

White Horse Contractors Limited



SPECIALIST SPORTS TURF CONTRACTORS

- DRAINAGE
- CONSTRUCTION
- RENOVATION
- LAKES & RESERVOIRS
- DESIGN & BUILD
- CONSULTANCY

Tel: 01865 736 272
Fax: 01865 326 176

whc@whitehorsecontractors.co.uk

Lodge Hill, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2JD

SPEEDCUT CONTRACTORS

SPORTSTURF

- Construction Drainage
- Sandslitting Renovation

KEVIN SMITH
Oxford 01865 331479

Driving Range



- BALL DISPENSERS • BALL WASHERS
- COLLECTORS • ELEVATORS •
- BLOWER SYSTEMS • MATS •
- BALL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS •

20a Beeching Park, Wainwright Rd, Boxhill on Sea, East Sussex TN39 3UR
Tel: 01424 819008 Fax: 01424 819007

Fertilisers

Our 30th year supplying biotech solutions

Thinking about a biological programme?



First ask a biologist

Contact Louisa Farthing BSc
or Stella Inglethorpe BSc
Tel: 01372 456101
Email: fineturf@symbio.co.uk

Golf Mats

LNKS ALL-WEATHER GOLF MATS

Constructed using a robust and durable glass reinforced cement base and three individually replaceable turf sections - which have 12mm rubber shock pad backings - the PRO-TEE all-weather golf mats are ideal for both course and practice ground use



- Call now for
- Pro Tee
 - mats
 - bays
 - nets
 - signs
 - markers
 - stones
 - bins
 - planters
 - layouts
 - planners

LNKS

Civic Industrial Park
Whitchurch,
Shropshire
SY13 1TT
Tel: 01948 663002
Fax: 01948 663082
www.golflinks.uk.com

Exclusive Leisure Ltd,
28 Cannon Street, Leicester, LE4 9HR
Tel: 0116 233 2255
Fax: 0116 246 1561

'TIGER T GOLF MATS'

Quality mats for winter tees, practice areas and driving ranges. Any size up to 3m x 3m.

Irrigation

AutoFlow Systems

CALL NOW FOR ALL YOUR WATER REQUIREMENTS ON

SPORTS GROUNDS, GOLF COURSES, BOWLING GREENS, COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPING, PRIVATE GARDENS

TEL: 01603 759701 FAX: 01603 758200

AUTO HOUSE, ASHTREE WORKS, MILL ROAD, BARNHAM BROOM, NORFOLK NR9 4DE

YOUR COMPLETE INDEPENDANT IRRIGATION SPECIALIST

BRITISH OVERHEAD IRRIGATION LTD
Upper Hallford Green, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8SB

Tel: 01932 788301
Fax: 01932 780437

Independent contractors for irrigation systems, updates and complete projects

BEST BUY B.O.I.L.

Also manufacturers of Irrigation Equipment - Experience - Expertise - Care - Service since 1923. Founder Member of B.T.L.I.A.



British Turf & Landscape Irrigation Association

"Quality by Association"



Our aim is to ensure you have the best possible irrigation system so we constantly monitor, maintain and raise the standards of our members. For a full list of members contact David Halford

Tel/Fax: 07041 363130

Cameron IRRIGATION

Suppliers of Irrigation Equipment to Golf Courses Bowling Greens, Landscapes, Horticulture. Manufacturers of Irrigation Equipment Existing systems renovated and upgraded

DESIGN • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

Telephone: +44 (0) 1425 474614
Fax: +44 (0) 1425 471296
http://www.misc.irrig.co.uk
e mail: enquiries@misc.irrig.co.uk



I.L.S. IRRIGATION SYSTEMS & EQUIPMENT

- Contact us for irrigation installation service ●
- Up-dates ● Equipment sales

I.L.S. Irrigation, Oundle Road, Luton, Peterborough PE8 5ND.

