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The best way to appreciate Atco mowers is to see them at work on your own turf. Demonstrations of any model can be arranged for any time at your convenience.

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THE BRITISH GOLF
GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE

FOUNDED 1912
PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF GREENKEEPERS, GREENKEEPING AND THE GAME OF GOLF BY THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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FEBRUARY 1969

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Please send me full details of Berk products for Spring and Summer feeding.

**NAME**

**POSITION**

**ADDRESS**
Ahead of the Game

Some of you may have wondered why two monthly titles appeared on last year's issues. This was done to keep continuity for this year's change. The first issue this year is called "February". We shall never be late again. Or if we are, we shall still be a fortnight early.

* * * *

Bargain

The Seaford Golf Course has been sold to the members for £50,000. Clubhouse and dormy-house were included.

Sea-shells

The Laird of Strathtyrum removed another load of shells from the Eden course at St Andrews last month. The greenkeeping staff took the turf and topsoil off 300 sq. ft. where the 5th and 6th fairways meet and filled back with sand after the 5 ft. deep pit had been dug. Mr Alexander Cheape last exercised this right in 1965. He uses the shells for top-dressing the drives of the Strathtyrum estate.

Shelters

Girvan golfers will be able to keep out of the rain this year in fibre glass shelters shaped like a golf ball with a doorway and seating inside. Messrs Keith Albarn & Partners Ltd. have donated them to the Girvan Council. Their cost is £99 18s. each. There is no truth in the rumour that this firm's next venture will be a fibre glass golf ball shaped like a shelter.

(contd. over)
TEE SHOTS—(contd.)

Dearer

Accles & Polloch are switching 60 per cent of their production to aluminium shafts. The lighter shaft will mean that the head can be heavier and still leave the total weight of the club half-an-ounce less. But the costlier process will add about 20s. to the price of a club.

Oldest Inhabitant

Club members who dug up part of a road crossing the Ashburnham course in Carmarthenshire have been told to put it back. Villagers say it was a right of way before the Club was formed in 1894.

TRADE NEWS

A further educational service is being offered by Ransomes' Grass Machinery Division in the form of a colour slide lecture entitled "Grass Machinery—its care and maintenance". The lecture comprises a set of 60 slides with written commentary, describing the development, manufacture, applications and daily service of modern grass-cutting machinery. It should be of great value to horticulturists, colleges, public authorities, and to anyone responsible for the purchase, maintenance and use of grass-cutting machinery.

Complete sets of slides, with commentary, are available from Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd., Grass Machinery Sales, Ipswich, Suffolk, at a cost of £6 10s. a set including postage.

---

GET YOUR MOWER SERVICED NOW

BY SPECIALISTS

MOWER OVERHAULS, REPAIRS AND SPARES ARE OUR ONLY BUSINESS
HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

I have been advised by Messrs Slazengers Ltd. that there is a very good greenkeeper's job going at the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club. I understand it goes with a good salary and accommodation and the appointment should be on a reasonably long-term basis.

Anybody who may be interested should write to:—
Mr J. Atkins,
Secretary,
Royal Hong Kong Golf Club,
612 Marins House,
Queens Road,
C. HONG KONG.

Tournament 1969

I have just heard from the Welsh Section that the Annual Tournament will take place at the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club on the 11th, 12th and 13th August 1969.

CORRESPONDENCE

38 GOULD FIRM LANE,
ALDRIDGE,
WALSALL,
STAFFS.

Dear Sir,

The last time I wrote to the journal was in 1946 when I wrote about "Better Times on the Golf Course".

The greenkeepers' lot has certainly improved over the last twenty years and I think it will continue to improve.

Now after fifty years' service on the ground staff at Little Aston Golf Club and semi-retired I am not unduly worried about wages structure but I have always fought for, and believed in, status for the greenkeeper. Our old friend, Clarrie Cooke, tried to get members interested in this subject with little success.

