"You'll see alright. It may be surface water is still a problem. The turf could be looking thin and tired. Weeds could be on the increase.

"What you can't see so easily is the cause. Compaction. Or a build up of thatch. Probably both. Either way, the result's the same. Water doesn't soak in properly. The soil is starved of oxygen. Rooting gets shallow. Weeds and disease get a hold. You've got a problem and just spiking holes in the ground isn't going to solve it.

"Hollow tine aeration is the answer. What the Ryan people call Core Cultivation.

"In fact, I reckon that for most heavily used sports areas, Core Cultivation should be a routine part of any turf maintenance programme. Not just a problem solver. Obviously, how often you use hollow tining varies according to different soil conditions. I find once in the Spring and Autumn is about right.

"Why do I think Ryan hollow tine aerators are the best?

"Well, they've got some very special design features.

"Look at the Greensaire for instance. There's the core pattern created by the tines. A close 2 inch by 2 inch up to 3 inches deep with a 24 inch swath. On a green of say 6000 square feet that's 3 cubic yards of core material. And you can do that in well under an hour.

The Ryan Range

Aerators
Greensaire 16in
Greensaire 24in with optional Core Processor
Ride-Aire 19in ride-on
Lawnaire 18in
Lawnaire 3t tractor towed
Traaire 6ft tractor towed
Renovaire 6t contouring tractor towed

Scarifiers
Ren-O-Thin 5hp 18in
Ren-O-Thin 7hp 18in
Mataway 10hp 19in self propelled

Turf Cutters
J.R. 12in width.
Heavy duty 12 and 16in widths with automatic chop off and turf rolling

Purchase, hire or contract schemes available
Contact your nearest official Ryan dealer for further information

"So what's this core cultivation all about?

"First, hollow tining actually removes cores of soil—and thatch of course. That obviously relieves soil compaction far better than a spike or slitter. As a result, it opens up the soil giving better movement of air, water and fertilisers. If the soil is good, breaking up the cores, either by a scarifier or a Ryan core processor, separates the thatch, which can then be removed easily.

"Then there's the way the tines actually penetrate the soil. Ryan have a really clever design which makes each time go in and out absolutely vertically. Unlike other makes, where the tines sort of rock to and fro which can damage the surface.

"It's that sort of thing that makes Ryan aerators the best. In fact, you should have a look at the whole range of Ryan turf maintenance equipment. It's the best you can buy".

RYAN
Turf Care Equipment
Distributed in the UK by Victa (UK) Limited
Rutherford Road Daneshill West Basingstoke Hants RG24 0GY Tel: (0256) 50301 Telex: 658282

Scotland
Autogarden (Glasgow) 0505 24341
Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland, N. Yorks. (NW) J M Raine 0388 60487
Cumbria, Lancs, G. Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire, Derbyshire, N. Yorks. (NW), W. Yorks (W) Fletcher-Stewart (Stockport) 081-483 5542
S. Yorks, Humberside (N), N. Yorks (Cen. & E), W. Yorks (E) Sewards Agricultural Machinery 0904 704121
Clyde, Gwynedd, Shropshire, Powys Walker Engineering 069-189 2447
Staffs, W. Midlands, Warwick, Hereford, Worcs. E T Breakwell 021-7444477
Linca, Motta, Leics, S. Humberside Lawnmower Services (Lincoln) 0522 810562
Northants, Cambs, Beds. Rogers Engineers 0342 870201
Norfolk, Suffolk (NE) Ben Burgess Garden Equipment 0603 628251
Essex, Suffolk (SW), London (E) P Johnson (T.E.S.S) 0708 28811
Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Herts, London (NW) Risborough Turf Suppliers 08444 3023
Glos., Avon, Wilts. (N) Bristol Garden Machinery 0272 719361
Dyfed, Glamorgan, Gwent Celtic Mowers 0792 41517
Somerset, Devon L F Jewells 0278 424088
Kent, E. Sussex, Surrey, London (E) Shanks Mowers (Croydon) 01-771 4811
N. Ireland Cyril Johnston & Co. 0232 813121
Eire Brophy's Lawn & Turf Machines 0001 974081

Distributed in the UK by Victa (UK) Limited
Rutherford Road Daneshill West Basingstoke Hants RG24 0GY Tel: (0256) 50301 Telex: 658282
THE SEARCH BEGINS

Some years ago there was a popular monologue emanating from across the Atlantic attempting to define 'What is a boy', with a sequel asking the same question for the opposite sex. It went something like this. 'A boy is tousled haired with short pants and dirty knees. He likes getting into scrapes, ice cream, kicking a ball, throwing stones and stamping into puddles. He dislikes, girls, washing his neck, going to bed, school dinners and doing as he is told.

The first task of the BIGGA Committee is to appoint an Administrator for the Association, but before that can be done a similar specification must be produced for the person who will ultimately be appointed to take on this most exacting role.

Unlike other appointments to head and represent an Association the applicants for this job needs to have very special qualities. The greenkeeping profession has a long and distinctive role in the game even before Old Tom Morris which has often, and not without foundation, been described as more akin to a disease or a religion. Those who play and those who produce the fields for combat are invariably totally dedicated in their efforts to seek the ultimate in perfection. Few succeed, but this is never regarded as a deterrent. There is always tomorrow, when improved skills, additional determination and a little slice of luck will produce the results that evaded them today.

First and foremost the General Administrator must have a total understanding of the work of the greenkeeper. The long hours spent, often in adverse weather conditions, tending over one hundred acres of turf. To many laymen one blade of grass is, much the same as another, but the greenkeeper knows far better. Only he can distinguish the desirable species and the best method of cultivation.

To lead the greenkeepers to full recognition, the Administrator must also be aware of their working conditions, present educational facilities, and more important, the lack of them, and often, the total incomprehension by some Club Committees, to understand the greenkeeper is a professional. To maintain their golf course, he should be given the authority, facilities, status and salary to carry out his duties to the best of his abilities. The Administrator will need to have the diplomacy of a Foreign Secretary, the political awareness of a Prime Minister, the drive of a Captain of Industry, the meekness of a Mother Superior and the stamina of a Royal Marine Commando.

An ideal job, perhaps, for Prince Edward, if only he played golf.

Whoever receives the accolade of recognition from this appointment he is certain to be taking on a job where there will be more brick-bats than bouquets, more criticism than praise and appreciation more likely to come after his demise than during his tenure of office.

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Stroke for stroke, the best in the business.

