

In the Shed

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

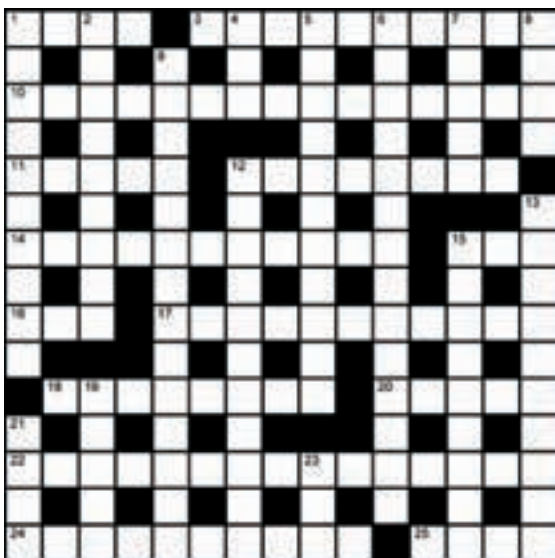
CROSSWORD - Compiled by Anax

ACROSS

- 1 Follower of a religion founded in the Punjab in the 16th Century (4)
 3 Person who reveals nothing about their self (6,4)
 10 Become enraged, usually without justification (3,3,3,6)
 11 Mathematical expression employing a colon (5)
 12 Name for any suburb of a French-speaking city (8)
 14 Rugby position favoured by ex Lions player Gareth Chilcott (4,7)
 15 Dog of inferior or mixed breed (3)
 16 Cereal grass distilled to make whiskey (3)
 17 Vengeance (11)
 18 "Turning -", Vapors hit of 1980 (8)
 20 In the OT, father of Jacob and Esau (5)
 22 11th Century outlaw who opposed William the Conqueror (8,3,4)
 24 Musical genre whose name came from the lyrics of "Born To Be Wild" (5,5)
 25 Shakespearian hero, king who was betrayed by two of his daughters (4)

DOWN

- 1 The first of its type was Longleat, opened in the 1960s (6,4)
 2 The pressing of a single character, often when using a computer (9)
 4 One's personal circumstances (3)
 5 Risky or based on curiosity (11)
 6 60th anniversary (7,7)
 7 Biological group containing one or more families (5)
 8 Capital of the Ukraine (4)
 9 Description of theatre productions (especially in New York) considered to be avant-garde or experimental (3,3,8)
 12 Type of murder considered as the most serious (5,6)
 13 Raspberry or similar disapproving sound (5,5)
 15 Plates, dishes etc., exemplified by willow-pattern (5-4)
 19 Major heart artery (5)
 21 Title formerly given to Iranian monarch (4)
 23 Drink of which oolong and cambric are varieties (3)



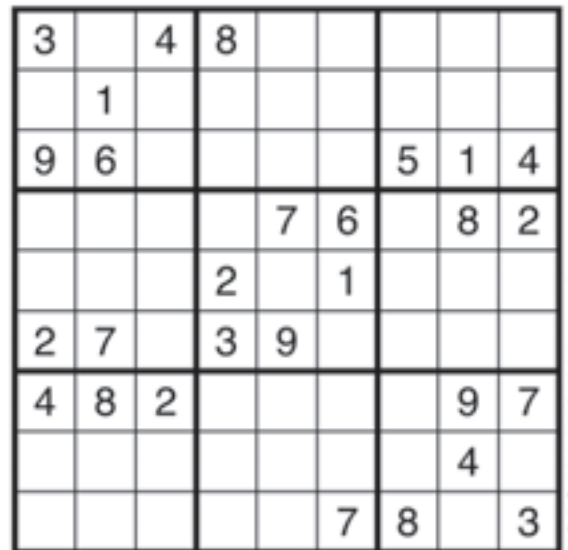
ANSWERS TO ALL THE PUZZLES ARE SHOWN ON PAGE 57

QUICK 'NINE HOLE' QUIZ

1. In which sport might you see the two teams defending goals of different sizes?
2. Who was the lead singer of The Four Seasons in the 1960s and 1970s?
3. If you were at the brickyard, what sport would you be watching?
4. Which sporting star has a line of designer clothing called Aneres?
5. Which pop band had a hit single with Open Your Heart in 1981?
6. Which sportsman's autobiography is called My Side?
7. Which sport has four letters and begins with a T?
8. What non-mechanical sport achieves the highest speeds?
9. What is the only Olympic sport that has a finish line that no competitor will ever cross?

