

By Appointment to Her Majesty the Queen
Charles H. Pugh Ltd. Motor Mower Manufacturers



ATCO FOR BIG AREA MOWING

ATCO GANG MOWERS

There are three models available. The popular general-purpose model No. 1; the heavy-duty No. 2; and:

The MODEL No. 3 with these star features:

- ★ Special two-section gearbox makes cutter changing a moment's job — no stripping!
- ★ 10" Heavy-duty cutter unit of advanced design for outstanding cutting and clearing efficiency.
- ★ Even less time needed for maintenance — For example: oil bath changes, ONCE A YEAR only! — making more time for mowing!
- ★ Full width rear roller for fine turf mowing — Easily attached and detached to suit varying conditions.

These tractor models are supplemented by the Acto self-contained 84" Triple, now powered with the 12 H.P. long-hourage Kohler engine, and the full range of professional Atcos.



LET ATCO WORK FOR YOU!

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.

*and perhaps
most important of all . . .
IMPECCABLE SERVICE*

EVERYWHERE there is an ACTO Engineer attached to an ATCO owned Branch ready to advise on any problem in connection with grass cutting.

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

President:

CARL BRETHERTON

Vice-Presidents:

SIR WILLIAM CARR
R. B. DAWSON, O.B.E., M.S.C.,
F.L.S.
GORDON WRIGHT
F. W. HAWTREE
S. NORGATE
I. G. NICHOLLS
F. V. SOUTHGATE
P. HAZELL
W. KINSEY

Chairman:

G. HERRINGTON
Lindrick G.C.
Lindrick Common
Woodsetts, Worksop, Notts.

Vice-Chairman:

HENRY A. D. FRY

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer:

C. H. DIX
Addington Court G.C.
Featherbed Lane
Addington, Croydon, Surrey
CRO 9AA

Executive Committee:

Carl Bretherton (President)
G. Herrington E. W. Folkes
R. Goodwin S. Fretter
J. Parker J. Simpson
A. A. Cockfield H. M. Walsh

Hon. Auditors:

Messrs SMALLFIELD RAWLINS AND
Co., Candlewick House, 116/126
Cannon Street, London, E.C.4

Hon. Solicitor:

R. A. BECK
21 Lime Street, London, E.C.3

The Association is affiliated to the
English and Welsh Golf Unions.

No. 286 New Series

FEBRUARY 1969

FEBRUARY

CONTENTS

- PAGE 3 TEE SHOTS
- 4 TRADE NEWS
- 5 HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES
- 5 CORRESPONDENCE
- 6 WHY WINTER GREENS?
- 8 SPECIAL OCCASIONS
- 9 SITUATION VACANT
- 12 SPARE A THOUGHT FOR
GREENKEEPERS
- 13 NEWS FROM SECTIONS
- 16 MRS GREENKEEPER

EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICES: Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey. Telephone: 01-657 0281. SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 15/6 for 12 issues post paid. Published during the first week of each month. LATEST COPY DATE: 8th of month prior to insertion. All rights reserved. Reproduction of original articles and photographs in whole or in part is prohibited. This Magazine shall not, without the written consent of the publishers first given, be re-sold, lent, hired out, or otherwise disposed of. Contributions and photographs of interest are invited.

TO INSERT A CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT, write to the Advertisement Manager at the above address. The rate is 6d. per word (minimum 15 words). Remittance must be sent with order. Please state number of insertions required and write advertisement in block letters. Advertisements will be inserted in the first available issue.

Berk feeds for every turf

Send the coupon now for full details

Spring and Summer Fine Turf Feed *The lush, late growth during 1968's warm, wet autumn took an abnormal amount of nutrient from the turf. This massive depletion of plant foods must be made good or nutrient deficiency is inevitable. Berk's Spring and Summer Fine Turf Feed acts quickly and lasts longer.*

Spring and Summer Outfield Fertilizer *It costs so much less to keep your turf healthy than to cure problems resulting from lack of fertilizer. Worms, weeds, diseases—they all thrive on undernourished*

turf. It costs even less with a lightweight application of Berk Spring and Summer Outfield Fertilizer.

