

TORO HAS THE WIDEST RANGE OF AERATION EQUIPMENT. THAT'S A BREATH OF FRESH AIR.

TORO

TORO is the manufacturer of some of the finest turfcare machinery in the world today. And now, with the recent addition of the ProCore SR Series, it is world leader in deep-tine aeration. TORO produces the widest range of aeration machinery in the industry and has a machine to suit all your aeration needs. Now, isn't that a breath of fresh air? Please contact us today for a free demonstration.

Call **01480 226800** or visit **www.toro.com**



TORO Commercial Products are distributed by Lely (UK) Limited, St Neots, Cambridgeshire PE19 1QH. Tel: 01480 226800 Email: toro.info.uk@lely.com www.lely.com www.toro.com



PROCORE SR54-S



PROCORE SR72



PROCORE 648



PROCORE 864



PROCORE 1298



partners in turfcare

WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR

BIGGA



President
Sir Michael Bonallack,
OBE

Board of Management
Chairman – Paul Worster
Vice Chairman
Andrew Mellon
Past Chairman
Peter Todd

Board Members

Chris Sealey, 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 and 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 833802
tom@bigga.co.uk



Advertising
Sales Executive
Kirstin Black

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.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



When you have finished with
this magazine please recycle it.

ISSN: 0961-6977
© 2010 British and International Golf
Greenkeepers Association Limited



A big opportunity for golf

By the time you read this the dust will have settled on the 37th Ryder Cup and either Colin Montgomerie or Corey Pavin will be lauded as a hero.

Weather and any other possible outside influences aside, the preparation work that Jim McKenzie and his Celtic Manor team, carried out in the years, months, weeks, days and hours prior to the Cup meant that no stone was left unturned in ensuring a successful week.

Putting that aside though, I would hope, and expect, that golf, and its overall profile will have come out of what is the third biggest sporting event on the planet - after the Olympics and the World Cup - on the up because the game is certainly in need of a boost.

It has come in for a real battering this year. Golf clubs are feeling the squeeze at the rank and file end while in the professional game Tiger Woods has been forced, by virtue of his performances both on and off the course, to hand over the crown of "Greatest Sportsman in the World" to Usain Bolt. Whether he will ever win it back is very much open to conjecture.

The perfect showcase of a thrill-packed Ryder Cup would do wonders for the game, whetting the appetite of occasional players to play more often; getting the juices flowing of young aspiring Rorys, Martins and Edoardos to take up the game, and, perhaps, cement the desire of nomad golfers into taking out a membership at a good local club and putting down some roots.

I keep coming back to the virtues of golf as a game and I am continually frustrated by the portrayal of it in certain quarters as a joke pastime, undertaken by checked trouser-wearing gin swilling old buffers.

Granted, the age profile of the game could be a little more youthful, and I do baulk at the garish colour combinations so beloved by Ian Poulter and his followers, but, in general, golf offers so much to those who take part.

At my club, it is great to see young boys and girls receiving coaching on a Saturday morning. They are all well presented, often wearing smart branded clothing (and no doubt badgering their parents for just the sort of Ian Poulter inspired clobber I so detest); well mannered and keen to learn.

And that's not just the ability to swing the club on a consistent plane and turn three shots into two around the green, it's the etiquette that teaches them how to conduct themselves in any company, and it any facet of their young lives.

Golf more than any other sport instils values into those people who play it and while we can't hide from the flaws, and should work hard to remove them, we must try and make sure that our positive pronouncements drown out the often snide comments of the critics.

Without wishing to tempt fate, having written this before the start of this year's Ryder Cup, I'd like to congratulate Jim McKenzie, his team and the many volunteer greenkeepers on a successful week.

Scott MacCallum
Editor

OCTOBER 2010

FEATURES



19 Living the dream

The 2010 Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year, Andrew Stanger, is a greenkeeper who is going places

22 The only way is up

Darren Child has a job on his hands at Hawkhurst Golf Club. But he is relishing the challenge

27 The anatomy of... a Charterhouse core collector

James de Havilland takes a close look at the Charterhouse core collector

31 Golf course drainage – short term pain, long term gain

David Shelton describes the drainage work that has assisted Loch Lomond Golf Club

34 Turf set to suffer serious withdrawal symptoms

Dr Terry Mabbett paints a picture of what to expect if chemicals continue to be removed from the shelves