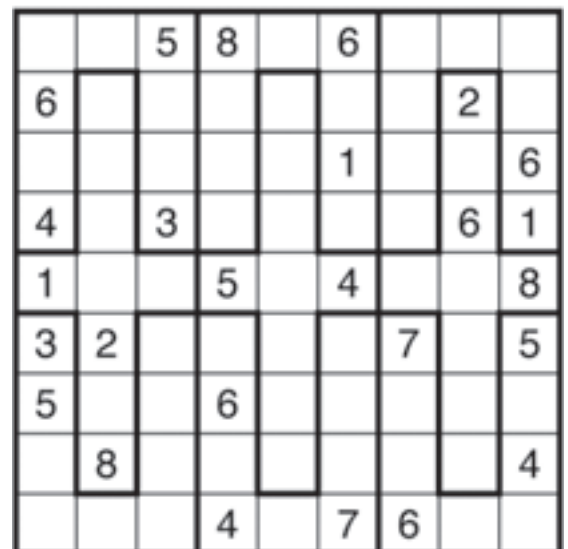
MONSTER SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x4 box contains the numbers 1 to 9 and the letters A, B and C.



SQUIGGLY SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 12 box shape contains the numbers 1 to 9.



Supplied by
www.dailysudoku.com

Health Check for Lakes



Jon Jinks, explains the importance of maintaining water quality on lakes, ponds and fountains, and why the provision of water features on golf courses is becoming increasingly popular.

Having spent much of my working life on golf courses and sports arenas, including some of the finest in the land, it is clear that the demand for bodies of water – both as aesthetic features and obstacles for play – is on the increase.

Indeed, most golf clubs we now visit in the course of our work have some form of water features such as reservoirs, ornamental ponds or fountains.

In the past, such features have always been viewed by the general golfing public as an aesthetic addition, or perhaps a means to affect the difficulty of the course. Increasingly, because of the recent extremes in our weather conditions, it has become commonplace for end-users to be aware of the environmental and financial benefits of water features, as well as the aesthetic qualities that they offer.

For example, irrigation reservoirs have historically always been 'out-of-play' areas

by the end of the season becoming due to the fact that the water has been used up and they have emptied and become unsightly. However, this can be overcome by introducing a network of water features around the property, which can be linked across the site by their own weir and transfer systems – all 'topped-up' naturally by the golf course drainage system. The addition of such features provide Course Managers with the ideal opportunity openly to discuss wider issues such as water harvesting and the need for water quality standards to be maintained. While it is now commonplace to construct holding reservoirs, maintaining water quality is a far more complex process requiring extensive design and planning in order to produce a sustainable water body on any golfing or sporting arena.

Items such as water sourcing, water quality and overall water management must be brought into play ideally at the design stage of any project. This is to ensure that the feature remains aesthetically pleasing throughout the golfing year, as well as meeting stringent standards required by the Environment Agency as to retained bodies of water on private land.

Aside of aesthetics, it should be remembered that it is the landowner's responsibility to maintain water quality of any pond on their property. Failure to meet these standards could result in severe fines. Therefore, it is essential that all persons responsible for such bodies of water are aware of the management tools available to both improve and maintain water.

The surest way of maintaining water quality is through the introduction of a plentiful

oxygen supply and by eliminating the stratification process which, in layman's terms, means preventing the water from layering at different temperatures. This can be done through the introduction of water falls, transfer recycle style systems within the pool network, or the usage of one of the many available aeration style units such as Otterbine or Kasco. Additionally, the introduction of suitable flora and fauna will enhance the appearance and assist in the replication of the natural environment processes that exist in any natural occurring body of water. Obviously, the promotion of aerobic bacteria requires oxygen to survive and will dramatically reduce the build-up of organic materials and prevent the production of foul odours, both of which will affect the overall experience of playing golf on the course. So, when investigating the idea of a water



feature give consideration to the irrigation requirements of the course and the possibilities of aligning the drainage network into the overall scheme. It is more likely that power is required at the features to mechanically introduce waterfalls or aeration units. In other words, before finalising budgets, ensure that all avenues have been visited.

In conclusion, we must start utilising the thousands of pounds worth of water which naturally falls on courses and sports areas to its maximum potential, thus improving environmental and ecological processes, while aesthetically enhancing playing areas through financially sound practices.

