

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NSW BOWLING GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION



THE BOWLING GREENKEEPER

JULY 2017

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NSWBGA success at Federation Week 2017



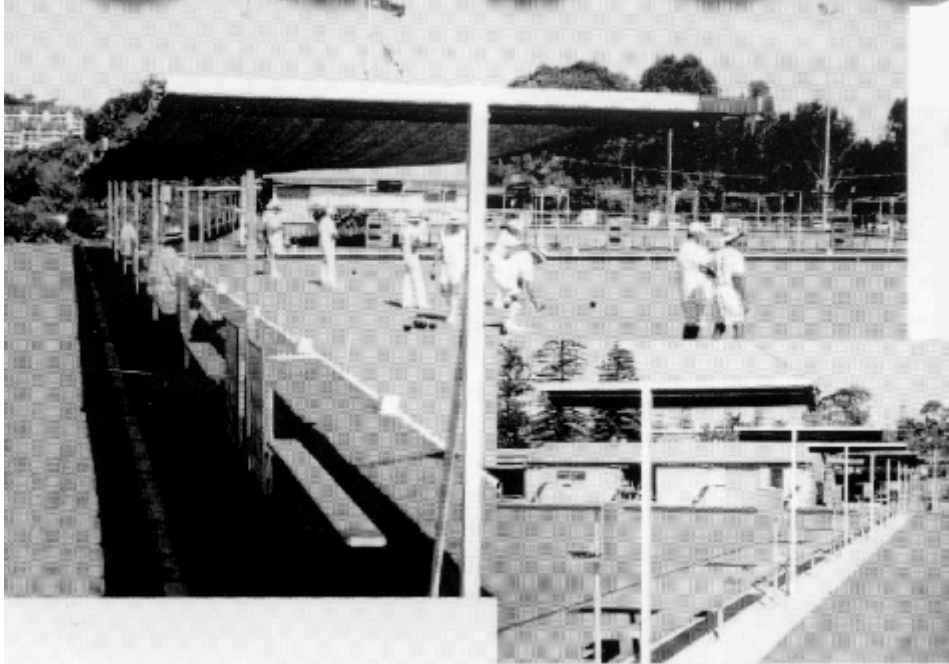
Our Federation finalists bowled over the competition in Melbourne: From left Pairs finalists Mick Woods and Nick Hancott; Singles Champion Peter Watts; and Fours Champs Martin Gosper, Mark Bateman, Mark Wilcher and Pat Chorley.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

The Importance of Programming with Albie Leggett
Ballina to host 2018/19 State Championships
News from the ACT, Mid North Coast and Northern Rivers
Reps' Reports

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Rep's Reports

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Unfortunately since my last report I have attended the funeral of George Wilson and Brian Constable.

Brian passed away at a relatively young age from complications of Parkinson's disease. He retired from Wiseman's Park Bowling

Club approximately 12 months prior.

Brian was a popular member of the greenkeeping fraternity in the 'Gong for many years, good greenie, good bowler and a good fella. I only saw Brian two weeks before his passing and he seemed good with his dry sense of humour still with him. There was a big contingent of club members and greenkeepers at his funeral. Condolences to Brian's family and friends. He will be missed.

George Wilson's funeral was a few days after Brian's in February and nine greenkeeping friends of George made the trip to Queensland from Sydney. I would like to thank our Association for supplying the minibus for us to get around on the day. Also Simon Cooper did a great job organising it and driving us around. George was a very good greenie and a great bloke, former President of the Association and Life Member.

People who knew George would attest to his sense of humour and his passion for the greenkeeping industry. He certainly helped a lot of our members over many years. Condolences to George's Family and friends. He will be sadly missed.

On a not much brighter note, two more bowling clubs have closed in June. Hurlstone Park Bowling Club and my old club, Panania, renamed Revesby Workers Sports Club when the Worker's took us over in 1987. I spent my last 15 years of greenkeeping at Panania before starting my sales career.

It has brought back some good memories and sadness with its closing. This led me to redoing a list of bowling clubs that have closed in the 25 years I have been on the road. I'm now up to 80 clubs. Bloody scary and sad to think of all these venues gone.

On a brighter note, Pat Heffernan from Fairy Meadow Bowling Club in the Illawarra has retired in early July after many, many years there. Pat took over from his dad, Alan, who was the greenkeeper there for many years also, the end of an era. I wish Pat all the best in retirement and hope that he enjoys the next stage in his life. Congratulations to Corey, the former assistant at Wollongong RSL on getting the position as head greenkeeper at Fairy Meadow and I wish him every success.