40 Nature's cure

Sheriff Amenity's Graham Paul, offers you the chance of earning two BASIS points

41 Tin cup

Tim Webb looks at the evolution of the holecup





34



6



46

REGULARS

- 6 News Desk
- 13 Chairman's Column
- 14 GTC
- 15 L&D
- 16 Industry Update
- 17 What's Your Number?
- Shona Garner
- 44 Dealer of the Month – Major R. Owen Ltd
- 46 New Products
- 49 Around the Green
- 55 Chief Executive's Column
- 56 Membership
- 57 Diary of Events
- 58 In the shed
- 66 Soapbox
– Alan Birch



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

210 Mile Trip to Paris for Charity

Agronomist Bruce Jamieson and his 16 year-old daughter, Alice, completed their sponsored 210 mile four day cycle ride from Hartley Wintney early last month.

Bruce and Alice have so far raised over £1,600 for their local St John's Church, which is hoping to build a community centre.

"I would certainly do it again, but it was hard work. On the first two days we rode for 51 and 57 miles respectively but the third day was 94 miles, many of them uphill," said Bruce, who enjoyed the 10 mile final stint into Paris and the Eiffel Tower, behind a support vehicle.

The 44 people who completed the trip raised over £40,000 for the Church but contributions can still be made at

www.justgiving.com/Bruce-and-Alice-Jamieson



Man City Man Flies out to Italy



Barenbrug UK's Jayne Leyland recently took Manchester City FC's Grounds Manager, Roy Rigby, on a fact-finding visit to Italy to give him an insight into the latest research and developments in grass seed solutions for the sports turf industry.

Jayne and Roy journeyed to Landlab, in Quinto Vicentino, near Vicenza, where the independent turfgrass research centre is working on grass synergy and bio-diversity systems with Royal Barenbrug Group.

Roy and his team are charged with achieving the very best playing surfaces possible. As such, Roy is keen to use and trial cutting-edge seed solutions as a key part of his programme across the club's Eastlands stadium, Carrington training ground and Platt Lane academy sites.

And with Roy's expertise also in demand in the United Arab Emirates – where club owner Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan has asked him to advise on Abu Dhabi Football Club's pitches and his personal grounds – he found the Barenbrug trials being conducted at Landlab of particular interest and practical relevance.

"The level of investment at Manchester City means I am in the unique and privileged position of being able to actively seek out the latest sports turf solutions to trial and use at our grounds," said Roy.

"The Landlab visit was really useful – the water restitution and warm/cool season grasses trials will certainly benefit my work in Abu Dhabi. It's given me lots to think about in terms of uses back home too – first off, I plan to start an exciting trial with Jayne at one of our Manchester grounds next summer."

Roy Rigby, centre, with Landlab's Dr Adriano Altissimo and Barenbrug UK's Jayne Leyland on his recent trip to the Italian trials site



Victorious at Norrie Whytock

On Thursday, 19 August, we made our way to Auchterarder Golf Club for our annual Norrie Whytock Team event for the Sections in Scotland, hosted by Bayer.

Auchterarder Golf Club was in superb condition. Our congratulations to Archie Dunn and his staff for the presentation of the course. It was a pleasure to play.

On to the event itself. After last year's momentous win the Ayrshire Section were looking to retain the trophy but this was not to be. Due to the good weather, the scoring was the best we have seen for several years with some excellent scores being returned. In third place with 100

points was the West Section. In second with a great score of 104 was the Central Section team comprising Derek Scott, Scoonie GC; Andy O'Hara, Leven Links; Tom Adams and Charlie MacDonald, both Crieff GC.

However the winner, with a total of 105 Stableford points was the team from the East comprising Stuart Ferguson, Dundas Parks; George Oliver, Murrayfield GC; Alistair Holmes, Seahouses GC, and finally Scott Corrigan, Greenburn GC, who lead the way with a fine individual score of 40 points, the best of the day.

Winning Captain, Stuart Ferguson, thanked Bayer and Kenny Liddell, Scottish

representative, for their sponsorship and support. The Scottish Chairman, John Geddes, was also in attendance and endorsed Stuart's comments.

Our thanks once again, go to the Captain and Committee of Auchterarder GC for the courtesy and facilities. Thanks also to David Smith, Managing Secretary, for his assistance in organising the tournament.

We look forward to returning to Auchterarder Golf Club in 2011 and hope to see you there.