For further information on Osprey Irrigation please visit: www.ospreyirrigation.co.uk

Jon Jinks is Managing Director of Osprey Irrigation, available on: 01939 236677 or: 07974 423888.



Anatomy of a lake:

One club's answer to water shortages

By Paul Worster

"Why not put another lake on the course? It'll be a feature, make the course more difficult, and provide water for irrigation." Sounds pretty simple, but as usual – there's more than meets the eye.



In the first instance the terms "feature lake" and "water storage reservoir" may not necessarily be synonymous. To quote the late Fred Hawtree – "the tidal area of such a feature is not necessarily handsome" so any such feature has to be a compromise between aesthetics and function. The answer may be to have a large surface area with a shallow shelf around the edge, which will support some vegetation, and help to buffer or disguise an unsightly edge if water is drawn off.

How big does the lake need to be? Enter the experts. Minchinhampton set out to create sufficient storage capacity to allow 90 days emergency watering on the greens and surrounds should our boreholes be cut off for any reason. Irrigation consultant, Roger Davey, was put in touch with Course Architects Hawtree Ltd, calculations were made as to how much water was actually needed, and the lake sized accordingly. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

In the first instance a plot of land

between two fairways was identified as being suitable. Obviously, any proposed new strategic feature on the course, has to fit with the existing course, and Martin Hawtree was brought in to confirm this. Having established that the proposed site was suitable – ie reasonably level (in our case what

looked to be a level site actually had a one in a hundred fall. So a lake a hundred metres from end to end will have one end at ground level, and the other contained in a bund a metre high. Or, one end will be at ground level, and the other end a metre below ground level. Complicated? Yes, because a balance had to be struck between not having a too high an artificial structure (ie the bund wall), but not excavating too deep and removing too much ground thus adding to the cost.

A design was finally agreed upon, for a lake of 6000 square metre surface area with an average depth of two metres, which gave 11700 cubic metres of water storage, and which called for 7500 cubic metres of excavation. The design included a bund wall at the lower end of one-and-a-half metres in height, including a freeboard of approx a quarter of a metre (to prevent overflowing). The design also incorporated a safety shelf, which as the term implies, is a shelf a metre deep and two metres wide, around the

side of the lake, so that anyone falling in doesn't immediately tumble into water over two metres deep.

Then there was the small matter of Planning Consent. No significant objections were received, but Stroud District Council called for an Archaeology Assessment. I thought it was odd skimming through the Yellow Pages, that there were quite so many Archaeological Contractors listed. I soon found out why. Every single Planning application in this country has an archaeological assessment and reports are compiled for the relevant District Council. In our case, a fee proposal, methodology statement, safety assessment, and site assessment were quickly forthcoming. As soon as the initial payment had been made, the tempo slowed somewhat – eventually a scruffy looking bloke turned up on site, scuffed his feet in the grass and said, "this is a golf course and all this has been dug up before – you won't find much here pal" – and he was right. Over a thousand pounds for about two hours work, plus a report, which was clearly a word-processor copy of someone else's report. (A Dorset caravan site to be precise.) Having cleared that immense hurdle and planning consent gained you might think we were ready to start. Wrong. In removing 7500 cubic metres of ground, one has to consider where this material is going. Back to the drawing board with the architect to design mounding and fill areas to complement the lake, but on a relatively flat site, new mounding cannot be too high, so large areas of fairly low mounding are involved. In fact the maximum height of mounding was only a metre so over ten thousand square metres of areas were needed – not too far from the proposed lake in which to lose the spoil. This involved crossing two fairways so haul routes, with turf and topsoil stripped and stored, had to be established.

The contractor was responsible for marking and setting all outlines and levels to the Architects plan and satisfaction. Digging commenced with rotavating and stripping the topsoil on the lake site – 6000 square metres - and the additional 10,000 square metres for dumping the spoil. The dig started by digging a long trench down the middle of the lake to the



correct depth. The machine used was a 21 tonne Komatsu 210 Excavator. A 12 tonne 4WD Dumper, and a 12 tonne tractor and dump trailer were used for transport. A 14 tonne Komatsu 140 excavator was also on site for stripping and shaping. The material coming out of the dig was predominately large angular Cotswold Limestone, but a certain amount of small underlying material was salvaged to help line the completed lake – this material was moved to one side and saved. The Cotswold stone was mostly soft enough to dig without significant difficulty and the dig progressed quite rapidly, with the operatives working from 7am until 5.30 pm. As each mound area on the course was filled with rubble, the 21 tonne machine clattered across, tracked the stone in, and shaped to the architects satisfaction. Topsoiling was on-going while further excavation continued. Topsoiling was carried out using a 5 tonne TB 145 digger and



6 tonne dumper. Turfing and seeding commenced straight away as each area was completed. The decision, on budget grounds, was taken to seed the outside of the mounds, and turf the inside slopes to speed up development.



