



Don't miss the
Doe Show
 Golden Jubilee

2nd, 3rd, 4th February 2010 at Ulting, Maldon CM9 6QH

Join the
Doe Show
 Gold Rush

The show will feature
 50 extra special offers
 for the Golden Jubilee



**By far the largest Agricultural,
 Construction and Groundcare
 Dealer Show in the UK**

- over 150 trade stands
- used machinery bargains
- shop soiled and ex-demonstration machinery at 'to sell' prices
- working demonstrations
- large indoor display of ancillary products
- parts and showroom offers
- catering facilities



See the Ultra Eco-Friendly
 New Holland NH2
 special hydrogen powered tractor



Gold Case IH Maxxum Tractor
 to be auctioned by sealed bid.
 Entries close 28 Feb 2010



Head Office: Ulting, Maldon, Essex CM9 6QH Tel 01245 380311
 Email sales@ernestdoe.com www.ernestdoe.com
 Branches throughout East Anglia and the South East

Free Parking • Free Entry
 Free Refreshments • NRoSO Points Awarded

www.ernestdoe.com

Where you can buy with confidence

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR

BIGGA



President
Sir Michael Bonallack,
OBE

Board of Management
Chairman – Peter Todd
Vice Chairman
Paul Worster
Past Chairman
Kenny Mackay

Board Members

Jeff Mills, Gary Cunningham, Archie Dunn, Ian Willett, Tony Smith, Elliott Small, Mark Dobell

Chief Executive

John Pemberton
john@bigga.co.uk

Head of Learning & Development

Sami Collins
sami@bigga.co.uk

Head of Membership Department

Tracey Maddison
traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Contact Us

BIGGA HOUSE, Aldwark, Alne, York, YO61 1UF
info@bigga.co.uk
www.bigga.org.uk
Tel – 01347 833800 | Fax – 01347 833801

GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL

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

Editorial

Communications Manager / Editor

Scott MacCallum
Tel – 01347 833800 Fax – 01347 833801
scott@bigga.co.uk



Design
Design and Production Editor
Tom Campbell

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833801
tom@bigga.co.uk



Advertising

Sales Executive
Kirstin Smith

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833802
kirstin@bigga.co.uk



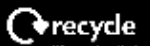
Sales Executive
Jill Rodham

Tel – 01347 833800
Fax – 01347 833802
jill@bigga.co.uk

Printing

Warners Midlands Plc, The Maltings, Manor Lane, Bourne, Lincolnshire PE10 9PH
Tel – 01778 391000 | Fax – 01778 394269

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 assumed 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 £50 per year, Europe and Eire £65. Rest of the World £95. The magazine is also distributed to BIGGA members, golf clubs, local authorities, the turf industry, libraries and central government.



ISSN: 0961-6977

© 2010 British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited



20/20 Vision

As we enter a brand new decade – yes, I'm aware of the old argument about how technically it begins in the year ending in one, but our Millennium celebrations started on the evening of Dec 31, 1999, not Dec 31, 2000, didn't they? – and as well as wondering what we have done with the last 10 years of our lives, it makes you wonder just where we will all be in January 2020.

On one hand the last 10 have gone in the blink of an eye but really it's remarkable just how much has happened since Jan 1, 2000.

A mere 10 years ago we hadn't even heard of the iPhone or Facebook, or Usain Bolt or Barack Obama, while Tiger Woods was known only for his golfing exploits.

In the big wide world, 9/11 and the subsequent military conflicts; the tsunami; the death of Michael Jackson and the demise of Woolies were all still ahead of us.

No-one could have predicted the volatility of the world economy two years ago, never mind 10 years ago, and there can be no disguising the impact that has had on golf.

However, the game will survive and those clubs which get their priorities right and continue to invest in their greatest asset will be successful, while sport in general - with the Olympics, Commonwealth Games and, possibly, the World Cup all gracing these shores in the next decade - will gain a genuine boost over the next 10 years.

