

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NSW BOWLING GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

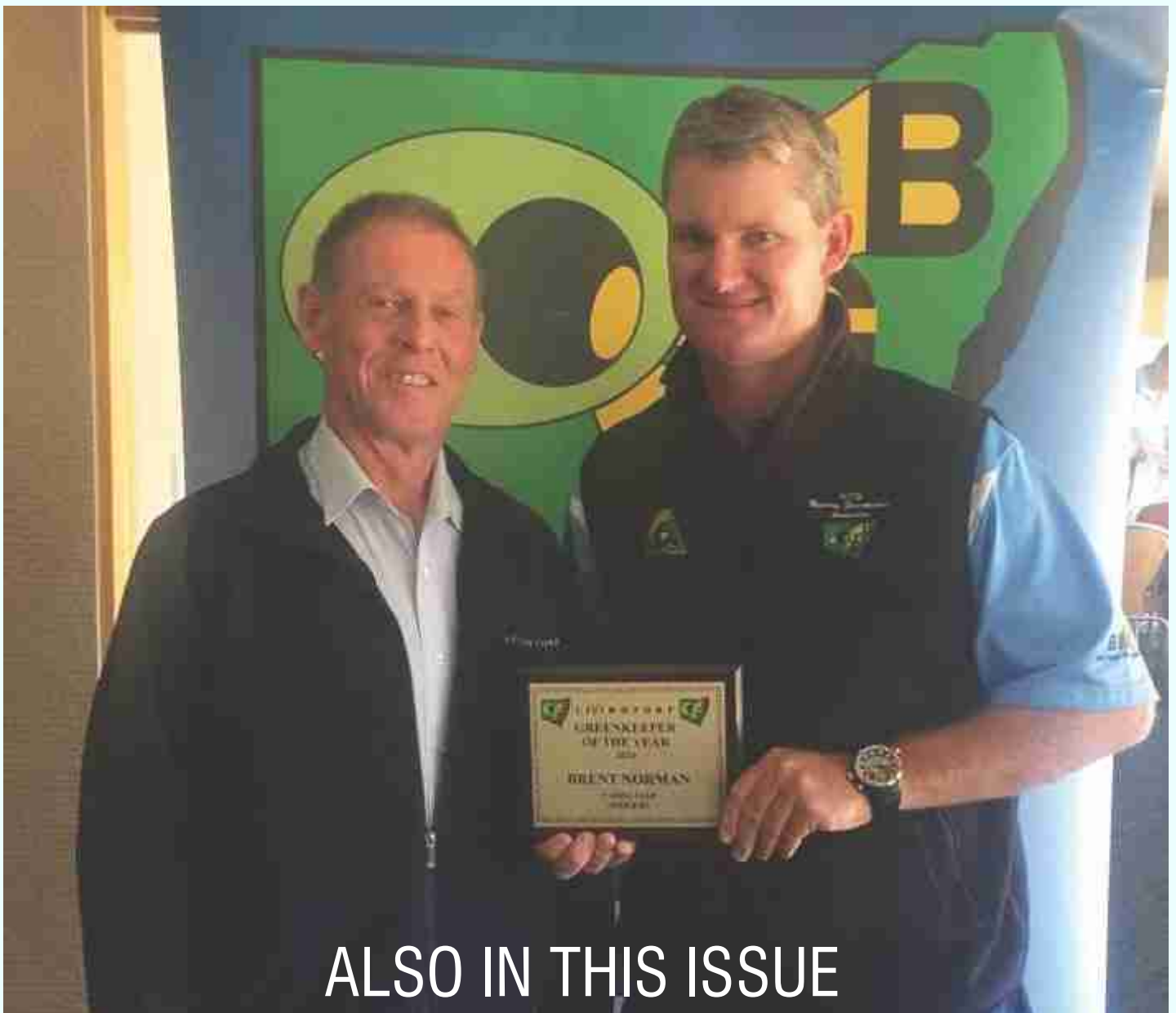


THE BOWLING GREENKEEPER

NOVEMBER 2016

VOLUME 67 NO 66

Brent Norman named Living Turf Greenkeeper of the Year 2016



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

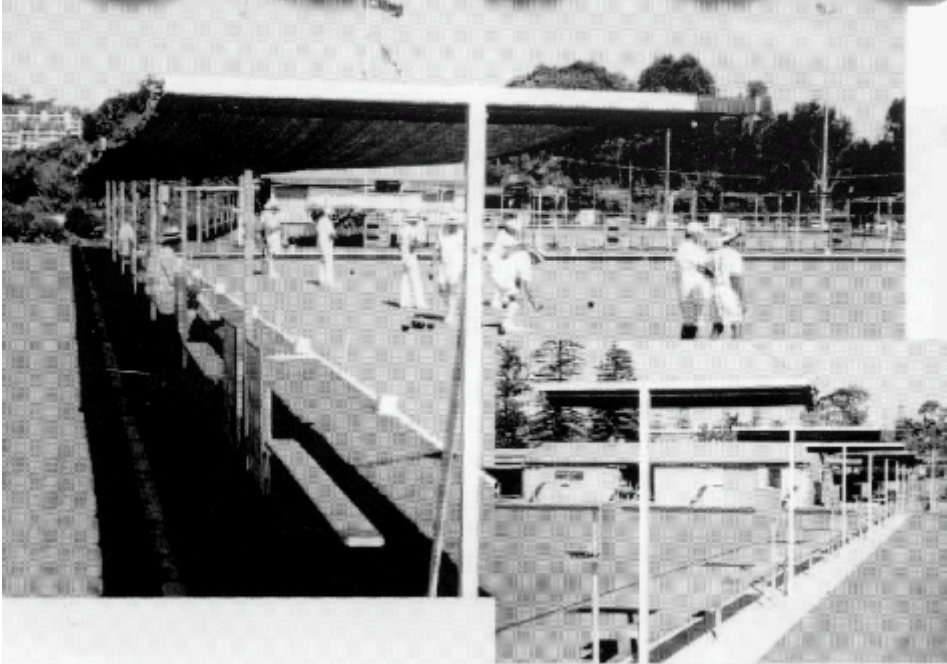
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The Bowling Greenkeeper

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Legends Day 2016 by Chris Green, Bowls NSW

NSW Greenkeepers cut and roll the NSW Legends in 2016

With waves crashing in the background and the sprinkle of saltwater in the air you could easily be looking around for a beach towel and some sunscreen but instead it was a mix of new and old bowls, generations of different NSW representative uniforms and more experience than you would ever likely see on a bowls green.

Bar Beach Bowls Club was the host for the annual NSW Legends v NSW Greenkeepers on a windy Monday 25th July. Bowls can often be seen as a young person's game these days with many representative sides infiltrated by the bright young talent in the game, well many sides except the NSW Legends. The NSW Legends side is made up of past NSW representatives and boasts more and more representative experience each year.

These Legends may not fall in the teen to youth age bracket, but each year when this day rolls around the stories, yarns and youth exuberance shown by these elder statesmen is second to none.

Many a laugh, friendly sledge, competitive banter and occasional wrong bias is shared throughout the day. As 2016 Legends' team captain said before play - "an event looked forward to each and every year".

On the other side of the ledger is the NSW Greenkeepers, a side selected from members of the NSW Bowling Greenkeepers' Association which over the years has featured past NSW representatives and this year was no different with the inclusion of Brent Norman. Brent was also awarded the 2016 NSW Greenkeeper of the Year Award prior to the match.

The Peter Mobbs' Shield

Each year, the NSW Bowling Greenkeepers play the Bowls NSW Legends in a bowls tournament held in different locations around the state. Known as Legends Day, the day is a fun and social event on the calendar and competition for the Peter Mobbs' shield is fierce!



The winning side: NSW BGA Turfcraftsmen

The youngest Greenkeeper in the side, Mitch Bellingham (16) was not even born when a majority of his opponents for the day first debuted for NSW.

Since its inception in 1999, the NSW Legends have won 12 of the 16 Annual events which is recognised with Peter Mobbs OAM Memorial Shield – the Greenkeepers last claiming victory in 2012.

This year the Greenkeepers felt right at home early on with the wind ripping up off the beach and the temperature drop making it feel like an early morning out cutting, rolling and marking the green. In the early stages of the match the Greenkeepers led by 30 shots after an average of 5 ends on each rink, Peter Watts' rink leading the way for the Greenkeepers holding Rex Johnston's Legends rink to nil over the first 6 ends while etching out 15 shots for themselves. At the other end of the green Bowls NSW CEO Greg Helm's rink was providing a glimmer of light for the Legends leading 10-3 following their first five ends.

As the day continued and the ends rolled over so did the numbers on the Greenkeepers side of the board.

By the half way mark, the Greenkeepers had pushed their lead to near on 50 as they approached 100 shots on the Master Board. This included Jason Pietraszek's rink fighting back to level the score with the Legends' Helm skipped rink and the Greenkeepers rink skipped by Adam Troth leaping well in front on the back of a 7 (the skip leaving his last bowl closer to his end than that of the other 7 shots). This difference would prove too big for the Legends to claw back, even with their plethora of knowledge, experience and witty play.

With the game winding up and a rare victory for the Greenkeepers looking set to take place the percentage of energy drinks and coffees were put on the back burners as the players really got in the mood of the event with a steady flow of hydration partaken by both sides of the green.

The Greenkeepers finally wrestling back the Peter Mobbs OAM Memorial Shield after four years with a final score of 145 to 107 with the Legends only managing 1 rink win, that of Wayne Lambourne's.

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Full Sides

NSW Legends (pictured above)

B. Dunn, N. Downes, B. Bateman, G. Helm, J. Smith, P. Hughes, S. Clough, W. Lambourne, D. Buttery, I. Barrett, G. Corey, D. Holt, J. Hollier, B. Morton, B. Melville, P. Stockham, W. Crane, M. Cronin, C. Linton, R. Johnston, J. Fitzgerald, T. McCabe, G. McGillivray & K. Jaques

NSW Greenkeepers (Turfcraftsmen)

J.Pietraszek, D.Ryan, S.Bellotti, A.Chapman, B.Morthorpe, R.Cooper, B.Gainsford, M. Keough
 B.Norman, B.Wilkinson, D.Miller, L. Johnson, A. Troth, M. Wilcher, M. Woods, S. Cooper, P. Watts, D. Croad,
 M. Dagwell, S. Britt, W. Turner, K. Bowcock, B. Anderson & M. Bellingham.

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Living Turf Greenkeeper of the Year 2016 - Brent Norman

This year Brent Norman claimed the coveted title of Living Turf Greenkeeper of the Year for 2016. Brent was presented with his award by Mike Darlington from Living Turf at the annual Legends Day in July.

Brent, or Tiger, as many of us know him, started his apprenticeship in 1996 at Cabramatta Bowling Club under John Cearns. In 1999 he moved into the role of assistant greenkeeper, a position he held until 2004. In 2004 Brent moved down the road a bit to take the Head greenkeepers role at Cabra-Vale Diggers.

During the 12 years that Brent has been at Cabra-Vale Diggers he has hosted many big events, pennant finals, playoffs, state games and the Peter Mobbs' Shield in 2013.

Brent takes great pride in the appearance of Cabra-Vale Diggers, the surfaces on the greens he produces are first class year after year, his surrounds and gardens are always spotless.

Brent has successfully re-grassed both of his greens across to tif-dwarf over the years and his greens at Cabra-Vale Diggers are some of the cleanest, tightest and fastest greens around.

Brent has plenty of bowling achievements to his name over the years, but some of his toughest competition has come at the Greenkeepers State Championships Week! He has won the NSWBGA State Pairs on three occasions with Shannon White and also the Australian Federation title.

Brent has recently won the NSW State fours title for a second time, representing St Johns Park with last year's Greenkeeper of the Year, Adam Troth.



As a testament to Brent, he has been nominated for this award on two previous occasions narrowly missing each time. The continuous high standards that Brent and his team work to is a credit to them all.



Congratulations to all this year's nominees and Brent on being the 2016 Living Turf Greenkeeper of the Year. Thank you to Living Turf for their ongoing support of this award.



Pictured: The greens and surrounds at Cabra-Vale Diggers in Sydney's South West.

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Research Objectives: Evaluate the performance of TriCure AD against other leading products comparing ability to treat organic matter at varying application rates.

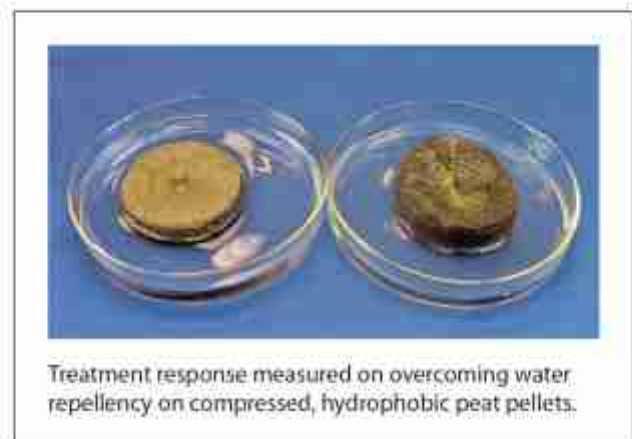
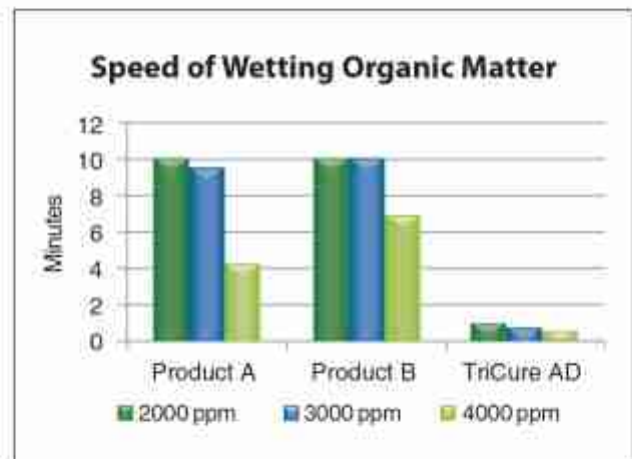
Research Site: Rutgers University

Principle Investigator: Dr. James Murphy

Study Parameters: Competing products were tested and compared at multiple rates, including low, off-label rates to determine strength of actives using multiple testing protocols. Research focused on differentiating leading products' ability to treat organic matter as found in peat, thatch and organic amendments.

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Rep's Report

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I would like to congratulate Brent Norman on winning the Living Turf Bowling Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

I presented Brent with his award at the Legend's Day at Bar Beach Bowling Club in Newcastle.

I was very pleased to do this, as I know Brent puts all his efforts into his greenkeeping and it is always a pleasure calling on him as he has Cabra-Vale Diggers Club looking fantastic. Well done Brent!

I would also like to think that my lunch time speech at this day contributed to the Greenkeeper's scoring a very well-deserved victory over the Legends.

(I may have mentioned I might be available for next year's Challenge).

Renovations will be starting when this magazine comes out and if we get some nice warm weather, greens should jump with all the rain we have been having in July and August.

I hope the renovation season goes well for everyone and we get some good growing conditions.

As a foot note, Corrimal and Picton Bowling Clubs that I mentioned in the last report, have been well repaired and back to some normality, awaiting the coming renovation.

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Gary Beehag, Jyri Kaapro, Andrew Manners

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This book provides an industry reference for the identification of pests affecting the roots, stems and leaves of turfgrass and control of these species through integrated pest management. It contains information on the distribution, ecology and biology of pests and how to monitor them. The integrated pest management approach outlined in the book includes natural environmental controls, beneficial and predatory species of arthropods, resistant cultivars and insecticidal and miticidal pesticides.

Pest Management of Turfgrass for Sport and Recreation is an essential manual for managers of sportsgrounds, bowling greens, lawn tennis courts, golf courses, racecourses, ornamental landscapes, amenity parklands, public reserves and turfgrass production farms.

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- Covers a wide range of major and lesser known non-grass species used for amenity lawn grass and sports turf surface
- Well illustrated with colour photographs and diagrams

About the authors

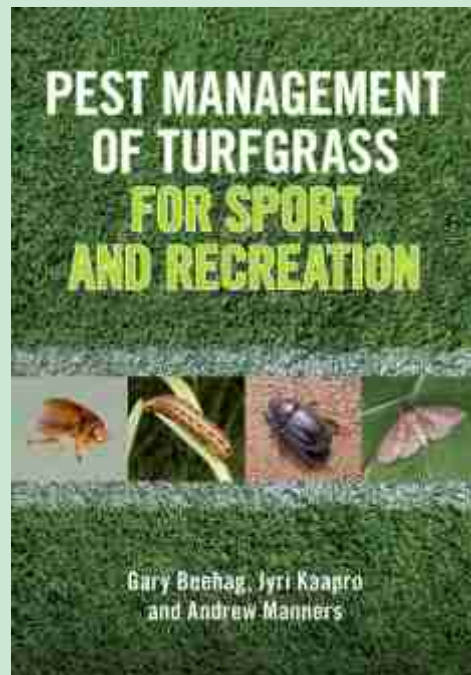
Gary Beehag has extensive experience in the turfgrass industry and qualifications in greenkeeping, horticulture, pest control and teaching. He worked as a consultant for the Australian Turfgrass Research Institute (ATRI). Gary has written numerous magazine and journal articles and spoken at many conferences nationally and internationally.

Jyri Kaapro is Research Manager at Bayer, where he works in product development for the turfgrass industry. He was previously employed as a Research Manager at the Australian Turfgrass Research Institute and he holds a Master of Agriculture (Turf Management) from the University of Sydney.

Andrew Manners has over 15 years' experience in integrated pest management. He is currently employed in pest and disease management at the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Ecosciences Precinct and manages its Grow Help service. He holds a PhD in Entomology from the University of Queensland.

Purchase a copy today for your Club, business or local association!

This title is available for \$140.00 on the CSIRO website at <http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/6429>.



Federation Week 2017

It's time to start planning ahead for next year's Federation Week in Melbourne.

Federation Week is held every three years and is a great opportunity for the States and Territories to come together for a great week of bowls, education and comradery.

The first day of play will be **Sunday 30th April** with the Presentation Dinner to be held on Thursday night, **4th May 2017**.

The Vic Greenies assure us it's going to be a great program, based in the Docklands area of Melbourne. There will be visits to some great bowling clubs in Melbourne and great social activities. It will be one day shorter than previous years, but packed with bowls and some night test matches.

Registration fees will be \$350.

Keep your eye out at nswbga.com.au or join our NSWBGA Facebook group for lots of fun promos from the Vic Greenies.

The NSWBGA will coordinate all registrations for NSW online at nswbga.com.au. A registration form will be included in the next edition.

Accommodation is to be booked separately.

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The rates are available from 29 April to 5 May 2017. They and can be booked online at www.questdocklands.com.au.

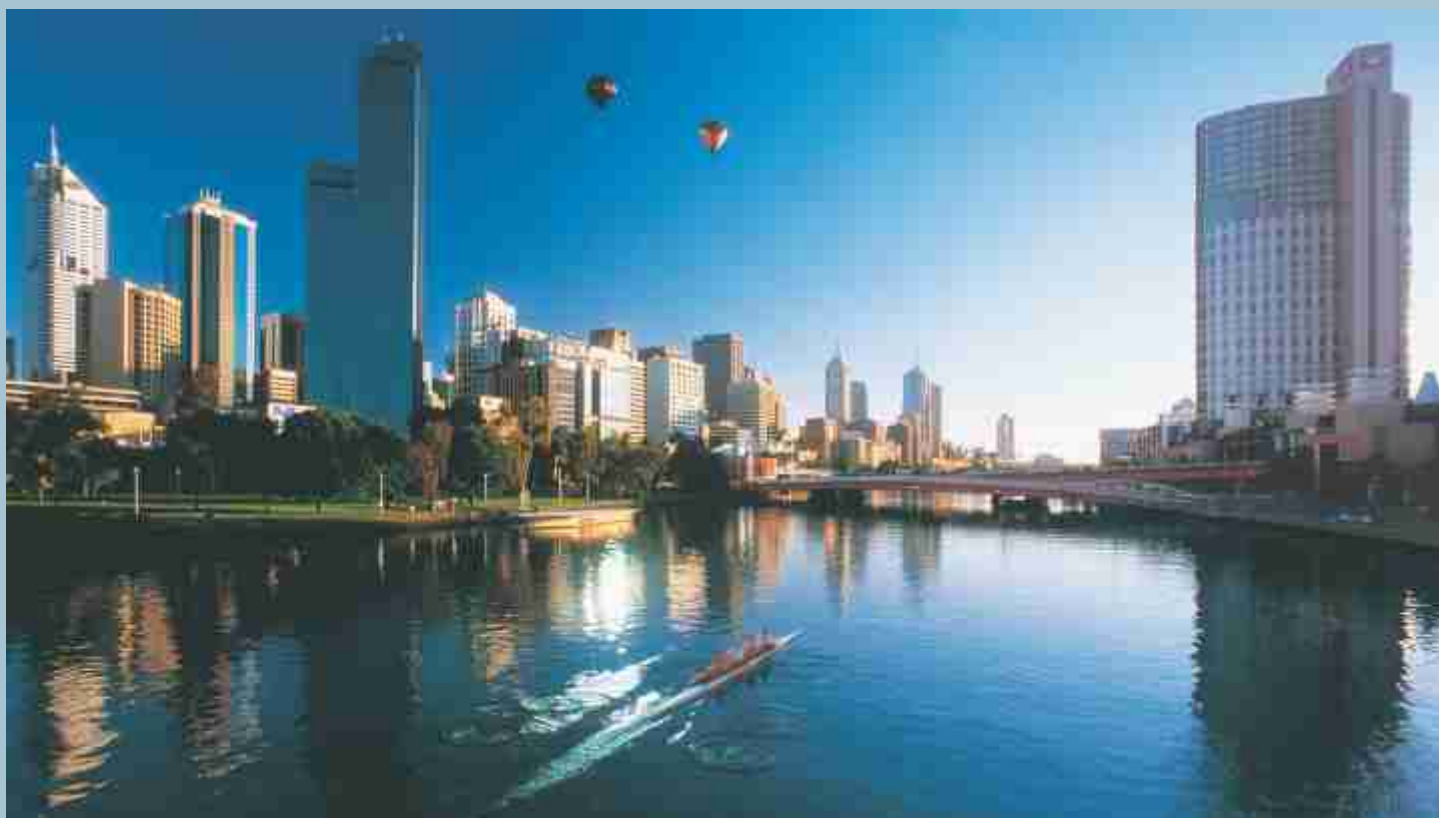
Please go to the client login button on the upper left hand side of the website and entering your user name and password, details below.

Client User Name: VGA2017

Password: Quest2016

Or Call 03 9630 1000

You may also choose to book alternative accommodation in the Docklands area.



Around the Associations

Mid North Coast Report by Danny Knight

The growing season is on again! Footy finals have been completed, the clocks have been pushed forward one hour and the grass is at it again for the next six months.

We have had a warm start to spring and the ground has started to dry out unlike many other parts of the state. Most greens around here have come out of winter disease-free, with only the odd account of Spring Dead Spot. Moss and algae reports were fairly common with regular light rain over the cooler months leaving the poorer draining greens susceptible. There have been quite a few clubs reporting Mite infestations both on the coast and inland. We were reminded at this year's conference about the numerous varieties of mites in turf, so it seems regular monitoring and treatment needs to be adopted.

Those of us with Ground Pearls are beginning to see the affected areas show up again. Whilst the surface is generally fine, the turf has a distinctly darker colour to it. I took a golf hole plug out of an affected area on my green last week and washed it to monitor the activity. The program I have adopted over the past 12 months has definitely had a positive effect on the plant health. There were old roots getting to the bottom of the 200mm plug and new white roots down to around 100mm. All of the pearls were in the top 50mm of the plug. Most were light yellow in colour with a small number showing early signs of turning pink. This would indicate that activity will be commencing over the next month or so. It's "Game On" again!

Our Carnival Day this year was held at Stuarts Point and was an outstanding success. Hosts Dave Waters and Mick Bottles had the greens in fine order and the organisation was A1. 88 players took to the greens which is an exceptional number considering it is no longer financially viable to run a bus and the decreasing number of greenkeepers.

Dave reported that the Club took almost \$4000 on the day and our association made just over \$1300. This money helps with our travel costs to attend meetings and also to our chosen charity "Give me 5 for Kids". It has been suggested that it may be used to aid more members in getting to the Conference and Federation weeks.

We recently held a meeting in Bowraville and were honored to have the State President Mick Woods in attendance. Mick was in our area passing on the word about the renovation service his club, South Tamworth, are offering.

Due to Tamworth's isolation from the major cities it has become difficult and expensive to get contractors in which led the club to purchasing their own Procure machine.

They are also in the process of purchasing scarifying, laser levelling and shaving equipment. To offset the costs, they will offer their services to clubs within a three hour radius. Mick's number can be found in the front of the journal and he would be only too happy to assist with any enquiries.

A few points were raised at our meeting:

- Gary Witte raised a valid point about changes to the retirement age. With the retirement age increasing due to our longer life expectancy, Gary was concerned about those that do physical work (Greenkeepers) being put in the same basket as occupations that do not put a physical strain on the body.
- Mick Woods raised the point about the possibility of enquiring about getting a product such as 'Rugby' re-registered for the specific treatment of Ground Pearl.
- We also spoke of the possibility of assisting our members who may wish to attend the Conference, Federation week or other state events with a small financial incentive when funds allow. We are aware of the need to boost attendances at these events.

Most Clubs reported their plans for renovations this season. Nick Thacker at Sawtell has already started by taking 60mm off his northern most green. He re-grassed using material from his other Tif Dwarf green and so far has had the weather on his side.

Dave Croad (Hat Head) was sporting plaster and bandages thanks to a misunderstanding with a chainsaw and a ladder. He was fortunate to walk away with just a broken hand from the ordeal.

We wish all fellow Greenkeepers well for your upcoming renovations and hope the season is a kind one.

Northern Rivers Greenkeepers Advisory Council with Duncan Elphick

A new executive was elected to the local Greenkeepers Association at our AGM held in early September. Gavin Speers didn't stand and stepped aside for yours truly in the presidency. Thanks largely to Gavin's efforts, the last couple of years has seen our Association grow.

Renewed interest has sprung up in a lot of areas, where the waning popularity of our semi-regular gatherings, be it bowls days or conferences, seemed almost terminal. The new committee will be working hard to keep the momentum going and drive it even harder.

Hopefully with a few tweaks to our bowls days, we can incorporate something trade related to look over, or show off to club directors and managers who often tag along for a good time. We will be offering something other than the mandatory hangover to take home from those days next year!

We started this new trend with a demo by Tru Turf at Brunswick Heads in early August. We had many Bowling Greenkeepers who hadn't seen or operated a Tru Turf roller before and the interest sparked much discussion from everyone in attendance. Goal achieved!

The day itself was a great success with 26 teams ready for a good time, and it's great to see the Brunswick Heads club moving in the right direction after a few years of decline. South Lismore also helped us out with our annual charity bowls day and once again we had a good roll up of 28 teams who all enjoyed the perfect weather and excellent surfaces provided by host Greenkeeper Patty Nichols.

Pictured: Josh Greenhalgh from Brunswick Heads on the Tru Turf roller.



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We punched well above our weight, raising \$2,000 for local cancer charity "Jodie's Inspiration". Hats off to Patty who continues to set the standard for the rest of us lucky enough to play on his excellent surfaces.

Winter was very kind around these parts. The disease symptoms of seasons past do not seem as severe and we have had good early spring conditions. Tiff wasn't in dormancy for long and good growth rates for those with greens already under reno practices should be marching along nicely, and those wishing to prolong the off season the climate has been providing just enough for dry crispy surfaces.

A few who struggled with couch mite have initiated much earlier control program this Spring incorporating a mix of miteicides/insecticide in a bid to keep numbers at a manageable number also to minimize the ugly symptoms they create. There were some who actually sprayed for mite right through the winter months, such was the problems they created around the Northern Rivers last season.

Pictured from top: Mark Brown (Mullumbimbi), Troy Makin (Ocean Shores), John Ryan (Nimbin), Waa Waa from Qld, Jimmy Wheeler (Illuka) at the Tiff dwarf Shield in Tugun.



Duncan Elphick handing over a cheque for \$2,000 to local charity "Jodie's inspiration".

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Tweed Byron Greenkeepers Association with Michael Turner

President Paul Earl
Treasurer Luke Wade
Secretary Mick Turner

We have had a busy period with three main events. First was a day put on by Turfcare Solutions at the Murwillumbah race track. The day consisted of an information morning with guest speakers doing presentations on different matters that we come across from day to day practices.

These topics included foliar feeding with Paul Dugmore then Matt Holmes from Syngenta talking about chemical programs. This included using the right chemical for the target area, as well as using the right equipment to put these products out for maximum results. Paul Leirse from Turfcare Solutions also talked about a new product Foresome Turf Pigment.

Our next event was the Tiffdwarf Shield at Tugun Bowls Club. This day is the Tweed Byron joins with the Northern Rivers to take on the Gold Coast Greenkeepers.

NSW vs QLD

Unfortunately we were unable to defend the Shield and congratulations to the Queenslanders - we will be back next year!

Our next day was the Annual tournament that our Association puts on, played at Cabarita Beach Sports Club. This year the day was run consisting of versatility with 1 singles, 1 triples, 2 pairs and finishing the day with a game of fours.

The winners of the day were a composite side with the team captain Darren Blake. Second was a Condong team with team captain Jimmy Knight and third went to a Pottsville team with our President and team captain Paul Earl. We would like to thank our sponsors from the day which included Cabarita Beach Sports Club, Carlton United, Tweed Byron District Bowling Association, and our own Association.

Pictured: All the action at the 2016 Tiff Dwarf Shield!



ACT Region with Peter Watts

Long time reader, first time writer...



First of all, a big rap to Mark Bateman who has been doing an outstanding job keeping everyone up to date about what is going on in the land of ACT Green keeping over the past four years or so. He is handing this very important job over to me - I have been begging and pleading to do for years.

As we all know, the ACT Green keepers is very tight knit group – all for one and one for all (almost like a family affair). I recently put my son Ethan as a part-time apprentice at Belconnen. Ethan is still doing his year 10 at school and will continue on to do year 11 and 12. Our goal is to have him qualified by the time he finishes college.

It was supposed to be an ASBA (Australian School Based Apprenticeship) but ASBA do not cover Turf Management Cert III.

Part-time CIT is exactly the same, just not recognised through the school for some stupid reason. He is attending CIT 1 day a week and has to do 15 hours on the job training which he has been doing all year. Ethan also won the State Junior Singles this year and will be representing the ACT in the Australian Championships in Adelaide for singles and triples. A great pick up for Belconnen.

Terry Doyle from the RUC, Canberra North's bowling club has also put on his son Joseph who has only just started his apprenticeship, so we can say that ACT Green keepers really are a family affair.

Mark Bateman has also obtained himself a new apprentice, Hugh Roberts from Batemans Bay who will be welcomed by us all into the ACT Green keeper happy family.

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Unit 3 / 10 Helles Avenue, Moorebank NSW 2170

The only major works going on this year would be with Wade Turner from Queanbeyan RSL. He will be converting his No 1 green from Greenleas park to a Tiffy in December. If it turns out anything like the last one, which I'm sure it will, it will give the RSL 3 great greens and will set a very high standard for the rest of us to strive towards.

Over the last few years I have been experimenting with spraying the greens with black paint to try and bring his Greenleas park greens out of dormancy early to try to expend the short growing season that Canberra can offer. One is of Green No 1 that has had nothing sprayed on it and the other is No 3 green which was sprayed with 2 litres of black paint out of a 50 litre C DAX Jackpot sprayer.

This was done three times so I was happy with how dark it got and the picture tells the story.



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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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- Aid the recovery from environmental stresses
- Increase tolerance to plant parasitic nematodes through an increase in root mass from the inclusion of Kelp and natural seaweed ingredients.

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0 - 0 - 5 - 8SI + VM3

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