

IMMACULATE GREENS

DON'T JUST HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT!

They need Thatch-Awaying...



and topdressing...



and rubbing in...



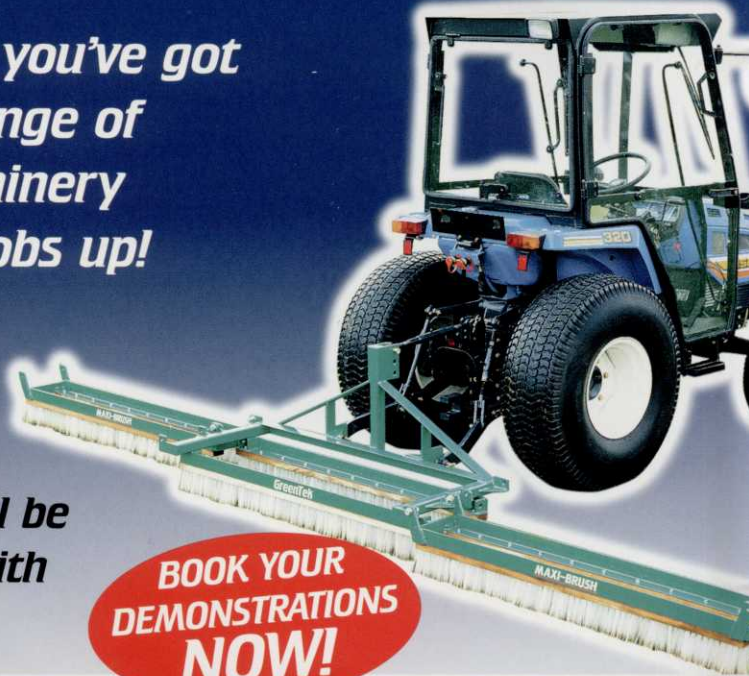
and rolling!



*Good job you've got
GreenTek's range of
time-saving machinery
to speed all those jobs up!*

*Then, with the time you've saved, you'll be
able to quickly groom your fairways with
the super fast 18' wide Maxi-Brush*

**BOOK YOUR
DEMONSTRATIONS
NOW!**



GreenTek - 0113 267 7000

INNOVATIVE TURFCARE MACHINERY

DESIGNED TO SAVE YOUR TIME

February 2001 advertisers

TICK	ADVERTISER	PAGE
	Advanta Seeds	43
	Allen Power	21
	Angus Horticulture	24
	Barenbrug	13
	Bathgate Silica Sand	41
	Eagle Promotions	45
	Fern House Marketing Ltd	47
	Field Irrigation	21
	Gambetti Barre	43
	Golf Car UK	24
	Greensward	2
	Hayter Ltd	50-51
	Hunter Grinders	47
	Hydroscope	13
	ISS Irrigation Systems	21
	John Deere	67
	John Deere Credit	24
	Kawasaki	29
	Kubota UK Ltd	30
	Lely UK	52-53
	Lincmaster	23
	Major Equipment	18
	Motorkov	41
	Par 4 Irrigation	18
	Renault Agriculture Ltd	48
	Rigby Taylor	11
	SITA	29
	Same Deutz Fahr	45
	Scotts	39
	Textron UK Ltd	7
	Toro	68
	Totrax	47
	Vitax	41
	Westurf	11
	Yamaha Motor (UK) Ltd	23

Reader reply card

More than just a magazine – Greenkeeper International can help you find the right products or services for your golf course – for free! Just tick the advertiser whose product or service interests you, send the card back to us, and we'll pass on your enquiry. Further details will be rushed straight to you, directly from the advertiser. It's as easy as that and what's more, it won't even cost you a penny!

Name

Position

Company/Course

Address

Postcode

Work Tel:

Email:

Subscribe today!

Because we deal with the issues which affect you, you can't afford to miss a single copy of the award-winning Greenkeeper International magazine. Subscription rates are: £36 for 12 issues (Europe £46). All you have to do is tick this box then complete your details above, and post this card back to us. We'll then add your name to our ever-increasing list of satisfied magazine subscribers.

An invoice will be sent in due course.

BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE
Licence No. YO 331

2



BIGGA HOUSE
Aldwark
Alne
York
YO61 1UF



A guide to who's who at BIGGA

President
Sir Michael
Bonallack, OBE

BIGGA Board of Management
Chairman - Clive Osgood
Vice Chairman - Richard Barker
Past Chairman - Elliott Small

Board Members
Ian Semple
Paul Jenkins
Jim Paton
Ian Holoran
David Walden

Executive Director
Neil Thomas
E-mail: neil@bigga.co.uk

Administration Manager
John Pemberton
E-mail: john@bigga.co.uk

Sales & Marketing Manager
Steve Hardy
E-mail: steve@bigga.co.uk

Editorial Media
Scott MacCallum
E-mail: scott@bigga.co.uk

Education & Training Manager
Ken Richardson
E-mail: ken@bigga.co.uk

Membership Services Officer
Tracey Maddison
E-mail: tracey@bigga.co.uk

Contact us

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

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

E-mail: reception@bigga.co.uk

Internet: www.bigga.org.uk

Tel: 01347 833800

Fax: 01347 833801

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Greenkeeper

INTERNATIONAL

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

Editorial

Editor: Scott MacCallum
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833801
E-mail: scott@bigga.co.uk

Advertising

Sales & Marketing Manager: Steve Hardy
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802
E-mail: steve@bigga.co.uk

Sales & Marketing Department:
Cheryl Broomhead, Diane Bray, Meredith Foster
Tel: 01347 833800 Fax: 01347 833802
E-mail: sales@bigga.co.uk

Design

Design & Production Editor: David Emery
Tel: 01347 833800 ISDN: 01347 830020
E-mail: david@bigga.co.uk

Printing

Hi-Tec Print, Units 9-10, Houghton Road,
North Anston Trading Estate, North Anston,
Sheffield S25 4JJ ISDN: 01909 550561
Tel: 01909 568533 Fax: 01909 568206

The advertising copy deadline for inclusion in the March 2001 edition of Greenkeeper International is Monday, February 19, 2001

Greenkeeper International:

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 accepted 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