**Greens King® IV Diesel.**
Now, you can approach the green with the finest tournament-quality triplex greens mower and cut your fuel costs virtually in half. Because the innovative Jacobsen Greens King family introduces another industry first: Diesel.

The new 16 1/2-hp. diesel Greens King IV provides more power for climbing and cutting. Plus, this diesel model has many standard features you'll only find as options elsewhere. Like full floating and pivoting reel units that steer through turns without scuffing or marking; full hydraulic drive with dynamic braking for greater control; just let up on the pedal to slow down; and, variable speed control which allows the operator to select the precise ground speed and frequency of cut for greens while still allowing full speed for transport.

By cutting horizontal runners and removing thatch, the patented Turf Groomer™ attachment creates faster, truer and healthier greens without lowering height of cut.

If you prefer a gas engine, both 14-hp. and 16-hp. models are available. Giving you the broadest selection of riding greens mowers in the industry. With more options, to help you meet your greens care needs more precisely. Like the revolutionary, patented Turf Groomer™ attachment for faster, truer greens. Without lowering height of cut.

And, the unique performance monitor which digitally displays all speeds, including cutting frequency, so the operator can evaluate mowing performance, instantly.

What's more, every Greens King is backed by the most extensive support network in the industry. So, contact your Jacobsen distributor to arrange a free demonstration. And see for yourself why the Greens King family is the best in the business.

Greens King and Turf Groomer are trademarks of Jacobsen Division of Textron

Bergen Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2JG
Tel: King's Lynn (0553) 763333
Telex: 818861

Greens King and Turf Groomer are trademarks of Jacobsen Division of Textron
The recent annual general meeting of the National Turfgrass Council elected Howard Swan to a second term as Chairman, and with the retirement of Neil Gilmour, John Holborn of the National Playing Fields Association, was chosen as Vice-Chairman. John Shildrick was reconfirmed as Secretary.

Howard Swan, Managing Director of Golf Landscapes Ltd. said he looked forward to leading the Council for a second year, out of what have been difficult times, towards a recognised place as The united voice in the industry, acting as the umbrella to all constituent members. "We have received tremendous support from the major Associations, particularly from the Institute of Groundsmanship, in pursuing this aim, and I see that we can, within a 3 year period, move positively and successfully forward", added Swan.

New products and a new name are the changes at Farmura, designed to ensure that the Company continues to lead its sector of the market", commented Sales Director Jonathan Harmer. "The change of name to "Farmura Environmental Products" of the marketing company is intended to reflect the widening of our product range - a one stop shop range of organic, environmental and landscaping products that will be of practical benefit to both specifiers and users".

Building on the proven Farmura range of Liquid Organic Fertilisers, the Company has launched three new products with others launched under development.

First seen at Windsor, Farmgran is a spreadable seaweed soil conditioner and improver which can be used on its own or incorporated in top dressings and has uses from fine turf to land reclamation. In fact, any area where there is a "fertility gap". Easily spreadable, Farmgran is packed in 25 kilo bags.

Pre-planting Root Dip to aid the re-establishment of trees and shrubs and to reduce losses to a minimum. Like Farmgran, Root Dip is an organic product which, when made into a creamy paste, is easy and quick to use. Root Dip is packed in easy to handle 15 kilo tubs.

Finally, Aquatain, a specialist water retaining compost containing organic nutrients for indoor landscaped hanging baskets or where watering is a problem. Aquatain is supplied in 10, 20 and 40 litre bags or in bulk.

Farmura Environmental Products are at Stone Hill, Egerton, Asford, Kent, TN27 9DU. Telephone: 023376-241
MOUNTED HYDRAULIC MOWER TO FOLLOW GOLF COURSE UNDULATIONS

A special version of their TR 138 ‘Golf Course’ Hydraulic Reelmower has been developed by Huxleys Grass Machinery specifically for golf greenkeepers with exceptionally undulating fairways to maintain.

Based entirely on the current Huxley TR 138 ‘Golf Course’ mower, the latest introduction features a fully-floating top link to replace the standard tractor link and has a contour-following castor wheel at the rear. These two additional components work totally in harmony when grass cutting, allowing the mower’s frame to move and float independently of the tractor despite the fact that the unit is still fully-mounted on the tractor’s three-point linkage.

Being tractor-mounted provides a number of benefits: It enables the mower to be lifted for fast, convenient movement from site to site; it allows the complete unit to be raised instantly out of work when turning at the end of a mowing run and it produces a compact, well-balanced grass-cutting combination which minimises the risk of turf damage from rutting or scuffing.

BRITISH SEED HOUSES SUPPLY GRASS FOR ST. MELLION

British Seed Houses Ltd have supplied the grass seed for the New Championship Golf Course at St. Mellion, which was designed by Jack Nicklaus.

The course was sown down in the Spring and Autumn of 1985 when straight Penncross Creeping Bent was sown on the greens and tees and the fairways were sown with the standard BSH A12 Fairway Mixture which contains the well known variety of Chewings Fescue Frida.

The course was said to be in excellent shape for the opening ceremony last Autumn.

Price of the Huxley TR 138 ‘Golf Course’ Hydraulic Reelmower complete with floating top link and castor wheel is £6,825, exclusive of VAT.

Huxley Hydraulic Reelmowers are available from appointed tractor dealers nationwide and from Huxleys Grass Machinery branches at:

- Tel: (0962) 733222; and Hillside, Thorpe Lea Road, Egham, Surrey, TW20 8JG, England.
- Tel: (0784) 38666. Telex: 894426.

TURFSCAPE '87

An indoor exhibition is booked to be held at the Grand Hotel, Malahide, Dublin on 4th and 5th March.

TURFSCAPE '87 is the second in the series and follows the successful launch of the Turfscape Exhibition held at the Belfry Golf and Country Club in February last year.

The dates chosen, timed to coincide with the arrival of spring - a season when the industry is considering the purchase of new machinery and supplies their current year end and planning yearly budgets.

The exhibition organised by TURF MANAGEMENT AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT comprise a team of professionals experienced in the organisation and promotion of specialised trade exhibitions and conferences.

TURF MANAGEMENT will also be organising a series of seminars to run concurrent with the exhibition and has the full backing of Kinsealy Research Institute at Malahide who will be providing some of the speakers for the seminars.

KUBOTA TAKES A LEAD ON TRACTOR SAFETY

A deep concern in the number of accidents at work has led the Kubota (UK) Ltd. to publish a new booklet on tractor safety.

