



Accurate application of nutrients helps produce high quality surfaces

In the case of K, if Potassium sulphate (50% K₂O) is to be the K source:

$$26.62 \text{ Kg h-1} \times \frac{100}{50} \times \frac{100}{83} \times \frac{500}{10000} = 3.21 \text{ Kg of Potassium sulphate will need to be applied to the } 500 \text{ m}^2 \text{ to satisfy the additional K requirement.}$$



Insufficient nutrient can result in thin, weak turf

To summarise the example, if 500 m² of green is to be fertilised at a desired rate of 150 Kg h-1 N, 40 Kg h-1 P and 120 Kg h-1 K with a 20:5:15 fertiliser product as the principal source of nutrients, 37.5 Kg of the product would need to be applied to satisfy the nitrogen (N) requirement.

In addition, further dressings of 5.56 Kg of Triple Superphosphate and 3.21 Kg of Potassium sulphate would be required to satisfy the overall phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) requirements.

So, the next time you are contemplating using fertilisers or other products on any area of your golf course, be sure that you know exactly what you are using and that you are applying the quantity of nutrients that you want.

Remember, you can't take it off once you have applied it. By then, the damage may have already been done.

Martyn Jones, National Turfgrass Foundation, can be contacted on 01995 670675.

The Global Challenge of Designing Golf Courses

As a general rule, building a golf course is a pretty straightforward task, complicated mainly by two factors: the nature of the site and the state of the weather. On a typical golf course construction project, the golf course architect's duty is to spend a lot of time and effort on the front-end, long before construction starts, with the goal in mind of keeping the uncertainties during the construction phase to a minimum. That's the real design phase of a project.

An occasional additional complication arises when the contractor hired for the project has little or no experience building a golf course. In that event the golf course architect's job suddenly gets a lot tougher.

I once heard a pretty well-known PGA Tour player who had branched into golf course design give a speech in which he said, in effect: "We design the old-fashioned way. We start doing some clearing, kick the dirt around, and see what holes we can find". And I thought to myself: "If you had a toothache, and you went to the dentist, and he started drilling here and there, and on the fifth tooth said, 'here we go - there's the cavity,' your first thought would not be, 'what a wonderful dentist!' " No, you would want and expect him to know how to find the cavity before he started drilling.



That's what professional golf course architects do - they study topographical maps and aerial photos and walk the sites to make sure the golf course is going to fit, and only start clearing and moving dirt when they have clear objectives in mind. It may sound romantic to suggest that communing with the site while the dozers are standing by is the historically authentic way to design a golf course, but all it really accomplishes is the equivalent of drilling in healthy teeth.

It's rare in this day and age for a golf course architect to have any input in site selection, as would have been the case in the so-called Golden Age of golf course design. Give any first-rate contemporary golf course architect the opportunity to pick the site for a new course, without cost

*Continue
to learn*

considerations or permitting issues to drive the decision, and there is no doubt that he or she would create a body of work equal to the master designers of the classical era.

What's amazing today is how many wonderful courses have been created on marginal sites - landfills, brown fields (such as abandoned industrial sites) and degraded agricultural sites. The magic of the modern golf course architect rests on the ability to create an excellent golf course on an indifferent site.

This is not to say, of course, that there is no serendipity in the creation of a golf course, especially during the construction phase. Sometimes excavation will expose a dramatic rock face, or clearing will reveal a backdrop that with a slight shift in the orientation of a fairway will provide a dramatic visual target from the tee. Attentive golf course architects are always open to discoveries such as these, which don't increase the costs of the project but will improve the final product.

But the work overall must be guided by plans which have already been through numerous design reviews and revisions and as a result collect the best ideas of the whole project team, from the developers and the land planners and the golf course builders, and not just from the golf course architect.

You will never control the rainfall, for example, but you can design the routing so it's only necessary to clear the minimum number of trees. The best route plans use the existing topography with care to create natural-looking holes, with the additional benefit that the course will drain well and

provide a healthy setting for turf growth and maintenance. But when I think about the 'typical' golf course design and construction project, it reminds me of the typical Irish summer: there's never been one. And when you're developing a course in a new region, the likelihood of encountering unique problems goes way up.

Robert Trent Jones II, like many golf course design firms which do work outside their home countries, provides the clients with both our Design services per se, the province of our golf course architects, and also what we call our Design Implementation Services, or DIS, the arena of expertise for our full-time on-site colleagues who help co-ordinate the work of the contractors and, in most cases, do the finish shaping and detail work on

John Strawn describes life for the modern day Architect and the experiences of working in Asia.



amplified Korea's adoration for golf, and stimulated the development of a national policy to build more golf courses.

