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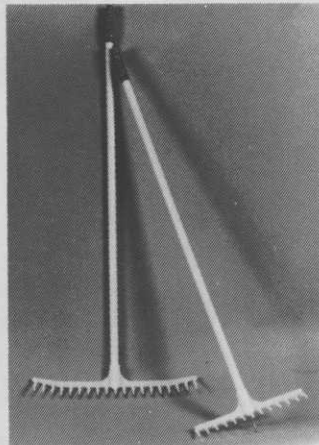
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This issue

JUNE 1987

Front cover: Henry Cotton, three times Open champion, is pictured officially opening the magnificent course at Letham Grange, near Arbroath. The course has already won much praise and it has been described as the 'Augusta of Scotland.' Certainly, Henry was impressed with the complex, which includes an hotel and restaurant, curling rink and horse-riding facilities. The maestro spoke with great wit when congratulating the developer Ken Smith on "turning a dream into a glorious reality."

BIGGA UPDATE

The association appoints a general administrator and there's news from the board of management

NEWS & VIEWS

From the north-west and the National Turfgrass Council

OUT ON THE COURSE



This month, we look at Letham Grange

SEVE, ARE YOU SURE?

Greenkeeper tackles the world's leading golfer...

A PROBLEM SHARED

Stephen Redman of the Yelverton club in Devon profiles his golf course

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PEOPLE, PLACES, PRODUCTS

EDUCATION CORNER...

NOTEBOOK

APPOINTMENTS

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Publisher: Fore Golf Publications Ltd

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Editor: Robin Stewart

Contributors: Jim Arthur, John Campbell, David Jones, Jimmy Kidd, Jack McMillan, Eddie Park, Donald Steel, Howard Swan, Peter Wisbey and Walter Woods

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BIGGA

Board of Management update

GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR

The General Administrator has been appointed and a full announcement will be made in the July issue of *Greenkeeper*.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The 1987 annual subscription invoice will be mailed out shortly to all members on the three previous Associations' mailing lists. The form will ask members to state their preferred mailing address, whether they are greenkeepers, trade or associated members and, in the case of Head Greenkeepers their club.

This information will be vital for the General Administrator to compile a new and up-to-date mailing list.

For any greenkeeper or anyone associated with the golf course maintenance industry who was not a member of one of the three previous Associations, a membership form will appear in the July issue of *Greenkeeper*.

THE ASSOCIATION'S COMPETITION FOR A LOGO DESIGN

The Board of Management has opened a competition for members to submit their design for the new Association's logo, title and colour scheme.

Entries are to be submitted to the General Administrator, British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, W. Yorks - to arrive by July 31st 1987.

The winner will receive a complete wardrobe of tie, blazer, shirt, pullover immediately the range is produced with the winning entry emblazoned.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

The Association has a hospitality marquee (No. 39) in the tented village, complete with closed circuit T.V., bar facility, snacks, and commissionaire to welcome greenkeepers and their guests.

BUNKER RAKING

Continued on page 5...



Left to right.

Standing Kevin Munt, George Malcolm, Bill Lawson.

Seated Jimmy Nielsen, Walter Woods, Dennis Ayling, Paddy McCarron & Jimmy Kidd.

Some of the Board of Management members at their May meeting.

Around in one at St. Andrews



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BIGGA UPDATE CONTINUED...

Volunteers for bunker raking are still required so, if you are attending the Open Championship, please offer to help. A substantial packed lunch is provided, as well as free admittance to the course.

The bunker raking operation will be controlled from a Portakabin, provided by the R & A, beside the 1st tee. Any greenkeepers wishing to take part should contact Cecil George, 4 Alexandria Road, Lenzie, Glasgow, Scotland.

BRANCH NEWSLETTER

The first newsletter will be published and mailed out with the July issue of *Greenkeeper*.

All Branch Administrators should send their notes to reach the Editor by the 1st of the month preceding publication. After August 3rd branch news should be sent to the General Administrator.

IOG EXHIBITION - WINDSOR - SEPTEMBER 14th - 17th

BIGGA will have a stand together with *Greenkeeper* magazine. Board of Management members will be in attendance together with the General Administrator. The magazine will be announcing a change of title at this time.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

As an interim measure, regional administrators will supply a letter or a 1986 card overstamped to members requiring proof of BIGGA membership.

