ETME 2 - THIS MONTH

Read about the 1990 greenkeeper package, the master certificate and the new recommended wage scales.

Features:
- Chemicals & Pesticides
- Engines and Power Equip.
- Heavy Play Areas
- Aspects of Design

Europe's most widely circulated Greenkeeping Magazine.
Introducing the all-new Jacobsen LF-100, the 5-gang designed to increase your lightweight mowing productivity.

The wing mowers are up front for better visibility. So the operator can hold a closer line— even at mowing speeds over 5 mph—to take full advantage of the 100" cutting width. This unique, up-front configuration also gives better access to all mowing units to quickly empty catchers and make mower adjustments easy.

Heavy-duty reels deliver a greens-like cut. New heavy-duty reel construction provides extra strength for long life in demanding fairway conditions. The fully floating, 22-inch steerable 7-blade reels are heavier, to follow ground contours closely, for that smooth, consistent Jacobsen cut that’s the envy of the industry.

True lightweight mowing. Newly designed low-profile turf tires produce the lightest ground pressure, and the rear wheels roll on a different track than the front, so your tender turf thrives with less compaction. And the wide 4-wheel stance offers excellent traction, increased stability and a tight turning radius.

Built to last. The LF-100 has a proven, rugged chassis, a durable and simple hydraulic system and liquid-cooled diesel engine for a longer, trouble-free life on your fairways.

What's more, the entire machine is backed by your Jacobsen distributor, so you're never far from dependable parts and service support.

See all the LF-100 differences. Ask your Jacobsen distributor for a free demonstration. Attractive lease and finance plans available. Or contact:

North Lynn Industrial Estate
Bergen Way,
King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 2JG
(0553) 763333.

JACOBSEN. UP FRONT IN LIGHTWEIGHT FAIRWAY MOWING.

JACOBSEN  TEXTRON
Jacobsen Division of Textron Limited
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FEATURES

ETME '90 Exhibition Plan 4a
A final look at the exhibition layout.

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Patrick Goldsworthy provides some do's and don'ts in the handling of chemicals and pesticides.

Aspects of Design 23
Fred Hawtree continues his fascinating series.

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Anne Barletta interviews three head greenkeepers about Osmocote N.

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The Kubota sponsored management courses at Aldwark Manor prove to be a resounding success.

Engines and Power Equipment 30
Hugh Tilley takes a look at alternative engines.

DEPARTMENTS

From Head Office 5
Neil Thomas provides four pages packed with details of the 1990 package and the exciting new Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

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Some of the latest news from out and about.

Around The Green 13
Four pages of news from BIGGA Section Secretaries.

Recruitment 28
More vacancies for those on the move. Greenkeeping Management is No. 1 in recruitment advertising.

Book Review 38
David White takes a look at some of the best new titles.
International Golfers Club is working with Clubs across Europe and installing within them a revolutionary computerised management system. The system comprises four key interacting elements:

- Course management system
- Membership system
- Handicap system
- Accounting system

In addition, IGC is offering member clubs the facility to make reservations at other IGC clubs via remote access to the starting time system. We are advising on leasing facilities, practice facilities and in-club profitability. Of course, as well as those and other initiatives, we are stressing the vital importance of Course improvement and maintenance. We are delighted to be co-operating with BIGGA to achieve these aims.

The second National Education Conference will be held at Egham in Surrey. For full details and application form, contact The Executive Director, BIGGA, Aldwark Manor, Aldwark, Alne, York YO6 2NF Telephone: 03473 581.

Sponsored by

INTERNATIONAL GOLFERS CLUB

10 Langton Street, London SW10 0JH. Telephone: 01-351 5893. Fax: 01-351 4960.
The 2nd European Turf Management Exhibition
24 - 26 January 1990

LIST OF EXHIBITORS

HALL A

A1 INTURF LTD
A2 A PILLAND CHEMICALS
A3 EXPO-CONSULT
A4 ALAN SHELLERY SIGNS
A5 SACHS DOLMAR
A6 HOVER-DRY LTD
A8 TERRA LIFT
A9 FAIRFIELD TURF
A10 C TAYLOR & SONS
A11 ATTERTON & ELLIS
A12 COOPER CLARKE
A13 BRITISH SEED HOUSE
A14 KUBOTA
A15 EUROTRURF CARE
A16 LEVVYTORO
A17 UNDERGEAR
A18 VITA
A19 WINDSOME GRASS MACHINERY
A20 TURNER INTERNATIONAL
A21 MAXWELL HART
A22 B.A.S.F
A23 BARLOW TYRE
A24 MOWING MACHINE MAINTENANCE
A25 F W MCKINNELL
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HALL B

A29 BETTER METHODS
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A32 ZYCOMM ELECTRONICS
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A36 SIERRA UK
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A38 MAYFIVE
A39 INDUSTRIAL POWER UNITS
A40 BAY BRONZE

B01 TREES PLEASE
B02 A F TRENCHERS
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The Official Exhibition Catalogue will be available on entry to the Exhibition
SEMINAR PROGRAMME

ALL greenkeepers should be booking their accommodation for the four night stay at Harrogate during the European Turf ManagementExhibition (January 23-26).

This year's Seminar Programme brings together speakers from within our Association, the Approved Colleges, and the commercial management training companies.

Some of our leading Course Managers from all over the world of golf will be on hand to pass on their experiences. New for 1990 will be four specialist seminars to be held on 23 January and delegates will be able to choose from the following four subjects:

i) The Computer and the Golf Course Manager.
ii) Personal and Personnel Management.
iv) Personal Financial Management.

The tutors will be on hand to educate you. Take advantage of these specialist subjects. Unfortunately only one seminar can be attended as they are run throughout the day.

Wednesday morning sees the official opening of E.T.M.E. by Michael Bonallack, Secretary of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews in the Royal Hall at 9.15 a.m. The Nature Conservancy Council will also be launching their much awaited document 'On Course Conservation - A Guide to Managing Golf's Natural Heritage'.

The following Seminar Programme is a must and I think all greenkeepers would benefit by attending.

