

CONTENTS



PRESIDENT

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Whitelaw,
C.H., M.C.

BIGGA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman: Ivor Scoones
Vice Chairman: George Malcolm
Committee: Dennis Archer, John
Crawford, Barry Heaney, Roy Kates,
Harry Diamond, John Millen,
Cive Osgood, Paddy McCarron

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Neil Thomas, B.A.

EDUCATION OFFICER

David Golding

GREENKEEPING MANAGEMENT

Publishing Director: Barry Poole
Editor: Mike McClellan
Sales Director: Bill Lynch
Advertising Sales Executive:
Carol Dutton
Tel. 091 496 0003. Fax: 091 496
0004

Contributors: Jack McMillan, Michael
Williams, Peter Dobreiner, John
Nelson, John Shildrick, Harold
Swash

Picture Contributor: Alan Birch

Typesetting: Metroset, Newcastle

Printing: CWS Ltd, Gateshead

Greenkeeping Management is published monthly by the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association at Spencer House, Market Lane, Swalwell, Tyne & Wear NE16 3DS. Tel. 091 496 0003. Editorial opinions expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of B.I.G.G.A. and the Association does not accept responsibility for the advertising content or for the accuracy of product information or descriptions. Manuscripts, artwork and photographs are submitted at the senders risk; please enclose a self-addressed envelope when requesting return of material. Reproduction in whole or in part of any portion of the magazine without written consent of B.I.G.G.A. is prohibited. Single copy named person circulation is by subscription at £21.95 a year (UK only) and £32.25 (Europe/Eire) and by free controlled distribution to B.I.G.G.A. members, golf clubs in the UK and Europe, local authorities, business interests, libraries and Central Government.

Subscriptions, address changes, advertising, manuscripts, news, trade information, photographs and letters for publication should be sent to the above address.

Cover Picture: Our front cover picture shows a group of delegates against the imposing backdrop of the Egham venue for B.I.G.G.A.'s National Conference. See inside for a major photo special feature of the Conference.

ABC Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.
Circulation July 1 1989 to
December 31 1989
8,864

© 1990 by The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.

ISSN 0956-4519

In my view . . .

WITH
EDITOR
MIKE
McCLENNAN



COMING into a new and exciting post in a thriving industry, has already proven a revelation to me. In this, my first editorial for Greenkeeping management I would like to set out my aims and objectives to you, the members.

First and foremost, Greenkeeping Management is **your** magazine – it's a point I cannot emphasise strongly enough.

Without members' kind help and support a fair and accurate reflection of views cannot be given. So put pen to paper or pick up the telephone and **COMMUNICATE**.

I'll always be keen to talk and take on board all the major issues affecting greenkeepers today. I know from my relatively short time in the post just how many factors influence members lives. There are pluses and minuses in all jobs and I intend to highlight both in the months ahead, which brings me to my second point.

I see the magazine as playing a vital campaigning role. There are many anomalies and much injustice in the way members are treated and regarded within the industry.

Attitude and conditions need to change and change fast. Some clubs must be dragged, kicking and screaming if necessary into the twentieth century and made to adopt a more professional approach to their treatment of greenkeeping staff.

This has to be reflected across the board. In conditions of work, training, resources but perhaps above all in **PAY**.

I find it hard to believe how clubs can expect staff to survive on the miserable pittance many serve up.

It is a tribute to your dedication and professionalism that the standard of golf courses in this country is so high. Overplaying is a serious problem which must be addressed if our courses are not to be permanently destroyed by the insistence of members on using facilities to excess. Greenkeeping Management is determined to lead the battle on contentious issues. But extra ammunition is so vital. You the members can provide it – get in touch.

Working together we can change things for the better. Happy mowing!

P.S. I have had several complaints about members not receiving their copy of Greenkeeping Management. Obviously this is unacceptable and I am looking at our distribution service to see if the fault lies with us. However I would ask anyone, not receiving their magazine to contact their local post office and complain. The more complaints received the less likely the post office is to ignore grievances.

CONTENTS

7
HEAD OFFICE

10 to 19
SPOTLIGHT ON IRRIGATION

20
MOVEMENTS AND
MURMURINGS

21 to 24
AROUND THE GREEN

26
PRODUCT FOCUS

30
FOCUS ON EARTHWORMS

31 to 35
EDUCATION

36
LETTERS

37
SHORTS OF WHITBURN
FEATURE

42
WESTURF '90

45
THE PUTTING GREEN

54
CLOSE UP ON EGHAM
CONFERENCE



Greenkeeping Management is the official publication of The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF. Tel: 03473 581/2