Tel: 01832 272450
Fax: 01832 272191

M J ABBOTT LIMITED

Design, supply and installation of



Irrigation Systems

Tel: 01722 716361

Irrigation Technical Services

Design • Supply • Installation • Service

Pumps & tanks supplied

Moleplough & trencher hire

All leading manufacturers equipment serviced



IRRIGATION PRODUCTS
AREA DEALER

Tel: 01202 87.42.16 Mobile: 0831 24.22.05

Visit the new BIGGA website @

www.bigga.org.uk

Irrigation Systems



For Golf Courses Sports Grounds Bowling Greens etc

- Cost effective solutions to your irrigation problems
- Independent professional advice

DESIGN - INSTALLATION - SERVICE

NORTH STAFFS IRRIGATION

Consulting Watering Specialists

01785 812706

OCMIS IRRIGATION

Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation & Service.

Ocmis specialise in Irrigation Systems for Golf Courses, Sportsgrounds, Recreational, Amenity & Landscape Areas.

For further information contact:

HEAD OFFICE 01460 241939 SCOTTISH OFFICE 0131 2202102

Independent Professional Irrigation

Golf Courses, Bowling Greens, Sports, Racecourses, Gardens +++

- Design/Advice
- New Installations
- Contracting
- Supply & Sales
- Service
- Service Contracts
- System Upgrades
- PC Systems

Telephone 01785 602175 01785 690598 Fax 01785 603488 Email: Sales@par4.co.uk www.par4int.u-net.com



Visit the new BIGGA website @

www.bigga.org.uk

Visit the new BIGGA website @ www.bigga.org.uk

TORO

IRRIGATION PRODUCTS

Design. Supply. Installation. Service.

Established 42 years
ONGAR, ESSEX
01277 890274



OAKDALE

T & G IRRIGATION

Golf Course and Sports Turf Irrigation:
Design - Installation - Maintenance • Annual Service Contracts • New Installations - System Upgrades - Fully automated PC systems
Independent Installers of Hunter - Logic - Toro Irrigation Equipment

For advice and a free quotation, contact our Doncaster offices:

Tel: 01427 874200 Mobile: 07860 542616
Fax: 01427 875333

<http://www.oakdale.uk.com> e-mail: enquiries@oakdale.uk.com

WARDLE

Consulting Engineers Ltd

INDEPENDENT IRRIGATION CONSULTANTS & PROJECT MANAGERS

Head Office: Tel/Fax: 01283 711864
Scottish Office: 01259 742447
E-mail: info@wardleconsulting.com
www.wardleconsulting.com



One of the most professional Design, Supply and installation services in the North.

Trained in Golf Course management, with real knowledge of irrigation and Golf Course needs. Effortless irrigation with minimum inconvenience.

Call now on: 01405 814889
Mobile: 07967 504313

You'll be amazed where we POP up!

York & Martin

GOLF IRRIGATION CONSULTANTS

Speak to Europe's most experienced, independent consultants for objective, unbiased advice, before deciding

YORK & MARTIN
PO BOX 1152 FORDINGBRIDGE
HANTS, SP6 1YD, U.K.

Tel. 01425 652087 Fax. 01425 652476

Lake Construction/Liners

AQUALINE

Liner Specialists

- Ponds • Lakes • Reservoirs
- Water features

Free survey and advisory service available. For further assistance contact Richard Thomas

Tel 01291-625186 Fax 01291-625185



Liners for lakes, ponds and storage lagoons from the UK's leading contractor

Comprehensive advice regarding design and construction of water areas

Tel: 01206 262676 Fax: 01206 262998

E-mail: sales@geosynthetic.co.uk

www.geosynthetic.co.uk

WATERPROOFING SERVICES

POND & LAKE LINING SPECIALISTS

CONTACT US ON

TEL: 01249 655539
FAX: 01525 261103

EMAIL: info@waterproofingservices.com

Line Marking

LINE MARKING APPLICATORS AND AEROSOLS



Blue Diamond STL, Clayfields Industrial Estate, Tickhill Road, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN4 8QG
Freephone: 0800 5424 004

Machinery

ETC GRASS MACHINERY

Large selection of new and second hand Turf Maintenance Machinery in stock.

FREE DELIVERY IN UK. Warranty given. Also interested in purchasing surplus machines.

Tel/Fax: 01829 720280
Mobile: 0378 063418

Mycorrhiza

NEW Mycorrhiza for turf
The essential start for new greens.



