



220A



RZI 700



TURF GATOR



1500 AERATOR



3235A



2653A

OUR QUALITY IS ON COURSE

No one can accuse John Deere of standing still. Since 1995, we've added 8 quality machines to our line. Another strong statement about our commitment to your business. New this year are the Turf Gator and 220A Walk-Behind Greens Mower.

The Turf Gator's unique combination of toughness and quietness make it perfect for the golf course. Toughness comes from unibody construction and one-piece forged axles. Quietness comes from a large volume silencer, internal sound absorbing material, and golf-car-style transmission.

The 220A is the latest addition to John Deere's quality line of walk-behind greens mowers. 220A improvements include an isolation-mounted engine for reduced vibration, improved operator-presence safety system, and an easier-filling grass box design.

Add superior parts support and our existing line of quality mowers, tractors, aerators, root zone injectors and utility vehicles and you see why John Deere is the fastest growing golf and turf equipment name in the world. Talk with us soon for a first-hand look.



NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE

John Deere Ltd., Harby Road, Langar, Nottingham NG 13 9HT, Telephone 01949 863299 (answerphone)



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER
MAJESTY THE QUEEN
SUPPLIERS OF AGRICULTURAL
EQUIPMENT
JOHN DEERE LIMITED,
NOTTINGHAM



President
The Rt. Hon.
Viscount Whitelaw
K.T., C.H., M.C.,
D.L.

BIGGA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman: Patrick Murphy
Vice Chairman: Gordon Child
Past Chairman: Dean Cleaver

BOARD MEMBERS

Richard Barker
George Barr
Robin Greaves
Jim Paton
David Milbourne

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Neil Thomas B.A.

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

John Pemberton

EDUCATION OFFICER

Ken Richardson

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER

James McEvoy

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES OFFICER

Janet Adamson

Where to contact BIGGA

Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Airedale,
York, North Yorkshire YO6 2NF

Tel: 01347 838581

Fax: 01347 838864

GREENKEEPER
International

is the official monthly magazine
of the British & International
Golf Greenkeepers Association

EDITORIAL

Editor: Scott MacCallum

ADVERTISING

Sales and Marketing Manager:
James McEvoy
Sales and Marketing Assistants:
Amanda Freeman
Jenny Pantan
Telephone: 01347 838581
E-mail: general@bigga.co.uk

PRODUCTION

Design and Production Editor:
Tim Moat, telephone 01904 610611
E-mail: timmoat@headline-comm.co.uk

PRINTING

Hi-Tec Print, Unit 7, Universal Crescent,
North Anston Trading Estate,
North Anston, Sheffield S31 7NZ
Tel: 01909 568533, fax: 01909 568206

**Greenkeeper International: winner
of Certificate of Merit in Magazine
of the Year category, Editing for
Industry Awards 1994 and 1995**

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 by the Association for
such content, advertising or product information
that may appear.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription
rate: UK £34 per year, Europe and Eire £44. The
magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members,
golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry,
libraries and central government.

ISSN 0961-6977
© 1997 British & International
Golf Greenkeepers Association

■ The next edition of
Greenkeeper International
should be with you by April 9

GREENKEEPER
International

MARCH 1997

Contents

**Facelift for
Musselburgh**

Mary Queen of Scots
played there in 1567 – and
while there have doubtless
been other changes since
then, current improvements
are being hailed as a big success. Scott MacCallum visited the
course recognised as the oldest in the world.....**Pages 26-28**



Making machinery last the distance

Picture the scene: the day of a major club tournament and a
vital piece of machinery fails. Take steps to lessen the chances of
such a nightmare with the Learning Experience ..**Pages 10-11**

A decade of progress

BIGGA is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year and
Greenkeeper International together with the Association's first
Chairman Walter Woods, step back in time**Pages 13-15**

Inside the STRI

The Sports Turf Research Institute commands the utmost
respect from our industry. But what really goes on, on a day to
day basis? We look behind the scenes..... **Pages 30-32**

Regular features

Scott MacCallum The *Greenkeeper International* editor reflects on BIGGA's
first decade with a sideways glance at other events happening in 1987... days
when Major and Blair meant Farrah Fawcett and LionelPage 4

News Turf grower's plans for the new millennium... a greenkeeper's revenge...
new faces... worthy winners... details of the new Hayter Challenge plus a way of
controlling the rabbit population on golf coursesPages 5, 7, 9

