



Pots of success: from left, Mark Whittle, Robert Pearce, Mark Ellis, Chris Ball, John Berry, BIGGA Chairman Barry Heaney, Mark Cutler, Kevin Yeoman, Shaun Richards and Mike Sheehan

KEEPERS

"Sun Beams keep falling on my head": Barry Heaney finds a novel way of sheltering from the sun



The overladen prize table

Annes Old Links, teed off early during the tournament to fit in their regular games.

Rumour had it the sponsor's products had something to do with the condition and it that were the case what could be more fitting?

So what is there to report from the '95 National Tournament other than the searing temperatures? Well we had a record entry of 84 - although unfortunately a few fell by the wayside and didn't complete the 54 holes. Despite the pace of play which revived memories of that famous old fable "The tortoise and the snail" and taxed both concentration and patience good golf were required if a prize was to be lifted.

Ah yes the prizes. If ever there was incentive to spend a little more time on the practice

ground this was it. Televisions, CD players, cameras, radio cassettes, luggage, binoculars were just a few of the rewards on offer if that little white ball more or less did as it was told during the three days.

But back to the golf. The first man out on the first day led the way for much of the opening round. Kevin Yeoman, off a handicap of 25, produced a fine nett 67 to concentrate the minds of those behind. Kevin, Dartmouth G&CC, looked like holding on until Mark Cutler, Edgbaston GC, came in with a nett 66 of his handicap of 15. The scratch prize went to Shaun Richards of Taunton and Pickeridge GC who shot an excellent 73.

Shaun, who currently plays off 0.7, might have been challenged by Barry Holt who was



MAD DOGS AND GREENKEEPERS

going well until the 12th when he inadvertently dunted his putter and the head fell off. Putting with a 3-iron taxes even Ben Crenshaw and Barry dropped several shots on the home run. It was Barry's second piece of misfortune in successive National Tournaments. Last year at Dartmouth, if you remember, he was leading going into the final round but ended up knocking the first three shots of the day out-of-bounds.

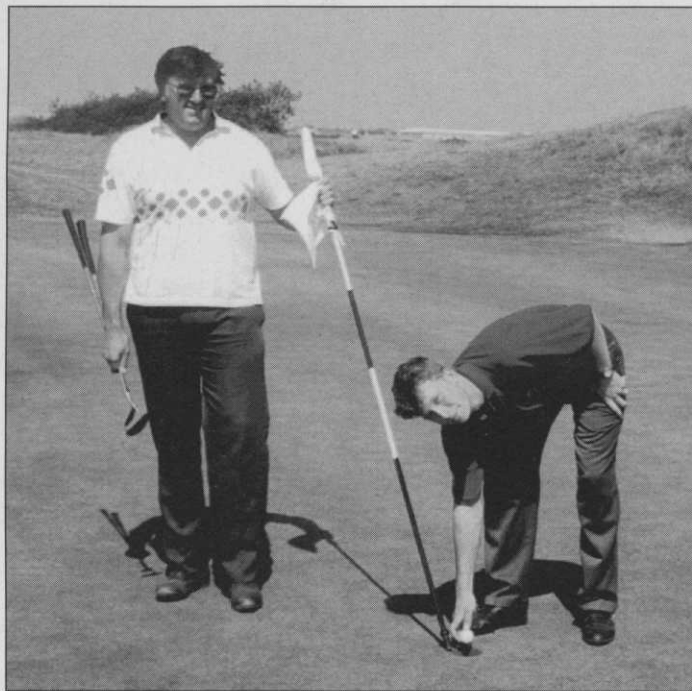
The Monday evening entertainment was provided by The Chorley Mashers a three piece Lancashire folk group who could turn their hand to anything from the traditional tunes of the area to spoof Buddy Holly songs. The music and the witty repartee with the audience was the ideal accompaniment to the heat wave's stand-in for the Lancashire hot pot.

By Tuesday, despite a little more breeze, St Annes Old Links was resembling a scene from the London Marathon with drinks stations placed strategically around the course and desperate competitors making slight detours from their preferred route to quench an aching thirst.

The men who were coping best were Mike Sheehan, of Mere G&CC, who was combining his on-course heroics with a dual role as Bert Cross' right hand man and tournament administrator, Kevin Yeoman, Shaun Richards and Dean Eldridge of Ellesborough GC who had the advantage of his lovely girlfriend caddying for him. All had either clinched trophies already or put themselves in position to win one of the 54 hole awards.

Tuesday also saw the holding of the Vitax Putting Cup over St Annes Old Links excellent putting green – a bowling green in a previous guise. The man who proved to have the magic putting wand this year was Mark Whittle of Mentmore GC who flew round in a mere 33 strokes – in putting terms three under-par.