It's just a case of finding a way through this particularly difficult spell and this month we include an article with contributions from Les Howkins MG and Ian Henderson which is designed to offer advice on how to make a lot out of a little both in the club and on the golf course.

Some of the information may be things you are already doing, or not relevant to your place of work, but even if there is one thing that can help you it will make life that little bit easier.

Don't discount advice from any source. But back to the year 2020.

I certainly don't have 20/20 vision, but I do know that some of what will be commonplace in 10 years' time will seem truly mind boggling now.

Progress doesn't slow down as we move forward – it gathers pace and I suspect we'll all be travelling to work on environmentally-friendly jet powered hover boards; have entire cities housed under glass domes to protect us from damaging rays, and be hitting the golf ball shorter distances to preserve the relevance of our top golf courses.

You guys may not have your current armoury of chemicals to fight disease but new versions will come on board, while grass breeders will be closer to the Holy Grail of slow growing, disease resistant, shade resistant, thin leafed swards.

Nostradamus I am not, but, you never know, I might just have got something right. I'm excited about the thought that it might be the bit about environmentally-friendly jet powered hover boards. You never know!

I hope you find a way through any difficulties you may be experiencing and go on to have a prosperous 2010.

Best wishes.

Scott MacCallum
Editor

GI CONTENTS

A look at what's inside the magazine this month

JANUARY 2010

FEATURES

17 Make 2010 a Good Year

Keep it Simple: Les Howkins MG, of Richmond Golf Club, offers some advice on improving the course without breaking the bank.

Loads of Money: Ian Henderson looks at ways in which golf clubs can reduce costs and maximise income.

25 Match Made In Heaven

Mark Alexander visits the new home of the World Matchplay Championship, at Finca Cortesin, in Spain.

32 The Anatomy of... a Greens Mower

James de Havilland launches a new series taking a serious look at the workings of everyday machinery.



37 A Rookie's Guide to Harrogate Week

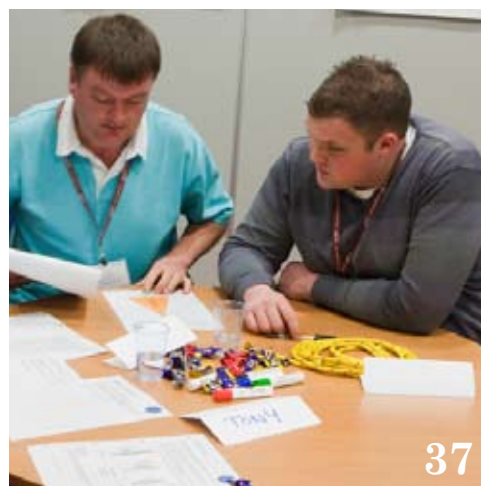
Scott MacCallum gives some advice to Harrogate Week novices on how to make the most of their time.

41 Troublesome turf weeds in South Australia

Dr Terry Mabbutt travels to the other side of the world in his search for exciting new turf weeds.

48 Getting Back to the Cutting Edge

Jonathan Knowles asks the question "Is greenkeeping horticulture, agriculture or ecology?"





25



6



52

REGULARS

- 6 Newsdesk
- 12 Chairman's Word
- 13 GTC
- 14 L&D
- 15 Industry Update
- 52 Quick Guide to...
Line Marking
- 53 New Products
- 56 Around the Green
- 59 Chief Executive'
New Feature
- 63 Diary of Events
- 64 Membership
- 65 Assistant Profile
- 65 What's Your
Number?
- 66 In the Shed
- 67 Health and Safety
– with Xact
- 74 Soapbox
– Jonathan Smith

Cover Photograph of Hankley Common,
taken by Course Manager, Gareth Roberts



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

“There it goes..!”



Don Wales, the nephew of multiple world speed record holder, Donald Campbell, will be at the controls of the attempt which aims to propel a lawnmower at speeds in excess of 100mph.

