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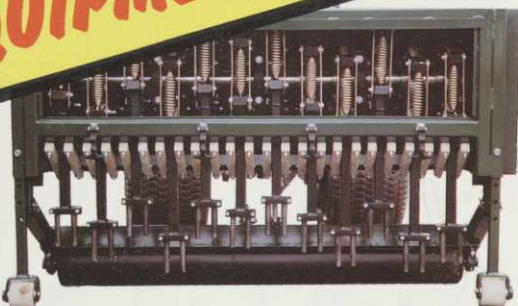
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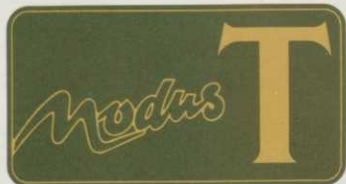
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JANUARY 1993



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GREENKEEPER

International

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BIGGA Turf Management Exhibition and Seminar Programme 1993

The waiting's over

The event the industry has been waiting for is now just

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ICI Professional Products' Roger Mossop, left and Ian Harrison, Premier Greenkeeper of the Year



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Find out more:

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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.

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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 Conference Programme will be available on the BIGGA Stand, C15, at the BTME.

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

Antony 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 Ltd:
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 also available from BIGGA HQ, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 03473 581 • Fax: 03473 8864.



■ Elmwood College recently held its annual awards ceremony, with the greenkeepers pictured having much to smile about. Norman Wood (left), head greenkeeper at Burntisland GC, gained the prize for the best Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) portfolio. Robert Rees (centre), presently working at the college golf course, achieved the award for the best student in the first year of the full-time SCOTVEC National Certificate in Greenkeeping. Michael Clark (right), head greenkeeper at Aberdour GC, achieved first place on the Supervisory Management Course.

All three are now continuing their education by attending the first HNC course in Golf Course Management. This is currently a day release option, though from September '93 it will be available as a distance learning course. An HND course is also planned.

■ The vision of three times Open Champion, Sir Henry Cotton to make golf courses of simpler proportion and open to all members of the family will soon be realised when Bridlington Bay opens for play in May. Course architect Howard Swan, who had the great privilege of working with the late Sir Henry throughout the 1980s, has created two golf courses at Bridlington Bay on the cliff tops, together with a driving range and golf academy.

Both Swan and Cotton shared the same belief that golf is a sport for everyone, and to this end a complex of courses at Bridlington have been created, designed simply and with nature fully in mind. The Sir Henry Cotton Foundation Course - for beginners - has wide open fairways and no bunkers.



■ Congratulations to Jonathan Gaunt on his admission to Associate membership of the regulatory body for golf course architecture, the British Institute of Golf Course Architects. Jonathan, an exceptionally talented young architect, joins colleagues Steve Marnoch and Ken Moodie in having successfully completed the BIGGA Students Education Programme - a highly technical course which takes a minimum of two years to complete.

The course covers key aspects of civil engineering, landscape architecture, golf course design, planning and specification and also the game of golf at beginner, intermediate and expert levels. It also entails practical training under strict supervision in one of BIGGA's members' practices.

Founded in 1970, the aim of the Institute is to bring together the very best golf course architects in order to provide a safe, professional service to clients who have traditionally suffered at the hands of a wide range of untrained designers.

■ Bernard Hedley, chairman of Rigby Taylor Ltd, has announced the appointment of Mark Baxendale as their new operations director. Mark brings a wealth of experience from

Faces and places

industries where efficient supply is of the utmost importance, his appointment seen as a further indication of the company's commitment to the operations side of their business. Mark's position carries responsibility throughout the company for all aspects of supply and distribution.

■ Maxicrop International is redirecting its five technical reps. to support sales in the amenity sector. The move comes as a result of a 21% increase in volume sales (amenity) in 1992. The reps, who also handle the company's sales activities are: Willie Robertson, Scotland (0343 544551); George Attwood-Harris, N England (0782 515679); John Plant, Midlands & Wales (0630 86524); Eric Coley, E Counties & S England (0359 70450) and Peter Light, SW England (0823 251110).