The weather was mainly appalling with torrential and prolonged rain making the ground somewhat tricky in places.



With the lake dig completed and the depth checked by laser, the small material was put back around the sides, safety shelf, and base. A trench was then dug around the top to take the lining fabrics which would be required to waterproof the lake. Enter stage left – GeoTechnical Services to line the lake. The lining consists of three layers which are laid in 4 or 6 metre wide strips. Each strip is welded with a heat gun to its neighbour, as it is laid. An underlay, which is like a very thick felt with a cushion effect, is the first layer. This protects the middle layer, which is the impermeable (waterproof) part. A

further layer of felt overlay completes the job. All these materials are tucked into the trench around the top, and backfilled. This took a week with four operatives puffing up and down the slopes towing each strip of material by hand (or by foot in this case). It looked like extremely hard work and I was quite glad not to be involved.



Finally, the topsoil was laid around the lake and down to the bottom of the safety shelf and all haul routes were repaired “on the way out”. Believe you me, I’ve never been so glad to wave goodbye to anyone ever. The relief didn’t last long however, the entire bank which measured 330 metres around and was between five and 15 metres deep had to be prepared and turfed. Enter the MGC greenstaff who deserve medals for their efforts and despite the very worst the weather could throw at them somehow got the job done.



47.5 pallets of turf, some of which were laid in gale-force winds and driving rain, were imported from Teal Turf at Worcester, who responded magnificently lifting and delivering at 24 hours notice during brief windows in the weather. A budget of £160,000 was set, and in the event, this was exceeded by £4000, which was well within contingencies. Having rolled the banks, the lake now looks totally natural, planting with reeds and aquatic plants will be on-going, and the members have applauded the foresight of the committee in sanctioning the project.

Seasonal Pond and Lake Tips

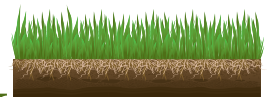
Due to the mild winter that we have had, Clearwater Pond and Lake Management recommends the following:

- Visual inspection of the water surface. Look for signs of algae. If it was a problem last year it will be this year too. Lemna minor (common duckweed) will give you a carpet of green. If ignored it will kill off everything below the surface and will turn the water stagnant – action must be taken;
- Look at the marginal plants; thypha rush, lesser reed mace and irises all need attention. Removal, cutting back, thinning dividing and re-planting should be considered;
- Look at the oxygenating weed in the watercourse, lake or pond. What type is it? Oxygenators play an important role in the whole system, but some are invasive, taking over the entire body of water. Active management is then paramount!
- Look into the water. What lives below gives a good indication of the water quality e.g. newts, frogs, snakes, dragonfly lava, water voles;
- Fountain and aeration pumps should be removed, cleaned and serviced as they can be very costly to replace should they fail at a critical time;
- Some types of aquatic weed can require chemical treatments and this is the time to have it carried out;
- Removal of leaf mulch from the water surface helps control silt build-up. De-silting can be expensive;
- Filling any pond or lake with mains water will likely increase algae blooms;
- Inspect all inlets and outlets for blockages and damage – repair;
- Inspect the sides and banks for erosion - consider the impact this may have.

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- 2** Nutrient Balancing and detoxification - to correct any deficiencies, breakdown of toxic elements such as pesticides and excess chemical fertilisers and to bring to moderate pH.
- 3** Aeration - a surprising proportion of sports turf suffers from compacting, reducing the amount of beneficial aerobic microbes in the soil.
- 4** Soil Life Inoculation combining carbon based feeds, to stimulate beneficial bacteria into action where sufficient aerobic microbe activity is present or...
Microbe Inoculation using carefully formulated bacteria, fungi and nutrients to increase and stimulate the population of beneficial aerobic microbes.
- 5** Regular feeding of soil and bacteria to maintain the new status quo.

The end result...

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- Healthy vibrant sports turf.
- Better tolerance of wear, temperature and stress.
- Uniform and defined colour.
- Reduced reliance on pesticides.
- Increased pay back for the Soil Harmony client.

