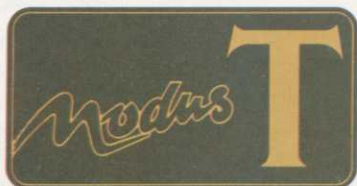
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Official publication of the
British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association
FEBRUARY 1993



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GREENKEEPER

International

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COVER PICTURE:

Master Greenkeepers, from left, Gordon Irvine, Bill Montague, Robert Maibusch and Kerran Daly



Take a closer look at what Greenkeeper

International can do to promote YOUR business

Here's what one of our advertisers has to say about the industry's most effective magazine:

"It's obvious that BIGGA is investing in Greenkeeper International – you just have to look at the quality of the magazine. As a result we will be happy to continue promoting our business in the magazine in 1993."

– DAVID BOOTHBY,
Toro Sales Manager, Lely (UK) Ltd. UK distributor for Toro Commercial Products

Find out more:

call Bill Lynch
on 091 413 7218,
Carol Dutton
on 0207 570117
or BIGGA HQ
on 03473 581

Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

Launched by Viscount Whitelaw at BTME 1992, the Fund provides the key to the future for greenkeeper, golf club and game. Individuals and companies can join the Golden Key Circle and Silver Key Circle. For details, contact BIGGA on 03473 581.

GOLDEN KEY CIRCLE COMPANY MEMBERS:
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Faces and places



■ Robert Laycock's consultancy, TurfGrass Science, has been bought by Karsten (UK) Ltd, well-known makers of Ping golf equipment. Laycock will work as general manager and chief agronomist of Karsten Turf Science, a new company committed to improving the quality of playing surfaces through the sensible use of specialist fertilisers and other products.

Tissue analysis of grass clippings will be used to ensure that only necessary nutrients are included in fertiliser recommendations.

The hi-tech approach of Karsten to the business of turf nutrition will be a great advance in the production of top class playing surfaces at an economic price', said Robert. The running of Gainsborough GC, which is owned by Karsten and which will be used as a 'test bed' for new products before their launch, also becomes the responsibility of Laycock, in conjunction with the existing green staff.

■ John Bourne and Co's Turf Care Division continues to grow with the appointment of Neville Gay as sales rep. for Kent and Sussex.

Responsible for selling a full range of turf care products, Neville will already be known to many golf greenkeepers, having some 30 years experience within the industry behind him. Of particular interest within the product range are Bournes own topdressings and rootzones, over 34,000 tonnes of which went into course construction in 1992.

■ Mark Phillips, formerly export sales director with Hayters PLC, has joined amenity weed control specialists Nomix-Chipman as export sales and marketing manager, following the company's announcement of a multi-million pound international expansion programme. In addition, Phil Wheeler, formerly with BP at its research centre, has joined the company as technical services manager. Both men will be based at Nomix-Chipman's Bristol headquarters.



■ Chris Reed, left, head greenkeeper at Paxhill Park GC and previously assistant at Crowborough Beacon GC, has been awarded the coveted Greenkeeper of the Year award as best student on the Phase II Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management course at Plumpton College. The trophy is sponsored by the Sussex section of BIGGA.

■ Chris Peel has joined ADAS, after nine years with the STRI and four years as an amenity grass technical adviser for Sharpes International Seeds. At STRI he was principally engaged in the assessment of varieties and mixtures of amenity grass for sports turf use and in the testing of herbicides, in particular for the control of *Poa annua*.

With Sharpes he advised on projects ranging from new golf developments to reclamation work and wild flower schemes. He has a particular interest in the production of cultivated turf and in the management of low maintenance grass areas. Peel will expand on these to provide an amenity grass advisory service, together with R&D work in solving amenity grassland problems.

■ The Seventh 1993 International Turfgrass Research Conference, held at four year intervals and hosted in the past by the United States, Britain, Germany, Canada, France and Japan, will again be held in the USA, this time on July 18-24 at the Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, Florida.

Speakers from throughout the world will report on the latest advances in the areas of turfgrass breeding and genetics, plant nutrition and soil fertility, pest management and water conservation. Conference symposia are scheduled on the environmental impact of fertiliser and pesticide use, and on

the quantification of surface characteristics of sports fields. As a benefit for registered conference attendees, the organising committee has scheduled an all-encompassing mid-week tour of well-known and renowned turfgrass facilities in south Florida, including the region's finest golf clubs. Details from Dr. George Snyder Tel: (0101) 407 9963062, or Fax (0101) 407 9960339.