The Gala dinner on Tuesday night was a huge success with an attendance of almost 150 which was a record for any dinner held in the club. The catering staff did a marvellous job coping with the numbers and serving up such an excellent meal. The main speakers at the dinner were BIGGA Chairman, Barry Heaney; Club Captain, Leon Gaskill and Dewi



Above: James Seisun retrieves the ball after his hole-in-one on the 9th
Below: Dewi Morris displays a National Tournament shirt



Morris, England scrum half in the recent Rugby World Cup. Dewi, a late replacement for Bill Beaumont who was called away on business, was in fine form recounting tales from the World Cup and spilling the beans about the nicknames of some of his team mates – his recent retirement from international rugby obviously allowing him to speak more freely! We can only hope that he doesn't bump into Brian Moore or "Captain Darling" alias "Bum Chin" alias Will Carling in the next few weeks.

With all to play for on the

Wednesday the golf reached spectacular heights. None greater than 18 year-old James Seisun's tee shot on St Annes Old Links signature 9th hole – see cover of July's magazine.

James, of Farnham Park GC in Bury-St-Edmunds, who has only been playing the game three years, hit the perfect tee shot, it bounced twice before finding the bottom of the cup before an appreciative audience including Miracle Amenity Care's Roger Mossop whose enthusiastic leaping up and down and cheering alerted those in the clubhouse to

the feat. It was James' first hole-in-one and, needless to say, clinched the nearest the pin competition for the day!

At the head of the field the battle was fierce with Mike Sheehan and 22 year-old Mark Cutler eventually winning the Miracle Amenity Care Trophies in the 1-14 and 15-28 categories respectively and Shaun Richards clinching the best gross Hardi Amenity Sprayers Trophy with an excellent three round total of 222. Mid Anglia won the Jubilee Cup thanks to the combined efforts of Robert Pearce, Mark Ellis and Mark Whittle.

RESULTS

54 Hole

Nett (1-14) 1. M. Sheehan 211; 2. C.J. Ball 212; 3. D. Eldridge 215.

Nett (15-28) 1. M. Cutler 210 (Miracle Amenity Care Trophy); 2. K. Yeoman 210; 3. R. Pearce 214.

Winner of the Hardi Amenity Sprayers Trophy for Best Gross – S. Richards 222.

Section Team and winner of Jubilee Cup – Mid-Anglia R. Pearce, M. Ellis and M. Whittle 661.

36 Hole

Nett (1-14) 1. M. Sheehan 139 (David Royale Cup); 2. D. Eldridge 140.

Nett (15-28) 1. K. Yeoman 136 (Pattison Cup); 2. M. Cutler 142.

Nett (55+) 1. W. Shipley.

Monday

Nett. 1. M. Cutler 66 (Fisons Bowl); 2. K. Yeoman 67; 3. J.H. Borja 68.

Gross S. Richards 73

Longest Drive A. Clarke.

Nearest Pin S. Sullivan

TUESDAY

Nett C. Ball 67 (Standard Golf Trophy); 2. N. Rawlings 69; 3. M. Sheehan 69.

Gross. D. Eldridge 74.

18 Hole Putting M. Whittle (Vitax Putting Cup)

Longest Drive M. Ewan.

Nearest Pin P. Fitzjohn.

WEDNESDAY

Nett. 1. J. Berry 68 (W. Hargreaves Trophy); 2. M. Cutler 68; 3. I. Rose 70.

Gross. S. Richards 75

Longest Drive A. Peel

Nearest Pin J. Seisun 9th (Hole-in-One); B. Holt (16th)