What happened to Clarrie? Is he still going the rounds at St George's Hill? I do think that the skill of the greenkeeper should be recognised more. How often does a greenkeeper get a mention in any of the journals that cover the game of golf? Why not a column devoted to "Meet the Greenkeeper"?

I believe in more liaison between the members of the golf clubs and their ground staff.

In 1947 a golf match was arranged between the ladies of Little Aston Golf Club and the ground staff—a match which has been played every year since. Owing to the depreciation of the playing strength the ground staff have been joined by the Officers of the Club and the Professional and his Assistant who thoroughly enjoy the game and the hospitality of the ladies in the Clubhouse.

I consider this match unique as both teams contain golfers of National standing. On the ground staff side we have John Beharrell, ex British Amateur Champion, Charlie Ward, ex Ryder Cup player and Master Golfer and Maurice Bembridge, Assistants Champion. On the ladies' side we have Mrs Beharrell, ex Australian and New Zealand Lady Champion and Mrs K. Denham, former Midland Lady Champion. Miss Bridget Jackson played for the ladies' team when she was English Lady Champion.

At Little Aston the Clubhouse have provided for the staff a Life Assurance and Pension Fund which is much appreciated and a welcome reward for loyal service.

Greenkeeping will continue to flourish if golf clubs appreciate the work of their ground staff and justly reward them for their labours.

Here's luck to the greenkeepers of the future and may their endeavours not go unnoticed.

Yours faithfully,

CECIL E. JONES

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE, WITH or without operator, Ryan turf cutters, Ryan Ren-O-Thin rotorakes, Ryan Greensaire aerators, Sisis heavy-duty spikers, Howard rotavators, excavating and drainage machinery. Coswells, Agricultural and Sportsground Contractors, Cross ton Road, Farington, Leyland, Lancs. Telephone: Leyland 21243.
WHY WINTER GREENS?

by W. H. Bartle

The Sports Turf Research Institute

With the dawn of another new year the golfer will soon be welcoming a gradual increase in daylight and with it the prospect of an extra hole or two. Winter is however still with us and very often the most severe weather conditions are experienced between now and spring.

During this period there will be many heated exchanges at the 19th on the pros and cons of closing the course on such and such a date or whether or not winter greens should have been in use last weekend.

Such decisions have to be made at times if we wish to eliminate or reduce winter damage on the greens to a minimum.

Unless the course is covered with snow, keen players will always wish to keep in trim and will expect their game. It is therefore the duty of officials and greenkeepers to meet their demands as far as practicable. In so doing, however, putting surfaces must be safeguarded for the real golfing season and this means unpopular alternatives may have to be offered on occasions. When such alternatives have to be employed we must try to explain the reasons in simple terms which the layman will understand and appreciate. This can be done as follows:

Damage under wet conditions

When exceptionally wet conditions prevail, the effects of play severely compact the surface soil, particularly on the area around the hole where concentration of foot traffic is greatest. This also has the effect of puddling the surface, which together with the additional compaction reduces the passage of air and moisture. Short-term effects are weakening of the turf resulting in the grass cover thinning out and a risk of Fusarium patch disease attack due to the aforementioned points. Long-term effects are delayed recovery and thin areas which may still exist into the growing season.

Damage under frosty conditions

Damage caused by play during frosty conditions falls into two main categories, viz:

(a) When the plant tissues are frozen they are easily bruised by foot traffic. After a thaw, browning of the turf can often be noted and footmarks may remain visible for several weeks. The greater the weight of play in hard frost the more severe becomes the extent of this damage. Areas subjected to such damage will remain thin for very long periods affecting the true- ness of the putting surface well into the main season. Furthermore it has been established that intensively managed putting green turf affected by frost damage is particularly susceptible to Fusarium patch disease in the spring period.

(b) Even more long-term damage is caused by play after a sudden thaw. Under these conditions the top ½ in. or so becomes soft but the underlying soil remains frozen hard. At such times roots are severely damaged by the shearing action caused by the player's feet moving the soft, unfrozen surface across the frozen sub-surface. This creates very weak areas which may not recover before the height of the season. Under these conditions, surface disturbance is also likely, resulting in some puddling and disruption of putting surfaces.