Education Ken Richardson with a run down of the awards and competitions
which could transform your career in 1997Page 36

Cover

Musselburgh, acknowledged to be the
world's oldest golf course – and now
enjoying a facelift Picture by Brian Morgan

WIN £50 CASH IN OUR
BUYER'S GUIDE
COMPETITION:
TURN TO PAGE 54

**FREE READER
REPLY SERVICE**

Use the post-paid
Reader Reply
Card facing
Page 2 for
further
information on
the products and
services
advertised in this
issue. Just state
the companies' Ad
Ref numbers, post the card to us
and we'll arrange for further
information to be sent to you
direct.



ADVERTISERS' INDEX
a quick reference guide

	Ad Ref	Page
Baileys	339	32
Banks	168	42
Barenbrug	172	34,38
Bathgate Silica Sands	543	36
C&P Soilcare	46	8
Charterhouse	130	40-41
Force Limagrain	507	45
Glen Heat	280	24
Hardi	25	64
Hayter	90	6
Hoofmark	539	12
IC Irrigation	541	24
J Gibbs & Co	542	12
John Deere	103	2
Johnsons Seeds	540	10-11
Kawasaki	544	51
Kubota	86	49
Lely	61	18-19
	21,	46-47
Levington	102	21
Links Leisure	493	12
Logic Irrigation	545	24
Marlwood	501	8
Miracle	54	28, 37
New Holland	165	52
North Staffs Irrigation	217	24
Ocmis	360	23
Pattissons	35	8
Ransomes	9	29
Rhône Poulenc	59	16
Risboro Turf	386	36
SGI	491	22
Service Chemicals	304	30, 35
Sisis	176	50
Sovereign Turf	435	38
Standard Golf	421	34
Wend Free	504	31
Wessex Machinery	210	34
Westurf		8
Buyer's Guide		54-58
Classified		59
Job Shop		59
Recruitment		60-61

**ADVERTISING WORKS
IN GREENKEEPER
INTERNATIONAL:**

“Hepworth Minerals and
Chemicals Ltd has
found *Greenkeeper
International* an invaluable asset
in the promotional campaign for
HMC Pro-Sport rootzone
products
- TREVOR
LEADBEATER,
Hepworth Minerals and
Chemicals Ltd
FOR MORE DETAILS CALL:
James McEvoy, Amanda
Freeman or Jenny Pantan at
BIGGA HQ on 01347 838581.”

Greenkeeper Education and Development Fund

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 01347 838581.

GOLDEN KEY CIRCLE COMPANY MEMBERS:

• Amazone Ground Care • Bailey's of Norfolk • Hardi Ltd • Hayter Ltd
• Jacobsen E-Z-Go Textron • John Deere Ltd • Kubota UK Ltd
• Levington Horticulture Ltd • Miracle Professional • Mommersteeg
International • Ocmis Irrigation UK Ltd • PGA European Tour • Ransomes
• Rhône Poulenc Amenity • Rigby Taylor Ltd • Supaturf Products Ltd
• The Toro Company

SILVER KEY CIRCLE COMPANY MEMBERS:

• Avoncrop Amenity Products • Fenchurch Insurance Brokers Ltd • Hepworth
Minerals & Chemicals Ltd • H Pattisson & Co Ltd • Rolawn Ltd • Sisis Equipment Ltd



BIGGA TURF MANAGEMENT EXHIBITION
BTME 98
HARROGATE
EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME

You can book your exhibition space NOW for BTME 98 – for details call Amanda Freeman on 01347 838581

Ten years? Seems like yesterday

At the risk of sounding a little like that Edmonds bloke, in Noel's Telly Years, what were you doing a decade ago and what can you remember about 1987?

The reason I ask is that, as you no doubt know, this year is BIGGA's 10th anniversary and it's interesting to look back 10 years and recall what life was like when BIGGA was born.

In the interests of this column, I've undertaken some extensive research of a time when the names Major and Blair conjured up images of Farrah Fawcett and Lionel, the Berlin Wall was still in place, Nelson Mandela was still inside and Melinda Messenger was only 12... or should that be 16?