■ Clive Carter, sales manager of Turfmech Machinery Ltd, tells me that the company now have new premises, just a few miles from their old location, situated at the New Road Ind. Estate, Hixon, Staffs. Apart from increased office, workshop and machinery space, they now boast a four acre demo area where customers can see Turfmech's range of mowers, stone buriers, vacuums and debris blowers in action. Their new number is 0889 271503.



■ Lindum Turf have announced the appointment of David Snowden as their new sales manager. David, who hails from Leeds, is finding his feet quickly in the fine turf industry, having a strong horticultural and agricultural background. He has a particular appreciation for turf quality, being a keen golfer as well as a rugby union player for the local club, Otley.

David can be contacted on 065261 329.

■ The John Lindsay Professional Sportsturf Young Greenkeeper of the Year award is a new competition open to all young Irish greenkeepers who have not yet reached head greenkeeping status. This year's winner, BIGGA member Charles Edgar, hails from Portstewart GC, where he is first assistant to Bernard Findlay. Second placed Alan Walsh is Iain Ritchie's star apprentice at Portmarnock and is currently studying at Elmwood, whilst third placed Paul Lappin, Royal Portrush, is being trained by yet another BIGGA man, ex Surrey chairman, Phil Baldock. If all this proves that greenkeeper education and awareness is on the up, it also proves that it is no bad thing to be under the expert guidance of a well qualified BIGGA course manager – our congratulations to them all!

• Picture below shows John Lindsay, left, looking on as Charles Edgar, centre, receives his winning certificate from chairman of Northern Ireland Golf Greenkeepers Association, Joe Millar.

Picture courtesy of the Belfast Telegraph.



■ SCATS Amenity Machinery Sales and Hardi (UK) Ltd will be staging a sprayer seminar on 17 February at the new Wildwood Golf Club, Near Horsham, W Sussex. The seminar will be led by Jon Allbútt and will feature spraying in the 1990s – including the new H&SE specifications – together with general guidance and regulations for clubs and CCT contractors. The meeting will start at 10am, followed by a buffet lunch. Contact Robert Joy on 0403 782031 for a free invitation.

■ Can you spare two hours for training in 1993? Rhone-Poulenc would like to help you invest that time in updating your knowledge and expertise in the use of total weed control products. By working with a number of bodies, including water supply companies, they have developed strategies for sustainable vegetation management. Now in the form of a training module, Rhone-Poulenc wish to brief you on these strategies. Training sessions will be held at venues all over the country starting from 18 January. Morning or afternoon sessions will be available based on groups of no more than 20 people. Call Christine on 0277 301117 to reserve a place.

■ Golf Design Partnership, the Oxford-based firm headed by Simon Gidman and Nicholas Blakemore, are currently supervising construction of a new 18 hole course at the long established Frilford Heath GC. The new 6700 yard course, to be known as the 'Blue', is scheduled to open in 1994.

■ Peter de Savary, who owns the original Carnegie Estate of Skibo Castle, has commenced reconstruction of the original Carnegie course, entrusting the construction work to Brian Pierson. The original nine hole links course has been modified and extended to 18 holes by the international golf course architect Donald Steel. Skibo Castle is within the Dornoch Firth Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Construction will be completed early in 1993 with play commencing in 1994.

■ A former open cast mine, now carefully restored as a golf course by Hawtree & Sons, opened recently as the Grassmore Golf Centre, Chesterfield, after four years of growth and nurturing. Though not yet fully open for play, which is scheduled for this summer, the facility has already recruited over 350 members in only two months.

■ Sixty five metres down in the bowels of Shropshire, British Coal are extracting six million cubic metres of material in an open cast mining operation. When the ground is reinstated, a nine hole course, to be operated as a municipal facility, will be created by the Howard Swan Practice, acting as architects for Green Eagle Golf. The course is expected to be in play early in 1996.

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Greenkeepers' Library

by DAVID WHITE

Any book which begins with a dedication – to golf greenkeepers who, through their tireless work, maintain, enhance and conserve a large area of our countryside for the benefit of all – is bound to attract my attention. I equally believe that it will attract readers of this magazine in great numbers. The authors, John Hacker and George Shiels, have produced a fascinating little work entitled **Golf Course Presentation**, purposely to bring to the notice of all greenkeepers the high importance that should be placed on presenting a golf course to its best advantage. This is essentially a book of guidance and doesn't purport to teach its readers to suck eggs – far from it, it treats the reader as an equal and gives valuable advice on how to get the best from a golf course without ignoring its general health and well-being. Does presentation make a difference, it asks, answering with a categorical YES, it definitely does. The authors maintain that it is the surface finish which stamps the greenkeeper as being someone who cares; producing an extra effort which suggests that today is special – who would dare argue against such observations?

