

# LETTERS

19 Unit Road,  
Ainsdale, Southport,  
Merseyside.  
16th July, 1974.

Dear Sir,

I have before me a letter from the B.G.G.A. titled 'Greenkeepers' Wages'. I've come to the conclusion it is just a worthless scrap of paper.

True it does say in the opening paragraph that wages levels remain the subject of negotiation between the Golf Club and the Greenkeeper in the light of local circumstances. True also that here in the North-West we have far too little bargaining power because of the absence of large industrial concerns and probably we are not by ourselves.

However, as greenkeepers we all have the same sort of problems and those of us on links perhaps more than our fair share.

I wonder if the B.G.G.A. realise that often wages levels for greenkeepers and their assistants are determined by the level of agricultural wages. I'm sure they do—but the agricultural workers are at this time subject to threshold agreements. I wonder how we can ensure we get our increase.

If we were affiliated to the T.U.C. this surely would be very easy. Even more important, we would I'm sure get the backing required to get more uniformity in wages.

We heard once again on T.V. from one of the 'Open' commentators about the shortage of courses both private and municipal and the inevitable shortage of experienced staff. How does the B.G.G.A. view this problem?

As greenkeepers our job seems to be to maintain a course in the best possible condition for continuous usage irrespective of weather conditions.

Surely it is not asking too much of the B.G.G.A. which has the backing of such influential men, to include in the 'Objects of the Association'—to secure and insist upon a National Salary Scale.

Yours faithfully,  
E. G. Mawdeley  
Head Greenkeeper

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# NEWS

We have received a nicely produced booklet entitled "Green Fingers and Grey Matter" published by Cannock Fertilisers Limited, Cannock, Staffs. WS11 3LW. This contains articles about growing roses, lawns etc. and is, therefore, aimed at the home gardener. However, a feature on soil and fertilisers provides information on N, P and K and the publication could be of interest to Green Keepers and especially useful to students and trainees. Cannock Fertilisers Limited will gladly send a copy on request, free and post free. Whilst writing, also ask them for their Green Keeping booklet.

**Chipman Limited, Horsham**, having earlier acquired from Cambridge Soil Services Ltd., the exclusive use of their new Sand Injection Turf Drainage System for the Government, Local Authority and amateur sports organisations, now announce that they have secured a complete franchise for this service extending to all U.K. markets including professional sports clubs. This equipment, for which patent application has been made, will now form an integral part of Chipman's expanding Turf Management service, especially in relation to waterlogged conditions and the poor swards which result therefrom.