EDITORIAL PANEL

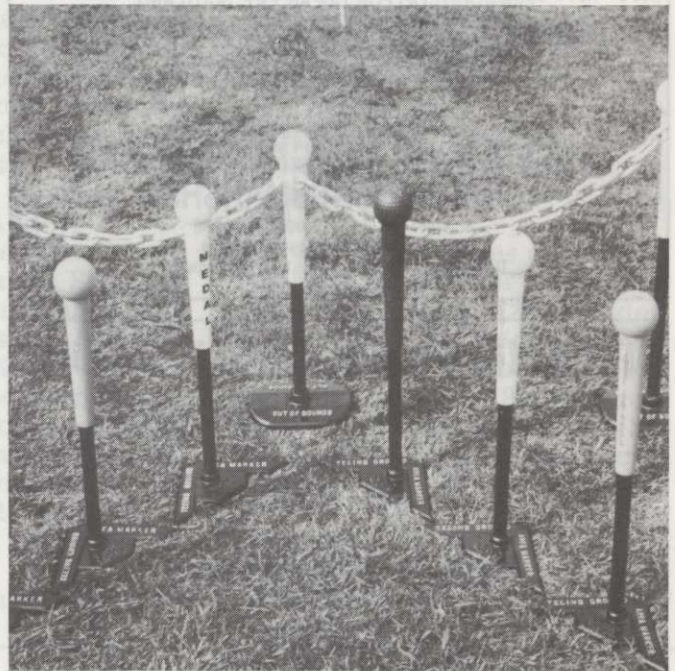
Jimmy Kidd has been appointed Chairman of BIGGA's editorial panel and is presently responsible for the Board of Management minutes until the General Administrator takes up his post on August 3rd.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This will take place at the Verulam Golf Club, St. Albans, Herts 17th - 19th August 1987.

If you have not already entered contact:- Ken Bunting, 1 Greenkeepers Cottage, Ashridge Golf Club, Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 1LU. Tel: 044 284 3359. Entry is open to full members of BIGGA. The tournament fee of £10. should be sent with your entry.

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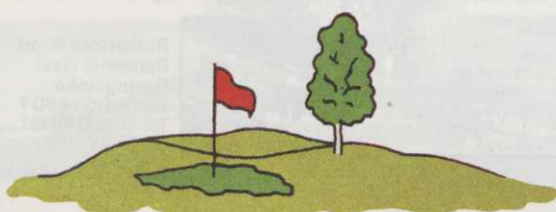
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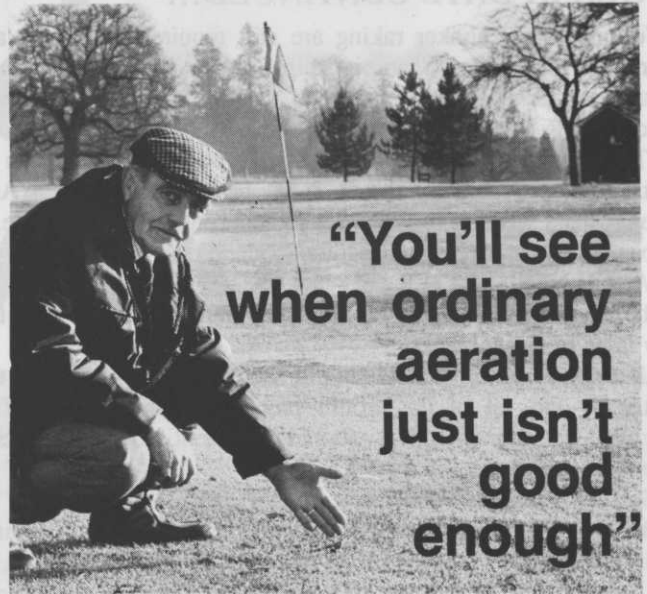
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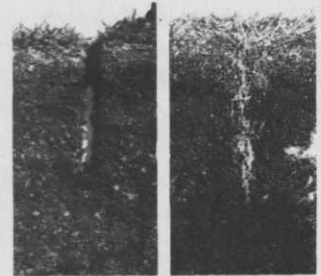
"You'll see when ordinary aeration just isn't good enough"

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

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North-West

The spring tournament was held on a chilly but dry day at Bury GC. There was a disappointing turnout of 25 members, who competed for the Hargreaves Cup. The winner was the former assistant greenkeeper from Wrexham GC, Terry Adamson, whose 69 included a hole in one!

Terry's score was matched by Andrew Peel, who had to be content with second net. Chairman Brian Moss was third.

David Berry, who worked so hard to prepare the course, finished fourth. David was the holder and, no doubt, he will bounce back at Heswall in the autumn.

Once again, 'Gypsy' Frank Tyson won the over-55s cup (Frank is the chap who brings his caravan to tournaments from Seascale, Cumbria.)

Finally, thanks to all who spon-

sored the day - SISIS, Burrows Grass Machinery, Martin Bros Sand, Hayters, Rigby Taylor, Trident, Rufford Top Dress, Maxwell Hart and Cheshire Light Tractors.

The final AGM of the old association was held on spring tournament day and the following elected to form the new BIGGA north-west committee: president - E. Staniforth; chairman - B. Moss; vice-chairman - D. Lucas; secretary - D. Golding and treasurer - H. McAddey.