Well, back in 1987 Europe won the Ryder Cup at Muirfield Village, the first time ever in the United States. Nick Faldo hadn't even won a Major at the beginning of the year but by the end of July was being acclaimed for his 18 straight pars and victory in The Open at the other Muirfield.

What else happened in golf? Larry Mize produced the cup of a lifetime to deny Greg Norman in the play-off for the Masters, while Wales got the better of Scotland in the World Cup of Golf (Neil Thomas made me put this in).

The year also saw the deaths of two legends of the game, Sir Henry Cotton and Bobby Locke, while high profile courses like East Sussex National, The Wisley, Loch Lomond, The Oxfordshire and Collingtree Park were mere twinkles in an architect's eye.

Elsewhere in sport Coventry won the FA Cup; Rangers hadn't started the run which now threatens Celtic's nine in a row record; Martina Navratilova claimed her sixth consecutive Wimbledon single's title; Ben Johnson won the World Championship

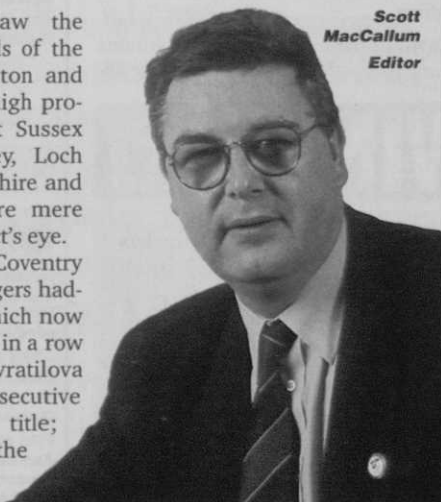
100 metres in a world record time; Mike Tyson became the youngest winner of the World Heavyweight title; Lester Piggott was sent to prison for tax evasion and Mike Gatting went nose to nose with Pakistani umpire Shakoor Rana.

Looking at these events it is perhaps surprising how some, at least, seem like only yesterday, and it does help to reinforce the fact that, when recalling the formation of BIGGA, we're not uncovering ancient history.

The Association has made huge strides in a relatively short space of time. From virtually a standing start the Association now boasts almost 6,500 members; a progressive and wide ranging education programme the envy of many other industries; a trade show which has grown to be the largest indoor of its type in Europe and a successful magazine (I hope!).

Add to this the fact that the next two years should see BIGGA move to new custom-built offices and you have an Association which will continue to move forward and look after members' needs for many more decades to come.

Those who helped to create this success have every reason to feel extremely proud.



Scott
MacCallum
Editor

As I see it...

BY PAT MURPHY
BIGGA CHAIRMAN

Since becoming Chairman my feet haven't touched the ground. No sooner had I finished BTME 97 then I was off to Las Vegas for the GCSAA Conference and Show.

BIGGA had a stand at the show and it was an outstanding success with a great many membership enquiries. Interestingly, our Master Greenkeeper Award scheme appeared particularly popular with quite a number of superintendents.

It was a busy week with functions every day and I made presentations to Joe Baidy, President in '95 and Paul McGuinness, the incoming President.

I also had the privilege to sit beside Jaime Ortiz-Patino, the President of Valderrama Golf Club during the Gala Dinner and he chatted to me about preparations for the Ryder Cup in September. I also met both Robert Trent Jones Senior and Junior.

A speaker at the opening session was the astronaut Jim Lovell, whom Tom Hanks played in Apollo 13. He gave one of the best talks I've ever heard.

Another highlight of the Conference was the International Symposium. Neil Thomas and Per-Olof Ljung both spoke excellently about FEGGA and generated quite a bit of interest among the other nations represented.

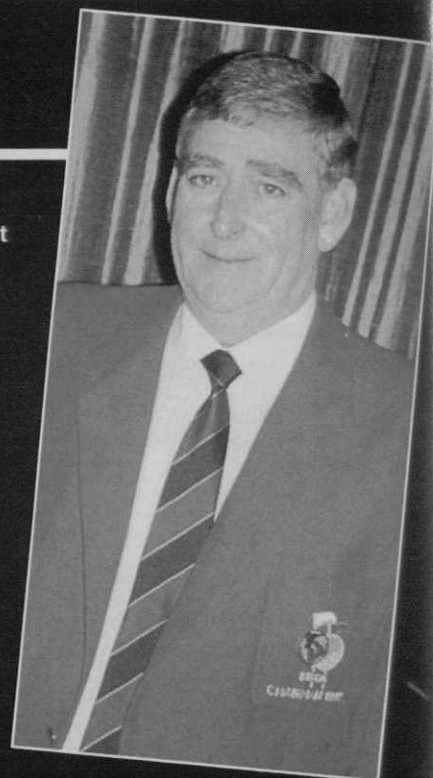
It was good to meet up with Toro Student of the Year Fintan Brennan, who was at college in the States as part of his prize while Miracle Professional Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Cedric Gough was part of our group and appeared to enjoy himself. We also met George Brown, from Turnberry, and our five American Master Greenkeepers who were at the Show.

