Golf Club’s Sports Forum raises £2,000

Moor Allerton Golf Club came up with an enterprising idea to raise funds to finance the construction of their new 14th hole during the Benson & Hedges Tournament played at Fulford. Capitalising on the talent available in Yorkshire during the week, they recruited Peter Alliss, Tony Jacklin, Mike Parkinson and their own tournament professional Howard Clark to participate in a golf forum and then sold tickets for the evening at £10.00 a head.

For Peter Alliss it was a return ‘home’. Moor Allerton was the club where he was appointed the consultant professional when the Trent Jones designed course opened twenty years ago. He stayed for ten years in a converted farmhouse with his good friend, Head Greenkeeper, Colin Geddes as his next door neighbour.

Moor Allerton’s General Manager, Ted Goldberg, told Golf Greenkeeping it was a superb evening. Over 200 golfers packed the clubhouse, keeping the panel under the chairmanship of Mike Parkinson on their toes for three hours.

It will cost £12,000 to move the 14th hole, brought about because of complaints from an adjacent weekend caravan site, who had threatened injunctions after mishit shots landed among the campers. Work is now at an advanced stage with turf laid on a sand base. Later this year the new tee will be constructed and the hole brought into use by the spring of 1988.

The project has been so successful we hear further improvements to other parts of the course are in the pipeline.

So often when course alterations take place, committee see the only way of finance is a levy on the members. Moor Allerton have already raised half the cost organising sponsored events and expect the remainder to be in the bank by the end of the year.

Gearing up for 1989 Ryder Cup

One of Britain’s newest, yet highly regarded golf courses is already gearing up to host the 1989 Ryder Cup.

The Belfry at Coleshill, near Sutton Coldfield, recently conducted a comprehensive weed control programme, for both the Brabazon and Derby courses.

A two man team from Hodges & Moss, accomplished the task with the help of a special low ground pressure self-propelled sprayer in just two days.

The Belfry won many friends in 1985 and much respect when the European team won the Ryder Cup for the first time since Lindrick in 1957.

Lee Trevino the American captain said Derrick Ganning, the Belfry’s course manager, was the ‘13th member of the European squad’ as his tribute to the excellent condition of the course. A tremendous compliment and one of the reasons why the Belfry is anxious to ensure perfection for the return match in 1989.
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SCOTSTURF '87

Scotland's major event for the sports and leisure industry, SCOTSTURF, will again take place at the Royal Highland Exhibition Hall, Inglisston, Edinburgh on Wednesday 11th November 1987.

Scotland's leading companies have already booked Stand Space at SCOTSTURF '87 - the 7th annual event organised by the Scotland and Northern Ireland Zone of the Institute of Groundsmanship and - a record number of 5,000 visitors from all over Scotland, Northern Ireland and the North of England are expected to attend groundsmen, greenkeepers, local authority representatives, landscape architects, estate owners and managers, sports turf advisors, educationalists, students and trainees.

Admission to the Exhibition is free-of-charge.

In addition some 250 delegates are expected to attend the Seminar which is scheduled for the morning of the Exhibition, with top speakers lined up from all over the U.K.

NORTH-WEST SHOW

The annual Field Day, organised by members of the North-West Zone of the Institute of Groundsmanship, will once again take place at Haydock Park Racecourse on 29th/30th September 1987.

The show is designed particularly for the benefit of Zone members, groundsmen and greenkeepers in the North-West and, for that reason, it is limited to local companies and suppliers. Unlike the practice at the three national exhibitions organised by the IoG (Southport, Royal Windsor and Scorton) national manufacturers and suppliers can only take part on the stands of their local distributors. Exceptions, however, can be made when such regional representation is not available.

The North-West Zone has organised an enormously popular local show for the past nine years. Last year it moved to the new site at Haydock Park because of the much appreciated facilities it offers for working demonstrations of material and equipment, attracting a record number of 2,500 visitors to the event. The signs are that this year will be equally successful.