An American investment banker who has resided in Korea for many years once summarised his experience there by saying: "There are two problems in Korea - getting the rock started, and getting the rock stopped." The Korean government does have strict permitting requirements, and expects rigorous oversight of every project.

This seems normal for a contemporary government in a developed country. For example, a golf course architect will submit plans to a Korean engineering firm, which will convert them to detailed drawings for every square metre of the site. These plans are then reviewed by the authorities. All of this is the equal of getting the rock started.

Once construction is underway, however, it can be difficult to persuade the contractor or the owner that the beautiful rock face that was just exposed by blasting or chipping would make a perfect backdrop for a green. The response is more likely to be: "No, the plans show we're supposed to take that out". And if you say: "Well, the course will be prettier and you can save some money," it's not likely to have much impact. That's the 'stopping the rock' part.

Knowing that this dynamic is in place, it's up to the golf course architect to explain to the client how maintaining some flexibility during the construction phase will improve the golf course, and is not an admission that the golf course architect was not paying attention during the design phase.

the courses. At present, for example, we have projects under construction in places as far-flung, for us, as China, Norway, Denmark, Mexico and Korea.

Several problems seem to regularly repeat themselves when inexperienced contractors build courses, no matter where they are. Simply rough grading a fairway, for example, is hard for operators who only have experience with civil engineering projects such as building roads. The contours get flattened, the edges hardened, the angles straightened. That's why it's so important to have an experienced shaper on the ground.

The ideal, of course, is to design a course that looks as if it was created by the same forces of nature which produced the local landscape. Ideally, there is a distant horizon whose silhouette can be 'borrowed' to shape the near views - that is, the mounds and dips in the golf course, particularly in the areas separating the holes - thereby creating the illusion or the effect that the golf course, too, was created by the same geological forces. This requires a careful touch and a good aesthetic sense.

A corollary of the problem of not following the plans is the problem of rigidly following the plans. Korea is a dynamic, powerful, prosperous country with a passion for golf. Korea leads the world in shipbuilding and is a leading innovator in cell phone technology. In recent years, a fascination with Korean pop culture has spread throughout Asia - even to China and Japan, where Korean soap opera actors and popular recording artists dominate the ratings. So Korea now is hot, and the success of its great professional golfers, especially the women of the LPGA, has



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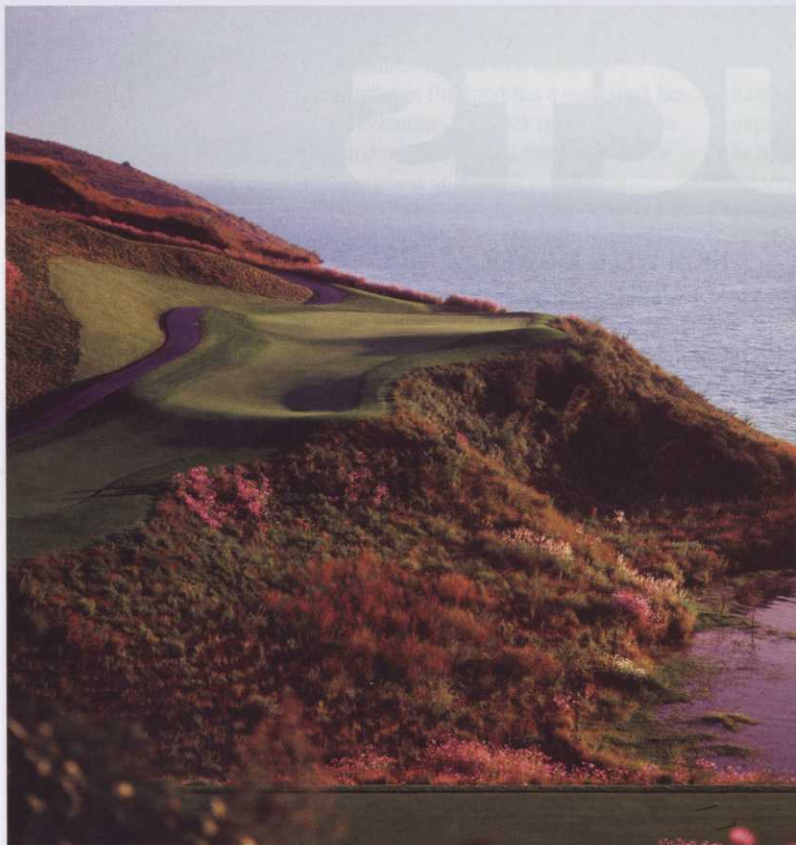
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the 15th hole. Mike Kahler, RTJII's Director of Asian Operations, remembers hearing gunfire occasionally while the course was under construction, and never completely trusting the assurance that it was coming from a nearby military training base.

