

SEPTEMBER 1983

Greenkeeper



The Official Magazine of S.I.G.G.A. & E.I.G.G.A.



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IT RHYMES WITH POWER

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IRRIGATION PRODUCTS

SEPTEMBER 1983

YOUR CHANCE TO VISIT LAS VEGAS WITH THE TORO IRRIGATION GROUP!

NO, we've not diversified into the travel business but we are going to the 'States' next January - Las Vegas to be exact - and you could be one of the lucky ones travelling with us!

The trip is primarily aimed at the golfing fraternity - Greens Committee members, the Club Secretary perhaps and equally important, Greenkeepers. However if you or your club or local authority use or are thinking of using sports turf irrigation, read on!

LAS VEGAS

The itinerary reads something like this: January 29 '84. We fly British Caledonian DC10 Gatwick to Las Vegas. This coincides with the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America Convention and you'll have many opportunities to attend the daily sessions . . .

RIVERSIDE

On the 2nd February we move on to Riverside - the Toro Irrigation Headquarters - located near to Los Angeles. A visit to the Toro offices and factory will include a short service course relating to Toro products. The following day provides the opportunity to have a look at some top America golf courses . . .

The flight home departs Los Angeles on February 5th and we return care of British Caledonian to Gatwick next day.

NIGHTLIFE

There will, of course, be plenty of 'free time' during the trip so that you can enjoy seeing whatever takes your fancy - including the razzamatazz of Las Vegas, its nightlife, its tourist attractions!

You'll qualify this way. Place an order for a Toro automatic pop-up system with the UK Toro Irrigation Distributor of your choice between now and December 31st and you could find yourself joining the Toro Group.

EXTRA TICKETS!

The main conditions are simple - the system installation must be completed by March 31st 1984 and your order must be to a minimum value of £10,000. Orders for upwards of £20,000 qualify for two tickets - one must be used by a member of the greenkeeping staff. You may purchase additional money-saving tickets (for your wife for example) or extend your stay in the U.S.A. without adding to your travel costs!

Full details from our Stand 62-65 at Windsor, your nearest Toro Distributor or from the Toro offices at Ringwood.



DUNLOPARK WATERED BY TORO POP-UP SPRINKLERS AT NEW CRAWLEY CENTRE

Just like good sports turf, the new Dunlopark multisports synthetic surface at Crawley Leisure Centre needs regular watering to keep it in tip-top playing condition!

Why? Simply because the sand base, over which the synthetic "grass" carpet is laid, must be kept at correct moisture levels essential to providing an even, predictable playing surface for the players.

In terms of bounce and ball control, the Dunlopark surface is the nearest yet to good sports turf, with the added advantages of being available for use hour after hour, month after month . . .

To ensure that critical moisture levels are maintained, Toro pop-up sprinklers were specified for the automatic, underground irrigation system built into the new Crawley multisports playing area.

Operated by a Toro solid state IC12 Controller located in the groundsman's building, ten Toro 690 series pop-up sprinklers working at 4.9kg/cm² or 70 p.s.i. deliver approximately 216.5 litres/48 gallons of water onto the playing surface per minute. Watering times will be varied according to ambient conditions.

(NOTE: The ten 690 series sprinklers are positioned as follows: 3 equidistance along each touchline, 1 in each goalmouth, 2 equidistance between goalmouths down the centre of the pitch. The two sprinklers in the middle of the playing area water in a

full circle pattern, the remainder water half-circle areas.)

Once the Toro IC12 Controller has been programmed, the entire system is capable of operating for a 14 day cycle without groundstaff lifting a finger! Should weather conditions dictate otherwise, the Toro 690's valve-in-head control allows manual changes to be made to the watering requirements.

For the Crawley surface, each sprinkler operates in sequence (one at a time) to ensure optimum control of moisture levels. When activated each sprinkler literally pops-up from surface level, distributes water then retracts into the playing surface.

The head of each sprinkler is covered with the same type of synthetic grass as used for the Dunlopark pitch and is virtually invisible. The 'top cover' also ensures that the sprinklers do not present hazards to players.

The Toro 690 sprinklers are connected to underground PVC pipes through which water is delivered via a vertical, multi-stage pump unit feeding from a purpose built storage tank.

Similar Toro sprinklers and irrigation systems are installed on turf surfaces and used by leading soccer clubs including Tottenham Hotspurs, Manchester City and Manchester United. Golf Landscapes of Brentwood carried out the construction of the pitch and installed Toro irrigation equipment at Crawley.



A HOT ASSIGNMENT!

By the time you read this item, Mark Gunter will have opened the Toro Company International Division's new Middle East office, located in Bahrain.

Mark, who previously spent many years working around the Gulf, has more recently been based at Toro's International Marketing office at Ringwood.

Commenting on this further development of Toro's international irrigation business, Area Sales Director, Philip York says, "The new office will enable Toro to provide marketing and sales assistance to our Middle East distributors while providing a local point of contact for our many customers".

Toro products are being used extensively in the Middle East - particularly for sports and landscaping projects which include the Bahrain Race-Course and Golf Club, at Abu Dhabi International Airport and around numerous housing complexes in Saudi Arabia.

UK specifiers should continue to contact Toro at Ringwood, where Richard Parsons forms the 'home link' in the operations. Richard, who spent over 5 years in the Middle East is no doubt, happy to now have an office overlooking the green, green fields of Hampshire!

STOP PRESS!

NEW CONTROLLERS AT WINDSOR!

Look for the new Toro 8 + 1 and 12 + 1 controllers on Stand 62-65. Designed for both residential and commercial uses, these Controllers could help you!

TEAM TORO, SPORTS TURF IRRIGATION EXPERTS AT YOUR SERVICE!

WHEREVER your club, sports complex or landscaped leisure area is situated you'll find you're not far from one of Toro's UK Distributors.

Each Distributor is fully conversant with the design, installation and maintenance of turf or all-weather surfaces irrigation, each Distributor is fully aware of the sort of problems you face!

If you or your club are thinking of up-dating your existing irrigation system or installing a system for the first time talk to Toro now.

Get the benefits of the Team Toro experience, Toro equipment and Toro professionalism on your side . . .

Addresses of Toro UK Distributors are given at the bottom of the opposite page, but please, ask for more information if you are at all doubtful...

Remember, we are always at your service!

3 WIRES SAVE CASH!

TORO UK Distributors are installing golf course irrigation systems featuring a newly developed method of controlling solenoid valves using only 3-wires throughout an 18 hole course!

The advantages to be gained are many. Installation costs are reduced by the elimination of more expensive multi-wire cable and by shorter wiring time. Maintenance problems are simplified whilst solid-state programming provides automatic push-button control of watering sequences . . .

Should an irrigation system be later extended the additional sprinklers are activated by laying simple, cost saving extensions.

Further details can be obtained from your nearest Toro Distributor. The 3-wire system has been developed by Aquasonics, an associate company of Toro Distributor, British Overhead Irrigation Limited.



Toro 640 pop-up sprinklers watering Manchester City's Maine Road pitch at the end of 1972/73 season. A few days after this photograph was taken, City won the F.A. Cup at Wembley.

CITY 10, GUNNERS 0

Hardly a footballing scoreline - just an interesting comparison of attitudes! Arsenal led the way with under pitch heating years ago but automatic permanent irrigation has only just arrived at Highbury.

Manchester City were, in fact, the first English league club to install a Toro system.

Ten seasons later, that system, using 640 pop-up sprinklers, is still giving head groundsman Stan Gibson all the help he needs to maintain the Maine Road pitch in superb playing condition.

It took United, City's local rivals another five years to

follow suit - as for Arsenal, well Spurs, their North London neighbours, invested in a Toro system three seasons ago! Perhaps there's a moral in it somewhere...

P.S. Aston Villa use a Toro system at Villa Park. No prizes for guessing the name of another Midlands Club who decided to do the same!

SPRINKLERS CANNOT THINK FOR YOU!

says Philip York

Most of us appreciate the many benefits to be gained from using fine turf irrigation but unless the system is used properly, those benefits can turn into problems!

Today's irrigation systems should be treated as a tool assisting the experienced groundsman to provide 'quality control' for his overall turf management programme.

Watering must be regulated to meet local conditions - in the case of a golf course, these can vary from green to green. In large football grounds, parts of the pitch can be shaded by stands and therefore moisture levels in those areas are different to those parts of the pitch exposed to hours of sunshine.



Trees and high hedges around bowling greens pose similar problems - watering must be regulated to meet these varying demands. Good control ensures that just enough water is used to maintain the turf in good condition...

Put it another way - sprinklers with a combined water application of 60 gallons per minute put on soil then can only take up moisture half as fast is not only bad practice, it will have an adverse effect on the turf and apart from being bad management, is a sheer waste of good water!

Sprinklers obviously play an important role in helping grounds staff. The Toro 650 is a good point in case. Gear driven, the head rotates at a constant speed to provide even precipitation and accuracy of coverage. Having said that strong winds can change the watering pattern by blowing water off-course so be alert to the vagaries of the weather!

Equally, if a period of warm, dry weather changes to rain, adjust the watering sequences to compensate or are we teaching Grandmother to suck eggs!



DROPLETS

THE HOT WEATHER we experienced during the summer months has shown that irrigation now plays an essential role in helping Groundsman and Greenkeepers to achieve good results.

Despite all the rain that fell throughout the Spring, many Toro irrigation systems have been in continuous use since May!

The Rosebowl, America's equivalent of our Wembley Stadium (which played host to American football recently) uses Toro 640 series pop-up sprinklers to help keep the playing surface in fine condition.

Servicing costs can be dramatically reduced if more irrigation users took advantage of Training Courses run by Toro UK Distributors.

These courses are designed to help ground-staff cope with everyday maintenance problems and understand their individual irrigation systems performance features.

As one Toro Distributor recently put it, "A 100 mile round trip just to change a fuse can be an expensive exercise - and cause frustration all round!"

TORO INNOVATIONS AT WINDSOR

This year's Windsor Show marks the introduction of several important innovative measures designed to improve the existing Toro irrigation product range and customer services.

Two, new controllers, the Toro 8 + 1 and 12 + 1 will be seen at Windsor. Designed for the residential and commercial markets, these controllers feature nine or thirteen stations including one station with a "long-time" setting for the operation of drip lines.

A shrub-head version of the successful Toro Super 600 series pop-up sprinkler has been introduced together with optional extras for the Super 600 such as a rubber cover and built-in check valve.

"We firmly believe that no other sprinkler manufacturer offers such a wide range of irrigation equipment and customer services" says UK Sales Manager, Peter Roberts. "Our 7-year pro-rated warranty, for example, will now be available to users of all our large, geared sprinklers. In practical terms, the warranty benefits mean that a user will pay less than 50% of replacement costs if a

specified part fails after 4 years use!"

"We have also added to our range of plastic valves with the appearance of the new 250 series electric valve a feature of which incorporates external cleaning of the metering orifice. This can be of particular value to Toro users in hard water areas."



Richard Walne, Product Manager - Europe, International Division, demonstrates the new Toro Reelmaster 350D diesel powered, hydraulic reel mower.

ARSENAL SYSTEM RUNS PARALLEL TO SOIL HEATING WIRES

Whereas the usual soccer pitch irrigation system comprises of 5 rows of mains pipe running from goal-end to goal-end, the new installation at Highbury runs across the pitch.

"We had to position the pipe parallel to Arsenal's under soil heating system" explained Robin Hume, Director of Toro Distributor, E.A. Yates & Sons.