The Show itself was enormous and, while not being knocked sideways by any one new product, it was interesting to see hand tools and some of the extensions which are unavailable in this country.

I also brought back some of the soft spikes for my Chairman of Green to try out. I do think they will be huge in this country soon. Not only do they protect the course but also the car park, walkways and the clubhouse.

Las Vegas is some place. The light shows in Freemont Street have to be seen to be believed while Caesar's Palace Hotel has an amazing show every hour. We visited the Valley of Fire where the Star Wars film was made and also went to the Hoover Dam.

I also went to the infamous World Heavyweight fight with Lennox Lewis and Oliver McCall but we were seated so far back my wife saw more than I did watching it on television. It was the first world title fight I've been to and will probably be the last. I did have a drink with Jim Watt and Reg Gutteridge though.



Pat Murphy

Bill voted personality of the year by BTLIA

At the recent AGM of the British Turf and Landscape Irrigation Association the incoming Chairman, Gerry Wilkins, presented Bill Hawthorn with the Association's "Personality of the Year" award for 1996. The annual award was established in 1995 and is made on the basis of members' nominations.

In congratulating him on being only the second recipient, the Chairman said that the honour

recognised Bill Hawthorn's outstanding contribution to the turf irrigation industry over a period of more than 30 years and his work in developing the BTLIA since its formation in 1978.

Bill was part of the founding committee of the Association and served as its first Secretary/Treasurer during the early years. He is also a past Chairman and is currently a member of the committee. He was a major contributor to the

Association's highly regarded "Guide", now in its fourth edition, which defines a code of ethics and minimum standards of system design and contract implementation to which members bind themselves. He also helped to establish the Diploma Course in Turf and Landscape Irrigation run jointly by Myerscough College and the Association.

Bill is Chairman of Watermation Sprinkler and Controls Ltd.

A BIGGA welcome to Jenny



Visitors to BTME may have already met BIGGA's latest recruit, Jenny Panton, as she spent a couple of

days at the show prior to joining the staff on a full time basis, replacing Louise Lunn.

Jenny joins the Sales and Marketing Department as Sales and Marketing Assistant.

Before joining BIGGA 27 year-old Jenny worked for the York and County Press alongside Amanda Freeman whom she joins up with again at Aldwark Manor.

Coincidentally, Tony Cocker, BIGGA's part time Accounts Assistant, also worked for the same company.

As well as working in the advertisement department Jenny spent time in the promotions department organising wedding fayres and other similar events.

Prior to that she spent five years working for Thomas Cook in the Harrogate and York offices where she worked in the flight centre and was also ski coordinator.

Jenny lists photography among her hobbies.

Tony Mears has been appointed Service Manager for Allen Power Equipment. A Chartered

Mechanical Engineer, Tony, 59, will be responsible for all technical aspects of both the Allen and Echo range of products.

Alex Wright has been appointed Amenity Technology's new Office Sales Manager. Alex, who

graduated from Reading University in '94, will be overseeing and developing office sales and customer support.

Wiedenmann UK has appointed David Bate as Sales Manager for England and Wales.

Scottish Region's worthy winners



The recipients of the Scottish Region 1996 Patron's Awards were presented with their awards at a recent luncheon.

Pictured are, from left, Stephen Sullivan, Craigie Hill; Alan Russell, Torphin Hill; Sam Morrison, Scottish Regional Chairman; Martin

Kohler, Swanston; Bryan Cocker, Alyth; Scott Ballantyne, Cowglen; Drew McKechnie, Douglas Park and in front, Andy O'Hare, Leven Links.

Three others, Jimmy Johnstone, Turnberry; Lee Blackburn, Southerness, and Gordon McRae, Ratho Park, were unavailable.