These are the chief reasons why we should keep off the greens under really adverse conditions and bring winter greens into use.

Winter Greens

Unfortunately the quality of these alternatives often leaves much to be

(contd. on p. 9)
Berk’s answer to 4 Spring & Summer problems

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Moss Control of moss is a Berk speciality. In recent years over 5000 acres of fine turf have been treated successfully with M.T.S. which was first developed by Berk and is still sold in the original formulation.

Worms Another ‘Berk first’ in turf care, Supplex Chlordane worm-killer is still the market leader. It is formulated either as a liquid or as granules.

Weeds Berk ‘Super’ weedkiller, already widely accepted, kills a wide range of undesirable weeds very economically.

Clover Where clover, pearlwort and yarrow are specific problems, use Berk Clover Killer.

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Please send me complete details on Berk products that solve Spring and Summer turf problems

NAME

POSITION

ADDRESS
QUICK LESSON

Dutch Harrison was playing in a professional-amateur event preceding a regular PGA tour tournament. He had drawn a rather poor player as one of his amateur partners. On one hole the amateur slashed a drive that travelled fully 75 yards and lodged in the fork of a tree.

"How would you play that shot?" the amateur asked Harrison.

Dutch had a ready reply:—

"Under an assumed name").

(With acknowledgments to USGJ, September 1967.)
desired and this fact is largely responsible for the objections which are vociferously raised by the players.

Ideally, winter greens of some 100-200 sq. yds. in extent should be provided, well clear of the major putting surfaces, preferably to one side away from the main approach. These should be prepared well in advance, i.e. during the late summer/early autumn period. Preparation should consist of scarification, fertiliser treatment, weed and earthworm control measures if necessary and top dressing, etc., all aimed at producing surfaces only slightly inferior to the actual greens. This work is unfortunately often overlooked. Hurried last minute efforts then made only produce complaints and annoyance. The answer obviously lies with the greenkeeper.

We should at all times remember that if the grass is visible, play will be expected but a sense of perspective is required.

But winter golf is normally less competitive than golf outside this period and if the little inconvenience caused by employing winter greens is accepted by players then the actual greens will be better preserved for when they are required and expected to be at their best. Equally officials and greenkeepers should make every possible effort to ensure that the alternatives offered are of acceptable quality.

Make sure in future that winter greens receive sufficient thought and preparation and by so doing keep everyone happy—at least you will have tried.

---

SITUATION VACANT

THE ESTORIL GOLF COURSE near Lisbon in Portugal is looking for a British Greenkeeper. Or perhaps two. The initial engagement would be for a period of three years with an optional break after six months. If two brothers or a Head Greenkeeper with his son or assistant wished to apply that arrangement would be perfectly acceptable and, indeed, preferred.

The Club wishes to modernise its greenkeeping methods and all the necessary machinery and adequate labour will be provided for efficient operation.

There is a large British community in Lisbon and those concerned with the golf club will see that the successful applicants and their families are made to feel at home.

Estoril has been a year round holiday resort since the last century. Even January is sunny with blue skies.

Taxes are low and this would be taken into account in fixing a salary, but initially applicants should state their required income in sterling. The remuneration will be as good or better than the top jobs in Britain, accommodation will be provided and there will be an allowance for travel.

The job calls for experience, enthusiasm and common sense. Head Greenkeepers or First Assistants wishing to apply should write in the first place to Box No. 269, c/o The British Golf Greenkeeper, Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Croydon. CRO 9AA.

State: Age
Family Commitments
Experience
Salary required
And give one reference

Write before the 1st February if possible.
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Key D. The Toro 21 "Greensmaster for perfection on the most undulating greens. 147 cuts per yard. With two Greensmasters, 18 greens on an average course can be cleanly cut in under 4 hours, with complete grass collection – any time, any day, even on waterlogged surfaces.