© 2001 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Advertisers' Index

Advertiser	Page
Advanta Seeds	43
Allen Power	21
Angus Horticulture	24
Barenbrug	13
Bathgate Silica Sand	41
Eagle Promotions	45
Fern House Marketing Ltd	47
Field Irrigation	21
Gambetti Barre	43
Golf Car UK	24
Greensward	2
Hayter Ltd	50-51
Hunter Grinders	47
Hydroscape	13
ISS Irrigation Systems	21
John Deere	67
John Deere Credit	24
Kawasaki	29
Kubota UK Ltd	30
Lely UK	52-53
Linmaster	23
Major Equipment	18
Motorkov	41
Par 4 Irrigation	18
Renault Agriculture Ltd	48
Rigby Taylor	11
SITA	29
Same Deutz Fahr	45
Scotts	39
Textron UK Ltd	7
Toro	68
Totrax	47
Vitax	41
Westurf	11
Yamaha Motor (UK) Ltd	23

February 2001

Your next issue of Greenkeeper International will be with you by March 15, 2001

Regulars

News

Pages 4, 5, 6 and 8

9 Letters

10 Membership Update

10 Web Watch

12 Education

Ken Richardson asks members to have their say on what they want from their educational programmes

49-55 Around the Green

64 Trash equals Cash

Sandy McDivot empties his piggy bank in an attempt to raise money to open his own golf course

66 Features listing

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

66 As I see it...

New BIGGA Chairman, Clive Osgood, begins his year as a Greenkeeper International columnist

Features

14 Passing the Baton

A profile of Clive Osgood, BIGGA's new National Chairman, and a man with greenkeeping running through his veins

16 Second Pass

Noel MacKenzie follows on his March 2000 article with another look at mowing practices



18 Water Way to Go

Graeme Francis gives some valuable advice to ensure that your irrigation system works first time after the winter break

22 TWOC

Roland Taylor looks at ways of ensuring your property is not Taken Without Owner's Consent

25 As Broad as it's Long

Broadstone Golf Club may be in a golfing backwater but it has a great deal to offer. Scott MacCallum spoke with Course Manager, Adrian Archer

31 Hedge your Bets

Eamonn Wall gives some practical advice about dealing with your hedges

34 Tried and Tested

Scott MacCallum visits the home of Kubota UK, one of BIGGA's longest standing Golden Key members and speaks with Deputy Managing Director Rene Orban

42 BTME Reviewed

Look back at a week which got the entire year off to a great start



14 Passing the Baton



18 Water Way to Go



25 As Broad as it's Long



31 Hedge your Bets

Another one for the memory banks

As a week, it would be hard to beat Harrogate 2001. Virtually every aspect of it has been deemed a success ... and not just by those people involved in the organisation but by delegates and exhibitors, many of whom have contacted BIGGA HOUSE to say how successful, not to mention enjoyable, it had been for them.

Sure there were problems. I wouldn't have liked to have been stuck in one of the long, cold queues of people trying to get into the halls but that in itself is a measure of how successful the show had been. We've had queues in the past but not to the extent that they were significant hardship for the participants as they were this year. Having identified it as an issue it is something we will have addressed well in advance of next year.

There were many highlights for me during the week of the National Education Conference and the Show. There was the member, all the way from Germany, who, on the Sunday night, put on his jacket for the first time since the last year's Harrogate and found £200 in the top pocket. He'd forgotten all about it. It must be nice to have that sort of disposable income.

Another high point was the surprise appearance of BIGGA's Administration Manager, Johnny "Rotten" Pemberton, on stage with The Searchers, a truly unforgettable experience for all who witnessed it. I'd always thought John might possess the talent and the potential to be a great singer ... I'm afraid I was wrong.

It was also pleasing to see so many international visitors to the Show. Harrogate has always attracted a number of overseas members and friends but this year there seemed to be many more than usual, reinforcing the view that BTME week is an opportunity for the entire industry to come together and compare notes on problems and solutions.

Once again Textron must be given a vote of thanks for their support of the Learning Experience programme.

That 7,172 people chose to make a date with BTME during the two and a half days of the Show is quite astonishing. That represents a huge increase on previous attendance figures and marks the Show down, among existing and would-be exhibitors, as a vibrant and exciting event which must not be missed. It also goes a long way to justifying the decision to extend the show by half a day next year.

It was not a decision taken lightly, as Neil Thomas explains elsewhere in this magazine, but the flexibility the additional few hours will add will give everyone a chance to get round the entire show, while the exhibitors themselves will no doubt appreciate a more even flow of visitors over the three days.

News on the format of next year's Harrogate will be posted as and when it becomes available but you can be assured that BTME 2002 will build on the success of this year's event and once again be the highlight of the greenkeeping calendar.

Scott MacCallum
Editor



International membership growing!

Bert Cross describes his recent visit to Lusaka Golf Club.

While on holiday in Zambia I had reason to drive to the capital city, Lusaka, and on route drove past Lusaka Golf Course. From the road I could see some of the course, and I decided on my return journey I would call in to take a better look. When I arrived at the golf club, I made myself known by showing my BIGGA membership card which is always in my wallet, and was introduced to the Secretary/Manager, Mr Mulenga.

I was made very welcome, and invited to walk the course with him. I was very impressed with the condition of the course, and even more impressed when Mr Mulenga gave me a list of the machinery to maintain the course, which consisted of; one 20inch certes to cut greens; one 18 inch certes to cut tees; two MF tractors (fair condition); one three gang Toro drag sets and one Tractor rotary mower. The greens are Bermuda grass and are cut at approx six millimetres, three to four times weekly, the fairways are a mixture of very coarse grasses and cut weekly.