■ Bobcat Melroe Europe has announced the appointment of a new district manager for the south of England and Ireland, 42 year old Ian Dennis, who was latterly the Bobcat service manager for the UK, Africa, Middle Eastern Europe. He brings to his new position vast experience both in machinery technology and Bobcat Dealer development.

■ Dennis Groundcare have strengthened their dealer network in the South and Midland regions with the appointment of a further seven dealers. They are: Cornwall Tractors (Cornwall), CR Wilcocks & Co Ltd (Devon), Rochford Garden Machinery (Somerset & Avon), Atterton & Ellis Ltd. (Cams, S. Cams, Forest Heath), Stalham Engineering Co Ltd (Norfolk), Parks & Grounds Machinery (Warks/Worcs) and Groundcare Lincoln (Lincs/Humberside).

■ Following the move by Lamborghini (UK) Ltd into the amenity market with tractors ranging from 25-75 DIN hp, the company has been actively working on the significant dealer interest shown. Already six new dealers have been appointed: South of England - RFE Turf Machinery (0730 815775) and Risboro' Turf (0844 274127), The Midlands - Midlands Tractors (0543 879524) and further north, R&J Campsey (0260 224568). In the south of Scotland are Hamiltons of Larkhall (0698 886515) and on the eastern side James A Fowler of Fife (0337 30527). All these dealers are running demo models.

■ The British Institute of Golf Course Architects (BIGCA) has welcomed German golf course architect Thomas Himmel as an Associate and as the first German architect to successfully complete the BIGCA Students Education Programme.

Himmel, 28, is already well-known for his prolific design of courses in Germany, Bavaria and Hungary. He is a partner with Joan F. Dudok Van Heel's company, Golf Development International, and also runs his own company.

He is also a keen golfer and is currently a member of the German National team, having four times been Bavarian amateur champion and twice German amateur champion. His inclusion as an associate member brings the membership to a total of 30 from 11 countries including Yugoslavia, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

■ These are the lucky winners in the BTME pre-registration card draw: First out of the hat, winning £100-worth of BIGGA merchandise is Brian Woodhouse, head greenkeeper, Little Chalfont GC, Bucks; second prizewinner, scooping £60-worth is Ken Clayton, chairman of green, Glen Gorse GC, Leicester; and third prizewinner, collecting £40-worth, is Tony Milan, greenkeeping lecturer at Houghall College, Durham.



■ There seemed no better way for John Crawford, BIGGA chairman elect, and his delightful companion Ailsa Wade, to start the New Year than by announcing to the world at large their good news - they are engaged to be married! It was evident to all but a blind man that this confirmation of the obvious was 'only a matter of time'... thus whilst downing a glass of amber fluid in wishing them every happiness, it seems crystal clear to this writer that they have already found it - in each other.

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Flying Divots

STRI get £50,000 to worm out the woes

The Royal & Ancient Golf Club have announced a further research grant of £50,000 to the STRI, thus remaining the biggest contributor to STRI projects. Currently these include formulation of an EC standard (CEN) for golf green construction and effective earthworm control under current EC legislation. This latter topic involves a detailed study into the biology and lifecycle of the earthworm and will hopefully result in an effective cure to the damaging and unsightly worm cast smear effects on golf courses, without resorting to harmful pesticides.

The STRI was originally established in 1929 under an initiative of the green committee of the R&A, over the past five years receiving a research grant from them amounting to £50,000 per annum.

The Institute continues to act as agronomy advisors to the Championship Committee of the R&A, advising on an annual basis those clubs which host The Open Championship and, more frequently, at the venue for the current year. In addition it advises clubs at all the qualifying courses hosting The Open, the Walker Cup and Amateur Championship.

It all began in a shed in Phoenix Arizona... and if fortunes might be made from advertising inside golf cups, proof that an innovative manufacturer can scoop the pot was revealed when Karsten Solheim, inventor and manufacturer of Ping golf clubs, was listed in the Forbes Four Hundred, an annual listing of America's 400 richest people – and they said his 'funny' putter wouldn't catch on! Karsten is said to be worth \$450 million.

Education and Development Fund gathers momentum

1993 has brought an influx of new members to the Education and Development Fund. On the company side, both Rigby Taylor and Hayters PLC have joined the Golden Key Circle whilst the list of individual members of both the Golden and Silver Key Circles grows steadily. Executive Director, Neil Thomas commented: "The fund is now a year old and it is pleasing that so many of our members in renewing their memberships for 1993 have chosen the Golden or Silver Key options. They are signifying their wish to support the education and training programmes which have done so much to further the cause of the greenkeeping profession in recent years and will be vital in advancing the status of greenkeepers in the future."