Turf grower has plans for the new millennium

Inturf has announced plans to produce Millennium Turf which will go on sale from 1 January 2000.

Millennium Turf will be mature cultivated turfgrass grown using ten different grasses and the main feature of this new turf is that it can be used in a multitude of situations.

While some of the species present in Millennium Turf will flourish, some may diminish in vigour, so all the time adapting to conditions in which the turf is placed.

Inturf plans to market Millennium Turf in the first instance for landscape and lawn applications but there will also be uses for sport and special projects.

The first batches of Millennium Turf will be sown during the autumn of 1997 to allow good time for all grasses to establish and to be ready for sale early in 2000. No artificial reinforcement will be used (ie free from plastic netting) and it will be available in conventional square yard, square metre rolls, Big Rolls for TIM machine laying and Lay 'n' Play Turf Tiles.

Millennium Turf will conform to the new TGA (Turfgrass Producers Association) Standards for turf and the company is registered for ISO 9002.

Greenkeeper turns taps on sneaky golfer

Hero of the month is Mike Osley, Course Superintendent at a municipal course in Tallahassee, Florida, who took action when the town Mayor consistently sneaked onto the course for a few practice shots before the official opening time despite being warned.

As reported in Michael McDonnell's Golf Diary in the *Daily Mail*,

Mike switched on all the sprinklers and soaked Mayor, Ron Weaver. Mike was suspended for a week without pay but the locals were so incensed with the way he was treated that they raised money to make up for his lost wages.

The point got through to the Mayor who said, "I'm embarrassed that I broke the rules. I won't ever do it again."

Every club should have a professional like this!



The Hayter FM514 is a purpose-built 5-gang mower that's equal to the challenge of any course. Since no two golf courses are the same, the FM is designed to adapt. Unique 26" floating heads follow the ground contours closely for a superb finish.

Ground holding is gentle but firm. Wide front axle, broad tyres and variable weight transfer system give traction with minimum turf or soil damage.

And behind it all is the sheer power of a Kubota 35hp engine. With 'on-demand' 4-wheel drive transmission and differential locking you have total mastery.



HAYTER

Hayter Limited

Spellbrook Bishop's Stortford Herts CM23 4BU England
Tel: 01279 723444 Fax: 01279 600338

Call now to arrange a demonstration

Every club should have a professional like this!

John Deere achieves certification to ISO standards

John Deere Ltd, the UK arm of the world's largest manufacturer of agricultural and amenity equipment, has achieved certification to ISO 9002:1994, the quality management system assessed by Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance.

Both the company's headquar-

ters at Langar, Nottingham and the John Deere Training Centre at Bingham have received separate LROA certificates of approval.

Certification to ISO 9002 demonstrates that both sites operate formal procedures which lead to improved quality, not only of

the products sold, but also in John Deere's relations with its customers, dealers and suppliers.

"While ISO 9002 certification is an important criterion in customers' purchasing decisions, especially in bids for governmental and institutional sales, our

main purpose in wanting to achieve certification is that it forms part of our overall plan to continuously improve our services to meet or exceed our customers changing needs," said Alec McKee, Managing Director of John Deere in the UK and Ireland.

Dealers are recognised with bubbly at BTME

At BTME Jacobsen acknowledged the sales and service achievements of a number of their dealers.

The following dealers were awarded with plaques and bottles of champagne by Peter Bell, General Manager, Jacobsen E-Z-GO UK.

Steve George, BS Mowers, received their award for Outstanding Parts Performance in 1996 Steve Williment, Scats, received their award for Outstanding After Sales Service Care in 1996 Steve Pullman, Sharrocks received their award for Outstanding Sales in 1996 Ian Bridges, Jacobsen Business Manager, accepted the award on behalf of GreenCare who were given an award for top dealer in 1996. Mick Shaw, Abbey Mowers, received their award for Outstanding Sales Performance in 1996.

At the presentation ceremony, Peter Bell commented, "I am pleased to present a number of dealers with these awards and I feel it not only shows the high calibre of our dealers but also their commitment to providing their customers with not only a range of excellent machinery but also with first class after sales service and support. Customer Care is of paramount importance to us."



Peter Bell, seated, and winners



Ready for some night-time action: MG Wildlife

Night working keeps rabbits under control

A Home Counties-based company is making a name for itself in the field of conservation and the control of wildlife.

