



Representing the South West and Wales

Duncan Brown is a relative newcomer to greenkeeping having joined High Post Golf Club, Salisbury, in 2000. Duncan has recently completed a National Diploma in Horticulture and Greenkeeping, at Sparsholt College. Duncan aspires to travel continuing to gain experience towards becoming a Course Manager.



Representing the Midlands

The Midlands Region will be represented by John Osborne, who is an assistant greenkeeper at Boston Golf Club in Lincolnshire. John has worked at Boston Golf Club since 1997 but mainly on a part time basis while he studied to become a probation officer. John decided that he preferred the outdoor life and joined Boston, full time, last year. John has, recently, completed his NVQ Level 2 in Sportsturf through the Myerscough 'Mollnet' distance learning.

The next step to becoming the TORO Student of the Year is the National Final, which will be held at BIGGA House on Monday 23 September, when a panel of judges will select the winner of the TORO Scholarship. This includes six weeks of study at the University of Massachusetts, a trip to the TORO factories in Minneapolis and in California and a trip to the GCSAA Exhibition in Atlanta in February 2003. Two runners-up will receive an all expenses paid trip to Continue to Learn and BTME at Harrogate in January 2003.

REGION AND SECTION TRAINING COURSES AUTUMN 2002 AND SPRING 2003

Thanks to contributors to the BIGGA Education and Development Fund, we can, once again, this Autumn and Spring, offer high class training courses for a very low price. The full brochure will be inserted into the September Edition of Greenkeeper International and will be available at Saltex. However, as some courses are due to run in October, I thought that I would give you some advance notice so that you can be prepared.

OCTOBER COURSES	DATE	AREA
PA1, PA2a and PA6 Spraying Course	14 -18 October	Midlands
PA1, PA2a and PA6 Spraying Course	21 -25 October	Mid Anglia
Basic Computer Skills	16 & 17 October	South West
Tractor Driving	30 & 31 October	South Wales
Health and Safety at Work	30 & 31 October	Northern England

NOVEMBER COURSES	DATE	AREA
Basic Computer Skills	5 & 6 November	Mid Anglia
Essential Management Skills	18 & 19 November	Luton Airport
Reel Sharpening	28 November	Carden Park

DECEMBER COURSE	DATE	AREA
Essential Management Skills	12 & 13 December	Manchester Airport

Remember, this is only a partial list of courses that will be run this Autumn and next Spring. These courses are guaranteed to be popular and places will be limited. Reserve your place by contacting Sami or Ken, at BIGGA House.

BULLYING AT WORK

What is it? How big a problem is it? Why does it occur? What are the consequences? How can it be prevented?

These are just some of the questions posed and answered on a fact sheet available from the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work.

This and other factsheets can be downloaded from their website: <http://agency.osha.eu.int>



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This month Rachael Palmer, from BIGGA's Membership Department, would like to welcome 56 new members to the Association and announces a fantastic prize draw.

JOIN THE HORDES AND VISIT US AT SALTEX 2002

BIGGA will once again be exhibiting at SALTEX at Windsor Racecourse on September 3-5 and no doubt the BIGGA stand - G01 - will be busier than ever before.

I will be on hand to collect in renewal and application forms, take photographs of members who have still to get their picture taken, change your personal details such as address and employer changes and answer any questions you may have with regard to your membership and the benefits you receive.

Sami, from the Education and Training Department, will also be on the BIGGA stand to deal with any education queries, discuss the BTME Continue to Learn Training Programme, Continuing Professional Development, the Master Greenkeeper Certificate and Regional Training.

Copies of the educational/training videos that BIGGA has produced will be available for purchase along with three of the most popular books borrowed from our library, Practical Greenkeeping by Jim



Arthur, Golf Course Presentation by John Hacker and George Shiels and A Practical Guide to Ecological Management of the Golf Course by Bob Taylor.

Once again items from BIGGA's leisurewear range including the ever popular Cutter & Buck BIGGA Logo Classic Polo Shirts in either sunflower or navy and a variety of pullovers from Peter Scott will also be on sale.