Fine Turf Top Dressing *A light application – say 3lbs per square yard – helps to fill any undulations caused by frosts. It is based on Neals Kettering Loam. It is applied in early March, to all surfaces and makes an excellent seed bed.*

Lawn Sand *Berk Lawn Sand is a quick-acting tonic dressing that prepares turf for early competitions. It is highly economical.*



Berk Limited

Parks and Sportsgrounds Department,
Berk House, 8 Baker Street, London, W1A 1BL. Tel: 01-486 6688

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

NAME _____

POSITION _____

ADDRESS _____

Spring and Summer
Fine Turf Feed

Spring and Summer
Outfield Fertilizer

Fine Turf
Top dressing

Lawn Sand

BG1

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

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. Club-house 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)*



Grass Seeds

FOR HIGHEST PURITY AND GERMINATION

SEND
NOW
FOR OUR FREE
'GREENKEEPING'
CATALOGUE

THE CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO. LTD., CANNOCK, STAFFS

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-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

Ransomes

Authorised service Repair Agents, Sales, Spares and Service.

Main Agents and Distributors to Briggs & Stratton (Engine Manufacturers).

Main agents and distributors for Clinton Engines. Spare parts and service exchange assemblies now available from stock.

Officially Appointed SERVICE DEPOT for

Villiers & JAP



Industrial & Agricultural Engines

HONDA AGENTS

RELF AND KENDALL

406 BRIGHTON ROAD, SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY. CRO 0578
11 STATION ROAD, NEW BARNET, BARNET 8228



Official London Area Distributors to Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies for specialist machines.

Agents for Dennis, Shanks, Greens, Atco, Lloyds and Allen motor scythes.



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.

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, Crosston Road, Farington, Leyland, Lancs. Telephone: Leyland 21243.

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

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 truthness 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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

Send the coupon now for full details

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.



Berk Limited

Parks and Sportsgrounds Department,

Berk House, 8 Baker Street, London, W1A 1BL. Tel: 01-486 6688

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

NAME _____

POSITION _____

ADDRESS _____

Moss

Worms

Weeds

Clover

BG1



- JANUARY** 13th North-West Section Lecture—Brunswick Hotel, Manchester.
22nd Northern Section Meeting—Horsforth Golf Club.
- FEBRUARY** 5th Southern Section Lecture—Stirling Castle.
10th North-West Section Lecture—Brunswick Hotel, Manchester.
26th Northern Section Lecture—Horsforth Golf Club.
27th Sheffield Section Lecture.
- MARCH** 12th Northern Section Lecture—Horsforth Golf Club.
14th Southern Section Annual Dinner—Finchley Golf Club.
28th Northern Section Annual Dinner.
- MAY** 13th North-West Section Spring Tournament.
14th East Midland Spring Tournament—Kettering Golf Club.
-

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.)

**everything
for the Golf
Course**

PATTISSON

H. PATTISSON & CO. LTD. STANMORE MIDDLESEX
Telephone: 01-954 4171

*Turf cutting machines. Flagstaffs
and Flags. Hose reels. Tee Mats.
Mud brushes. Drag brushes. Sprinklers.
Gang rollers. Harrows. Line Markers.
Tools. Machines of all types for
everything concerned with Golf courses.*

Send for catalogue.

(contd. from p. 6)

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, ie 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 green-keeping 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

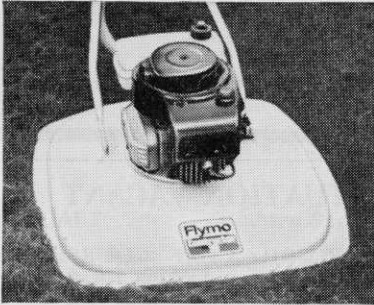
Experience

Salary required

And give one reference

Write before the 1st February if possible.

Plan with Flymo for cost savings in



Key A. The new Flymo 19" Contractor. Cuts long grass or short, wet or dry. Ideal for work around bunkers, under bushes and on tricky slopes. New 7.4cu.in. engine gives exceptionally low running costs. Dual filtration cuts engine wear. Reversible plate blade. And optional wheeled undercarriage for easy site-to-site transport. Also available with 21" cut.



Key B. The Toro 70" Professional (shown above) can cut over 14 acres a day. Very manoeuvrable, with big low-pressure tyres to avoid turf damage. Toro 70" has 3 self-sharpening cutting cylinders, 6.25 hp engine, forward and reverse gears. Ideal for areas up to 20 acres: a superbly engineered machine.

Key C. Power-driven triple gang mowing comes in the Toro 81" Super Pro, cutting over 28 acres a day. Two extra cutters can be fitted to give an 11' cut and 46 acres a day capacity.