The book, actually a booklet of some forty pages, covers every aspect of presentation most thoroughly, including greens, tees, fairways, bunkers, rough and water features and includes a special chapter on tournament preparation. Whilst it may not give all the answers it will certainly make both greenkeepers and golfers think about the type of golf course they really want and how they can achieve it. **Golf Course Presentation**, by John Hacker and George Shiels (40pp softback) is £7.95 post incl. and is available from BIGGA HQ.

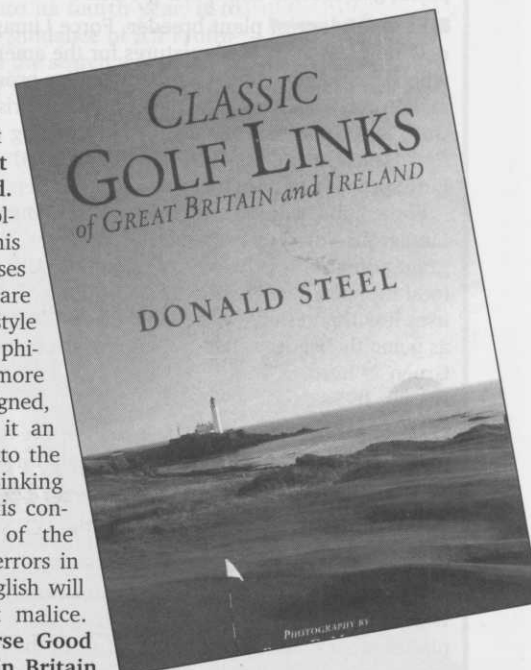
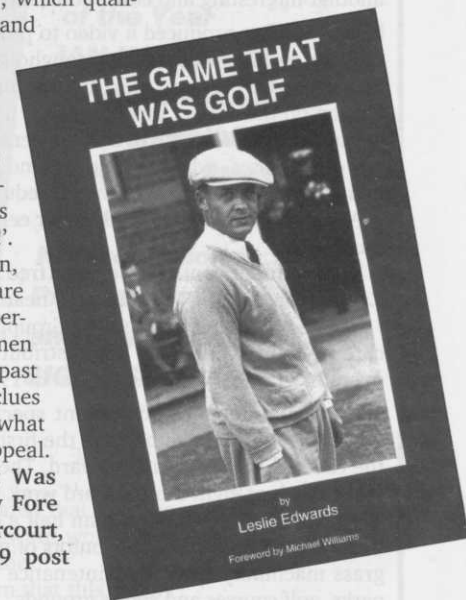
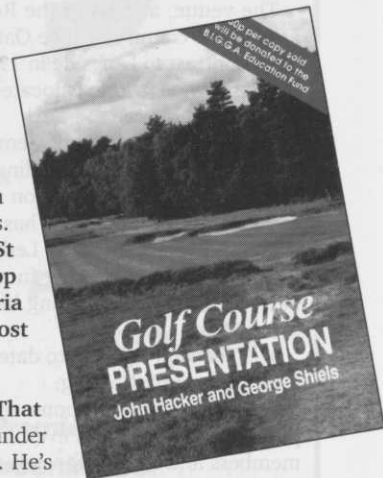
A phone call from a greenkeeper who'd been held enthralled by the words of golf course architect Donald Steel at a recent BIGGA seminar sent me chasing after a copy of **Classic Golf Links of Great Britain and Ireland**, Donald's most recent book, which he had mentioned in his lecture. I am pleased to tell readers that the search was well worth while, for the book lives up to its name and is a 'classic' for true lovers of links, those windswept courses amongst the dunes that many regard as the only real place to play golf. Donald Steel's love of seaside links shines through his writing as he takes us on a journey round Britain and Ireland, taking in 75 courses, including such venues as Prestwick, St Andrews, Muirfield, Royal St Georges, Carnoustie and Turnberry. However, the supporting cast includes a string of equally familiar names – ranging from the hallowed Royal Dornoch to Rye, Saunton, Formby and Hillside in England, Royal Porthcawl in Wales and Ballybunnion, Royal County Down and Royal Portrush in Ireland – and some unsung gems. The influence that links have had on golf course architecture runs as a continuous theme through the book. The author places each course in its historical and architectural context, describing its setting and main characteristics, and shows how the course plays, focusing on the most interesting holes. A detailed map and a card of the course accompany each entry, while Brian Morgan's stunning photographs capture the beauty and variety of seaside links. **Classic Golf Links (224pp hardback)** is published by Chapman at £25.