Transforms existing greens.
Apply as Seed Coat or Inoculant

Tel: 01372 456101 Fax: 01372 456099

Nursery Stock

Mahood Brothers Limited

WHOLESALE NURSERYMEN

Looking for Nursery Stock...? **LOOK NO FURTHER**

- Trees, feathereds, shrubs, gorse, transplants, conifers, heathers, etc.
- Professional advice and guidance
- Instant quotations by fax or phone
- Free 58-page catalogue available on request
- Nursery inspection welcome
- Weekly nationwide delivery service

Top quality reliable service at the right price!

TEL: 01704 895014
FAX: 01704 895557

E-mail: sales@mahoods.co.uk Website: www.mahoods.co.uk

pH Control



pH control and dosing systems for your irrigation water, for improved turf quality. Nationwide installation and commissioning service and advice. Contact Brian Sykes

USF STRANCO

Priority Works, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0QL
Telephone: 01732 354888 Fax: 01732 354222

Railway Sleepers

LANDSCAPING GRADE SLEEPERS
SELECTED HARDWOOD

BEST QUALITY PRICES

ALSO

COCKLESHELL PATH MEDIA

BULK LOADS - DISCOUNTED PRICES

FINETURF PRODUCTS

Tel: 01375 361606

RAILWAY SLEEPERS

TEL: 01302 888676 FAX: 01302 880547

• WE WILL BEAT ANY GENUINE QUOTE • DELIVERY ANY AREA • NO MINIMUM ORDER

www.sleeper-supplies.co.uk

Crossing Timbers, 4" x 4" Posts and Telegraph Poles

QUALITY RAILWAY SLEEPERS

From a Quality Assured Company

Best prices on all grades (Softwood/Hardwood/Concrete)

CROSSING TIMBERS

12 x 12 BULK TIMBERS

NEW UNTREATED OAK SLEEPERS

Large stocks nationwide. Immediate delivery, any area



TRACKWORK LIMITED
A Major Supplier since 1975

Tel: 01302 365222 Fax: 01302 341691
Email: info@trackwork.co.uk
Website: www.trackwork.co.uk

Root Zone

BANKS AMENITY PRODUCTS LTD

SUPPLIERS OF
FENDRESS™ ROOTZONE TO USGA
ECONOMY ROOTZONE
DIVOT MIXES

FOR A COMPETITIVE QUOTATION CALL
01858 464346 / 433003

TOPDRESSING SANDS
TREE SAND • ROOTZONES
DRAINAGE & SUB-BASE MATERIALS

Freephone Sam on
0800 731 7450

Alan Hadley Limited
Fenton House, 102 Grazeley Road, Three Mile Cross, Berks RG7 1BJ

Great sport is built on



National suppliers of sports surface materials:

- Sand • Rootzones • Pathway Materials
- Loksand • Drainage Aggregates

For further details telephone
01298 213740

Tarmac

Sports Netting



THE PROFESSIONAL'S CHOICE

- TARGET GREENS
- ANTI-BALL PLUGGING NETS
- PADDED & NET BAY DIVIDERS
- BUNKER MEMBRANE
- PERIMETER FENCING
- BALL-STOP NET
- ANTI-DAZZLE NETTING
- **PRO NET** TEACHING GOLF NET & FRAME
- **GROW SHEET** GRASS GERMINATION

For further information please contact

+44 (0)117 966 9684

Top Dressings

BANKS AMENITY PRODUCTS LTD

EXCLUSIVE MANUFACTURERS OF
FENDRESS GREENTOP™ & FENDRESS™ TOP DRESSINGS
SUPERIOR, CONSISTENT TOP DRESSINGS AT
AFFORDABLE PRICES

TEL: 01858 464346 / 433003



Telford Way, Kettering, Northants

Tel: 01536 510515

- for
- Turf Dressing**
- Root Zone Mixes**
- Screened Top Soils**
- Bunker Sands**
- Horticultural Composts**

"Pre-germinated grass seed"