Royal Springs is but one of the numerous courses in RTJII's portfolio which Kahler has midwived. The Lake Course at Spring City Resort near Kunming, China, is always rated among Asia's best, and it was built with very few hiccups. On the other hand, Kahler heard rumors about a project where the contractor was dredging sand and silt directly from a stream and putting it down as greensmix. When the architect pointed out the sticks and mud, the contractor smiled and said, "don't worry".

Corruption is another problem which every architect has run across at one time or another, which involves such nefarious practices as ignoring specs, substituting unapproved materials, and using counterfeit supplies for everything from slip joints to sprinkler heads. These practices have no nationality, however, and can occur anywhere. Avoiding them starts with picking good clients.

Golf continues to grow in Asia, Europe and parts of the Middle East. The new countries of the European Union, which see golf as a powerful engine for tourist development, will drive the next golf boom in Europe. Low interest rates and a strong real estate market continue to fuel interest in golf development in Scandinavia, Spain and Portugal.

Given how few people still play golf worldwide, the potential for growth remains high - especially so long as playing golf is associated with success.

John Strawn is Chief Executive Officer at Robert Trent Jones II, Golf Architects.

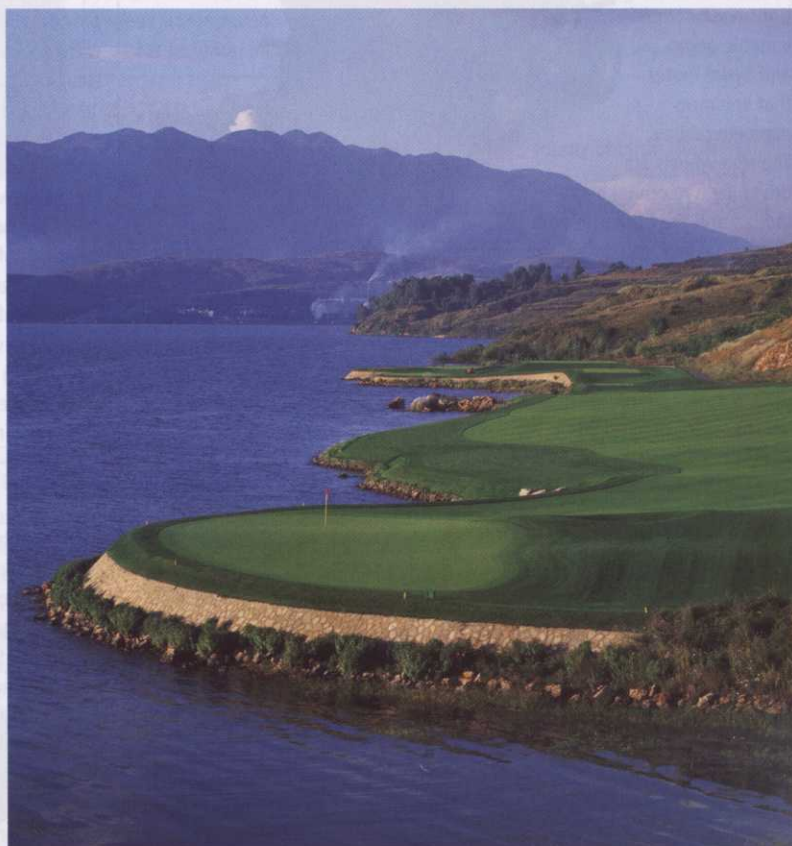
Cultural differences account for most of the variation between the approach to construction in the US and in other parts of the world. The cultural differences between the USA and western Europe are not very great, while working in Asia, the Middle East or Africa can require substantial adjustment. If you've never seen a golf course nor watched the game played on it, for example, understanding just what it is you're trying to accomplish would certainly be daunting.

This is the task project superintendents face on a regular basis - the challenge of communicating with people who have no idea what a golf course really is. Sometimes it's even true of the clients. I once heard of a client who was looking at a route plan and reportedly asked: "What are those little shapes at the beginning and the end of each subdivision?" Meaning, what are tees and greens?