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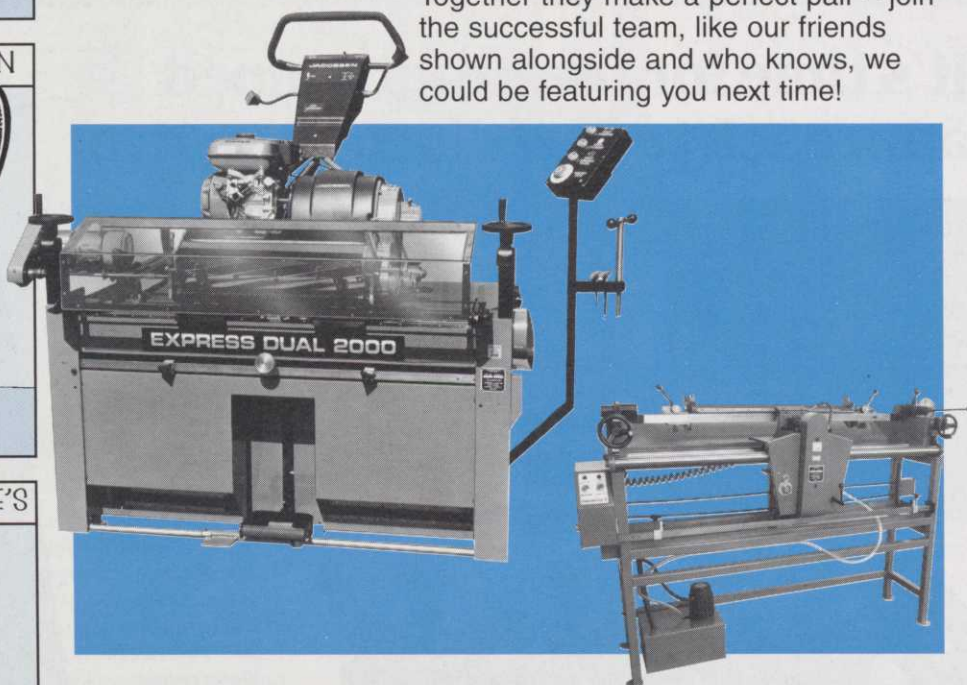
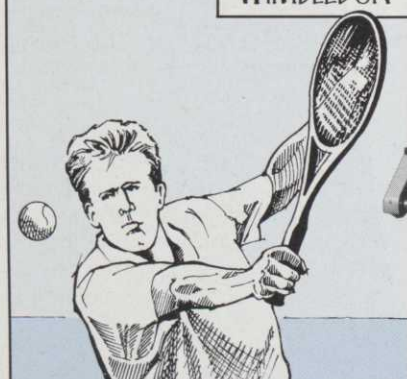


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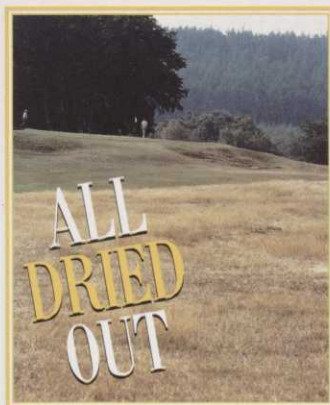
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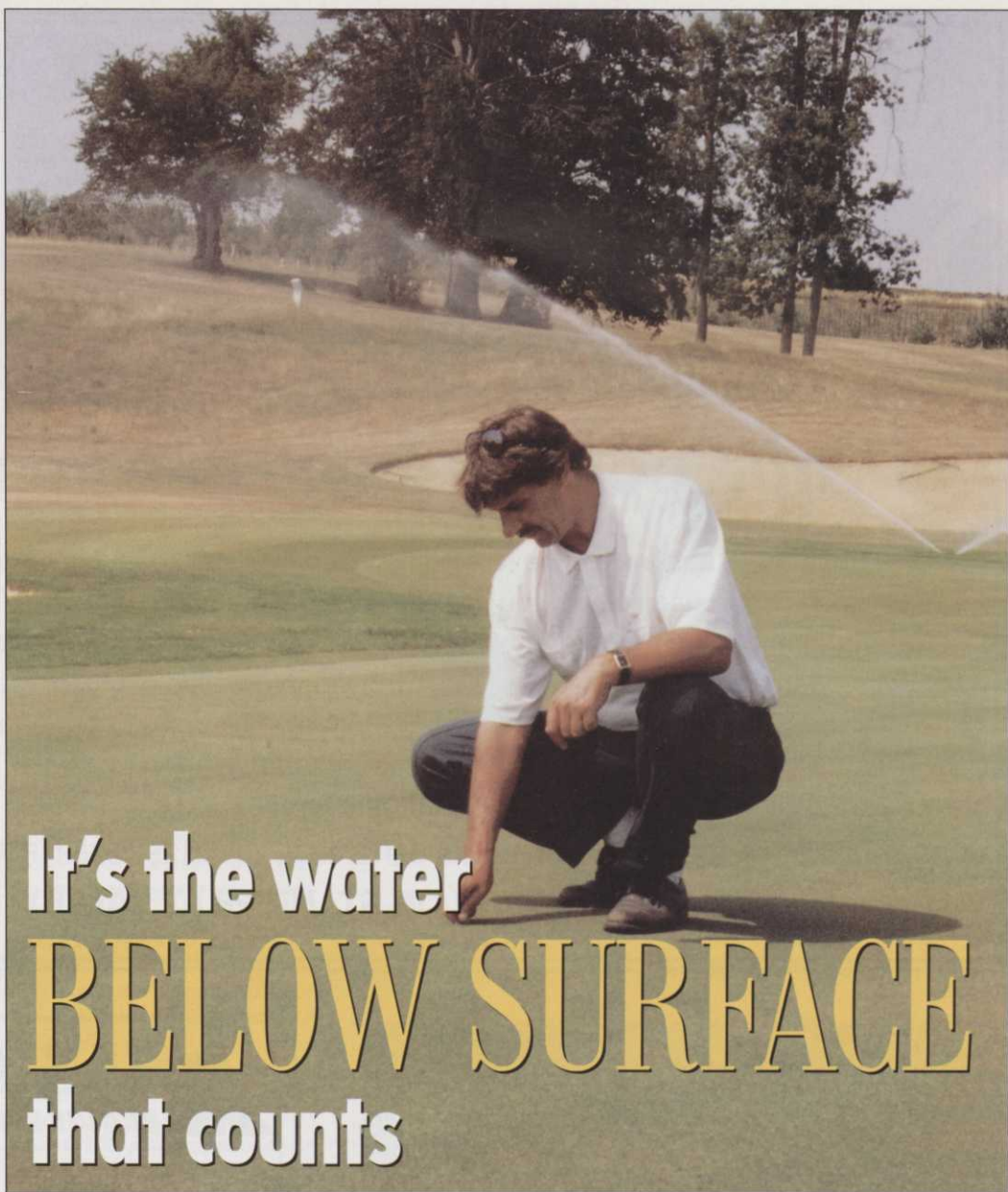