Bruce Kirkaldy from Revesby Worker's has also retired in early July. Bruce was at Revesby Bowling Club for many years when I was at Panania and when the Workers took over his club some years ago, Bruce was then in charge of Revesby and Revesby Workers Sports. Bruce has done a great job over the years and I know he is looking forward to this new chapter of his life. We wish Bruce all the best and also hope he enjoys the future.

I wish Craig, Bruce's assistant, all the best on his promotion to head greenkeeper and am sure he will do a good job.

Editor's Note: A full Vale for Life Member George Wilson will be included in an upcoming edition of The Bowling Greenkeeper.

Impact of TriCure AD® soil surfactant on moisture wicking

Research Objective: Assess the ability of commercially available soil surfactants in solution to overcome combined forces of soil hydrophobicity and gravity. Wicking capability reflects a surfactant's ability to move water upward and into hard-to-reach areas within the soil.

Research Site: Rutgers University

Principle Investigator:

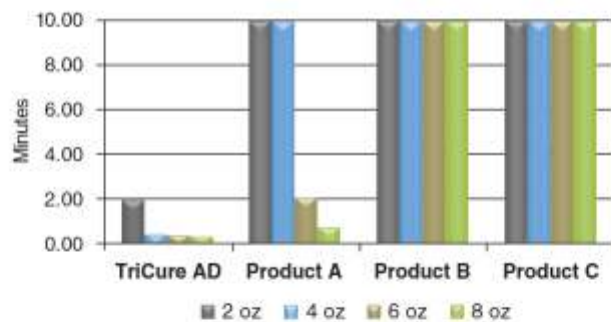
Dr. James Murphy

Study Parameters: Open-bottomed columns of hydrophobic soil were placed in solutions of water and surfactant and observed for ability to wick moisture upward to a 3-cm height.

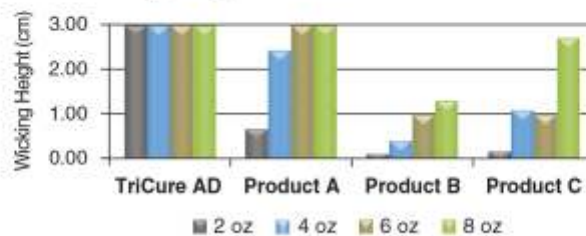
Data Collection: Time required for the wetting front to reach the 3-cm line on the tube was recorded, along with the distance the wetting front travelled when a surfactant solution did not reach the 3-cm line.

Results: TriCure AD was the only product tested able to fully wet the soil to a 3-cm height at all concentrations tested. Faster and higher wicking indicates greater potential for better wetting into those hard-to-wet areas of the soil such as slopes and compacted soils.

Time Required for Surfactant Solutions to Reach a 3-cm Height



Capillary Rise of Surfactant Solutions in Hydrophobic Soil Columns



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CRAIG CAMPBELL
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Hi all, it has been some time since my last Rep's Report. I hope that all NSW Greenkeepers are doing well! This is a timely report because I would like to make NSW Bowling Greenkeepers aware that there is a brand new chemical which will be available for Spring Dead Spot and a number of other diseases. The product is VELISTA Turf Fungicide from Syngenta.

Included on the label which should be of interest are a number of other diseases, including but NOT limited to:

- Brown Patch
- Dollar Spot
- Curvularia Leaf Spot - Helminthosporium Disease - (Bipolaris spp, Dreschlera spp, Exserohilum spp.)
- And as previously mentioned – Spring Dead Spot

Velista is a broad spectrum fungicide which can be used all year round. Velista contains a new active ingredient, Penthiopyrad. This is a broad spectrum mode of action GROUP 7. Importantly, Velista does not exhibit any growth retardant properties to turf grass.

Spring Dead Spot Treatments

Applications of Velista for root diseases such as Spring Dead Spot should be watered into the rootzone. Root applications should be accompanied with a soil penetrant such as Hydrolink Rapid. Velista has both curative and preventative properties.

Always refer to the registered label for full details and instructions for use. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

SUPERGRASSE

DITCH WALLS: Protects coloured bowls

With the ever increasing popularity of coloured bowls together with their cost, clubs need to be aware of their responsibility to protect their members bowls. Using a soft long pile (19 mm) the product gives a cushion effect and will not show ding marks as a result of hard drives. The Supergrasse ditch walls gives a natural turf appearance without the maintenance and ensures bowl protection. We can supply only or do the whole job for you. There is a 5 year manufacturer's warranty.

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2018/19 Championships

Ballina NSW



NSW Bowling
Greenkeepers
Association.



Ballina RSL Club



Ballina RSL Club are proud hosts for the next two years of the NSWBGA championships and we welcome everyone to come and enjoy our beautiful part of the Northern Rivers.

Ballina RSL Bowling Club is lucky to have the financial backing of our parent club the Ballina RSL Club. Both venues will be utilized in May 2018/19. The Bowling Club is primarily a bowling facility although there is a strong social atmosphere among the local punters. The original green was out the front of the existing clubhouse in River Street but in the early-mid 1980's Ballina RSL Club purchased land (1.8 ha) on Canal Rd Ballina for a new facility to cater for the growing sport and local membership and the new Ballina RSL Bowling Club was opened in 1986.

The main club is in River st Ballina (venues are 1.9 km apart or 4min drive) and is set on the majestic Richmond river right in the heart of town.

Ballina RSL Club is one of the most successful clubs in Northern NSW and recently finished a major renovation of the River St complex, maximising the stunning views down the mighty Richmond River. The Club boasts all the modern trimmings needed for a good time.

Both clubs are situated close to many motels and my best advice would be to stay in town or between both clubs.... we will be supplying a courtesy bus which will be doing the loop on a regular basis for ease of getting about town during the week.

Ballina is serviced by the Ballina /Byron Gateway Airport a one hour flight from Sydney and Newcastle and you can get anywhere in Ballina within 10 minutes from the airport. Otherwise its an 8 hour drive from Sydney up the Pacific Highway.

Over the page is a map showing the whereabouts of both clubs, also accommodations and pricing/ratings for those accommodation options.

Hopefully I've wet the whistle so to speak and we get a strong field.

For those who have never experienced the fun times and good competition that takes place during NSWBGA Championship week, I can say from my recent experiences in South West Rocks and Melbourne during Federation week the bonds made are real and the opportunity to kick it amongst the brotherhood of Greenkeepers for a few days regardless of your bowling ability is reward enough. You will have a great time.... Guaranteed!!

No doubt you will be hearing more about the event in future reports/magazines but if anyone has questions about accommodation or the venues check the web sites : ballinarsl.com.au or discoverballina.com or you can call me 0488131364 if you want some local advice.

Cheers

Duncan Elphick



ballina rsl
bowling club



Local Accommodation

hotels, motels and resorts

To check availability and prices or make a booking visit www.discoverballina.com

PROPERTY NAME & ADDRESS	PHONE	CHAIN	INDICATIVE TARIFF
BALLINA			
Almare Tourist Motel, 339 River Street	6686 2873		From \$75
Avlon Gardens Motel, 16 Bangalow Road	6686 4044		From \$105
Ballina Byron Motor Inn, 329 River Street	6686 8366		From \$85
Ballina Island Motor Inn Cnr Ronan Place and River Street	6686 8866	Best Western	From \$110
Ballina Manor Boutique Hotel 37 Norton Street	6681 5868		From \$139
Ballina Palms Boutique Motel Cnr Bentinck & Owen Streets	6686 4477		From \$120
Ballina Travellers Lodge, 36-38 Tamar Street	6686 6737		From \$115
Chaparral Motel, 486 River Street	6686 3399		From \$85
Coast Inn Motel, 311 River Street	6686 3300		From \$85
Ballina Colonial Motel, 9 Bangalow Road	6686 7691		From \$110
Comfort Inn All Seasons, 301 River Street	6686 2922	Choice Hotels	From \$110
Fun 'n' Sun Motel, 471 River Street	6686 3982		From \$85
Ballina Heritage Inn, 229 River Street	6686 0505		From \$130
Hi Craft Motel, 297 River Street	6686 8868		From \$85
Ballina Homestead Cnr Fox and Cherry Streets	6686 3333		From \$89
Quality Hotel Ballina, Compton Drive	6686 8888		From \$155
Ramada Hotel & Suites, Martin Street	6618 1000		From \$165
Richmond Motor Inn 227 River Street	6686 9100	Golden Chain	From \$120
Riverside Holiday Apartments, 35 Fawcett St	6681 9200		From \$170
Slipway Hotel/Motel 56 River Street	6686 2135		From \$79
ALSTONVILLE & THE HINTERLAND			
Alstonville Settlers Motel 188 Ballina Road, Alstonville	6628 5285		From \$100
Arrabella Garden Inn 1 Smith Lane, Wollongbar	6628 5686		From \$135
LENNOX HEAD			
Lennox Beach Resort, 7 Park Lane	6618 0000		From \$159
Santa-Fe Motel, 8 Byron Street	6687 7788		From \$120