Having written two successful golf books John Behrand has turned his pen to fictional short stories. Culled from a lifetime of golf, which has included captaincy of the R&A and the Royal Liverpool GC, together with playing golf at county level and in national championships, the author has assembled a collection of stories – **St Andrews Night and Other Stories** – which

entrance, delight and perhaps also raise a few eyebrows. Every story has its twist and the reader is kept in suspense until the last line. 'Some of the characters and situations', the author states in his introduction, 'are drawn in part, never wholly, from my own personal memory bank. I even appear myself from time to time in various guises. There are no prizes for guessing who's who!'. **St Andrews Night and other Golfing Stories**, (130pp hardback) is published by Grant Books, Victoria Sq., Droitwich. WR9 8DE. and costs £15.50 post inclusive.

Leslie Edwards, the author of **The Game That Was Golf** is the elder of two surviving founder members of the Association of Golf Writers. He's what some might describe as an 'ancient', which qualifies him better than most to write first hand about the golfing stars (and characters) of a former era, and his book offers the reader a splendid opportunity to re-live the memories of championships of the past forty or fifty years. The book also gives insight into the world of golf correspondents, men too often decried by fools who aver 'they never left the clubhouse!'. Such contributors to the game as Darwin, Longhurst, Crawley and Ward-Thomas are all dealt with comprehensively and as a personal friend of them and of most of the men and women who have covered golf in the past sixty years, the author is able to provide clues as to their character and help explain what gave their writing such compelling appeal. Highly recommended, **The Game That Was Golf (197pp hardback)** is published by Fore Golf Publications, 129a High St. Dovercourt, Harwich CO12 3AX and costs £17.49 post inclusive.

A very grand (and very expensive) book has just arrived from Japan, from the pen of golf course architect Shunsuke Kato, entitled **What Makes a Good Golf Course Good**. In this lavishly colour illustrated volume Kato attempts to explain his views on the designing of golf courses and his design techniques, which are greatly influenced by old Scottish style and by an avowed strategic design philosophy. The volume covers the more than forty golf courses he has designed, explaining his thinking. I found it an enlightening experience to look into the oriental mind, especially the thinking revealed that his work includes his conception of the virtuous points of the Japanese character. Some of the errors in translation from Japanese into English will make the reader smile, without malice. **What Makes a Good Golf Course Good (256pp hardback)** is available in Britain from Grant Books, Victoria Sq., Droitwich WR9 8DE at £62 post inclusive.



■ On Tuesday 9 March 1993 the Scottish Region will once again be holding their annual one-day conference.

The venue, as part of the Region's plan to move the conference around the country, will be Oatridge College near Broxburn. In complete contrast to Langside in 1992 which lies in the hustle and bustle of Glasgow, Oatridge is located in the midst of lovely rolling farmland in West Lothian.

Gordon Moir and Cecil George have gathered together an excellent array of speakers including the well known and sometimes controversial Eddie Connaughton and John Philp; and new blood in the form of Jim Grainger, who has suffered and sometimes celebrated in the growing-in process at Letham Grange. Alasdair Wellwood and Roy Auld will be looking into the future of aeration and looking backwards at greenkeeping history will be Oatridge College's own Steve Miller.

We'll be kept right up to date with Jon Allbutt and of course David ('Mr Education') Golding.

The entire event is sponsored once again by our Scottish Region patrons and the cost is even less than last year – at £10 for BIGGA members and £12.50 for non-members. Don't miss what should be another interesting and educational day.