Eight runs of pipe cross the pitch which is watered by forty Toro 640 pop-up sprinklers fitted with 43 nozzles.

Installed in conjunction with Cambridge Soil Services, who were responsible for up-dating the Highbury's pitch drainage prior to re-seeding. The Toro system draws from existing water supplies.

Controlled by 23 station monitor controllers, each 640 sprinkler has individual control.

Two pop-ups are linked to each station.

The installation at Highbury is the eleventh Football League pitch handled by the Yates organisation.

West Ham were the first London club to use a Toro automatic irrigation system. Chelsea F.C. followed a year or two later. Three seasons ago Tottenham specified a system for their White Hart Lane pitch.

Team **TORO** Service

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!

TORO

**TORO IRRIGATION LIMITED, UNIT 7, MILLSTREAM TRADING ESTATE
RINGWOOD, HANTS. BH24 3SD. TEL. 04254-6261**

650'S AT WIMBLEDON '83

HUGE CROWDS, warm sunshine, strawberries for tea—that's most people's image of Wimbledon when, for two weeks, the whole country appears to be hanging onto every TV broadcast as the top seeds and unknown's fight it out for Centre Court success...

'Happily Wimbledon '83 was finally blessed with the sun, blue skies, bumper attendances yet few, if any of those thronging the outside courts, will have spotted the Toro 650 sprinklers located on each of the outside grass courts including Courts 2 and 3.

Looking at the superbly grassed playing surfaces, no one watching might have guessed that it was only a few months beforehand, that mains pipe for the entire irrigation system was mole-ploughed under the fine turf the players used as their stage!

Yet it all happened. 20 grass and hard courts have been linked-up with an automatic irrigation system installed by Toro Distributor, British Overhead Irrigation of Shepperton.

Head Groundsman, Jim Thorn and the All England Tennis Club's Clerk of Works, Derek Atkins, were both unanimous in their admiration for the speed and neatness of the installation. "There was virtually no mess at all" said Jim Thorn.

Despite the abnormally wet Spring, which looked to be threatening Wimbledon, the weather finally changed with just a couple of weeks to go.

GALLOPING SPRINKLERS!

AT THE TIME of going to press, we were getting first details of an unusual and exciting concept on the use of Toro sprinklers for watering horse gallops.

Comprising a single row of over 250 Super 600 sprinklers fitted with 1.3 gallon head nozzles, the installation has been designed to water the recently laid Dormit riding surface on the Jockey Club's Warren Hill gallops, Newmarket.

Owned by the Newmarket Estate & Property Company, the gallops now provide an all-weather training facility which is the first of its type in the country.

Installed by Toro Distributor, Golf Landscapes of Brentwood, Essex, using new vibratory moleplough techniques, the system de-

Thanks to the new irrigation system however, there was no risk of the grass courts suddenly turning into dust bowls.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Grass Courts: 4 x Toro 650 series hydraulically operated pop-up sprinklers are positioned around each court. Watering is controlled by a pre-programmed, solid state Toro IC series controller located in the pump house. When 'watering', Toro 286 series 3-way actuators 'operate' the sprinklers in pairs, court by court.

Hard Porous Courts: 4 x Toro 640 check-o'-matic electrically operated pop-up sprinklers are positioned around each court. Similar to the 640 sprinklers used on soccer pitches at Tottenham Hotspurs, both Manchester Clubs and now installed at Arsenal, these sprinklers drop easily out of sight after watering. Toro IC Controllers are used in the same manner as for the 650 sprinklers.

Half-circle watering patterns are used at Wimbledon where two 3 H.P. pumps, working in parallel feed the entire 20 court system with water extracted from a purpose built reservoir.

livers 22,000 gallons of water (representing one tenth of an inch) overnight prior to early morning rolling.

A 24,000 gallon, 36' diameter and 5' high storage tank, designed to blend with its surrounds, feeds the system which is activated by Toro IC12 Controllers using Toro's new 3-wire electric system. The single row of sprinklers is split into seven separate zones along the gallops and watering is carried in a one-to-seven sequence at the rate of an hour per zone.

In Holland, a 1750 yard race-course at Limburg, constructed of similar fibres, uses Toro 690 series sprinklers and Toro varitime controllers to maintain correct moisture levels.

Super 600 sprinklers have also been specified by UK indoor riding schools utilising a system devised by Toro Distributor, ISS, Downton, Wilts.



THE LADIES PREFER 630'S

TALKING GOLF and St. Andrews (where else?) one normally thinks of the Old Course, The Eden, Jubilee and that sort of thing... During a recent conversation however someone said "What about the Himalayas?"

"What about the Himalayas indeed - well a little prompting aided by a glass (or two) revealed the fact that, unknown to most golfing congeniti, St. Andrews not only has many enormous double-greens, it also boasts a three and a half acre 18 hole putting course!

Equally surprising, it seems that this testing putting track is administered by the ladies - including a Greenkeeper of the feminine gender!

Now a popular play area for starry-eyed members of the public, the "Himalayas" has a history which traces back to the world's first ladies Golf Club - so I am told!

Apparently the ladies became fed-up with finding themselves parked while their menfolk set off for a round or two. Showing something of the Pankhurst spirit, they formed their own club and learned the hard way!

Today, the original ladies clubhouse overlooks the "Himalayas", though doubtless many an aspiring Trevino, Watson or Faldo hardly gives it a glance as he battles his way to glory... The ladies greens committee do - they specified Toro 630 pop-up sprinklers to water their "putting greens"!

Working as a Team, Toro Distributors Sports Turf Services, Newbridge, Edinburgh, and E.A. Yates & Sons of Sandbach, designed the system and installed 63 pop-up sprinklers in 1981 around the Himalayas putting area.

WALTER WOODS PREFERS 650'S PLUS!

LEADING ON from the story about the St. Andrews "Himalayas" putting area, Toro have been working closely with Links Supervisor, Walter Woods, to improve irrigation coverage of the double greens on the Old Course.

UP-DATED

This came about as a result of original Toro 620 sprinklers being replaced by 650 series sprinklers - when the Eden course system was up-dated, in the late seventies.

Impressed by the performance of 650's, the Joint Links Management Committee asked Walter to consult Toro with a view to getting more water on the double greens of the Old Course.

FRUITION

On-site consultations between Peter Roberts, Toro UK Sales Engineer, Robin Hume of E.A. Yates & Sons and Walter Woods have now come to fruition.

Seventeen greens on the course are being watered by a combination of 650 and 690 sprinklers. Because of adjacent roadways the smaller 17th is watered only by 650's set to give part-circle coverage.

2-SPEED

The majority of the greens use 2-speed 680's around the edge of the playing surface whilst 690's water the centre areas. In most cases existing pipework, cables and pumps have been utilised.

This Issue

SEPTEMBER 1983

Front Cover: Marshall Concessionaires will be taking the whole 23 stands of Row O at the Windsor I.O.G. Exhibition.

Apart from their exclusive Bunton, Ryan and JL turfcare machines, there will be the popular Jacobsen range on show.

The new Greens King Mk. IV shown on the front cover has recently proved to be the best selling machine of its type in the U.K. Its articulated versatility, more cuts per yard, and versatile range of rollers, brushes, vertical mowers and spikes helped it capture 65% of the world market for greens mowers.

Another success story for Marshall is the new Jacobsen Turfcat II maintenance system.

Marshalls will also be presenting the Young Groundsman of the Year award at the I.O.G. exhibition. The winner gets a free trip to Las Vegas to attend the Golf Course Superintendents' Association annual Convention and Exhibition.

IN MY OPINION 5

Dr Peter Hayes, director of the Sports Turf Research Institute, has the first word

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Golf Course '84

After the resounding success of the first English & International Golf Greenkeepers' Association's Educational Conference at Brighton Polytechnic earlier this year the Association felt that for the second Conference more should be done to bring the entire golf course industry together to promote a greater interchange of ideas and learning. After initial consultations with the British Association of Golf Course Constructors, whose own Educational Sessions at Myerscough and Writtle had been equally successful, it was decided to invite other Associations to participate.

At a meeting held in London during August, the principal of an Educational Conference for the whole industry was given support by the British Association of Golf Course Architects, the British Turf Irrigation Association, as well as several leading individuals including Dr. Peter Hayes of the Sports Turf Research Institute.

Golf Course '84 was adopted as the title for the Conference which is to be held at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, from 12th-15th April, 1984. The four-day programme will cover a wide range of topics and will include three-hour seminars on Machinery Maintenance and Disease in Turf and Irrigation, which will be followed by a written exam paper. EIGGA's AGM and any other business meetings will be held on the Sunday afternoon and it is hoped to run a golf tournament on the Monday to include an inter-Association competition.

Golf Course '84 will attract participants from all parts of the industry, helping to bring everyone, especially greenkeepers, closer together.

A booking form with full details will be included in the next issue of *Greenkeeper* and will also be distributed at the IOG Exhibition, Windsor. Attendance to Golf Course '84 will cost £147 (inc. VAT) for members of the participating Associations for four days' full board, all seminars and lectures, and £172 (inc. VAT) for non-members. A deposit of £15 will be required when booking and as there are only a limited number of places, it is advisable to book early. Payments can also be made over four instalments of £33 each.

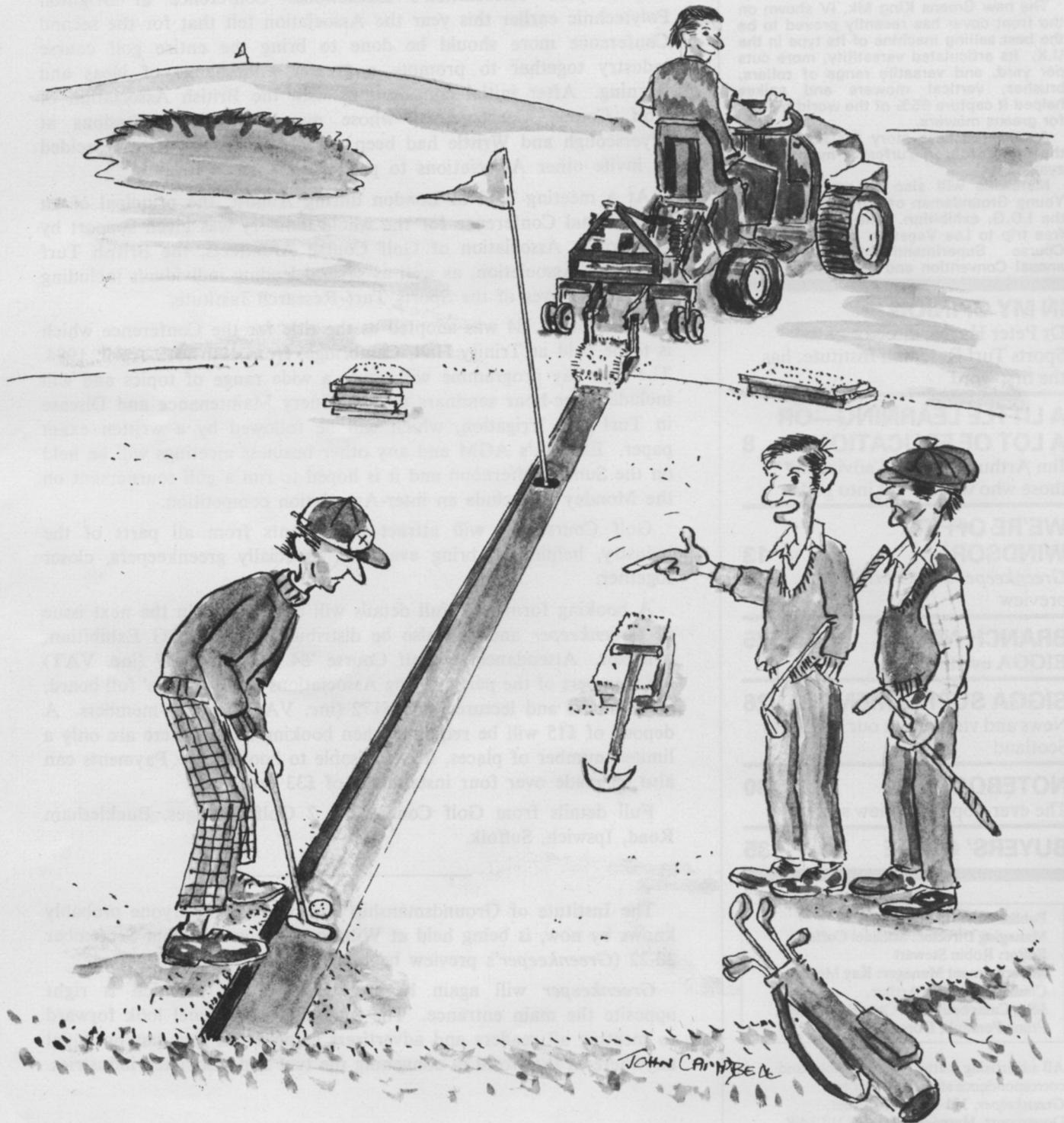
Full details from Golf Course '84, 2 Golf Cottages, Bucklesham Road, Ipswich, Suffolk.