At least 70 fatal accidents happen in agriculture and amenity turf each year. It is a sad fact that the vast majority of these accidents could have been avoided by attention to detail and the use of commonsense.

Available free from Kubota UK Limited - the booklet entitled 'Tractor Safety Code' covers the ten basic rules of tractor safety, showing clearly and concisely how simple commonsense will ensure safety of operation.

The booklet also covers the safety points for mowers, rotary tillers, dozer blades, trenchers, backhoes and loaders.

Clearly printed and illustrated, everybody concerned with the operation of tractors should read and take heed of this publication from Kubota.

'Tractor Safety Code' is published by Kubota (UK) Limited and is available free on request from their headquarters at Dormer Road, Thame, Oxfordshire OX9 3UN.
JOHNSONS NEW STYLE J RANGE BROCHURE 1987

Johnson Seeds has just issued the 1987 J Range brochure listing the 7 standard turfgrass mixtures and 3 Master blends recommended for sports and amenity areas.

The new brochure has been completely re-designed to simplify mixture selection. The proportions of individual components in each mixture are clearly set out, together with recommended Sowing Rates and Mowing Heights in both metric and imperial measures.

The recommended uses of each mixture are boldly specified and are grouped under 4 main headings which describe their common characteristics.

Fine and Tough Turf include 3 species mixes which are best able to tolerate, respectively, Close Mowing and Heavy Wear/Trampling.

Flexi Turf covers 3 mixes which vary in the ability of the grasses to which they can tolerate both these primary 'man made' stresses, whereas Tolerant Turf offers various combinations that are best able to withstand an extensive range of environmental stresses.

Mixture descriptions have been carefully revised providing key facts so that users can choose the best mix for their individual needs simply, quickly and with confidence. Further guidance is available on the back cover of the brochure for users who wish to acquire further information. The recommended uses of each mixture are clearly given together with a resumé of Johnsons J Range requirements.

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**GCSAA CONVENTION IN PHOENIX**

As this issue goes to press, the Editor will be on his way to Phoenix in Arizona with a party of greenkeepers from Britain to attend the week-long conference and exhibition staged by our American Greenkeeping colleagues.

Included in the party are Peter Shaw from Preston Golf Club and John Stiff Course Manager at Tracey Park, near Bristol who have been invited to Phoenix by the Jacobsen Textron company and will attend the national Jacobsen Dinner in the Phoenix Hilton. This is always a memorable occasion because of its truly world wide representation. It is to be hoped both our greenkeepers have acquired sufficient fluency in Japanese and Mandarin Chinese before leaving Heathrow on the 15 hour trip.

The March issue of *Golf Greenkeeping* will carry a full report of the conference together with the latest items of equipment and technology launched at the largest indoor exhibition of turf grass equipment in the world.

**SNOW BOUND**

The blizzards that swept in across the North Sea last month put the Jacobsen company at King’s Lynn, completely out of operation.

General Manager, Chris Smith told *Golf Greenkeeping* the snow was so deep none of the staff could get to their Bergen Estate headquarters and the business was forced to take an extra week’s holiday.

As the whole of the UK was in the grip of one of the worse winter week’s on record, it is unlikely there was a golf course in England, Scotland or Wales open for business in any case.

If there are any greenkeepers who managed to keep the golfers moving we would be very interested in hearing from them.

**TRACTOR SURVEY**

As in previous years *Golf Greenkeeping* will be publishing a survey on golf course tractors in the April issue. The manufacturers have been asked to provide up to date information on their current ranges together with prices, but this year we are taking the survey a stage further by enlisting the support of Head Greenkeepers to provide the Editor with information concerning the equipment you are using on your golf course - Now.

Enclosed with this copy of the magazine is a form asking you to take a few minutes of your time to provide valuable data to make this survey meaningful. Not all copies of the journal contain the questionnaire, but readers who have been selected are asked to help the Editor by noting the information and returning as soon as possible in the stamped addressed envelope provided.

**SUPATURF SAFETY PACK**

With the ever increasing use of chemicals as essential tools in the management of turf and amenity landscape and the introduction of new regulations concerning the use of pesticides Supaturf Products Ltd have introduced a safety pack for the spray operator. The pack comprises of protective gloves, goggles and masks all conforming to British Safety Standards and retail at £21.50. First time purchasers will be able to obtain also a FREE pair of hearing protectors.

**NEW ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING AT YORK**

Jack McMillan, the BIGGA Vice Chairman, presided over a seven member meeting of the Committee at York last month to further the progress of the amalgamation of the three Greenkeeper Associations.

Both Walter Woods and James Kidd were snow bound in Scotland.

The main business on the agenda concerned the appointment of a full-time administrator to handle the affairs of the Association. As reported in December a consultant has been appointed to advise the Committee and he met the members to put forward recommendations.

Advertisements will now appear in a number of golf and greenkeeping publications (see page 16 - Situations Vacant) for a suitable person to fill the position, at a salary stated to be around £16,000 per annum. It was also confirmed the headquarters of the Association, as predicted, will be within the offices of the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley St Ives.

Arrangements have already been made for the BIGGA National Tournament to take place from the 17th - 19th August at Verulam Golf Club at St. Albans, Hertfordshire and this will now be adopted as the venue for the 1987 BIGGA National Golf Tournament.

Walter Woods, the BIGGA Chairman told *Golf Greenkeeping* he was very pleased with the progress made to date, particularly the enthusiasm already shown by the various Sectional Committees, who by word and deed, have demonstrated their willingness to ensure the new Association succeeds.

**RESIGNED AND NOT RETIRED**

W. H. (Bill) Heath, a Vice President of the Midlands region and this went the Editor’s ear to point out the item referring to his retirement from Supaturf Products in the October issue was inaccurate.

He said he resigned from the company to start up his own agency and consultancy for turf grass products.

Bill is now operating from his home at Laurel Cottage, Seabridge, near Newcastle under Lyme and can be contacted by telephoning 0782/827780.
While he was waiting for the golf to start in that fabled Sut City, one of our more stimulating golf reporters turned to the local bird life to make up an extra paragraph or two.

He started like this: 'The Bul buls are dead sprauncy, full of bunny and take diabolical liberties. Know what I mean?' And went on to explain that these thrush-like birds would even ravage the breakfast tray on his balcony unless he defended vigorously.

