Two new courses

Two new educational courses are announced, one a full time course in Horticultural & Greenkeeping Engineering at Reaseheath, beginning in September. The other, at Cannington and also beginning in September, is an HND Amenity Horticulture with option allowing specialist studies in the Management of Fine Turf Facilities. Both will increase the career status of potential course managers and provide exciting new opportunities.

GCSAA donate $25,000

The GCSAA recently donated $25,000 to the USGA/GCSAA Turfgrass Research Committee to support ongoing scientific work on new turfgrass varieties that would require less water and be more disease resistant. At the presentation, made during the US Open by President Dennis Lyon, golf writers learned that more than $2.8 million has been distributed by the committee since 1985 and that the committee would increase the number of projects to more than 25 research projects.

OBITUARY

Greenkeepers in the Midlands will be saddened to learn of the recent death of Joe Carrick, for many years head greenkeeper at The Northamptonshire County Golf Club. Joe joined the club in 1954 from Portmarnock, remaining with them until his retirement in 1981 and then continuing to work part-time until his untimely death. An ex-President of the East Midlands Greenkeepers Association and an active member of the local Irish Golfers Association he was, as voiced by current Northamptonshire head greenkeeping staff, "a super guy and a real gentleman". His passing leaves a void that will be impossible to fill.

PARKERS GREENKEEPERS TOURNAMENT

As adept at organising a golf tournament as they are at providing Total Turf Care Services, T. Parker & Sons Ltd held their annual Greenkeepers Tournament recently at the delightful Worcester Park course, with representatives from over sixty clubs competing for the Parkers Rose Bowl. Victory to Andy Arthur, head greenkeeper at Knole Park, came with a total of 40 Stableford points, with Mike Smith, of Thorpe Hall, as the runner-up.

Ring David

David Golding tells us that all the Greenkeeper Training Colleges are busy preparing for the fresh influx of student registrations for City & Guilds or Scotvec courses.

Deciding which course may be most appropriate can be made easier by talking to him at H.Q. (03473-581) and he will welcome your calls.

No ‘perhaps’

Sharp-eyed readers have been quick to point out that there is no ‘perhaps’ about Willie Park Junior having planned, designed and built the Old course at Sunningdale. (July issue). We offer apologies to author Fred Hawtree and to our readers for the missing final line, which should have read "Perhaps the first completed package-deal".

Our Austrian Connection

Encouraging news from Austria, where Peter Baume is hard at work, is that although golf is still in its infancy, new course building is continuing at a great pace. With thirty courses in play and a further twenty being built (not planned, BUILT!) the forward thinking of this country is one that Greenkeeping Management totally applauds. Peter, whose many will remember when he worked at Prestbury, is still a keen member of BIGGA and in writing suggests the establishment of an Austrian section with, as he jokingly implies, himself as President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and raffle ticket promoter!

Planning a return to England for the Christmas holidays, Peter will present himself in a new slimline style, having lost two stone in weight. This he says is due to working harder and under more difficult conditions than he’s ever done before!

St Albans in

Making a recent visit to Oaklands College, St. Albans, Education Officer David Golding enthused over the standard of training facilities and the strong addition to the Greenkeeping Training Committee approved list. Coupled with their well proven record of success over the years, he is confident that more clubs and local authorities will give this college the student registration support it richly deserves.

New programme

With many farmers seeking to diversify away from agriculture into recreation, it is indeed encouraging that two of the most prominent exponents in the golf industry, Howard Swan & Hawtree & Son, have joined forces in a new programme designed to assist and advise on this important issue. From site appraisal through to design, construction and management of the completed course, their programme sets out to answer the often asked questions of land requirements, building costs, grant availability, income and land suitability. Less potato fields and more golf courses is golf's most pressing need and we at Greenkeeping Management applaud their spirited enterprise.