The Institute of Groundsmanship Exhibition, as everyone probably knows by now, is being held at Windsor Racecourse from September 20-22 (*Greenkeeper's* preview begins on page 13).

Greenkeeper will again have a stand, I20-21, which is right opposite the main entrance. The magazine's personnel look forward to meeting all readers and advertisers at an event that has no equal anywhere in the world in convening the turf and associated industries.

Greenkeeper

HYDROMANIA!



"Fred thought it would give the high handicappers a better chance!"

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In My Opinion

DR PETER HAYES

Dr Peter Hayes is director of the Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley—a post he has held for two years. Previously, he held an appointment in teaching and research.

I do not intend to give my opinion about a number of matters, as I feel this would be arrogant of me. If I expressed opinions on a wide range of subjects, I could be accused of being a pseudo expert and as amateurism is a subject I wish to deal with, I certainly do not wish to be accused of being that. I wish to pick on three topics, namely research, amateurism and training for the future.

Before going into these topics, I would like to cite some facts about our industry (golf). According to Sports Council data, golf has more adult players than soccer, with only walking, swimming and angling more popular as outdoor activities; in England and Wales, 3.1 per cent, or about 1.2 million adults, play golf on a regular basis—in Scotland it is more widespread; the sale of golf clubs is worth over £1m; golf is the second largest sporting spender (after yachting/rowing/canoeing), having an estimated expenditure of £127m; golf receives about £2m each year in sponsorship (this figure is only exceeded by motor racing); 66 per cent of our golf courses were closed in 1981 for more than a day due to waterlogged conditions and of these 30 per cent were closed for more than ten days due to waterlogging; some 413 golf courses or extensions to golf courses have been built in the British Isles since 1967—I wonder how many of these are acceptable to the clients?

This will give some idea of the industry's size—and any industry of this size will have specific problems, which can be solved by research and development work.

Research

Being the director of a research organisation, people could assume that research needs and the financing of research would be a top priority in any statement made by me. I need not remind people that the Sports Turf Research Institute was founded by golf as an advisory and research



organisation for golf clubs within the British Isles and it was efforts by the Royal and Ancient, the predecessor of CONGU and by two keen golfers with tremendous foresight, Norman Hackett and Percy Clough, who initiated a golf research station and advisory service at Bingley.

In the early days, the institute was financed by a levy on each golf club in the country and this provided enough revenue to undertake research at Bingley.

However, nowadays, research is an expensive item and financing any research programme on golf courses is very costly. Therefore, in our industry, we have to think of ways and means of financing research into golf course problems so that courses can be kept up to scratch with an active research and development programme.

In this respect, I welcome the excellent editorial in *Greenkeeper* recently (June 1983) that highlighted the problems of financing research at Bingley for golf. Looking to the future, the golf industry is no different from any other industry in the country and, therefore, any active research programme is vitally important for its future.

At present, there are major

problems on golf courses, such as drainage, the ingress of *Poa annua*, thatch, disease, the controversy of pure sand greens for golf, compaction and excess usage. To overcome these problems, and to prevent problems arising in the future, research is needed and this will have to be financed. I would suggest that, throughout the country, tournaments could be held where part of the revenue could contribute to a research fund, or could I suggest that clubs could pay a levy or perhaps a small levy could be charged to each member of a golf club to cover research?

The whole golf industry would benefit from a research programme and the results would be disseminated in a practical way to golf courses throughout the country.

Amateurism

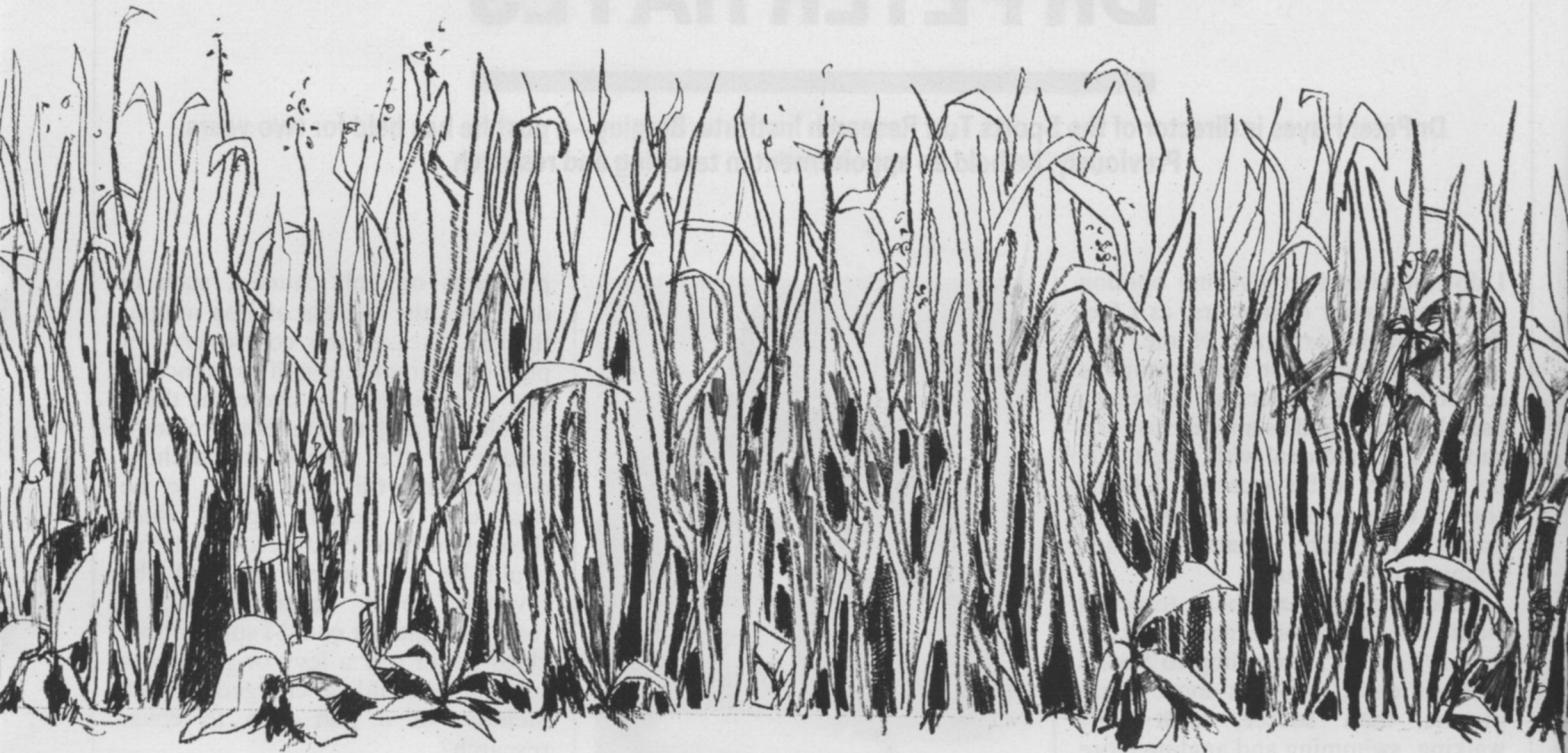
Our industry is dominated by amateurism—although I would not go as far as calling these pseudo experts charlatans. Golf clubs are managed by professional men in their own right, but many of them feel that because they have a lawn at home or have walked over grass they are experts on its maintenance. I would hesitate in giving advice to other professional men, such as lawyers, accountants and businessmen, about their profession, yet, in many cases, they feel they are experts in my profession.

Amateurism can also be extended to the wonder cures we read about that will relieve compaction and cure drainage problems by applying so many litres of the 'X' wonderful compound to a golf course.

Yet, in many cases, these products have never been thoroughly tested in controlled experiments. I am pleased that certain companies have now formed into organisations, such as the British Association of Golf Course Constructors, the British Turf Irrigation Association and, of course,

Continued on page 33...

Are you prepared to wait

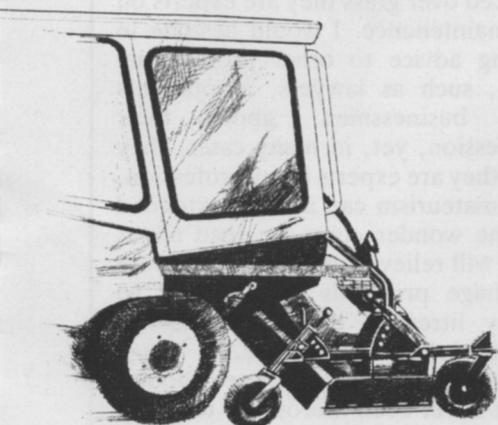


It's taken about 150 years for grass machinery technology to reach its present high standards. High, but are they high enough for today's demanding situations?

Today, and tomorrow you need the best - the most efficient, the most cost effective machines.

Machines that cut your down-time to a minimum and keep you cutting day-in, day-out. You need efficient spares, service and reliable distributor back-up.

Most of all you need machines that are designed and built for their purpose. For local authority work, broad acres of parkland, for



GREAT BRITISH GRASSMANSHIP

another 150 years?



amenity areas, for golf courses, for general sports turf and landscaped areas.

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A little learning— or a lot of education

A couple of times a month on average I am asked either by a young man himself or his father how to become an agronomist or a golf course architect. My replies have to be discouraging.

With by far the bulk of golf clubs seeking advice dealing either with Bingley or myself (and sometimes now with both of us on joint visits!) and the rest either requiring or taking no advice, or foolishly relying on 'commercial' sources, there is not a great deal of scope left for specialist advisers.

Golf course architecture has always been a feast or a famine, depending on whether there is a boom in new courses or not and there are now fewer golf course architects than there used to be—unless, as with Frank Pennink, they spend a peripatetic existence all over the globe.