GREENKEEPING SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 24th January, 1990
The Royal Hall

Session One
09.30 - The Image/Presentation of Today's Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper.
10.30 - Championship Diet for Carnoustie. John Philip, Course Manager.
11.00 - 'Why - Education?'. Dennis Mortram, Cheshire College of Horticulture.
11.30 - Question and Answer
12.00 - Session.
14.00 - Growing in at Collingtree Park. Peter Jones, Course Manager.
15.00 - 'So You're Thinking of Greenkeeping Abroad'. David Lucas, Course Manager, Glyfada Golf Coub, Athens.
15.30 - Question and Answer
16.00 - Session.

Thursday, 25th January

Session Two
09.30 - Stress Management. Time Management International.
10.00 - Europe '92 - Are our Young Greenkeepers Ready For It? Philip Taylor, Course Manager, Alwoodley Golf Club.
11.00 - Education - 'The Head Greens. Hugh Nunn, Warwickshire College.
12.00 - Session.
13.30 - Development of Greenkeeping in Germany. Ronald Kennedy, Course Manager, West Germany.
14.00 - 'Slow Release: Myth or Magic'. Patrick Goldsworthy, Technical Services Manager, ICI Agrochemicals.
14.30 - Skills Analysis - An Aid to Effective Management. Bob Young, Sparsholt College.
15.00 - 'Cultural and Aseptic Management during Slow Release'. Barrie Gregson, Course Manager, San Roque Club, Spain.
15.30 - Question and Answer
16.00 - Session.

Friday, 26th January
Session Three
09.30 - Reporting Golf Worldwide.
10.00 - Michael Williams, Golf Correspondent, Daily Telegraph.
10.30 - Practical Problems of Dry Patch. Derek Green, Course Manager, Royal Liverpool Golf Club.
10.30 - The Preparation - The Middle - The Afterthought. Derek Ganning, Course Manager, The Belfry.
11.00 - Personal Qualities. Time Management International.
11.30 - Question and Answer
12.00 - Session.

All that plus the Trade Exhibition - Book Now - RING Debbie or Sam on 03473 581582 for further details.

THE NATIONAL TURFGRASS PROGRAMME

Groundsmen, Local Authority employees are well catered for with a seminar programme in The Royal Baths.

Wednesday, 24th January

Session One
10.30 - The Preparation - The Middle - The Afterthought. Derek Ganning, Course Manager, The Belfry.
10.30 - Patch. Derek Green, Course Manager, Royal Liverpool Golf Club.
10.30 - Conservation - Update. Barrie Gregson, Course Manager, San Roque Club.
11.00 - Personal Qualities. Time Management International.
11.30 - Question and Answer
12.00 - Session.
14.30 - Graham Oddy, Principal Agricultural Inspector and Dr. P.L. Caunt, H.S.E. Agricultural Inspectorate.
14.30 - Cricket Pitch Preparation. Peter Mansfield, Grounds Supervisor, Marlborough College.
15.30 - Question and Answer
16.00 - Session.

Thursday, 25th January

Session Two
09.30 - Spring and Summer Management of Wild Flower Greens. Roger Evans, Sports Turf Research Institute.
10.30 - The Preparation - The Middle - The Afterthought. Derek Ganning, Course Manager, The Belfry.
11.00 - Personal Qualities. Time Management International.
11.30 - Question and Answer
12.00 - Session.
15.00 - 'Cultural and Aseptic Management during Slow Release'. Barrie Gregson, Course Manager, San Roque Club, Spain.
15.30 - Question and Answer
16.00 - Session.
ON January 1 the new decade will begin for B.I.G.G.A. with the introduction of the Master Greenkeeper Certificate Award for those members seeking the highest status within the profession. In formulating the scheme, the Association has worked closely with the Approved Greenkeeper Training Colleges and the new Certification process has their full support. The achieving of Master Greenkeeper status by a member will therefore be of great significance in his career.

The award of this certificate will indicate that the recipient has achieved the highest standards of excellence within the profession of greenkeeping. It will be a prestigious award based on experience, ability and education. The award is designed through a combination of experience and ability allied to a study programme to produce a well educated and qualified individual.

Educational credits will be available through the approved colleges system in terms of City & Guilds and Scotec, as well as for other individual qualifications approved by the Association. Credits will also be awarded in accordance with participation in the B.I.G.G.A. educational programme e.g. National Conference, E.T.M.E. seminars, Management Courses, Regional/Section Seminars.

Ongoing training and education are required of all members participating in the award scheme in order to ensure awareness of changing conditions, techniques and requirements. Accordingly, certification once obtained must be renewed every five years through application. You will need to produce evidence that during the period of certification you have accumulated at least the minimum of stipulated credits in order to retain your Certification.

The award process begins when a completed application form for registration is received at Headquarters office. Full details will be retained on computer and individual records will be updated and validated as credits are obtained and notified. For certification purposes, classification will be in four categories and all members of the Association will be placed in one of these categories which in due course will be linked to both minimum salary/wage levels. From January 1 1990, those members not registering for the Certification Scheme will be placed in categories on the basis of experience alone.

2. For current Golf Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers with at least ten years greenkeeping experience including a minimum of three years as Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper. Up to three years college based education can be credited towards the 10 years experience. Allocation to this category is subject to having obtained a minimum of 140 credits.
3. For current Golf Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers not meeting the criteria set out in Category 2 as well as for current Deputy Course Managers/Deputy Head Greenkeepers/First Assistants. Allocation to this category is subject to having obtained a minimum of 80 credits.
4. For current Golf Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers not meeting the criteria set out in 2 or 3 and for current Deputy Course Managers/Deputy Head Greenkeepers/First Assistants not meeting the criteria set out in 3. For current Golf Course Assistant Greenkeepers/Apprentices/College Students.

Award of Credits: 300 credits will be necessary to achieve Master status and can be obtained in three stages:

1. On-going Education/Experience (200),
2. Assessment of Golf Course Operation (40),
3. Module Examination (60).

STAGE 1 Credits will be awarded as follows:

City and Guilds - Certificate of Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management.
Phase 1 - 15 credits
Phase 2 - 2 years 54 credits - 3 extra credits if undertaken at "Approved College"
Phase 3 - 24 credits - 3 extra credits if undertaken at "Approved College"
National Certificate Horticulture (Greenkeeping) - 81 credits.