Among the exotic courses designed in recent years by RTJII is the Royal Springs Golf Course in Kashmir, opened in 2001. India and Pakistan have struggled over Kashmir since 1949. A civil war launched in 1989 has destroyed tourism for all but the most daring. Earlier this year the American writer, Rick Lipsey, travelled to Kashmir to play golf.

The 150-year-old "Kashmir Golf Club," Lipsey writes, "is the fourth-oldest club outside the British Isles," so there is a tradition of golf in the region. Lipsey describes Royal Springs as "one of the most beautiful sites I have ever seen.... On one side of the course, a wall of Himalayan rock rises 5,000 feet. On the other side, off in the distance, sits Dal Lake, the shimmering focal point of Srinagar."

What struck Lipsey most at Royal Springs, he said, was "the eerie silence" - he was the only golfer there. He did, however, run into the deputy inspector general of the Kashmiri police on



NEW PRODUCTS

MINI MOSSKILLER

Headland's new Greentec Mosskiller performs double duty as a cool season hardener as well as combating moss. The low nitrogen, high potassium and high iron formulation is ideally suited to nourish the grass plant at lower soil temperatures without encouraging unwanted growth.

A homogenous, mini granule just 1.0 to 1.5mm in diameter, Greentec Mosskiller 4+0+10+9Fe distributes evenly through rotary spreaders gaining optimum contact with moss within the sward. Suitable for use during October until spring, Greentec Mosskiller can be applied to golf and bowling greens, tees, approaches and surrounds, as well as cricket outfields, winter season pitches and general amenity turf.

For technical information Tel: 01223 597834;
Web: www.headlandamenity.co.uk.

TEAMING UP

Gianni Ferrari has teamed up with Briggs & Stratton Commercial Power to incorporate the Vanguard 3/LC Turbo Diesel engine into its new PG270W professional mower.

The PG270W professional mower incorporates a number of innovative features, which significantly enhance the end user productivity. Featuring on the compact 4 wheel drive machine is a hydrostatic transmission with variable pump and hydro motor that enhances manoeuvrability. The rear wheels are driven by two orbital hydro motors and the front axle with differential lock, this ensures maximum power delivery to all four wheels.

Supplied as standard with two different decks for cutting and collecting grass, the 112cm version combines productivity and manoeuvrability in narrow places, whereas the 126cm deck is ideally suited for larger open areas. In addition to the traditional side discharge deck, the innovative rear discharge deck is also available.

For technical information Web: www.gianniferrari.com.



HIGH WEED MOWER

Pinnacle Power Equipment has announced the reintroduction to the Billy Goat fold of the High Weed Mower, a robust commercial quality 24in cut machine designed for cutting grass up to knee high.

A Tuff-Torque 3-speed transmission generates cutting speeds of up to 3.44mph with power via a Kawasaki 6hp four-stroke engine. Big 16in wheels effortlessly roll over rough terrain with the engine being protected by the blade not being directly attached to the crankshaft.

The High Wheel Mower can be used on slopes of up to 15 degrees and with a cutting performance of up to nearly 36,000 square feet an hour.

For technical information Tel: 01932 78899;
Web: www.pinnaclepower.co.uk.



THE WORKS

Launched for the first time in the UK is the new range of interchangeable greens maintenance cassette systems from TurfWorks International, who specialise in providing Turf Managers with mechanical solutions for the management of fine turf.

Intended for all main stream makes of triplex greens mowers and light weight fairway mowers, the range of TurfWorks cassettes are British designed and manufactured using Sheffield Stainless Steel. The manufacturing process utilises integrated laser cutting by means of ferrous and non-ferrous materials to an accuracy of 0.1mm. A broad range of advanced engineering equipment, including the latest and most advanced CNC milling and turning machines, are used on items such as bearing housings and drive couplers.

For technical information Tel: 01260 224 467; Web: www.turfworksint.com.



BOBCAT EXTEND

Bobcat has extended the company's range of heavy duty flail cutter attachments with the launch of the new FC155 model. With a cutting width of 1.55m, the FC155 flail cutter joins the two other model in the range - the FC175 and FC200, providing cutting widths of 1.75 and 2m respectively.

The FC155 flail cutter attachment can be used for a wide variety of applications, from clearing deep scrub to create fire breaks and access areas for overhead powerlines in woods and forests to clearance work at road sides, on new building developments and in pipeline and utility projects. The flail cutters expand the range of groundcare attachments from Bobcat that also includes mowers and rotary brushcutters.

For technical information Tel: 01724 289009; Web: www.amsbobcat.com.