self-contained accommodation

PROPERTY NAME & ADDRESS	PHONE	INDICATIVE TARRIF (min nights in brackets)
BALLINA		
Angels Beach Lodge, 3 Sea Swallow Pl, East Ballina	6686 5253 0405 302 719	From \$145 inc bfast (2)
Ballina Homestead, Cnr Fox & Cherry Streets	6686 3333	From \$125 (1)
By The River & Town, 2/24 Tamar St	0408 233 586	From \$152 (2)
Beachcomber Sea Cottage, 16 Survia St	0408 233 586	From \$169 (2)
Carol's Cozy Corner, 1/10 Burnet St	0416 073 633	From \$120 (3)
Central Ballina Executive Apartment, U 621 Ramada Complex	0414 315 575	From \$145 (3)
Fun 'n' Sun Motel, 471 River St	6686 3982	From \$85
Grandview Apartments, Grandview St	6686 6999	From \$160 (2)
Leisure-Lee Holiday Units, 6 Easton Place	6686 2426	From \$115 (1)
MacNicol Cottage, 6a Burnet St	6686 2758	From \$160 (2)
Ramada Hotel & Suites, 2 Martin St	6618 1000	From \$165
Riverside Holiday Apartments, 35 Fawcett St	6681 9200	From \$220 (1)
Villa Riviera, 3/1 Henry Phip Ave	0413 752 255	From \$215 (2)
LENNOX HEAD		
Absolute Beach Front Apartments 77 Ballina Street Lennox Head	6687 5521 0467 677 672	Weekly from \$620 From \$160 per night
Allez Pacific Rose 2/4 Pinnacle Row	0431 915 809	From \$750 (3 night min)
Lennox Beach Resort, 7 Park Lane	6618 0000	From \$165
Lennox Beachfront Escape, Unit 4T, 77 Ballina Street	6687 7579	From \$175
Lakesong in Lennox Head, Stewart St	66190226	From \$240 (2 night min)
Lennox Holiday Apartments, 20-21 Pacific Parade	6687 5900	From \$190
Sanbah, 16 Kaymer Lane, Lennox Head	6685 3844	From \$250
Santa Fe Motel & Holiday Units, 8 Byron Street, Lennox Head	6687 7788	From \$125 - 2 BR Unit From \$215
Waves Lennox Head, 9092 Ballina Street	6687 4399	From \$180 - \$300
ALSTONVILLE & THE HINTERLAND		
Alstonville Country Cottages, 7 Alstonville Cemetery Rd	6628 1686	From \$140 (2)
Jemima's Guesthouse, 13 Jorgensens Lane, Brooklet	0427 176 793	From \$250 (2)
Killen Falls Hinterland House, 10 Killen Drive, Tintenbar	0413 358 484	From \$395 (4)
Pines on the Plateau, 7 Converys Lane, Wollongbar	6628 1319	From \$175 (2 - breakfast hamper on 1 st night)
Samsara Studio, 42 Majors Lane, Fernleigh	6687 8585	From \$185 (2)
Tallaringa Views, 1344 Etham Road, Alstonville	6628 5005	From \$175 (7) - \$230 (1)

caravan, tent & holiday parks

PROPERTY NAME & ADDRESS	PHONE	CHAIN	TARRIF RANGE			
			SITES		CABINS	
			UN-POWERED	POWERED	BASIC	DELUXE
Ballina Gardens 126 Tamarind Drive, Ballina	6686 2475		All powered	From \$30	From \$80	From \$60
Ballina Headlands Skenners Head Rd, Skenners Hd	6687 7450	BIG4	N/A	From \$37	From \$100	From \$120
Ballina Lakeside Fenwick Drive, East Ballina	6686 3953	Discovery Parks	N/A	From \$36	From \$99	From \$139
Ballina Waterfront Village 585 River Street, Ballina	6686 2984		N/A	From \$33	From \$90	N/A
Dolphin Bay Beach Village 440 South Ballina Beach Rd, South Ballina	6686 3347		From \$30	From \$40	From \$70	From \$150
Dunes on Shelly 70 Shelly Beach Rd, East Ballina	6686 9014		From \$19pp	N/A	Dorm Room From \$20pp	\$8 linen hire
Flat Rock Tent Park 38 Flat Rock Road, East Ballina	6686 4948		\$33 - \$42 Backpacker rates available	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Coast Holiday Parks Ballina Central River Street, Ballina	6686 2220	North Coast Holiday Parks	All powered	From \$36	From \$89	From \$114
North Coast Holiday Parks Lennox Head Pacific Parade, Lennox Head	6687 7249	North Coast Holiday Parks	From \$33	From \$38	From \$95	Emuette from \$118
North Coast Holiday Parks Shaws Bay 1 Brighton Street, East Ballina	6686 2326	North Coast Holiday Parks	From \$35	From \$37	From \$120	From \$175
Sandlawood 978 Pariko Road, Warial	6683 4221		From \$22	From \$25	From \$65	From \$79



Australian Bowling Greenkeepers Federation Week 2017

By Warren Maynard, Secretary
Victorian Greenkeepers Association

It felt like yesterday the Australian Bowling Greenkeepers Federation celebrated its conference week in Canberra in 2014, but the three years went quickly and now it was Melbourne's turn to hold this prestigious event.

Autumn, for me the best season in Victoria, was the time of the year Fed Week would hit Melbourne for five days where greenkeepers from across four states would converge on the best city in the world.

Over 100 people from Victoria, NSW, South Australia and Queensland come together for a week of educational seminars, machinery displays, sports tours and competitive but fun bowls. (The partners attending also enjoyed a fun program, as seen below.)

Day one was held at the oldest bowling club in Australia, Melbourne BC. Today was about meeting up with colleagues that we hadn't seen in three years and playing a few games of bowls. The cooler weather and the beautiful but heavy bent grass greens took the guys from the northern states by surprise but they soon adjusted and day one of Fed Week was a great way to kick start the week.

Day two we headed north to Moonee Ponds BC, set in the beautiful Queens Park. The day kicked off with an informative presentation from Syngenta.

From there we hit the greens again for some more bowls and enjoyed playing on very nice tiffwarf greens.

Day three started bright and early at the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). The buses pulled up out the front and the tour started with Tony Gordon (Arena's Operations Manager) taking the group on a tour of the drop in pitches followed by a walk across the arena and a look around the facilities.

From the mighty MCG we walked across the bridge to visit the home of the Collingwood Magpies, the Holden Centre. Former player and footy legend Anthony Rocca lead the group around the state of the art facility and chatted about everything that goes on with the Magpies and their training.

From here it was back on the bus and a trip over the West Gate Bridge to the big successful club of Altona BC. We sat for lunch and a presentation again from Syngenta before the group hit the tiff greens for an arvo of bowls that was interrupted slightly by light rain. After dinner it was jackets on for the very chilly night test match.

Pictured: The NSWBGA Greenies; Melbourne Bowling Club and the Partners Program.



Day four we headed down Bridge Road to the inner eastern club of Richmond Union. The morning was started with a presentation from Turf Culture followed by Ground Science. After some informative talks we hit the greens for a day of bowls before the busses picked the group up before dinner to allow everyone time to get ready for the nights activities, the Yarra River Cruise.

The cruise was a highlight of the week for some as the three hour cruise took us up Melbourne's iconic Yarra River. It was the perfect opportunity to mingle and talk to everyone in a relaxed social environment while enjoying nice food and drink.

The final day of the week was held at the Melbourne Cricket Club Bowls Section in Hawthorn. This day was the trade day with all our sponsors setting up displays around the club with some machinery demonstrations after lunch.

We also had presentations from Colin Campbell Chemicals and Rainbird before we hit the greens for the final matches of the week.

The day was wrapped mid-arvo so we could get ready for the final activity on the Fed Week calendar, the Presentation night.

Pictured: Social events including the Partners Program and Yarra River Cruise.



The night was held at Etihad Stadium, the second main football arena in Melbourne. We kicked off with pre dinner drinks on the boundary line of the oval, with a photo slideshow on the stadium's large scoreboard screens.

Then it was up to the room for speeches from all the state presidents and finally all the winners of the bowls games were presented with their awards.

Congratulations to all the Championship winners, including NSWBGA Singles winner Peter Watts, and Fours champs Martin Gosper, Mark Bateman, Mark Wilcher and Pat Chorley.

Congratulations also to South Australia for making it a threepeat in the Test Series.

The night was a great way to reflect on the week, let our hair down and say our goodbyes to fellow greenkeepers and friends from across Australia. The week was amazing, the weather was perfect, the clubs presented well and everyone had a ball with high accolades going to the Vic boys for such a well organised and successful event.

We now look forward to 2020 where we hit the Gold Coast for a week that we all love and can't wait to be involved with once again.

Pictured: Conference presentations, Bowls champions and MCG Turf Tour. For more pics visit the NSWBGA website at nswbga.com.au



The Importance of Programming with Albie Leggett M. Agr

The very definition of a programme is defined as a list of procedures, tasks or activities to be completed. It has often been said that failing to plan is planning to fail. This can be the case when one ends up simply chasing his tail in order to manage turf year in year out. It is of course important to be flexible when managing your greens as they are after all a living thing. However; having a basic “road map” will help keep you on track and focussed on the important things along the way.

There are any number of things that a turf manager can programme and prepare for and these can include any of the following list and more should one be so inclined.

