

Ad Ref 475

MASTERS IN WATER AND WEATHER MANAGEMENT



Hydroscape, Water House, 10 Carvers Industrial Estate
 Southampton Road, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1JS
 Tel: 01425 476261 Fax: 01425 472380

Apply now
 for your full colour guide
 01425 476261

UK and Ireland distributor for Toro Irrigation and Otterbine Water Quality Management Products



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

BIGGA Board of Management
Chairman - Gordon Child
Vice Chairman - Elliott Small
Past Chairman - Patrick Murphy

Board Members
Richard Barker
George Barr
Robin Greaves
Jim Paton
Ian Holoran

Executive Director
Neil Thomas B.A.

Administration Manager
John Pemberton

Education Officer
Ken Richardson

Sales & Marketing Manager
James McEvoy

Membership Services Officer
Tracey Maddison

Contact us

You can contact The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association in any number of ways:

Post: BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Airedale, York, YO61 1UF

Tel: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801

E-mail: bigga@btinternet.com

Internet: www.bigga.org.uk

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

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

Editorial

Editor: Scott MacCallum
Tel: 01347 833800

Advertising

Sales & Marketing Manager:
James McEvoy

Sales & Marketing Assistants:
Jenny Panton, Cheryl Broomhead
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802
E-mail: bigga@btinternet.com

Design

Design & Production Editor: David Emery
Tel: 01347 833800

Printing

Hi-Tec Print, Units 9-10, Houghton Road,
North Anston Trading Estate, North
Anston, Sheffield S25 4JJ
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 for such content, advertising or product information that may appear.

Circulation is by subscription. Subscription rate: UK £36 per year; Europe and Eire £46. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.

ISSN: 0961-6977

© 1998 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

October 1998

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by November 5

Regulars

News

Pages 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

8 Assistant Profile

Colin Noble, Cathcart Castle GC

13 Letters

20 The Learning Experience

Cutting Remarks. Making the most of your budgets

36 Golden Key Mini Profile

Barenbrug

43-50 Around the Green

56 Education

Education and Training Manager, Ken Richardson,

64 Money Matters

Getting the right mortgage

64 Health & Safety

Tony Rees continues his look at the H&S requirements in maintenance units

74 Features Listing

Helping you track down some of Greenkeeper International's previous articles

74 As I see it...

BIGGA National Chairman, Gordon Child, calls for a return to the good old fashioned ways

Reader Reply Card

Use our post-paid reader reply card to obtain further information on the products and services advertised in this issue. Just state the company's Ad Ref numbers, post the card to us, and we'll arrange for further information to be sent direct to you.

Advertiser	Ad Ref	Page
AF Tranchers Ltd	203	50
Amenity Technology	431	76
Banks Amenity	168	49
British Seed Houses	87	34
Charterhouse	130	44-45
Cleveland Sitesafe	56	21
Construction Materials Ltd	592	32
Datntag	599	10
Eagle One Golf Products	593	11
Eagle Promotions	549	35
Fairfield Turf Ltd	18	46
Farmura Ltd	88	37
Fraser C Robb	600	31
Geo Henderson	601	32
Grass Roots Golf Co Ltd	595	38
Grass Roots Trading Ltd	479	51
Green Pride Ltd	598	48
Green-Relief™	563	30
Greensward Engineering	312	55
Groundsman Industries	602	35
Hi-Chem UK Ltd	510	6
Hydroseape	475	2
John Deere	103	58
Kawasaki	544	15, 33
Lloyds & Co Letchworth Ltd	603	35
Marlwood	501	46
MJT Contracts	383	63
Ocmis	360	33
Pattisons	35	21
Pitland Technology	189	12
Plasticisers Fibres	597	22
Rainbird	443	5
Rhône-Poulenc	59	42
Rigby Taylor	127	31
Scottish Grass Machinery	604	30
Sharpes International	453	28, 49
Sovereign Turf	435	57
Sportsground Ltd	605	32
Textron	9	19
TIS	153	47
Ultra Plant	473	29
Weidmann (UK) Ltd	326	30
Wessex Farm Machinery	210	48
Whitemoss Amenities	606	28