NEW PRODUCTS

MASTIFF UPGRADED

Ransomes Jacobsen has upgraded its Ransomes Mastiff, the stalwart football pitch and stadium mower, with a 91cm (36") cutting width.

The main enhancements are a new Briggs and Stratton Vanguard engine and improvements to the Operator Presence Control (OPC). The new power unit is a premium grade Briggs & Stratton Vanguard 9hp OHV engine, which comes with a two-year warranty in commercial use.

For more information visit: www.ransomesjacobsen.com



CHIPPER SHREDDER

Countax Ltd has launched a new stand-alone, petrol drive Chipper/Shredder.

The Chipper Shredder is capable of chipping branches up to 60mm diameter and shredding garden waste and twigs up to 15mm diameter.

For more information visit: www.countax.com

FARMER RANGE

The new Farmer range of tractor mounted sprayers from Allman's are designed for tractors as small as 20hp 'mini' tractors right up to the agricultural 'workhorse' tractors of 120hp, and are fully equipped for smaller and medium sized spraying tasks on farms. There are 6, 8 and 12 metre manual boom options. The larger capacity models accept a 12 metre hydraulically folding boom and are equipped with a chemical induction hopper.

For more information email: sales@allman-sprayers.co.uk



HEAVY-DUTY FRONT-LOADER

A new heavy-duty front loader is now available for the 90hp Kioti DK901 tractor distributed in the UK by Rustons Engineering, of Huntingdon.

The front loader, which has been designed specifically for this model, has a particularly robust design with a very strong frame and a parallel lifting action as standard. The bucket is 2.2m wide, with a capacity of 0.54 m³, and has a maximum lift height just under 3.7 metres. It incorporates the same quick-fit design as other Kioti loaders for fast attachment and removal, as required.

For more information contact RECO on: 01480 455151



MINI-EXCAVATORS

Bobcat has launched two new Zero Tail Swing (ZTS) mini-excavators with operating weights between 2 and 3 tonne, offering an ideal balance of size, weight and performance.

The first new model is the Bobcat 425 ZTS mini-excavator which, equipped with cab, has an operating weight of 2650 kg and is designed for easy transportation.

The second new model is the Bobcat 428 ZTS mini-excavator, it has a maximum digging depth of 2844 mm and, equipped with cab, an operating weight of 2933 kg.

For more information visit: www.bobcat.com



NEW BOOK

Heather and its Management is the latest title in STRI's Studies in Golf Course Management Funded by The R&A, this new book is written by Bob Taylor and Lee Penrose from STRI's Ecology team.

Britain is quite unique in still supporting large expanses of internationally important acid grassland and dune heath, lowland heath and moor, of which heather is normally a dominant component. Golf courses play a key role in its conservation.

Appropriate management is vital in maintaining, restoring and conserving our golf course heathland resource. The aim of this new book is to increase awareness of the sensitivity and fragility of these habitats, to understand the factors that contribute to their decline and to consider practical management opportunities for future conservation.

For further details and book orders, contact Iain Service at STRI, on Tel: 01274 518908 or order on-line at: www.stri.co.uk

TREE SPADE

Civic Trees have added 2.1m diameter tree spade to their fleet of tractor-mounted machines. This addition means that they are now able to efficiently move trees with girths up to 60cm.

The tree spade, which is the largest to be permanently based in the UK, is mounted on a 6-wheel drive Volvo chassis making it a versatile machine capable of accessing every part of the golf course.

The unit joins Civic Tree's existing fleet of tree spades: 0.75m, 0.85m, 1.1m, 1.4m and 1.6m diameter.

For further information please call Deric Newman on: 07768 056590 or visit: www.civictrees.co.uk



NO FLIES ON NEW WEBSITE

Pinnacle Power Equipment has launched a brand new website -www.pinnaclepower.co.uk in time for the 2007 season.

Designed by agency Allingham Kyte, the new site provides full details of the range of Billy Goat vacuums, mowers and scarifiers together with Klippo mowers and Eliet chipper/shredders and the new edger.

Every model in the Pinnacle range is featured via a thumbnail image and accompanying copy.

Visit: www.pinnaclepower.co.uk



FIRST FULLY AUTOMATIC 4X4 UTILITY VEHICLE

Club Car has launched a brand new addition to the CarryAll utility vehicle range, the Club Car CarryAll 295.

The CarryAll 295 is the industry's first fully automatic 4x4 utility vehicle and features Club Car's revolutionary Intellitrac™ 4-wheel drive system. Intellitrac constantly senses the driving environment and instantly engages and disengages 4-wheel drive operation as the surroundings change. This seamless process makes the CarryAll 295 easy to drive whatever the conditions.

For more information visit: www.clubcar.com



INNOVATIVE FUN

Segway Inc. is improving the golf experience with the introduction of the second-generation Segway x2 Golf, featuring a scorecard holder, bag carrier and special low-pressure tyres for gentle travel on fairways.

For more information visit: www.segway.com



FLOATING HEADS GREEN MOWER

Ransomes Jacobsen has introduced the new Eclipse 122 floating head greens mower. Eclipse is about new and better ways to maintain your turf.

For more information visit: www.ransomesjacobsen.com



IN FULL SWING

Introduced last summer, Sea Isle Supreme has taken root on golf courses around the world. This tournament quality grass is a low-growing, rapidly spreading semi-dwarf product for golf courses.

For more information visit: www.seaislesupreme.com



PLATINUM TURFGRASS

Turf Ecosystems, along with R Duncan, PhD, have announced the introduction of Platinum TE, a paspalum turfgrass cultivar that offers golf courses great appearance and playability. Platinum TE is scheduled to be certified and available in limited supply by September 2007.

For more information visit: www.PlatinumTE.com



ELECTRONIC FUEL INJECTION

Commercial Power has announced that it will offer its first engine equipped with Electronic Fuel Injection (EFI) in 2007. The new gasoline powered

EFI model will be an extension of the company's Vanguard 3/LC three-cylinder, liquid-cooled commercial engine line.

Developed in conjunction with Daihatsu, a member of the Toyota Group, the Vanguard 3/LC EFI engine is capable of delivering increased fuel economy.

For more information visit: www.commercialpower.com



FOUR YEAR WARRANTY

Choosing a tractor can be an up hill struggle, but world leader Antonio Carraro believes it has just made it a lot easier with the launch of two new models with an unprecedented four year warranty. The 26hp Tigre 3200 features an 8 X 4 gear box, hydrostatic steering, a folding rear roll bar and wide choice of tyres.

With the same number of gears the larger 48hp Tigrone 5500 features a front folding roll bar and boasts a class beating rear linkage lift capacity of 1880Kg.

Further details from Carraro UK on: 01420 479606 or visit: www.carraro.co.uk



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Quickstart Sports and Fairway, is Headland's new range of fertilisers for outfields, fairways and sports pitches.

Potassium is present in its superior, sulphate form minimising the risk of scorch, and storage, handling and disposal problems are halved due to the product's low application rates.

For further information on Quickstart Sports and Fairway Tel: 01223 597834 or visit: www.headlandamenity.co.uk



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News from the Chief Executive

Onward into Spring

The staff at HQ have already started the task of planning for Harrogate Week 2008, in the wake of a very successful event this year. The major machinery manufacturers have all requested exhibition space and I am pleased to report that it has been possible to integrate them with very little disruption. Already virtually all available space in Halls A, B, C and M has been sold and the task now facing the sales team is to fill Hall Q!

Education remains a top priority for the event and once again we will be working with other related organisations to bring members and non-members alike as much variety as possible.

The new version of the BIGGA website (www.bigga.org.uk) is now functional and I hope members will take full advantage of the facility. The site has been rewritten to allow full content management by HQ staff, whereas previously most changes had to be made by a third party programmer. Over the next few months further enhancements will be made to the site as well as a review of the style and content of Greenkeeper International.

Tony Cocker, the Association's accountant who completed 10 years of service in January, has decided to take early retirement as of the end of March 2007. Tony succeeded me in the post when I became Chief Executive and his calculator, quill pen and fingerless gloves will be passed on to Stephen Coates, who joined BIGGA a couple of years ago as Tony's understudy. Stephen has been working hard at his professional qualifications and following success in the December exams now only has one module to complete before being fully qualified. BIGGA has been pleased to support his training and will continue to do so.

There is a misplaced rumour that Tony's retirement has been possible thanks to a secret windfall as the administrator for the staff lottery syndicate! Joking apart Tony will be a hard act to follow and his presence around the office will be missed. I would like to thank him for his devotion to duty and the support that he has given to me personally and I wish him a long and happy retirement.