Cheryl Broomhead, from Advertising/Media Sales, and Pauline Thompson, from Exhibitions, will also be available throughout the week if you wish to discuss advertising in Greenkeeper International or BTME and Clubhouse.

Also in attendance will be BIGGA Chairman, Richard Barker; Executive Director, Neil Thomas and Editor, Scott MacCallum, all of whom will be delighted to talk with you on any aspect of BIGGA business.

The BIGGA Stand is located at G01. Why not pick up a free copy of the BIGGA field guides on production of your membership card, or how about a new membership application form so you will be able to enter the Rally Driving Prize Draw.

AUGUST'S 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 Clock/calculator/alarmer and alarm. Our congratulations go to August's winner, Alan Kellet, of Bentham Golf Club. Don't forget until November not only will you be entered into the draw to win this clock you will also have the chance to win a day out rally driving!

WIN A DAY RALLY DRIVING!

How do you fancy a day behind the wheel of a race-prepared rally car? You will learn speed and control in an environment replicating what the professionals face including skid control and hand brake turns.

To enter the prize draw all you have to do is introduce one or more new greenkeeping members to BIGGA. Make sure your name goes on their application form as the person who referred them and we will enter your name into the draw. Remember the more new members you refer the more chances you have to win!

It doesn't stop there either, if you win the Rally Driving experience then the new member you referred also receives a RED LETTER DAY VOUCHER that can be used on an experience of their choice from a range of a least 20. Typical experiences include Gliding, Bungee Jumping or Bird of Prey Handling.

The draw will take place on November 5 and the winners will be announced in the December edition of Greenkeeper International.

Call either Rachael or Gemma today in Membership Services on 01347 833800 to request a new member application form or fill out the slip on the outer cover of this magazine and remember you will also be entered into the monthly membership draw already featured on this page.



Important: You must be able to drive a manual transmission car. Other requirements vary according to location; most centres require a full driving licence. The Rally Driving Experience is available at sites UK wide. The car you will be driving will not necessarily be the car featured. The voucher experiences available are subject to change.

BIGGA welcomes...

Scottish Region

Nicholas Brown, East
David Brown, East
Grant Donaldson, Central
Neil Jacobs, East
James Naylor, Central

Chris Percy, N Wales
William Righton, N West
Paul Spencer, N West
Frank Stewart, Northern
Richard Vaughan, Sheffield

Midland Region

Brian Bailey, BB&O
Johnathan Fryman, E Midland
Stephen Green, E England
Anthony Hunter, BB&O
Danny Phillips, E England
Daniel Tanser, Mid Anglia
Daniel Wren, E England

Northern Region

Robert Coates, N East
Robin Cornforth, Northern
Stuart Earnshaw, Northern
Dave Earnshaw, Sheffield
Ben Grayson, Northern
James Heeley, Sheffield
Chris Hodgkinson, N West
Richard Jones, Sheffield

South East Region

Paul Barber, E Anglia
Robert Barnes, E Anglia
Graham Homewood, Surrey
Joseph Kevin, Surrey
Richard Martin, Surrey
Chris Wells, Sussex

S West/S Wales Region

Robert Brown, S Coast
David Cartwright, S West
Colin Devlin, S West
Duncan Fox, S Coast
Simon Hann, S West
Justyn Kennedy, S West
Neil Willmetts, S Coast

International

Walter Woods, Netherlands
Erik Stromsmoen, Norway
Mr Mats, Sweden
Christopher Hutson, South America
Bruce Mungle, Africa

Associate Members

Damian Brown, Sussex
Robert Bruce, Ayrshire
Richard D'Arcy, S West
Richard Fortmuller, BB&O
Richard Fulford, E Anglia
Pablo Villa, Spain
Garry Worrall, N West

Silver Key Members

Richard Lawrence, Midland

Student Members

Ben Chamberlain, E Anglia
David Lafferty, W Scotland
Lionel Oliver, N West
Adam Tunmore, S West
Neil Williams, S Coast



How well do you know the people who work for the Association?