Gordon Jaaback compares the use of water for the purposes of turf maintenance at two different golf clubs.

The wise management of water use becomes vital in the extended heat wave conditions we have been experiencing. Understandably water applied is most productive if it is sufficient only to meet the turfgrass needs and is applied to a depth where it can be utilised with minimum loss to evaporation and drainage. Applying only enough water to meet the demand implies that it is essential to monitor the use of the water applied and consequently gauge when the next applications should be made.

Continuous daily applications involve greater evaporation losses and also lead to shallow root growth that is quick to die back at the time of water restrictions or irrigation failure. Thatch accumulation is encouraged. Grass cover can be unhealthily succulent; anaerobic conditions develop easily and grass is more prone to disease attack. The increasing costs of water too are of concern and it must be expected that in the future supplies of potable water will not be as readily available for maintaining turfgrass areas.

Looking to those in Britain that share a concern for wiser water use, the following case studies give personal accounts that are worthy of consideration. The two Course Managers have taken a closer look at irrigating and beyond into water conservation and self sufficiency in water supplies. One, confined to main line water supply, soil greens and a restricted irrigation installation, has striven to find the actual water needs of his greens; the other, with enormous needs to sustain growth on large sand greens and tees as well as sand carpet fairways, has sought to contain and control water flow



It's the water BELOW SURFACE that counts

Mike Smith has the task of controlling and monitoring the movement of water cost effectively over an expansive course

on the course. Both consider water as a priceless resource in golf course maintenance and not the everyday commodity that is taken for granted by so many.



Peter Negus at Willingdon Golf Club in Eastbourne, West Sussex

Peter, pictured, has been severely restricted in water use – the course being dependent on main line water supply and a limited irrigation installation. With the

rapid increase in costs over recent years to a gross price of £1.00 per cubic metre (which is discounted in his circumstance), he has always sought ways to reduce his need.

Actual need

In 1993, Peter's club sought the professional services of A & P Hill Irrigation Monitoring Services to assess accurately the actual daily water losses from his greens. Using the Neutron probe, they concluded that the average daily loss in the summer was in the region of 2mm rising to a maximum of 3mm on the hottest days. Peter, in turn, proceeded in 1994 to apply a regular daily application of 2.5mm in dry conditions. He assessed this measurement by installing measurement cups and relating to actual metered flow rates to irrigated greens installed with part circle sprinklers. He did find, however, that with this approach dry areas still developed in the heat of summer and

wetting was not thorough.

In 1995, he was encouraged into applying water to penetrate at least to the depth of root growth and observing the water use with a soil probe. With his concern for healthy turfgrass and particularly the degree of turgidity (succulency) he was able to gauge when the next application was necessary establishing an irrigation interval in keeping with the heat and resultant water demand. (A more positive means of gauging the irrigation interval is based on measured water losses from an evaporation tank which bare a constant relationship with total water losses from grassed cover.) Peter has, however, installed a simple evapotranspiration gauge which measures evaporation and makes the adjustment – and this will serve the same purpose.

