Whickham Golf Club Ltd wish to appoint an experienced GREENKEEPER to lead a team in the maintenance and further development of this progressive club and course.

Situated near Newcastle upon Tyne, the post offers accommodation with the salary to be negotiated.

Apply with CV and certificates to:
M J Musto, Secretary/Manager, Whickham Golf Club, Fells Road, Whickham NE16 5BA.
Tel: 091 488 1576. Informal enquiries welcome.
Closing date for applications: 24th August 1993
50 - being very mature looking. As it is very long, the club's course manager, Gordon Heron (ex Turnberry), is adding some forward tees to make it more playable for visiting societies, of which I am sure there will be many, once the quality to be found gets around. Anyway, well done Gordon, and thanks to owner Bob Law for doing Ayrshire proud!

Ayrshire chairman Derek Wilson was in fine form in the Irvine Links Championship this year, getting to the semi-final. His opponent was suitably dismayed upon seeing Derek walk on to the first tee with a hole cutter under one arm and clubs over his shoulder - bad luck on not being allowed to use it, Derek!

John Kinder at the Dumfries and Galloway club tells me they had four hole-in-one's over one weekend of competition in June, one at the sixth, one at the eighth and two at the ninth. Try telling these guys the holes are too small! 'Till next month. DUNCAN GRAY

SOUTH WEST

Thunderstorms. Has anyone else had trouble with thunderstorms? 35mm of rain fell in just 20 minutes at Minchinhampton last Thursday. Simon Perry of Whites, who was in the shed fitting new hydraulic motors to the gangs, watched in amazement as flood water came rushing in and various small items, later followed by some much larger items, began floating out (indeed, our mechanic had to be forcibly restrained from opening the double doors to let the Sisis Varicore float away.) Still, we didn't have to worry for long, for a lightning strike on the clubhouse set off the automatic fire alarm and before you could say 'man the hose-

Another rather bizarre thing happened this week on a Cotswold golf course. Four members were happily playing the sixteenth hole (appropriately nicknamed the Holy Apostles) at Cirencester, when one of them looked casually up at a high flying aeroplane only to see, to his horror, what appeared to be a body falling from the sky and crashing to the ground somewhere on, or very near, the course. Well, eight fire engines, six police cars, two helicopters, a spotter plane with thermal imaging equipment, and a mobile incident room later, a cargo net belonging to a Hercules Transporter was found in an adjoining field. Never a dull moment!

Robin Greaves found out what team capacity was all about when the section team entertained the South West Secretaries team at Minchinhampton New Course last month. The secretaries, ably captained by Matt Sullivan of Clevedon, were well organised and well practiced, and won by three matches to two, getting their names on the Avoncrop Shield for the second year running. David Padfield of Avoncrop Amenity was on hand to present the shield and prizes to the worthy winners, recalling as he did the origins of the competition, right back from the days of the Brown's Bowl to the present time, and pointing out that the greenkeepers have yet to get their name on this new trophy. There's always next year...

Thanks to Minchinhampton New Course for their hospitality, thanks to my staff for preparing the course against all odds during the torrential storms, to the stewards for the most marvellous meal, and last but by no means least, to Avoncrop Amenity for their sponsorship.

Congratulations to Guy Woods of Castle Coombe on winning the section nomination through to the regional final of the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year competition. Fierce competition came from Ivor Scoones and myself, also nominated, but Robin Greaves' patent scoring method was put to good use and Guy came out a worthy winner by just two points, from a possible 150. I'm sure that we have a good chance of a national finalist for the third year running. Good luck Guy.

PAUL WORSTER

SOUTH COAST

In the regional qualifier for the Hayter Challenge Tournament, held at Clevedon GC in June, three of our section members qualified for the national final, which will be held at Sand Moor GC next month. Congratulations to Brian Newcombe, third in division one, and Shaun White and Paul Jackson, first and second respectively in division three.

The day was marred only by the non-appearance of four of our team, though some with good reason, especially Rob Bailey, who suffered a hernia only the day before! Had a full team been fielded it seemed very likely that the section would have won the Section Shield.

Next year's Hayter Challenge Tournament regional qualifier will be held at Bude GC and because of the distance involved your committee have decided to provide some assistance, possibly by providing a mini-bus and helping financially towards overnight accommodation.

Congratulations also to Mark Webb on being chosen as the section's nomination for the ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year award. Mark will now be visited at Alresford GC this month by regional representatives of ICI and BIGGA. Members who played in the Summer Tournament at Alresford will know how his course has changed since being extended to 18 holes.

Alan Michell, recently at Test Valley GC, is moving to pastures new - literally - for beginning next month Alan will be head greenkeeper at The Hampshire GC, presently being constructed just outside Andover. His assistant at Test Valley, Andy Blackwell, is taking over as head greenkeeper. We shall be able to see Andy's course next April, as our Spring Tournament is due to be held there.

Finally, members who would like to represent the section in the annual match against the South West in September can contact Paul Drodge on 04252 71954 for further details.

BOB DENNIS

COMING UP

August 18-19: The Walker Cup, Interlachen, Minneapolis, USA
September 7-9: JG Show, Peterborough, Northants
September 14: Supreme Mowing seminar on maintenance of cutting cylinder, Irvine Golf Club, Irvine. Details from Linda Adams: 0709 873436.
September 14-15: The Hayter Challenge Tournament Final, Sand Moor Golf Club, Leeds
September 24-26: Ryder Cup, The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire
October 11-12: Toro/PGA European Tour Student Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor
December 6-7: ICI Premier Greenkeeper of the Year Award, Aldwark Manor.
STREAKS AHEAD OF THE COMPETITION

The efficiency of today’s highly engineered lawn mowers and quality of cut can only be maintained with correct and accurate grinding of their cylinders and blades.

The ‘Leader’ range of grinders not only achieves this but offers many features unequalled on any other machine, making them the ultimate in lawn mower grinders.

At the heart of a ‘Leader’ is a solid free standing frame with a cast iron bed and 2” precision ground guide rails that ensures an accuracy of less than 0.005” in 30 inch in straightness, whether grinding in situ or out of frame.

Coupled with this, great emphasis has been placed upon operator safety with a self contained coolant system, fully enclosed canopy that reduces noise and dust levels to a minimum and safety cut out devices that allow the operator to leave the machine whilst on automatic operation with absolute confidence.

For a demonstration and further details contact:— Linda Adams

S U P R E M E M O W I N G

Wet Moor Lane, Wath–Upon–Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7LR. Tel: (0709) 873436 Fax: (0709) 878005

A Ransomes PLC Company