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, please contact BIGGA on 01347 833800



Golden Key Circle Company Members

Amazona Ground Care, Barenbrug, Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd, Hayter Ltd, Jacobsen E-Z-Go Textron, John Deere Ltd, Kubota UK Ltd, Levington Horticulture Ltd, Scotts Turf & Amenity, Mommersteeg International, Ocmis Irrigation UK Ltd, PGA European Tour, Rainbird, Ransomes, Rhône-Poulenc Amenity, Rigby Taylor Ltd, Supaturf Products Ltd, The Toro Company, Watermaton

Silver Key Circle Company Members

Avoncrop Amenity Products, Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd, Lambert/Fenchurch UK Group Ltd, Rolawn Ltd, Sisis Equipment Ltd, Weed Free

Will you be at BTME99? Look out for your pre-registration card in this month's Greenkeeper International, or contact the BTME hotline on 01347 833833 for more details



74 As I see it...

A potential cast of thousands

We have arrived at the time of the year when the "gongs" are handed out in the Association's top competitions - the BIGGA Environment Award, in association with Amazone and Rhône-Poulenc and the Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping and Toro Student of the Year Awards.

These competitions have grown in stature over the years to the extent that - outside of the wonderful prizes which go along with winning - the prestige value is quite incalculable.

For a student, even to reach the final of the Toro is a significant achievement and one bound to open the eyes of any prospective employer while the Excellence Award, which was also once seen as also a great lift to a career, is now sought after by people who are already at the top of the tree.

It goes without saying that "BIGGA Environment Award Winner" is a badge any golf club in the country would be proud to wear.

I say these things because competitions are often seen as glorified back slapping exercises where winning comes because it happens to be your turn and not so much because an achievement has been judged to be greater than any other.

For example the Sports Personality of the Year is invariably the person who has been on the television most frequently - irrespective of achievement or, indeed, personality, and who happens to perform in a viewer friendly sport - usually motor racing, athletics or tennis. Put your money on Tim Henman this year!

Think of the Oscars, an old favourite who hasn't picked up one of the statuettes before is usually the favourite ahead of the young star who produces a stunning performance in a superb low budget film

It is a charge to which some Awards are open but we believe that the intensity and quality of the judging in all three of our competitions takes away the accusation of subjectivity and ensures that the winner is fully deserving of the prize.

In the Environment Competition this takes the form of written submissions from each of the clubs and, in the case of the finalists, two visits from Bob Taylor, the STRI Ecologist and one from a senior representative of English Nature.

In the Excellence Award those clubs entered receive a visit from a respected local greenkeeper and then, if successful Walter Woods, the Association's first Chairman and a man respected the world over, visits the finalists before they travel to York for the final interview before a panel of industry and Association experts. Only then with the winner be identified. Students also have to come through a rigorous process starting with their own college before a final interview singles out the winner.

You can be sure that the winners of our three main competitions will be out of the top drawer and that the successors to Ian McMillan (Toro Excellence), Steven Nixon (Toro Student) and Hankley Common with the ubiquitous Ian McMillan (BIGGA Environment Award) will reap the benefits of having entered.

You never know, I could be writing about your success next October.

Editor:
Scott MacCallum

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

Features

12 You've had your Chips

Arne van Amerongen pleads with clubs to move away from using wood chipping on pathways

14 A Warm Welcome

Neil Thomas reports from the latest FEGGA meeting in Iceland

16 Past, Present and Future

A walk down memory lane with Neil Thomas as he prepares to begin the next phase in the Association's history in its new headquarters

23 Stirling Service

BIGGA Past President, John Crawford, is Head Greenkeeper at Stirling Golf Club which has just welcomed the British Ladies' Strokeplay Championship

29-34 Scotsturf Preview

39 Let the Battle Commence

14 hopefuls will converge on the new BIGGA Headquarters hoping to become either the 1998 winner of the Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping or the 1998 Toro Student of the Year