"Liquid Sod" Spray-on grass

- Herbicides**
- Grass Seed**
- Fertilisers**

Turf Management Systems

Dromagh Farm, Sevenhills Road, Iverheath, Bucks, SL0 0PA
Tel: 01895 834411

Visit the new **BIGGA** website @
www.bigga.org.uk

SOIL TECHNOLOGY
RUFFORD
BRITAIN'S NO 1 FOR
QUALITY AND SERVICE
TOP DRESSING • CONSTRUCTION
ROOT ZONES
SANDS • GRAVELS • GRASS SEED
SOIL • PATHWAY MATERIALS
Eaton Hall Quarry, Manchester Rd,
Congleton, Cheshire CW12 2LU
Tel: 01260 281801

Soil Shredders/Mixers
Screeners
Make valuable compost and dressings on site. Wide range of models available.
sisis Tel: 01625 503030
Fax: 01625 427426
SISIS EQUIPMENT (Macclesfield) LTD

Tractors
MOTOKOV UK Ltd, Bergen Way, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2JH
Landini
Mistral (37-47HP)
From £9,900+VAT

• Powered by Yanmar Diesel • Interest-free Finance
• Sensibly priced • Electro hydraulic Twin Diff Lock
• 540/750 Groundspeed PTO • Turf tyres available
• Excellent manoeuvrability
Tel: 01553 817700 Fax: 01553 691201
TRACTORS AT REALISTIC PRICES

Trees
BIG TREES
Nature first
Nature First Ltd.
Wood Lane Nursery
Down Hatherley
Gloucester
GL2 9QB
Tel: 01452 731199
Fax: 01452 731131
E-mail: trees@treefirst.co.uk
TREE MOVING
Move your own trees at a fraction of the cost with our fleet of modern tree spades.

THE TREE CARRIAGE COMPANY
GROWERS OF TREES
THE TREE CARRIAGE COMPANY
Court Gate Nursery, Eckington, Pershore, Wores WR10 3BB
Tel: 01386 750585 Fax: 01386 750197

Visit the new **BIGGA** website @
www.bigga.org.uk

LEEDS GOLF CLUB

ESTABLISHED 1896

(COBBLEHALL)

Due to ill health retirement a vacancy exists for a First Assistant Greenkeeper to join a young, enthusiastic team. The successful applicant will have a minimum NVQ Level 2 or equivalent, 5 years experience at a recognised course and knowledge of modern greenkeeping practices.

Remuneration package is competitive and attractive.

No accommodation available.

Apply in writing enclosing full CV to:

The Secretary, Leeds Golf Club, Elmete Lane, Leeds LS8 2LJ

Closing Date 24 November 2000

BLAIR ATHOLL GOLF CLUB

EST 1896 9 HOLE PAR 70

QUALIFIED GREENKEEPER

Enthusiastic and self motivated greenkeeper required for quality parkland course situated in the heart of beautiful Perthshire. The applicant must have a sound practical approach to all aspects of modern greenkeeping and machinery.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Accommodation is available

APPLICATIONS IN WRITING WITH A FULL C.V. TO;

The Secretary, Blair Atholl Golf Club,
Invertilt Road, Blair Atholl, Perthshire PH18 5TG

WHALLEY GOLF CLUB, LANCASHIRE

Requires a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

To commence January 1st 2001 or as soon as possible thereafter.

This is a nine hole golf course kept to a high standard and with a comprehensive stock of new machinery.

Applicants must have the necessary qualifications and experience to manage the operation as well as being "hands on".

Applications supported by CV should be returned to the Hon. Secretary at the following address no later than Friday 17 November 2000.

The Whalley Golf Club, Long Leese Barn,
Clarkhill Road, Whalley, Clitheroe, BB7 9DR

WATERLOOVILLE GOLF CLUB

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

An enthusiastic and hardworking Greenkeeper required to join existing team. Qualified to NVQ Level 2 along with PA1, PA2 and PA6 qualifications preferred.

Please reply in writing with CV to:

The Secretary, Waterlooville Golf Club, Cherry Tree Avenue,
Cowplain, Waterlooville, Hampshire PO8 8AP

TruLawn

The lawn and Fine Turf Care market in the UK is undergoing massive growth. TruLawn is a progressive company with several hundred customers. We are offering various career opportunities at all levels to individuals who can demonstrate that their skills, experience and future aspirations will assist in building TruLawn as the UK's premium Lawn and Fine Turf Care Brand.