MG Wildlife, 15 years old and based in Hayes, Middlesex, specialises in work on golf courses, council parks and open land.

As these areas tend to be populated during daylight hours the company works at night using its own silenced all-terrain vehicle adapted for night work and silenced rifles to control animals such as rabbits and foxes.

"We expect to be able to cover a radius of 50 miles in a single three to four hours session during which they can go round the golf course three times and a by-product of our work is an ability to

survey the ground and monitor nocturnal wildlife including badgers, which are protected by law, and deer," said company Director, Max Gizzi.

"Grey squirrels are also a problem and we use feeder hoppers to poison the boisterous males who tend to be the ones which cause most of the problems by gnawing bark."

Special emphasis is placed on the conservation aspect of MG Wildlife's work as it wishes to maintain a natural balance of wildlife which means it is necessary to thin a particular species.

The company is fully licensed and insured to undertake conservation and control duties both day and night. For further information Tel: 01895 824395.

Jim Paton, Head Greenkeeper at West Kilbride GC, has uncovered a new talent at his club in the shape of 93 year-old Peter McNab, who drew this cartoon.

Peter, who was the Club Captain during West Kilbride's 50th anniversary and was also around for the club's centenary three years ago, is a retired banker but could easily have enjoyed a successful career with pencil and sketch pad.



First oilman: "Last Wednesday he broke through the surface sedimentary measures, but he has struck a hard basaltic sill; he's on his fifth sand iron"

HAYTER CHALLENGE

You could be playing in America

With the golfing season now virtually upon us the annual Hayter Challenge gets under way in earnest. This year there is a huge incentive to spend a few extra hours pounding balls on the practice range or honing your skills on the putting green as there are places on offer to represent the Rest of the World team to play against the Americas in the Hayter International Cup to be played in the USA next year.

The player with a handicap of 12 or better, who represents and resides in each of the home countries and who performs best in this year's Hayter Challenge Final, will be selected for the Rest of the World team in the second Hayter International match, to be held at the Cherokee Town and Country Club, Atlanta, Georgia, in October 1998.

A rare opportunity indeed, particularly as the team will have the chance to avenge the narrow defeat inflicted on the Rest of the World by the Americas at West Lancashire Golf Club last year.

As ever some excellent golf clubs are hosting Sectional Qualifiers while the venues for the Regional Qualifiers form a group of clubs which it would be hard to better.

- South West and South Wales - Burnham and Berrow GC, June 11.
- Midland - Warwickshire GC, June 26.
- South East - Ham Manor GC, June 27.
- Northern - Matten Hall GC, July 9.
- Scottish - Loch Green GC, Troon, May 27.



C&P SOILCARE



COMPACTION? POOR DRAINAGE? POOR GROWTH?

Are you experiencing any of these problems with your
SPORTS FIELDS, GREENS, CRICKET SQUARES,
LANDSCAPING AREAS OR TREES?

The Terralift was specifically designed to aerate around tree roots, reaching
1m depth as standard. The Terralift also incorporates soil conditioners in
turf and also root feeds trees

Unit 3, Bush Farm, Nedging, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 7BL
Tel: (01449) 741012 Fax: (01449) 741012

AD
REF
46

WESTURF TRADE EXHIBITION

A-Z of TURF CARE

Amenity Land Services • Amenity Technology • Avoncrop Amenity
Products • Barenbrug • Better Methods Europe • Bourne Amenity •
Bowcom Ltd • British Seed Houses • Cannington College •
Complete Weed Control • Course Care • DGM Turf Equipment •
Encore Leisure Ltd • Farmura Ltd • Gem Professional •
H Pattissons & Co • Hartpury College • Headland Amenity
Products • Huxleys Grass Machinery • Institute of Groundsmanship
• Levington Horticulture • Lindum Seeded Turf • Logic Irrigation •
Lubrication Engineers • Maxicrop International • Medland Sanders
& Twose • Miracle Garden Care • Ocmis Irrigation • PJ Flegg •
Pencoed College • Pipewise UK Ltd • Pro-Seed Equipment •
RS Bird • Ransomes • Rhône Poulenc • Rigby Taylor Ltd • Rocol
Site Safety Systems • Roffey Ltd • Ruffords Top-Dress Supplies •
Scotts UK Ltd • Shelton Trenching Systems • Sisis Equipment •
Sovereign Turf • Sparsholt College • Supaturf Products Ltd • Swan
Plant Services • Tildenet Ltd • TH White • Tonick Watering •
Turf Irrigation Services • Vitax Ltd