Programming

With the limitation of operating only two sprinklers around a

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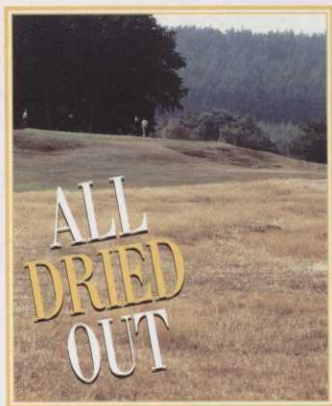
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Oct 3 Oct 4 Oct 5	TDB 1 TDB 2 TDB 3	Tractor Driving Basic	1 Day	Safe operation Tractor systems Practical instruction Trailer use	£60
Oct 10 Oct 11 Oct 12	IDE 1 IDE 2 IDE 3	Introduction to Diesel engines	1 Day	How it works Basic maintenance and repair Safety	£60
Oct 17 Oct 18 Oct 19	HTE 1 HTE 2 HTE 3	Hydraulics on turf equipment	1 Day	Basic hydraulic theory. How it works Fault finding	£60
Oct 24 Oct 25 Oct 26	BCU 1 BCU 2 BCU 3	Basic cutting unit maintenance	1 Day	Covering reel and rotary. How it works Basic adjustments and maintenance	£60
Oct 31 Nov 1 Nov 2	ACU 1 ACU 2 ACU 3	Advanced cutting unit repair and regrinding	1 Day	Covers overhaul and regrinding of reel mowers	£60
Nov 7 Nov 8 Nov 9	DEF 1 DEF 2 DEF 3	Diesel engine fault finding and overhaul	1 Day	Covers basic fault diagnosis and rectification Rebuilding	£60
Nov 14 Nov 15 Nov 16	ESS 1 ESS 2 ESS 3	Electrical safety systems	1 Day	Covers basic electrical systems How it works Testing (for operator)	£60
Nov 21 Nov 22 Nov 23	SEM 1 SEM 2 SEM 3	Small engine maintenance and repair	1 Day	Covers how it works. Basic maintenance. Adjustments and repairs. Fault finding	£60

These courses underpin Tasks 301 and 302 in the GTC Manual. Completion of each course awards 3 points for the Master Greenkeepers Certificate.

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green at one time and the plan to complete three repeat cycles, each of 5-7 minutes, in one night, Peter is only able to irrigate nine greens. Separating nine drier greens from the total, he has been able to stagger the irrigation of the two sets of greens with no noticeable difference in putting performance. During May, which was very dry but cool, he found he was able to restrict watering to five day intervals without the quality of the putting surface suffering. Applying a total of 71h to 10mm in repeat cycles each of 2'hmm he found he got deeper penetration of water to the depths he desired.

Furthermore, he found that now in the hottest part of the prolonged drought period he has not found it necessary to apply 7.5mm more than twice a week – believing that his maximum need will not exceed 15-17mm per week. Small night applications are, however, applied to follow up liquid tonic applications and light sand dressings.

For example, recent recorded applications were:

- 27 Jul applied 10mm
- 31 Jul applied 5mm
- 01 Aug applied 2mm to follow liquid tonic
- 04 Aug applied 3mm to follow sand dressing
- 06 Aug applied 8mm.

Peter's real significant finding is the lack of dry areas and the reduced need for hand watering. Also, by drying out the surface he has a less succulent but more healthy grass cover – and at significant less cost.

Mike Smith at Moatlands Golf Club in Paddock Wood, Kent

Mike has the challenging task of controlling and monitoring the movement of water cost effectively over his expansive course. With full circle sprinklers, irrigating greens, tees and surrounds, together with 20 ha of fairways, demands a considerable storage supply. His reservoir capacity is 40,000 cub. metres and in both 1993 and 1994 he was able to

meet his watering requirements and replenish the reservoir by the beginning of the next spring, mainly due to his efforts in recovering drainage water.

Sprinkler coverage

With greater emphasis on green irrigation using full circle sprinklers, applications of water are not uniform. Sprinklers are individually controlled in accordance with conditions throughout the green – high dry areas receiving more than low wet areas. Furthermore, a schedule allowing for the troublesome east wind operates with adjustment to sprinklers assisted by the wind and to those hindered. Seldom is the application to a green a set precipitation and yet with negligible variation in evapotranspiration losses throughout the course the targeted amount of water to be made available is the same on all greens. Still, whatever allowances are made to secure the same precipitation at any point on a green the effects of wind and run-off within the thatch layer still make it difficult to obtain even wetting and there remains the need to hand water parts of individual greens.

Generally under the dry conditions experienced in July, Mike's approach has been to operate 2-3 soak times (repeat cycles) in a night of irrigation applying a total of 7-10mm per night. With generally three full days before irrigating again (two on exceptionally hot days) his application rate is 15-21mm per week.

Effect on putting

He finds the repeat soak times necessary to secure adequate penetration to reach the 'water front'. Allowing the surface to dry out to a degree, Mike finds the best putting surface occurs just before the following irrigation at the point of 'turn' when the turgid leaves losing water become 'hardened'. This is before the point at which temporary wilting is reached and is generally an indication that irrigation

Contact!