STAGE 2 Assessment of Golf Course Operation.
The Golf Course Operation will be reviewed by two Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers employed on a consultancy basis by the Association. The visit must take place during the growing season and within one year of the date of certification application approval. The two Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers will visit the operation, tour the course and facilities and ask the applicant a series of questions provided to them by B.I.G.G.A. Each assessor will then decide whether to recommend certification. The applicant

FROM HEAD OFFICE
MASTER GREENKEEPER CERTIFICATE

Neil Thomas.

Scotec National Certificate in Greenkeeping
Approved Greenkeeping Modules - 40 hours - 6 credits. Approved Greenkeeping Modules - 20 hours - 3 credits - up to a maximum of 102 credits for greenkeeping modules and 15 for supervisory modules.
N.B. 3 extra credits will be awarded for each set of five modules obtained at an "Approved College" (maximum 9 credits). B.I.G.G.A. Training Committee Registration and Completion of Log Book (3-years) - 5 credits. B.I.G.G.A. In-House Management Course - (1 week) - 8 credits.

S.T.I. Courses of Instruction (Golf) - 8 credits.
National Educational Conference - 5 credits.
ETME - 5 credits (one per session).
Regional/Section Seminar (minimum period of study 5 hours) - 3 credits. Approved Correspondence Course - 8 credits.
Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 Foundation module plus selected Application Method Module(s) - 5 credits.
Presentation of Paper/Lecture at B.I.G.G.A. Training Course - 5 credits. Presentation of Paper at (i) National Conference - 5 credits (ii) ETME - 4 credits (iii) Regional/Section Seminar - 3 credits.

The Association will exercise its discretion to award additional credits for other approved qualifications not detailed above.

Experience Four credits will be awarded for each year of greenkeeping experience to a maximum of 35 years and up to three years college based experience can be included for this purpose.

N.B. It is necessary to obtain 200 credits in Stage 1 before proceeding to Stages 2 and 3. Once sufficient credits have been obtained, application can be made for Certification and Stages 2 and 3 follow.

STAGE 2 Assessment of Golf Course Operation.
The Golf Course Operation will be reviewed by two Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers employed on a consultancy basis by the Association. The visit must take place during the growing season and within one year of the date of certification application approval. The two Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers will visit the operation, tour the course and facilities and ask the applicant a series of questions provided to them by B.I.G.G.A. Each assessor will then decide whether to recommend certification. The applicant

This is probably the most significant development so far in the Association's history.
- Paddy McCarron, Chairman

January '90
The member can prepare for the examination in his own time, but it must be successfully completed within one year of the date of certification application approval. The examination will be set and monitored at Headquarters office and the papers considered by a panel approved by the B.I.G.G.A. Education Subcommittee. Each section of the examination is marked separately. If any section is not satisfactorily completed within one year they must all be retaken and an additional fee will be necessary to cover administrative costs.

N.B. During the inception period of the award, Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers who have obtained 200 credits may opt to submit a career presentation in accordance with set criteria as an alternative to sitting the B.I.G.G.A. module examination. This alternative will only be available from January 1, 1990, for a three year period. In any event, the Golf Course Operation Assessment will apply.

Renewal of Certification For each five year period from the date of initial certification, evidence of an accumulation of a minimum of 40 credits will be necessary. It will not be necessary to sit further examinations.

Costs
The certification process commences with receipt of your completed application form and an administrative fee of £60 (inclusive of VAT). Complete confidentiality will be maintained in respect of your application and progress and details released only with your consent. Verification of your completed application information is required but discretion will be maintained throughout the certification process. A further fee will be payable at such time as you wish to renew your certified status or rest the complete examination.

Members wishing to register for certification should write to Headquarters office requesting the Master Greenkeeper Certificate application form or alternatively Tel: Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2.

ASSOCIATE/COMPANY SCHEME
Those enrolling in the Associate/Company Membership category will be encouraged to play a full part in the Association's affairs. Associate members will be those having a close interest in greenkeeping without being specifically employed as greenkeepers. As such, this category of membership will be of interest to Chairmen of Green Committees, Club Secretaries, Golf Course Architects and Constructors and many others with a close affinity to greenkeeping. Company membership is on an individual basis and will be of interest to those employed within the fine turf industries.

Individual membership cards will be issued and will entitle the member to participate in all National, Regional and Sectional events organised by the Association, delegate fees at both the European Turf Management Exhibition and the National Conference as well as at Regional Seminars will be offered to Associate/Company members at a discounted rate. Whilst many members may wish to identify with a particular local Section or Region, members are able to participate nationally if they so wish. To assist identification with B.I.G.G.A., Associate/Company members will receive a BIGGA car badge sticker, key ring, pen and golf bag tag. New members will also receive an enamelled lapel badge.

All Associate/Company members will receive each month a copy of 'Greenkeeping Management', the Association's official publication and essential reading for those involved with or interested in greenkeeping.

A special corporate rate is available for those companies wishing to enrol ten or more of their staff as members of the Association.

1989 members will be invoiced for subscriptions due prior to 1st January, 1990.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM SALARY/WAGES SCALE

The Association has updated its recommended minimum salary/wages scale, although actual figures remain the subject of negotiation between the Golf Club and Greenkeeping staff. The quoted rates apply from 1st January, 1990.

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1990 BIGGA MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

FOR the first time greenkeepers have been categorised and subscription rates set accordingly. It is important to note that these categories will be linked to both the Recommended Salary/Wages Structure and the new BIGGA Certification Scheme to be launched next month.

Central to the Scheme will be that all greenkeeper members of the Association are initially placed in one of four categories based on experience and educational qualifications. Over the next few years these categories will be directly linked to recommended salary/wages and subscription levels.

The 1990 subscription levels represent the first phase therefore in unifying these three elements and establishing a direct link between qualifications, experience, salary/wages levels and subscriptions.