- Club sporting calendar
- Soil Chemical testing (soil tests)
- Irrigation water testing
- Turf Renovations
- Nutritional applications
- Irrigation applications
- Mowing and rolling
- Ditch, Banks and facility maintenance
- Pesticide applications
- Staff Leave
- Budgeting and expenditure

In truth, there is probably no end to the number of lists and items that you could theoretically plan for, it really comes down to what level will work most effectively in your situation. Equally as important as it is to have good planning you can (in my opinion) also go overboard and have too much planning. Finding the balance is what is important. Plans or programmes should never make your job harder, if they do then you are probably over complicating it and turning it into something that it ought not to be. So, what should a programme be? Well, it should be clear, logical and simple to understand and follow. It should fit in with fixed and or important events and deadlines that cannot be moved and it should be relevant to what your overall goals or outcomes need to be. Now is probably a good time to mention that Programming and record keeping often go hand in hand, as building a programme in order to manage problems before they become an issue will be harder to do accurately without historical information to provide the basic framework.

Programming should be done in order to help with planning the timing, preparation and budgeting of

events such as chemical applications and turf renovations etcetera well in advance of the scheduled event; minimising last minute running around for the big and important things required for each event. It is often a good idea to draw up a 12 month programme on a large white board and fasten it to a wall in your maintenance facility so that it can be read clearly at a glance.

When developing a programme, the first items or events to place in it should be the fixed events. These are things like the sporting schedule of events that have been determined by the club on certain days also known as fixtures.

Next spring and autumn turf renovations can be added at times when they will not affect sporting fixtures. General maintenance, fertility and pesticides can then be added to the programme. When adding fertility and pesticide applications, one needs to consider Influencing factors such as historical rainfall, temperatures and favourable conditions for pests as well as records of past insect and fungal outbreaks if known. A well planned and timed fertiliser or pesticide application can end up being a much more environmentally responsible action than making several curative or catch up applications.

When is the best time to spend time developing a management programme?

During winter is often a good time to develop a management programme when the growth of the turf has slowed down somewhat and the turf manager has a little bit of time on his hands. There are two ways to develop a plan and this can often depend upon how your club operates, some prefer to work to a financial year (July 1st – June 30th) and some prefer to work on a calendar year (1st January – 31st December). Whether a financial or calendar year is used really depends on what is easier for your situation.

So to put it all together, a well thought out programme will ensure that you can plan effectively for a whole range of events as well as maintenance practices. It will help to manage how many inputs and when those inputs should be made. It will help you to keep better track of your budget expenditure and allow you to be more in control of your turf. If you have not already developed, a turf management programme, then now might just be the right time to do so. Good luck as you prepare for the coming spring season.

Around the Associations Northern Rivers with Duncan Elphick

A season of extremes has seemingly settled down to a more normal weather pattern for now. Like almost everyone, we also struggled with the abrupt end to the dry summer then had to cope with flooding rains and persistent showers throughout autumn. Thankfully we have had a dry couple of weeks back to back, allowing a lot of us to finish the autumn nicely...pew!

At our most recent get together held at Lismore Heights host Greenkeeper Josh Greenhalgh reported he escaped the flood waters of April. But he is still dealing with quite a challenging environment, treating Earth Pearl infestations on all three surfaces and with the recent history of the facility (being closed for a couple of years) very few if any treatments of any type were applied to the surfaces over that closure period. Apart from the loss of uniformity from affected areas, the two greens in play are holding up reasonably well.

John Sheehan at Lismore City suffered waist height flood water over both greens after ex tropical cyclone Debbie dumped 900mm in parts of the catchment around Lismore and Tweed river systems. Luckily, the majority of the century old clubhouse survived reasonably unaffected by flooding.

Flood debris and silt took around two weeks to clean up with the constant light showers proving problematic when dealing with the difficult clean up. Apparently Earth Pearl can survive being cooked and treated every three weeks and without oxygen for long periods too, who would've known? John reports that drought then floods has seen his perennial problem exasperated to the extent of rebuild/regrassing next season.

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At Casino RSM there are reports of a roof to be erected over the artificial surface. Mick Murphy gave a frank and honest summation of the clubs future direction and the assumption is that he will likely be the last Turf growing greenkeeper the club employs. Another loss for our industry. A bit ludicrous considering the trouble Casino have had maintaining a two year old surface that has had drainage problems, plinth rebuilds (still no good) and complete re surfacing since it was originally constructed as a way to reduce costs, save labourblah blah blah. Chin up Mick ol' mate retirement will be cosy in Woolli!!

Garry Landrigan is at Kyogle Bowling Club. Two of the three greens also went under with the flood after ex tropical cyclone Debbie. He decided to utilize the flood silt as a type of top dress medium and declined the local fire brigade's offer of using the high volume, high pressure wash off of his surfaces. His experiences with that type of recovery after such an event are fresh in the memory. Gaz has recorded some beneficial results since the flooding including fresh shoots appearing in diseased lesions, some solace for a club celebrating 100 years this year. Good job Gaz and congratulations Kyogle, raise the

bat! Following up on the Evans Head Bowlo's decision to place even more inflatable structures on the Easternmost green. Looks like the revenue gained by the Waterpark far outweighs the need for a third green...according to the actions of the club management at least. More structures and double the number of people using the area on the first season has left Dave Turner large areas of very thin coverage. Despite the best efforts of Dave and his crew to minimise the devastating consequences, their diligence and hard work can only do so much. Repetitive seasons of the same, but more, exposure to these semi manoeuvrable structures is showing. Next season Dave's crew will be wearing the red budgie smugglers and moonlighting as life guards with the popularity of the facility increasing year on year it seems. Our local Greenkeepers association utilized the Waterpark for our Christmas party last year, to see the operation in full swing on a Sunday arvo in December was a real eye opener. Hats off to Dave and his staff being able to present the entire site at such a high level and for being able to manage the stresses placed on this green for around 5 months of the growing season. Remarkably the 4 rinks of the seven rink green that are playable are in pristine condition.

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South Lismore lad Patty Nichols is fresh from a whirlwind trip to Melbourne for Federation Week, he turned back the clock and "turncoated" when he helped the Queensland team defeat NSW in a test at Melbourne Bowling Club. Whilst I was doing my utmost to bring the boys from North of the border undone at the footy, Patty put on a clinic on the Bent surfaces at the oldest bowlo in Aus....the only thing older there that day was the cheese wheel and Patty himself. He was right at home on the 12 second greens and is looking forward to his greens at South Lismore being that quick one day. Patty had nothing to report on his home club at our gathering but former NSW Greenkeeper of the year Bruce "Buster" Armbruster reported the silt layer helped fill in all the holes in the #3 Green over at South Lismore. Reports of the young apprentice Reece McIntyre being worked harder than a one armed wallpaper hanger are filtering through because Pat is in and out of detox unit out Nimbin way since his best on ground performance in Melbs. But seriously, Reece's efforts have led to the South Lismore's surfaces once again leading the pack up here in the Northern Rivers.

A seasonal program of Dolomite at 120kg /green and incorporating monthly applications of

manganese and improved use of nitrates, also being more proactive with potassium deficiencies in the soil and more regular foliar apps of K than previously have proven to be most beneficial in minimizing the disease pressure at Ballina RSL.

Plant strength has been my focus for the past 6 years and the results have been very encouraging. Although not my most successful season with a few small outbreaks of ERI type disease this autumn the symptoms surely would have been more severe had it not been for the healthier environment we have been able to create through good cultural practices and better use of all the applied products. Next year there should be full coverage across all three surfaces, a good start to a full renovation season getting things in order for a week of scrutiny next May...

On a personal level I'd just like to thank the guys who made the trip to Melbourne for the comradery and good times. Also congratulations must go to the NSW 4's, Pairs and Singles representatives who all did our state proud. When I'm well enough after my liver transplant I'll be in serious training to take down all comers at next year's State Championship week, on and off the greens in beautiful Ballina.



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Mid North Coast with Danny Knight

Recently our AGM was held at Post Macquarie which saw a real changing of the guard. Reigning State Singles Champ Dave Croad (Hat Head) is our new President. Dave's calculated thought process should steer us past any pot holes our association may strike throughout the course of the year.

Craig Hayfield (Kempsey Macleay RSL) put his hand up for Secretary and received full support of the floor. Craig is keen to put his enthusiasm into maintaining our association to ensure it survives well into the future. Macksville's Young Gun Beau Lavender was handed the Treasurers role as he was the only one at the meeting with a Credit Union in his town. Ha-ha. Dave Waters (Stuarts Point) managed to sit himself in a quiet corner and much to his disappointment couldn't land a roll.

The meeting was also a chance to discuss the years carnival day. Host will be Craig at Kempsey RSL and the date settled on will be Monday August 14th. Sponsors are being sourced and Craig promises that the Club will put all their resources into making it a successful day. Please get numbers to Craig asap for catering purposes.

Dave Croad, Mark Wilcher (South West Rocks) and Nigel Perry (Port City) all attended Federation Week and all came back feeling more knowledgeable for

the experience. Dave commended the hosts on a very well organised week. He particularly liked the Syngenta presentation by Daniel Doherty and Mike Deluca on how to get maximum benefit from chemical applications. The speakers highlighted how quickly chemicals can break down once applied.

Mark had the honour of playing third for the legendary Marty Gosper in the fours along with Pat Chorley and Mark Bateman. The boys went all the way through, the victory made even sweeter by the fact that they beat a Queensland team in the final containing ex MNC character Brett Long.

Gary Witte (Scotts Head) reported that he will be losing part of his green to two inflatable water slides, similar to those at Evans Head. I can only imagine how Wit feels after all the TLC he puts into his greens.

A wet June has prompted some reports of Black Sooty Mould, possibly also complex helminthosporium. Mites are still present. It was interesting talking to a local sports turf manager who mentioned he has had success using two applications of Miticide, followed by an application of Pennside, aimed at breaking the breeding cycle. Let's hope that winter remains dry and all our greens are ready to grow come spring time.

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ACT Region with Peter Watts



What can I say it's very c c cold in C C Canberra. It's also very dry we would be lucky to of had 1ml of rain in the month of June when the average would be 40ml or more. With severe frosts on the cards and one of the coldest weekends on record with - 8.7 to start the day and be lucky to get to a top of 13.

The day at Belconnen would start with lighting the fire and having a cuppa or two. Once the ice has melted we can then get out the roller and prep the greens. This is the no 1 green at Belconnen after the -8 on Saturday morning.



All the Greenkeepers down here are all in the same boat with the winter chores of painting bowls rails and seats and hooking into the gardens. I'm sure we are all enjoying the break of cutting greens every day and gives us a chance to tidy up the ...



We have just had all greens graded from Bowls ACT with all greens passing with high scores, so thumbs up to everyone because it was one of our worst growing seasons I have ever had to deal with.

Canberra North has just hosted a greenkeepers day sponsored by Maxwell and Kemp, it was a great day and enjoyed by everyone who attended. Western Creek will be hosting our next one on Friday the 21st of July and everyone is welcome to come and join in on what is promising to be another great day.

Overall we have plenty of things to do to keep busy with machinery maintenance but then again we have plenty of time to fiddle around with all the small things as well, hence a report like this.

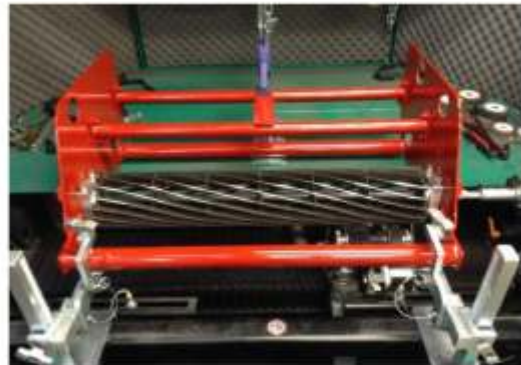
Cheers from the ACT greenkeepers.

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Notices

Awards & Wages

The new award name is: Registered and Licensed Club Award 2010.

The following wages apply as stated on www.fwc.gov.au.

Turfcrafterman	Wage	Hourly rate
Level 1	\$664.80	\$17.49
Level 2	\$687.60	\$18.09
Level 3	\$724.50	\$19.07
Level 4	\$769.90	\$20.26
Management/Level 1	\$844.70	\$22.23
Management/Level 2	\$919.70	\$24.20

Apprentice

A horticulture apprentice is paid at a percentage of the Standard Rate.

1st year	55%
2nd year	65%
3rd year	80%
4th year	90%

More information, including a list of Modern Awards, is available on the Fair Work Australia website www.fwa.gov.au or the Fair Work Australia Ombudsman at www.fairwork.gov.au.

Available now – Relief Greenkeeper

Ray Cooper is an experienced greenkeeper with more than 35 years experience, currently available for relief greenkeeping statewide.

If you need an extra pair of hands or holiday relief, please contact Ray on 0421 004 642.

Frequently Asked Questions: Awards & Pay Rates

What can I do if my take-home pay is lower than the modern award?

You can't have your take-home pay reduced as a result of the commencement of the new Fair Work System. Modern awards commenced on 1 January 2010, along with the new National Employment Standards.

The commencement of these new entitlements is not intended to result in employees receiving a pay cut. If you believe your take-home pay has been cut, you can apply to Fair Work Australia to make a 'take home pay order'.

What is a take-home pay order?

A take-home pay order can preserve your existing rates of pay while you remain in the same job. It can apply to wages and allowances, as well as incentive based payments and overtime. An order can apply to an individual or a class of employees or outworkers who are in a similar position.

A take-home pay order can be made if:

- A modern award applies to the employee or employees, and
- The employee or employees are in the same job as they were before the modern award commenced, and
- The amount of the employees' take-home

pay for working the same sort of hours or the same sort of work has been reduced, and

- This reduction in take-home pay has occurred because of the commencement of the modern award.

Who can apply for a take-home pay order?

You or your union can apply to Fair Work Australia for a take-home pay order. In addition, a person acting on your behalf or on behalf of a class of employees may apply.

An application for a take-home pay order can also be made by an organisation representing outworkers on behalf of those outworkers.

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