These are the members who to date have made the commitment for 1993:

Golden Key Circle: Kenneth Neale, Jim Fry (Associate), Ernie Bernberg (Associate), F A McKee (Company), Roy Kates.

Silver Key Circle: Ian Holoran, Norman Exley, Alan Holmes, Ian MacMillan, Stephen Redman, Robert Mowles, Paddy McCarron, Iain McLeod, Gordon Child, David Krause (Company), Andrew Smith, James Neilson, Elliott Small, D Greenwood (Company), Stephen Thomas, Peter Gee, Paul Drodge, David Wood, Robert Maibusch, Christopher Sharp, John Crawford, Ailsa Wade (Associate), Dennis Archer, Peter Lacey.

National Education Conference

26–28 March 1993
University of Keele, Staffordshire

For the fifth consecutive year, BIGGA's National Education conference in the spring will feature a programme of international speakers.

The speakers and their topics are:

Professor Noel Jackson, The University of Rhode Island, USA: **Cool Season Turf Diseases in the USA and the UK**

Ian Tomlinson, Course Manager, Lausanne Golf Club: **The Problems Associated with Maintaining a Golf Course at 2,800ft Altitude in Switzerland**

Anthony Mears, Course Manager, Dinsdale Spa Golf Club: **The Wild Side of Golf**

Dr Peter Hayes, Director, The Sports Turf Research Institute: **The Role of the Agronomist and Supporting Scientific Services**

Robert Brame, Agronomist, Mid-Atlantic Region, USGA Green Section: **Poa Annua: Wherever Did It Come From and How We Manage It**

Andy Cole, Advisory Agronomist, The Sports Turf Research Institute: **Greenkeeping Qualifications – Are We On The Right Lines?**

Patrick Murphy, BIGGA Northern Section Secretary and Course Manager at Shipley Golf Club: **The Lifting, Excavating and Re-Building of a Golf Green with a Drainage Carpet Layer and Having it Back in Play in 17 Days**

Arthur King/Edward McCabe, Green Committee Chairman and Course Manager respectively, Brockenhurst Manor Golf Club: **Course Management – Communication with Members**

Gary Grigg, Board of Directors, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America:

Current and Future Issues in Golf Course Management

Severin Schmitz, Course Manager, Golf Club Schloss Myllendonk: **How a Personal Computer Can Aid a Course Manager**

Ian Thompson, Course Manager, Wetherby Golf Club: **Trees and Tree-Planting for Golf Courses**

Anthony Davies, Course Manager, Prestbury Golf Club: **Right or Wrong – I Did It My Way**

George Brown, Course Manager, Turnberry Golf Course: **Being Open-Minded**

Professor Noel Jackson, The University of Rhode Island, USA: **Patch Diseases in Cool Season Turf Grasses**

Gordon Child, BIGGA South West Regional Administrator and Course Manager at Churston Golf Club: **Greenkeeping – Past, Present and Future**

Iain Ritchie, Course Manager, Portmarnock Golf Club: **Three Years at Portmarnock**

Robert Brame, Agronomist, Mid-Atlantic Region, USGA Green Section: **The Ten Pitfalls of American Turfgrass Management**

Copies of the Programme and Application Form are available from BIGGA HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 03473 581 Fax: 03473 8864.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Annual General Meeting

The BIGGA Annual General Meeting will be held on

**Wednesday
21 April 1993**

at 2.30pm in the Royal York Hotel, York (immediately adjacent to the Railway Station)

— **NEIL THOMAS**
Executive Director

Copies of the audited accounts will be available from Section Secretaries during the four weeks prior to the Meeting.



THIS YEAR, MORE TO SEE THAN EVER BEFORE...

New Product Launches were introduced at BTME for the first time, giving companies the opportunity to explain new lines to trade press and potential buyers.

The launch presentations took place over two days and were organised for BIGGA by Rachel Semlyen Associates. Rachel was previously marketing director for Rolawn.

Visitors attended the presentation area to watch as:

- ◆ Agriland launched Tournament, a new rapid response fertiliser, promoted as a premium product for getting turf into peak condition for special events or for badly worn patches.

- ◆ Barenbrug revealed new grass seed mixtures for greens, in particular the Bar 2 mixture with the addition of Barcrown slender creeping red fescue, making it, they claim, top of the 1993 STRI list.