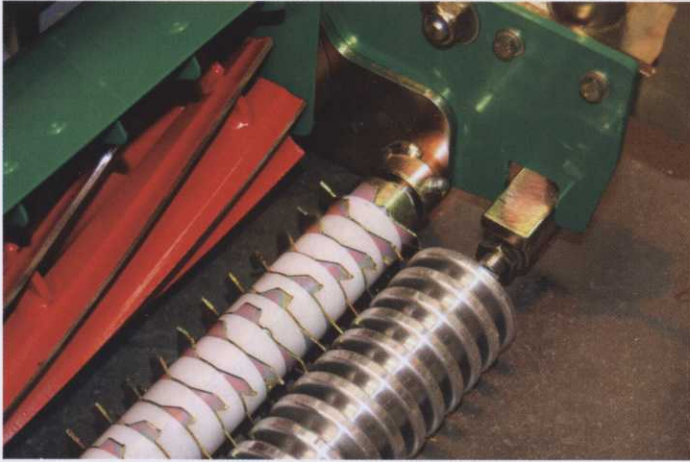
FINE TUNING

Dennis has developed a reputation for being able to fine-tune equipment to meet customers' changing demands. The latest addition to the company's line-up proves this, in the form of the Sport Mk2.

Derived from the existing Sport machine, the 22in cutting width unit has several important new customer driven features. As well as a new, ergonomically designed low vibration handlebar, the Sport has a new grass box and improved height of cut adjustment mechanism. The 'click system', used for several years on the FT range, is now standard. This gives 0.5mm incremental adjustment making accurate, tool free alterations on the turf very simple.

As a further development the Sport Mk2 is also available as the Sport Ultra. The tungsten tipped blades have a dramatically improved life over conventional steel and the spiral configuration ensures smooth operation. To minimise wheelbase of the machine the tungsten tipped blades are interlocking with the grooved front roller design.

For technical information Tel: 01332 824777; Web: www.dennisuk.com.



GREEN TEE

TGT provide truly green solutions for golf all year round in the form of two golf improvement products.

UK grass tee is a winter tee made from UK processed grass cuttings and it can be used to play off short cut natural tee ground and would be ideal for arthritic or back sufferers. In that, once struck by the player's club the tee disintegrates into grass fragments. Simply place, smash and go - no searching or picking up.

Tropical grass tee is more durable and player friendly for those who prefer the feel of wood. This durable, more flexible tee will bend further than a wooden tee before it breaks.

For technical information Tel: 0121 3088647.



ADDING OPTIONS

Lastec have debuted two key new options for the Model 3372 Diesel Articulator - a grass collection system and a striper roller feature. The Model 3372 is a three-deck articulating rotary mower with a 72" cutting width, designed to provide superior manoeuvrability and cut quality than conventional mid-mount and out-front units with fixed decks.

The high-lift grass collector has a 500 litre capacity that can be used to collect grass clippings, leaves, and even aeration plugs on a golf course. It can also be used as a blower to clear autumn leaves or grass clippings.

The striping roller provides a superior finish to the cut swathe. It can be raised and lowered from the seat for transport or be raised for applications that prefer the consistency of colour delivered without the striping kit. The option of raising the striping kit allows a wider range of applications to be managed with one machine.

For technical information Tel: 01622 812103; Web: www.lastec.com.

GET A GRIP

Lloyds of Letchworth has introduced the most advanced operator presence control for their highly respected range of Paladin mowers. Senso Grip is a touch sensitive operator presence control that requires no levers or switches to operate.

The system comprises touch sensitive grips mounted on both sides of the handle, therefore as long as the operator is touching either one of the handle grips the machine will continue to run. The Senso Grip requires no pressure to be applied to operate and with no moving or mechanical parts there are no wearing components to be damaged or replaced, ensuring a trouble free easy operation.

This electrical system is maintenance free and closes down the Paladins' ignition once it detects the removal of the operators' hands. Neither can it be over ridden by taping up controls nor using elastic bands to hold in levers as can be found on more conventional lever operated controls.

For technical detail Tel: 01462 683031; Web: www.lloydsandco.com.

ON THE LINE

Toro has unveiled its Line Painter 1200, which sets a new standard in sports field marking and makes it easier, faster and cleaner than ever before, state the company.

What makes this product so different from other line markers on the market is that it needs no regular manual cleaning between

stops. Its new Express Clean System incorporates an onboard fresh water tank that cleans the line and nozzle at the flick of a switch. So the operator can take a break whenever they want without the line painter clogging up.

Designed with the user in mind, the new unit is easy to fill via a 12in wide opening with strainer. It's also fitted with a generous 12 gallon paint tank. The Line Painter 1200 is powered by a 6.5hp Kawasaki petrol engine and has three speed transmission.