Project Runningblade aims to smash the current record set by Bob Cleveland from the United States of 80.792mph at Bonneville Salt Flats in 2006.

The attempt is planned to take

place at this Pendine Sands in Wales early next year and was announced at the National Motor Museum in Beaulieu.

At 100mph, the machine would cover 147ft per second, covering the target mile in less than 36 seconds.

The Runningblade team has worked with Countax and is hoping to raise funds and awareness for Great Ormond Street Hospital and Wessex Heartbeat.



Apprenticeship Framework For Horticultural Businesses Approved

Lantra, has announced that a new Level 2 and a revised Level 3 Modern Apprenticeship framework for horticultural businesses have been approved by the Modern Apprenticeship Group (MAG) and are now available to use in Scotland.

Over the past year, Lantra has undertaken an extensive consultation with horticultural businesses, other industry professionals and training providers to review industry's requirements for Modern Apprenticeships and ensure they are kept relevant and

up-to-date to meet the changing needs of industry professionals. Following this review, a new Level 2 Modern Apprenticeship (Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Level 5) in horticulture has been developed and the Level 3 framework (SCQF Level 6) revised.

The new Level 2 Modern Apprenticeship (SCQF Level 5) in horticulture is the first framework at this level to be made available in the environmental and land-based sector in Scotland. The new frameworks have been widely welcomed

by the horticultural industry as they meet the need identified by the industry for a Level 2 Modern Apprenticeship.

To view or download the new modern apprenticeship frameworks in horticulture, please visit <http://www.lantra.co.uk/apprenticeship-framework-documents/>. To find out more about the modern apprenticeship programme or to see the upcoming schedule of framework reviews, please visit:

www.lantra.co.uk/apprenticeships or call 0845 707 8007.



Architects Appointed by Emirates

Thomson Perrett & Lobb, the golf course architecture practice founded by five-times Open Champion, Peter Thomson, has been appointed by Emirates Golf Club to modernise its flagship Majlis Course, home of the Dubai Desert Classic.

TPL will carry out an audit of the course's bunkering as part of a wider modernisation programme, overseeing the repositioning and reconstruction of bunkers to upgrade the course for professional events, including the Dubai Desert Classic and Dubai Ladies Masters, and day-to-day club and visitor play.

Rod Bogg, Special Advisor

to Dubai Golf, who oversaw construction of Emirates Golf Club 22 years ago, said: "We selected TPL to oversee the modernisation of the Majlis Course because of its experience in designing prestige golf courses in the Middle East and its expertise in bunkering.

"Our bunkers are out of date and, due to modern equipment, out of play. Some of the players are hitting the ball 60 or 70 yards past the fairway bunkers during the Dubai Desert Classic. While that is only one week of the year, we need to ensure that the course remains the enjoyable challenge that it is for professionals and amateurs all year round."

Rod added: "We are not redesigning the course and not adding additional bunkers to the course, but we are looking at relocating, reshaping and reconstructing the bunkers we do have to bring the course up to the highest modern standards, as well as making some improvements to the aesthetics of the course." The new look course will be in play for the Dubai Desert Classic in 2011.

Pictured (from left): Andrew Goosen (TPL), Rod Bogg (Dubai Golf), Tim Lobb (TPL), Craig Haldane (Golf Course Superintendent), Chris May (General Manager, Dubai Golf)

Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures

From last April the ACAS Code of Practice on disciplinary and grievances procedures applies to the workplace dispute resolution framework.

The ACAS statutory Code of Practice on discipline and grievance provides basic practical guidance to employers, employees and their representatives and sets out principles for handling disciplinary and grievance situations in the workplace.

The Code is issued under section 199 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

A failure to follow the Code does not, in itself, make a person or organisation liable to proceedings. However, employment tribunals will take the Code into account when considering relevant cases.