The committee is formed by J. Lowery, W. Lawson, M. Sheehan, W. Merritt, G. Cannings, C. Lunt, L. Sprosten, A. Cross, M. Lewis, T. Adamson and K. Wrae. D. Markam takes an advisory role.

The SISIS invitation takes place on July 1 at the Cavendish club, Buxton. Anyone wishing to play who has not already received an invitation, should contact me immediately.

The section's most important

'battle' takes place at Saddleworth GC on July 22. Any member wishing to play in the Battle Of The Roses should contact Bert Cross, the competition chairman, on 051-724 5412. The match against the northern section is a very enjoyable social occasion, sponsored by Patisson.

Terry Adamson is hoping to organise a trip to Sweden in the autumn and further details can be obtained from Terry on 0978 83 2908.

A visit to Ransomes at Ipswich has been booked for November 19-20. The cost of £25 includes coach travel, overnight accommodation and meals. Members should inform their Burrows rep or me by June 30 if they wish to be included as numbers are strictly limited.

*David Golding,
Secretary.
Tel: 061-748 8592*

Dear Sir

I was interested to read the article by Peter Wisbey in the March issue of *Greenkeeper* and pleased that you are giving space to the important matter of pesticides legislation and the golf club.

Peter did a very good job of explaining the special problems of golf clubs during an NTC workshop at Stoneleigh in October and made people in the MAFF and other official bodies aware of the problems of golf, perhaps for the first time.

It is good that Peter is helping the two-way process of

information by his article for greenkeepers.

He refers to codes of practice and I thought it would interest him and your readers to know that the NTC is working to develop a special code of practice for amenity horticulture, which would deal with points specially related to turfgrass and amenity grass in a way not covered by the 'draft code of practice on the agricultural and horticultural use of pesticides,' which was available at the Stoneleigh workshop.

If we can get a code specially for turfgrass areas, we can cover points such as the proper procedures for spraying golf

greens and other areas where play is taking place all the time, as Peter mentioned in his article.

The NTC is still at the stage of persuading the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to set in train the arrangements that would produce such a code, developed by all interests within the industry, but we would certainly hope that *Greenkeeper*, perhaps through Peter Wisbey, could have a voice in drawing up such a code.

Your magazine's support for this would be a great help.

*John Shildrick,
National Turfgrass Council,
Bingley, West Yorkshire.*

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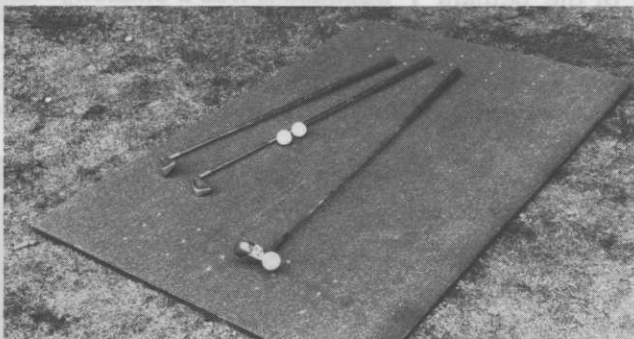
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Out On The Course



LETHAM GRANGE

Jim Grainger, course manager at Letham Grange, talks to *Greenkeeper* correspondent John Campbell.

THE opening of a new golf course is always a cause for jubilation among golfers in any part of the country, but it is even more important to the greenkeeping profession. Scotland has always had more than its share of good courses and now another has been added to the list in the shape of the Letham Grange Golf and Country Club, near Arbroath.

The inauguration ceremony was performed adroitly by the old master, Henry Cotton, whose golfing skill in an earlier age is still remembered on the famous Carnoustie links nearby.

Tribute was paid by members and guests to the way the course is being groomed and gradually brought to maturity by course manager Jim Grainger and his staff.

There can't be many greenkeepers with a greater wealth of golf course construction experience than Jim has under his belt at such an early stage. Jim, 37, is essentially an outdoor man, a great lover of country pursuits such as fishing and shooting. With his tall, muscular frame he is a natural athlete and was a useful boxer.

Idyllic

Jim and Jean Grainger live with their two children in idyllic surroundings. "I longed to have my own house with a little piece of land. I have been able to buy this right on the edge of the Letham Grange course and I am monarch of all I survey," Jim said.

"After leaving school and trying one or two jobs, I went to

work with Jack McMillan at Cardross Golf Club in the west of Scotland. I got a first-class training in all aspects of course management and upkeep and I was also involved with the building and construction of three new holes there.

"Afterwards, I moved to Durham City GC where I helped to build a completely new course. Then at Middlesbrough I brought on another new course until it was opened for play. Later, I went to Largs in Ayrshire where we did a lot of alterations to greens and tees.

"I came to Letham Grange because it was a challenge and it looked a new and exciting project in over 300 acres of beautiful country. It seemed to be an ideal piece of land for such a develop-



The 3rd green with some impressive housing in the background.