Well, frankly, I did not know what he meant. Unless he was making fun of the local patois, I was lost. I had heard of Bul buls because they comprise one third of my knowledge of South Africa, on the wing: Turkey Buzzards and Lilac-breasted Rollers make up the other two-thirds. But 'sprauncy'? A mixed pedigree? Perhaps: Sprightly plus Springy times Bouncy plus Raunchy? But neither and I sure what the last word means.

Then there is the other half of the puzzle. What about a Bul bul 'full of bunny'. The turkey buzzard could handle a fair-sized rabbit but not the 7" Bul bul. Or am I being too literal again?

The same writer is both intelligible and entertaining when he is writing about golf itself although like his conteres he may occasionally spice his accounts with novel terms from the leading edge of the developing golf idiom. I have learned not to wince when I read that a player 'carded' a 70 even if it causes confusion in a Yorkshire woolen mill. I also go along with the verb 'to bogey', after a certain initial resistance. Once its implications become clear, it is more precise than the old vague distinction between bogey and par. If one thinks about it, a scratch player's 18 pars will halve the match under handicap with the 24 man's 18 bogeys. That is as tidy as any calculation about handicap can ever be.

But what about 'sprauncy'? Can we apply it to golfers too? Too late! Golfers do not sprauncy anymore. Those with more shelf life beyond the self-by date marked on my tin are too young to have seen Alfred Perry, professional at Leatherhead Golf Club. When Bernard Darwin described on the wireless the manner of his winning the 1935 Open, it was obvious, even without the benefit of television, that Perry spraunced down the 18th to take the title. Dai Rees also had a considerable spring in his gait. But there was so much less of Rees from the knees up than there was of Perry that he hardly qualified for true spraunceshood. Perry even might have been described as paunchy though not, I am sure, raunchy.

Professional golfers have not only lost their sprauncy. We no longer see in the lists of their scores, those romantic parenthetic labels after their names. (Reddish Vale)' (Beau Desert), (Luffenham Heath), (Whittington Barracks), all names to conjure with and salutary reminders that even the man who scored in other worlds still played alongside humble club players when at home. Golf clubs lost something of their lustre when hotels, knitwear and air lines took their place for a time between the brackets. Now even the brackets have disappeared.

In case you remain unmoved by the nostalgic regrets up to this point, let me remind you of just one more feature that has faded from the annals of golf perhaps the most grievous of all. When they redesigned and condensed the text of the annual 'Golfers Handbook', while it was still a hardback, they wiped two thousand names from the records. They retained the name of the secretary and the professional at each listed club but they dropped the name of the greenkeeper into the bin. A tradition dating back to the earliest golfing annuals, deep in the 19th century, was quietly ended without a whimper, a grumble or even, as would have been appropriate, a riot.

I have since protested to Mr. Laurence Viney who edits the smart new paperback edition of this valuable publication but what would you do, honestly, if you were asked to alter two thousand alphabetical entries already neatly parcelled to fit the space allotted? BIGGA must therefore take up the running as the first test of its new clout. If two thousand greenkeepers decide that they can do without this extremely useful annual and persuade their clubs accordingly, you may find that you too are 'full of bunny' if that's what it means metaphorically.

Your monthly ration of gourmet reading is this month being prepared in France where the appetite for change in golfing matters is less obvious. I suspect it has always been thus because the terms they employ are already novel being foreign. Consider the following:-

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<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>tee</td>
<td>Le tee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>green</td>
<td>Le green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rough</td>
<td>Le rough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dog-leg</td>
<td>Le dog-leg</td>
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Only when it comes to the ball, La balle, (already a French word), does one hear the occasional frivolity such as 'Le ballon' (balloon or football). In Britain, there were once facetious terms like sphere, orb, pill and the globe. 'Miss the globe' actually got into the glossary of golfing terms in the Badminton 'Golf' edited by Horace Hutchinson (who you met here in past references to Westward Ho!, Pau and Biarritz). Nobody will regret their departure but there are other more honest, alert terms which ought not to be lost.

1987 is sure to be a Conservation Year for (something) or Save the (something else) Year so we can now come to the educational content for which these articles are widely renowned. In order to see how far our golfing language has forgotten terms used a hundred years ago, I offer you a brief exercise in word power. Questions 1 - 5 put you to the examination for Scottish candidates. Pencils ready?

Here goes. Mark one box only against each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baffy</td>
<td>Describes golfers playing in snow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bisque</td>
<td>Stroke taken at option of receiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluff</td>
<td>Tufted fringe of putting surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fooze</td>
<td>To remove silty material from land drains</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sclaff</td>
<td>Trim cut turf to even thickness</td>
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Robert Trent Jones Snr. is the fifth person to be awarded the 'Old Tom Morris' Award by the G.C.S.A.A.

The courses designed by this talented architect represent an enormous contribution to golf and the future of the game.

Despite reaching the magical three score years and ten, this jovial bundle of energy still jets around the world designing an increasing number of golf courses, carved from such unlikely sites as desert sand in the Middle East, mountain sides in Japan and even a rubbish tip in Britain.
VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Sales of Daconil* turf prove the point. Since it was launched by ICI last year, greenkeepers everywhere have elected to use this turf fungicide based on chlorothalonil. Well you can't keep a good fungicide down!

Its unique mode of action means that even after years of successful use on fine turf it continues to be effective.

And because of its multi-site action and chemical composition it can be used in sequential spray programmes with total confidence.

The list of turf diseases prevented, controlled and cured is impressive:

- RED THREAD
- FUSARIUM PATCH
- LEAF SPOT/MELTING OUT
- FUSARIUM LEAF BLIGHT
- GREY SNOW MOULD
- TAKE-ALL PATCH
- ANTHRACNOSE
- BROWN PATCH
- DOLLAR SPOT

But that’s not all. Daconil turf can be used at any time of the year and is especially useful in spring and autumn when disease incidence is most likely. It has dependable and consistent disease activity and only needs to dry on the leaf to resist heavy rains, morning dew or frequent watering. And because of its liquid formulation it is easy to dilute and apply.

Vote for Daconil turf!

New Daconil turf.
Robert Trent Jones Snr.
A Maker of Memories

The golf course architect, Robert Trent Jones Snr., once described by the New York Times as the greatest in the world, is this year's nominee for the 'Old Tom Morris' Award from the Association of Golf Course Superintendents of America.

This rare and profound form of recognition is only given to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the game of golf. Past recipients have included Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, President Gerald Ford and last year, the first lady of golf, Patty Berg.

Trent Jones, a lively rotund 80 years old still travels the world designing golf courses.

He has thirty under construction, including a second course for the King of Morocco, twenty in the planning stage and around 450 completed.