■ BOC Ltd has produced a video to promote the safe use of gas cutting and welding equipment throughout industry.

'Safe under pressure' runs for 18 minutes and carries vital information on the correct procedures for using oxygen and acetylene in cutting and welding. It covers cylinder identification and the properties of the gases, cylinder handling and storage, equipment assembly and lighting up and shut down procedures.

Available from BOC's 75 cylinder centres nationwide, it costs £11 plus VAT.

BOC cylinder centres also offer free safety literature and advice. Call free on 0800 515661 for your nearest centre.

BOC is a member of The BOC Group, the worldwide gases, health care, vacuum technology and distribution services company which operates in some 60 countries and in 1991 had sales of £2.8 billion.

■ Grass maintenance equipment specialists, ET Breakwell Ltd of Shirley, Solihull, have become the first in their industry to achieve the coveted BS 5750 Part II award. The quality assurance certificate is the result of eight months hard work for the Stratford Road family business, established more than half a century ago. Breakwell's are one of the UK's leading distributors of professional lawnmowers and grass machinery for the maintenance of public amenities such as parks, golf courses and sports grounds.

■ Europe's largest plant breeder, Force Limagrain, has launched a new range of grass seed mixtures for the amenity sector. Top Green will be marketed under a banner headline promising 'quality, performance and reliability'. The new range comprises 25 mixtures: Euro-Golf, EuroSport, EuroSpace for landscaping and utility, EuroClass for domestic lawns, EuroTop for seeded turf production and EuroSpecial, a custom mixture of wild flowers and grasses.

Force Limagrain already markets the range in Europe and Force Limagrain Top Green marketing manager, Stephen Alderton sees great potential for the philosophy in the UK: 'We estimate that the total European turfgrass market is around 55,000t and while the UK uses less than France and Germany at 9,000t, it has the reputation as being the leader as far as quality is concerned. In this respect Top Green is hard to beat'. Top Green will be available next spring. Details: 0954 61456.

■ Allett Mowers launched a new ride on triple mower recently, named the Allett Conqueror and designed for use on golf tees and surrounds. The Conqueror benefits from hydrostatic transmission, making it very manoeuvrable. Unique for machines in this price bracket, the Conqueror has individual clutches for all three cutter units which allow a choice of cutting widths of 78", 57" or 36". All cutting units incorporate 7" diameter cylinders, which make light work of long grass and have high impact resistance. Allett have placed great emphasis on the comfort of the operator and a deluxe spring seat, which is fully adjustable for both position and weight, is fitted as standard. The price is £4995+ VAT. Details: 0536 68950.

'This Dad'

Ian Harrison, the new ICI Premier

Greenkeeper of the Year, almost pulled out of the prestigious competition after his father died. DAVID WHITE reports on how the man of the moment overcame his sorrow to collect the industry's most acclaimed title

It's a little under 60 miles from Darlington to Aldwark Manor, a sling-shot journey down the A1 that can take less than an hour. For Ian Harrison, however, his long and winding route from Darlington to Aldwark Manor – or to be more specific from young apprentice greenkeeper to ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year – took about 14 years!

Utilising the essence of high drama, Roger Mossop, the marketing manager for award sponsors ICI Professional Products, welcomed the five 1992 ICI Premier Greenkeeper finalists to a dinner given in their honour before announcing the results – in reverse order – to the hushed and expectant group. It was, observed someone, not unlike the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards, only the trumpet fanfare was lacking!

At an event of this magnitude there is a pressure-cooker atmosphere that permeates through the day with the heat as much on the judges as those being judged. For the first time ever, this writer was privileged to observe the whole of the final interview proceedings and to listen whilst the participants unfolded their individual tales. It was a grey December day outside, though the sparkle that emanated from the 'fabulous five' – Dean Cleaver, Kevin Green, Iain MacLeod, Ian Harrison and Ian McMillan – certainly brightened that grey day considerably – I wouldn't have missed it, but as I've written before, I certainly wouldn't have wanted to be in the judges' shoes.

