TOP TURF CARE PRODUCTS

SELECTIVE WEEDKILLER
For control of a wide range of broad leaved weeds in turf.

SHOWERPROOF SELECTIVE WEEDKILLER
Emulsifiable concentrate for control of broad leaved weeds in turf.

CLOVER KILLER
Selective weedkiller for clover and broad leaved weeds in turf.

MOSS KILLER (liquid and granular)
Economical, easy to use, for complete moss control.

Market in the U.K. by Rigby Taylor Ltd.

TURF FUNGICIDE
For effective control of fungus disease (including Fusarium)

SIMAZINE 2% GRANULAR
Control of annual weeds in shrubberies, rose gardens, etc.

ATRAZINE 4% GRANULAR
Non-selective weed control on paths, driveways, etc.

SIMAZINE WEEDKILLER
Residual weedkiller for paths and pavements.

TOTAL WEEDKILLER
Removes all weeds and leaves roads clear.

WORM KILLER (liquid and granular)
For control of earthworms in turf.

DURAMARK
Non toxic opaque white line marking compound.

Rigby Taylor Limited
Rigby Taylor House, Garside Street, Bolton, Lancashire BL1 4AE
Tel: (0204) 389888, Telex: 635687.

Rigby Taylor (South) Limited
Unit 7, The Riverway Estate, Peasmarsh, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1LZ
Tel: (0483) 35657, Telex: 859407 RTS G

If your Turf Irrigation System has a need for parts, maintenance or up-dating or indeed, you’re thinking of having a system installed, your Toro Area Distributor is the man to speak to! Call him on one of these telephone numbers . . .

NORTH, MIDLANDS and WALES
E.A. Yates & Sons Limited Sandbach 04775-255
LONDON & HOME COUNTIES
British Overhead Irrigation Limited Shepperton 09327-88301

EAST COAST
F. Smith & Son Limited Grimsby 0472-822552
HOME COUNTIES NORTH & EAST ANGLIA
Golf Landscapes Irrigation Brentwood 0277-73720

SOUTH & SOUTH WEST
Irrigation & Slurry Services Downton 0725-20377
SCOTLAND
Sports Turf Services Newbridge 031-333-2345
IRELAND
Aqua Pump Services Dublin 337777
Water Irrigation Services Dublin 885189
CHANNEL ISLANDS
Jersey Farmers Trading Union Jersey 33277

Team Toro, experts on the spot!
Front Cover: The Hydromain Seventeen is shown fitted with the Topspred top-dresser at Malkin's Bank Municipal Golf Course near Congleton, Cheshire. The Topspred is 4ft wide and operates on a unique patented principle, which ensures that even damp materials can be spread efficiently. The hopper capacity is about 1,000lb. The Topspred is just one of some 30 attachments—all interchangeable in minutes by one operator—that make the Hydromain System the most versatile there is.

IN MY OPINION 6
By Eric Staniforth, managing director of SISIS

JIM ARTHUR 8
Problem pop-ups require instant action, says Jim

NEW AT WINDSOR 10
A look at machinery for 1984 and there are more photos on page 13

OPEN FAIRWAY 11
Letters to the editor

OUT ON THE COURSE 14
Eddie Park talks to Bill Duston of Fulford

NOTEBOOK 16
What's been happening

BRANCH NEWS 20
EIGGA reports

BUYERS’ GUIDE 21

All advertising matter, editorial copy and correspondence should be sent to:
Greenkeeper, 121-123 High Street,
Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex CO12 3AP
Tel: 0255 75 26

Subscription rates:
UK—£10 Continent and USA—£17.50
Eire—1RE15

Greenkeeper is published ten times a year.
Printed in England by J.B. Offset, Marks Tey, Colchester, Essex.
Copyright: A. Quick & Co Ltd 1983

Golf Course ’84—
you can’t afford to miss it!

Golf Course ’84—launched officially at Windsor—has been met by an enthusiastic response. A good deal of comment was made that so many interests will be brought together at Trinity Hall, representing a major step forward for greenkeepers. It is quite clear that the weekend will not be just a jolly with a game of golf tacked on the end.

But some visitors to the Greenkeeper/EIGGA stand expressed concern over the cost (£147). Close inspection of the Golf Course ’84 booking form will give details of the intensive four-day educational programme. Trinity Hall offers substantially better accommodation, facilities and cuisine than Brighton Polytechnic, the 1983 venue, and there can be no doubt that the conference represents excellent value for money. The figure breaks down to just £36.75 a day for classes, lectures, bed and breakfast, morning coffee, lunch, tea and dinner and includes 15 per cent VAT.

However, surely it is not up to the individual greenkeeper to pay, but his employer, for it is the golf club that will benefit from his increased knowledge and skill.

For any greenkeeper interested in learning more about all aspects of his business, Golf Course ’84 is a MUST.

It is, therefore, worth pointing out to your club that the cost of the conference is about the same (including VAT) as one full member’s subscription!

Perhaps any greenkeeper interested in attending the most important education conference yet staged who gets a negative response from his club will write and let us know.

In this and the last issue of Greenkeeper, an advertisement for the Kubota Golf Challenge 1983 has appeared. The ads lead with the statement that the event is ‘An exciting new team match play competition for Secretaries, Greenkeepers and Stewards’.

The challenge is to be held at the St Pierre Golf and Country Club on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 28-30 and players, who will also enjoy cocktails, a reception and dinner, will be guests of Kubota Tractors (UK) for the weekend.

All very well, you might say, except that the ten-man team of greenkeepers will be drawn solely from our esteemed colleagues in the British Golf Greenkeepers’ Association and that EIGGA will not be represented—at least, not under the association banner.

A genuine oversight is the reason why EIGGA has been overlooked on this occasion.

Former British Amateur champion Peter McEvoy, who is now a director of Sporting Concepts, organisers of the challenge on behalf of Kubota, simply was not aware that EIGGA existed.

“Shame on you, Peter!”

Naturally, he was quickly informed of his oversight by EIGGA. “It is the intention of Kubota to include members of the English and International Golf Greenkeepers’ Association in the team that will represent the greenkeepers in the Kubota Golf Challenge 1984,” Peter said.

“Next year, the greenkeepers will be represented by a team consisting of members of both associations.”

Another example of the industry’s unification . . .
A SPECIAL MOWER AT A SPECIAL PRICE

TRANSPORTABILITY: Easily and quickly towed from one area to another by any vehicle. High clearance to mount curbs and other obstacles. Also available with Hydraulic Lift which can be adapted to any tractor equipped with external hydraulics.

DIRECT DRIVE: Reduces weight and provides variable reel speeds ensuring the best possible finish in fine 1/2 in cuts or rough grass up to 10 in long. The mower can also be driven by any PTO vehicle such as a Land Rover or small tractor.

LIGHT WEIGHT, RUGGED CONSTRUCTION plus Flotation Tyres reduce compaction and turf damage leaving no wheel tracks.