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D56-57 Alginure Products Ltd. Bells Yew Green, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9BT.
S13/14/49-50 Allen Power Equipment Ltd. The Broadway, Didcot, Oxon OX11 8ES
C30-32 Allett Mower Co. Unit 60, Burkitt Road Earlstress Ind. Estate, Corby, Northants.
L3-10 Bob Andrews Ltd. Pontiac Works, Fernbank Road, Ascot, Berks.
T9-16 Robert H. Andrews Ltd. The Garden Machine Centre, London Road, Sunningdale, Berks. SL5 0JJ.
E6-7 Anglian Sports turf Oliver’s Farm, Maidon Road, Witham, Essex CM8 3HY.
D37-38 Aqua Pipes Ltd. Darlingcross Road, Shipston on Stour, Warwicks. CB36 4DZ.
Educ. Pavilion Askam Bryan College of Agric. & Hort.
Askam Bryan, York Y02 3PR.
T1-10 Atco Suffolk Works, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 1EY.
S51-54 Atterton & Ellis Ltd. Iron Works, Haverhill, Suffolk. CB9 8OH
Cen. Ave. 33-35 Axeline Eastern Ltd. Station Road, Hubberts Bridge, Boston, Lincs. PE20 3QT.

Educ. Pavilion Aylesbury College Dept. of Agric. & Hort. Hampden Hall, Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP22 6AQ.
Educ. Pavilion BALI British Association of Landscape Industries. Landscape House, Henry Street, Keighley, West Yorkshire. BD21 3DR.
A1-3 BASF UK Ltd. Lady Lane, Maiddeigh, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 6BQ.
S1-4 BP Oil Ltd. BP House. Victoria Street, London SW1E 5NJ.
J20-22 Barlow Tyrie Ltd. Springwood Ind. Estate, Rayne Road, Braintree, Essex CM7 7RN.
T17-25 Barratt, E. P. Ltd., Laughton Road, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX6 0UR.
H69-70 Booker Seeds Ltd. Boston Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7HA.
V55-56 L. D. Bourgein Oxford Ltd. South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5AZ.
A49-51 Bradshaw, John Ltd. New Lane, Stibbington, Peterborough, Cambs. PE6 8GW.
Covered Pavilion Briggs & Stratton (UK) Ltd. 640 Ripple Road, Barking, Essex IG11 0RJ.
V36-39 British Landscaping Equipment Co. 73 Riverside Deeping Gate, Peterborough, Cambs. PE6 9AR.
W23 British Overseas Irrigation. The Green, Upper Haliford, Shepperton, Middx. TW17 8RY

Windsor Show set to break all records.

Over 50,000 sq. m. of display and demonstration areas have been booked for this year's IoG Sports and Leisure World Trade Exhibition, the 42nd such event organised by the Institute of Groundsmanship. A record 342 companies will be taking part, displaying some of the latest developments from the UK and 27 overseas countries.

The exhibition takes place at the Royal Windsor Racecourse, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, Berkshire on 15th, 16th and 17th (Tuesday to Thursday) September, and will be open from 10.00 a.m. till 5.00 p.m. daily. Admission will be by catalogue costing £2.

Sixteen of the country's leading horticultural colleges will be supporting an extended Education and Training Centre at this year's exhibition. Participants include Askham Bryan, York, Aylesbury, Brinsbury, Cambridgeshire, Capel Manor, Cheshire, Evesham, Hampshire, Missriet Wood, Myerscough, Norwood Hall, Pershore, Plumpton, Somerset, South-East London, and South London.

They will be taking part with such bodies as the Agricultural Training Board, Armenty Grass Marketing Association, British Agricultural and Garden Machinery Association, the British Association of Landscape Industries, City & Guilds of London Institute, the Health and Safety Executive, the National Turfgrass Council, the National Playing Fields Association, the Sports Turf Research Institute.

Over 30 organisations will be demonstrating products on more than 11,000 m. of working demonstration plots, with separate facilities being provided for irrigation equipment.

Two large marquees have been provided this year for exhibitors who prefer to be indoors. Pavilion A has been taken over by the U.S. giant Jacobsen, and Pavilion B will be occupied by a number of individual firms.