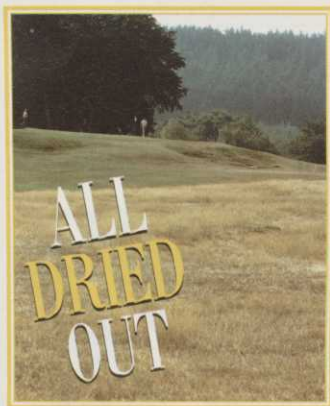
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'Soil greens hold more water than sand greens to the same depth and different grass species vary in their water use rate... this is more noticeable in conditions of limited supply'

should be commenced soon. At this point, it is interesting to note the stimpmeter reading goes from 9 to 10.5 due to the reduced resistance of the more hardened grass leaves.

Water recovery

The most significant aspect of water management undertaken at Moatlands is the recovery of drainage water from greens and gully drains on fairways. In 1993, only 20 ha was subject to recovery with the necessary pump installation. The amount collected and pumped up to the reservoir was 16,147 cub. metres. In 1994, the recovery area was increased to 45 ha and the amount pumped to storage was 48,867 cub. metres. With annual rainfall of 691mm and 839mm in

the respective years the collection represented 11.6% and 12.9% respectively of the potential rainfall for the two years.

With increasing water costs it must be of increasing economic importance to seek self sufficiency in water supplies on a golf course – and it is encouraging to learn that off barely 20 ha sufficient water (16,147 cub. metres) was collected to be able to irrigate greens and tees on the average golf course in the period of a year. (10,000 cub. metres supplies sufficient water to irrigate 2 ha of greens and tees using part circle sprinklers).

Concluding thoughts

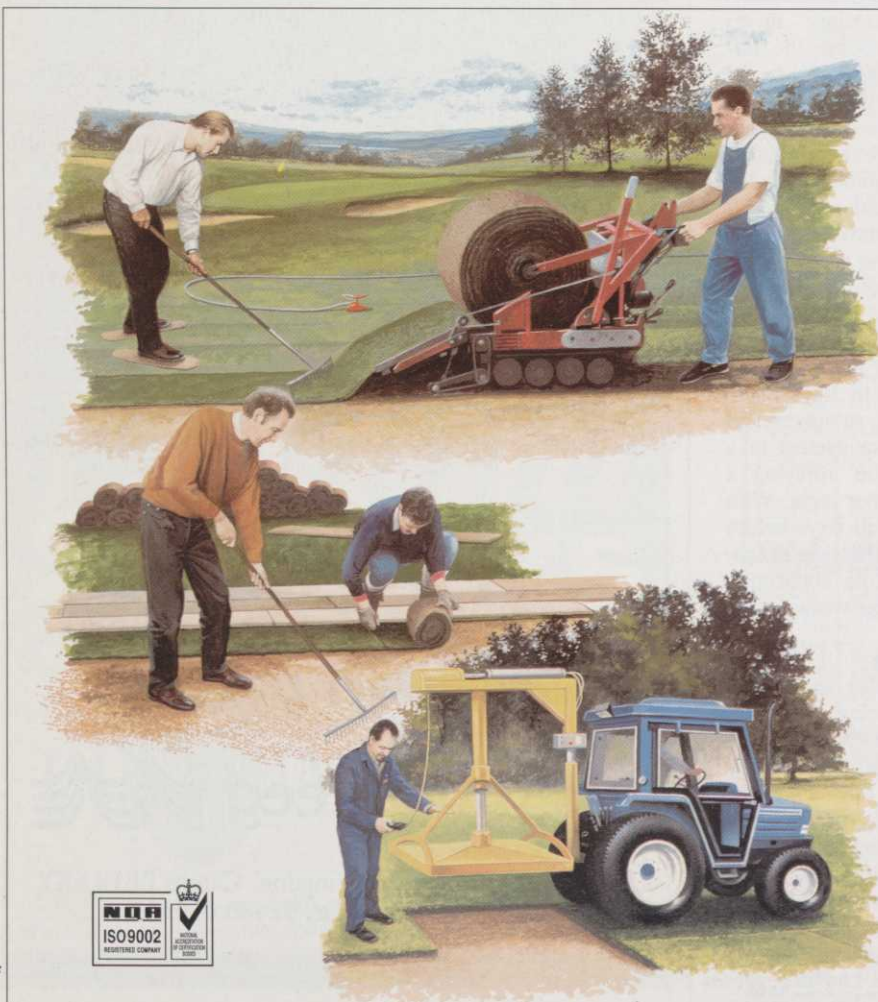
It is interesting to relate Mike's experiences with creeping bent on sand greens to those of Peter

Negus with bent/meadowgrass on soil greens. Both have approximately the same water need, rely on repeat soak times and allow the surface to partially dry out. This also underscores the fact that provided there is adequate water supply to the root system and no water is lost to drainage there is no difference in the water demand when comparing soil to sand greens – this must not be confused with the fact that soil greens hold more water than sand greens to the same depth and that different grass species vary in their water use rate though this is more noticeable in conditions of limited supply.