All over the country, golf clubs are proving the cost-cutting value of the Flymo Institutional range. Henry Fry, Head Greenkeeper of Clyne Golf Club, Swansea, uses two Greensmasters. Says Mr. Fry: "I am very pleased indeed... with the fine quality of the cut and saving of time, which meant the saving of one man at least in cutting time. Grass collection is a hundred per cent, no doubt about it".

Contact Flymo Institutional and find out more about cost savings in grasscutting. Now!

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SPARE A THOUGHT FOR GREENKEEPERS
by Bill Dunn
(from Newmarket Journal, 7th November 1968, with acknowledgments)

Mr Bill Dunn is a well-known Cambridge county player and a past captain of the Gog Magog Golf Club

A time when most club members are relaxing from the rigours of a hard season’s activity on the links the greenkeeping staff of golf clubs are now busy with the highly important job of restoring courses at least to their condition at the start of the season and in many cases to carrying out developments and improvements not possible earlier due to heavy occupation of courses.

This is the time when the head greenkeeper takes stock of his responsibilities in matters of course, equipment and staff potential, but the pause is only a brief one, for, month by month, he has a strict calendar sequence of operations just as pressing as those which require to be carried out by the keenest gardeners among us, and his constant care is to try to get ahead of nature.

This year has been a very difficult one due to excessive rainfall which has both resulted in courses being more heavily divot-scarred than usual, and a much greater rate of grass growth.

In these conditions, too, weeds have flourished and altogether there is cause for dismay. No wonder there is a shortage of greenkeeping staff nowadays.

Give sympathetic and understanding thought therefore to those who, for your future enjoyment, rise early in all sort of weather and work thoughtfully and painstakingly to bring your course up to a standard which will satisfy them and are often maligned in their absence. The greenkeeper has no redress against members’ complaints, although he has a pretty good buffer in the secretary (who is paid to listen patiently to complaints!)

Greenkeeping is a vocation for the enthusiast and of the dozen or so I know in the area there is an air of sincere dedication displayed in every one of them. Nowadays, of course, his burden is considerably lightened with the rapid development of machinery and its intelligent use, effective fertilisers and worm and weedkilling agents (lead arsenate—£200 a ton!)

Skilled in his art, he is a manager of men, chemist and scientist, an expert in Critical Path Analysis (the “in” word for organisation). He has to be a book-keeper and scribe into the bargain for he registers all activities, materials used, time taken and so on in his log book—his most important record.

He can also call on the expertise offered to him free by the Greenkeepers’ Association and the Sports Turf Research Institute who will give him Soil Analysis Reports and recommendations for curing acid or alkaline conditions particularly on the putting greens.

Courses of instruction both for the head greenkeeper and his staff are run regularly and most clubs are foresighted enough to enrol them, so that they may be kept abreast of all modern methods and developments.

Any club which has an experienced head greenkeeper today can count itself fortunate. It is a race which is slowly being reduced in number each year by retirements without suitable replacement, for not many young men are coming along with an interest in the upkeep of a golf course, not really surprising when they know they can earn more money on the factory floor.

On the other hand, it is a good open-air life and the job is one which is worth while and satisfying.

Tradition plays a large part, however, and locally this is borne out in the (contd. on p. 15)
I AM SORRY FOR THE DELAY IN letting you all know of the course and dates for the Annual General Meeting; after a long wait for an answer from the Southern-down Golf Club our request was turned down with pressure of fixtures for the season. We did not receive this answer until November. Mr Fry and I made a few visits to the club and I telephoned a couple of times; we still could not get an early answer. I then tried Royal Porthcawl Golf Club; our chairman, Mr Geddes, made the inquiry but still no luck so I had to write to the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club which has very kindly permitted us to hold the meeting there. We are very grateful to them for their kindness.