For technical information Tel: 01480 226800; Web: www.lely.co.uk.



A STAR

The Envirostar is already creating waves in its county of birth, North Yorkshire, and is in active service on various sporting estates doing what it does best chipping, mulching, vacuuming, bagging, blowing, power washing and electricity generating.

The machine's multi functional role and robust design essential for the rugged and difficult terrain of moors and steep sided valleys, where it has served its apprenticeship, has already impressed. It's tough Land Rover like design and compact size will fit into the back of a pickup or mule, or can be towed by an average family car. It is a rugged and versatile tool.

For technical information Tel: 08450 066099; Web: www.envirostar.co.uk.

In the Shed

Greenkeeper International brings you 'In the Shed', a new puzzle page to keep you entertained when the weather forces you in or for when times are slow.

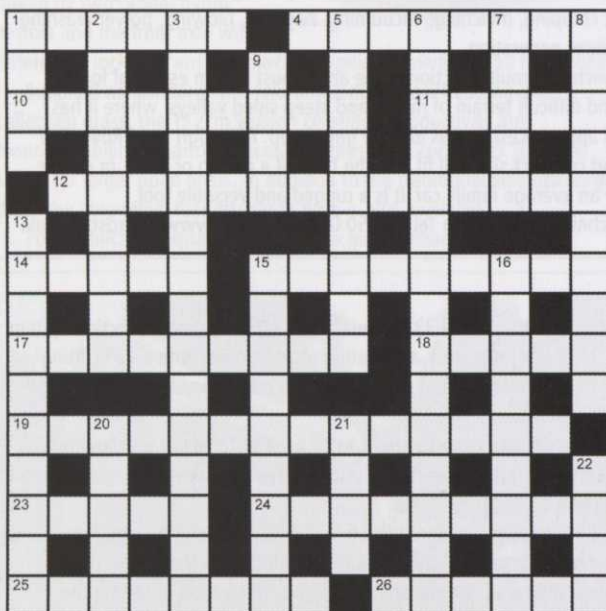
CROSSWORD - Compiled by Anax

ACROSS

- 1 Surname of US gangster known as Scarface (6)
- 4 TV comedy series which featured computer called Holly (3,5)
- 10 Member of Sioux Indian tribe - name also applied to a type of motor-home (9)
- 11 "There you are!" (French) (5)
- 12 Site of fatal car accident involving Edward Kennedy in 1969 (14)
- 14 Pungent, bulbous plant used in many dishes (5)
- 15 Mass of land projecting into the sea (9)
- 17 Make a situation more important (2,3,4)
- 18 Lively dance in 2/4 time (5)
- 19 Study of, e.g. ESP, or other phenomena not explained by science (14)
- 23 Preside over a meeting (5)
- 24 Term for any great European painter up to the 18th century (3,6)
- 25 Agenda, timetable (8)
- 26 Part of body between neck and diaphragm (6)

DOWN

- 1 Hooded robe usually worn by monk (4)
- 2 One who believes that God and the universe are identical (9)
- 3 "Whatever the cost" (2,7,6)
- 5 Mastery of language (9)
- 6 Term applied to an unequal struggle in which the underdog wins (5,3,7)
- 7 Legal defence designed to show that the accused cannot have been the culprit (5)
- 8 Eccentric US multi-instrumentalist, died 1993 (5,5)
- 9 Indonesian island south of Borneo (4)
- 13 Deceptive language (5-5)
- 15 Welsh town north of Newport, important tin-mining centre (9)
- 16 Free-standing lamp which points towards the ceiling (9)
- 20 Stretch of river visible between bends (5)
- 21 Pilgrimage to Mecca (4)
- 22 Important point; most difficult section of a rock climb (4)



ANSWERS TO ALL THE PUZZLES ARE SHOWN ON PAGE 50

ANAGRAM

Can you decipher these two film stars? One is an American Superstar, the other a Brit Actress.

COSTUMIER

PHANTOM MEMOS

QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

1. Who did Tiger Woods beat in a play-off to win the WGC American Express for the fourth time?
2. Wales beat Northern Ireland 3-2 in Belfast, but who scored the winning goal?
3. Who is the new James Bond?
4. Who tied with England's Andrew Flintoff for the International Cricket Council player of the year award?
5. What is the name of Britney Spear's newly born son?
6. Name the male lead in The Legend of Zorro, who was recently awarded a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame.
7. Thierry Henry beat Ian Wright's Arsenal all-time goal scoring record in October, how many goals did Wright's record stand at?
8. Tanja became the first ever Big Brother contestant to give birth on the show. Which country was this in?
9. Bradford Bulls defeated the Leeds Rhinos in the Super League Grand Final, what was the final score?