The 27 hole course at Moor Allerton nr. Leeds is his only finished course in Britain, but he is currently working on a public course carved out of a disused rubbish tip, seven miles from London Airport, which when completed will give superb views over Windsor Castle.

Jones, British born emigrated to the USA with his family when he was six. He landed his first job as a caddy at 12 and in 1927 shot the lowest amateur score in the Canadian Open.

Friends urged him to turn professional, but he had already made up his mind he was going to design golf courses, no doubt influenced by a man who had come into his life, Donald Ross already a renowned golf course architect and incidentally a student of old Tom Morris.

Robert Trent Jones is a firm advocate that managing a golf course is a profession. Greenkeepers must be able to diagnose disease, organise soil fertility and manage their staff to follow a prescribed programme of maintenance.

He believes the key to improved standards is better education, facilities for which are still sadly lacking in Britain, but advancing rapidly in the United States, with numerous Universities prepared to regard agronomy, as a pure science with degree courses for golf course managers.

As an architect he has a simple philosophy, 'Every hole should be a hard par, but an easy bogey!' His greens and tees are always big, water and sand his trade mark, but always placed to penalise the poor shot and at the same time add beauty to his designs.

During one recent week, he was in Texas and Florida. During the following week, he was scheduled to be in Boston, Spain and California. Between travels, he was at home in Montclair, talking nonstop about the vast new terrain that he is turning into fairways and greens.

All in all, Jones has 20 golf courses under construction around the globe and another 30 in various stages of planning. Assuming that these 50 projects reach full fruition, he will have created a total of 500.

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RUFFORD TOP DRESS SUPPLIES

ACQUIRE A SILICA SAND QUARRY.

The Lancashire coast is famous for its fine quality sand. Blackpool built its holiday reputation on the sea washed deposits, some of Britain's greatest links courses were carved out of the dunes.

Now a twenty five acre, thickly forested site near Southport adjacent to the Fylde coast recently acquired by Rufford Top Dress Supplies, part of the Rowcroft-Hambro Group has been found to hold deposits of one of Britain's finest silica top dressing sands.

The litter from thousands of years of decaying vegetation has also produced a bonus of decomposed leaf mould, ideal for mixing with the sand to produce one of the country's highest quality top dressings for sports turf surfaces, particularly suitable for golf courses.

Surveys have shown that in addition to the hundreds of thousands of tons of sand in the quarry there is also a huge deposit of valuable peat, as yet, untouched. Analysis has shown it is regarded as an ideal planting peat as it has been formed from a mixture of bark and sedge because it too lies under the forest.

The quarry owned by the Rowcroft-Hambro (Group) Limited, based in Manchester and the new owners are now determined to break into the top dress market in the UK. They believe they have a number of very real advantages over most of their rivals in the top dress business.

Firstly, with complete control they can extract and process the product and guarantee total consistency of quality. Secondly, they also guarantee to deliver to practically every corner of Great Britain within forty-eight hours and indeed within twenty-four hours to many areas. Lastly, considering the high quality of the product the Company believes it is priced extremely competitively.

The Company has invested heavily to bring the quality of processing up to a high standard. As both sand and soil deposits are lying under a forest, removing brambles and twigs proved difficult, but now at last this has been totally overcome. The final product is a very fine and easy to apply top dress.

As it is a single product with a single price the Company believe it would be advantageous for organisations such as manufacturers and suppliers of horticultural machinery as well as, of course, companies already involved in the marketing of top dress to act as their agents.

They plan to install a bagging plant in the coming weeks and currently deliver loads from five tonnes to twenty-five tonnes in bulk to most parts of the country by road, especially to the North-West, North-East, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Cumbria which are the main areas already supplied. A fleet of contract lorries is on call to ensure delivery when the top dress is needed.

The Company has already had many glowing reports from golf clubs stating their entire satisfaction with both product and service.

It is the Company's hope that 1987 will be a significant year for them and hopefully by the year end they will have made their mark and will no longer be regarded merely as newcomers but rather as an established name.

Have you booked your space at the Greatest Spring Event for the Sports and Leisure Industry?

SOUTHPORT '87

The second InG Sports and Leisure Spring Exhibition will take place at Victoria Park, Southport, Merseyside from 12th-13th May 1987: 10am till 5pm daily

* Ground rental charges from only £15.50m²
* Extensive demonstration areas available...

All Enquiries to:
THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,
Rowcroft-Hambro (Group) Ltd.,
Hambro House, Bradfield Road, Urmston,
Manchester M31 1PA
Telephone: 061 747 4333

© GOLF GREENKEEPING February 1987 13
Wet, soggy fairways and greens are among the most frequent criticisms made by Britain's golfers. Criticisms perfectly justified, which should not arise if Green Committees only recognised the solutions are readily to hand, though at a price.

Tom O'Brien, Royal Birkdale's Head Greenkeeper had problems with standing water shortly after his appointment to the club. His comments on how to handle the job are simple and to the point. "First find your outlet. There is no point in ripping up the course and installing drainage if there is no place for the water to escape. Only by working back from either a running stream an existing pond or a fully working drainage exit can the problems be overcome".

There are courses where none of these solutions are available and it may be necessary to excavate your own pond. Not such a difficult or expensive operation with the type of mechanical equipment now available on contract hire to the greenkeeper.

Many of our courses were constructed around a hundred years ago on land rejected by the farming community as unsuitable for either cultivation or feeding cattle. They may have installed land drains and if they had most of them have either caved in or become blocked with silt and debris. Although the golf course may have occupied a position of splendid isolation on the fringes of habitation, because of the growth of personal transport, in the form of the car, those isolated sites overlooking golf

continued on page 16

Safe, simple and tidy trenches

Drain your ground, lay your water/irrigation pipe, put in your power supplies - here are six good reasons to use Bourgein trenching machines:

1. Speed
2. Narrow trench width
3. Minimum surface disturbance
4. Easy to operate
5. Trenchers are small enough to operate in sites with limited access and light enough for delicate surfaces
6. Lower cost than a digger, spade or fork

Contact Roger or Felix Bourgein for more good reasons

Case Trenchers are available for hire nationwide

TRENCHERS TRENCHERS TRENCHERS TRENCHERS TRENCHERS TRENCHERS
It takes a real professional to bring out the best in any championship course. That’s why St Andrews, the home of golf, and many other Championship courses choose RANSOMES—grass machinery for the professional.