Surely the over-riding need in times of drought is the continual monitoring of moisture in the rootzone with a soil probe. Water

in the surface layers, so vulnerable to evaporation loss, is of little value compared to that well within the depth of the root system. Thought should be given to attaining deeper penetration of water below the thatch layer, allowing the surface to dry out – and to managing irrigation of turfgrass into a more 'hardened' state than the present consistent unhealthy succulence that results from daily watering.

■ Gordon Jaaback is an agronomist with practical experience in a wide range of conditions. He has long advocated a wiser approach to irrigation and the need to conserve water. Having made a special study in soil:water:plant inter-relationships, he advises on cost-effective benefits in turfgrass maintenance.



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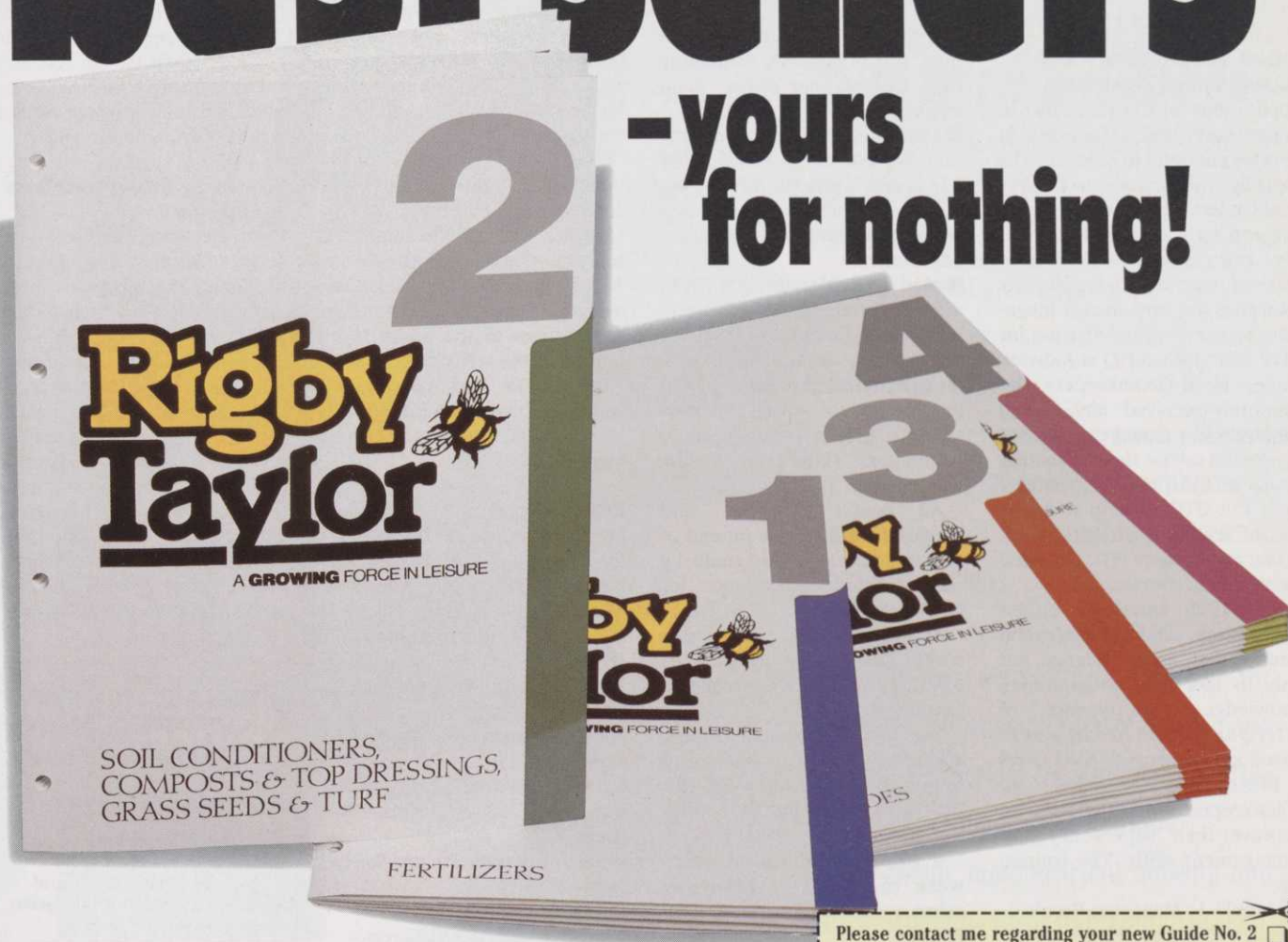
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Education Update