What then will your 1990 subscription bring you? In addition to your BIGGA membership card, the package brings valuable benefits for members:

(i) Monthly copies of Greenkeeping Management - the Association's own publication.
(iii) Full Legal Advisory Service including an exciting new decade for greenkeepers.
(iv) Full Employment Cover. Full Professional Association. Be part of BIGGA as a member of the Association.
(v) Broken-down Car Recovery Club.
(vi) Personal Accident Cover.
(vii) Car badge sticker.

Recommended Salary/Wages Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrolment Fee</th>
<th>Total Protection</th>
<th>Comprehensive</th>
<th>Roadside Assistance</th>
<th>Recovery Only</th>
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<tr>
<td>£5.00 (Free)</td>
<td>£54.00 to £94.75</td>
<td>£45.50 to £59.50</td>
<td>£42.50 to £38.25</td>
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<td>Normal Disc.</td>
<td>£7.50 to £10.00</td>
<td>£59.50 to £59.50</td>
<td>£45.50 to £48.00</td>
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The Association's Place Scheme was detailed in the September issue of 'Greenkeeping Management'. It is important to note that this is a service as part of your membership package - if you wish to be kept up to date on the employment scene, the Scheme is available for you to use.

Don't forget the BIGGA Personal Pension Plan - available to BIGGA members. Discounted fees are payable by BIGGA members attending the National Conference and the European Turf Management Exhibition as well as Regional Seminars.

As a Course Manager you pay less than 70p a week whilst as a First Assistant you pay less than 60p - outstanding value for your membership package! Membership of BIGGA gives you increasing recognition throughout the golfing world as a member of a truly Professional Association. Be part of BIGGA as an exciting new decade for greening approaches.

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

All items in the package are available to members both in the Republic of Ireland and internationally with limitations on items (iii) and (iv). The Legal Helpline card can be used for seeking legal advice, but this advice will relate to either English or Scottish Law. The card can be used when the member is visiting Great Britain, both for advice and in respect of any claims arising during or from such visits. N.B. The legal and insurance benefits are only effective following payment of subscription. Any delay in payment after 1st January could cause a problem - don't take the risk!

REMEMBER - BIGGA BACKS ITS MEMBERS

THE 1990 MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

UNDENIABLE VALUE FOR MONEY

WHAT do I get for my money?

How often is this question posed and quite rightly too. The breakdown for your 1990 subscription shows just how attractive the BIGGA Membership Package is for greenkeepers.

Personal Accident Insurance Cover £3.00
Legal Advisory Service/Employment Cover/Personal Injury Cover £5.00
Membership card £20.26
Car badge sticker £20.26
Key ring £0.47
Bag tag £0.32
Retainer Fees (Regional Administrators/Section Secretaries) £3.46
Subscription refunds to regions/sections £0.50
STRI Journal and Quarterly Bulletins £2.50

£20.47

In addition each new member receives a lapel badge - £0.60.

The balance of subscriptions up to the appropriate rate is utilised to partially offset the running costs of the Association for which substantial additional income has to be sought from other sources. In effect the "20 Years of Age or Under" category is subsidised as the subscription rate for 1990 is set at £20.00.

Greenkeeper members also receive a monthly copy of Greenkeeping Management magazine (annual subscription rate £21.95) free of charge.

Directly or indirectly members receive annual benefits totalling over £43 - value for money indeed! You also receive discretionary courtesy of the golf course - a valuable benefit for golfers amongst you. All this comes before one considers the very real ongoing benefits of belonging to a professional association such as ours - but that is a continuing story

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Annual General Meeting

This will be held on Tuesday, 13 March, 1990 at 2.30 p.m. in The Royal York Hotel York immediately adjacent to the Railway Station NEIL THOMAS Executive Director
THE ICI GREENKEEPER AWARD

Following discussions with ICI Professional Products, I am delighted to announce the introduction of 'The ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award'. This competition will run throughout 1990 and annually thereafter. The basis of the competition will be the submission of a paper of between 2000 and 3000 words. The subject for the first paper of between 2000 and 3000 words, the subject for the Award will be 'A Year in the Life of My Golf Course'. Papers must be submitted by 31 July 1990.

The Regional structure will be used to determine finalists for the Award. They will be chosen on the basis of one per Region plus two best runners up - seven in all. Finalists will be selected by a panel consisting of the Chairman of BIGGA's Education Subcommittee, the Education Officer and myself together with nominated representatives of ICI. At this stage the seven finalists will be visited at their workplace and in particular compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act and the Safe Use of Pesticides legislation.

Panel interviews will follow and will be held at Aldwark Manor in November/December each year with winners being announced each January at the E.T.M.E. and in 'Greenkeeping Management'. The Panel interviews will comprise of a question/answer session and the winners will be determined on the basis of interview together with an assessment of the paper submitted and the course/workplace visit.

The Award's structure will incorporate a first prize of a place on the annual BIGGA trip each February to the GCSAA Exhibition/Conference in America. The second prize will be a weekend for two in London with tickets provided for a major golf event and West End show.

The third prize will be a weekend for two in York based at Aldwark Manor (including complimentary golf) with tickets for an event of the winner's choosing.

The winning entry will be published in 'Greenkeeping Management'. Awards will be made to the other finalists as well as to other entrants deemed by the Panel to have reached a high standard of presentation.

Members should note that the seven finalists will be awarded credits towards the Master Greenkeeper Certificate.

The Award represents an extension of ICI Professional Products support for BIGGA's Education Programme. Members will be aware that ICI already support the E.T.M.E. Seminar Programme and this additional backing for greenkeeper education and training is much appreciated by the Association.

Members can register for the competition on either the ICI or BIGGA stands at the E.T.M.E. in January. Alternatively please write requesting 'The ICI Premier Greenkeeper Award' application form to Headquarters Office or telephone Debbie Savage on 03473 581/2.

NEIL THOMAS

B.I.G.G.A. APPROVED COLLEGES

Warwickshire College of Agriculture

offer the following specialist courses in GREENKEEPING

Day-Release over four years leading to CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE GOLF GREENKEEPING qualifications.