In a passing side-swipe, I cannot resist a critical reference to golf professionals, however great a reputation as a golfer they may possess, who think that ability in one sphere makes them equalised to design, let alone construct, golf courses. I am not referring to anyone in particular, but certainly the Americans seem marginally worse than our own, since they are even more out of touch with European conditions and produce bigger and more expensive disasters. If they must have sand greens, why do they not select the right sand?

In any case, proficiency at the game, though essential, is by no means the only—or even the most important—qualification.

Spreading my favours evenly, I must also criticise so-called advisers—really disguised salesmen—employed by commercial firms, because they must always be biased in favour of their products. Few, indeed, are so untainted as to tell their customers that they really would do better, on occasions, not buying anything. Some are, of course, better than others, but reports of fertiliser company representatives masquerading as advisers, recommending the wholesale liming of acid heathland courses because they're acid and so destroying their greatest asset with almost irreversible damage, still filter through the grapevine.

I have, therefore, to pass on this generally unpalatable information to



By Jim Arthur

young hopefuls, recently graduated on some agricultural subject, with single-figure handicaps, who feel they have the qualifications to set up in business.

However, there are openings in golf that they are well qualified for and which could lead to interesting, rewarding and increasingly well paid lives. The reaction of these young men when I suggest, in all seriousness, they consider becoming greenkeepers, is revealing. Too many assume I mean a period of purgatory in a manual, labouring job before they use that experience towards other more rewarding occupations! They are incredulous when I seriously advocate that more graduates should enter greenkeeping and course management.

There is a desperate shortage of good, skilled and trained greenkeepers in Britain. The best men are well looked after by clubs which value their services highly. You only have to see the very few applicants worth interviewing for even top jobs to realise how short in numbers we shall be as older men retire.

The greenkeeping education scheme has predictably finally fallen flat on its face 'cancelled for lack of interest'. You can but observe that the few good courses remaining, especially at Elmwood in Scotland and a few (which it would be invidious to single out) left in England, are over-subscribed because they produce a

better specialist syllabus.

I will not stray too far from my brief, but must comment that for years I have advocated to mainly deaf ears the need to get away from a City & Guilds horticulturally biased programme, based on day release and, therefore, taught by a plethora of often ill-equipped and sometimes wrongly biased agricultural lecturers, who often know less about greenkeeping than their students, towards a specialised, purely greenkeeping training, centralised on block release and with highly trained lecturers.

Hopefully, this may now develop at a limited number of centres under the aegis of EIGGA, but not before time.

How much better, if applicants were already graduates! They would, at least, have been taught how to learn and how to assess and analyse facts and figures. It is not just because I, myself, am lucky enough to have enjoyed such training—even if my degree goes back to before the war—but because you see so much uncritical acceptance of heresies propagated just to be different by those who lack the discernment and training to see they are swallowing false theories—even if they do drop them like hot cakes when they are proven false.

We could do without the 'dial-a-tune' commercial adviser, who enthusiastically and uncritically adopts as his gospel the latest 'thing', usually so unrelated to our climate and needs that it is quickly dropped when results are not forthcoming or, worse still, prove disastrous.

Greenkeeping today has never been in greater need of scientifically trained young men—trained to think logically, with a sound grounding in agronomy, which would enable them to instantly dismiss such nonsenses as 'introducing earthworms into golf greens to improve aeration' as proposed in a recent publication!

I was more amused than incensed to read recent findings that the basic greenkeeping policy of intensive aeration, limited irrigation and minimal fertiliser treatment represented a somewhat revolutionary new approach to greenkeeping, which was a variance with the old standards.

There can hardly be any older standards than these tenets of sound greenkeeping, which have been prac-

Continued on facing page...

Jim Arthur Continued...

tised almost as long as greenkeeping has existed and it is the heavy feeding and watering school that has propounded the heresies that have ruined so many of our courses over the past 25 years—luckily, not irreversibly.

What we desperately need in greenkeeping are more and more intelligent young men who realise that here is a career with enormous potential, vast job satisfaction and considerable autonomy, which can be developed with almost unlimited potential.

We have come some way from the old standards that are so aptly illustrated by the true story of the old head greenkeeper at one famous course who retired a good many years ago after years of plodding, routine work.

It was decided (before the days of pensions) to make him a gift, but to 'sell' this to the members it was thought necessary to make it in return for him passing on his 'secrets'. The poor old boy had none, save the prescription for the fertiliser for the greens, which he jealously guarded. Everything else was no secret because

his staff had carried out the work.

Yet, despite the promise of a considerable sum in those days (which I am happy to relate he eventually got anyway), he took the secret to the grave with him because it was his only claim to fame.

How sad a story—but there are parallels today.

I still hear too often of head men who will not let their staff see *Greenkeeper* because they might learn something and so threaten the head man's position—or might, indeed, put them in the ignominious position of not being able to argue, let alone discuss, the merits and demerits of proposals put up by younger staff.

Yet education must be at all levels and we can all learn from the practical man who has, by dint of years of experience, seen that problem before and solved it by trial and error.

If young graduates fear years of unrewarding routine work under some hoary old son of the soil, let me reassure them on two points. That old boy is rapidly dying out and the head men of most of our good courses are highly trained and highly intelligent tutors, whose pride it is to turn out a succession of good young men—the best training scheme we have, in fact—and many a young man with proven pow-

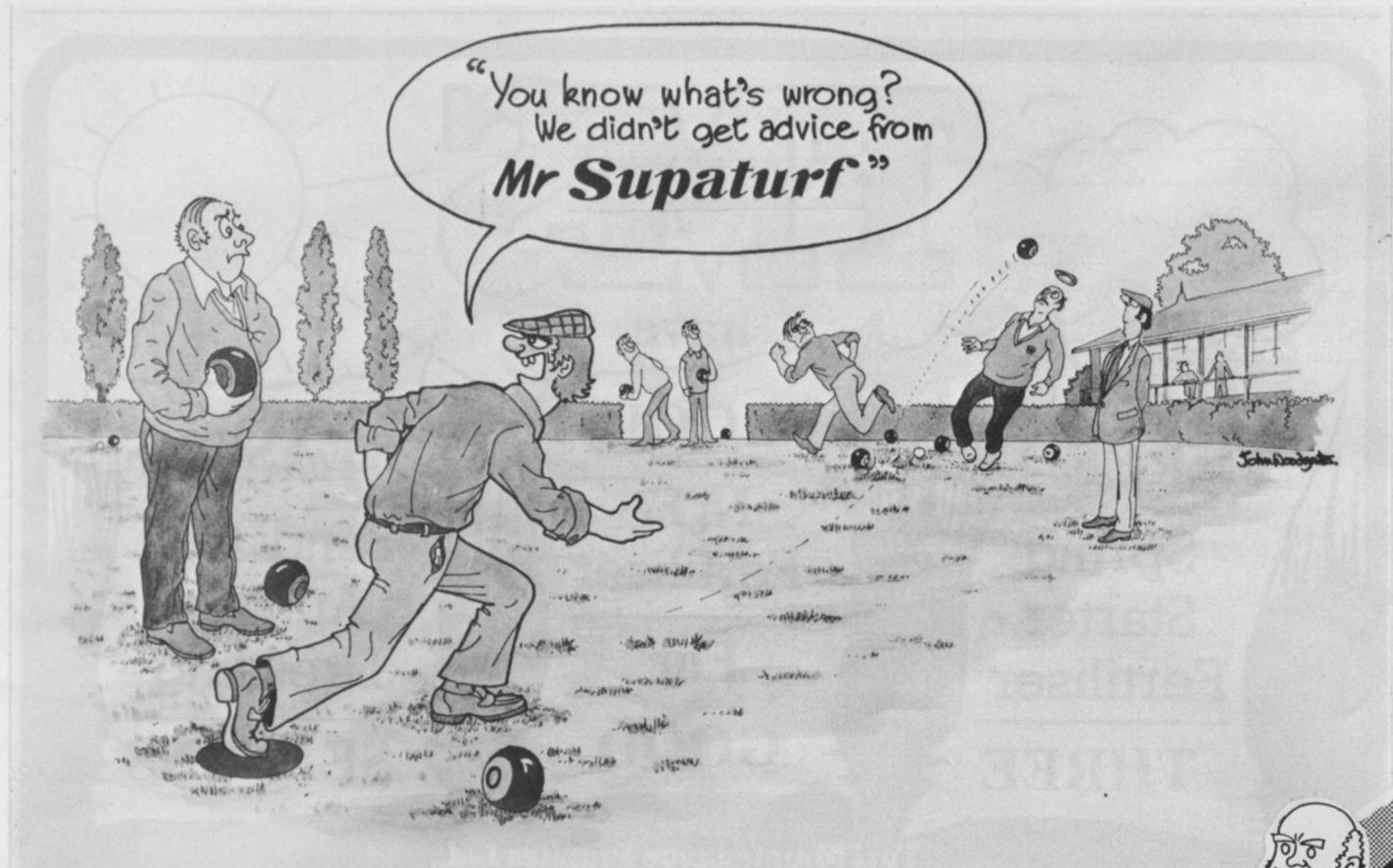
ers of man management combined with a quick brain and sound teaching has found his way, while still in his early twenties, to really top posts.

Greenkeeping is, after all, a study of two things, people and grass, and both can be more readily understood by training and education—perhaps more quickly than by the hard school of experience.

Let me state unequivocally my view that there can be no substitute for a good head greenkeeper, but the accent is on the *good*. I still suffer from the dim workings of untrained minds of all ages, resentful of ideas new to them, which they do not understand, despite hours of patient explanation by myself and others, and this (and I use the word advisedly) moronic approach to greenkeeping taints the whole profession.

I am, and always have been, primarily a greenkeeper's man, as I can work only through them as team mates and friends.

At times, I risk alienating secretaries and green committees and, indeed, some of them would drive a saint to drink, but in the end we can only produce better courses and, so, better golfers if we improve education and, with it, the understanding of what greenkeeping is all about.



Talk to Mr Supaturf at Windsor on Stand A38-40 or at:

Peterborough
Tel: 0733-68384

Birmingham
Tel: 021-459-9617

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Tel: 061-320-6320

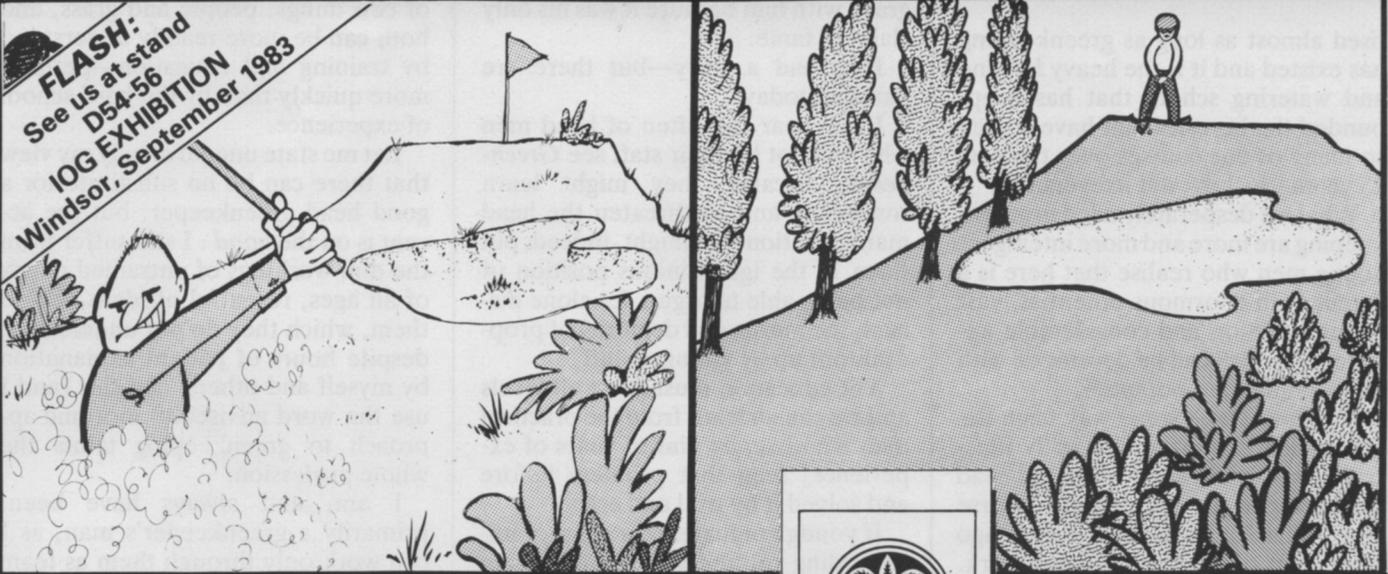
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Windsor, September 1983



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Telephone: (0241) 73841. Telex: 76559.

We're off to Windsor!

THE 38th annual Institute of Groundsmanship international exhibition at the now well-established venue of Windsor Racecourse will be open daily from 10am to 5pm on September 20, 21 and 22.

This year, *Greenkeeper* has been granted a prime site (stand I 20 and 21) where all visitors will be assured a warm welcome.

A reception for exhibitors and Press will be held at 5pm on the opening day and this event replaces the traditional opening-day ceremony and eve-of-exhibition Press dinner. During the reception, the institute will present the annual exhibition stand awards and announce the results of the Young Groundsman of the Year competition.

For anyone in possession of a 1984 diary, they might care to note that the exhibition will run from September 18 to 20, again at the Windsor Racecourse. It should prove to be something of a 'golden' occasion as it takes place in the IOG's golden jubilee year. To mark the event, the organisers have published a leaflet in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, proclaiming the scope of what is claimed to be the foremost event of its type in the world.

This year's exhibitors should note that the same space can be secured for 1984 by completing the stand application form that will be sent to them this month. The form must be returned to the exhibition organiser by October 31. After this date, all stand space will be allocated on a first-come basis.

But, for now, back to Windsor 1983 and *Greenkeeper's* preview of what some manufacturers will be showing.

Allen Power Equipment's stand will feature for the first time at Windsor the Allen National 68in triple mower (pictured) fitted with the Briggs and Stratton IC engine and which is claimed to be the largest-selling triple mower in the U.K.

During 1983, Allen Power Equipment purchased the range of Crown Lawn Mowers from Richard Baxendale and will be featuring seven new models of air cushion mowers. They range from 15in electric and petrol machines to a new range of 21in machines with the choice of either



Allen Power Equipment.

two-stroke or four-stroke engines. The latter machines are designed with the professional user in mind.

New equipment on show, in addition to **Bob Andrews'** well-established lines, will be the Lawn Genie range of tractor-drawn pick-up mowers and turf conditioners; hedgetrimmers by Peugeot; the Honda engined Autotrim and the Tecnamotor Autotrim; a home-owner hedgetrimmer from Peugeot; everlasting bunker rakes (MKII); the PET commercial lawn edger trimmer with a TC200 engine; the Billy Goat outdoor sweeper; the new Cyclone range; Pow-R-Gen MKII; two new home-owner trailed aerators and a powered turf piercer.

Bourgein, the Oxford-based main dealers for Case trenchers, is exhibiting its proven Varidrainer attachment for sportsfield drainage. The Varidrainer fits the Task Force 700 trencher. Designed to meet the demanding conditions encountered when draining made-up ground, the Varidrainer has ample space for difficult material such as stones and refuse to pass through without clogging and the two-stage conveyor delivers at a height of 6 ft by means of a cleated belt. Case trenchers are manufactured in a range from 12hp to 72hp on tracks and rubber tyres. Attachments include backhoes, borers, backfill blades and vibratory ploughs.

Prices and literature can be obtained from L. D. Bourgein (Oxford), South Hinksey, Oxford. Tel: 0865 735420.

Using traditional construction methods that have stood the test of time, such as mortice and tenon joints, and teak, a material that is still unrivalled for quality and value, park and garden furniture specialist **Barlow Tyrie** will be exhibiting examples of its extensive and established range of seats. There are seats to suit all requirements, from the classic Glenham and Rothesay (pictured) models to the modern, vandalproof Newtown. In addition to seats, there will be Barlow Tyrie's complementary range of litter bins, including the lockable Aston.



Barlow Tyrie.

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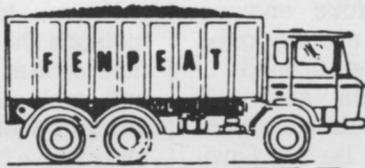
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CMW Equipment is a new company manufacturing and supplying a range of quality golf course equipment at what the company believes to be very competitive prices. Included in the range are flags and flag poles, signs, tee equipment and a variety of tools. CMW will be pleased to receive enquiries for items that are not standard in the range. For current information on all items stocked by CMW Equipment, write to 17 Totman Crescent, Rayleigh Weir Industrial Estate, Rayleigh, Essex. Tel: 0268 770311.

Cambridge Soil Services will be showing two new machines for the installation of Cambridge mini-drains and also a new permeable granular bander. A new range of Cambridge surface slotters and deep fissuring machines is in preparation. Drainage designs and specifications are prepared in the form of Cambridge performance based quotations. It is in the ability to carry out installations that the most significant advances have been made. The organisation claims to have the largest range of the best equipment for all types of sportsfield



Cambridge Soil Services.

works, operated by highly skilled teams throughout the UK.

(The new PGB hopper and mini pipe layer is pictured.)

Danarm will be showing the full ranges of Danarm and Pioneer chain saws and a comprehensive display of Kawasaki and Mitsubishi engine brush cutters and hedge cutters. Danarm's display of cultivators will include examples from the Texas and Bertolini ranges. Kawasaki generators, Kaaz engine pumps and the Earthway precision seeder are among other products that will be on display.

For the first time, Danarm will be displaying the Skil range of electric grass trimmers and hedge trimmers. The 1984 season will see new models being added to the Danarm range of brush cutters and hedge trimmers and examples will be on show.

Farmura of Ashford, Kent will show Farmura liquid organic fertiliser (pictured) derived from farmyard manure. Farmura is increasing in use as part of the management programmes of many golf courses, football clubs and racecourses—in



Farmura.

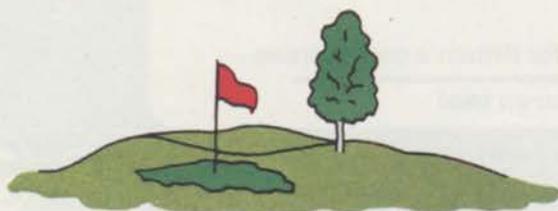
fact, wherever turf is grown. Farmura is also being used with great success by local authorities, both on sports grounds and in land reclamation. Farmura is non-toxic, safe and can be used in ecologically sensitive areas. It encourages tillering and a hard-wearing sward with deep roots rather than a quick flush of growth.

Farmura is economical in use and quick to apply, increases resistance to stress and is compatible with chemicals. It can be applied by standard spraying equipment. On the stand, Farmura will have case histories of the product in use and there will also be a free prize draw.

A new fine turf fertiliser will be unveiled by **Fisons Horticulture**. The new material has been specially formulated to complement the Fisons Greenkeeper range of fine turf fertilisers and mosskillers. These are organic based, finely granulated materials designed for easy and uniform application to fine turf and the range includes several nutrient

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formulations tailored for autumn or spring and summer requirements.

Three essential chemical treatments for well-groomed turf will be illustrated on the stand—the selective herbicides Cambadex and Mecodex and the popular systemic fungicide Turfclear (pictured). Completing Fisons turf-care product range, PS outfield turf fertilisers will be illustrated, along with Fisons' comprehensive selection of specialist turf-dressings.

Further information from Fisons, Horticulture Division, Paper Mill Lane, Bramford, Ipswich, Suffolk. Tel: 0473 830492.



Fisons Horticulture.

Green's/Hinomoto has extended its range of Hinomoto tractors, which now comprises tractors from 13hp to 50hp. All are fitted with three-point linkage and most have either two or three-speed pto. Tractors under 25hp have either turf or agricultural tyres although turf tyres are also available for the larger models.

The 35hp and 41hp tractors are now fitted with health and safety approved cabs and cabs for the smaller sizes

will be available shortly.

All models have full synchromesh gears, except the 15hp tractor, which can be supplied with or without synchromesh.

All standard three-point linkage implements can be used with these tractors and special implements, such as mid-mounted rotary grass cutters, front and mid-mounted cylinder grass cutters, etc, will soon be available. Some of these implements are already available.

Green's is well known for its range of Zephyr and hydrostatic motor mowers and gang mowers, from single units up to nontuple units, trailed, hy-lift and hydraulically driven. Also now available are smaller rotary mowers, both ride-on and pedestrian.

Maxwell M. Hart, specialists in the provision of recreational and leisure equipment and supplies, will welcome existing and potential customers to its 'Grandstand' exhibition.

With a reputation for expertise and service, Maxwell M. Hart offers a comprehensive range of grass seed, fertilisers, line markers, sprinklers, sprayers, posts, nets and flags. The

company now also leads the way in the provision of synthetic surfaces for sport and leisure. The range includes Poligras for full-size pitches or cricket wickets, Maxisafe for play areas and Maxisport and Maxiplay for multi-sport areas.

Huxleys will be introducing several new products at Windsor, including a new grass collection system from Cushman and a new design Huxley aerator.

The Cushman Grass Caddy (pictured, foreground) collects grass, leaves and litter at an impressive speed and fits to a 60in cutter deck on the Cushman Frontline Mower. Hydraulic emptying is controlled from the driver's seat, so the unit can tip into a trailer or pick-up.

The new aerator (pictured, background) has several impressive features including variable blade depth setting, maximum 9in penetration and excellent performance as a light roller.

Other new Huxleys attachments for the three and four-wheel Cushman Trucksters include a larger capacity tipping dump box with optional mesh side extensions and the all-hydraulic Reelmowers.



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will play team match play
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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.



Lawnmower Specialists is a family firm that prides itself on personal service, taking the company all over the UK as golf course consultants and suppliers of agricultural and horticultural machinery, including professional turfcare equipment. At this year's show, the emphasis will be on the Palmer Multicore—a hollow tining machine for which the company is sole UK agent.

The Multicore is a ruggedly built, no-nonsense aerator. Possibly its main attraction is the ease with which interchangeable heads can be fitted or removed. As well as a standard coring head fitted with 1/2in or 3/8in tines, the Multicore will take a slicer, a spiker (for tightening up spongy greens) and a jumbo head for removing large quantities of thatch. Exclusive to the machine is the Mini-Tine head, which gives a peg-board pattern for maximum surface saturation of water and air. It has proved excellent in preventing algae and controlling dry-patch.

Leach Lewis Plant, sole UK concessionaires for the West German built range of Agria machinery, will be launching the following new equipment. The Agria 5500 Cutterbar mower, designed specifically for the municipal and agricultural market,

features three mowing speeds (2, 3.5 and 4.6km/h) plus reverse, good ground clearance and traction and twin wheels for use on slopes. It is easy to steer and almost vibration free, offers additional implements as optional, is fitted with a safety 'dead man's' handle and available in a choice of 2/4 stroke petrol or diesel engine.