BY KEN RICHARDSON

A further reminder for those greenkeepers considering attending this year's supervisory and management courses, at Aldwark Manor and Elmwood College, next year's supervisory and management courses in Ireland, the Midlands, the North, the South East and the South West, information on the BIGGA library and an update on the Massey Ferguson Machinery Workshops.

BIGGA SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT COURSES

Applications for this year's BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses continue to come in. The courses, which proved to be very popular last year, provide greenkeepers with important supervisory and management skills. Be sure to reserve your place by returning the card in this magazine, together with a cheque for £117.50 to BIGGA HQ at Aldwark Manor. Head Greenkeepers who have not received any formal supervisory or management training should advise their clubs that grants of £150 may be available from the GTC to help with the cost of sending their greenkeepers on one or more GTC endorsed management courses.

The 1995 series of BIGGA Supervisory and Management Courses has been designed not only to meet the underpinning knowledge requirements of S/NVQ Level 3 Units but also to introduce elements S/NVQ Level 4. BIGGA courses are open to all greenkeepers who need to improve their supervisory and management skills. The courses are:

■ Module 1: Managing People 1. October 16 – October 20. Cover-

ing team building, interpersonal skills, leadership, time management and computers in greenkeeping.

■ Module 2: Managing People 2. October 30 – November 3. Covering assertive communication, influencing skills, grievance and discipline and computers in greenkeeping.

■ Module 3: Managing Operations and Resources. November 6- November 10. Covering planning and organising, estimating cost, budgets and project management.

■ Module 4: Managing Information. November 13 – November 17. Covering writing memos, letters and reports, communication skills, collecting and recording information.

■ Module 5: Management Techniques. November 20 – November 24. Covering level 4 management techniques. Topics include maintenance and improvement of service and operations, project management, negotiation skills and quality assurance.

All course delegates and employers will receive an end of course summary. This could be used to provide evidence for N/SVQ assessors.

Attendance at each year's course qualifies for eight credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

The cost per week, including accommodation, all meals and tuition fees is £420+VAT for BIGGA members and £475+VAT for BIGGA non-members.

If you need advice on which week to attend or have any other queries call me on 01347 838581.

Send your application NOW.

Regional Supervisory and Management Courses

Places on the Scottish Region two – day supervisory and management course are still available. These residential courses, which will be held on October 16/17 and October 18/19, have been introduced to make management training more accessible to all BIGGA members. Each course costs £50 for BIGGA members and £150 to non-members. Reserve your place by sending a deposit of £10 to BIGGA HQ.

The Northern Region courses will be held during the week commencing February 12, in Cheshire and in Yorkshire, the Midland Region and the South Eastern Region in the week commencing February 5, three two day courses in the South West Region in the week commencing February 19 and 1 two day course in Killarney, Southern Ireland, in the week commencing March 4.

BIGGA Library

Books and videos have been flowing in and out of the BIGGA library at a steady rate. New titles added recently include:

- Essentials of Health and Safety at Work
- Pesticide Regulation Handbook – A Guide for Users
- Work Equipment – Guidance on Regulations
- Guide to the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and dangerous Occurrences
- Management of Health and Safety at Work
- First Aid At Work
- General COSHH ACOP, Carcin-

gens ACOP and Biological Agents Workplace Health Safety and Welfare

Storage of Approved Pesticides: Guidance for Farmers and Others Our Health and Safety Policy Step by Step Guide to COSHH Assessment

Business Accounting Golf Course Putting Green Construction Guidelines Fertiliser for Turf Sands for Sports Turf Construction and Maintenance

Full library lists can be obtained from Regional Administrators or from BIGGA HQ.

Massey Ferguson Machinery Workshops

Plans are being finalised for the series of three Massey Ferguson Machinery Workshops.

They will be held during March/April 1996 at Elmwood College, Oaklands College and at a location in the Midlands. The programme, covering all aspects of tractor use and maintenance, will last for four days. Each college will be asked to nominate up to two students and Massey Ferguson/BIGGA will select 12 students to attend each workshop.

The cost of training, travel and accommodation will all be met by Massey Ferguson.

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Walter Woods, Links Superintendent at St Andrews: "Hard work and learning is a great combination."

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