Available regions

South East	Surrey, Berkshire
Midland	Cheshire
Scotland	Edinburgh, Glasgow

For more information please visit www.trulawn.com

CV's may be sent to:

The Managing Director, TruLawn Limited, The Souter Building, Sauchenford, Pleau, Stirling FK7 8AP

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER REQUIRED

Applications are invited from hard working enthusiastic greenkeepers who should have at least 5 years experience and be qualified to NVQ Level 2 or equivalent.

Salary and conditions negotiable.

Please reply in writing to:

The Secretary/Manager, Betchworth Park Golf Club,
Reigate Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1NT

EPSOM GOLF CLUB

require an

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

We are looking for an enthusiastic and hard working Greenkeeper to join our existing team.

NVQ Level 2 along with PA1A,
PA2 and PA6 qualifications required.
Only those with the above qualifications need apply.

Apply in writing with full CV to:

Mr D Fernie, Head Greenkeeper,
Epsom Golf Club, Longdown Lane South, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 4JR

Experienced Head Greenkeeper

Required to commence work from 15 January 2001 for traditional golf club Mannheim-Viernheim (founded 1930), since the current English Head Greenkeeper wants to return to England after six years.

The existing 9 hole club in the centre of the Rhein River region, about 60km south of Frankfurt, will be enlarged to an 18 hole course at the beginning of next year. Some knowledge of the German language will be useful.

Please send detailed applications as soon as possible to:

Mr H Knopf, President of the Golfclub Mannheim-Viernheim 1930 e.V.,
Alte Mannheimer Str. 3, 68519 Viernheim, Germany.

Phone: 00 49 6204 60700 Fax: 00 49 6204 607044



MAXSTOKE PARK
GOLF CLUB LTD

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

Our Deputy Head Greenkeeper left our employment this Summer to take up a Course Manager's position overseas.

The Deputy appointed should be qualified to a minimum NVQ Level 3 and hold spraying certificates and written references.

He will have had several years experience as an Assistant Greenkeeper or Deputy Head Greenkeeper.

Salary and conditions are commensurate with experience.

Maxstoke Park is a 700 private members club, playing on a 18 hole, 6442yd parkland course and is in the charge of an experienced Course Manager with a staff of 3 assistants.

Please apply in writing with CV to:

The Secretary, Maxstoke Park Golf Club,
Castle Lane, Coleshill, Birmingham B46 3RD

PENWORTHAM GOLF CLUB

EST 1908

Invites applications for the position of

COURSE MANAGER

The key responsibilities of this position are as follows:

- To contribute to the formulation of policy and oversee the short, medium and long term maintenance of the golf course as dictated by Club policy.
- To formulate, present and control agreed budgets including making reasoned decisions when buying materials and equipment.
- To lead, supervise, motivate, delegate as appropriate, develop, train and assist in the recruitment of staff.
- To present and implement work schedules, machinery replacement and machinery maintenance programmes, keep accurate records and be aware of modern methods, materials and equipment.
- To endeavour to continually improve communication at all levels including staff, management and membership.
- To ensure safety of the staff and environment.

Minimum qualifications for this position are NVQ level 4 or equivalent. (Applicants with Level 3 and working towards level 4 or equivalent will be considered.)

Minimum 5 years greenkeeping experience also required.

Salary is negotiable and will reflect the importance of the role. Accommodation is not provided.

Apply in writing with full CV to:

The Club Manager, Penwortham Golf Club,
Blundell Lane, Penwortham, Preston PR1 0AX
Application Closing Date: Monday 20 November 2000

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER

To join a team creating and bringing in a new 18 hole golf course in the Edinburgh area.

Experience and qualifications to NVQ/SVQ Level 2 or 3 along with good mechanical skills would be an advantage. Training to this level or further training may be provided. Salary negotiable, depending on experience.

Please apply in writing, including full CV to:

Box No. 01/11, BIGGA, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne York YO61 1UF



Sales Representative South West/Wales Amenity & Sportsturf Division

Vitax is an old established privately owned company supplying quality products to the sports turf and local authority markets. Our well known brands include Tecto, Estermone and the Key Range of sports turf fertilisers.

A vacancy exists for a Representative to take over an established distributor and end user customer base throughout the South West & Wales. Proven success in a sales role or an in-depth knowledge of the sports turf industry is essential. Sound interpersonal skills will also be necessary to communicate effectively at all levels and build strong relationships with both distributor and end user customers. Drive and ambition will ensure success in an interesting commercial environment.

If you feel you have the necessary skills, experience and enthusiasm to succeed in this role, please send your CV to:-

Clive Williams, Product Development Manager,
Vitax Ltd, Owen Street, Coalville, Leics LE67 3DE

Tel: 01530 510060 Fax: 01530 510299
Email: clivewilliams@vitax.co.uk

Salzburg, Austria

Greenkeepers required in Salzburg, Austria

Jack Nicklaus Designed Golf Course
6 month contract starting either mid March until mid September
or mid April until mid October.

Would suit trainee or assistant greenkeepers wishing to gain
experience abroad.
Accommodation, flights and good competitive salary.

Applicants should apply in writing with full CV, photograph and
contact telephone number to:

Gary Moseley, GC Gut Altentann, Hof 54,
5302 Henndorf, Austria
Tel: (43) 676 546 0058 Fax: (43) 621 461 0581
E-mail: gary.moseley@eunet.at

Feature listing from November '98

November '98: Royal Opening, Ramside Hall GC, Gang Mowers, Hayter International report, Irrigation Systems

December '98: Toro Awards, Environment Awards, The Appliance of Science, Engines, Architects, BTME Preview

January '99: Pesticide Usage, Life in Colorado, Lyshott Heath GC, Worm Research, Stylo Matchmaker profile, Temporary Greens

February '99: Westerham GC; R&A questionnaire results; Finland; grass cutting; BTME99 Review; Bernhard and Co

March '99: Loch Lomond, Worm update, GrassRoots, Softspikes, Maintenance facilities, Environment review, Architecture

April '99: Carden Park, Telecommunications, Water Management, Rolawn, Seeds

May '99: Security, Bude and North Cornwall GC, Spraying Regulations, Jim Arthur, The Acid Theory, Amenity Technology profile

June '99: Thorpeness GC, Millennium Bug Busting, Irrigation, Scotts profile, Company adaptability

July '99: Carnoustie, Golf Course Furniture, Spike Research, OTO profile, BIGGA Silent Auction

August '99: Viscount Whitelaw tribute; Open review; Merrist Wood; Saltex preview; Turf; Trees; Grass Cutting; BIGGA Golf Day review; Redexim profile

September '99: Slaley Hall; Tyres; Spotlight on Thatch; Elmwood College Awards; National Championship preview

October '99: The Manor House, Castle Combe; Aeration; Saltex review; Mycorrhizas; Toro Award preview

November '99: Sir Michael Bonallack interview; The Pines GC; Oil; Bunkers; National Championship review

December '99: Agronomy; Security; Environment Competition Winner; Toro Award Winners

January 2000: Greens Construction; Awkward Jobs; Sandy McDivot; Agronomy; Toro Award review

February 2000: BTME2000 review; Committed to Green interview; Rookery Park GC; Engines; Chairman's profile; Environmental Management

March 2000: Cleobury Mortimer GC; Course Furniture; R&A Conference Report; Cutting heights; Avoncrop profile; Valderrama report; Westurf preview

April 2000: Fortrose & Rosemarkie GC; Utility Vehicles; Irrigation; Seed breeding; Gem Professional profile.

May 2000: Ross-on-Wye GC; Top Dressing; Course Mapping; Compact Tractors

June 2000: National Championship preview; Spraying; World Education Conference review; Environmental Management; Mowers

July 2000: Open Championship Preview; Dougal Duguid Court Case Report; Pest Control; Avenit's profile; Course Conditioning

August 2000: Open Championship review; Water Features; Saltex preview; Charcoal; Malone GC; Royal County Down; Grand Tour Scholarship

September 2000: Blowers and Sweepers; Berkshire College Academy; National Championship roundup; Gordon McKillop interview; Winter health checks

October 2000: Toro Awards Preview; Ronald Fream; Irrigation; Saltex Review; Pest Control; Woburn GC



Guess What?



September, rain, the two have been inseparable in 2000 and the old saying that the weather will change with the month is definitely not right this year. As I write this Monday October 9, it has been non-stop heavy rain since 10am. It is now 8pm and the forecast says same again tomorrow. Anyone trying to get hollow coring done has my sympathy: It's a case of trying to catch a dry day between all the wet ones. I was lucky to catch one of those days on September 21 when I had lunch with the East Section lads at their autumn meeting and tea with the Central Section, also at their autumn outing. Thank you to both Sections, it was a grand day, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Thank you also to the Central Section, of which I am a member, for the lovely goblets they presented to me in honour of my year in office.

Guess what? It started raining again that evening. The next weekend and it was off to Lytham for the Charterhouse/Scotts BIGGA National Championship. On the Sunday I was looking forward to playing Royal Lytham for the first time. Guess what? It rained from the 1st tee till we eventually had to call it a day at the 11th. My thanks to Paul Smith, Course Manager at Royal Lytham, sorry I didn't get a chance to see you, hopefully I will another time.

Next morning Old St Annes Links were in fine shape and a beautiful day for the first round and there was some

good golf played to match the day. Monday night and we had a great evening at the Banquet. Good food and good company with our special guests Leon Gaskell, President, and Ted Walker, Captain of Old St Annes and Jim McFeat, Captain, June Miller, Ladies Captain and Harold Fielding, Secretary from Fairhaven, and an excellent speaker in John Welch.

Guess what? Tuesday and it poured down again but it did not deter our intrepid competitors – glad I wasn't playing – who battled through to the end. Well done to our 2000 Champion Dustin Houghton and also to Noel Crawford whose 75 scratch, one over par, round Fairhaven was tremendous given the appalling conditions. It was another great

tournament for which we thank all at Old St Annes and Fairhaven for their hospitality and especially to Geoff Whittle, Course Manager at St Annes and Peter Simpson, Head Greenkeeper at Fairhaven and all their staff for the excellent condition of both courses.

Lastly, but only because I saved them to last, our sponsors, Charterhouse and Scotts, who made it all possible. Once again a big thank you for your support.

By the way, if Richard Minton tells anyone that I don't pay my debts – he beat me easily at Old St Annes and he did play well – anyone who drops the bet to 1- after seeing my first drive has no courage of conviction.

Only one small point spoilt the event for me, this was the prizewinners who did not stay to collect their prizes, especially as we had the prizegiving finished by 5.30pm.

The next weekend and it was down to Aldwark for two days of meetings. However, a clear the head day followed, when I was invited to join the Northern Region at Penrith where they were playing for the Whitelaw Bowl. What a marvellous set of prizes with the Bowl itself simply magnificent. The sponsors, Course Care with John Wood MD and Andy Vincent have to be congratulated for their support of this tournament. I think the winner, was a bit overawed with the size of the bowl. I know I was a bit nervous holding it. It was a great honour for me to present the trophy in honour of Lord Whitelaw who did such

a wonderful job for BIGGA in his 10 years as President.

Well, summer is over and it's time to think that over the next few months Course Managers and Head Greenkeepers will be looking at ourselves and our staff and deciding who needs more training. There are so many opportunities for us to increase our knowledge and training on a myriad of subjects. We have Regional training courses spread all over the country; Regional seminars, the Learning Experience at Harrogate with Conference, Workshops and Seminars and some Sections run courses in their own area. I know people in other industries and professions who cannot believe the opportunities that we have set out for us and they do not believe the low prices either. We should all be taking advantage of these whenever we can.

I find the attitude of some golf clubs somewhat surprising in that they do not encourage their staff to improve themselves in either learning new skills or adding to what they already know. Recently a Club Manager told me they have a great Head Greenkeeper, but unfortunately he lacked some managerial skills. Why not send him on one or two BIGGA courses, I said, Brin Bendon or Frank Newberry will certainly help him to add these managerial skills to his already considerable skills as a greenkeeper. Surely it's daft to lose a good man or appoint someone over him if all it needs is some specialist training to help him and also help the club.

Most greenkeepers start off as apprentices and work their way up and have not had the chance to learn managerial skills such as man management, budgeting, work allocation, report writing and other skills like these. In this day of educational enlightenment when the governments are always encouraging us to learn new skills it surely behoves the clubs to set aside monies to each year purely for education and training. If you do not have this in your budget, put it in this year, it makes sense.

A man's greatest strength develops at the point where he overcomes his greatest weakness

COMPANY WEBSITE PROFILES FROM THE TURFCARE INDUSTRY

If you would like to promote your company website on this page to a readership of over 9,000 contact: Sales Department at BIGGA on Tel: 01347 833800 or Fax us on: 01347 833802 alternatively email: sales@bigga.co.uk



Website: www.britishseedhouses.com

Company: British Seed Houses

British Seed Houses - Order On-Line

You can now order Avalon, Providence and the full range of Grade A golf course seed mixtures – as well the wild flora and granular fertiliser products – at www.britishseedhouses.com
 In addition to a secure ordering facility, the new British Seed Houses website includes a wealth of advisory information and a link to IGER where you can find out more about the only UK-based turfgrass breeding programme. You can also join the Grade A Club on-line and receive discount off the cost of training and education materials.
 Find out more at www.britishseedhouses.com



Website: www.toro.com

Company: Toro

The Toro Company, from Minneapolis, in Minnesota, sees itself as a provider of "total solutions for outdoor landscapes" - and so it is when it comes to meeting the needs of the modern greenkeeper.

Established as the proven industry leader in producing the highest quality cut and manufacture, Toro turf maintenance expertise extends to irrigation systems too. This means that today's course managers and greenkeepers receive a complete solution suited to their own individual requirements, plus the training, back-up and service they need to meet the heaviest demands.

Toro Commercial Products are distributed in the UK by Lely UK, in St Neots and in The Republic of Ireland by Lely Ireland, in Dublin. For further information contact Lely UK on 01480 226800 or Lely Ireland on 00 353 (0) 1459 3314



Website: www.inglease.com

Company: ING Lease

ING Lease the leading provider of finance to the turf care and amenity sectors.

ING offer flexible finance solutions with a full range of finance products: Loan, Hire Purchase, Lease, Operating Lease and Contract Hire.

A specialist finance product is available to assist Golf Clubs with their VAT situation.

All deals can be tailored to match your cash flow.

We also offer exclusive low cost finance programmes with many of the major turf care manufacturers.



Website: www.europeanturftechnology.co.uk

Company: European Turf Technology

Visit our electrifying new website for;

FLORATINE, the market leader from the United States, whether you require a complete soil analysis combined with a total nutrient programme, to get the most out of your turf, a wetting agent providing matrix flow at a competitive price or one of the other speciality products, **FLORATINE** have the solution.

FERTILISER, an exciting new range from **HYDRO**, the world's largest fertiliser company.

ORGANICS, the famous **SEA SURE** range, where you can select one of our specially formulated range or specify your own analysis, either way it's a premium quality liquid seaweed base, and a whole lot more... **FINE PRODUCTS FOR FINE TURF**



Website: www.bigga.org.uk

Company: BIGGA

The UK's leading greenkeeping association, representing over 7,400 members worldwide. This site provides information and news about activities and issues relevant to greenkeeping professionals and the turfcare industry. Sections are dedicated to: **MEMBERSHIP**: including a members only area, **EDUCATION & TRAINING**: providing career advice, competitions and educational course details, **DIRECTORY**: allowing detailed searching for industry suppliers and contacts worldwide, **LINKS**: containing hundreds of hyperlinks to useful associations, golf clubs and training providers, **NEWS AND EVENTS**: giving a calendar of the most important meetings, shows and exhibitions in the greenkeeping diary, **BTME**: the turf industry's largest European indoor trade exhibition and conference, and **GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL**: the association's award winning monthly publication.