ADVANCED NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN GREENKEEPING

(One full year, or over two winter periods)

For further information please contact:
Roy Nelson, Warwickshire College of Agriculture, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV3 9BL. Tel: 0926 651367

BRIGHT NEW CAREER LEAFLET

THE long awaited leaflet: A Career in Greenkeeping, has now been published and is available from Headquarters Office. It will be widely distributed to schools, colleges, career offices, libraries and the junior sections of golf clubs.

The leaflet has been jointly funded by the Greenkeepers Training Committee and Ransomes whose commitment to greenkeeper education is both longstanding and much appreciated.

Ransomes' General Manager John Wilson says: "As the leading professional golf equipment manufacturer, we are delighted to support the vigorous presentation of the education programme".

All individuals and organisations requiring copies are asked to contact BIGGA Headquarters office telephone number 03473 581/2.

GCSAA '90

Join us for the 61st INTERNATIONAL GOLF COURSE CONFERENCE & SHOW

February 19-26, 1990
Orange County Convention/Civic Center
Orlando, Florida

• TRADE SHOW
• GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
• GCSAA ANNUAL MEETING
• EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

For conference, seminar or exhibitor information: 800/472-7678 or 913/841-2240
1617 St. Andrews Drive Lawrence, Kansas 66047-1707

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Warwickshire College of Agriculture

offer the following specialist courses in GREENKEEPING

Day-Release over four years leading to CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE GOLF GREENKEEPING qualifications.

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1617 St. Andrews Drive Lawrence, Kansas 66047-1707

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
COMPACITION, THATCH OR DRAINAGE PROBLEMS?
For really fast hollow tining of your problem areas, with variable tining and coring, get Coremaster on your side and cut disruption to a minimum.
C. & M. Sportsground Management, can core up to 18 Greens in a day, or a Bowling Green in 3 hours - fast specialist equipment - at economical rates.

GET C & M COREMASTER HIRE WORKING FOR YOU
Contact the Turf Aeration Specialists C & M Coremaster Hire, 4 Lind Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4PJ

C & M Sportsground Management
TEL: (0306) 884732.

THE NEW NAME IN TOP CLASS TURF PRODUCTION
A FULL RANGE OF TURF FROM GENERAL LANDSCAPING TO GOLF GREENS ETC.

CUCKMERE VALLEY TURF FARMS

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CUCKMERE VALLEY TURF FARMS
UK TORO dealer principals and Lely staff visit TORO (International) Division in the USA.

TORO TAKES TRAINING SERIOUSLY

Recognising the importance of marketing and product training, TORO (International) division arranged for Lely staff their UK TORO dealer principals and senior sales staff to be flown to the USA for a thorough review of the latest TORO machinery bound for the UK.

The first of several official visits was to the TORO company headquarters based in Minneapolis which also houses the engineering and test facilities. An introduction to the new products was given in the morning, followed by field demonstrations in the afternoon. All aspects of research, design and practical application were covered.

The second day of the agenda was devoted to a tour of the fully modernised commercial plant in Tomah, Wisconsin. Here the visitors were able to see, first hand, how the machines are assembled. Representatives from the American plant identified the specific procedures undertaken to achieve the exceptionally high standard of equipment presently supplied to the UK.

This opportunity to see the manufacturing techniques was intended to provide sales people with a greater understanding of their products and, therefore, increasing their background knowledge when marketing TORO equipment.

THE NATIONAL TURFGRASS COUNCIL AND ILAM

The National Turfgrass Council (NTC) is looking towards 1992 and the Single European Market. Sports provision, and in particular golf courses, is in a boom. The NTC, as the UK’s umbrella organisation for turf, is planning to stage Euroturf ’90 in May in Holland, an international turf conference of major proportion and importance. The programme will delve into the privatisation of municipal operations in turf in many European countries, contrasting the progress made and how each has been effected, and point to future trends in the years of the Single Market to come. Visits will be made to Papendal with the Netherlands Sports Federation, and to golf courses, football and hockey locations to see the latest techniques of construction and maintenance, and to sites of DLO work.

The conference is designed to attract a pan European audience, and Euroturf ’90 will certainly be the place to be in May.

ILAM Services Limited will be organising the event on behalf of the NTC, and for further information contact Sue Stayte or Amy Patton.

SISIS SOUTH EAST

A S plans for direct representation in South East England develop and the need to provide ground support to their existing sales team increases, SISIS have announced they have established a depot at Foxley Court Farm, Holyport, near Maidenhead, Berkshire, with good access to major road systems.

SISIS intends to base their demonstration facility at Holyport, from where Regional Manager, David Luxford, will administer the area supported by Sales Representative, Russell Jordan, and a demonstrator/service engineer.

The function will effectively cover all such needs in the region including those territories with present distributor responsibilities, as well as areas where a direct SISIS sales policy applies.

AMAZONE CONDITION-MASTER

Continual use of Redgra sports areas causes compaction, dangerous potholing, a deteriorating playing surface. To eliminate these problems Amazone Ground Care - a division of Amazone Ltd - has developed a machine specifically designed to rejuvenate such areas.

Called the Amazone Condition-Master, this machine is a one-pass combination of power harrow, roller and following brushes. In one pass it lifts, levels, rolls and sweeps the surface to take out humps and hollows, eliminate any weed growth and relieve surface compaction.

Used behind compact tractors in the 40 to 100 DIN hp category the Amazone Condition-Master has a pin drive to the gearbox powering the reciprocating harrow which has twin triangular shaped tines at the front and dual tines at the rear for maximum cover and stirring effect.

The following roller can be of the cage type (400mm diameter) or a flat roller (320mm diameter) and carries a scraper bar and weight box. Rubber dampers at each side of the roller mounting brackets absorb vertical shock loadings from the power harrow. The adjustable brushes are attached to the roller frame: They consist of a full width brush at the rear and short angled side brushes that eliminate the ‘ripple’ effect between passes.

The Condition-Master can also be used to prepare a seedbed and, with an Amazone seeder attachment, sow grass and other small seeds in recreational and leisure areas. Working widths of the Amazone Condition-Master are 1.5 and 2.50 metres and prices are from £4,250. Optional equipment includes a grass seed box, cage roller in place of the flat type and a heavy duty power harrow in place of the standard type.