Talks continue, albeit slowly, with the IOG about the feasibility of a merger of the two bodies. At the moment there is nothing to report apart from the fact that a 'Heads of Agreement' document has finally been approved by both organisations and by the time you read this I hope that it will have been signed by the Board of both BIGGA and the IOG. The Agreement sets out the aims of the talks and includes clauses regarding 'Confidentiality' and 'Disclosure of Information'. The next meeting of one of the sub-committees is on April 26 when the potential structure of any new body will be discussed. There is much work yet to be done before a firm conclusion can be reached however I would urge members to give the matter serious consideration and I welcome any constructive feedback, preferably by e-mail or letter.

Finally, I look forward to the days getting longer and the clocks going forward so that a few holes of golf after work may become possible. Each year I start the season determined to work hard at reducing my handicap and then in the Autumn analysing where my strategy when wrong! Perhaps this year may be better but as with so many things in life - only time will tell.

John Pemberton



SCOTTISH REGION

North

There are a few new members to report this month. The Brora boys have come out in force this month with the whole staff joining up - Ian Wakeman, Head Greenkeeper; Andrew Wilson, Assistant Greenkeeper; Anthony Wakeman, Apprentice Greenkeeper; Peter Etheridge, Apprentice Greenkeeper and Alan Murray, Labourer. Also Richie Mackenzie, Second Assistant Greenkeeper at Inverness GC - Welcome all of you, to the North Section.

I hope you are buying up the 200 club tickets for this year, as it will help swell the coffers and give the Section some much-needed revenue. Bob Hardie still has plenty of tickets left if you need more. The Spring Outing this year is at Oldmeldrum GC in early May. The forms will be out soon so let's have a good turnout for this one on the day. More information will be available on the forms about start times etc.

I, along with several other Greenkeepers and Groundsmen from the North Section, attended a small seminar run by Greentech Scotland at Meldrum House GC. The guest speaker on the day was Kevin Cavanaugh from the States. Kevin was Assistant Superintendent at Augusta National for three years - among other posts held in the States. Kevin now works for Floratine products and he gave an interesting talk on various aspects of plant nutrition and health. There was lots to learn and I'm sure everybody who attended would have got something out of the day.

Thanks also to Kenny Harper at Meldrum House for the use of the clubhouse and to Tom Brannan and Neil Mitchell, from Greentech, for organising the day. Paul Marshall has moved from Newburgh GC to become Deputy Head to Hamish Steven at Cruden Bay. All the best Paul in your new post I'm sure you will enjoy working at such a great golf course.

Robert N Patterson, Royal Aberdeen GC

NORTHERN REGION

North East

The Spring Competition will be at Tynemouth GC this year, on April 19 with tee off time from 9.30am to 11am - going by recent competitions I think we could be all teed off before 11am, if anyone is likely to be late arriving try and let me know as it's unfair on the club members having to wait all that time if no-one is on the tee. The Autumn Competition will be played at Ravensworth GC on October 4 - this is later than usual but this year we are having the Section AGM on the same date. Tee off from 9.30am to 10.30am.

I called at Parklands GC recently and was surprised at what is going on there - New bays to be constructed, work being done on the driving range and a floodlit crazy golf or is it a miniature 18 holes? Anyway, I call them crazy golf courses so that will most likely raise a few eyebrows because I think that will be the only one in the North East.

Staying at Parklands, congratulations are in order for Head

Wetting Agent pellets are the perfect supplement to your current management strategy of Localised Dry Spot (LDS).

Tower Sport Europe offers a range of high quality, 100% pure surfactant pellets with no binding agents, making sure you deliver the full product to your turf.



Maxximum RZP

With enhanced kelp extract the Maxximum RZP pellet provides the turf manager with the perfect combination to tackle LDS and poor root development experienced during times of heat and drought stress. Ideal for treating tees, greens, bunker faces and high spots with the added extra of aiding the establishment of newly laid turf.

Structure

For once a month treatment of 'hot spots' Structure provides the turf manager with the ideal tool to combat LDS with convenience and ease. A comprehensive means to relieve your turf of the heat and drought stress incurred during the summer months.

Foundation

An economical and efficient way of managing LDS in your turf. Foundation can be used as both an emergency treatment or as a supplementary management tool for areas that your current wetting agent struggles to deal with during periods of high stress conditions. Foundation provides the turf manager with great flexibility as it can be applied every two weeks should the conditions demand.



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