A few words now about the course. Since the last meeting Mr Bert Jones and his staff have worked very hard and changed the course quite a bit. There is a big improvement now that the post and wire have been taken from the greens. The cattle, too, have been taken away. We look forward to you all having a good and enjoyable meeting. This course is near Porthcawl which would be the best place to stay, and I hope to see all the old faces and many new ones at this meeting. I am sure you will enjoy the course and good luck to you all.

A very Happy New Year to all members of the Association and a Prosperous New Year from all members of the Welsh Section.

December Lecture
ON WEDNESDAY, 4th DECEMBER, about forty members were present for the talk given by Mr J. Wellington who talked about the beginnings and progress of Charles H. Pugh Limited. With the aid of two moral supporters and leaflets he introduced the range of ATCO mowers, the 20" "SPECIAL" creating most interest. Question time was interrupted by the running out of time and the showing of two films, after which the Chairman thanked Mr Wellington for coming along and he in turn invited all present to drinks and sandwiches.

New Members
The following new members are welcomed to the Section and we invite them to come along to our meetings to meet new friends: J. H. Sargent (Hartsbourne), J. Cousin (Hayling Island), R. Smith and G. F. Child (Richmond).

Annual Dinner
The Annual Dinner will be held at the Finchley Golf Club on Friday, 14th March 1969 and as in previous years it will be preceded by an 18-hole Stableford competition. Full details in the March issue of the journal.

February Lecture
On Wednesday the 5th February, 6.30 p.m. at the Stirling Castle, London Wall, Moorgate, there will be a lecture by S. D. Tyldesley of the Synchemical Limited.

New Member
We welcome to this Section W. Woods, Esq., 94 Fairways, Keyworth, Notts.
Greetings

MAY I ON BEHALF OF THE members of the North-West Section extend to the Editor, Hon. Secretary, our friends in the trade and all members of the B.G.G.A. the Season's Greetings and Good Luck for the future.

Lectures

Our thanks to Mr R. Dagnall of Fisons for making the journey to Manchester in very poor weather to give us a very instructive and enjoyable talk, which covered a wide range of subjects.

Our next talk will be given by Mr Fairhurst of Fosters & Co. The date will be 13th January but the venue has been changed and will now be given at the Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, and NOT at the Garrick Hotel as stated in last month's Journal. Time 7.30 p.m. The February talk will be given by B. Metcalf of J. Metcalf & Co. on 10th February. I would like to say here that there will be no more talks given at the Garrick Hotel.

Midland Section, but is now back with the North-West having taken over as Head Greenkeeper at the Swinton Park Golf Club, Manchester.

November Meeting

THE FIRST MEETING OF THE winter session was held in the clubhouse of the Horsforth Golf Club on Wednesday, 15th November. Thirty-five members attended.

The meeting was in the form of an open discussion and to start the ball rolling the letter written by our Chairman, A. Robertshaw, in the journal was put before the members. Many members expressed their views on the contents. The discussion was made more interesting by the presence of Mr Sanderson, Chairman of the Green Committee at Horsforth Golf Club, who was able to put the other side's views on certain aspects. After this had been given a good and useful airing other subjects were discussed to conclude an interesting evening.

Spring Tournament

The venue for the Spring Tournament has now been fixed; due to the kindness of the Captain and Council of the Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club we will be holding the above Tournament on their course. Date 13th May. I will inform members of any further details nearer the time.

Congratulations

Congratulations to F. Halstead on his retirement after more than 20 years at Bury Golf Club. Happy days, Frank.

We welcome back to the Section R. Janovskis, who a short time ago went to the

Meetings

Members are asked to note the dates for meetings in the New Year, all to be held at Horsforth Golf Club: Wednesday, 22nd January; Wednesday, 26th February; Wednesday, 12th March.

The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, 28th March.

Grand National Sweep

Members will soon be receiving tickets for the Annual Sweep and it is hoped that you will all make every effort to make it a success. As you know most of the profits go to the Benevolent Fund and the bigger the

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SHEFFIELD

Chairman:
G. HERRINGTON
(Lindrick)

By H. Gillespie
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Sheffield 6

S.T.R.I.

THE NOVEMBER LECTURE BY
Mr W. H. Bartle of the Sports Turf Research
Institute was a repeat of that he gave to our
members last January which was said at that
time to be the best presented to the Section.
The subject was “Greenkeeping in General”
and the idea of a repeat was to invite the
Chairmen of Green Committees of all
Sheffield and District Golf Clubs. However,
only seven clubs were represented at the
lecture along with thirty-two of our members
to hear Mr Bartle present ideas and recom-
endations on course maintenance, work
planning, management and staff relationship,
etc. The evening had to be brought to a close
at 10.30 p.m. after three hours of discussion
and questions which was in itself proof of the
popularity of the lecture.

Tractors

The February lecture to be held on
Thursday the 27th will be given by Messrs.
J. I. Fearn (Agricultural) Ltd., and the
subject will be “Tractors” Maintenance and
Handling Tips.

We wish all our friends both old and new
a happy and prosperous New Year and may
1969 bring more favourable weather con-
ditions than its predecessor.

MISCELLANEOUS

PROFESSIONALS AND GREENKEEPERS having
stocks of used golf balls contact Sparkbrook
Golf Ball Co., 295 Highgate Road, Stoney
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export orders.

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN AERATOR,
£25 per week—do it yourself. For con-
tract prices telephone Burnell, Eagles-
cliffe 3647.

( contd. from p. 12 )

person of the head greenkeeper at “The
Gogs”, Douglas Neville. He is the son
of a present greenkeeper in Buckingham-
shire and his own son, Andrew, has
joined him and is making the progress
under his watchful eye.

Nearer home and with a splendid
record of service to the Links Golf
Club is my old friend “Ted” Scrivener.
Working with his brother who has now
retired, Ted can be considered the
doyen of his profession in this area.

The splendid condition of the course
is a testament to his hard work and
enthusiasm and he has the best of both
worlds for he is a keen golfer himself.

Talking with him recently, he told
me that next year he completes 50
years with the club. I shouldn’t think
there are many greenkeepers in this
country to beat that.

Our friends the greenkeepers deserve
well of us—salute them all.

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FINE TURF SPECIALISTS
EDINBURGH, 2
A very Happy New Year to you all

There should be plenty of bitter oranges now in the shops, if you wish to make your own marmalade. To make it successfully, be sure to use the special oranges (not the sweet eating ones) and to soften the skins before adding the sugar. If the skins should be exceptionally tough, a pinch of bicarbonate of soda added to the water in which they are cooking will help to soften them.

Old Fashioned Marmalade

Take 14 Seville oranges, divide into quarters, take out the pips, cover the latter with water and allow to stand all night; cut the fruit into fine shreds, put into a deep dish and add 3 pints of water to each pound of fruit; let it stand 24 hours, then boil till tender (about an hour); let it stand all night, add liquid from the pips, then weigh and allow 1½ lb. of castor sugar to each pound. Boil together ¾ of an hour, or until the juice is well set. Put into jars and cover, the juice of 2 lemons added is an improvement. If there is a tendency for the peel to rise to the top of the jars, leave to cool a little longer, then stir well to distribute the peel evenly.

Marmalade Pudding

¼ lb. breadcrumbs, ½ lb. finely mixed suet, 2 oz. butter, ¼ lb. flour, pinch of salt, 1 large egg, 5 oz. marmalade, ¼ of a teaspoonful of bicarbonate of soda, a little milk, ¼ lb. of demerara sugar.

Rub the butter into the flour, add the sugar, breadcrumbs, suet, egg beaten, marmalade and soda dissolved in the milk, mix thoroughly, pour into a well-buttered mould dusted with brown sugar, cover, with buttered paper, and steam for 2 hours; then turn out and serve with marmalade sauce.

Marmalade Sauce

1 tablespoonful of marmalade, 2 tablespoonfuls of brown sugar, ¼ pint of water. Boil the sugar and water 10 minutes. Stir in the marmalade and serve.

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