Amazone Ground Care is based at Rowse, Pillaton, Saltash, Cornwall.
TWENTY-SIX year old Ian Mitchell has fulfilled his ambition of becoming a Ransomes technical representative following six years as one of the company's demonstrators when, in addition to the UK and European continent, he demonstrated Ransomes grass machinery in countries as far afield as Japan and Korea.

Ian served his apprenticeship with Ransomes when he attended the Suffolk College and gained his City & Guilds parts 1, 2 and 3 in mechanical engineering.

RANSOMES have appointed Nigel Church as Product Training Supervisor.

Nigel, 35, had been a demonstrator and both a technical and sales representative with Ransomes before joining one of the company's well known dealers as a sales executive, where he gained valuable experience in selling turfcare equipment to professional users.

Educated at Bacton Modern School near Stowmarket in Suffolk, and at the Suffolk College where he gained his City & Guilds Full Technical Certificate in Production Engineering, Gerald Southgate served his apprenticeship with the Ipswich manufacturer of cranes and draglines, Ransomes & Rapier.

A work study engineer with Delta Manganese Bronze for four years, where he became a Member of the Institute of Management Services, he went on to Suffolk Lawn Mowers in Stowmarket where he was a Project Engineer prior to joining Ransomes four years ago.

Before taking up his new appointment Gerald had been both a technical and sales representative when he travelled in North America and Europe, giving technical and sales assistance to the company's overseas distributors.

ONSCIOUS of the need to ensure users of Ransomes grass machinery are provided with both an efficient and professional after-sales service, the company has announced the appointment of Gerald Southgate as Field Service Supervisor.

RUFFORD ANNOUNCE NEW DEAL FOR BIGGA

FOLLOWING a recent visit to BIGGA Headquarters at Aldwark Manor, Frank Garvey, Managing Director of Rufford Top-Dress Supplies Ltd has announced a substantially increased sponsorship package in support of BIGGA during 1990. Apart from increasing its commitment to the Association's educational programme, the company will be doubling its advertising support for 'Greenkeeping Management' magazine.

Mr. Garvey says, "I am so impressed with the phenomenal progress made during 1989 by BIGGA that I couldn't resist the impulse to increase my support for this worthy and progressive organisation. They are doing a magnificent job and greenkeepers for the first time in their history now have an opportunity to enhance not only their technical skills but also something which has been long overdue - their commercial awareness. This in turn will ensure that they will obtain far better value for money for their employers who hopefully will then reciprocate by increasing remuneration in recognition of the savings and a better managed golf course."

Neil Thomas, the Executive Director of BIGGA commented, "I am delighted at the continuing backing the Association receives from Rufford Top-Dress Supplies. Frank Garvey is a great believer in what the Association stands for and is achieving. A contribution such as his to our educational programme and to the development of 'Greenkeeping Management' magazine enables the progress of the Association to be accelerated. His support is greatly appreciated by our members."

Nigel Church

Frank Garvey

Turf

FAIRFIELD TURF LTD

Fairfield Court, Brookland, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9RX. Tel: 01678 734 734

TURF

Amenity Turf
Super Sport
Super Turf
Superfine Turf
Pasture Turf

SOIL

As-dug Topsoil
Screened Loam
Pre-turf Compost
Turf Top Dressings

SEED

Landscape mixtures
Sports Turf mixes
Wild Flower mixes
Reclamation mixes

PLUS

Graded Bark and Mushroom Compost

The Best of British Turf
Duncan Stewart, Chairman and Managing Director says: "The development of our head office is on a site which is extremely convenient for motorways and Heathrow, and thus acts as a splendid stepping stone into European markets."

Neil Stewart, 27, has recently been appointed Company Secretary of Maxwell Hart. He was formerly European Financial Services Manager for an American computer company before becoming Financial Director of Maxwell Hart.

**BIG DEVELOPMENTS AT MAXWELL HART**

MAXWELL HART have announced that their head office is on a new site adjacent to their present premises on Reading Road, Wokingham.

This is a multi-million pound move in which the company have arranged a redevelopment of ninety thousand square feet of offices and nine thousand square feet of warehousing, of which, they will occupy and retain the ownership of the entire warehousing area and eight thousand square feet of offices, which will also include conference rooms and showrooms.

**AFTER twenty five years in greenkeeping Ivan Toon has taken up a new position of Amenity Turf Specialist with Amenity Land Services of Telford, Shropshire.**

Initially he will be "repping", but once he has gained his BASIS (British Agrochemicals Standards Inspection Scheme) Certificate he will also be working in an advisory capacity.

**NEW MAXWELL HART COMPANY SECRETARY, NEIL STEWART.**

This marks an exciting new phase in the progress of his forty-five year old company, whose products are well known in the market sectors of synthetic surfaces, play surfaces, chemicals and fertilizers and sports ground equipment. The most recent extension to their activities is that of being exclusive distributor for the UK for Standard Golf of America. In step with the booming development of golf in this country, this range of flags, tee consoles, information signs, hole cutters, bunker rakes and all the requirements of golf course care, is in great demand.

**IVAN TOON**

Don't forget to use the Reader reply pre-paid card service.

**FIRST EVER GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURAL WORKSHOP**

The British Association of Golf Course Architects has held a new event organised by Martin Hawtree, Hon Secretary.

Ten prospective members attended an evening which was convened by a day of lectures. The Chairman, Tom McAuley and full members Simon Gidman, Stefan Quenouille, and Fred Hawtree spoke on contract law, green contouring, plan presentation, and the life of Harry Colt, founder of the profession. Students also completed an exercise in green design based on plan data provided.

The meeting marked the launch of a two-year home and field study course punctuated regularly by similar workshops, and exercises supervised by full members.

The Association hopes not only to help newcomers to the profession in this way, but also, by projecting traditional design, values, and knowledge into the future, to reduce the risks of expensive mistakes which can occur where experience is lacking.

**APOLOGY**

In November's Scotsturf section Greenkeeping management inadvertently published incomplete information concerning an exhibitor, under the heading "Powershift."