Take the RANSOMES MOTOR 180 for instance, it’s ideal for tee and green surrounds with outstanding manoeuvrability and bank performance.

At St Andrews they’ve found that it also does a great job on the fairways too, where its floating head cutting units make a superb finish.

So from the first tee to the 18th green it’s got to be RANSOMES—the best of British mowers.

Ransomes Sims & Jeffries plc Nacton Works, Ipswich, IP3 9QG. Telephone: Ipswich (0473) 270000 Telex: 98174 Fax: 270030.

YOU’LL FIND US IN ALL THE BEST KEPT PLACES
Using pipelaying machinery now available and the revolutionary 35mm pipe designed and manufactured specifically for drainage by Aqua Pipes Ltd, the draining of sports grounds becomes simple.

A small percentage of their contracting work has always been involved with the drainage of recreational areas, but as the volume of this work increased, they could see the need for a more specialised approach to suit the particular problems associated with sports field surfaces. The major problem is to disperse surface water as quickly as possible which requires drains laid as closely as economically possible, and without disturbance to the playing surface. This can be achieved by installing a drainage system at 6 metre to 10 metre spacings and cross gravel banding with 50mm wide slots at 1 metre to 2 metre spacings, but the installation of the basic drainage system is both expensive and causes major disruption.

To minimise these problems they have developed a 35mm diameter drainage pipe, which can be laid in the bottom of each gravel slot, eliminating entirely the need for larger diameter pipes. Any collector drains can normally be kept off the playing area, for instance at the edge of the rough on Golf Fairways.

In conjunction with the 35mm pipe they have also developed two machines for installation, one machine excavates a trench to a true gradient, controlled by laser, elevates the soil directly into a trailer, lays the pipe and installs the gravel fill in one pass - this machine is ideally suited for areas where gradient is critical. Where gradient is not a problem, a simple trenchless machine is available which draws a slit through the ground and injects the pipe and gravel fill as it passes. As the majority of golf courses enjoy good slopes this system is ideally suited to the drainage of most fairways.

continued on page 20

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does it so much better

...and that's a fact, from the smallest domestic rotary to the "big boys" TORO are in a class of their own. Not only are they superbly engineered, but they achieve results that are envied by everyone. Take a look at the new models including the 216 and 450D REELMASTER plus AERATORS ... it's all happening at TORO so why not give us a call now!
The all year all turf treatment

SAI Horticulture have revolutionised turf care with an advanced new range of turf foods called Longlife. Longlife is an integrated range of eight different products designed to provide the right nutrient content to meet the needs of all turf throughout the year.

DIDIN® Five of the Longlife turf foods contain a unique new ingredient. DIDIN® gives a better grass colour and a longer more even growth response from one application. Longlife offers value for money to groundsmen and greenkeepers who have more than just the feeding of their grass to think about.

The all year all turf treatment

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Cleveland

Hon. Ass. Sec.: Roger Shaw,
12 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill,
Co. Durham DL17 8AJ

The annual trip to Scotland this year went to Ladybank and Scotscraig. The team enjoyed a fine weekend and also earned an honorary half in the match against the Scottish greenkeepers.

Our thanks to the Scots and the clubs for their courtesy and their hospitality.

The section organised transport to the Scots turf exhibition on the 12th of November. This was well attended and apart from a few problems with the bus it all went well. Several members made the most of the two hour delay in returning home from Edinburgh and this may well become an annual event in the future.

A talk by Gills, the Massey-Ferguson dealers has been arranged for the end of January/start of February. This will be an evening lecture, details later in the newsletter.

Our National Chairman, George Malcolm gave a talk on the 15th January at Brass Castle.

Sheffield

Hon. Sec.: G. Brammah,
302 Redmires Road,
Lodge Moor, Sheffield S10.
Telephone: (0742) 302526

The winter lectures got under way with a visit to our section at Rolawn Ltd. at Elvington near York in November (See picture Dec. issue).

The day proved to be a complete success which was due entirely to Mr. Rod Moore and all the Rolawn staff. Coffee on arrival was followed by an excellent buffet lunch when many of the Rolawn staff made themselves available to discuss greenkeepers' requirements.

The afternoon was taken up by a visit to various production units around Rolawn. We hope to see the turf being harvested. The warm welcome and excellent organisation shown by Rolawn was appreciated by us all.

Our December lecture spot was filled by Richard Bishop and Richard Patchett of Ransomes who took the members through the Ransomes range of equipment and in particular the new G.T. triple mower. The meetings, as is always the case when Ransomes visit us, were well attended and an excellent buffet was kindly provided.

Now the new association came into being in January 1987, we are to see the start of a new chapter in the history of British Greenkeepers. We, the Sheffield Section wish the new Association every success and hope that every member will lend their support so that greenkeepers can at last achieve the improvement in pay, conditions, and standing that we have strived for, for so many years.

Mid anglia

Hon. Sec.: L. Wakelrell,
26 Loyve Road, Berkhamsted,
Herts. HP4 3PS

Our final fixture of 1986 was the Christmas Invitation at South Bedfordshire Golf Club on 11th December, and with 72 competitors playing the 'TEXAS SCRAMBLE', the event proved to be most enjoyable despite the cold, wet weather.

Paul Lockett and the Green Staff had the course in superb condition, especially so late in the year, and this helped provide some very low scoring.

The winning combination of Paul Fitzjohn, John Droy, John Wells and D. Matthews with a score of 65 took the decanter's and momentoes. R. Hughes, J. Booth, J. Nesbitt and R. Lucas, scored 67 to take a carriage clock each, and M. Green, M. Gobey, J. Chapman and A. Burden on 68 won a figure.

Our thanks to Mr. Joe Spinks who provided the Winner's Prizes and Mommersteeg International who presented a prize to each member of the winning team.

We are also indebted to Mr. Norman Ward, Parkers Ltd., Rigby Taylor's (South Ltd), Ransomes Ltd., and Mr. Derek Prior for their contribution to the prize fund.

Some 86 members and guests sat down to a splendid Christmas Dinner after which the Club Captain presented the prizes and welcomed all to South Beds. The Section Chairman in reply thanked the Captain and all the Staff for their courtesy extended to us throughout the day.

We are also most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Smith for selecting and obtaining some of the prizes, Roland Hughes for a prosperous Raffle, and Ken Bunting for his hard work in organising the Competition.

South coast

Hon. Sec.: J. R. Dennis,
Hampshire College of Agriculture,
Sparsholt, Winchester,
Hampshire SO21 2NF.
Telephone: (096) 272441 Ext. 288.