GREAT COMBINATION: Positive Direct Drive plus Light Weight Design provides efficient operation in a great variety of wet and dry conditions surpassing any other mower.

FLEXIBLE SYSTEM: Available in 3, 5, 7 gangs and 4, 5, 6 bladed reels for a variety of grass conditions. Can also be fitted with front rollers.

ECONOMICAL: Requires only 24-30hp Tractors reducing fuel and operating costs. Simple mechanical design using easily available standard parts greatly reduces down time and repair costs.

NEW: Nylon brushes to remove wheel tracks in long grass. Brouwer Reel-Sharp, the only gel-based reel lapping compound.

Red House Farm, Preston Brook, Warrington, Cheshire
Telephone Aston (Runcorn) (STD Code 09286) 261
Tree Surgery is a job for professionals

Honey Brothers are the professionals

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE is at your disposal. A properly trained and equipped team is essential if surgery is to be confined to trees! 

**Honey Bros.** know how to minimize the risk of injury and possible claims. And in so doing create a work force that operates smoothly because it has the confidence that training brings. 

**Honey Bros.** organize regular arboricultural Safety Training Courses on site in Guildford or with owners on their own land. Our latest Catalogue of equipment for sale includes over a thousand items. Remember equipment is only sold after we have proved its worth for ourselves in use! The picture shows only some equipment. To illustrate the complete range would occupy many pages! View it all in our Showrooms or —

Send for your FREE copy of our catalogue

Honey Brothers Limited, New Pond Road, Peasmarsh, Guildford, Surrey GU3 1JR. Tel: Guildford (STD 0483) 61362
ALTHOUGH local dealers have an important part to play, in my opinion not enough manufacturers have direct customer contact.

In a rapidly changing world, companies must adapt and develop to help the greenkeeper meet the demands of an increasingly leisure-conscious society.

Looking back over more years than I am prepared to admit to, I am able to compare SISIS Equipment’s earlier selling methods utilising a network of distributors with our present policy of deploying a sales force of more than 20 representatives and demonstrators, selling on a direct basis to customers in territories all over England, Scotland and Wales, with depots in Scotland and Cirencester in addition to the Cheshire factory.

Our highly specialised products require specially trained salesmen to ensure that customers receive informed, up-to-date advice on all the latest developments to help them choose the best machine for their particular needs and, therefore, each of our representatives undergoes extensive training at the factory before going out into the field.

Regular calls ensure satisfied customers. Minor problems can usually be overcome quickly on the spot, with each rep carrying the more common emergency spares with him. More serious breakdowns are dealt with by service engineers or a network of appointed service dealers that have locally situated workshops so that the greenkeeper is without his machine for the shortest possible time. Head office is only a phone call away and there is always someone available to help a user with a technical problem.

Personal contact with the man who actually operates SISIS equipment is very important to us as it is to the customer. We get very rapid feedback on modifications required to improve our equipment even further, information on new trends and requirements for new machines to fill a gap in the market.

Occasionally, greenkeepers have ideas for a specific machine that they need to solve a particular problem, which may also be common to others with similar conditions, and we are able to develop their ideas and come up with a viable, commercial product. Much better than inventing a new product and then hoping someone will want to buy it.

This personal contact also keeps us abreast (and hopefully one step ahead!) of new products imported from overseas. We adopt a positive policy of ‘import substitution’ whenever the opportunity arises, supporting the overall government stance on this subject.

Our reps frequently bring parties of greenkeepers to the SISIS factory at Macclesfield. They enjoy the chance to look round and see production methods and we welcome the opportunity for all staff, but particularly the design and development team, to meet customers face-to-face for a valuable exchange of ideas.

We are also able to demonstrate new items of equipment for evaluation purposes, enabling us to be sure that we have created a machine to fulfil a genuine need by the greenkeeper and which will make his working life easier. Don’t forget, if you need to convince your greens committee of the necessity of purchasing a new machine, your local SISIS rep will be pleased to arrange a demonstration.

Over the 51 years SISIS has been in business, the company’s storage system has grown and grown and in 1980 it became necessary to re-design the spare parts service department. We have now rationalised the binning of all parts into a logical sequence to facilitate rapid location of spares. This is particularly important with the acceptance of the Hydromain concept in turf management with its consequent effect, particularly on the many different types of tines now on offer.

In addition, because of the policy of direct supply, SISIS has found it necessary to introduce a new computerised system to deal with spares orders. The computer, with visual display units in three different offices, gives up-to-the-minute spares stock information and produces the necessary paper work to ensure speedy despatch of spares, usually within 24 hours. This is no mean feat when you consider that we now have around 9,000 different parts to accommodate, including those for some obsolete machines built in the 1930s and still going strong.

There is also a regional stock kept at a depot in Falkirk, cutting out possible delivery delays north of the border. We mustn’t forget the increasing number of personal callers to the factory to whom we are pleased to give our immediate attention with off-the-shelf spares, cutting out some of the delays that can sometimes occur in the lengthy chain of supply through distributors/dealers and sub-dealers.

I do not decry dealers. They have an important part to play in local service, particularly for golf clubs that do not have workshop facilities, but dealing direct has enabled us to make many friends among users and, with their help and encouragement, develop more sophisticated machinery such as the Hydromain System.
KUBOTA
GOLF CHALLENGE 1983
An exciting new team match play competition for Secretaries, Greenkeepers and Stewards.

The top ten players from each of the Association of Golf Club Secretaries, the British Golf Greenkeepers Association and the Golf Club Stewards Association will play team match play for the 1983 Kubota Golf Challenge title at:

St. Pierre Golf and Country Club
on Friday, Saturday and Sunday
October 28th, 29th, 30th

Friday October 28th will be official practice day followed by cocktails, reception and dinner in the evening. Players will be guests of Kubota Tractors (UK) Ltd., staying overnight at St. Pierre Golf and Country Club on Friday and Saturday. Presentation of the Kubota Golf Challenge Trophy will take place after lunch at 2pm Sunday, October 30th.
It takes a drought, such as the one this summer, to restore the flagging fortunes of irrigation companies because too many golf clubs ignore problems with pop-ups in wet summers.

The same drought also exposes the deficiencies of badly-designed pop-up systems, yet my pleas to clubs over the previous three wet summers to do something about the latent faults of appallingly bad irrigation systems generally fell on deaf ears, until two months without significant rain made their inefficient performance obvious to all.

There were many missed areas on greens; equipment broke down as soon as it was used other than for brief spells and either boggy centres and droughted perimeters—or large areas in the centres missed completely, due to incorrect spacing—were often caused by that abomination, the old three-head system, two forward (often close together) and one at the rear (sometimes twice as far away as the manufacturer's recommended spacing).

No irrigation company installing pop-ups is without its share of skeletons in the cupboard, though some have more than others, and all are trying to improve them.