LONG ASHTON GOLF CLUB

BRISTOL

30 April 1997

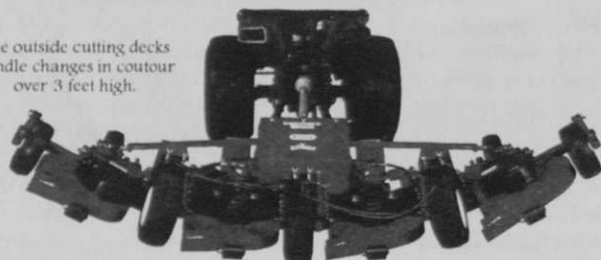
Tel/Fax: 01803 844056

Free entry and parking



INCREDIBLE FOR WHAT THEY DO

The outside cutting decks
handle changes in contour
over 3 feet high.



Articulators from LasTec offering the highest
quality finish cut of any rotary mower at any price

- Precise length •
 - Better grass distribution •
 - Better wet grass cutting •
 - Better lift • Less Compaction •
- And of course, No Scalping

STRONGER • LIGHTER • TOUGHER • BETTER

EVEN BETTER FOR WHAT THEY ARE

Marlwood Limited

Court Lodge Farm, Forge Lane, East Farleigh
Maidstone, Kent, ME15 0HQ, England.

Tel: (01622) 728718 • Fax (01622) 728720

AD
REF
501

AD
REF
35

FREE

LINEMARKING PAINT

WHEN YOU BUY 6 CANS OF
PREMIERLINE LINEMARKING PAINT
WE WILL GIVE YOU 2 CANS

FREE

NB: This offer applies between
3rd March and 30th April 1997.

Please mention this ad
when ordering.



Established 1896

H. Pattison & Co. Ltd

suppliers of quality Golf Course Furnishings since 1896

Sales Desk

01582-597262

342, Selbourne Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU4 8NU Fax 01582-505241

Outstanding performance applauded in dealer award

Four dealers have picked up special awards from Toro in the firm's annual dealer awards scheme. Top award for "Best Dealer Overall" went to AT Oliver & Sons Limited of Kings Langley in Hertfordshire. The award is made in recognition of outstanding performance in all aspects of customer sales and after sales.

Three other dealers in the national network also receiving awards were A M Russell Limited of Edinburgh, and County Mowers Limited, Leeds, for 'Outstand-



ing After sales', and Ian Kerry (Machinery) Limited of Godalming in Surrey, whose John Colebrook won the 'Best Dealer Salesman of the Year' award.

The picture shows Toro Turf

Products general manager Peter Mansfield (right) presenting the 'Best Dealer' award to AT Oliver & Sons' sales manager John Cockburn (seated) and salesman Tony Martin.

Diploma course is a first for architecture

The British Institute of Golf Course Architects broke new ground at the beginning of January when 12 students commenced their professional Diploma in Golf Course Architecture at Merrist Wood, Surrey.

The nine week course at the

College, supplemented by project and practical work will see the 12 work throughout the year towards graduation in December.

It is the first time in the world, it is believed that a specialist course in golf course architecture has been organised and the

BIGCA Diploma will be the first formal accreditation in the profession.

Martin Hawtree, President, BIGCA, said, "I am delighted that, after five years of our own student programme, we have, with Merrist Wood, put on the Diploma course. In this way the Institute is able to ensure professional education for those wishing to join the field and continue to ensure that proper and correct standards are met".



Elmwood graduation

Elmwood College, in Cupar, held a graduation ceremony for students who achieved awards of the Higher National Certificate or Higher National Diploma of the Scottish Vocational Education Council.

Photo taken at the recent College Awards Ceremony shows, from left:

Carol Borthwick, Head of Greenkeeping Section, Elmwood College; Fintan Brennan, Student of the Year and winner

of the Barenbrug & Toro/PGA Greenkeeping Awards; Graeme Taylor with the Gleneagles Trophy for Golf Course Management; Graeme Simmers OBE, Chairman of the Scottish Sports Council and Principal Guest; Robert Kane, BIGGA Award for 1st Year Golf Greenkeepers; John Myles, BIGGA Award for 2nd Year Golf Greenkeeper and Steven Ewing, winner of the St. Andrews Links Trust Award.