I am pleased to report that members turned out in force to listen to Derek Goodwin when he spoke at our November meeting. Members were very interested to hear all about the Belfry courses and Derek did not disappoint with his very interesting and informative talk. Amongst the audience were a number of guests including Ron Whitehead, Head Greenkeeper at La Moye Golf Club, Jersey. Ron told me that his last chance to attend a Section Meeting was over ten years ago, when he was a member of the Sheffield Section.

Also making a difficult journey to attend the meeting were several of our members from Mid-Gloucestershire. Members support for these evenings is very much appreciated by your Committee and plans are now being made for the next year's programme.

On the golfing side of the Section I can report that thirty-five members and guests took part in the Turkey Trot competition. This new event, which it is hoped will become an annual competition, is sponsored by Rigby Taylor & J. T. Lowe.

This year's venue was the Royal Winchester Golf Club and our thanks to Reg. Varlow, Head Greenkeeper and his staff for all their work in preparing the course.

Results were as follows:
1st Peter Marsh (17) 39 points
2nd Terry Patchin (13) 39 points
3rd Kevin Unsworth (11) 39 points

Turkeys were also won by Phil. Wentworth, Bob Walker and Paul Droge. Top guest's prize went to our President, Jim Fry with 35 points.

Our thanks to Nick Clarke of J. T. Lowe and Mark Wilton of Rigby Taylor for arranging and sponsoring this event.

The final winter lecture will be on Wednesday, 4th March, 1987, when Mr. Yelland of Rigby Taylor will be giving a presentation not only of his firm's products but also an update on the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986. This important new legislation has implications for all users of chemicals and if you are not sure now about Certificates of Competence make a note in your diaries regarding the date.

The Section's AGM will follow Mr. Yelland's talk and I look forward to your point of view and hear of the Section's plans for the next twelve months.

Finally, a welcome to three new members: Kevin Cue, Petersfield G.C., Nicholas Deakin of Stanley West, A. F. West and K. T. J. Lowe of Jenman Engineering Services.

ON THE MEND

Greenkeepers nationally and Mid Anglia particularly will be pleased to hear that Bob Goodwin, Head Greenkeeper at Ashridge Golf Club at Berkhamsted is on the road to recovery after a session under the surgeon's knife.

Bob was taken ill suddenly in mid-November and rushed into hospital, but we now hear he has been regaining his strength aided no doubt by the leftovers from the festive season.

He is expecting to be back in harness in mid-February, though for a time it will be light duties. Some judicious replacement of the tee markers, flag-pole painting or preparing an undated inventory of the equipment should keep him occupied until the advent of Spring.
At last the course is resting, bound up in the grips of a frost, the keenest on record since Ian MacAskill's birthday, the coldest recorded January weather since Queen Victoria left her throne, and certainly the coldest in our shed since we bought a thermometer four years ago. As these very words are penned the sub-zero temperature is creating elegant feathery plumes on the grass and sheen before my eyes, as I pause and gaze outwardly for inspiration; ah, how magical!

Good fortune to you all this New Year but don't forget - Carry on spiking!

Editor's Note:
Alan Gamble's article was supplied and printed with his full permission. Further articles would be more than welcome.

NORTHERN
Hon. Sec: D. C. Hannam, 12 Moorfield Avenue, Menston, W. Yorks.
Telephone: (0943) 72008

At last the course is resting, bound up in the grips of a frost, the keenest on record since Ian MacAskill's birthday, the coldest recorded January weather since Queen Victoria left her throne, and certainly the coldest in our shed since we bought a thermometer four years ago. As these very words are penned the sub-zero temperature is creating elegant feathery plumes on the grass and sheen before my eyes, as I pause and gaze outwardly for inspiration; ah, how magical!

The big (BIGGA) bang took place, presumably on January 1st. It must have been a very controlled explosion, our knowledge to date being extremely scant, but as information is released all possible will be done to ensure you are kept up to date.

A most enjoyable evening was spent on December 11th in the company of Mr. Mike Canaway of the Sports Turf Research Institute. Mike who is Senior Research Technician at STRI spent the evening talking enthusiastically about the Institute’s work in progress. Mike pointed out the Institute’s origins through to the services available and research work in progress today. This very good talk provoked some excellent discussion, the overall result being a really worthwhile evening. Thanks Mike, your services were really appreciated.

Our Moor Allerton Turkey Trot on December 16th attracted an intrepid troupe of turkeys, who, needless to say enjoyed every foot-squeaking minute of it. Although quite cold and incredibly wet underfoot in places, the day held dry till about 3 p.m. allowing all players to make home, happy but tired. That chap from Pontefract, Collins, I think his name is, although I can’t recall his score, and that was after a 10 on the 1st! Colin Garnett from Garforth took the 2nd Division 1st with a 73. Well done to you both and all. Thanks are due to Moor Allerton and Colin Geddes for lining us up - we are greatly obliged.

Now that we are officially international our plans have moved accordingly and thus are pleased to announce that on February 26th Ian Tomlinson, Head Greenkeeper at the Lausanne Golf Club, Switzerland will be flying in to present an account of his work there. Please make this evening a success by filling the club house.

On March 19th we have with us Mr. Ray Hawkins of May & Baker. The subject under the hammer will be chemicals: herbicides, pesticides, fungicides. Two films will be shown relating to the handling, care and usage of toxic chemicals, together with a talk on the recently introduced Food and Environmental Protection Act; and how it affects the greenkeeper. Also on the stocks is a visit to STRI - details later.

The article in the last Journal on Poa annua by Mr. Alan Gamble was first presented at the seminar “Are you getting the best from your course?” on November 20th, 1986. This creditable paper formed part of an impressive programme of speakers and subjects and it is in a Northern Section copyright article.

Good fortune to you all this New Year but don’t forget - Carry on spiking!

Editor’s Note:
Alan Gamble’s article was supplied and printed with his full permission. Further articles would be more than welcome.

NORTH WEST
Hon. Sec: David F. Golding, 38 The Grove, Flixton, Manchester M31 3JH
Telephone: 061-748-8592

Seminar ’87
Just a reminder for members that tickets are now going fast for March 12th at Mere Golf & Country Club. Don’t be disappointed send your cheque now, made out to B.I.G.G.A. North West Section.

All Applicants should be addressed to the Secretary. We expect the seminar to be a memorable day for several reasons but not least we hope to have the first President of the B.I.G.G.A. Mr. Walter Woods with us on the day.