- ◆ Supaturf Products launched 'Dilute n' Shoor', a new method of applying Aquagro wetting agent using a hand-held spray gun attachment to a standard hosepipe.

- ◆ Ransomes showed off their new Fairway 300 mower, a high performance 5 unit ride-on with many additional features and benefits designed to cope with world-wide grass growth conditions.

- ◆ Rigby Taylor launched their new fungicide Rimidin, a new weapon in the war against fusarium.

- ◆ Industrial Power Units unveiled the new Dori 18" mower.

- ◆ British Seed Houses launched modern turf-grasses for the golf course.

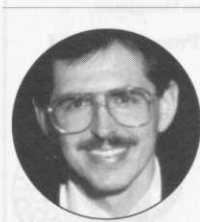
- ◆ Hardi showed the new Hardi Eagle de-mountable sprayer with 6-metre boom and 300 or 600 litre capacity tank; and

- ◆ Huxley's Grass Machinery launched a range of new Huxley products.

The product launch presentations were in addition to many new lines introduced on individual stands for the first time.



Hayter's Robin Boyes and Mike Lincoln-Smith with the Hayter-Beaver T93, which was launched at the show



■ The path to receiving his Master Greenkeeper Certificate from the Duke of York in Harrogate started for Robert Maibusch at the GCSAA convention in Las Vegas two years ago - when he first saw a copy of 'Greenkeeper International.'

Robert, course superintendent of Hinsdale Golf Club in Illinois, picked up the magazine on the BIGGA stand and because he thought he could learn from it, decided to join the Association.

"My interest in the Certificate was as a personal challenge at first," he said. "The work leading up to the exam forced me to go back and review everything I'd ever learned and it was very rewarding. The exam itself was difficult but fair."

"But I never realised quite what an achievement it was until everyone else recognised it and the whole thing outgrew my original personal involvement. My golf course was thrilled and meeting the Prince was - and this is difficult to put into words - overwhelming."

Robert and his wife Cheryl met the Prince informally with other Master Greenkeepers and their families at a private BIGGA reception after the awards ceremony.



Hayter's key role

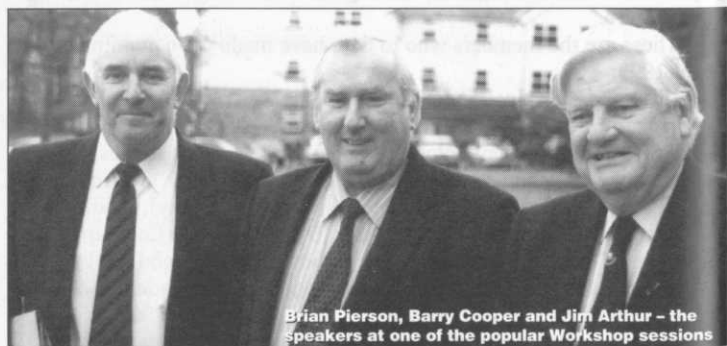
This year's BIGGA tournament is to be sponsored by Hayters and Association chairman Roy Kates, right, took the opportunity whilst at BTME to thank Hayter's sales and marketing director Kim Macfie for their support. "I am very excited by this new initiative," said Roy. "I know that our members will respond positively and with great enthusiasm."

BIGGA's executive director Neil Thomas said: "Hayter's enthusiasm and innovative ideas will, I'm sure, lift the tournament to whole new level of professionalism."

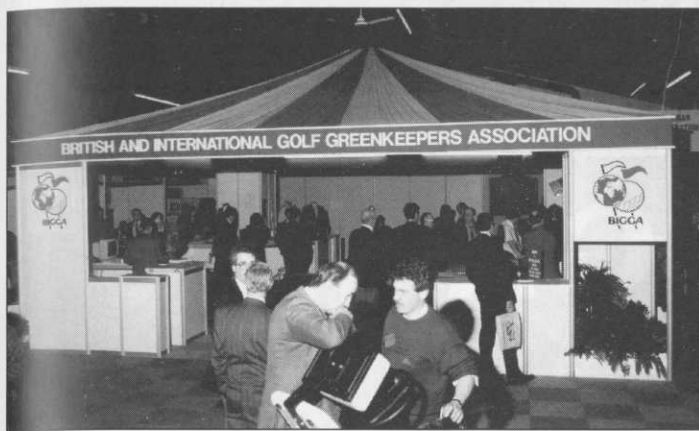
The event will be known as the Hayter Challenge Tournament.