The 1988 event will take place from 20th to 22nd September, again at Windsor Racecourse; in 1989 from 19th to 21st September, 1990 from 18th to 20th September; 1991 from 17th to 19th September, and in 1992 from 16th to 18th September.

Recent surveys carried out for the organisers indicated that over a third of visitors attend to purchase at the exhibition, whilst 80 per cent come to inspect for future purchase. The average budget of visitors interviewed was £118,000.

ROYAL WINDSOR '87

10G SPORTS & LEISURE WORLD TRADE EXHIBITIONS
LANDSCAPING - MANAGEMENT - MAINTENANCE
The Exhibition will take place at The Royal Windsor Racecourse, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, Berkshire, from 15th - 17th September 1987. 10am-5pm daily.
SUBSURFACE AIR BLAST SOLVES SOIL PROBLEMS

Soil compaction, a widespread problem in sports and amenity areas, is quickly, effectively and safely alleviated with a sophisticated machine operated by a Suffolk-based contractor. It shatters the compacted layer or pan with a blast of compressed air and at the same time can inject fertiliser and other therapeutic materials to help rejuvenate stressed trees, shrubs or turf in danger of dying.

Colin Pryce, who runs this new soil conditioning service, points out that in the past soil problems caused by compaction by machinery and treading were virtually impossible to overcome without surface disturbance or the risk of severe root damage. His German Terralift does little, if any surface or root damage, yet each blast loosens a saucer-shaped soil volume measuring up to 1.5ft across and 3ft deep.

"The only other tool that can shatter the soil to depth is a subsoiler, but this cannot be used round trees or on sports fields or any other amenity area without inflicting root damage or surface lifting and tearing", he explains.

"The Terralift's effect is virtually all below ground and it does minimal root damage which if anything is beneficial because it tends to stimulate root growth.

The machine's other major advantage is that it simultaneously injects slow release nutrients like BASF's Floranid Tree and Floranid NPK into the soil cracks as they are being formed. This is far quicker and more effective than surface application or root feeding through auger or crowbar holes because the fertiliser is distributed throughout the root zone. As a standard practice he also injects 1mm to 3mm polystyrene granules to help prevent subsequent closure of the fissures.

The direct feeding of stressed trees with Floranid fertilisers has significant advantages. Floranid Tree is specially formulated to relieve stress by immediately releasing major and trace elements to roots which previously had been unable to function effectively due to the compacted soil. For roadside trees the product's high potassium and magnesium content also helps to counteract the harmful effects of salt applied to roads during frosty and snowy weather. Floranid NPK contains the balanced range of nutrients essential for good tree and plant growth and like Floranid Tree some of its nitrogen is in slow-release (nitrogen Isodur) form, thus ensuring sustained growth.

The idea of launching an amenity soil conditioning service occurred to Mr. Pryce at last year's Institute of Groundsmen's show at Windsor where he saw the machine on BASF's stand (they recommend the Terralift for soil treatment with their Floranid fertiliser range). Subsequent enquires indicated a considerable potential demand for such a service for jobs such as rejuvenating trees in building construction areas, where soil is compacted by machinery, and conditioning soil in goalmouth areas, cricket pitches and golf courses where excessive treading has caused poor growth.

The pedestrian operated machine is powered by a Honda 7 bhp four-stroke petrol engine which drives and industrial compressor serving two compressed air cylinders. The compressed air forces air at high speed and a pressure of 105 to 300 psi through the probe and out of three holes near the probe's tip and a split second later injects the beads and the fertiliser (or other materials) through the probe and thence into the cracks produced by the compressed air 'explosion'; it also drives individual wheel motors and operates a hammer that rams a hollow steel probe up to 30in. into the ground.

"The volume and pressure of air can be varied according to soil conditions and the job in hand", says Mr. Pryce. "With golf greens and tennis courts, for example, one wants to avoid rupturing the surface and so the pressure and volume used will be at the lower end of the range. I don't advise use of the machine in waterlogged soil, otherwise it can work under any soil conditions".

Cost of his service ranges from about £40 for soil conditioning around a large tree to £400 for treating a football pitch or the equivalent area of land. These prices include polystyrene bead soil improver mix injection but not fertiliser or other materials such as nematicides and fungicides.