53 Branching Out

John Nicholson, of Eamonn Wall Associates, gives some advice on acquiring grants from tree planting

59-63 Saltex Review

Find out what went on at Windsor this year



23 Stirling Service



16 Past, Present and Future



COURSE CARD



HOLE	FRONT NINE	HOLE	BACK NINE
1	Ballybunion (Old)	10	Magnolia GC
2	The Belfry (Brabazon)	11	Merrist Wood GC
3	Carden Park GC	12	Reading GC
4	Celtic Manor (Championship)	13	Ring of Kerry G&CC
5	Coombe Hill GC	14	Royal Wimbledon GC
6	Forest of Arden Hotel G&C Club	15	St Enedoc GC
7	Happy Valley GC	16	Sunningdale Golf Club
8	The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers	17	The Wynyard GC
9	Killarney G&F Club (New)	18	Yeovil GC

If you want a reliable irrigation system that has proven itself follow the course leader

For more than two years the Rain Bird Maxi Nimbus computer control system has been the only Windows operated system for decoders and satellites in Europe.

Rain Bird Maxi Nimbus systems have been installed on 18 Golf Courses in the UK and Ireland together with Rain Bird Eagle sprinklers.

In fact more than 70 Rain Bird Nimbus systems have been installed in Europe alone.

All Rain Bird systems are installed and maintained by highly experienced contractors, with technical support and backup provided direct from Rain Bird.

A future course is under development to include Farnham GC, Cavisham GC, Royal St Georges, Southport and Ainsdale, Royal Cinque Ports, Richmond GC, Ballybunion (New) and Woburn (New) due for installation this year.



GOLF IRRIGATION

Rain Bird Europe S.A.R.L.
535, Rue Georges Claude
B.P. 72000
Aix-en-Provence, Cedex 3
FRANCE
Phone: (33) 4 42 24 44 61
Fax: (33) 4 42 24 44 72

Rain Bird U.K. Sales
Phone: 01273 891326
Fax: 01273 891327

Rain Bird U.K. Field Service
Phone: 0121 3581883
Fax: 0121 3581891

multigreen

THE SECRET OF STRONGER TURF



Multigreen controlled release fertilisers have been specifically formulated to give you stronger and healthier turf all the year round while saving you time, materials and labour.

- ◆ One application provides continuous nutrition for a whole season
- ◆ Polymer coating ensures steady release and reduced leaching
- ◆ Potassium is derived from potassium

nitrate, the preferred source for fast uptake and prevention of 'black layer'

- ◆ Choice of formulations for greens and fairways



Fertilisers and Turf Maintenance Products

Haifa Chemicals Ltd



Horticulture Division

Leaders in Plant Nutrition

Hi-Chem (UK) Ltd Tel: 0181 952 2552 Fax: 0181 952 0551

Distributed by Headland Amenity Products Tel: 01799 530146 Fax: 01799 530229

Aldwark Manor invest in Textron

Aldwark Manor Hotel and Country Club, home of BIGGA's new... and old headquarters, has taken delivery of a new stableful of Ransomes/Textron machinery.

The investment was made by the new owner of Aldwark Manor, Newcastle-based businessman Brad Holbrook, who is keen to forge close relationships with his sitting tenants, BIGGA and the Greenkeeper's Training Committee.

"Initially I didn't know who BIGGA were but when I learned of their importance in the industry I wanted them to be here as long as I am, which is for the long run," explained Brad.

"Now that BIGGA have built their own headquarters we'll be promoting ourselves as Aldwark Manor Hotel Golf and Country Club - the home of BIGGA."

Head Greenkeeper Richard Gamble was at the heart of the decision to purchase the Ransomes machinery.

"Ransomes put a lot in so when Brad asked for my input regarding machinery there was no question in my mind it had to be Ransomes," explained Richard.

"I explained what I wanted and the reasons why and got everything I wanted," said Richard.