How are the candidates judged? First by nomination from their section, then by a written paper on an essential greenkeeping topic, followed by a searching assessment of their course. The final daunting hurdle is a lengthy interview, chaired by Neil Thomas and headed by BIGGA education chairman, Huw Parry, and ICI's Richard Minton. Down to the wire results are almost the norm in these exciting ICI finals and this year's event was no exception. In the end, Ian Harrison was declared the 1992 ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year, winning by a slim margin from Ian McMillan and Kevin Green, second and third respectively.

What finally swayed the judges? In Ian Harrison's case it was almost certainly his 'fire in the belly' conviction that greenkeeping at Darlington was a challenge to enjoy. His is no easy task, for the Alistair Mackenzie designed course at Darlington is

is for my



Professional Products

Premier Greenkeeper of the Year IAN HARRISON receives a plaque and congratulations from Roger Mossop, Marketing Manager, ICI Professional Products, left and Roy Kates, BIGGA Chairman

constructed on heavy clay-based meadowland and is squeezed into just 81 acres, yet he manages to produce consistently good playing surfaces that are a credit to him and his dedicated team. All this on a modest though well documented budget and under the critical eye of a larger than average committee of fourteen and a huge and demanding membership. In addition, Ian is a delightful person with a keen sense of humour, known to be a good friend as well as a good boss to his staff. He masterminds a tight and efficient ship, keeps an immaculate workshop (sparkling enough that you could eat off the bonnet of his tractor, said one first hand observer), and he is a fine ambassador for BIGGA and the education cause. On that front, he gives credit to Frank Newberry and Paul Whiteley, those BIGGA management course wizards, for their clever guidance in bringing out the best in his personal presentations, both written and verbal.

Returning to Roger Mossop's presentation speech, it was so refreshing to hear him describe Ian Harrison as being 'not only good for the course but good for the cause', a sentiment that his colleagues in the Cleveland section will recognise and be proud to echo, for they know Ian as a greenkeeper whose heart is and always has been in his work and in BIGGA.

I watched Ian's face as he was named the victor, first displaying total disbelief but quickly recovering composure as he declared to an admiring audience that his dear wife Carol should be sharing equally in his happiness. We learned that Ian's father had died early in 1992 and that his first reaction had been to withdraw from the event. Spurred on by Carol, even though his heart had at times understandably been elsewhere, he declared that the win was 'theirs', a joint effort spurred on by a loved one who had supreme faith in

him. In talking to Ian afterwards, he declared that winning the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award would be a worthy dedication to the memory of his father.

Of the future, we were delighted to learn that this hugely prestigious award, now moving into its fourth year, is to continue under the patronage and guidance of ICI Professional Products and that once again the search will begin to elect another BIGGA member as ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year – it could be you!

Below: jubilant finalists, with Roy Kates and Roger Mossop. It was an achievement to even get this far



Letters

Address your letters to the editor, Greenkeeper International, 13 Firle Close, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 2HL

■ May I respond to the letter that appeared in November from Sandy Brown, Crieff GC., seeking clarification on the pricing of pesticides labelled for golf course use as opposed to horticultural or agricultural uses?

To begin, may I make it quite clear that the chemical industry, like any other, has to run on a sound commercial base. That means covering all the costs of development, registration, production, promotion and staff – and then returning a positive contribution to its directors or shareholders. We are not profiteers as was implied, but companies that seek to survive in an increasingly difficult climate.

The legislation associated with pesticide registration is now so complex and rigid that extensive development trials and efficacy work has to be done for every individual label recommendation, let alone the initial toxicological, ecological, residue and storage tests that have to be undertaken for any pesticide registration. This is a very expensive process.

To explain this in simple terms let us take for example the easiest and cheapest route to introduce a chemical, i.e. an established agricultural product such as a fungicide that has potential in turf.

Costs involved £

- i) Development programme
 - Minimum 3 years of replicated trials which will hopefully give adequate efficacy on a range of turf diseases.
 - Cost of 4 trials = £20K/ year
 -approx £60,000
- ii) Trials clearance (MAFF) permit1,550
- iii) Registration submission
 - Preparation of trials protocol, the written submission, letters of access to ingredients, final formulation, writing of label, etcapprox £15,000
- iv) MAFF Submission (fixed charge)
 - New label usage£2,250

This can take up to three years from submission to receiving approval. The possibility of introducing a new molecule into the amenity sector that is not already registered in the UK for other uses is dictated by the considerable costs involved. A new molecule would require extra support data to the previous example plus an increased registration fee:

- i) Toxicological studies
 - Human and environmental safetyapprox £30,000–50,000
- ii) Residue data.....approx £10,000–20,000
- iii) The registration fee to the Ministry in this case is a fixed figure of:.....£53,000
- TOTAL£93,000–£103,000**

The registration of a new molecule can take up to six years from submission to approval. The costs involved in developing a new prod-

.FILMS FOR GRINKEEPING.