For full details of the Acas Code of Practice and to download a free copy, go to: www.acas.org.uk/drr

Scottish Region Conference

The 2010 BIGGA Scottish Region Conference will take place at the Carnegie Conference Centre, Carnegie College, Dunfermline on Tuesday, March 2.

Speakers include Richard Windows and Henry Bechelet, from the STRI, and Greg Evans, Course Manager, at Ealing Golf Club.

Other speakers include Gordon McKie, Course Manager, Old Course, St. Andrews Links; Lee Strutt, Course Manager, GWest, Gleneagles, and finally, Paul Kimber, Golf Course Architect.

Tickets cost £35, which includes tea/coffee on arrival, coffee/pastry at the mid morning break and buffet lunch.

Full details and booking forms will be posted to all members in Scotland and further forms can be obtained by contacting Peter J Boyd, Regional Administrator, Tel: 0141 616 3440 or pj.boyd@btinternet.com

New Appointment

SISIS has appointment of Ewen Wilson as Export Sales Manager to replace David Harrison.

Ewen has worked for the Company for 26 years as demonstrator in Scotland and Northern Ireland and, in addition, has undertaken many demonstration trips overseas.



Please email your news items to the editor, Scott MacCallum: scott@bigga.co.uk

Keep on Running



Sunningdale's staff showed that they were a fit bunch by running in support of Children in Need 2009.

The run took place over two routes on the Old and New courses, starting at the clubhouse, with all runners going at the same time when a rocket was set off!

"The idea was to complete a marathon distance with all

runners doing a leg which consisted of 2.7 miles! The initially idea was to have ten runners to cover the distance but the response was so good we covered a lot more miles!" said Course Manager, Murray Long.

Runners consisted of all members of staff from the Secretary, Courses Manager, Head Greenkeepers, Assistant

Greenkeepers, General Manager and Food and Beverage servers.

"Members provided the sponsorship and the total is well above £500.

"It went so well that maybe next time we will look at expanding it to include other clubs to raise more money for this worthy cause," said Murray.

Trump Appoints Golf Course Superintendent



After more than 18 years at Carnoustie, Assistant Superintendent, Paul O'Connor, has been appointed Links Superintendent for the new Trump International Golf Links.

"Paul is highly respected and is known to be one of the best in his field. His years of training and experience at Carnoustie made him an obvious choice for this appointment. He is a very important addition to my team," said Donald Trump.

Paul was delighted by his new role.

"I enjoyed 18 years at Carnoustie and understand the high standards required of a leading championship course. I am extremely proud to be involved in the construction and development of what will be the finest links course ever built - it is a privilege to work for Mr Trump on this spectacular terrain."

Studying greenkeeping at Elmwood College in the early 90s, while working as an apprentice greenkeeper at Carnoustie, Paul quickly rose to the position of Head Greenkeeper under John Philip.

"During The 2007 Open Championship he led the greenkeeping team to prepare what was widely regarded as the best conditioned Open Venue of all time. His attention to detail, passion for the job and knowledge of links golf sets him apart; he will be a significant asset to the management team at Balmedie," said Ian McClements, of the STRI.

Paul has also advised on other international championship courses overseas, and has a golf handicap of 3.

Sheer Lunacy...

Daily Mail, Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Page 43

Now that's what you call a Flymo...



HEEARS! They'd take far too long. A ladder? No fun at all. In New Zealand, there is only one way to trim a 10ft hedge - with a crane and a ride-on lawnmower. The driver of the mower, who did not want to be named, admitted it was not the safest method of clipping off the winter growth

Mali Foreign Service from his private hedge in Cambridge, on the North Island. But he said it was all done as a bit of a joke, as he wanted to film the stunt and put it on the internet. In the end, he couldn't find a video camera

- but went ahead anyway with a crane and a mower that belonged to his friend. His wife arrived home during the operation, and was surprisingly pleased to see her husband perched over the hedge in mid-air. "I saw the crane first and thought 'great, the hedge is getting trimmed', but I didn't

realise this was what they were planning," she said. Luckily, it took her husband just 20 minutes to tidy the hedge. And his verdict: "The mower was doing an alright job, but I reckon it would work better on a hedge that's not so spiky." Unfortunately, he also broke his hand in the process, after falling off the crane.