The new Ransomes-*Textron* machinery was supplied by Henton

& Chattell of Nottingham and includes one Ransomes CT 325 compact tractor; one Ransomes CT 445 compact tractor; one Ransomes CT 333 dedicated hydrostatic tractor with cruise control; one Cushman three wheel truckster; one Ransomes Fairway 305 mower; one Ransomes Greensplex 160 Diesel, two Ransomes T-Plex 185; one three traileed Ransomes Magga gang mower and a GA30 top dresser.

Right: Brad Holbrook, owner of Aldwark Manor tries out the new Ransomes kit

Below: Head Greenkeeper, Richard Gamble and his team



A new name over the door

The Ransomes factory at Ipswich now has a new name over it. Ransomes was acquired in January by Textron, and joined with Jacobsen, Textron's American producer of golf course machinery to form Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products. The Mayor of Ipswich, Mr Hamil Clarke, unveiled a plaque to mark the launching of the new name on the factory.

The Ransomes and Jacobsen business, which also includes the Cushman and Ryan brands, has a combined world-wide turnover of \$650 million, will have its head office at Ipswich.

Ipswich will also be the manufacturing and central distribution point for the whole of Europe. Significant investment has already been made at the Europark site to gear up the company to meet the new needs of the Group.

This has involved new Cardex parts dispensing systems being installed and a large mezzanine floor being built for product storage to cope with the enlarged distribution aspect of the business. The main factory area has been reorganised to create additional space so that some of the Jacobsen product for the European market can be built at Ipswich.

"Ransomes and Jacobsen both have a proud history and an excel-



Above: Peter Wilson shows the Mayor, Mr Hamil Clarke, a Textron-Jacobsen ride-on mower outside the Ipswich headquarters.

lent reputation in the market, and we will continue to sell our products under these brands. Although we are now part of a large multi-industry company we will continue to stay very close to our customers and be a company that is easy to do business with," said Peter Wilson, President of Textron Turf Care and Specialty Products.

Ransomes and Jacobsen are now

the world's largest supplier of turf care equipment for the local authority and golf course market sectors and also supply people and burden carriers for a wide range of industrial applications.

The company is also responsible for the distribution of golf cars throughout Europe, which are produced by their sister company E-Z-GO.

On the move!

The new address for the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association is:

BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF.

Telephone: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801

E-mail: bigga@btinternet.com

Internet: www.bigga.org.uk

Robin makes the grade

The benefit of the greenkeeper assessment programme has been highlighted again with the success of Robin Evans, an assistant at Whitby GC, who has passed his NVQ Level 2 after working closely with his assessor, Andrew Boyd, Head Greenkeeper at Bridlington GC.

After a two year period which involved between 30 and 40 meetings between 32 year-old Robin and Andrew he received notification from the controlling body that he had attained level 2.

"Everyone is delighted including myself," explained Andrew.

"Robin is like a dog with three tails while his own Head Greenkeeper, Ian Lavelle's comment was that 'Robin is now a man we never knew we had' such has been the motivation and enthusiasm with which Robin now works."

Amenity Tech on the move

Amenity Technology has relocated to larger premises which offer better meeting facilities and a far larger warehousing capacity. The move coincides with the appointment of Amenity Technology as the exclusive European distributor of the Sustane fertiliser range and will allow better stocking capabilities of both the Sustane and the Andersons. The new address and contact numbers are Amenity Technology Products Ltd, 5 Arkwright Rd, Reading, Berks, RG2 0LU, Tel: 0118 931 1111.

Melvyn joins Green Pride

Melvyn Guy has joined Green Pride, the Lincoln-based company specialising in grass related products to the sportsturf and landscaping industries.

Melvyn is well known in the golf course industry and brings to Green Pride a wealth of experience in sands, rootzones and top dressings to add to their existing ranges of seeds, fertilisers and chemicals.

He will be covering the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire area.

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Profile

Usually the spotlight falls on the Course Manager or Head Greenkeeper at a Club.

Now it is the turn of those whose work often goes unheralded to star.