In this new series we give you a chance to learn a little more about a member of BIGGA's Headquarters staff



Jennifer Whichello

Position:
Sales Team Leader.

What does your role involve?
Playing an active role in generating advertising sales for Greenkeeper International, the BIGGA Golf Directory, BTME as well as being involved in other promotional activities.

How long have you worked for the Association?
Four and a half years plus one year (I rejoined in 2001).

Where were you born and brought up?
Ripon, North Yorkshire.

Where did you work before you joined BIGGA?
Yorkshire Evening Press in York.

What are your hobbies? Going on holiday, photography and watching football (Man U and Millwall!).

What is your favourite food?
Seafood.

What is your favourite film?
True Romance and Last of the Mohicans.

What was the last book you read?
Faceless by Martina Cole.

Who is your all time hero?
My Dad!

What was the best event you've ever attended?
My wedding to Scott in August 2000 - cruising down the river in York.

What is your claim to fame?
(None not acceptable)
Clubbing in Lily Bordello's nightclub in Dublin alongside Bono, Van Morrison, Lisa Stansfield and The Hothouse Flowers.



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A Remarkable Day



Already this year there have been some outstanding golfing performances to admire, but there are few which will measure up to that of the Lincsgreen team in the 2002 BIGGA Golf Day at Aldwark Manor.

While many other teams struggled to harness the windy conditions in the Texas Scramble format, Lincsgreen were oblivious to the weather and were a remarkable 14 under-par gross - a score of 57 - when they finally holed out.

Even allowing for the low scoring nature of the format it was a stupendous achievement and the four man team of Philip Wilkinson, Graeme Macdonald, Les Howkins and Mike Love certainly deserved the plaudits and the prizes on the day

The Golf Day, again sponsored by the Harrogate A Group of Hotels, has an outstanding record of good weather and once again it didn't disappoint and, even allowing for the wind, it was the hottest day of the year to that point.

With a record number of teams entering the sixth BIGGA Golf Day was undoubtedly a huge hit and it is safe to say that it has well and truly cemented its place in the industry calendar.

A special thank you to everyone who took place and in particular to the Harrogate A Group, for their generous sponsorship.

1. Lincsgreen - Philip Wilkinson, Graeme Macdonald, Les Howkins, Mike Love
2. Hunter Grinders - Keith Cann-Evans, Tony McLure, Bevan Tattersall, Gary MacDonald
3. Haifa Chemicals 2 - Scott Garnett, Mark Horner, Alun Davis, Brian Acconley

Putting Comp Tied 1st Mike Fenney/Peter Wessel/John Lelean



The winning Lincsgreen team display their trophy in the presence of BIGGA Chairman, Richard Barker, and Frank Flaherty, Manager of the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate.



The Hunter Grinders team.



Haifa Chemicals team.



The Warners Midland team, printers of Greenkeeper International, prepare to tackle the Aldwark Manor course.



Richard Barker presents a bottle of champagne to his team member and father to commemorate his outstanding tee shot at the 18th.



The prize table.



Ex Newcastle United Captain, Bobby Moncur, tees off at the 1st.