The article suggested that the company was owned solely by Mr Sandy Armit. In fact there are two partners in "Powershift", Mr Armit and Mr Douglas Ewan. This is their fourth year in business, having set the company up in August 1986, and both partners have know each other for 8 years. They can be contacted on 0382 833836. We apologise for any embarrassment our previous article may have caused.
AROUND THE GREEN

NORTH-WEST SECTION

I am writing to several golf clubs in anticipation of our 1990 tournaments, so once I have confirmation and dates they will be included in the section notes.

One date for your diary is Wednesday, February 7 at Bury G.C. Ian Prouder of Endfield Nurseries will give a talk on the choice of trees and shrubs for golf courses. It is important that the right choice is made when planting trees, not only for trees that suit your type of course, but also to enhance the aesthetic quality of your course. So come along at 2 p.m and listen to the expert. Why not bring along your greens chairman?

I would be glad to hear of any suggestions for winter lectures that members may have, so give me a ring on 051 724 5412.

BERT CROSS

EAST MIDLANDS SECTION

Our section A.G.M. was held at Melton Mowbray Golf Club on November 13. Our thanks go to the Captain and Committee of Melton Mowbray for the courtesy of the course and the use of the clubhouse in the evening for our meeting.

Also thanks to the catering and bar staff for the hospitality shown to us. With a good thick blanket of scotch mist over the course, it looked as good a condition as any in the section, many thanks to my staff for their efforts.

Maxwell Hart presented us with a shield to be played for at our A.G.M.’s each year. This year’s winner was R. Barker 2 up, winning on the local rule from I. Marshall 2 up, winner of their efforts.

John Hinton from B.A.S.F. (Badische, Anilin and Soda Fabrik) who came to Beaconsfield Golf Club on November 21 last to give an excellent lecture “Fertilisers - An Essential Management Tool” to our members.

His very informative talk was backed by slides which gave a background to fertilisers, uses and effects and why they are necessary to plants. The evening was a big success and was enjoyed by all. Our thanks also go to Beaconsfield Golf Club for the kind use of their facilities, and to Bill Patterson, Head Greenkeeper, for organising the food and drink which was gratefully received.

The following members were elected for the committee:


In his new position as regional administrator, his hard work and dedication are our loss but the region’s gain.

GORDON MITCHELL

SOUTH COAST SECTION

As mentioned in my last section notes, the South Coast Section is hosting this Regional Greenkeeper’s Seminar on Tuesday, 13 March 1990 at Sparsholt College, Hampshire.

Your Chairman, Secretary and Eric James have met as a working group to plan the Seminar and, with the support of Speakers Committee and Regional Administrator, Gordon Childs, have finalised the programme.

Papers will be given on golf course management, conservation of the machinery, golf course construction and a viewpoint from a golf professional.

Programmes are available from me and other Committee members, and the fee for the day, which includes lunch, will be £10.00 for BIGGA members and £15 for non-members.

Please support this seminar by your attendance and by circulating details to club secretaries, chairman of greens and any other interested members of your club. Members of other Sections and regions reading these notes are most welcome to attend. I will be circulating programmes to other Section secretaries.

I look forward to receiving your confirmation of attendance and by circulating details to club secretaries, chairman of greens and any other interested members of your club.

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The following members were elected for the committee and our congratulations to the members present. Chairman on November 30 with 26 members present. Chairman John Flint presided and was re-elected along with Dougal Duguid and Gordon Moir as Vice-Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer respectively. B. Anderson, N. Mac- Donald, A. McLaren and I. Forsyth and A. Williamson who both stand down. Our thanks go to them for their help while on the committee and our congratulations to Sam Moran of Royal Aberdeen and Andy Wilson of Brechin who were elected in place of W. Forsyth and A. Williamson who both stand down. Our thanks go to them for their help while on the committee.

Mr John Hinton of B.A.S.F. Fertilisers gave a most interesting talk on “Fertilisers - A Tool To Management”.

Afterwards a lively discussion developed which was most enjoyable.

We must most sincerely thank John for coming as the weather was terrible and the forecast even worse. John travelled from Suffolk to give the lecture. Refreshments were provided by B.A.S.F. - our grateful thanks.

The evening was disappointing in as much as the attendance was poor. Maybe members were deterred by the weather conditions.

Our A.G.M. followed and Mr Graeme Patrick was elected as Section Chairman replacing John Donaldson who has retired. Mr David Waldren has become Vice-Chairman and John Scott has joined the committee.

A programme for 1990 was mapped out - more details of these events later.

COLIN SWINGLER

SCOTTISH REGION

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COLIN SWINGLER

NORTH SECTION

The section A.G.M. was held at Stonehaven G.C. on November 30 with 26 members present. Chairman John Flint presided and was re-elected along with Dougal Duguid and Gordon Moir as Vice-Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer respectively. B. Anderson, N. Mac-Donald, A. McLaren and I. Forsyth and A. Williamson who both stand down. Our thanks go to them for their help while on the committee.

These present were informed of our intention to run another lottery next year and our plans to stage a first class conference in the Aberdeen area next November/December for our members and other interested people with some excellent speakers.

Although there was concern voiced regarding the increase in subscriptions the general feeling after the details of the package was explained was that it was fair value for money.

Abby Walker of the home
The region organised its first Westurf Trade Exhibition at Long Ashton Golf Club in May, and proceeded by a day's golf, followed by a dinner, for Westurf members. The event was hosted by the South West Region, and was attended by over 35 members.

The region will have a new event to look forward to on March 22. This will be known as The Westcountry Greenkeepers Dinner, and will be held at the golf club in Exeter. The event will be followed by a dinner, with entertainment provided by the South West Region, and will be attended by over 50 members.

Finally, my thanks to the section secretaries and regional administrators for their support in 1989. Long may it continue.
associations has proved beyond doubt that it was the right decision for the future of British greenkeeping, and you now have an Association that three years ago was only a pipe-dream.

GORDON CHILD

SOUTH WALES SECTION

We held our annual match in October at St. Pierre against the South-West Section and there was glorious weather for the competition. The games were well fought out with the result being a draw, three points apiece. I am led to understand this is the same result as last year and the South-West retain the shield as they did last year.