Golf ’87
Our golf committee are now finalising an exciting programme of golf for the forthcoming season, so members are advised to get their clubs out, clean their shoes and start practising. More details will follow next month of the venues.

Germany bound
Preston Golf Club Course Manager, Peter Shaw is leaving to take up an appointment in Germany at a course close to Munich, to be a near neighbour of fellow section member Steve Conlin.

Peter has been a very active member of the section and was to have taken over as Chairman in May, but travelling expenses are likely to be too exorbitant on section funds!

I know members will join the committee in wishing Peter a successful career in Germany. Don’t forget to leave the trophies behind Peter! We understand there are plenty to win in Bavaria.

Popular Trident representative Ron Parry sadly died just prior to Christmas after a short illness.

Formerly a very successful greenkeeper Ron always worked hard for the Association especially in recruiting new members. He will be sadly missed and our condolences are extended to his family.

Mick Bottomley is leaving Rosendale Golf Club to join Barry Graham at Tonbridge, travelling the world for the Dave Thomas organisation. Mike’s first contract looks like taking him to Pennina, Portugal.

With two stalwarts leaving active participation in the section, the way is now clear for the young pretenders to emerge into executive office.

WELSH
Hon. Sec: Philip Swain, 7 Elm Close, Underwood Estate, Llanmartin, Newport, Gwent NP6 2HT
Telephone: Newport 413227

On Thursday, 11th December we held our Christmas competition for the Vitax Shield. This was well attended with a total of 36 entering.

The competition was a closely fought affair with the eventual winner on 39 points being L. Walter who took the Vitax Shield, a bottle of Whisky donated by Colin Murphy and a golf glove and balls from the prize fund.

Second was Mike Norfolk with 37 points, winning a golf umbrella donated by George Clarke from Southerndown Golf Club.

Third was Paul Long with 36 points taking a John Deere Umbrella donated by Frank Sutton Agricultural Engineers of Raglan.

Ted Thompson with 34 points won a crystal glass rose bowl donated by Robert Taylor, in a close second place.

All other competitors received a prize donated by the members playing down to 18 points.

On behalf of our committee I would like to thank the Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of their course and club facilities throughout the day.

We would like to thank Paul and the rest of the greenstaff for preparing the course in such excellent condition.

It would like to send my belated Christmas and New Year greetings to all our members.

With the new Association now formed I would like to thank all the members for their help in the past 3 years.

I hope that we can go from strength to strength as one Association and look forward to a bright and prosperous future.

Provisional Dates for 1987
April 16th Spring Meeting
St. Mellons Golf Club
A.G.M. at Southerndown Golf Club
June 18th

SOUTH WALES

The South Wales branch of The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association will stage a One Day Seminar at the Pencoed College of Agriculture, N. Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan on the 15th April 1987.

Speakers already confirmed are, Mr. Archie Patterson of Watermation, David Jones, Course Manager at St. Pierre Golf and Country Club, Tony Howells, Grounds Manager at Cardiff Arms Park. A fourth speaker will be confirmed shortly.

A buffet lunch and afternoon tea will be provided.

An extremely interesting day is guaranteed so please make every effort to attend, members will receive more information shortly but in the meantime, further information can be obtained from: Raymon Hunt, 9 Esplanade Avenue, Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan CF36 3YS.

Telephone: (0656) 771335.

© GOLF GREENKEEPING February 1987 19
On Wednesday 17th December we held the Christmas meeting at Okehampton Golf Club. In the morning some 30 members played a greensome for the P J Flegg Trophy. Most were lucky to complete before the rain set in for the day, and that in itself is unique for this Winter.

It was noted however that over half made their annual visit to the river by the 12th green.

The results were:
1st: R. Whyman (Bude G.C.)
M. Pike (Elfordleigh G.C.) 39 pts.
2nd: P. Newcombe (Exeter G.C.)
J. Mills 37 pts.
3rd: T. Blackburn (Downes Crediton)
R. Parker 34 pts.

Golf was followed by a splendid Christmas dinner for a full house of 70, after which we were entertained by Hercules Britain's funniest strong man. The day ended with the raffle draw, Christmas dinner for a full house of 70, and that in itself is lucky to complete before the rain set in for the day. The staff would be appreciated.

A typical situation was encountered at Reddish Golf Course, which enjoys a very attractive undulating setting, partly in old parkland and partly woodland. At the time of construction an excellent job was made of the course layout, irrigation system and, of course, the Club House, but little or no attention was paid to under drainage. The course is constructed on Red Marl and the lack of drainage has caused serious problems with maintenance and even playing on the course in particularly wet periods. Over the years various attempts have been made to improve the situation by installing odd drains into the wettest fairways and mole ploughing complete fairways. None of these treatments was particularly successful and the mole ploughing caused an unacceptable amount of disturbance.

The Club decided to allocate a budget to drainage on an annual basis and starting with the wettest fairways, drain the whole course over a number of years. The whole course was examined, planned out and costed. It was found that the problem in the woodland areas was mainly a complete lack of soil structure coupled with very thin top soil, whereas in the old parkland the soil was in generally much better condition but the old existing drains had been broken in the construction of the course. A decision was taken to install drains with the trenchless machine at 2 metre spacings and to treat the whole of the wettest fairways within the budget available.

The first phase was installed in the early summer of 1985 during a fairly dry period; disturbance was minimal and in fact most players continued to use the fairway whilst the work was in progress. The system performed very well over the 1985-86 winter and the second phase was completed in dry conditions in 1986.

The cost of draining a fairway varies considerably depending on length, width etc. but the total cost of the two phases completed was £20,000 and eight complete fairways have been improved, so an average cost per fairway is around £2,500.

A distinguished line up of speakers has been booked for a one day seminar on Tuesday 17th March at Houghall Agriculture College by the Cleveland Section of the Greenkeepers' Association.

Jack McMillan the BGGA Vice-Chairman and Sunningdale's Course Manager will preside over the proceedings which will commence at 9.00 a.m.

Among the speakers are Nick Bissett from Ashham Bryan College, who will discuss Greenkeeper Training, Robin Hume from Turf Irrigation Services and Eddie Sims of Par 4 on Irrigation for the Golf Course, Derek Gannon, the Belfry's Course Manager on Preparing a Championship Course and an up date on the latest Pesticide Legislation by a spokesman from the Ministry of Agriculture.

There will be an opportunity for questions to the panel at the end of the session.

The total seminar fee of only £6.00 includes, coffee, lunch and a set of notes.

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