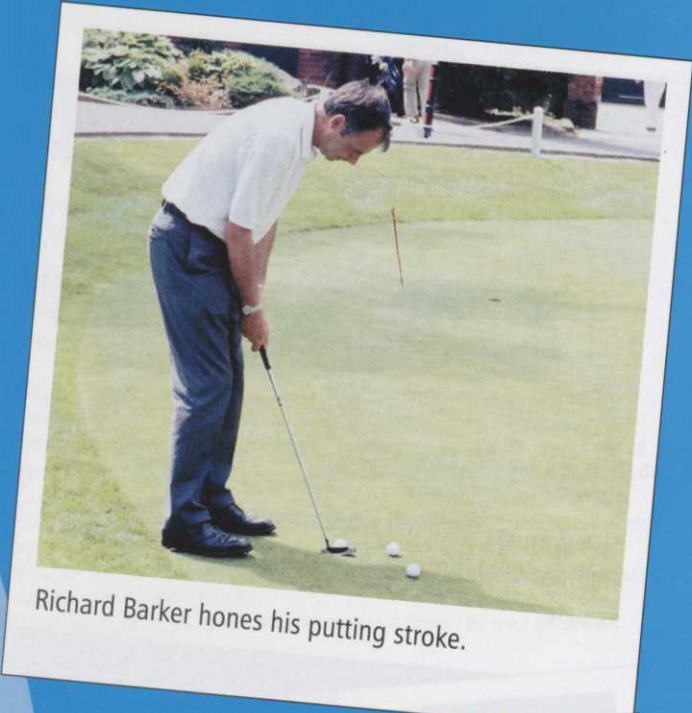
Anne Wilson, of the STRI, chats with Neil Thomas, with the new Aldwark Manor extension on the background.



Activity on the 15th green.



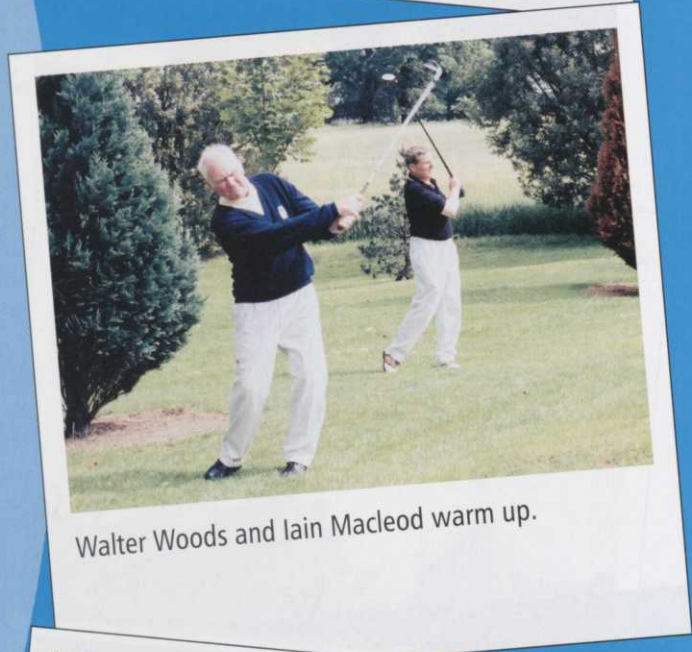
Post round refreshments.



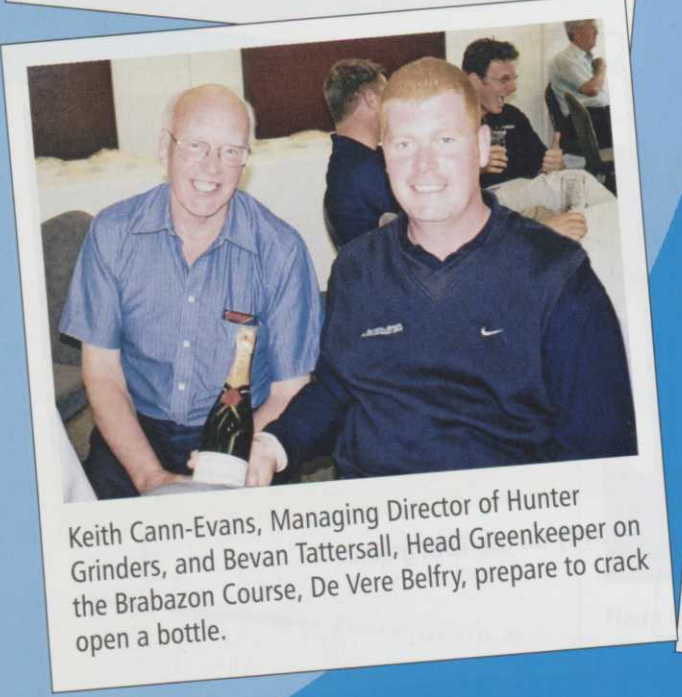
Richard Barker hones his putting stroke.



Our feathered friends.



Walter Woods and Iain Macleod warm up.



Keith Cann-Evans, Managing Director of Hunter Grinders, and Bevan Tattersall, Head Greenkeeper on the Brabazon Course, De Vere Belfry, prepare to crack open a bottle.



The winning team before their remarkable round.

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Peter Broadbent,
Head Greenkeeper
Effingham Golf Club,
Effingham, Surrey.

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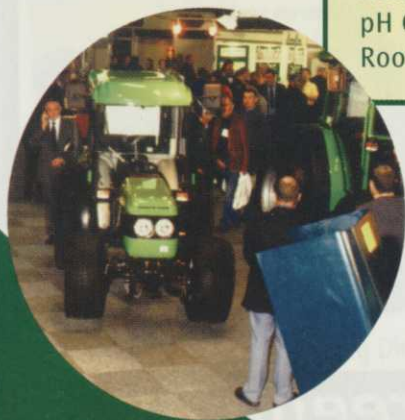


The BIGGA Golf Experience

BTME

- established, still growing and successful
- now in its 15th year and with 8629 visitors in 2002 BTME is an essential experience if your company's interests are in fine turf:

Architects/Design	Ecology	Spraying
All-weather Greens	Fertilisers	Cultivators/Rotavators
Aggregates	GC Construction	Spreaders
Aeration	GC Equipment	Top Dressers
Tee Mats	GC Vehicles	Tractors
Bio-organics	Rollers	Trailers
Hedge Trimmers	Grinding	Turf
Clothing	Bunker Maintenance	Water Management
Drainage	Irrigation	Weather Services
Netting	Landscaping	Weed Control
pH Control	Mowers	Workshop Equipment
Rootzone	Seeds	



BTME, CLUBHOUSE AND 'CONTINUE TO LEARN'

combine in one great event - the BIGGA Golf Experience. Whether exhibitor or visitor you cannot afford to miss a week when the golfing world will gather to view new products, discuss innovations, engage in top class education and debate and partake in an exciting social programme.

So whether yours is the longest drive or the shortest drive, hit the road for Harrogate where the BIGGA Golf Experience will be a sure fire winner.

21-22-23 JANUARY 2003

EXHIBITOR OR VISITOR ALL ROADS LEAD TO HARROGATE



'Continue to Learn'

BIGGA's comprehensive education programme offers interesting, informative and practical educational opportunities throughout the week. It is designed to offer maximum flexibility to all visitors allowing them the chance to combine their visit to the Exhibitions with their own professional development.



CLUBHOUSE

- comes of age being staged alongside the BTME. A 'must visit' for golf club personnel.

Commenting on the move to Harrogate. Andrew Gibb, Divisional Director of Centre Exhibitions at the NEC, said: "This decision has been made in the best interests of the industry and we fully support the move to Harrogate."



Keith Lloyd, Secretary of the AGCS, said: "We, at the AGCS are very pleased that Clubhouse is moving to such a venue. It is clearly in the best interests of our members enabling them to visit both exhibitions at the one location and to resource all requirements for their golf clubs."

Your company will need to be there if its interests include:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Furniture and Fittings | Security |
| Lockers | Breweries |
| Software and Computer System | Trophies |
| Catering | Carpets |
| Financial Services | Hotels and Leisure |
| Signage | Bar Systems |
| Course Accessories | Flags or Banners |
| Clubhouse Design | Insurance Services |
| Kitchen Equipment | Beverage |
| Vending Machines | Proshop |

HARROGATE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

TECHNICAL Issues

A patch of discoloured turf or a patch disease?

Dr Kate Entwistle highlights some the difficulties involved in diagnosing problems

Several times a week I receive telephone calls from both Course Managers and agronomists, describing turf symptoms to me and asking if I can suggest the likely disease that is affecting their sward. Which disease do I think is present and which fungicide should be applied to control it? Although I am more than happy to discuss the symptoms, their development over time and the conditions of the sward in general which may have contributed to the current problem, suggesting the name of a likely disease on that basis is something that I would never recommend that anyone ever does. A complete and accurate diagnosis of a turf problem can only ever be provided once a sample of the turf has been looked at in the laboratory. However, these situations do highlight some extremely important concerns over problem diagnoses that need to be seriously considered.

A complete and accurate description of the problem is an essential first step to its correct identification. However, if you ask several people with experience in the turf industry, to describe the same turf problem, I can guarantee that they will all provide significantly different descriptions. They will use different words to describe what they see and certain characteristics of the turf problem will come across as more important to some than to others. Confusion arises when this information is passed to someone else (like myself) for their opinion on the cause, because the words used to describe the problem will automatically rule out or may even suggest certain potential candidates. As an example, I was recently asked to comment on a 'turf disease' problem that was present across an entire field. The symptoms were described to me as large patches which themselves were not increasing in size, but which had "appeared" and remained at a given size for several weeks. To me, a large patch implies something approaching 0.5 m diameter, fairly regular and circular in outline with the entire sward inside that circular boundary affected in a similar way.

As I found out on visiting the site, what the client meant by a large patch, was completely different. They meant that large parts of the field (patches) were affected but within these parts, the turf was showing signs of localised discoloration, sometimes only individual plants were affected. Of course the 'patch' was not increasing in size because, in actual fact, there was no patch. The area of the field affected remained the same regardless of the number of localised infections present.

All professions have their jargon and turf pathology is unfortunately no exception. In the study of turf disease we use a variety of words to describe the symptoms of the disease as well as the fungi that cause them. Many of these words have common everyday meanings which may well seem perfectly reasonable to use, but which may have little to do with the 'pathologists meaning'. The utterance of a single word can send a pathologist running excitedly down a diagnostic path that you may well have not intended them to head!

Sometimes, even seeing symptoms first hand can draw you to an incorrect diagnosis of the problem, if the general symptoms alone are used for the identification. I recently saw an area of *Poa annua* in which the plants

themselves were upright (turgid) and showed no visible signs of foliar rotting but the leaf tissues were fantastic shades of yellow, orange and red. Instantly, you may consider anthracnose basal rot – the above ground symptoms were so obvious. However, on removing a few plants from the area, I failed to find any which showed the blackened crown tissue that is characteristic of this fungal disease. It was only on examination with a microscope that I convinced myself that these symptoms were not related to disease but were actually caused by severe droughting.



It doesn't matter how many times you may have seen a particular problem before, it is always possible to confuse the symptoms with something that could well be totally unrelated. Simply by altering the height of cut, the symptoms of some turf diseases can be dramatically changed and some of the 'characteristics' you generally use to diagnose a problem, may not be present or not quite so obvious.

In my opinion, anyone who believes that they can correctly diagnose all turf problems by merely looking at the above ground symptoms, are not only fooling themselves but perhaps more importantly, run a very real risk of making a diagnostic mistake which the turf manager will ultimately have to deal with. This raises another concern. If a problem is described and/or diagnosed incorrectly, it can only be by chance that the correct course of action is advised. If that advice includes pesticide application, you may be applying a product illegally, you may have wasted your time and money on something that was not needed in the first place or you may even have encouraged a disease by the application of an inappropriate product.

The majority of the 'incorrectly described' and misdiagnosed turf problems come in the form of 'patch disease'. Over the past 12 years I have seen hundreds of turf samples from areas that have been described as having a patch disease problem, only to find out through analysis that no fungus was involved in the problem at all. There are a whole range of turf problems that can express themselves as patches and serious fungal disease problems are definitely in the minority.

How well can you identify the grasses in your sward? It is not as always as easy as you think. You may be fairly certain of your ability but it is very easy to misidentify plant species in close-mown turf and misidentification can send you on a definite wild goose chase when trying to identify any problem. In one