This man would have fallen foul of the Health and Safety executive if it had been in this country. The Daily Mail featured this unusual attempt to cut a hedge.



THE GRASS GRABBER RANGE

THE NEW G6 MODEL

A more affordable equipment wash water system to bring you in line with current disposable groundwater regulations and save your club money now.

Product package includes - commissioning, delivery, installation & three years consumables



1) Take out grass, stones and balls

2) Take out oil, diesel, petrol and grease

3) Remove pesticides

Result? Clean Recycleable Water

• 30 day money back guarantee

Call Nick or Dave now to discuss your wash water system requirements on:

01925 758099

Or in the first instance visit:

www.grassgrabber.com



EAGLE

Eagle designs and delivers quality golf club collateral

t +44 (0)1883 344244
f +44 (0)1883 341777
e info@eagle.uk.com
www.eagle.uk.com



£4.95 each

Point of Play Tee Markers

Hardwood - Teknos finish

Galvanised steel pins

Faces any colour

Optional tee caddy version



£9.95 each

If there's anything from signage to seed boxes you want to discuss, call 01883 344244



CAMPEY MAN

Campey Turfcare Systems has appointed David Harrison as Export Sales Manager. David is already very well known in the industry through his long career with SISIS and brings a wealth of experience and global industry knowledge to his new post.

David will be responsible for developing further growth in sales throughout the European and world markets where Campey Turfcare Systems are currently operating, as well as introducing a whole range of products into new markets in the Middle East and Asia. His appointment is also an integral part of the extension of the Imants distributorship.

“We are at a very exciting stage in the expansion plans of the company and David will play a central part in that future strategy. There is a huge challenge ahead; one that he is extremely well qualified to take on,” said Richard Campey, Managing Director of Campey.

“His expertise, professionalism and dedication to the industry have been demonstrated throughout his association with the groundscare industry. We are extremely pleased that he has accepted this position and consider him a valuable and important asset to the team.”

David commented on his appointment “I am very excited to be joining the company at this time, and looking forward to the challenge of expanding the business in the export markets and establishing Campey Turfcare as a global name in the industry”.

London to Paris via Bicycle All for a Good Cause!



Mandy Caton, Sales Administrator at Campey Turf Care Systems, will face the biggest challenge of her life next Spring when she attempts to cycle from London to Paris to raise money for the Breast Cancer Campaign.

In just four days in May, she'll cover 300 miles in the company of 70 other riders.

“I'm terrified, but excited at

the same time, I know it'll be an unforgettable experience,” said Mandy, who has been with Campeys for seven years.

“It's a long way and I've never done anything like this before, but I'm determined to raise as much money as I can for the charity.

“I'm doing lots of preparation by cycling locally, going to spinning classes at the gym

and buying every sort of garment I can with gel in it!

“One of my good friends had breast cancer two years ago and is now in remission thankfully. It seems that most people you speak to know someone who has been affected by it in some way.”

To sponsor Mandy visit: www.justgiving.com/mandy-caton.



New Man for Aitkens

Aitkens Sportsturf has appointed Paul Emmanuel as an additional new technical representative for the Yorkshire area. Australian Paul has been a greenkeeper at Harrogate Golf Club for over six years and before that was a groundsman at two cricket clubs in the Harrogate area. He has been a regional finalist in the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year and has also won four titles in the Nidderdale Cricket League for best ground.

Paul's responsibilities will include extending Aitken's coverage to golf and sports clubs around Yorkshire.

“Paul will be a welcomed addition to our existing representatives to further improve our coverage and service to our customers,” said Richard Aitken, Commercial Director.