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

6	4		5		3			1
	5	7						
2			8					5
8	6					9		
			4	9				
		5				2		7
	3				8			6
						3	9	
9			3		1		7	8

Supplied by www.dailysudoku.com

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Look closely at the pictures below and try and spot the difference between them. You should be able to spot six!





News from the Chief Executive

Firstly I would like to congratulate Alan Pierce for winning the Student of the Year Competition, sponsored by Toro, and also Noel Crawford for winning the BIGGA National Championship that was sponsored by Ransomes Jacobsen. Both of these companies put a great deal of money into activities outside the remit of the Education and Development Fund and I would like to express my thanks for their support.

I hope that by now every member will have received the programme and guide to Harrogate Week 2006. Please take time to study the booklet. The guide includes a day of education for Golf Club Secretaries/Managers and other such officials, these seminars have been organised in conjunction with the English Golf Union and the Association of Golf Club Secretaries. The R&A are also very supportive and have arranged a mini-conference on 'The Sustainable Golf Course' during which speakers from both the UK and Denmark will put forward for debate their views on this very topical subject. If a copy of the programme has not yet found its way into your clubhouse then I would ask for your cooperation in making sure that the club management become aware of what is on offer.

I am only too conscious of the changing times in golf club and golf course management and more than ever before do those involved in such management need to work in harmony to try to provide what the golfer expects. Often these expectations are unreasonable given the resources available and this is where we must try to educate the golfer. Only by working in unison can the various bodies involved in the management process hope to make progress. I am pleased to say that, in my opinion, the level of collaboration between the professional organisations has taken a huge leap forward over the last two years.

I am aware that I keep referring to Harrogate Week in my recent columns, however I cannot stress too much the importance of this event on the well-being of the Association. There remains a great deal of pressure from certain major manufacturers who have already stated that they will not be supporting the Association's event in 2007 and while there are also a significant number of exhibitors who also support an annual show the ensuing restructuring could cause long term problems.

I would reaffirm that the BIGGA Board of Management is committed to a policy of providing an annual education and exhibition event in Harrogate. As part of a planned development the accent of the week has changed from being an Exhibition with some education to that of an education opportunity with an Exhibition along side. Some members have asked if we intend running a separate conference next year. We at BIGGA HOUSE feel that the whole week can be deemed a Conference Week with the choice to opt in and out of seminars and workshops as relevant and in between times take in the Exhibition. The new conference complex at Harrogate International Centre has made it possible for BIGGA to run its education programme for the week under one roof.

If you have not already done so then why not take a look at the Association's website that is dedicated to the event, www.harrogateweek.org.uk, where you will find up to date information on exhibitors, products, education and what's on, as well as the ability to pre-register online. One late addition to the programme is a discussion forum for users of the BIGGA website, in particular the bulletin board. Ideas on how we can improve this facility will be welcomed.

Over the coming weeks I will be attending some of the Section and Region events, and speaking at a few too. Rachael Palmer and I will also be meeting with all Section Secretaries in an attempt to improve communication between Headquarters and members.

BIGGA has an important role to play in the world of golf, however it can only be successful if the members support it. Please help the staff help you!

John Pemberton

Around
the Green

SCOTTISH REGION

The Scottish Region has several changes to announce in relation to Harrogate Week 2006. It has been decided to withdraw travel to and from the Conference venue at Harrogate. Having taken everything into consideration the Board has decided it is no longer practical or cost effective to continue with this service.

As in previous years Harrogate Week will provide Seminars and Workshops. Two day, one day and half day workshops will be available. The cost of these will be intimated nearer the time but it should be noted they are not part of the Scottish Region package. However there will be a series of Seminars ran by Trade firms at which everyone is welcome to attend free of charge.

The Regional Administrator will continue to arrange and book accommodation for anyone who wishes to attend. The accommodation will, as usual, be the Moat House Hotel, Harrogate. The cost of three nights' accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis in en-suite rooms on January 24, 25 and 26 2006 is £155.00.

Once all accommodation has been confirmed the Regional Administrator can provide names of all attendees, this will allow members to contact each other, make travel arrangements and perhaps share the cost of travel. The Regional Administrator has already contacted the National Rail Help line, 0845 7 225 225, and has confirmed that competitive rates and lower cost travel is widely available.