On our walk round the course I was introduced to the Professional/Head Greenkeeper Mr Zulu. He explained the diffi-



culty of getting fertiliser, and machinery, plus the high cost of both even if they are available. Bunkers on the course are mainly green side only, but you can run into other problems just off the fairways like, snakes, termites, army ants, and great numbers of beautiful trees lining the fairways. The course is 18 holes par 73, covering 240 acres, with fairways, tees, and greens with irrigation fed by three bore holes. Lusaka Golf Course was officially opened in 1935. The first major alteration was made during the war years, with the scrapping of some holes, and constructing new ones within the frame work of the remainder. In

1956 the course was re-designed to eliminate playing into the sun on the closing holes. The first grass green was planted in 1958, and by 1962 all 18 greens were grass. The irrigation during the months between October and January is used constantly due to high temperatures 30-40 C. The course is the venue for the Zambian Open, and Masters Champion Vijay Singh won his first tournament there in 1992. Ian Woosnam since then won a Range Rover for a hole-in-one. The course is in a beautiful setting, and a credit to Mr Mulenga and Mr Zulu considering the lack of machinery to maintain the course. A staff of 25 work on the course (male and female) hand weeding greens, and keeping down the rough with slashers (3 ft x 2inch steel blades sharpened both edges).

Thinning out the course grasses on the fairways is also done by hand, a task that could be solved with a good scarifier. The greens come under attack from all sorts of burrowing and flying insects, and every green has to be checked daily and sprayed if necessary. I was, as mentioned earlier made very welcome, and loaned a set of clubs, a caddie who knew the course inside out, and courtesy of the course. The golf club have now joined BIGGA.



Top level changes at Textron

Textron Golf, Turf and Specialty Products International has made major changes to its sales and marketing teams.

Garry O'Neill joins the company as Sales Director for Europe and Africa. Previously with Toyota (GB) he held a number of positions, latterly in a strategic role responsible for product, pricing, marketing and distribution for light commercial vehicles.

Former Sales Director Peter Bell becomes Marketing Director, International with overall responsibility for all promotional activity, together with distribution development, product management and sales planning.

Neil Woodfin is appointed to the

new position of Customer Services Director, International with full responsibility for after sales support including service, parts and training.

All the above positions report directly to Managing Director, Harold Pinto.

Other appointments resulting from the senior management changes include: Ian Loveys, who joins the company as National Accounts Manager from Bosch Power Tools.

He replaces Richard Bishop, who after 32 years with the company, leaves with the best wishes of everyone in the Sales and Marketing team, to further his career within the turf care industry.



Above: Garry O'Neill

Training priorities recommended by GTC Technical Committee

The GTC Technical Committee has set out its recommendations for Greenkeeper training priorities in a three year Business Plan.

"The work of the new Technical Committee within the GTC structure chaired by Dr Mike Canaway will enable the Management Committee to consolidate its position as the Leading Industry Body for Greenkeeping by achieving set objectives and ensuring funding is approved to meet these objectives in the development and implementation of Greenkeeper Education, Training and Qualifications," explained David Golding, the GTC's Education Director.

The Technical Committee consists of the following members:-

Chairman - Dr Mike Canaway
 Consultants - John Davis, Tony Mears,
 Course Manager; Kerran Daly, Course
 Manager; Iain Ritchie, Course Manager;
 David Golding, Education Director GTC, in
 attendance and Sue Gudgeon - N/SVQ
 Co-ordinator, in attendance

Bob McLaren, the Chairman of the Management Committee, has fully supported the work of the Technical Committee and has recommended endorsement of the Business Plan to the Management Committee. The representative bodies are currently considering the Business Plan including the financial implications to implement the Business Plan.

IOG meeting to welcome one and all

The Bristol Branch of the IOG is to hold a special meeting at St. Mary's School, Cable, Wiltshire at which Steven Bernhard, of Bernhard & Co, will be giving an illustrated talk, "Why lap?". Anyone who uses a cylinder mower should find this an extremely interesting talk.

The Branch will give a warm welcome to any member of BIGGA who would like to attend the meeting.

This is the first meeting the IOG have held in this area, and they would appreciate if those intending to come along would first phone Ted Cavell on 01278 788689, so that they may arrange a room of a size to fit the number attending. (Evening calls to Ted would be appreciated).



The third year of the RigbyTaylor sponsored Matchplay Knockout tournament for the South Wales Section members saw 32 individuals equating to 16 pairs from 19 golf clubs. This year's final, as usual at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, was between last year's winners Team Morrision consisting of Daryl Bray and Leigh Davies against Team Pennard consisting of Peter Lacey and Robert Hanford. On this occasion though the Champions were unseated and Pennard clinched the trophy on the 15th green.

Grand Tour Scholarship 2001

The Grand Tour Scholarship invites golf course design and golf course management students for the second time to apply for a journey to leading golf courses throughout the United States in August 2001. The scholarship offers a unique learning experience to future leaders in our industry. TORO sponsors this year's scholarship that has been organized by Bettina Schrickel, golf course architect (EIGCA) and president of Lioness Golf LLC.

The scholarship offers four students the opportunity to visit a variety of famous historic and modern golf courses on the east coast and west coast, respectively. The two study tours include golf courses such as Augusta National, Harbour Town Golf Links, The Count' Club in Brookline, Cypress Point, Pebble Beach and Castle Pines to name just a few.

Both study tours will take place in August. The Western Route will lead to 20 golf courses in 23 weeks; the Eastern Route includes 23 courses and takes four weeks. Experience has proven the benefit of two students traveling together per route in order to exchange knowledge and impressions. Students will have the opportunity to walk each course, study the layout and talk to the golf course superintendent.

Golf course design and turfgrass management students from all over the world are invited to apply. Applicants shall be at least 21 years old and have demonstrated significant efforts and results in their educational career.

The scholarship covers costs for air-plane tickets, rental cars, hotel accommodation and cellular telephones for the duration of the journeys and provides students with the Scholarship Route Book that includes detailed directions, useful information and safety advice.

Applicants must be in possession of a valid passport and an international drivers licence. It is the students own responsibility to obtain a tourist visa for the United States, if applicable, and full health and travel insurance prior to departure.

The deadline for completed applications is April 15, 2001.

The Grand Tour Scholarship Committee will select successful candidates according to the contents and quality of application documents.

For application forms or further information, please contact Bettina Schrickel by phone on (+1) 954462 0157 or via email: ftjbettina@aol.com

Edgbaston GC

A verdict of death by misadventure has been returned on Alan Cutler, Deputy Head Greenkeeper and a much valued staff member of Edgbaston Golf Club, who was crushed by a mower after it toppled onto him as he cut round a bunker's edge.

The Birmingham inquest was told that Alan, who had been at the club for 34 years, had been cutting round a bunker on the 15th hole in March last year when the incident occurred.