FLYING DIVOTS

■ Banks Horticultural Products Ltd (founded 1961) and its Associate Company Fen Turf Dressings Ltd (founded 1980) have been supplying construction and top dressing materials to the golf course industry during that time. The two companies have now merged to form a new company, Banks Amenity Products Ltd and will trade under this name.

■ Barenbrug has appointed Ben Petitjean as new Area Manager to cover East Anglia,

Midlands and West Midlands.

■ Blackley GC has appointed Hugh Gavin Jones as Course Manager. He was previously Head Greenkeeper at Disley GC, Stockport.

■ Pleasington GC, Blackburn, has appointed First Assistant Gary Thomlinson as Head Greenkeeper.

■ North Manchester GC has appointed Martin Finney as Head Greenkeeper. He was previously Head Greenkeeper at Crompton and Royton GC.

■ Upton by Chester has gone overseas to appoint its new Head Greenkeeper in the shape of Robert Gee, previously of Faith Legg GC.



(mis)adventures of Gordon the Greenkeeper



WORRIED BY CONFLICT AT WORK?

The **STRESS HELPLINE** can advise you

Greenkeeper Members call the STRESS HELPLINE for FREE advice: 0990 234999

Yet another benefit of BIGGA membership



Making machinery last

Anyone underestimating the importance of having sound, reliable machinery need only ask themselves how they would manage if a vital piece of equipment failed or performed below expectations on the day of a major club tournament. No matter how quickly your workshop or local dealer is able to sort out the problem, any delay is likely to affect the whole maintenance programme on the course, with difficult questions to be answered at the end of the day.

In an ideal world, every machine would start first time, operate at the required setting and maintain peak performance throughout its working life. In the real world, any machine can only deliver the goods if it is properly used, regularly maintained and treated with care and respect.

Apart from the tangible benefits that will result from having equipment perform as near as possible to its initial design specification, one can also look forward to extracting a longer



working life and a higher value for the investment when the time eventually comes for change.

The first step for anyone wanting their machinery to remain in peak condition for as long as possible is to ensure that those responsible for using and looking after the machine receive proper training and instruction. This should normally be carried out by the supplying dealer and can take place at the course or as part of an organised session at the dealer's premises. In some cases, the manufacturer will also be involved.

A thorough understanding of the machine is essential if one is to extract maximum benefit from it. User and bystander safety is also vital, so do not allow anyone involved with the equipment's operation or care to skip a training session. And if you feel unhappy or are unsure about any part of the instruction, ask the person responsible to go over the points again.

The dealer should also be willing to provide training at a later date for new members of staff or to refamiliarise operators with a machine which is used infrequently. This latter point is also particularly important when specialist equipment is hired-in for short periods.

Any concerns over the level or standard of instruction received should be reported initially to the supplier's sales representative. If that course of action is not possible, then contact the dealer's sales manager or managing director. As a last resort, speak directly to the manufacturer or distributor of the

machine. It is in their interest to ensure that the product is performing to its maximum potential and they will want to hear about any shortfall in user training or instruction.

Regular, planned servicing and maintenance in accordance with the manufacturer's schedule is something which should happen as a matter of course. Full information will normally be provided within the machine's instruction book and this can be supplemented with guidance from the dealer. Ensure that the people responsible for using and looking after the machine have access to the appropriate manuals. They are of little use locked away in a cupboard or drawer.

Many end-users are surprised at the amount by which machinery maintenance standards can be raised simply by ensuring that storage and servicing areas are kept tidy and the machine is regularly washed down. Not only will a clean machine be easier to look after but it will maintain its value



takes the rough with

Whatever their sport, players deserve a surface that can absorb all they dish out and bounce back for the next fixture. From rugby pitches to golf courses, Johnsons' grass playing surfaces can cope with the best of British sport – and the worst of British weather.

Our range of seeds gives you all the benefits of one and a half centuries of breeding. So when you want to bring new life, strength and disease resistance back to your playing surface, Johnsons will deliver the goods, season after season. We supply Wembley's "hallowed turf" and are one of Britain's