My heartfelt advice to any golf club is never use the services of any irrigation company that is not a member of the British Turf Irrigation Association, which has established standards and is constantly striving to improve them, and never start on any new installation or the upgrading of an existing system without the assurance that the work proposed complies with these BTIA standards.

When I have suggested to a number of companies that it would be better for all concerned if they approached clients who had old and inefficient systems, instead of waiting for me to condemn them, suggesting that they now required upgrading to modern standards, I have been invariably met with a negative response of varying intensity on the grounds that if firms admitted to installing less-than-perfect systems even ten years ago, clubs would expect the work of upgrading to be done for nothing.

It would seem sensible to me for irrigation firms to go and look for work since, in my considered opinion, the biggest single cause of bad greens is a badly designed pop-up system, but firms often feel they are merely looking for trouble!

By Jim Arthur

I do not condemn pop-ups as such, any more than I condemn triplex mowers. The main advantages of pop-ups, of course, are not that they apply water better than by other means, but that they make night watering possible (with all its attendant advantages and saving in water, with reduced evaporation). Furthermore, they stop golfers interfering with the irrigation—a much more significant advantage than eliminating hoses and sprinklers, which interfere with golf.

I still see many appallingly bad systems—the worst being the hydraulically, not electrically, valved type, with greens controlled in pairs, often totally unrelated in size, exposure, elevation or any other factor, so that one of the pair is often grossly underwatered and the other becomes a bog. Since the valves controlling the greens are often hundreds of yards from those greens, there is little or no chance of installing greenside valved hose connection points and even the best designed system requires hand watering facilities, since, for instance, featured greens need some differential treatment on ridges, slopes and hollows and wind can cause problems even at night.

Approach watering must be totally independent from that of the greens and need not necessarily be automatically controlled. Tees must also be watered independently and I am unconvinced of the merits of pulse or cam valves, which automatically switch over so that tees follow the previous green in the cycle. Again, tees may need more (or less) than the greens they are linked with.

It seems much more sensible to do something about a bad irrigation system before urgent action is enforced by deficiencies in cover during a drought when it is too late to do anything about it anyway. I liken those who postpone decisions until the problem is staring them in the face to those who wait until their house catches fire before thinking of insurance.

My advice to all clubs with pop-ups—and I can assure you that it is totally commercially unbiased advice—is to have a good hard look at their system and if it contains any of the following features to get in touch at once with the secretary of the British Turf Irrigation Association for a list of all BTIA members that could submit (preferably competitive) tenders to upgrade the system and correct the faults, in compliance with BTIA specifications which, while not retrospective, are certainly mandatory on all members regarding installations since 1980.

The main faults are:

- Three heads per green, permissible only for small (less than 400sq yd) greens.
- Fixed-arc heads. For instance, where adjustment of the arc of spray is impossible.
- Ganging together of half circle and full circle fixed arc heads.
- Bad pop-ups, prone to jam, or with large lids that break off or are damaged by greens machinery.
- Approach sprinklers directly linked to greenside pop-ups and contributing to the green pattern.
- Heads mounted way beyond manufacturer's recommendations—for instance, 25 yards and more apart, but depending on jet size, of course.
- Tees linked with greens and not capable of independent operation.
- Heads directly mounted on to greenside pipes and not on 'risers' and so incapable of being lifted as the turf rises.
- Extensive use of polythene (black) not pvc (grey) in all pipework.
- Heads mounted on banks below greens and not vertical.
- No hose watering connections in greenside hydrant boxes.
- Too small—for instance, old
Takes the guesswork out of grass work

The right grass for the right purpose should not be a matter for guesswork.

The Johnsons J. Range of specially blended mixtures will give you the grass you need for all sports turf, amenity and landscape uses.

We've over 160 years of experience – send for our leaflet containing Johnsons J. Range mixtures – we'll advise on the one that's exactly right for you. Ask also for details of our wide range of wildflower species.

Or, if you formulate your own mixtures we can supply the quality varieties you require including:

WALDORF • DAWSON • BANNER • PARADE • ARNO • PENNFINE
SCALDIS • NEW MERLIN

W.W. JOHNSON & SON LTD., LONDON ROAD, BOSTON, LINCS. Tel: BOSTON (0205) 65051
Branches also at Haydock, Merseyside and Iver, Bucks.
A whistle-stop look at some of the new machinery for 1984

For 1984, Atco has added a new lawnmower to its professional range. The Club B17 is pictured (left) with an existing mower—the Club B20 de luxe. The Club B17 is powered by a new 114cc engine. A new safety feature is the ‘dead man’s’ control handle, which automatically disengages both cutting cylinder and land drive when released.

Answering demand for an aerator capable of working at a range of depths, Huxleys has introduced its new Multi-Depth Aerator, designed to penetrate to a maximum depth of 9¼in while leaving a clear surface finish. The complete machine is attached to the rear three-point linkage of any Cushman Turf Truckster equipped with standard hydraulic system. Fitting is fast and easy using pull pins and the Cushman’s hydraulic system provides single lever lift and lower in and out of work from the driver’s seat. Two alternative aerating blade sizes are offered by Huxleys for the Multi-Depth Aerator, both of v-shaped hardened steel with double cutting edges.

To meet the demands of greater flexibility, Ransomes’ new all-hydraulic Motor 350D self-propelled mower is capable of cutting up to some 3.5 hectares (eight acres) per hour and with a transport speed of 25 km/h (15.5 mph) and full road lighting for travelling after dark, it is easily driven from site to site.

The new Jacobsen Turfcat II, Model GA200, is powered by a 20hp air-cooled Onan petrol engine. The tractor’s special clean-air system is ducted directly on to the cooling fins of the twin cylinder engine for maximum cooling. The engine air-intake cleaner is also located in this clean-air system. With its single rear wheel steering and zero turning radius, the GA200 is highly manoeuvrable, enabling extra close working around obstacles.

The KEY granular for all close-mown turf

MICRO-GRAN 2

Carefully-balanced nitrogen (4%), phosphate (16%) and potash (8%) makes MICRO-GRAN 2 the KEY fertiliser for autumn/winter use—and an excellent pre-seed base. It can be applied direct to the surface following routine raking and aeration or incorporated with your own top dressing.

Just one of the KEY products for Britain’s golf courses

Now there are KEY grass seed mixtures too!

STEETLEY MINERALS LIMITED
Liverpool Road North, Burscough, Nr. Ormskirk, Lancashire L400SB
Telephone: Burscough (0704) 893311 Telex: 677124
Getting The Message Across

Gordon Whitaker is right to doubt whether seaweed-based dressings are a panacea for all ills. However, he makes the vital point that 'seaweed could be a useful additive to top dressings or aid as a soil maker'.

Precisely!