When Alan didn't return to the maintenance facility Course Manager, Mike Hughes, went to look for him and found him trapped underneath the machine. It took three men to lift the machine off him and he was declared dead at hospital having suffered respiratory failure due to a crushed chest.

The jury, after having been guided by the Deputy Coroner, took 45 minutes to come to its unanimous verdict. Earlier it had been told that it was the club's normal practice to mow to within at least a foot of a bunker's edge and then hand mow the remainder but that on the occasion in question it was apparent that Alan had been mowing to within one to three inches of the edge.

The Environmental Health Inspector, Pauline Beever, advised that she was not proposing to prosecute as the club had demonstrated that it was a responsible employer and had implemented all recommendations since the accident.

The club had a Health and Safety Policy in place but has tightened its practices still further on the strength of what the HSE had said following the accident.

It has also bought a new machine with a sidewinder mechanism which means operators stay further away from the edge of banks while roll bars have been fitted to every piece of machinery which could accommodate them.

"I think one of the main lessons that other clubs could learn from our very sad experience is to keep in regular contact with the local Health and Safety Executive and see any input as a positive contribution to the working of the club and not a hindrance," said Edgbaston Secretary, Peter Heath.

"We have always had a good relationship with the HSE but having had such an accident on our golf course it has made us even more aware of the need for good practice," he explained.

A civil compensation claim is currently being pursued by 56-year-old Alan's family through the Club's Employer Liability policy.

Website clarification

Anyone finding difficulty accessing Dr Kate Entwistle's website which was listed in last month's magazine may have been confused by a dash which appeared at the end of the line but in the middle of the address.

The website can be accessed at: www.theturfdisseasecentre.co.uk

Royal Inverdivot GC...

www.tonyhusband.co.uk



check →

Volunteers required!

Volunteers required for the following events:

Volvo PGA Championship, The Wentworth Club, May 25-28, 2001

The Association will again be providing a support team for this prestigious event, this year, for the first time, it will operate on each of the four competition days. Each team member will be allocated a match and will walk the course with the game, raking any bunkers found by the players. In addition, should adverse weather conditions prevail, you may be required to assist the Wentworth greenkeeping staff in keeping the course playable.

You will be responsible for your own transport arrangements to the course and there is no provision for overnight accommodation. You may apply to help on any or all days and usually all those who apply are given the chance to participate on at least one day.

When applying please give details of your polo shirt size as this may be provided together with daily meal vouchers.

Helping at this event will not prejudice your chances of a place on The Open Championship Support Team.

The Open Championship, Royal Lytham & St Annes, July 19-22, 2001

The BIGGA Greenkeeping Support Team at The Open Championship will be involved in early morning course preparation; bunker raking, while matches are in play, and evening course repair. You must be available from Wednesday evening, July 18, through to the close of play on Sunday, July 22. While all transport, accommodation and meals will be provided between these dates it is the team member's responsibility for travel from home to the venue and return. When applying please give your polo shirt size.

Full BIGGA members only may apply in writing, for either or both of these events to: John Pemberton, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark Ane, York, YO61 1UE. Should you require any further information John can be contacted on 01347 833800 or via email: john@bigga.co.uk

The Wentworth support team will be co-ordinated by the BIGGA South East Region and Derek Farrington, the Regional Administrator, is available to offer help or information. Derek can be contacted on 01903 260956 or mobile 07850 162401.

The closing date for applications is Friday March 2, 2001 and in the event of there being more applications than places available then a draw of names will take place.

Correction for disease-free turf article

In the article on Disease-free turf which appeared on pages 23 and 24 of last month's magazine we inadvertently mixed up the photographs so that the Take-all Patch pictures appeared above the description for Fusarium Patch and the Fusarium Patch pictures appeared above the Take-all Patch description. We apologise for any confusion caused by this error and hopefully make up for the error by printing a corrected version for both diseases this month.

Anyone seeking further clarification information should acquire BIGGA's Turf Major Pest Diseases Field Guide which gives detailed information on turf diseases. A copy can be obtained for BIGGA HOUSE.

Fusarium Patch

Symptoms

Orange brown patches, 2.5 to 5cm across, increasing in size under suitable conditions. Can coalesce to affect large areas. Disease often very active following periods of snow cover, when it appears as an orange-brown ring surrounding a pale straw-coloured/slightly pink centre.

Occurrence

Any time of the year when conditions are suitable, but especially spring and autumn and after snow.

Grass species involved

Annual Meadow-grass (*Poa annua*) is the main species attacked but the fungus also attacks Bent Grass (*Agrostis* spp) and occasionally other grasses. Host preference is diminished when disease attacks under snow cover.

Other influencing factors

Shade, humidity, alkaline surface, inefficient drainage, excess nitrogen.

Control measures

Identification of influencing factors and application of appropriate remedial measures.



Take-all Patch

Symptoms

Rings or part rings of orange/brown grass from 0.1 to 1 metre in diameter. The band of drying grass is usually about 0.1 metre across and is predominately the result of a fungal attack on the roots which become grey and discoloured, thereby allowing the affected plants to be easily plucked from the turf. At certain times, a black reproductive structure, known as perithecia, may be seen low down on the stem. This is usually found immediately below the leaf junctions. The perithecia contains many banana shaped asci, each containing 8 long ascospores which serve to spread infection. Infected patches become devoid of bent-grass species and contain only non-susceptible grasses.

Occurrence

Most common in late summer and autumn.

Other influencing factors

Waterlogging and surface alkalinity increase the likelihood of this disease

Grass species involved

Bent grasses (*Agrostis*)

Control measures

Avoid over application of lime during the summer. Liming is best done in the autumn and, after a suitable interval, should be followed by a dressing of fertiliser to re-acidify the surface. Attention to drainage of wet areas is recommended



Trials and tribulations



Alan Domett of Devon Garden Machinery has a lot to answer for, he is the one responsible for Stuart Dymond's occasional absences from his beloved golf course at St Enodoc on Sunday mornings. His generosity led to greater things as he pursued his other passion that of Pre-65 motor bike Trials.