In conjunction with BASF the Terralift will be demonstrated at the Sports and Leisure Exhibition at Windsor on September 15th to 17th.

GOLF - Chinese Style

There is a new exotic oriental venue for competitive amateur golfers, who can play to a handicap of 12 or less.

The second mens open amateur championship for the people's Republic of China will be played at the Chung Shan Hot Spring Golf Club over four days commencing on 5th November.

Six days accommodation, including breakfast, two days of practice, entry fee, jet foil from Hong Kong, a buffet dinner on the first day and a Chinese Banquet on 7th November are on offer for a mere $300 US dollars. (£140.00).

Unfortunately this price does not include the air fare from Heathrow to Hong Kong.

If any of our readers fancy making the trip the Editor has the entry form and would consider offers of sponsorship to join competitions and report the proceedings. He is also on good terms with the Course Manager.

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Seeing is believing. Our demonstrator will be happy to visit you, and show you the Triple M in action. For a free demonstration or literature, complete the coupon.

The Triple M five-bladed model, superb value from around £2,599.00 (+VAT).

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I find the manure layer on top of the cuttings accelerates the rotting down process and that the top soil gives body to the whole thing.

We now have a mature heap to put under cover - What do we require? A drying shed - nothing too elaborate. It is amazing what can be achieved with clear plastic sheeting, and 3 x 2 framework supported by 8 posts, open all round or just at each end. The important point is a free circulation of air. My shed is an old corrugated barn bought for £50 and erected by a couple of members and myself over odd weekends. These sheds can also provide extra working areas during wet weather.

I use the Royer belt-type crusher to break down the material prior to riddling. For riddling I have the En-Tout-Cas rotary with Villiers engine. There is no waste from compost as all the coarse riddlings left over make super top soil and shrub planting material with a very high food content. It also makes a good open rough layer on drain trenches prior to relaying the turf, allowing water through and providing a good rooting base. Better than sand and most top soils, considering the average food content. It also makes a lot of compost for £7.75 a ton, with a bag of planting compost costs around £2. Another saving!

Labour is our next consideration. I found by utilising my labour, on wet days, instead of sitting in the shed or carrying out futile tasks we could produce 10 cwt. of compost. We all have those "in-between job" spells -times not to be idle - it all adds up and it saves your club money.

The most important aspect of making your own compost is you control the quality - like life you reap what you sow. A rough estimate of making your own material, I would say costs around £3 to £4,000 for the crusher, riddle and a cheap storage shed. Remember you have many years of cheap compost for that first capital outlay.

Quality compost for greens and tees, dependent on the transport charges and the availability costs around £20.00 to £25.00 a ton. According to the figures calculated by John Lowery a considerable saving can be shown with the home-made variety. Including greenkeepers’ time, purchase of manure, top soil; fuel and running costs of the machinery we can produce proven quality compost for £7.75 a ton, as a result saving to his club of about £400 a year. What is more it is there when he wants it and he is certain he could not buy better.

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Preparing a Greenkeepers’ Job Description

It is now common practice in industry for those in positions of management to be provided with a job description.

This document is normally drawn up after considerable discussion between the job holder and his immediate superior, ensuring a complete understanding between both parties regarding the broad responsibilities of the manager’s role and what is expected from him.

Few greenkeepers have a similar document, which is surprising when one considers most Committee Chairmen hold responsible positions in business and invariably have a job description themselves.

Several clubs have recently enquired whether a standard document exists and as a guide, and it must be emphasised it is only a guide, a format for a job description has been drawn up.

The job description must be individually produced because clubs need to put the emphasis on responsibilities in differing areas.

The job description should not attempt to state every task the greenkeeper is expected to carry out, but group activities under broad headings. To assist in clarifying thoughts when drafting the job description, think of the job relating to Money, Men, Machinery, Materials and Methods. These five M's will cover just about everything needed to control the day-to-day workings of a golf course.

A written agreement between the Head Greenkeeper and his Committee will go some way to creating a better understanding of individual responsibilities.

It must also be said it is not a tablet of stone and will require updating, as and when the emphasis on working practices need to be changed.

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