Weather-matic's Paul de Rham, left, with Prime Watermen's Tim Hooper



Brian Pierson, Barry Cooper and Jim Arthur - the speakers at one of the popular Workshop sessions



THE BIGGA

ONE



BTME

BIGGA Turf Management
Exhibition and Seminar
Programme 1993

Record-breaking numbers of enthusiastic greenkeepers surged into the BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition in Harrogate to hear the Duke of York open proceedings with his own heartwarming view of the greenkeepers' importance in the hierarchy of golf.

"It is, lest any of us golfers here today forget," he said, "only possible to play this Royal and Ancient game because of all the hard work, commitment, patience, care... and above all the *pride* that you take in your profession."

It was an upbeat way to set the tone for this fifth and best-yet exhibition – one in which the predominant mood was of great optimism. The Duke said: "It is of vital importance that the game as a whole supports the training programmes now being developed for the greenkeeping profession. And a unified approach which has been sadly lacking in the past will undoubtedly accelerate the very real progress now being made."

Quite apart from performing the opening ceremony and touring the exhibition, including stopping for an unscheduled chat with Britain's first female head greenkeeper, Tracy Ruane, the Duke presented special awards to the companies who have supported the Association's Education and Development Fund. He also presented certificates to four Master Greenkeepers: Kerran Daly, Gordon Irvine, Robert Maibusch and Bil Montague, and a plaque to Ian Harrison, 1992 winner of the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award.

Speaking of the presence of both the Duke of York and

our revered president, Viscount Whitelaw, BIGGA chairman Roy Kates said that it was "highly significant in giving recognition to the Association as one of the leading bodies in golf, and to the development of the greenkeeping profession in recent years."

BTME has always been much more than a mere trade show and many traders present had nothing but praise for BIGGA's clever idea in bringing together a small but important number of educational sessions alongside the trade's own industry showcase, the one perfectly complementing the other and bringing about vast new audiences.

The reason is clear, for the big majority of those who visit BTME – green chairmen, head greenkeepers, agronomists, golf course builders, club secretaries and others – are in Harrogate for a whole week, bent not only on absorbing technical knowledge in sustained workshops and seminar sessions, but on returning again and again to circumnavigate the exhibition halls. For them the show is serious stuff indeed, they are serious folk with golf course business on their mind – sales enquiries and orders confirm it!

Good feelings for the profession of greenkeeping and for our industry prevail long after the doors finally close. Great friendships are formed and strong business links are forged.

As the Duke said in his speech: "With increasing membership, a successful exhibition and a magazine recognised as a leader, the foundations are now in place for BIGGA to go from strength to strength."

■ The Duke of York's presence at BTME sparked considerable media interest.

According to one paper, the attendance brought a "welcome renewal of Royal interest in the game of golf, after a lapse of half a century."

But a planned 'photo opportunity', at practice nets at the Pro-Tee Products stand, failed to come off when the Duke refused to swing a club. Turning to cameramen and reporters he said with a grin: "I know what you want me to do lads, but I'm not going to do it." This prompted the headline in another local paper of "I'm no swinger, shy Duke tells press."

It was Viscount Whitelaw's active involvement as President of BIGGA which drew attention from a reporter from *The Times*. In an article in the next day's edition of the world's most famous newspaper, BIGGA's aims and objectives were clearly explained under a headline which read: "Modern greenkeepers put image out to grass." The article told of Viscount Whitelaw's passion for the game, having been a golfer for 70 years – he started at the age of four – and how happy he was in building up the prestige of greenkeepers.

'Foundations are now in BIGGA



Master Greenkeepers, seated from left, Kerran Daly, Bil Montague, Gordon Irvine and Robert Maibusch listen as the Duke of York officially opens BTME

to go from
strength
strength

...and as a golfer, I shall

— THE DUKE OF YORK, opening



The Duke learns about golf course irrigation from Toro Irrigation Ltd's Peter Roberts. Looking on is Lely (UK) Ltd's Graham Dale



Ransomes' Chris MacGowan in conversation with the Royal visitor



ABOVE: Tom Dunlop with the Kubota FZ2400 ZeroTurn outfront rotary mower

LEFT: Plenty to see on the BEV Golf Equipment stand

RIGHT: Ian Pogson, of Iseki, with just one of the machines on their busy stand



Photographs by
NICHOLAS FISHER
DAVID WILKINSON
TIM MOAT
and DAVID WHITTY