Name: Colin Noble

Club: Cathcart Castle GC

Position: Assistant

Age: 20

1. How long have you been a greenkeeper?

3 years

2. What education are you currently undertaking?

SVQ III at Elmwood College

3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing?

Cutting greens on competition days. (No golfers to hold us up!)

4. Which one task do you most dislike doing?

Emptying bins on a warm day

5. What job other than greenkeeping might you have ended up doing?

Greenkeeping is what I decided I wanted to do from high school but I would probably have become a student or tried to get an assistant pro's job at a golf course.

6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career?

Robert Hogarth and Elmwood College

7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?

Educate members on how to recognise when a course is unplayable

8. What are your hobbies?

Golf, football

9. What do you get out of BIGGA?

Education, helplines, outings and magazine

10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time?

In charge of a team of greenkeepers on a good quality course and working with a very good committee

Norrie Whytock Trophy goes West

The Scottish Inter Section Tournament for the Norrie Whytock Memorial Trophy was played at Leven Links GC on one of the five best days of the summer.

The five Sections had their top players out for the challenge of winning the Trophy, which was being played for the third time, and the North Section were hoping to maintain their monopoly of it.

The tournament is run with teams of four playing Stableford with the three best scores counting. However at the end of the day two teams were locked together on 93 points and could not be separated despite various attempts so for the first time the two scores not used were taken into account.

This resulted in the West Section taking the Trophy by two points from the East Section. The difference may have been accounted for by the fact that the fourth member of the West team played all 18 holes while the fourth of the East packed in after 16 because he said he was playing badly.

Many thanks to tournament sponsors, Rhone Poulenc; organisers, McKenzie Munro, Rhone Poulenc's Scottish Area Sales Manager, Peter Boyd, and Andy O'Hara and his staff.



The victorious West Section receive their trophies

Building Fund: Contributing Clubs

Addington Palace
Alton
Alwoodley
Arcot Hall
Army
Ashton-in-Makerfield
Baldon
Banchory
Beaconsfield
Bedale
Beeston Fields
Berkhamsted
Bingley St Ives
Birchwood
Bishops Stortford
Blackmoor
Blackwood
Brancepeth Castle
Bristol & Clifton
Brokenhurst
Manor
Bromborough
Bungay & Waveney Valley
Burford
Bury St Edmunds
Bush Hill Park
Canterbury
Cardigan
Cawder
Chestfield
Chigwell
Childwall
Chipping Norton
Chorlton-Cum-Hardy
Churston Ltd
Clitheroe
Conwy
Cooden Beach
Coombe Hill
Coombe Wood
Copt Heath

Coventry Hearsall
Coxmoor
Croham Hurst
Crompton & Royton
Doncaster
Dore & Totley
Dunfermline
Dyke
Eastwood
Edenmore
Enfield
Epsom
Erewash Valley
Fairhaven
Ferenze
Fishwick Hall
Flamborough Head
Gerrards Cross
Glenbervie
Goodwood
Goring & Streatley
Habberley
Haggs Castle
Halifax
Hallamshire
Haltwhistle
Ham Manor
Hampstead
Handsworth
Hankley Common
Harpenden
Hawkstone Park
Haywards Heath
Henley
Hickleton
Hindhead
Huddersfield
Ipswich
John O'Gaunt
Kilmarnock (Barassie)
Kirby Muxloe

Knole Park
Knowle
Knutsford
Letchworth
Lincoln
Little Aston
Littlestone
Loch Lomond
Long Ashton
Longniddry
Macclesfield
Malone
Manchester
Mapperley
Masham
Maxstoke Park
Meltham
Mendip
Merrist Wood
Moor Hall
Moffat
Moortown
Moray
Mullion
Murrayfield
Limited
Nairn
Newbury & Crookham
Newcastle-Under-Lyme
Normanby Hall
North Hants
North Oxford
North Wilts
Northenden
Penrith
Peterborough
Milton
Plassey
Pollok
Potters Bar
Purley Downs
Pyle and Kenfig

Golf Club
Ranfurly Castle
Ravelston
Ravensworth
Reigate Heath
Ringway
Roehampton Club
Royal Ashdown Forest
Royal Birkdale
Royal Burgess Golf Society
Royal Cinque Ports
Royal Guernsey
Royal Jersey
Royal Liverpool
Royal Mid-Surrey
Royal Musselburgh
Royal Porthcawl
Royal Portrush
Royal St Georges
Royal West Norfolk
Royal Wimbledon
Sandy Lodge
Scarcroft
Seacroft
Seaton Carew
Sedbergh
Sherwood Forest
Shipley
Sitwell Park
Skipton
Sleaford
Sonning
Southport & Ainsdale
Spalding
St Andrews Links Trust
St Austell
St Bees
St Enodoc

Stand
Stanmore
Stanton-on-the-Wolds
Stocksfield Limited
Sundridge Park
Sunningdale
Sutton Coldfield
Swinley Forest
Tain
Tandridge
Taunton & Pickeridge
Temple
Tenby Golf
Tenterden
The Wisley
Thorpeness
Tidworth Garrison
Tullialan
Turnberry
Tynemouth
Tyrrells Wood
Uttoxeter
Verulam

Wakefield
Walmley
Walsall
Walton Heath
Wentworth
West Byfleet
West End Halifax
West Essex
West Sussex
Whitchurch (Cardiff)
Whitley Bay
Whittington Heath
Willingdon
Woburn
Woking
Woodbridge
Worcestershire
Worksop
Wortley
York



A tribute to Jimmy Neilson

A retirement dinner was held recently at Kingsknowe Golf Club to celebrate the greenkeeping career of Jimmy Neilson, the Scottish Regional Chairman.

To us in the East of Scotland Jimmy has and always will be a legend.

Jimmy is by nature, and you might find this hard to believe, a shy person but give him a few brandies and American and he is great company.

He began his affliction with greenkeeping at Swanston Golf Club after serving many years as an agricultural mechanic with Alexander's, local the Ford Dealer.

He then made his move to Murrayfield Golf Club and spent the rest of his career there.

To mention all of the things which have made Jimmy a legend would be impossible. Jimmy was a stalwart in the old SIGGA Brigade and has been a front line soldier for greenkeepers rights and better conditions of employment. Education has always been top of Jimmy's agenda - the most important thing in making the greenkeeping profession a highly recognised and respected trade.

Jimmy has made a lot of friends on both sides of the Atlantic and in Europe in all aspects and corners of our trade.



I would like to apologise to anyone who did not get an invite to the dinner but we could have filled a hall ten times the size. But finally to Jimmy. Have a long and happy retirement. You are, and you have been, a credit and inspiration to us all.

Steve Dixon, East Section Secretary

Above: Just a few of the many guests at the party

Right: Jimmy in fine form



Turfmech's Tornado

In the August edition Greenkeeper International the feature of leaf blowers and clearers omitted several types of machinery, some of which are produced by Turfmech Machinery.

Among these are the Tornado Blowers, the TM5 High-lift vacuum collector and the TurfVAC TM11 vacuum collector.

The Tornado Blower is available in versions suitable for mounting on tractors or on ride-on front mowers in place of the cutter deck. It produces a 150mph blast of air to blow leaves and debris rapidly and effectively into rows.

The TM5 High-lift vacuum is a high capacity, high-tip vacuum collector for use behind smaller tractors - 35hp-plus. It has a fully floating 1.5 metre wide suction head with a full-width powered agitation brush and a 2.2 m high unloading capability. The TurfVAC TM11 requires a tractor of 45hp plus and has a load volume of 11,000 litres. Trailed and pto powered it offers a choice of 2m, 2.2m and 2.5 m wide suction heads.

For further information Tel: 01889 271503.

Celtic Manor hosts new Welsh event

The first of playing of a new competition for the South Wales Section took place at Celtic Manor on August 27.

Club teams, comprising Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper, Club Captain, Club Secretary and Chairman of Green, played for prizes, donated by Scotts, with the winning club enjoying the sweet smell of success thanks to a tonne of fertiliser!