*Peter J. Boyd
Regional Administrator*

GIVE NATURE A HELPING HAND

Do you want to encourage more birds onto your course? Enhancing the natural look of your property could bring in golfers who are after more than just a good playing experience.

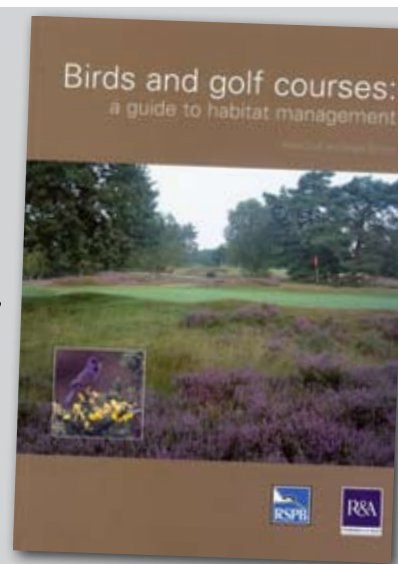
The R&A and RSPB joint publication, "Birds and golf courses: a guide to habitat management", can help you do just that. Its 80 lavishly illustrated pages contain a wealth of guidance on managing habitat for birds and other wildlife. Links, heathland, grassland, downland and parkland courses are all covered, with advice on woodland, hedgerow, scrub and wetland management for birds.

The book was written by Keith Duff, retired Chief Scientist at English Nature,

(and an advisory member of The R&A's Golf Course Committee) and Nigel Symes, habitat management specialist at RSPB.

Peter Dawson, Chief Executive of the R&A, expressed his delight in working closely with the RSPB on this publication. "I encourage all golf clubs to think about how they can put this guidance into practice on their property."

Golf courses, if managed sympathetically, can provide a safe haven for some species of birds that were once widespread but that have declined rapidly in recent years. The R&A and its Open venues are playing their part by, for example, managing grassland rough to encourage ground nesting birds such as the Birds of Conservation Concern Red Listed skylark.



The Course Care Cup

A popular annual event took place recently at Highcliffe Castle Golf Club. This was the 13th time that the Wessex Secretaries met the South Coast Greenkeepers to take part in this close fought contest sponsored by Course Care.

With honours even before this particular event much was at stake but, on a beautifully sunny day, the greenkeepers were successful (3½ to 1½) and presented with the trophy.

Here we see Kevan Glass, Course Manager at Brokenhurst Manor Golf Club, receiving the cup from Course Care's Managing Director David Mears.



Kevan Glass as he receives Course Care Cup from David Mears.



Derek Markham presents his history of West Surrey Golf Club to the Library

Golf Club Histories at the EIGCA Library

The EIGCA has been actively searching out the publications of golf clubs over 100 years old for the past five years for its library. These provide a valuable insight into the early years of golf and the work of pioneers such as Harry Colt, James Braid and Alister Mackenzie. This part of the collection now stands at over 400 volumes. For clubs embarking on their own history, it is a useful starting point as there is a great variety in the form and content of these books.

The 19th century was a period of extreme change throughout Europe as we moved from a rural society to an urban one. By the end of this period there emerged a new leisured class of people with money to spend. Now, golf had been played for many centuries before that but the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th saw a growth of interest in the game never seen before or since. Over 500 golf clubs were established in England alone during that period and 300 in Scotland.

The EIGCA is interested in the beginnings of these clubs. Many of them are considering renovation work to coincide with their centenary celebrations and are looking at the original layouts and their designers for information.

Based on the library of the British Institute of Golf Course Architects, and substantially augmented since, initially with a grant from the R&A, the EIGCA Library collection contains the writings of many of the great masters in the field, such as Harry Colt, H N Wethered, George Thomas, as well as the works of more modern gurus like Geoff Shackelford, Robert Muir Graves and Michael Hurdzan. We have facsimile copies of many books published in the first part of the 20th century, such as *The Links* by Robert Hunter and Bernard Darwin's *Green Memories*. There are guides to courses throughout the world and many works exploring the environmental impact of golf. And we have practical guides to irrigation and greenkeeping which detail the techniques available to the industry today.

The club histories are listed in the Library's catalogue which can be viewed on the Institute's web site at www.eigca.org/library.php. Non-members may borrow our books for a small fee, and are welcome to visit and view the collection. Please email me on librarian@eigca.org.

*Sue Stranger, Librarian
European Institute of Golf Course Architects.*



CHELSEA SHOW OFF NEW STAR SIGNING

Having finished top of the Premier League last season, all eyes are on Chelsea now the new season is underway. And to keep Stamford Bridge in perfect playing condition, the stadium's Assistant Head Groundsman, Kevin Fowler, knew just what the club needed – a Toro ProCore 648 pedestrian aerator.

"I've actually been wanting this machine for years," Kevin says of the club's latest signing. "I've demoed it alongside other aerators, but it was just a matter of convincing my boss! I'm very pleased we've got it as it's a good machine that does exactly what it says on the tin."



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

Don't waste this opportunity!

Old waste bins really let down your course's presentation. Eagle manufactures a great looking bin that can turn a wasted opportunity into tee furniture that will enhance your course.



Kubota



Jim Mackenzie
Director of Golf,
Celtic Manor Resort

“With high expectations, it’s vitally important that we have the right machinery to get the work done.”

M8540 | Tractor

As Director of Golf, Jim is responsible for the course development of the 2010 Welsh Open/Ryder Cup Championships. With a requirement for heavy duty drainage and dressing work, Jim consulted his local Kubota dealer. “Chris Hopkins at Ted Hopkins Ltd reviewed our requirements and recommended the Kubota M8540.”

With 30 dedicated full time ground staff, Jim’s team are hard at work getting the course completed on time. The M8540 has already completed

all major drainage works and has been used to top dress over 9000 hectares. The tractor is currently being used to prepare the ground for the building of the hospitality village.

“We get no marking on the ground even when pulling 2-4 tonnes of sand.”

Find your local dealer or book a test drive today: www.kubota.co.uk UK 0800 023 1111 | ROI 1 800 848 000 | sales@kubota.co.uk

Kubota (U.K.) Limited, Dormer Road, Thame, Oxfordshire. OX9 3UN



Wiedenmann UK Hosts Series of Open Days



From Kerry to Kent, and from seven regional airports, Wiedenmann UK welcomed over 130 dealer representatives and prospective customers to a series of three demonstration days recently.

A total of 25 machines from its fleet of turf and ground care equipment were available for testing at Wiedenmann's show field, next to its Glasgow Airport HQ.

With eight Terra Spikes lined up side by side, visitors were able to appreciate first hand how continuous product differentiation and R&D investment has enabled Wiedenmann to develop patented technology to deep aerate and decompact turf.

David Rae, Wiedenmann UK's Managing Director, told the audience:

"We are known for our Terra

Spikes aerators but increasingly customers are discovering our range of mowers, collectors, conditioning and commercial machinery.

"This is your chance to get behind the controls and see everything up close."

Photograph shows one of eight groups at Wiedenmann's series of Open Days.



New Chief Executive for Links Trust

Euan Loudon, 54, who is currently Chief Executive of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, will take up the role of Chief Executive of the St Andrews Links Trust, early next year. The Trust manages and maintains the seven public golf courses in St Andrews including the Old Course and The Castle Course.

A former assistant professional golfer, he joined the army in 1974 and quickly rose through the officer ranks. He commanded the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers and in his final appointment, in the rank of Major General, he was General Officer Commanding the Army's 2nd Division and Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

In 1991, he was awarded the OBE for operational service in the Gulf as the Chief of Staff of The Desert Rats. In 2004 he was appointed CBE for operational service in Northern Ireland.

Euan said, "I feel privileged to have been appointed to such a high profile position. St Andrews Links is recognised as one of the world's finest golfing destinations and I look forward to developing that reputation even further in the years ahead."

DUKES OF SCOTLAND HUMBLE ABOUT THE CRUMBALL VICTORY



Charterhouse Turf Machinery proved that its strong presence and longevity extend way beyond the groundcare sector when two members of the company won this year's Crumball Rally in Europe.

Dressed in kilts and driving their very own version of the famous Dukes of Hazard's 'General Lee', Richard Heywood and Curtis Allen, along with their friends, Steven McGill and Darren Ayling, blazed a trail from Boulogne to Monte Carlo via Strasbourg and Lake Como, finishing off in Nice.

However, there was more to the rally than a once-in-a-lifetime driving experience, the 'Dukes of Scotland' raised £4500 for The Scottish Society for Autism. The cash will be used to help children and teenagers at The Clippens School in Paisley who have special educational needs.