It was through Alan's sponsorship that Stuart was able to compete on his much prized Triumph Tiger Cub and which saw him win the 1998 Launceston Motor Cycle Club Championships followed by a runners up in 1999. It was this generous sponsorship by Devon Garden Machinery that further encouraged Stuart to have his own Triumph Tiger Cub restored. This was completed in 2000 and enabled Stuart in continuing to forego the beauties of the fabulous North Cornish coastal scenery that are St Enodoc and aim for his third crack at the Launceston Championship.

So partly on Alan Domett's Tiger and finishing on his own little gem he has now gained a second Championship for 2000. From little acorns as they say and a timely connection with Devon Garden Machinery Stuart next venture will be much further afield at the national Pre '65 Trials held in Scotland in 2001.

IOG Conference

The IOG 2001 Conference is on the theme "Caring for the Environment with each of the three days following a different topic Rootzone Stimulants; Water Management and Recycling.

Among the excellent group of speakers are Dr Alan Gange of Royal Holloway College who will talk on "Microbial management of turf- myth or reality?"; Prof Cliff Johnston - Environmental Consultant on "Seaweed - an environmentally friendly turfgrass stimulant?"; Martin Ward, of Symbio on "Rootzone nutrition - the biological route explored" and Kim Von Essen, Course Manager of Losby Golf Course in Norway, on "But does it really work? - practical experiences of the biological route from a grounds management professional". Among those speaking on Water Management are Carol Holt of the Environment Agency; Alex Vickers of Cranfield University and Victor Jamieson of Rain Bird Europe.

The Conference runs from Friday March 30 through to Monday April 2 at The Thistle Hotel, Haydock.

Further information can be obtained from the IOG Tel: 01908 312511.

A Trans-Atlantic promotion for Deere's Alex

John Deere's UK Managing Director, Alex McKee, has been promoted to the position of Vice President, Worldwide Marketing in the company's agricultural division, based in the USA at Lenexa, near Kansas City.

He is being replaced at John Deere Limited by Clay Sherrill, who is currently Sales Branch Manager of the Minneapolis branch in the USA.

"I have had 28 very happy years working for John Deere Limited, the last eight as Managing Director," said Alex McKee.

"A major part of my new responsibility will be to ensure that we have the right products to meet our ever changing customer needs, and to provide increased customer and market development support on a global scale."

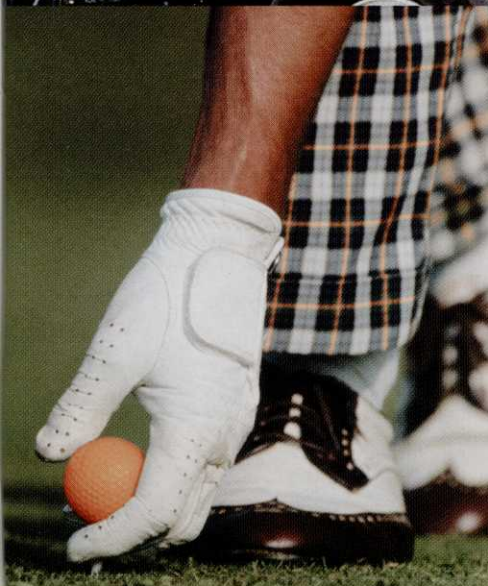
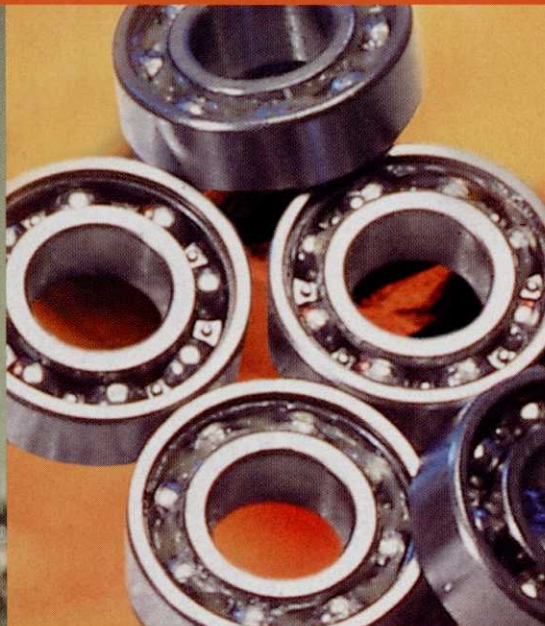
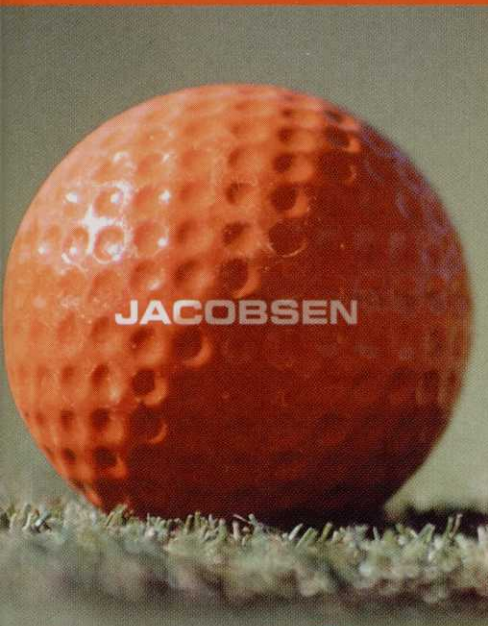
Clay Sherrill is a graduate of Wofford College and gained an MBA from Georgia State University before joining Deere & Company in 1977.

He held a variety of marketing roles in different North American sales branches before becoming

Minneapolis sales branch manager in 1998.

"I am looking forward to learning about the business in the UK and Ireland, and to settling my family here in the next few months," said Clay Sherrill, who is married with two children.

"Europe is more advanced in some ways than the USA, particularly with regard to more intensive use of machinery and the highly competitive nature of the marketplace - it promises to be an exciting challenge.



For **GOLF**, the brand is **JACOBSEN**, the colour **ORANGE**
and the number to call is **FREephone 0500 026208**.

JACOBSEN

www.textronsolutions.com

Central Avenue, Ransomes Europark, Ipswich IP3 9QG England. Tel: +44 (0)1473 270000 Fax: +44 (0)1473 276300

TEXTRON
GOLF AND TURF PRODUCTS



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: Tracey Scourfield

Club: Vale of Llangollen

Position: First Assistant

Age: 27

1. How long have you been a greenkeeper?
Nine years

2. What education are you currently undertaking?
Level 3 at the Welsh College of Horticulture, Northop

3. Which one task do you most enjoy doing?
Cutting the greens on a summer's morning

4. Which one task do you most dislike doing?
Aerating the greens

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

6. Who has been the biggest influence on your career?
My Course Manager, Jeremy Hughes

7. What would you do to improve the life of a greenkeeper?
Get golfers to realise that when the closed sign is up that it's for the good of the course and not just to annoy them!

8. What are your hobbies?
Going to the gym, reading Stephen King novels and surfing the web

9. What do you get out of BIGGA?
BTME and educational seminars

10. What do you hope to be doing in 10 years time?
Working somewhere where it doesn't rain 12 months of the year!

New Golf Course Consultancy formed

John Nicholson has joined with architect, Ken Moodie and golfer Ken Brown to form a new Golf Course Consultancy.

The services offered by the new company range from feasibility studies, layout proposals, advice on construction programmes, production of contract documents, woodland design and establishment, grant applications as well as advice on all aspects of existing courses.

"The growth of John Nicholson Associates has meant that golf course architecture was increasingly becoming an issue that had to be dealt with and the natural progression was to expand into the area.

"It soon became apparent that the philosophies held by Ken Moodie, Ken Brown and myself were so similar that the obvious solution was to work together," said John.



Career move to Renault for Ian



Renault has appointed Ian Thomson as its new Groundcare Product Manager, with responsibility for tractor sales to the non-agricultural sector.

He joins Renault from Scottish Grass Machinery, where he set-up, and was manager of, its SGM Industrial division, for which he took on the non-agricultural franchise for Renault in Scotland which proved a tremendous success among both the groundcare and local authority sectors.

"There is massive potential in the non-agricultural sector and it is the product that has drawn me to Renault," says Ian.

"Renault is the only wholly European tractor manufacturer left. It has the product range to suit the market and various sectors within it."

Tim's appointment at Grass Science



Grass Science, has appointed Tim Colclough as an Agronomist.

Tim has a background in geography, geology and crop protection (specialising in soil science).

He began his career with the STRI before leaving in 1994 to retrain in the education sector.

After a period of teaching for South Tyneside LEA in 1998 he moved on to become a lecturer in Turf Science at Myerscough College.

Tim has a vast knowledge on golf course maintenance and other sports turf areas and is an important addition to the team.

He is in the process of establishing an office in the North East which will allow him to service this area quickly and efficiently.

BTLIA announce award winners

The British Turf & Landscape Irrigation Association Personality of the Year, announced at BTME, is Glyn Prime, Director, Prime Irrigation Ltd.

Glyn, who joined the family business in 1964, then involved in agricultural and horticultural markets, later became head of system design, adapting his skills to the sports turf market when his company broadened the scope of operations, in 1986.

"I was very surprised - shocked perhaps - to receive the award which made to me as an individual, also reflects great credit on my company. We have been members of the BTLIA for 14 years and I know first hand, just how much work the organising committee accomplished for the good of all those involved in designing, installing and using fine turf irrigation," said Glyn.

A tree-mendous move for David



David Cassie recently joined the tree and woodland management firm of Eamonn Wall & Co., based at their Dollar office, where he has taken over from Steve Collins, recently departed on a five year stint to Honduras. The firm specialises in the planting and management of trees in the golfing landscape and David, a native of Newcastle with a degree from Aberdeen University, will be working on golf courses throughout Scotland and England.

Carl gets new role at Sisis

Carl Tooley has been appointed Sales Office Coordinator at Sisis Equipment Ltd, the Cheshire based turf maintenance machinery manufacturers.

Carl has 22 years experience with SISIS, having worked as an assembler, in Spares Despatch and then for 14 years as Stores Supervisor.

Carl was Cheshire Youth Darts Champion and his other hobbies include computers, growing fruit trees, biking and supporting Manchester City FC.





Address your letters to The Editor, Greenkeeper International, BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York YO61 1UF, or email them to reception@bigga.co.uk

Story left me in floods of tears!

After reading Elliott Small's final "As I see it" where he said he would like us to write in with something humorous about flooding it brought to mind something which happened at Lenzie Golf Club some years ago.

In the distant past the area around Lenzie was known as the Loch lands. Most of the smaller stretches of water were drained into man-made ditches, hence to burns and rivers. Now the one remaining loch is the Gadloch and 200 years ago this was reduced to a mere pool by building a 1,000 yard tunnel and taking the water to a burn running into the River Kelvin.

Now the tunnel is collapsing in places and silts up so the Gadloch can rise six to eight feet. Part of Lenzie Golf course is built on reclaimed land from the Loch. As far back as I can remember parts of the course have been under

water in exceptionally wet weather.

As the years wore on and nothing was done about repairing it the Gadloch is spreading out back to its old locations.

One night, after my day's toil on the course and during a very wet period, I was having my usual refreshment in the bar when one of our members rushed in and breathlessly told us that 'they' were pumping out the loch. As you can imagine, everyone stopped talking and awaited the next utterance from the very welcome messenger. "Yes," he said, "the Fire Brigade are up at the head of the loch where the road is flooded and they are pumping out the Loch."

I think I was first to jump in with "Pumping out the Loch?", "the Loch has risen some six feet in the past week, no one could pump that amount of water out". There was murmuring all around that a start had to be made

somewhere. I felt I had to stop all this wishful thinking and stupidity. I asked what size of hoses they were using and, more importantly, where they were pumping the water to. The answer was "I don't know. I just know that the Fire Brigade are starting to empty the Loch."

I could not listen to any more of this rubbish so I jumped in my car and arrived to see the Fire Brigade clearing up their hose pipes. They had been requested by the Police to clear the drainage system which was blocked and causing the road to flood. I told to him that one of our members had just come into the Clubhouse and said they were pumping out the Loch. We looked down the Loch, and looked at his equipment and we both just laughed.

Cecil George, Lenzie

Thanks for Canadian trip from Andrew

I would like to thank BIGGA and Bernhard and Company for being one of ten delegates from the UK chosen to visit the Canadian International Turfgrass Conference in Vancouver in February. I find it an honour to represent the Association and the Scottish Region at such a big event, and I am looking forward to the trip abroad and meeting many new friends while over there.

I will be able to share the knowledge and experience that I will gain while in Canada with my colleagues on my return, whether it be through the pages of Greenkeeper International, or giving a talk to fellow greenkeepers in the near future. I think that I speak for all 10 delegates that this should be a trip of a lifetime and personally I am really looking forward to it.

Once again I would like to thank BIGGA and Sam McLean, of Bernhards and Company for being selected for this trip.

Andrew Forrest, Head Greenkeeper, Oatridge GC

A plea for help

I am putting together a presentation showing some of the unusual situations or problems which can occur on a golf course - oil spillages, machinery in lakes; animal damage, land slippage etc and was hoping that fellow members might assist me by sending photographs of some of the things which have happened on their golf courses.

I would scan the photographs and return them straight away.

Terry Crawford, Clandeboye GC, Conlig, Newtownards, Northern Ireland BT23 3PN. Email: terry@crawford1.totalserve.co.uk

Help needed with sandy dilemma

We have two golfing hotels in the Midlands: the Abbey Hotel Golf & Country Club near Redditch has an 18 hole golf course and we have just developed a new 9 hole golf course at Lea Marston Hotel & Leisure Complex. The latter was built between February and July last year by Contour Golf under the leadership of Ingrid Eichler. Contour have done a fabulous job and the golf course has grown in extremely well and is virtually fit for play already. We actually won't be opening the course to the membership until April 1 this year.

The course at the Abbey is 15-years-old now and was constructed to a fairly high standard such that tees and greens drain

beautifully. However the clay content of the sub soil and top soil means that water retention is a serious problem. Indeed, as like many other clubs, the course has been shut for approximately half of October and November. Over the last 18 months we have installed around £100,000 of fairway drainage - so we are trying, but the recent rain has not been able to get away effectively from the surface. Last year we bought a vertidrain machine which is proving to be of some use. However we really do need to transfer some large quantities of sand into the fairways.

I would be very pleased to hear from other BIGGA members whether they have come up with a cost effective solu-

tion for spreading large quantities of sand effectively over an area with preferably a relatively low ground pressure being applied. This I would imagine is a fairly universal problem and I do feel that a survey would be most beneficial not only to us but to other members, ie including best sand, type and cost and machinery used and/or third party contractors.

M I Blake, Managing Director, Lea Marston, Haunch Lane, Lea Marston, Sutton Coldfield, Warks B76 0BY

Editor's note: Anyone with information to help should write to the Letter's Column or direct to Mr Blake at the above address

New-look Membership packs are a great success

I have just received my BIGGA Membership Pack. Congratulations indeed, you have outdone yourselves. What a fantastic surprise to receive in the post. In this part of the world we never get anything as comprehensive as this, so it was very welcome. Also in Africa we are not used to receiving something dated 5th January by the 11th January. In Harare letters posted today may arrive 8 kms down the road 3 months later! Best wishes for 2001

Doug McClymont

Tribute to Fred Hawtree

Fred Hawtree's passing reported in your December issue, was to me very sad reading, primarily because being unaware of his death, I was not able to pay my respects earlier to one of the industry's true gentlemen.

When I took over the publishing of Golf Greenkeeping for BIGGA in 1982, Fred was one of the first to offer his support offering produce for me a series of articles on golf course architecture. They were always amusing, written with style, had a sound message for greenkeepers, but never preached in a manner that others who put pen to paper, were so inclined to do.

Not that Fred accepted fools lightly. There were several occasions when either I or my typesetter had altered a word or phrase, worst still, subbed out a few paragraphs to fit the page and then the 'gods of wrath' descended almost before his copy of the magazine had fallen through the letter box.

I still have all the original manuscripts he typed out in clean double spaced

copy, totally free of any grammatical errors or spelling mistakes and what is more he never charged or accepted a penny payment from me or the Association.

Our most precious memory of 'Uncle Fred' as he was known to my wife, was an invitation to lunch on a fine summer day at the Hawtree office in Woodstock.

Driving down a crowded Oxford Road, every car parking space was taken, except for one right outside number 5. There was a large board with just three words in capital letters on a white background. It read - RESERVED FOR LELEAN. What a welcome!

I have had the pleasure of playing many of Fred Hawtree's courses over the past 18 years. Always demanding, of impeccable standard, distinctive, but fair. That precisely sums up the man and is a fitting tribute to a long and distinguished life.

John Lelean, Wetherby

Thanks for BIGGA education packages

While reading Greenkeeper International this month, I came across a letter from Antony Kyle giving praise to BIGGA for their training courses. I also had the good fortune to go on a course with my Head Greenkeeper, at which Brin Bendon was lecturing, and I too, thought it brilliant.

When I arrived back at work, my Club Secretary asked me how I got on. Well I didn't shut up telling him about it! I have only been in greenkeeping for a year now and I really took it all in because I want to try to better myself for the future.

I hope I have the opportunity to go on more courses because Brin has a gift of keeping you listening throughout the whole course.

Derick Forster, Cosby Golf Club

PS. Thank you also to Greenkeeper International for also helping me learn more about greenkeeping. I have benefited from some of the articles in the last year.

This month, Tracey Maddison, BIGGA's Membership Services Officer, welcomes over 60 new members to the Association, and highlights a brand new membership benefit...

Get Connected!

Insurance has become part of our everyday life, we require insurance for houses including contents and buildings, travel insurance, cars, motorcycles, there is even insurance for our pets!

BIGGA have teamed up with Heath Lambert Insurance Services Ltd to provide BIGGA Members with an exclusive insurance quotation service called 'Key Connect'. When you next receive your renewal quotation through the post or you need a quotation for a new insurance why not give Key Connect a call on;

Key Connect Connecting BIGGA Members with an exclusive insurance quotation service

KEY FEATURES:

- Specialist Insurance
- Annual Renewal
- Business Trip Cover
- Self Insured Retention Cover
- Key Loss

KEY FEATURES:

- Fast of Service & 24hr's Specialist
- Legal Expenses
- 24 Hour Legal Helpline
- 24 Hour Emergency Helpline
- 24 Hour Claims Helpline Line
- Key Loss

KEY FEATURES:

- Specialist Vehicle & Boat's Specialist
- Legal Expenses Cover
- How to cover you in the event of a household fire
- Key Loss

Call now on: 0845 0765672

December Renewals

If your Membership renewal date was 31 December 2000, it still isn't too late to renew. Contact Tracey or Susannah in the Membership Services Department for more information, or if you have any queries at all regarding Membership services or benefits.

You can contact us in a variety of ways:

Tel. 01347 833800
Fax. 01347 833801
Email: tracey@bigga.co.uk
susannah@bigga.co.uk
Web: www.bigga.org.uk

KEY CONNECT

0845 07 65 672

They will provide you with a competitive quotation service.

Whatever your insurance needs give Key Connect a call today.

BIGGA welcomes...

Scottish Region

David A Coull, East
 Barry Huyton, North
 Stuart Kelly, East
 J Derek Kerr, East
 David W Moir, North
 Michael Thomas Scott, East
 John Wood, East

Northern Region

Mark Foster, North West
 Anthony Mills, North West
 David Smith, North West
 John Stepney, North West

Midland Region

Andrew Barlow, Midland
 Martin Bond, Midland
 John Frank Carter, Midland
 Alan Cousins, East Midland
 Joseph Forster, E of England
 Desmond Philip Hardy, E of England
 Stuart Mellors, East Midland
 William James Phelps, BB80
 Matthew Ritchie, E of England
 Graeme Sloman, East Midland

South East Region

Christopher Archdale, Surrey
 Lee Allan Cheney, E Anglia
 Andrew G Cloud, Sussex
 Ricky Goodman, London

Gerard Lucien Gosling, E Anglia
 Martin David Guy, Essex
 William Harrod, Sussex
 Laurie Noble, London
 Ian Smith, London
 Terry Wigzell, Surrey
 Danny Wranglessworth, Surrey

S West & S Wales Region

Graham John Biles, South West
 Stephen Edward Cudley, South West
 Stephen Michael Gillam, South West
 Matthew Goodman, Devon & Cornwall
 Keith Kemp, Devon & Cornwall
 Anthony John Parker, Devon & Cornwall

Northern Ireland

George Samuel Fitzpatrick

Republic of Ireland

Anthony Daniel Tracey

International Members

Simon James Cooper, Austria
 Neil Christopher Shawcross, Germany
 Jonas Gustafsson, Sweden
 Roger Lindstrom, Sweden
 Brandon Phillip Jones, Africa

Associate Members

Douglas F Welch, East

Craig Brisley, Essex
 Peter Colin Hyman, Surrey
 Keith Kensett, Surrey
 Rachael Geake, South West

Student Members

John Peter McMurchie
 Colin Paterson
 Steven Wilson
 Daren Paul Buckingham
 Jonathan Conway
 Iestyn Rhys Jones
 Richard S Stephens
 Simon Matthew Ashley
 Roger A F Roberts
 Barry Michael Cord
 Tom Granite
 David K Smith
 Andrew John Sprunt
 Robin J R Cheney
 Peter Thomas Tulk

Check out your March edition of

Greenkeeper

for all of the new members from January 2001!

December's Monthly Membership Draw Winner

Just introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA and your name will be placed into a draw to win a fantastic BIGGA sportswatch. Our congratulations go to January's winner, Mark Broughton of Aldeburgh GC.

Get online, it's

Since BIGGA relaunched its website in June last year, we have been constantly updating and adding new and improved content for members and visitors alike.

As part of our continual programme of improvement we are now proud to announce the launch of our brand new 'Time to Talk' Bulletin Board. This service will enable all Greenkeeping members of BIGGA to discuss any topic of interest relevant to their profession, online.

How do I chat online?

'Time to Talk' is located in the BIGGA website Members' Area, and can be accessed by logging into the Greenkeeper Members Area. Simply enter your surname and date of birth, and once in the Members' Area, click on the Bulletin Board icon. A second window will automatically open, from where you can either register (if you are new to the Bulletin Board), or Login, if you have previously registered.

Once you have completed the registration process, you can login, and go to the Home Page of the Bulletin Board. From here you can organise your home page to meet your own requirements and select and view any of the discussions ongoing. You can create a new topic, or reply to an existing one. How about;

- Getting help and advice from fellow members?
- Renewing friendships with colleagues?
- Sharing ideas and challenges online?

WELCOME / WILKOMMEN / BIENVENUE / BUENOS VENIDOS

- About BIGGA
- News / Events
- Membership
- Education/Development
- BTME
- Greenkeeper International
- Directory
- Links
- Mailing List

BIGGA

The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
 The UK professional body representing over 7000 golf Greenkeepers worldwide

TIME TO TALK
 www.bigga.org.uk
 CLICK TO ENTER

Search Site

TIME TO TALK
 www.bigga.org.uk

Whatever your question, BIGGA's 'Time to Talk' Bulletin Board is the place to ask it. So visit www.bigga.org.uk and login to the members area for an exciting and communicative experience!

The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association
 The UK professional body representing over 7000 Golf Greenkeepers worldwide

TIME TO TALK
 www.bigga.org.uk

Since BIGGA relaunched its website in June last year, we have been constantly updating and adding new and improved content for members and visitors alike.

As part of our continual programme of improvement we are now proud to announce the launch of our brand new 'Time to Talk' Bulletin Board. This service will enable all Greenkeeping members of BIGGA to discuss any topic of interest relevant to their profession, online.

How do I chat online?
 'Time to Talk' is located in the BIGGA website Members' Area, and can be accessed by logging into the Greenkeeper Members Area. Simply enter your surname and date of birth, and once in the Members' Area, click on the Bulletin Board icon. A second window will automatically open, from where you can either register (if you are new to the Bulletin Board), or Login, if you have previously registered.

Once you have completed the registration process, you can login, and go to the Home Page of the Bulletin Board. From here you can organise your home page to meet your own requirements and select and view any of the discussions ongoing. You can create a new topic, or reply to an existing one. How about;

Getting help and advice from fellow members?
 Renewing friendships with colleagues?
 Sharing ideas and challenges online?

Getting help and advice from fellow members?

Visit us online at www.bigga.org.uk