Booking forms for accommodation at Harrogate Week 2006 are available from the Regional Administrator.

Peter J. Boyd.
Regional Administrator

Ayrshire

Hello everyone and no you're not hallucinating this is the news from Ayrshire. To be honest I haven't had much to report, but I will get back on the ball and try to get something in the magazine because I know how much you all look forward to it.

Anyway, our autumn outing, in association with the two leg Duval sponsored Harry Diamond Jug, was hosted by Ardeer Golf Club on September 15. The rain cleared and it was reported all had an enjoyable day's golf. Our appreciation to Stephen Higgins and his green staff for presenting a fine course. Thanks also to the Captain and Committee for allowing us the use of the course and facilities, also to all the catering staff that I am told helped all members enjoy the event.

Onto the results: Harry Diamond Jug. J. Mair. 1st Class. 1. J. Mair; 2. S. Higgins; 3. M. Wilson; 4. A. Storrie. 2nd Class. 1. D. Norquoy; 2. J. Wilson; 3. D. Gray; 4. G. Haughie. Trade Prize. J. Smith.

Congratulations to all the winners as there was an excellent turn out. Next year's outings should be just as well attended, as I know Derek is trying to get the Section two more excellent venues.

I will try and catch up with new members for the past few months here. So welcome and hope to see y'all soon! William McBride, Dundonald Golf Club, Stuart McCormick, Ballochmyle Golf Club, Kerr Rowan, Dundonald Golf Club, John Wilson, Ballochmyle Golf Club, David Wilson, Ballochmyle Golf Club, Philip Dick, Dumfries & Galloway Golf Club, Neil Cochrane, Dumfries & Galloway Golf Club and John Tait, Dundonald Golf Club.

News from the AGM will be reported in next month's edition.

"Yeah right," I hear you say, but it will, trust me!

Any news, call me on 07939104701.

Denis Tweddell



Peter Boyd
SCOTLAND & NORTHERN IRELAND
 Tel/Fax: 0141 616 3440



Peter Larter
NORTHERN & MIDLAND
 Tel: 01476 550115

East

I am writing this report in early October, with cooler temperatures being the order of the day. During September many of you have reported outbreaks of disease, including Anthracnose and Take all patch, as well as the more common Fusarium patch. Some of these outbreaks have proved extremely difficult to bring under control.

The autumn outing this year was held on September 25 at the magnificent venue of Bruntsfield Links, at Cramond in Edinburgh. Our sincere thanks go to the Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society for granting us courtesy of the course and the catering staff for keeping everybody fed and watered.

The course was in excellent condition and is a great credit to the Course Manager, Andy Connor, and his team. During the past few years the greens staff have undertaken fairly major construction jobs with new greens and tees taking shape. This work has been carried out in house aided by their KX71/2 Kubota Rubber Tracked Excavator.

The results of the golf are as follows. Best Scratch. Phillip Butler, Dundas Park. 1st Nett. Stuart Greenwood, North Berwick. 75-7-69. 1st Class. Alistair Holnes, Seahouses, 75-5-70. 2nd Class. Colin Irvine, Muirfield, 83-10-73. 3rd Class. David Coull, Luffness, 87-15-72. Trade. Ian Lauder, Thomas Sherriffs, 70 scratch.

Finally, our thanks go to the trade for their generous contribution of raffle prizes and to Peter Boyd, our BIGGA Scottish Administrator, who helped out on the day.

In the September report I mentioned the exploits of John Gallagher on the golfing circuit. Since then he has gone from strength to strength, representing his country at the home international tournament, which was held at Royal St Georges. Scotland won this event with John contributing 2.5 points out of a possible 5 to his team's total. He will shortly be off on his travels again representing his country in Texas in early October, followed by a trip to Argentina in November. John finished the Scottish season in second place in the Order of Merit. First place went to fellow greenkeeper Glen Campbell, of Murrayshall.

The Section Dinner dance will be held on Saturday December 3 at the Kilspindie House Hotel, Aberlady. An event not to be missed. Mr September may make an appearance in all his glory! Tickets can be purchased from any Committee Member.

On a personal note, during the summer I visited Sandy Bulloch, at Fereneze GC, whom I had not seen for some years. During our conversation he mentioned one or two of the older trade members had retired, leaving me, in his opinion, as the elder statesman.

Quick as a flash I responded that David Carson, of Rigby Taylor, and Alec McRae, of Aitkens, had been around much longer than me. The response: "But they are much younger than you," left me suitably deflated and beating a hasty retreat eastwards.

Mike Donner

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