Having just completed in the finals at Moor Allerton Golf Club, I would like to say how nice it was to be part of it. Although being apprehensive at taking part and being the sole qualifier from our section, the boys from the South-West soon dispelled all the fears I had.

The three days started with the coach arriving late, but we finally got to the golf club in time for nine holes practice after which we moved to our “digs” at Askham Bryan College, where food and accommodation were provided.

The day of the final was sunny but cold with the wind getting up and proving difficult to one and all. Everybody enjoyed the golf on a course in excellent condition. Many thanks to Moor Allerton Golf Club and Isaki UK for making my three days very enjoyable.

PS Congratulations to Les Shrub, winner of the final — one of my playing partners.

Cardiff Golf Club played host to the first seminar on drainage of golf course and sportsturf surfaces jointly organised by BIGGA and Pencool college.

The seminar was opened by the principal of the college who set out his views and future plans for the involvement of his college in greenkeeper education and training.

The lectures began with Peter Gillard who is lecturer in turf culture at Pencool College who gave a speech on Soils and Drainage, his views were followed up by a joint talk by Mr. Albert Francis Grounds Manager, Cardiff Athletic Club and Mr. Graham Cox, Head Greenkeeper Cardiff Golf Club telling us the problems of sport ground and golf course drainage.

The final speech was given by Mr. Derek Clarke of the D. W. Clarke group of companies who is also Chairman of the land drainage association who was telling us about modern drainage techniques and practices which also included a slide show to support his views.

In the afternoon Mr. Clarke gave a demonstration using one of his company’s tractor mounted pipe-laying machines. Also on show was a Twose soil conditioner which is vital in relieving soil compaction in turf.

Both the demonstration and lectures while being educational were not too technical as to confuse those attending, making it a very enjoyable and interesting day.

May I take this opportunity to pass on the section’s congratulations to John Walsh and his wife after their marriage, this was tinged with a bit of sadness as John has recently undergone surgery for cancer and I am led to believe that his family have taken him back to Ireland to see his family over there.

Our prayers and best wishes go out to John and his wife at this time.

P. SWAIN

NORTHERN SECTION

belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Chairman and Committee of the Northern Section. I hope to see many of our Section members at the forthcoming European Turf Management Exhibition at Harrogate from January 24 to 26.

Fortcoming lectures feature Patrick Crowley on Thursday, January 18 at Moor Allerton who will speak on “Conservation Gardening at Home and Work” and on Thursday, February 22, Keith Boyce of Headingley Cricket Ground will speak on cricket groundsman- ship. Feel free to bring a guest along.

The trip to Ransomes in Ipswich looks like being cancelled due to lack of interest.

BOB LUPTON

MID ANGLIA SECTION

A November lecture was held at St Neots GC. This was given by Danny Godfrey of Inter Seeds Ltd. The very foggy weather prevented a large turnout, many members missing what proved to be a very interesting and informative talk. I take this opportunity to thank Mr Godfrey.

The annual general meeting of the section was held at St Neots on November 14. In the absence of the Chairman/Secretary Paul Fitzjohn, the meeting was chaired by Gerald Bruce. The first item of business was to read a letter from Paul Fitzjohn in which he tendered his resignation as Chairman/Secretary. This he explained was due to his appointment as Head Greenkeeper at Parkstone GC. Paul was thanked for his services to the section, who sent him best wishes for the future.

The secretary’s report was read. This itemised the achievements of all the competitions, both local and national. The treasurer’s report was presented in the form of a balance sheet. A vote of thanks was proposed to Les Wakerell for his efforts as treasurer. The match secretary informed us that 1990’s fixtures are being finalised and will be published soon. Ken Bunting was thanked for his continued hard work as match secretary.

The following members were elected to office: Chairman Gerald Bruce, tel. 0442 842434, Vice-Chairman/Regional Rep John Wells, tel. 0707 321663, Secretary Geoff Smith, tel. 0727 35984 and Treasurer Les Wakerell. Match Secretary is Ken Bunting, tel. 044 284 3359, Regional Rep Paul Lockett, tel. 0604 700368 and committee member Bob Goodwin, tel. 0442 842434.

The above six will form the committee.

Two main items arose from

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Area dealer for
“any other business”. Firstly, there was concern that the number of members attending competitions was falling, it was felt this was caused by poor communication and rising prices. The committee promised to look into both these matters at the first opportunity. Secondly the section is in possession of an old trophy presented by Bob Plain and David Craig. This trophy is to be played for as an inter club fourball better ball. The details have yet to be finalised.

A vote of thanks was made to St. Neots GC for providing the use of their clubhouse to St. Neots GC for providing fourball better ball. The details meeting closed at 3.35 pm.

GEFF SMITH

EAST ANGLIAN SECTION

OUR A.G.M./golf day took place at Bury in November. Not a very big turn out. The meeting was chaired by “Uncle Sam” with his usual wit and charm. There is a slight change in the officers, who are as follows: President: John Moyle, Vice President: Bob Chesham, Chairman: Sam Sylvester, Vice Chairman: Mick Clarke, Sec/Treasurer: M. Peters, Handicap Competition Liaison Officer: Mick Clarke.

We are now in the “stay at home” time of year. If you have anything you want putting in this section send it to me please, care of Eaton Golf Club, and I’ll willingly pass it on.


MICK LATHROPE

EAST SCOTTISH SECTION

A NUMBER of important events have taken place since the last report. The W. Woods Memorial Trophy was won for the first time for over Winterfield G.C. The winner of this trophy which brings together the greenkeepers and members of their club councils were P. Bowden and K. Fairlie of Newbiggle G.C. with a nett score of 65. Our thanks go to all competitors the council of Winterfield and Stuart Greenwood and his staff for the first class condition of the course.

The annual match against the North East of England sponsored by Stewart and Co was played over Kingsknowe G.C. This resulted in a great win for the Scots by five games to one. It is always a pleasure to see the lads from the North East and we are already looking forward to the return match in 1990. