



Chris Yeaman, Course Manager, Swanston GC, Edinburgh

- * To catch up on all the latest technology and products used in our profession.
- * To meet colleagues and friends from around the country and take part in conversation and refreshment
- * To hopefully find a bargain through promotions by companies who are launching new products or ranges.
- * Everything and everyone is

under one roof, from local fertiliser, chemical, top dressing and machinery dealers.

- * I am beginning to plan my budgets and programmes for the forthcoming season so it allows me to speak to various companies about my requires for the new season.
- * To help out on the BIGGA stand and to speak to prospective new members about the benefits of joining the Association.
- * Attending the show whets my appetite of BTME in Harrogate a couple of months later.
- * To let my staff look at any new machinery we are thinking about buying and let them have their say about these proposals.
- * It also gives us a chance to put a face to the voice of many people with whom I only ever speak on the phone.
- * Last but not least to compete with Steve Dixon to see how many free drinks we can get - Yes I agree it is a tall order but I shall give it a try!

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Ad Ref 605

Rigby Taylor

Cutting edge technology to enable greenkeepers and groundsmen to maintain their turf to the highest standards will be available from the UK's leading supplier and amenity turf care products, Rigby Taylor. Its Mascot range will include the very latest plant microbial stimulant designed to improve soil structure. Called Activate, the new spray product is a concentrated plant extract containing a precise mixture of plant sugars, growth promoters, trace elements and a soil penetrant. Also on display will be the UK's first mass approved adjuvant marker for use with Roundup Pro Biactive via CDA. Called Lightning it leaves a clearly visible white deposit on treated weeds and surfaces which helps to enhance the applications efficiency and cut down on chemical waste. It will be of interest to local authority amenity managers and contractors, in particular.

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Ad Ref 592

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Ultra Plant have launched a new breed of spinner type Top Dresser which will cut the time on the green by up to 75%.

These new dressers will complement the conventional spreaders which are already being used on top courses like The Belfry, Sunningdale, Royal Portrush and Mount Juliet.

The UB50 greens dresser can be truck mounted or tractor towed with the facility for conversion from one to the other within 30 minutes which many greenkeepers appreciate when their truck is loader with sprayers etc.

The UP60 Bulk Dresser is for golf fairways, sports pitches and racecourses.

The UP60 is pto driven and can spread up to 112 tonnes in two hours at depths of up to four inches.

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British Seed Houses - Stand GF8

British Seed Houses adds Raisa chewing fescue to its marketing leading "A" grade golf mixtures for greens, fairways and tees which also feature the top-rated Avalon velvet bent and Providence creeping bent. New Raisa provides excellent shoot density, short growth and mowing tolerance in both fine turf and fairway applications. With unprecedented shoot density and its close mowing tolerance, Avalon delivers playing surfaces whose quality and durability is beyond those achieved with browntop bents, at the same or lower cost levels without changing the sward management regime.

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Ad Ref 360

Scottish Grass Machinery

Ransomes, E-Z-GO, Iseki, Ryan, Cushman and Jacobsen will be displayed by Scottish Grass Machinery, the very first public showing in Scotland under the Textron Turf Care & Specialty Products banner.

Scottish Grass Machinery will unveil the new Ransomes Turf Truckster; the first work vehicle in the industry to offer automatic transmission and the new Greensplex 160 with swing-out centre reel for easy access and interchangeable cylinders. Look also for the reintroduction of Ransomes highly favoured T-Plex 180, which now boasts improved performance and economy.

Green Releaf - Stand 42

Green Releaf, the US leaders in liquid microbial products are exhibiting a range of microbial products at the show. The Green Releaf liquid beneficial microbes applied with their own unique food source rapidly improve root structure, enhance nutrient uptake and increase natural resistance to disease. Other products at the show include Thatchless liquid which will reduce your Thatch in only 30 days. And for faster, hard wearing greens why not try KCS 0-0-14 Liquid which is used for tournament preparation. Also new for 1999 is the US organic granular fertiliser inoculated with beneficial microbes. Visit us on Richard Aitkens Ltd stand.

Eagle Promotions -Stand P2

Eagle Promotions provide an extensive range of services to golf clubs from the initial course measure through to scorecards, yardage books and other points of play accessories. This exhibition enables us to show our exciting choice of signage for the golf industry. Our signage is developed around our ability to create an image etched into zinc plate. These mounted on stone, moulded rock and wood create truly spectacular sign systems.

Wiedenmann and Sportsgrounds Ltd

Family businesses Wiedenmann UK Ltd and Sportsgrounds Ltd will exhibit together at this year's show.

Wiedenmann will launch the new Greens 135 Terra Spike which is specifically designed for use on golf courses. Greens Terra Spikes are lighter and faster than existing machines and feature a new heave adjustment system. Other exhibits include the new Terra Top mounted on trailed top dresser, the 4.2 m cutting width tractor mounted Rotary Triplex mower and the new Mini Clean pedestrian brush and collector. To view our exhibits and chat through your machinery requirements all are welcome to visit our stand or visit our local dealer, Scottish Grass Machinery. Sportsgrounds who are participating in their fourth Scotsturf will display photographs of recently completed construction works. Current projects include sand slitting playing fields for South Lanarkshire Council,

construction of rugby, shinty and hockey pitches for Glasgow University and the construction of a synthetic five-a-side complex for Glasgow company, GOALS.

A range of Edel Synthetic turf will also be exhibited together with photographs of recently completed synthetic turf path and golf tee installation.

Sportsgrounds' staff will be happy to meet all visitors and discuss their construction and maintenance requirements. A warm welcome will be extended to all who can enjoy our teas, coffees and hot dogs.

Contact Wiedenmann UK Ltd, David Rae or Gordon McMurdo, Tel: 0141 884 2552 Fax: 0141 884 6252.

Contact Sportsgrounds Ltd, Alistair Rae or David Rae, Tel: 0141 884 7525 Fax: 0141 884 6252.

Sports Turf Research Institute

STRI Scotland, part of STRI Bingley's nationwide Turfgrass Advisory Service, is uniquely placed to offer you a local service combining all the specialised skills required to support the design, construction, management and maintenance of sports turf grounds, golf and recreational facilities.

This local service is backed up by specialist staff, extensive research and laboratory facilities, based at Bingley. STRI visit over 2000 natural turf facilities. Out of these, 1000 visits relate to golf courses including all the "Open Golf Championship" venues in our capacity as Official Agronomists to the R & A Championship Committee. Talk to the STRI at Scotsturf and take the guesswork out of your decisions.

Fraser C. Robb

This year we will be displaying a selection of products from the Kawasaki range of All Terrain Vehicles and the Dennis range of cylinder mowers including the versatile cassette system. We will be exhibiting for the first time the new Toro 5 Series diesel tractor with recycling deck.

We have also been appointed the main Scag Service dealers and are now carrying an extensive range of parts stock.

Geo Henderson Ltd

Geo Henderson Ltd will have on show the new Charterhouse Mustang vertidrain machine. this machine has been developed for the purpose of carrying out spiking and coring up to a depth of six inches and be able to maintain a fast forward speed at the same time.

We will also have the popular new Honda four-stroke brushcutter which has been well received by the professional user for its quiet running and ease of operation. Also on display we will have a selection from the work wear range that we hold at all our depots. This is proving very popular with all our customers. Should you have a specific requirement which you are struggling to locate why not give us a chance to prize the item. You might be surprised!

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Ad Ref 509



Barenbrug

What is the nature of the business?

Plant breeder, Producer and Merchant of grasses for amenity and agriculture use.

What major changes have you seen in your sector of the industry over the last ten years?

Through more education and information available from companies like ourselves, a better awareness of using quality varieties in grasses to obtain a better playing surface. Introduction of revolutionary new species/varieties like BARKOËL, crested hairgrass and BARCAMPsia, tufted hairgrass and the continued success of the traditional grasses like Red Fescue and Browntop Bent, BARCROWN, BARGREEN and HERIOT.

How do you believe the industry as a whole has changed over the same period?

From supplier to end user has seen an increased awareness of changes in political, environmental and liability issues.

Upgraded profile of the Head Greenkeeper in general and at the

same time the suppliers have improved their communication/education programmes towards the market.

Looking into your crystal ball, what major developments do you envisage over the next 10 years in your sector?

Through legislation and environmental changes, an increased awareness of using suitable species/varieties for specific use. We are more into target breeding, for example specific Red Fescues for Greens, fairways and Tees who can cope with the different management regimes.

New species/varieties for low maintenance, drought and disease resistant varieties.

And the industry as a whole?

Through more of a global influence from manufacturers/producers and an increase in specialisation.

What contribution do you believe BIGGA has made to the industry since the Association was formed?

BIGGA has been able to create a positive image of the profession of a Greenkeeper in general and in particu-

lar contributed to the education and professionalism of the individual.

Why are you pleased to be associated with BIGGA?

Through BIGGA we are able to be at the forefront of our customers and in front of our competitors.

What do you believe to have been your company's greatest contribution to the fine turf industry?

Barenbrug has been able to supply, over the past ten years, over 120 new golf course developments (either through Turf or grass seed), our quality products and, through our distributor network, we can justifiably claim to have supplied and increased the quality of the playing surfaces of the total golf courses in the United Kingdom over 50%

We have and are also involved over the past 10 years as the supplier of the courses where the Open is or will be held, with the jewel of the crown Carnoustie in 1999 and St Andrews in the year 2000.

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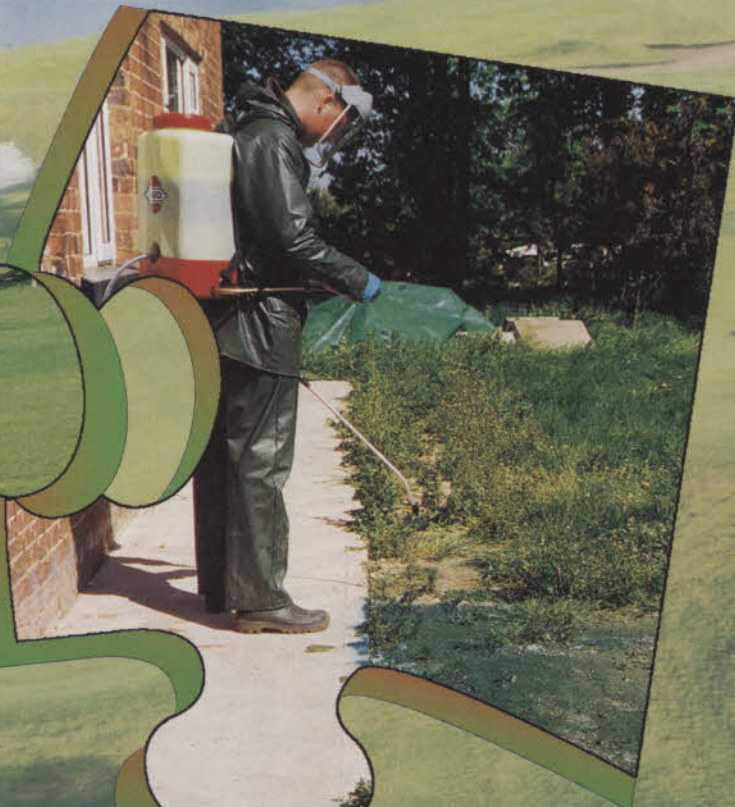
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14 greenkeepers will discover their fate when they face their respective judges in the finals of the 1998 Toros - the Toro Excellence in Greenkeeping Award and the Toro Student of the Year Award

Let the battle commence



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The cream of the country's greenkeepers and students converge on North Yorkshire this month for the 1998 finals of the Toro Award for Excellence in Greenkeeping and the Toro Student of the Year Award.

The excitement will be heightened by the fact that it will be the first event to be staged in the new BIGGA Headquarters which will have been opened officially by HRH Duke of York only the week before.

Last year was the first that saw the two competitions join together and it made for a dramatic occasion which saw Ian McMillan, of Hankley Common GC, and Steven Nixon, of Wortley GC and Askham Bryan College, clinching the top awards.

With trips to the States, and in the case of the Excellence Award, a valuable Toro triple machine, at stake it is sure to be a tense occasion but the camaraderie which is engendered by the finalists over both competitions is

strong enough to last many a year.

In reaching the finals, the 14 who travel to BIGGA Headquarters, have done exceptionally well.

In the case of the students each is a top student at their own college and each has qualified at one of the regional finals judged by Ken Richardson, BIGGA's Education and Training Manager, a representative from Toro and Pat Murphy, Past BIGGA Chairman and Chairman of the Education Sub-Committee.

For the Excellence Award finalists they have come through a rigorous process beginning at Section level and then from a visit from a respected senior greenkeeper.

The six have also been visited by Walter Woods, BIGGA First Chairman, to take a look at their golf courses, maintenance facilities and working practices. Walter's report on these visits forms a key part of the final judging.



Excellence in Greenkeeping finalists



Name: Richard Whyman
Age: 39
Golf Club: Bude & North Cornwall Golf Club

Richard has been at Bude and North Cornwall as Head Greenkeeper for 14 years. He has been Section Administrator of the Devon and Cornwall Section since 1989 and was South West and South Wales Regional Chairman from '95 to '97. He has been married for 17 years and lists his hobbies as golf which he plays to a handicap of 9, football where he supports and watches Leeds United and enjoys most sports.



Name: Allan McDougall
Age: 40
Golf Club: Royal Mid Surrey Golf Club

Allan was born on the Isle of Bute and comes from greenkeeping stock - his father was Head Greenkeeper at Hilton Park in Glasgow and Allan worked under him for a time. He has been at Royal Mid Surrey in Richmond since '95 managing both courses. Married with two children he is a former 1 handicapper although he now plays off 10 and he plays football in what he describes as a geriatric league. He is also a keen follower of speedway and National Hunt racing.



Name: John Quinn
Age: 33
Golf Club: Elmwood College Golf Club

John has been involved in the development of the new Elmwood College course since before it opened as his remit was to oversee the planning, construction, grow-in and development of the Cupar course. He is currently studying towards a BSc with the Open University and has recently passed Stage 2 towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.



Name: John Coleman
Age: 27
Golf Club: Abbeydale Golf Club

John was appointed head man at the Sheffield club at the age of 22 and since then, as well as on-course work, has been responsible for the development of a new maintenance facility at the course and conceived and designed a new 4mm tine which in partnership with a major company, has seen into production. He is a former finalist in the Toro Student of the Year Award.



Name: Andy Campbell
Age: 38
Golf Club: Carden Park Hotel Golf Resort and Spa

Andy, who at BTME '98, was presented with his Master Greenkeeper blazer and plaque is responsible for the maintenance of 45 golf holes including the newly opened Nicklaus-designed course and the general maintenance of the 750 acre estate which includes four acres of formal gardens, a vineyard and a herd of red deer. He has been at Carden Park, just outside Chester, since '92, and manages a staff of 36 including six modern apprentices.



Name: Peter Wisbey
Age: 51
Golf Club: National Golf Centre, Woodhall Spa.

Peter was appointed Courses Manager at the National Golf Centre in 1996 and has overseen the on-going maintenance programme on the world-famous Hotchkin course as well as the successful growing in of the new Bracken course opened earlier this year. Peter worked initially at North Foreland in Kent before moving to Portugal where he worked on San Lorenzo, Penina and Pinheiros Altos finally becoming Technical Director of the original Quinta do Lago courses.