The Agria 3400 two-wheeled tractor is an economical and versatile professional machine.

It features single wheel control on both sides, independent pto, optimum performance with all implements, a 50kw 7 din hp diesel engine, with low

fuel consumption and four forward and four reverse speeds.

Malcolm Martin Trucks will show the Bonza, a one tonne carrying capacity three-wheel truck (pictured), and the Bonza Cub, a half tonne carrying capacity truck. The Bonza is well known for its versatility and manoeuvrability over rough ground and its long lasting and robust construction, giving many years of trouble free service. The Bonza Cub offers the same reliability and strength with measurements of only 3ft 2in wide and an overall length of 9ft 2in, allowing easy access to narrow gateways and pathways.



Malcolm Martin Trucks.

Brouwer. Cut out



How often has rain forced you to abandon grass cutting? That never happens with a Brouwer mower, because Brouwers cope perfectly with the wettest grass and the softest ground—they can even work efficiently under water!

That's because the Brouwer works on a self-adjusting 'V' belt principle, with pistons for constant tensioning and wide flotation tyres to minimise ground pressure.

The direct drive system has many other advantages too. It is simple to maintain, so downtime is minimal. It utilises standard parts, so spares and repairs are inexpensive. And it's economical to run—you'll find a Brouwer uses considerably less fuel than conventional wheel driven mowers.

For a really close shave, there's a unique pivot design option, enabling the Brouwer to cope with rough contours without damaging either itself or the

Midox will be exhibiting its range of proven herbicides, insecticides and fungicides for the amenity sector, including Casoron G, Fydulan, Dimilin and Daconil. Three new products will also be featured. Sanseal—a highly effective tree wound sealant for protection against disease infection and the promotion of callusing—Thinsec—a flowable formulation of the tried and tested insecticide Carbaryl, which has many uses including the economical control of earthworms in turf—and Midstream, the only aquatic herbicide effective in flowing water.

Nickerson Turfmaster will be exhibiting its range of professional grasscutting equipment. 'Simple is efficient' is the company's slogan and this has led to products that are not only rugged, but also cost effective.

Innovation, too, is important. The Turfmaster 2001 is acknowledged as having taken a radical, yet effective, approach to grass machinery design and this has been followed by the Turfmaster 360, a 70in triple mower launched only a year ago, but already of considerable importance to smaller users who demand professional standards at a competitive price.

The Turfmaster 84 (pictured) has, of course, set a high standard for many



Nickerson Turfmaster.

years and thousands are in use throughout the country. Also on display will be the Nickerson Turfmaster 302, a British designed,

rugged, versatile, full specification 30bhp diesel engined tractor, together with the comprehensive range of sweepers and scarifiers.

for our climate.

grass. And even on slopes it can be perfectly controlled without side slippage. But don't just take our word for it. For a free brochure, details of our nationwide dealer network or a free Brouwer demonstration, just cut the coupon.

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20-22nd September, 1983

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T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) will feature in a re-styled hospitality pavilion the Verdant and Mommersteeg ranges of grass seeds, plus a new range of fertilisers and top dressings. Greenfeed fine turf fertilisers, in both spring/summer and autumn/winter form, packed in 25 kilo bags, have become firm favourites with groundsmen and greenkeepers throughout the UK.

The company markets a range of machinery of its own, including the Aggrigator tractor-mounted Soil Screen, the Parker T2 DeLuxe Sprinkler, the Parkmatic Self Travelling Sprinkler, Park central coupling hose reels, Park water barrows, the Park professional sprayer for high volume and low volume application, Macwin line markers, Dimple markers and Parker Prince markers. The Perfecto range of golf course equipment includes flag pins, flags, hole tins, tee markers, ball scrubbers, Parker spreaders, etc.

The company is the south's sole

distributor for SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) and holds main distributorships for Ransomes, Atco, Hayter, Nickerson Turfmaster, Marshall Concessionaires and Iseki.

H. Pattisson & Co is again exhibiting its comprehensive range of golf course equipment, including hole cups, flags, flag staffs, tee markers and a complete range of tools for the greenkeeper. New lines this year include an alloy anti-mud hole cup and an alloy bunker rake. Machinery on display includes the S.P. self-propelled fine turf piercer, tractor mounted deep turf piercer and tractor mounted vertirake. Also on display will be the new golf Beaver turf care system (pictured).

The basic Beaver truck, tried and tested by local authorities throughout the UK, has now been further developed for use on golf courses. The three-point linkage takes a range of implements, such as a spiker, top spreader, vertirake, sprayer, drag brush and scarifier.

On arrival at the **Rigby Taylor** stand, guests will be given a free copy of the fifth issue of *Turf Talk*, which will be devoted to the exhibitions at Windsor and Lytham. Visitors will also be able to meet new personnel and see the full range of Mascot Chemicals, the new range of Mascot Spreaders, a selection of Rigby Taylor's fertilisers, including the celebrated Jim Arthur mixture. Particular emphasis will be given to an exhibition within Rigby Taylor's stand of line marking, including Blue Circle products.

Many varieties of seed will be shown so that guests can see the components in the various grass seed mixtures sold by Rigby Taylor. Emphasising close co-operation between Rigby Taylor and leading suppliers, the company will show products manufactured by Synchemicals, Midox, S.A.I. Fertilizer, Farmura and Alginure.

Over the last two years or so, there has been a noticeable increased demand for diesel engines to power grass machinery, says **Ransomes**. Last year, the company introduced diesel engine options for their rider rotaries and the Motor 213 all-hydraulic self-propelled triple mower. In both cases, this year's sales have been shared equally between diesel and petrol power. While the diesel engine has a higher initial cost, users appreciate its reliability and reduction in cutting costs per acre.

The company believes the trend towards the use of diesels on certain types of grass machinery will continue, particularly now there are small lightweight multi-cylinder water cooled models on the market. Besides cost effective fuel consumptions, these new diesel engines require less routine maintenance and have low vibration levels.

To reduce turfgrass maintenance costs, local authorities have extended



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their cutting cycles and during the past few years, Ransomes has introduced machines to meet this new requirement, including the Magna 5/7 and three unit Mounted 214 hydraulic gang mowers and, for smaller areas,

the pedestrian controlled Vergecutter 76.

Details of a new machine with particular interest to local authorities will be available at the exhibition.

(Pictured is the Motor 180.)



Ransomes.

Rolawn will be showing four varieties of Britain's best turf—R1 Tournament (golf/bowling greens), R2 Olympic (golf tees, cricket, tennis, quality landscaping), R3 Commando (football) and the new RB Medallion (shade tolerant, general purpose).

Rolawn's new head office, trials ground and nursery are at Elvington near York. Other strategic turf growing centres are at Telford (Salop), Trumpington (Cambridge), Fentons Barn (Edinburgh) and Shackleford (Surrey). All types of turf are, thus, readily available all year round. Custom-grown specialist turf is also available. For 1984, there will again be R1 Special, intensively managed on sterilised sandy loam.

SAI will collaborate with ICI on a joint stand where SAI will feature its well-known range of Mini-Crum fertilisers—in particular the latest additions Greengold, Longlife and Fine Turf Nitrogen With Iron. Greengold and Longlife have, in their first full season, already won acclaim for providing the most significant advance ever in slow-release fertilisers for use on turf. The major benefit of these two fertilisers is that, in addition to providing an even slower rate of release, they also provide an immediate response following application, but combined with a reduction in the amount of grass cutting required. Fine Turf Nitrogen With Iron, not previously seen at

Windsor, is the ideal fertiliser for use when no phosphate is required and is supplied, of course, in the normal, easily applied Mini-Crum form.

SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) will, as always, have a large and varied display of all that is best in sportsground management equipment. Of particular interest will be the new range of soil processors, being shown for the first time at Windsor and demonstrated daily. Jointly designed and developed by SISIS and Acre (Willington), three machines will be exclusively marketed worldwide through existing outlets.

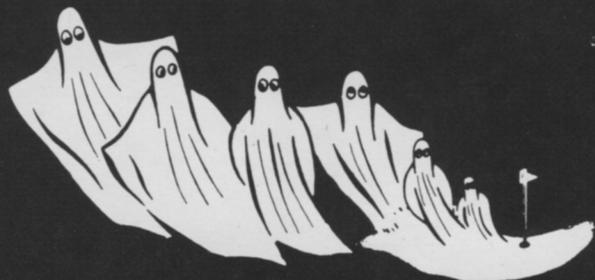
The SISIS Hydromain System will also be featured prominently and both the Fourteen and Seventeen (pictured) models will be demonstrated. Introduced since last year's show is the 6ft wide deep slitter giving 6in penetration with an even faster work rate.



SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield).



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And, because it's lightweight—a mere 1518 lbs—it won't damage or compact soft, wet ground. Unlike much heavier hydraulic mowers.

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Its simple mechanical parts are durable and designed for easy maintenance.

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Please ask your representative to contact me

Name _____

Position _____

Address _____

Send to: Charterhouse Turf Machinery Ltd., The Old Mill, Mill Lane, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1EY. GR/9/83

Steeley Minerals is to launch two new product ranges—Silver Key and Gold Key grass seed mixtures.

The new blends have been devised by Steeley's Owen Jones in collaboration with grass seed expert David Smart and are complementary to the whole range of Key products Steeley has developed for Britain's groundsmen—fertilisers, top dressings, soil conditioners and speciality products.

Both liquid and granular forms of Aqua-Gro, the new wetting agent that has shown major benefits on amenity turf and in horticulture during its initial season of use, will be featured by **Supaturf Products**. The ability of Aqua-Gro to solve wetting problems has already been seen on many golf courses and bowling greens, says managing director David Palmer. It has overcome dry patch where thick thatch or compaction has seriously restricted the penetration of irrigation water and can also aid weed control by increasing penetration of herbicide.

Now Aqua-Gro is also available in a granular form throughout the horticultural trade. As the first granular wetting agent in the UK, it enables big savings to be made in the cost of compost. This has been heralded as a big breakthrough for groundsmen and growers mixing their own composts.

Continuous demonstrations of Aqua-Gro liquid in action will be seen on the stand throughout the exhibition. Joining Supaturf personnel on the stand will be an executive from the Aquatrols Corporation of America, which developed the product in the United States.

The Supaturf exhibit will also feature Turface Soil Amendment, showing its many uses for the amenity market, together with a range of other products including Supaturf and Cannock fertilisers, Supaturf,

Cannock and Carters grass seeds, top dressings, May & Baker chemicals and sports equipment and turf maintenance equipment, all of which will be fully described in the new third edition of the *Supaturf Product Guide*.

This year's show marks the introduction of several innovative measures designed to improve the existing **Toro Irrigation** product range and customer services. "We believe no other sprinkler manufacturer offers such a wide range of irrigation equipment and customer services," UK sales manager Peter Roberts said.

"Our seven-year pro-rated warranty, for example, will now be available to users of all the company's large, geared sprinklers. In practical terms, the warranty benefits mean that a user will pay less than 50 per cent of replacement costs if a specified part fails after four years use.

"We have also added to our range of plastic valves with the appearance of the new 250 series electric valve, which incorporates external cleaning of the metering orifice. This can be of particular value to Toro users in hard water areas."

Two new controllers, the Toro 8 + 1 and 12 + 1, will be seen at Windsor. Designed for residential and commercial markets, these controllers feature nine or 13 stations including one station with a 'long-time' setting for the operation of drip lines.

A shrub-head version of the Toro Super 600 series pop-up sprinkler has been introduced together with optional extras for the Super 600, such as a rubber cover and built-in check valve.

In addition to these products, Toro has launched a sales promotion aimed primarily at the UK golf market. The offer provides a trip to Las Vegas in January, where the Golf Course Superintendents of America annual

exhibition and conference will be held. Details are available on the Toro stand.

Recent Toro sprinkler irrigation installations include 22 grass and all-weather courts at the All England Tennis Club, Wimbledon, Arsenal's pitch at Highbury and an all-weather Dunlopark playing area at the new Crawley leisure centre.

Turf Maintenance Supplies are suppliers of all types of sports equipment, fertilisers, grass seeds, weed killers, worm killers, fungicides and marking compounds. The company produces its own fine turf top dressing, consisting of trdress, screened cricket loam and light top soil.

Turners of Wheatley presents its new tractor mounted rotary The Boxer available in three sizes—lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight. The middleweight, on show at Windsor, has a cutting width of 57in, a standard Warner gearbox with a 40 to 60hp shock-loading, ministry approved guards and fully shielded pto shaft. It has an all-steel construction, weighs just 200kg and has an easy-to-operate height-of-cut adjustment.

The middleweight is ideal for reclamation work, rough and uneven ground, sports grounds and parks. For use behind tractors of 25 to 50hp, it offers low maintenance costs. "The emphasis is on simplicity and strength and it will beat the living daylight out of even the most difficult grass areas," a company spokesman said.

Bernhard's Rugby Nurseries of Bilton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire will demonstrate its range of open ground, container grown trees and shrubs for the amenity and landscape sectors. Copies of the latest trade price list will be available for distribution.

The stand will be manned by Theo Heyting, nursery director, and Barry Smith, nursery marketing manager.

Talk to **Mr Supaturf**

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Wetting Agents Soil Amendment

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Birmingham
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Tel: 0903-65715



Branch News

North-West

Notes by Andrew Campbell

The autumn tournament takes place at Rhuddlan Golf Club on Monday, October 17—the 1st tee has been reserved from 1.45 to 3pm. Members of the trade, greenkeepers and chairmen of greens are all welcome although numbers will be limited to 40 players, with one greenkeeper and one guest or two greenkeepers forming each pairing.

All entries plus the £5 fee—which includes soup and sandwiches on arrival and an evening meal—to Terry Adamson, Golf/Social Administrator, 26 Ffordd Gruffydd, Llay, Wrexham (tel: Gresford 2908) by October 1.

Anyone who wishes to play in the tournament and is not a member of EIGGA will be able to join the association on the day. Respectable dress (no jeans) is requested while on the course and a collar and tie will be needed for the evening.

Finally, thanks go to vice chairman Keith Holmes and his wife Freda for the welcome they extended to committee members at a meeting held recently in Wrexham.

London

Notes by David MacIndoe

Twenty-four greenkeepers played an evening competition at Northwood Golf Club on July 10. Many thanks go to Northwood for courtesy of the course, which was in excellent condition. Thanks also to Parkers and Synchemicals for helping with the prizes. Congratulations to the following for their very impressive scores: 1st—39 points, D. Stenson; 2nd—39 points, J. Hill and 3rd—36 points, A. Grew.

The autumn tournament has been arranged for October 11 at Bushey Hall GC. The dinner-dance has also been booked for November 18 at the excellent Post House Hotel, Heathrow. In the past, this venue has proved to be about the easiest place for most people to reach.

Any enquiries can be made to D. Lowe on 0483 810311, D. MacIndoe on Watford 36416 or T. McDonald on 01-950 7469.

EIGGA Headquarters

EIGGA will be sharing the *Greenkeeper* stand at this year's IOG Exhibition at Windsor. General administrator Danielle Jones will be on the

stand throughout the three days, as will members of EIGGA's board of management.

All members and any prospective members are very welcome to drop by for an informal chat and membership forms and stocks of association clothing will be available. If you don't see the EIGGA flag flying proudly, you'll find us at I 20-21 next to the main entrance.



The association's smart blazer and pullover carry the distinctive EIGGA emblem.

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S.I.G.G.A. Views SISIS

ON the 28th and 29th of July SISIS played hosts to a party of Head Greenkeepers and Course Managers from S.I.G.G.A.

Mr. Keith Vertigan and Ian McKay, the company's Scottish representatives, transported the party by coach on the six-hour journey south.

We were taken direct to Macclesfield Golf Club to be met by the Company Managing Director and his lovely wife.

Mr. Eric Staniforth is also past president of the club and he had organised a social round over the course with the first prize of a tankard presented by the company going to Brian Finlayson of Braehead Golf Club. With the kind of hospitality that SISIS dish up he did not have to wait long to put it to good use.

On to the Hotel to book in before dinner, a splendid old Manor with good ale, a short beautiful walk in the midsummer evening to the old village square and the restaurant for a super meal. There's nothing quite like a good dinner, good wine and a good 'Company'.

Some retired early; others (fools) sampled the ale in one of the taverns where time does not seem to matter but the quality of the ale does.

The Wednesday morning after a hearty breakfast, and we were on board the coach bound for a local cricket club, to view the Hydromain 17 and all of its twenty-nine (yes, that's what I said) allied implements, from spikers, varied, to leaf sweepers, to turf lifters,

to mole ploughs, to top dressers, to sprayers, etc., etc., etc. And all interchangeable by one operator with ease and speed.

We were also lucky enough to have a preview of a newly marketed shredder/sieve produced and marketed jointly by an arrangement between Acre and SISIS. A most impressive piece of equipment, completely alleviating the need for separate shredder and sieve; the sieve meshes reducing to some 3/16" thus allowing the greenkeeper to complete his compost mixes in one operation.

A most enlightening demonstration.

Before setting off for home we viewed the extensions to the factory to cope with increased production, a genuine spirit of harmony abounded throughout the workforce, many of whom we had an opportunity to meet with and speak to.

The sales, design, accounting staff, etc., joined us for a buffet lunch upstairs in the staff dining room where our Scottish Chairman, Chris Kennedy and our General Secretary Joe McKean thanked SISIS on behalf of S.I.G.G.A. for a most enjoyable and informative trip.

Mr. Roger Hardgreaves thanked S.I.G.G.A. on behalf of the Company for our lasting faith in their products and invited other members of S.I.G.G.A. at a future date to come south and view the company at work.

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Greenkeeper



S.I.G.G.A.

Supplement

Editorial Comment

Dear Members,

At the time of writing we are in the middle of the warmest summer since '75 and '76 and with it the allied problems, drought ridden fairways and greens. Some of the walkways, tee sides, etc., are so dry that the grass is being walked off. We can only hope that when the drought breaks we will have some resemblance of recovery in these areas.

I only wish that this climate actually were a little more temperate, a little rain every other night and 65°-70° every other day. It's only six weeks since the end of two and a half months' rain — and the sun has beaten down on the mud every day since. Now we all know what happens to mud when it dries but the ordinary golfer does not want to know, he wants the mud to remain on the green so that his carved 3 wood from 180 yards will hold 2 ft. from the flag.

This is a time for courage "brothers" as Peter Sellers once said. Courage to withstand the pressure to give them 20 minutes a night in August, and then wonder why they are so soft in January through to June '84.

I know that at times like these many greenkeepers, course managers, etc., feel like lonely men (i.e., one against the pack), but if we as a body, all of us plus S.I.G.G.A. were on the ball we would be circularising clubs with information compiled by the top greenkeepers in the U.K. plus agronomists, consultants as a body and would strengthen our image immeasurably. As a profession we appear to me to adopt an every-man-for-himself attitude, which does nothing to unite the profession, only divides us as a whole. If we continue much longer without a unity of all the greenkeeping bodies in the U.K., we will all lose out in the end, dubbed the "forgotten army" who prepare a course and then sit back and let others more professional, verbally speak for us.

As Windsor is upon us and Scotsturf is not so far away, what better platform for E.I.G.G.A., B.G.G.A. and S.I.G.G.A. to get round a table and make '84 a year of construction for this true profession most of us love dearly.

Yours in unity,

JAMES KIDD,
Co-Editor, S.I.G.G.A. Supplement.

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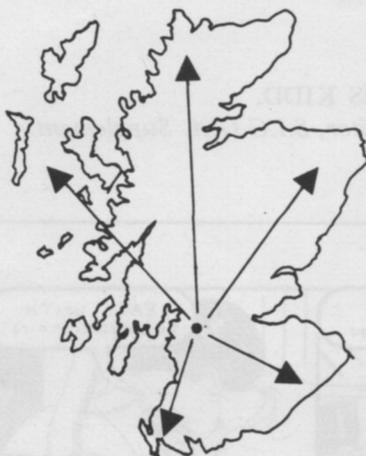
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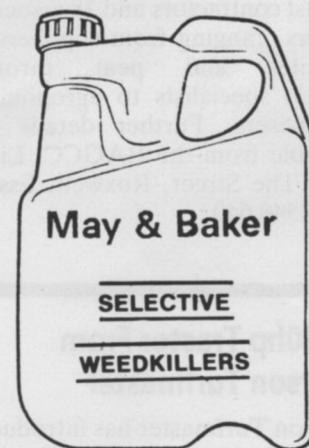
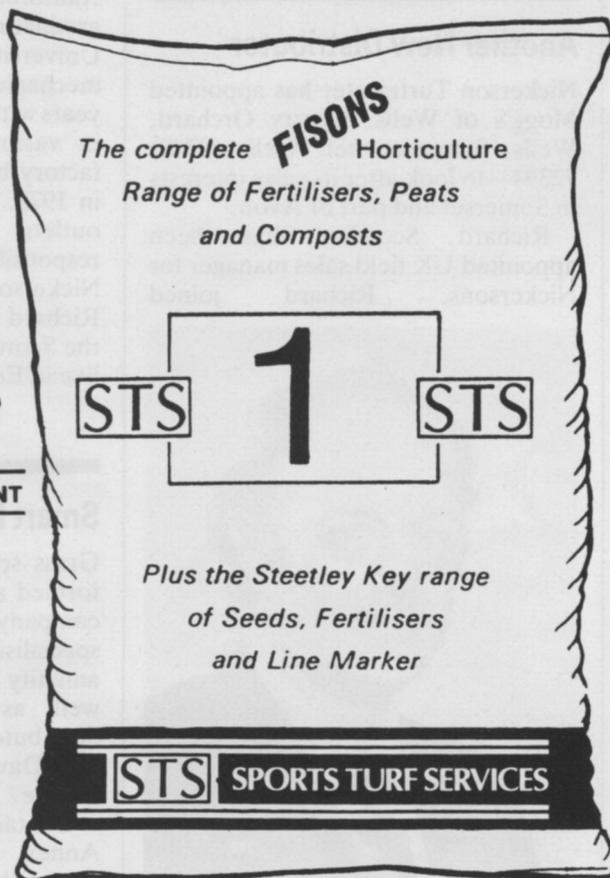


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Courses In Turf Management

The Sports Turf Research Institute will hold three one-week courses in the autumn on the theory and practice of turf construction and management. The courses, starting Monday morning and finishing on Friday afternoon, last for five days. They will cover soils, grasses, turf diseases and pests, drainage, watering, fertilisers and machinery. Starting on October 24, October 31 and November 7, the fees (exclusive of accommodation and meals) are £80 for members and £95 for non-members (plus VAT). Further details from The Secretary, The Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, West Yorkshire. Tel: Bradford (0274) 565131.