Which is why our leaflet on Turf Care highlights this point deliberately and carefully in an enhanced block of bold type as follows:

How to use Alginure
1. As a simple dressing . . . worked into the soil
2. As a constituent of a balanced top dressing
3. As a dressing to soil as part of the pre-seeding process

Clearly, I can speak only for Alginure—and emphasise that Alginure Soil Improver is not—and is not held out to be—a fertiliser or plant food. Its action is to increase bacterial and microbial activity so as to restore and maintain the natural balance and structure of the soil, providing strong root growth, improved moisture and nutrient retention and assist in the reduction of thatch.

Indeed, we recently received a letter from a major northern club that bought Alginure earlier this year—without any aggressive selling or approach from us—and which has found that having applied it . . . 'With a first top dressing of Fendress and sand (1:2 proportion) using one bag per green (about 750 square yards) on 16th/17th May, the effect has been quite remarkable in that we have not had to apply any nitrogen fertiliser to the greens . . . And turf density has improved considerably providing first-class putting surfaces . . . Without doubt, I consider that the improvement must be attributed to your product and we will certainly continue using it . . .'

I have to say that we owe our own sales growth not to the use of aggressive salesmen (for we employ none!), but to the continued use by greenkeepers out of their own experience and the recommendation of others.

It is all very well to say, as Gordon does, that 'commercialism must be taken away from advisory situations', but this is wholly unrealistic as long as the industry refuses to face up to the fact that research costs money and appeals for funding of Bingley and the NTC continually fall on deaf ears.

In any case, the manufacturer that gives bad advice consistently does not last long. Similarly, those of us who respect and admire the work of agronomists in our own industry are often diametrically opposed, which is never an absolute right or wrong. Perhaps, sir, you will allow poetic fancy to run free with the following offering:

A wise old greenkeeper called Ray
Was bothered by greens based on clay;
When, to his great delight
Alginure put them right;
—And now they're a pleasure to play!

Malcolm Pettit, Marketing Manager,
Alginure Products, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The Case For Buying British

British companies are the inventors and innovators of amenity grass area machinery both for cutting and turf maintenance. The grass amenity area is the speciality of the British, though this type of surface can be seen in many parts of the world, due to export of our knowhow and products.

Although it is widely accepted by sports clubs and local authorities that buying British-made equipment is the patriotic thing to do, in practice, because machinery is available from all over the world, this high ideal is regularly abandoned. By purchasing UK-made equipment, the knowhow involved in designing new machinery and improving existing equipment is kept inside the country.

In the case of SISIS Equipment, profits have been re-invested in research and development for over 50 years and the product of this research has been directed to the improvement of sportsground machinery, which is viewed by groundsmen and greenkeepers as a virtuous circle.

Suggestions have been made that firms have come into our industry and used the profits from it in the development of equipment for other markets, such as agricultural machinery, particularly at times when the demand for that type of equipment is at a low level.

The customer for sports ground machinery has an important influence over UK manufacturers, but probably has practically none over overseas manufacturers, which design equipment for their home market and treat the sales of equipment in this country

Continued on page 19...
Good courses mean good golf. This is why over 200 U.K. courses have invested in an RIS Cameron pop-up sprinkler system. RIS Cameron will also update existing systems. Write or ring for details of our install-it-yourself plan.

CAMERON MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!

RIS Cameron Irrigation Systems Ltd - Harwood Industrial Estate Littlehampton - West Sussex BN17 7BA Tel: (09064) 3985 Telex: 877483

“FENDRESS”

High Quality Golf Green Top Dressing (FENDRESS) available in bulk loads of 15—18—20 tonnes, delivered anywhere U.K. mainland.

A specifically designed mix of Fenland Peat/Soils and Lime free sand carefully blended, shredded and sieved. Ready for immediate application to golf/bowling greens.

Save purchasing expensive equipment which stands idle for much of the year, also high labour costs, and problems of finding suitable ingredients of constant quality.

Pre-packed supplies now available.

Special mixes also prepared.

Also sedge peat “FENPEAT” in bulk.

Please telephone for quotations.

Contact:
Fen Turf Dressings Ltd.,
36, High Street,
Market Harborough,
Leics. LE16 7NL
Tel: Market Harborough
64346 or
Leics. 551282
(Radio Phone)

FOR RELIABLE MACHINERY MAINTENANCE

We offer you a personal service with high quality reliable workmanship tailored to your needs for ALL professional turfcare machinery.

Allett Sisis Ransomes Nickerson Ferrari

Massey-Ferguson Ford Toro Jacobsen Lloyds

In season 24-hour call out service backed up by an extensive parts stock.

All work carried out to quotation.

Contact:
Richard Knifton or Robin Noble
FABRICATIONS AND MOWERS LTD.
THE WHITE HOUSE
DANCERS HILL ROAD
BENTLEY HEATH
BARNET, HERTS. EN5 4RY
01-440 6165
01-440 5462

Good clubs play best on Rolawn

Britain’s Best Turf
Supplied in square yard rolls all year round from nurseries throughout the country.
Varieties available for all purposes – details from:

Rolawn (Turf Growers) Ltd, Dept GK, Elvington,
York YO4 5AR. Telephone (0904) 85661

FENDRESS

High Quality Golf Green Top Dressing (FENDRESS) available in bulk loads of 15—18—20 tonnes, delivered anywhere U.K. mainland.

A specifically designed mix of Fenland Peat/Soils and Lime free sand carefully blended, shredded and sieved. Ready for immediate application to golf/bowling greens.

Save purchasing expensive equipment which stands idle for much of the year, also high labour costs, and problems of finding suitable ingredients of constant quality.

Pre-packed supplies now available.

Special mixes also prepared.

Also sedge peat “FENPEAT” in bulk.

Please telephone for quotations.

Contact:
Fen Turf Dressings Ltd.,
36, High Street,
Market Harborough,
Leics. LE16 7NL
Tel: Market Harborough
64346 or
Leics. 551282
(Radio Phone)

FOR RELIABLE MACHINERY MAINTENANCE

We offer you a personal service with high quality reliable workmanship tailored to your needs for ALL professional turfcare machinery.

Allett Sisis Ransomes Nickerson Ferrari

Massey-Ferguson Ford Toro Jacobsen Lloyds

In season 24-hour call out service backed up by an extensive parts stock.

All work carried out to quotation.

Contact:
Richard Knifton or Robin Noble
FABRICATIONS AND MOWERS LTD.
THE WHITE HOUSE
DANCERS HILL ROAD
BENTLEY HEATH
BARNET, HERTS. EN5 4RY
01-440 6165
01-440 5462

Good clubs play best on Rolawn

Britain’s Best Turf
Supplied in square yard rolls all year round from nurseries throughout the country.
Varieties available for all purposes – details from:

Rolawn (Turf Growers) Ltd, Dept GK, Elvington,
York YO4 5AR. Telephone (0904) 85661
WET WINDSOR

Clockwise from top left:
Motomop await the deluge.
E.I.G.G.A. Members MacIndoe and Jones.
Brouwers 'Sod' Harvester.
Surrey Loam's Ibis.
Ransomes selling in the rain.
Thistle, Toro's new distributors.
Fulford golf course is situated two miles south of York in the middle of flat and rich agricultural land. When the club had to move to a new site in the late 1920s, it had the enormous good sense to employ Alister Mackenzie—that famous doctor turned golf architect—who was just about to design Augusta National, venue for the US Masters.

He selected a narrow strip of land running north-south with ideal qualities of acidity and natural drainage. It had been no use for farming and was used as a track for moving cattle and sheep—a rabbit-infested, gorse-covered oasis of infertility.

To this day, the indigenous grasses are mainly agrostis at the clubhouse end, becoming more acid with sheeps fescue further out on the course.

But by the 1960s the course was deteriorating, as I saw myself some 15 years ago. It had that lush look that was becoming so popular with slow and thatchy greens.

Now is the time to introduce Bill Duston to the story. Bill, the chairman of a thriving building firm, had started to play golf at Fulford in 1963, having given up other more energetic sports. He rapidly came down to a category one handicap, by 1967 had been elected to the committee and the green committee and soon found himself “learning the art” of greenkeeping.

At first, he thought the course was The Garden of Eden, but as time progressed he realised that although it was good in summer, the greens were boggy in winter with temporary greens for months.

In 1971, he was appointed chairman of the green and without a head greenkeeper. It took six months to appoint a replacement and that was unhappily a further disaster. An ambitious young man came along and soon listed the deficiencies in equipment and what was needed to revive the course. But he saw everything in terms of promoting growth on tees, greens and fairways.

“It was an education for me,” Bill said. “I had to learn a great deal very quickly about machinery and chemicals. He taught me a lot—some of the good things and a few of the bad. On the face of it, the course improved. We had grass growing everywhere—too much bloody grass. We could have gone into the silage business.”

A few of the older members whispered to Bill that the course was becoming too long for them and all this grass was against the principles of heathland turf. Bill was himself thinking about the expense of maintenance—not to mention the earthworms and moles that appeared. After four years, there was a disagreement and the head greenkeeper left.

For several years, Bill was club champion and playing ‘hot’ golf, but he had become observant as well. “You don’t just need a scorecard when you go round, but a notebook, too. Costs had gone through the roof and all to no avail. Greens were covered in seed heads for weeks in summer, becoming much more thatchy and unplayable in winter. I thought that there must be a better way of doing things.

So in 1976, Bill, then captain of the club, asked second greenkeeper Henry Gilteat to head the staff with Bill setting a joint policy. It was clear to both that there would be a difficult period of recovery and a strong chairman of the green could protect his staff from interference. They started on an aeration and starvation programme.

At this time, the York bypass was being built across the centre of the course and one hole was sacrificed. The rebuilt 6th green was not a success. Architect Donald Steel called in a consultant and so Jim Arthur appeared on the scene, almost by chance, in 1977.

He confirmed all their doubts about the previous policy but, more importantly, “He told us why this or that should be done and, since then, he visits us once or twice a year to keep his eagle eye on us and advise in his inimitable convincing style.”

Bill had been worried mainly about the thatch, less so about the Poa Annua, but two hours with Jim, “planted all these other seeds of doubt in my mind,” Bill said. Fertilising had already been discontinued and now came the two pronged attack: “Get rid of thatch and get rid of meadow grass and do it by aeration and starvation respectively. Once thatch goes, you’ve got over the big problem—natural drainage improves, so does the putting surface and you stay on greens all winter.”

Like many greenkeepers, they found it difficult to believe that, of itself, this policy would result in a shift from meadow grass to finer things. “I thought we would have to put something in ourselves but Jim was right—it has taken seven years to get to this stage and you have to be patient.”

“The worst period was after two or three years when the annual meadow grass was dying out quickly and turf density was a bit thin—withdrawal
There are good facilities for the staff and courses have a problem and our's is construction, which is warm and dry.

My visit to Fulford took place at the end of April and growth was still slow. As an experiment, Henry had applied a proprietary lawn sand to give an early nitrogen boost. Most of the greens are predominantly agrostis, with very little fescue but the occasional patch of Yorkshire Fog. However, as demonstrated at the Benson and Hedges, with really skilled preparation and presentation they make a wonderful putting surface. That's official—from the pros, themselves!

There are a few greens with remnants of annual meadow grass contrasting with the healthier bents. Clearly, there has been a massive swing back from solid meadow grass and some greens have been slower to revert and, of course, there remains that problem 6th green. Faulty construction by a contractor started the trouble. Every effort, including complete returfing, seems only to partially solve the problem. In fact, there are many courses where it would barely notice, but at Fulford it really seems out of place.

An infestation of pearlwort last year has been largely eradicated, but there is still more Poa Annuia than Fulford can tolerate. Hollow tining and amelioration with Turface and Alginure is now under way. “Most courses have a problem and our’s is number six,” Bill said.

Fulford has a large membership and many visitors, so the programme of aeration is kept up full time. Over the past few years, almost the entire course has been redrained—a prodigious undertaking, but now paying handsome dividends as it was only closed for two days last winter.

The implement shed of Bill’s design is a simple, but very effective construction, which is warm and dry. There are good facilities for the staff with rest rooms, etc.

There are two Toro Greenmasters, but the greens are also cut twice a week with Ransomes Autocertes. A Ransomes bunker rake copes well with the fairly simple bunkers. Bulk Fendress concentrate is mixed with local sand and applied with an Allen Spreader.

Henry Gilyeat is a great believer in sulphate of iron and, this year, it was applied three times in the winter with a Drifmaster roller applicator made for garden use, which consists of a five gallon drum feeding a solution of sulphate of iron down on to a large roller, giving an even covering at 1/4oz per square yard.

A Sisis Hydromain is used with two reels. Hydromain tines for greens and outfield tines for tees. A DP48 with 9in tines is used on fairways. I was interested to see a new Hydromain mole plough making a neat job of subaeration on the tees and greens. The turf cutter attachment has also been used effectively for tee and fairway repairs, as well as for a first cut on land drain trenches.

An Allen mower cuts bunker and tee banks together with a four-stroke Flymo (you can’t tip it as far as a two-stroke, but it is very much more reliable.) All spraying is done with a tractor-mounted sprayer. A two way value, a length of hose and a hand lance made by a local blacksmith is used on the greens. “It enables you to see what you are doing when you have it in front of you,” Henry said.

Three tractors, a front bucket loader, two Ransomes trailing five gangs—one for the fairways and one for semi-rough—a 6ft Hayter for the rough and a Weekes trailer complete the machine inventory. Obsolete equipment, such as a Pattisson solid spiker, is available for members to use on their lawns for a modest charge.

Beside Henry Gilyeat, there are four other staff. Three are young men who have done the City & Guilds course. Bill has an open mind about the content of these courses but readily admits, “they’ve all become damned good greenkeepers.”

It has been the policy of the greens committee to effect improvements to the course each year and, since 1972, many of the tees have been extended. The greens have been transformed in quality, practically the whole of the course has been redrained, new sheds have been erected, modern machinery is well maintained and renewed on a sensible basis and extensive tree planting has been carried out. One of the next steps is to secure expert advice on the resiting and design of the fairway bunkers, most of which don’t worry the pros.

The high standard of presentation of the course and the obvious success of the changed management made Bill an obvious choice when the PGA European Tour was looking for someone to help tournament courses provide more consistent conditions.
All About People

Proving that age need be no obstacle to success, Ralph Bird, chairman of specialist grass and turf machinery suppliers R.S. Bird, recently notched up another motoring milestone in an accident-free driving history spanning almost 70 years. He passed his advanced driving test for the third time—at the age of 85!

The test, taken at Mr Bird’s insistence, earned him a re-testing badge to attach to his original advanced driving certificate and gives him a hat-trick of advanced driving successes, adding to those secured in 1959 and 1977.

After being in hospital twice in the last two years, some doubt had been raised about his ability to cope with today’s traffic. He now feels he has quashed all doubts.

Commercially, Mr Bird sold his first mower in 1922. He owned his first car, an Enfield Autolette, seven years earlier and has maintained a blemish-free driving record since.

Leslie Evans has been appointed managing director of Flymo in succession to Peter Bullock who is leaving the company. Leslie was managing director of Flymo Sales. He joined Flymo in 1969 and spent much of his early career developing business in Australia. He returned to Britain in 1980 as general manager of Cheshire Light Tractors, a Flymo subsidiary, where he later joined the board.

Lely Iseki Tractors has appointed Bill Fisher its Midlands manager. Bill, 35, was formerly the horticultural sales manager of Paul Swards & Co of York.

Sold!

May & Baker Ltd and Diamond Shamrock Europe Ltd have reached provisional agreement on the purchase by May & Baker of the wholly owned subsidiary Diamond Shamrock Agrochemicals Ltd (DSAL).

DSAL is based at Belvedere, Kent and is engaged principally in the manufacture of agrochemical products. M & B, together with its parent company Rhône-Poulenc, is a major user of phenoxy acids and intends to continue the business as a going concern. Included in the acquisition is DSAL’s industrial herbicide business, which will reinforce the development of M & B’s environmental products department.

May & Baker has a turnover of approximately £300 million, of which about 60 per cent is overseas. May & Baker has won the Queen’s Award for industry on five occasions, most recently in 1983 for export achievement.

The sale of DSAL does not include the former Diamond Shamrock speciality fungicide, herbicide and animal health products business which, from July 14, was vested in SDS Biotech Corporation—a 50/50 joint venture between Diamond Shamrock and Showa Denko.

From October 1, the newly-formed SDS Biotech UK Ltd, based at Petts Wood in Kent, will assume responsibility for the formulation and sale of these products throughout Europe, Africa and the Middle East.
Local Authority And Private Enterprise Join Forces

Coulsdon Court golf course, Surrey, established for a number of years under the management of Croydon Council, is the subject of a new privatisation scheme. All Weather Sports Activities has won the tender to renovate and refurbish the facilities. Helped by central government, and at the initiative of the local council, Croydon ratepayers stand to gain by this major scheme. At a cost of £500,000, All Weather Sports Activities is bringing the 18-hole course up to championship standard.

While the council reduces its own overheads and receives an economic basic rent, it will also share in the increased profitability of a new clubhouse and course. With considerable parking space, Coulsdon Court’s remodelled restaurant and bar, the new Spikes bar and Fairway Banqueting Suite, the public will also be able to enjoy four hard tennis courts and have the opportunity of joining a seven-court members’ squash club with its own catering facilities.

Out on the course, a landscaping programme has been introduced to set pathways between many of the greens and tees. These will be filled with broken sea shells—attractive and practical for drainage. Several of the bunkers have been reshaped, extended and repositioned and tee information boards have been installed for the whole course.

Wheelies At Windsor

While perhaps never a serious contender for a stand merit award at the IOG International Exhibition, there was no doubt that the co-sponsored Greenkeeper/EIGGA mobile home-cum-office proved something of a show-stopper.

The luxurious Winnebago, which the magazine and the association hired for the duration, is a seven-litre vehicle capable of sleeping eight. Needless to say, the Winnebago hails from America and its many plus points include air conditioning, a deep freeze and a shower unit.

In the UK, the Winnebago is proving popular with organisers of business exhibitions and shows.

For one gathering of EIGGA members and trade VIPs at Windsor, the journey to the car park from Greenkeeper’s prime site adjacent to the main entrance, in the hands of publisher Michael Coffey, will prove a lasting experience!

- Details from Travel Cruiser Concessionaires, Showell Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV10 9NL. Tel: 0902 784478.

A Full Quota—At Last!

Tregenna Castle in Cornwall is renowned for its scenery and style, its shark fishing and cuisine. To golfers, however, Tregenna meant, until recently, one of the few 17-hole golf courses in Europe!

Manager Alain Chehensse said: “We always knew we’d get around to opening the 18th one day, but a seventeen-hole golf course did offer some unusual attractions... For example, you arrived at the 19th at the 18th.”

Edinburgh Exhibition

Scotsturf ’83 will be held at the Royal Highland Exhibition Hall, Ingliston, near Edinburgh, on Thursday November 3, from 9am till 5pm.

Watermation

WATERMATION is the leading British Company in this specialized field of golf course irrigation. We have designed and installed automatic systems for more than 200 courses, at home and abroad, including the top championship courses. We can offer you the most advanced equipment, plus years of experience and what is more, the determination to see your job done well.

Sole distributor for Weather matic turf sprinkler equipment

Monument Way E., Woking, Surrey GU21 5LY.
Tel: Woking (04862) 70303
Belfry Goes Bats On Toro!

The Belfry at Sutton Coldfield in the West Midlands has added the TORO HTM 175 to its turf maintenance fleet. The HTM 175 has a maximum cutting width of 14ft 7in through a set of seven gangs (any combination of one to seven can be used) and a work performance of up to 67.5 acres per day at an average of 4.5 mph.

This is the first HTM 175 to be sold in the UK and the decision to purchase was made by Solve (UK), maintenance contractors for the Belfry.

Solve (UK) was formed last year to take on the full maintenance of golf courses in the UK and overseas.

TORO machines have been used at the Belfry since its inception in 1979. It now has two Parkmasters, three Greensmaster 3s, one 70in Professional and a turf Pro 84in. So far, the three GM3s, the new Turf Pro 84in and one of the Parkmasters have been adapted to take liquid petroleum gas.

Striking Stripes

The Starliner, a new dry-line marker, has been designed by Fleet (Line Markers) of Malvern.

Fleet (Line Markers) now has a selection of three dry-line markers for grass areas. Any of these machines can be used in conjunction with Fleet Easiflo, which comes in two different grades and is claimed to be less than half the price of many whitings available.

With 25 years experience, Fleet (Line Markers) can supply machines to meet a wide variety of requirements, such as tarmac, concrete, all-weather, grass and rubberised surfaces.

Phone 068-45 3535 for full details.

Hands Across The Water

In the enviable position of exporting 40 per cent of its grass machinery production, Ransomes enjoys a steady stream of overseas visitors.

Sales director of the company's distributors in Belgium and Luxembourg Edward Verbeke accompanied parks director of Ghent Guido Vyncke and club and course manager Reginald Swaelens of the Royal Latem Golf Club, situated in beautiful countryside some 40 miles west of Brussels, to the Ipswich factory recently.

Royal Latem has two Triplex greens management systems, a Mounted 5 hydraulic gang mower and a new Motor 180 which, besides being used on the tees and approaches also cuts the winter greens.

SLIT DRAINAGE

THE TF 700 - WITH ONE ATTACHMENT for TRENCH WIDTHS 2½" to 8"

Collects ALL spoil
Delivers to 6' 6" high

SALE OR HIRE
L.O.BOURGEIN OXFORD LTD.
FREEPOST, South Hinksey, Oxford OX1 5BR.

BOURGEIN
write or phone 0865-735420
Open Fairway—Continued...

as a bonus. Visitors to UK manufacturers' factories make an important contribution to the development of new equipment. How many could visit American or Japanese factories in this way?

Inevitably, overseas manufacturers design machines to match their conditions and this must be particularly true of American equipment where, for instance, they apparently favour more shallow aeration than we do. A good case in point is the SISIS Hydromain System, with its many implements designed specifically for British greenkeeping and groundsmanship standards. The deep slitting aerator implement is capable of obtaining eight inch deep penetration, a preference long expressed by The Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley and many other advisers.

A further example is the SISIS Autocrat, which spikes to twice the depth of the American equivalent. Many more examples could be cited, including scarifying where the SISIS range of Rotorakes has scarifying reels that contrarotate, thus obtaining a far superior result with less energy required. Imported equipment is traditionally handled by third parties who are not best known for their efficiency in feeding back customer reactions to suppliers who, as already mentioned, manufacture equipment for their home conditions in any case.

British manufacturers have their imitators and some German, Dutch and Japanese companies have copied many SISIS designs. Thus, it would seem that their production hangs on the coat tails of UK designs. SISIS has been a victim of this phenomenon, particularly with its range of tractor-drawn, heavy-duty aerators, where close imitations of the company's DP/48 aerator have been observed at sundry continental exhibitions.

The tractor-drawn scarifier, the Veemo, and the Trulute levelling implement designs have also suffered the same flattery. Because of the patent position, many of these imitators have been unable to include the more subtle and ingenious parts of the design and, therefore, tend to be poor imitations. It is appreciated, therefore, that while an apparently larger choice is available from the vast range of equipment being imported from all over the world, it might appear that there is a better chance of buying the optimum machine for the job but, in fact, because of the aspects already described this is certainly not the case. Flattery is pleasant, but tends to be superficial.

It is evident that UK safety regulations are not fully respected by overseas manufacturers. British manufacturers are not only obligated, but are in a better position to design equipment to meet these regulations and to modify and improve equipment.

Both from the point of view of manufacturers and their all-important UK customers, a solid home market is essential since, without it, UK manufacturers cannot expect countries abroad to buy their grass-cutting and turf-management machinery if its home countries, particularly local government users, for whom it was designed, do not demonstrate their confidence by buying British-designed equipment.

To fly the flag is not a narrow concept. It is to perpetuate that standard of good and simple design for which the UK has a well-deserved reputation.

In conclusion, it remains the job of UK manufacturers to produce soundly made, well-designed professional equipment in response to the market, but if they are not supported, they will fade away and the local authorities and leading groundsmen and greenkeepers will find they have no influence at all on tomorrow's designs.

Roger Hargreaves, SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield).
Branch News

Surrey
Notes by Alex Armitage

The annual inter-county match was held at Ifield Golf Club and Surrey won with 144 Stableford points against 140.

The McMillan Tankard held at Bramley was won by Phil King and presented by Jack himself. Second was Cameron McMillan, while Dougie Fernie and Paul Weston finished joint third. The special prize for the lowest number of points was won again by Bernie Tomlinson.

Further competitions to be held are the autumn 36 hole invitation at Worplesdon Golf Club on Wednesday, October 19, starting at 8.30am. This competition will be sponsored by Rigby Taylor (South). And there’s a turkey trot at Effingham Golf Club on Monday, December 19. (Bring a prize, win a prize.)

We are sorry to see Paul Bertenshaw leave the Surrey branch, but we wish him all the best in his new position at Royal Norwich Golf Club.

Kent
Notes by chairman Peter Wisbey

First, on behalf of branch members, I would like to congratulate George Brown, course manager of Broome Park, on his recent golf marathon, playing 99 holes non-stop on five local courses. He started at 4.30am playing with Brian Evans, captain of the Kent Golf Union, and finished at 7.45pm returning a score of 444. The proceeds went to the Marley Wheelchairs Appeal for handicapped children. Well done, George.

Please remember the Ransomes trip on Wednesday, November 16 and send your applications to John Atkins at 134, Swalecliffe Road, Swalecliffe, Whitstable, Kent.

A full programme is planned for members over the coming months, details of which will be sent out in the near future.

A real disappointment for both your branch committee and Nick Rigden of Plumpton College, Sussex, has been the cancellation of the proposed Phase II block release course in greenkeeping due to have commenced on September 5.

The cancellation was due to a total lack of interest by clubs in Kent and some areas of Sussex. All clubs were contacted with a full syllabus and details of fees, etc. This resulted in one applicant from these areas plus one other from East Anglia.

This is not the first time your committee has suffered this setback. Five years ago, a similar course arranged with Hadlow College was cancelled. We shall continue to try and educate club committees of the need to educate staff. Head greenkeepers can help by putting forward these arguments to their green committees.

East Anglia
Notes by Mick Lathrope

It would seem that everyone enjoyed the day at Barnham Broom. Thanks go to the club for taking us at such short notice. I was on holiday and two of my lads finished in the prizes (give them an inch!) Fifty-five entered and the prizes and points were:

0-18 Section

19-28 'Bandit' Section
1st—Richard Mitchell, 39, 2nd—J.Hutson, 38, 3rd—Steve Thresher, 30, 4th—Wheaton Freestone, 29, (must be a duet?).

The guest prize was won by G.Jackson with 38 points, while the second guest prize went to B.Edwards on 36. Martin Jones won the booby cup, literally a 36B. John Moyce presented the King's Cup and 'Big' Bob Chesham the Sisis Cup. Thanks also to Mark Jillings and Anglia Mowers for prizes donated.

The course, it would seem, was in a fair state thanks to Brian Lemon and his boys. We must congratulate Brian on his promotion to head greenkeeper upon John Young's departure to Ely after seven years at Barnham Broom. Our best wishes go to John in his new job.

We must also welcome three new members to our section—Peter Reed and Barry Wright from Ely and Paul Bertenshaw, who is now head greenkeeper at Royal Norwich.

Our next meeting is at Gog Magog on October 18 and it's against the captains. Practise my lucky lads, practise, let's make it two in a row!

Jim Arthur will give a lecture to the South Wales branch on November 24. The provisional venue is Royal Porthcawl GC, starting at 7pm. To allow for adequate seating, please phone Cardiff 60985 (day) or 68492 (evenings) as soon as possible.
NEWPORT (ISLE OF WIGHT) GOLF CLUB

EXPERIENCED GREENKEEPER
required for 9-hole course.

The Club, founded in 1896, is about to move from its existing site to a new course on adjacent land and plan to open new course Spring 1984. Accommodation may be arranged for suitable applicant.
Pay to be negotiated at appropriate rate.

Write or phone for details and application form to:—
The Secretary,
Newport Golf Club,
St. Georges Down,
Newport, Isle of Wight.
Tel: (0983) 526252

THE TURNBERRY HOTEL AND GOLF COURSES

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER
required for the two championship golf courses at Turnberry Hotel

The successful applicant will have a minimum of ten years' experience in the golf course greenkeeping profession, with considerable experience of man management.
Salary by arrangement, commensurate with experience. Housing facilities may be available.

Applications in writing to:
Mr. C. J. Rouse
General Manager
Turnberry Hotel and Golf Courses
Turnberry
Ayrshire KA26 9LT
Closing date for applications: 21st October, 1983.

GOSFORTH GOLF CLUB (NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE)

require a
HEAD GREENKEEPER
FOR THEIR 18-HOLE PRIVATE COURSE

Applicants must possess a sound knowledge of modern turf management techniques, a thorough knowledge of the use and maintenance of machinery and the ability to direct staff.
Salary negotiable but not less than £6,750.

Applications in writing, giving previous experience, to:—
THE SECRETARY/TREASURER
GOSFORTH GOLF CLUB
BROADWAY EAST
GOSFORTH
NE3 5ER
Tel. 0632-853495

DEPUTY HEAD GREENKEEPER
required by
WEST BYFLEET GOLF CLUB

Applicants should have at least 10 years' experience and three years as First Assistant.

No accommodation. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing, giving age, previous experience and references, to:—
The Secretary,
West Byfleet Golf Club,
Sheerwater Road,
West Byfleet,
Surrey KT14 6AA
Appointments

HEAD GREENKEEPER
REQUIRED BY
WEST CORNWALL GOLF CLUB
Applicants should have at least 10 years’ experience with three years as Head Greenkeeper or First Assistant, preferably on a links course, have proven ability in course maintenance and modern machinery and the ability to direct staff. Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing, giving age, previous experience and reference, to:

THE SECRETARY,
WEST CORNWALL GOLF CLUB,
LELANT, ST. IVES,
CORNWALL, TR26 3DZ.

THE WEST LOTHIAN GOLF CLUB
require a
HEAD GREENKEEPER
Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of course management and machinery maintenance including automatic sprinklers, and staff control.
Salary negotiable.

Please apply in writing in first instance, giving age, experience and qualifications to:

THE SECRETARY
THE WEST LOTHIAN GOLF CLUB
AIRNGATH HILL, LINLITHGOW
WEST LOTHIAN, SCOTLAND.

ROTHELEY PARK GOLF CLUB
require a
HEAD GREENKEEPER
Applicants must have a sound knowledge of all aspects of greenkeeping and experience in modern golf course management techniques.
A practical working knowledge of the use and maintenance of modern greenkeeping machinery, with the ability to motivate and lead staff.
The salary is negotiable.
Accommodation available.

Please apply in writing, giving age, qualifications and full career experience, to:

The Secretary,
ROTHELEY PARK GOLF CLUB
WESTFIELD LANE
ROTHELEY
LEICS.

RESPONSIBLE YOUNG MAN
with four years’ experience in Greenkeeping, seeks a position as a
FIRST ASSISTANT OR ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER
or similar position in a related occupation such as sales or golf course design and construction.
Has achieved S.C.E. ‘O’ Grades and Highers plus excellent passes in Scotec Greenkeeping and Groundsmanship parts 1, 2, and 3.
Has full driving licence and car.

For full details and references, write to:
Mr. W. Owen, 3 Collins Street, Faifley,
Clydebank, G81 5LG.

Jim Arthur
Continued...

1/4in—solenoid valves restricting flow and which are often unreliable.
- Too shallow installation of pipes and wires (or hydraulic control pipes) which are cut, say, by a fairway spiker.
- Dubious plumbing arrangements and too low working pressures or particularly too big a drop in the pressure between the pump and the pop-up, indicating friction losses or leaks or bad selection of pumps with the wrong characteristics to meet the demand of the system.
It costs very little, if anything, to get a bad system surveyed and if that survey (backed by independent assessment if necessary) reveals such a parlous situation that the system virtually has to be scrapped, then surely it is essential to at least know! Do not, I beg of you, sweep the problem under the carpet on the grounds that we will not get another drought for some years. Remember, the severe 1976 drought was followed by another not quite so long, but equally severe, in 1977.

The main problem is, of course, as always, money—but if you try to compensate for the deficiencies of cover due to bad design, bad equipment or bad installation by over-watering, you will end up with boggy, thatched greens and on temporaries for long periods in winter.
It seems a retrograde step for clubs with notoriously bad systems to stop using the pop-ups and to revert to ‘hand watering’. They might as well sell their tractors and power mowers and buy horses for gang mowing and push non-powered mowers by hand!
THE CUSHMAN FRONT LINE
— with Huxley Hydraulic Reel-mower combines speed, manoeuvrability and hydraulic power for a superb finish, even in wet conditions.

CUSHMAN 3-WHEEL TURF TRUCKSTER
with hydraulic triple reel mower. Used by top Championship courses and hundreds of Golf Clubs, Sports Centres and Local Authorities throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland. The ultimate for all-year-round turf maintenance and transport tasks. Full range of Cushman and British-made Huxley attachments includes new Hydraulic Reel-mower (illustrated), topdresser, sprayer, aerators, rakes, hollow-tines, dragmats, brushes, transporters, vertirake and moleblade.

CUSHMAN 4-WHEEL TURF TRUCKSTER
— with new Huxley Deep Aerator. The ultimate for all-terrain, all-year-round maintenance work. The new 4-Wheel Truckster has four wheel hydraulic braking, uprated suspension and a top speed of 20 mph. Takes the same full range of Cushman and Huxley Turf Care attachments as the 3-Wheel Turf Truckster.

MORE THAN 700 Cushman and 400 Royer users can't be wrong. Call us now for full details of the equipment that can set new standards on your course. Demonstrations readily available from specialist dealers nationwide. Ask for a free loan of our new film showing the Cushman Turf Care System in action.