Played out in tremendous weather the 20 teams faced up the daunting task of the magnificently conditioned Roman Road Course which had been brought to a peak by Course Manager Jim McKenzie, Russell Anderson and the rest of the staff.

Celtic Manor, who granted courtesy of the course, have agreed to host the event next year on August 25 when there will be a maximum of 30 teams.

Results: 1. Llanwern, 127, 2. Celtic Manor, 129, 3. Dewstone 137.

Longest Drive, Russell Anderson, Celtic Manor. Nearest the Pin, Jamie Probert, Pontardawe.

G.I. Apology

Greenkeeper International would like to apologise to Woodbury Park GC for the appearance of a 'bogus' photograph in the article on the club in September's edition. The photograph, and accompanying caption gave the impression that Woodbury Park used Ransomes equipment while in fact it is another Textron brand, Jacobsen, which Woodbury uses. Greenkeeper International is happy to put the record straight.

Kubota Golf Club Challenge Finalists

The 15 golf clubs which will compete in the final of the revamped Kubota Golf Club Challenge which will be played at The National Golf Centre at Woodhall Spa has been confirmed.

A total of 480 golf clubs from throughout the UK set out of the course to the final, teams of the Club Secretary and the Head Greenkeeper playing head to head matches, with five rounds required to set up the final which is due to be played at the beginning of this month.

"It was decided that a new format was needed which would directly involve golf club secretaries and

Head Greenkeepers playing together as a team, furthering Kubota's long and close relationship with their respective Associations," said Tom Barnes, Kubota's Marketing Manager.

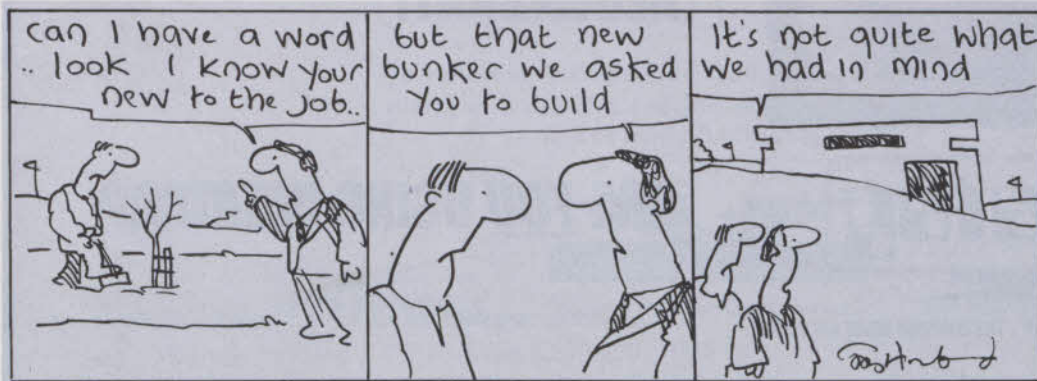
Finalists

Bonar Bridge & Ardgay GC - H. Sutherland & J. Evans
 Carluke GC - M.D. Black and A. Colquhoun
 Chippenham GC - D. Maddison & C. Sealey
 Clayton GC - D. Smith & R. Smith
 Dainton Park GC - A. Ryland & C. Bland
 Fynn Valley GC - T. Tyrrell & N. Hickford

Haverfordwest GC - J. Solly & A. Roach
 Liphook GC - B. Morgan & D. Murdoch
 Lullingstone Park PC - B.M. Seymour-Vallance & P. Bennett
 Moor Park GC - J. Broome & S. Bertrum
 New North Manchester GC - D. Parkinson & J. Cumiskey
 Pines Golf Centre - B. Gray & D. Gray
 Ramsdale Park Golf Centre - B. Jenkinson & M. Smith
 Rawdon GC - S. Clark & A. Armitage
 Welshpool GC - D. Lewis & T. Horsan

Royal Inverdivot GC...

by Tony Husband



'Brand' new role for David



Rigby Taylor has expanded its specialist technical sales team in Scotland with the appointment of David Morrison as Brand Manager for the company's Mascot range of turf care products in Scotland.

Having worked for over 30 years in the amenity sector in Scotland, David is well known and his appointment will utilise his wealth of knowledge and experience.

Based at Newbridge, Mr Morrison will also have responsibility for direct sales in the central, Tayside, Grampian and the Highlands region to provide greater support for Rigby Taylor's existing customers. He will deal directly with local authorities, landscapers and contractors.

David worked for 10 years as Area Sales Manager with ICI/Zeneca and more recently with Scotts Miracle. In his new role, he will be responsible for new product launches throughout Scotland.

Turner sketches out winning round

Sunningdale Course Manager, Brian Turner, put his local knowledge to good use during The Gerald Micklem Cup at the famous Berkshire course.

While former Amateur Champion and Walker Cup player, Gary Wolstenholme, was winning the main prize with two rounds of 68, Brian won the Over 50s prize.

Brian has been at the club since 1996 and is a member of Sunningdale Artisans Golf Club.

Right: Brian is pictured receiving his prize from Sunningdale Captain, Christopher Needham.



Royal appointment at Askham Bryan

Tickets are still available for the Golf and the Environment Conference to be held at Askham Bryan College, York on October 21 - 23.

The Conference, which is to be opened officially by HRH The Duke of York has assembled a top quality list of speakers for the three days and will cover a wide range of environmental related issues.

Programme highlights.

Wednesday, Session One

- Official Opening by HRH The Duke of York
- Golf Courses - Their Amenity and

Environmental Impact - Dr Roger Bennett.

- Securing Planning Permission - Avoiding the Bunkers - Mr D.M Rolison
- Wildlife of the Golf Course - Is Management Necessary - Dr. Gordon McKillop.

Thursday - Session 2

- Is Golf Committed to Green - David Stubbs
- Golf Course Management - An Ecological Perspective - Bob Taylor
- The Use of Pesticides on Golf Courses - David Garthwaite

Session 3

- The Scottish Golf Course Wildlife

Initiative - Jonathan Smith

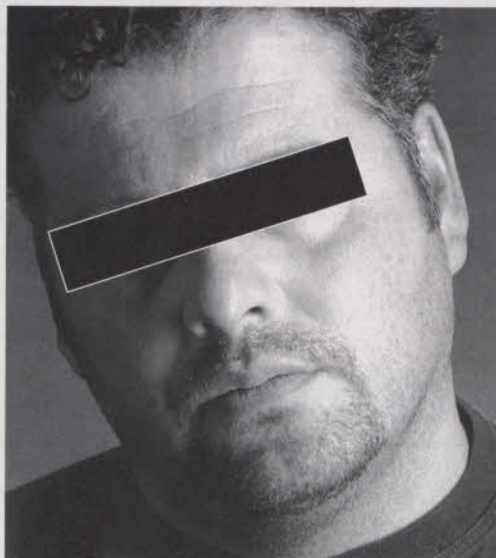
- Golf Environmental Management. Gain of Pain - Rod Baker
- Golf and Landscape - Jeremy Pern

Friday - Session 4

- Keynote - Dr Keith Duff
- The Latest Developments in cultivating turf production and turfgrass systems - Derek Edwards
- The Ridding Experience - Mark Mackaness
- Plenary Session led by Dr Roger Bennett

Ticket Information can be obtained from Kate Eckett, at Askham Bryan College Tel: 01904 772277.

KEEP THIS SCUM OUT OF WORK



ELECTRONIC TAGGING SYSTEMS - THE COMMON SENSE SOLUTION

DATATAG STOPS THEFT!

FACT:
WHERE DATATAG IS IN USE
THIS SCUM HAS BECOME
REDUNDANT!

ARE YOU USING DATATAG?

NPR DATATAG DIVISION

1 MARINA COURT, CASTLE STREET, HULL, HU1 1TJ. TEL: 01482 222070 FAX: 01482 224545