New BAGCC Member

Irrigation and Slurry Services of Redlynch, Wiltshire, installers of TORO Irrigation Systems, has recently joined the British Association of Golf Course Constructors as an associate member.

The association now boasts a constructor membership of six leading specialist contractors and 18 associate members, ranging from suppliers of geotextiles and peat through irrigation specialists to agronomists and advisers. Further details are obtainable from the BAGCC, Little Dukes, The Street, Roxwell, Essex. Tel: 024548 640.

New 30hp Tractor From Nickerson Turfmaster

Nickerson Turfmaster has introduced a British-designed small tractor into its range. Known as the Nickerson Turfmaster 302, the machine is a rugged, versatile and full specification tractor equally suited to grassland applications and heavy municipal and highway use.

Priced £6,023, the specification includes a 30hp diesel engine, quick-detach quiet cab (optional without cab), constant mesh gearbox with nine forward and three reverse speeds, differential lock, dry disc brakes, ploughlamp, foot/hand throttle, fully live hydraulics capable of lifting 1,500lb, tipping trailer kit, Cat 1 linkage, standard two-speed

pto, full instrumentation and lighting and front end weight carrier.

The 302 is being sold through the existing nationwide Nickerson Turfmaster distributor network and

additional distributors are being sought for some areas.

Full details from Graham Templeton, Nickerson Turfmaster, Gainsborough, Lincs. Tel: 0427 4776.



Nickerson Turfmaster's latest line—the 302.

Another New Distributor

Nickerson Turfmaster has appointed Mogg's of Wells, Cherry Orchard, Wells, Somerset—tel: Wells (0749) 72394—to look after its sales interests in Somerset and part of Avon.

Richard Scotcher has been appointed UK field sales manager for Nickersons. Richard joined



Richard Scotcher.

Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies after graduating from Birmingham University with a degree in mechanical engineering. During 14 years with Ransomes, he was involved in various aspects of the Ipswich factory before moving to Edinburgh in 1972, where he managed Scottish outlets. In addition to his new responsibilities for the existing Nickerson Turfmaster sales force, Richard will retain management of the Scottish area. He will continue to live in Edinburgh.

Smart Move

Grass seed expert David Smart has formed a marketing and distribution company, called Perfect Seeds, specialising in turf seed for the sports, amenity and leisure industries. As well as trading with merchant/distributor networks throughout the UK, David will provide a consultancy service.

Contact Perfect Seeds at The Annex, Milland House, 53 Breach Lane, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 8LF. Tel: Shaftesbury (0747) 4877 and 51201.

Morrison Changes UK Concession

The London office of Fletcher Challenge will close from November 1. Morrison Precision Lawnmowers has decided to transfer its UK concession to CNS Mowers of Main Road, Thornham, Hunstanton, Norfolk from November 1. This decision has been taken to maintain Morrison's place in the UK market so the trade can continue to have access to machines, spare parts and servicing facilities.

As a first step in this direction, Fletcher Challenge is arranging with immediate effect to transfer its entire stock of spare parts to CNS Mowers, who will continue to handle all warranty and service work.

Final completion and transfer of the concession is scheduled to take place on November 1 and, prior to this date, Fletcher Challenge will continue to supply and invoice machines to the trade for the 1984 season.

And Now Spasor In Tip 'n' Pour

After the launch of Mowchem—May & Baker's new grass growth regulator—the company has announced that Spasor, the amenity formulation of glyphosate, is now also available in a tip 'n' pour container. The company claims that Spasor in the five litre tip 'n' pour container offers users the ideal non-residual total weedkiller with the full benefit of safe, sure and accurate measurement.



Maxwell Hart Makes Two Appointments

Maxwell M. Hart of Winnersh, Berkshire, has made two new appointments in its sales and marketing division. Bernard Wall, previously area sales rep for the western home counties area, has been promoted to field sales manager. Based at Sunninghill, Berkshire, his main responsibility is the field sales force. In addition, Bernard will contribute to marketing strategy.

The company has also appointed Julian Bourne marketing executive with the special products division. Before joining Maxwell Hart, Julian was a sales consultant with a leading UK construction company. He will

have particular responsibility for ensuring efficient client servicing and will liaise with the field sales force and the construction division of Maxwell Hart.

Parker At Play

Some 70 clubs were represented at the fifth annual Parker tournament for greenkeepers staged at Malden Golf Club, Surrey recently. Pictured are the leading finishers with the company's managing director and his wife and the sales director after the prizegiving. From left to right: G. Simpson (sales director), P. Fillary (6th), D. Sargent (4th), G. Parker (managing director), H. Brown (1st), Mrs G. Parker, A Morton (5th), M. Pearson (2nd) and J. Newman (3rd).



Companies Agree On Scotland

Two leading manufacturers of turf management equipment and grass-cutting machinery are to expand sales in Scotland. Turner International, Warwickshire-based manufacturers of flail mowers and hedge trimmers, has appointed SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) main distributors in Scotland.

From a modern depot at the Middlefield Industrial Estate in Falkirk, headquarters of SISIS in Scotland, sales, service and spare parts supplies for Turner in-line, tractor-mounted Turbo Mowers, side-arm flail mowers and pedestrian flail mowers will be added to the comprehensive range of SISIS machines.

Turners will continue to handle main accounts within regional authorities and sales of machines to agricultural users will continue to be made through the company's existing Scottish agricultural dealer network.

Graham Satchwell, European sales director for Turners, says the agreement opens up a large potential sales area for the company and Mr A. Harrison, sales director of SISIS, believes the companies together now offer a comprehensive range of hedge and grass maintenance machinery for public and private areas.

Further information from Graham Satchwell on Alcester (0789) 763711 or John Bolt on Brimscombe (0453) 883038.

A Help For Harry



Harry Green, head greenkeeper at Cathcart Castle, puts the Kubota/Vicon combination through its paces.

Harry Green, head greenkeeper at Cathcart Castle Golf Club, Glasgow is a keen advocate of the Vicon 302 Vari-spreader. He obtained one 18 months ago.

"I haven't seen a more versatile machine in my 35 years of tending turf," Harry said. Harry has been at Cathcart Castle for 15 years. "It has been a real boon to us in every way and I can't fault it in any respect."

Mounted behind a Kubota B7100 HST mini-tractor, the Vari-spreader is used primarily to apply top-dressings of light compost and sand, at widths varying between ten and 40 feet. Harry says that such jobs have been made much easier and that less fertiliser is now used, while a much more accurate and even distribution is obtained, thus increasing the effectiveness of the dressing and

economising with the material.

But perhaps the greatest value of the Kubota/Vari-spreader combination is related to timing. Not only can dressing be done in a minimum of time—eight hours to treat 18 greens compared with something like 30 hours under traditional systems—but it also means that the operation can be carried out with the least possible disturbance to play out on the course.

The Vari-spreader can be used for doing anything from applying fertilisers and worm-killer on fairways to spreading salt or grit on frozen car-parks. The combination can also be adapted for other functions—for example, with a grass-spiker or a brush fitted on the tool-bar.

Weekly fuel consumption has been estimated at two gallons of diesel, so 18 greens can be maintained for about



50p. Full details can be obtained from Peter Smith, Vicon, PO Box 10, Lovetofts Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk. Tel: Ipswich (0473) 47321.

• *The west coast of Scotland abounds with golf courses and Hamilton Brothers, agricultural machinery suppliers of Paisley, is well sited to provide equipment to them. Sports sales rep Sandy Young has been kept busy with the demonstration unit he compiled of the Kubota B7100 HST mini-tractor in conjunction with the Vicon 302 Vari-spreader plus grass spiker, mower, etc. Apart from Cathcart Castle, clubs supplied during the past two years include East Renfrewshire, Gullane, Irvine Bogside, Milngavie, Paisley and Williamwood.*

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A Friend Of The Falklands

Salisbury and South Wilts Golf Club has affiliated with the Falkland Islands' Stanley Golf Club. Sir Rex Hunt, president of the Stanley club, attended a ceremony in Salisbury recently to accept the proposal made by Dr James Drummond, president of Salisbury and South Wilts GC.

The aim is to forge a mutual interest in golf between the two clubs, notwithstanding the 8,000 miles distance. It is hoped to encourage the revival of the Stanley course to its former glory and, thereby, aid the return of one aspect of normal sporting life to the Falklands.

After speeches, Salisbury and South Wilts member Bill Goodman presented to Sir Rex Hunt on behalf of the club a set of new flag sticks for the Stanley course.

Maxwell M. Hart of Winnersh, Berkshire, in collaboration with Bridges Pennants of Southend, Essex, were responsible for the donation, which consisted of 250 bag discs and straps, nine flagpoles and pennants and nine hole cups.

Mr Goodman helped build the present Stanley course in 1969. It is believed that the original course was laid out by Britons in 1939.

Later, the Stanley Cup was presented to the Salisbury and South Wilts captain by senior aircraftsman Peter Scott on behalf of his father Chuck Scott. The cup will be played for annually.

It was Peter, 20 and from Wiltshire, who struck the first shot on the Stanley course following the Argentinian invasion. After an unserviceable helicopter and several jeeps had been cleared, he used a seven-iron to fire a golf ball towards Mount Tumbledown.

The club had been sent to Peter as a

birthday present by Salisbury and South Wilts club professional Nigel Blenkarne and his club members. They also sent him an umbrella and two dozen very welcome golf balls.

Call For Golf Hall Of Fame In Scotland

A centre portraying the story of golf in Scotland would be a powerful magnet for visitors, Alan Devereux, chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board, suggested recently in St Andrews.

Speaking at the opening of the Links Rooms—new changing rooms for golfers, with bar and restaurant facilities, built by the St Andrews Links Trust at the Rusacks Hotel—Mr Devereux said Scotland had not

capitalised on its golfing heritage.

"The visitor, thrilled by the thought of his feet touching the sacred turf of St Andrews, will look in vain for a golfing hall of fame or a golfing heritage' museum. At the Tourist Board, we would dearly love to see the development of such a centre. We are prepared to earmark money for such a purpose and have looked at the World Golf Hall of Fame at Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The Scottish Tourist Board had helped with the building of the new changing rooms through a grant of £48,400, Mr Devereux said.

Mr Devereux said golf was a central part of Scotland's tourism industry. Last year, 270,000 visitors played golf in Scotland and spent around £35m. There are nearly 400 courses in the country.

In My Opinion—Continued...

the golf course architects have been organised for a number of years with the British Association of Golf Course Architects. I feel this is a move in the right direction and it should improve standards for the future.

Training For The Future

It is my opinion that greenkeepers desire and deserve a more professional status—they are the professionals in greenkeeping and, as a successful golf course maintenance policy depends on a team effort between the advisory agronomist, the head greenkeeper and the club management, it is only right that greenkeepers should be given a more professional status.

I always make comparisons between greenkeepers in Europe and colleagues in America's GCSAA. Lifting the image of the greenkeeper will be based on educational

standards and, therefore, I would hope in the future there would be colleges of excellence in the country, providing a sound theoretical and practical training in greenkeeping. These colleges should not be spread so thinly throughout the British Isles, but concentrated in areas so that highly skilled teachers in the practice and theory of greenkeeping can impart their knowledge and expertise to student greenkeepers. For example, four to five centres in England and Wales and two in Scotland.

It is only by improving the training and uplifting the image of the greenkeeper that the future of our industry will be safe and not in the hands of amateurs and pseudo experts. I would also hope that there will be one strong greenkeepers' association in the British Isles or in the whole of the EEC—this would give greenkeepers a stronger professional image.

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