THEY BOTHERED HIS BUNKERS...., TORE UP HIS TEES..
GOUGED UP HIS GREENS,.... NOW HE WAS BACK..
19% HOLE PRODUCTS PRESENTS..

ARNOLD SWISHENRAKER
IN A STEVEN SPIELTURF FILM..

TOTAL RE-TURF
CO-STARRING: LAWN GREEN, PATRICK MOWER
RITA SLIPPAGE, HERBIE SYDE

PRODUCED BY: OWEN MUNNEY, PRODUCER OF 'HOW GREEN WAS MY GOLF COURSE'

WHAT THEY SAID.....
"A BIT SEEDY, OTHERWISE A TYPICAL MALE FILM" - 'MS. GREENKEEPER'
"THE PLOT GERMINATES WELL" - 'WHICH GRASS'
"ARNIE LAYS IT ON THICK!" - 'HOME GREENKEEPING'
"SWISHENRAKER IS A GRASS-ROOTS ACTOR" - 'ROOTZONE'
"ROLL ON THE SEQUEL..." - 'STREET TRACTOR' - ILLUSTRATED!

COMING SOON! ARNIE IN: TERMITEHATOR
"Puts the aggro back in agronomy!"

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uct are therefore considerable, but it does not end there. All the older established products have, by law, been subject to reviews and their data packages updated so registrations could be maintained. The amount of work required will vary but can cost up to £50,000 per product.

Unfortunately the golf/leisure and amenity markets are relatively small and therefore any costs have to be spread over a much lower sales opportunity than experienced in agriculture or horticulture. Customers operating in these sectors must be prepared to pay a premium if they want manufacturers to retain current registration and invest in the registration of new products.

To compound the manufacturers problems of cost, the timescales are also prohibitive. Money has to be invested over a 4-10 year period and at any stage of development the programme may have to stop for a multitude of reasons. Even when a product is launched the threat of competitors is ever present and the opportunity to recoup these costs can be limited.

The information provided here are facts and are the justification for the price differentials that occur. To use chemicals that do not have a specific label recommendation is illegal. If the industry wants the opportunity to use chemicals as a management aid they must accept there is a price to pay in order to provide the necessary data for registration of label recommendation. Failure to accept this position could ultimately mean manufacturers will not invest, and products needed to maintain our courses and public areas will disappear from the market.

Despite these costs and resources involved,

ICI Professional Products will continue to be committed to providing high quality products to the UK golf market.

ROGER M MOSSOP

Marketing Manager, ICI Professional Products.
Haslemere, Surrey

■ I read with great interest (Faces & Places, November) that Robert Brewer had attained his Private Pilot's Licence – well done Robert. Is he Britain's first airborne greenkeeper, you ask?

Discounting the many apprentices that have become airborne off the end of some crabbit and greenkeeper's boot, we at Tulliallan Golf Club must deny Robert this title. Some four years ago whilst first assistant at Tulliallan, Kenneth Turnbull (then aged 26) gained his Pilot's Licence. Friend and fellow assistant Kenny Thomson can attest to his skill in that he has twice flown with Kenneth and returned to tell the tale. This is more than can be said for a certain trade sales manager, who has managed to side-step all Kenneth's invitations to 'come fly with me'.

Unfortunately Kenneth decided the glamour of greenkeeping was not enough and is now a member of London's finest – the Metropolitan Police. So look out Robert, don't go speeding in the skies or you may get picked up by Kenneth Turnbull, one of Tulliallan's claims to fame in having been Britain's first airborne greenkeeper.

Incidentally, both Robert and Kenneth worked at Stirling Golf Club, albeit at different times.

ELLIOTT R SMALL

Head Greenkeeper, Tulliallan GC, Scotland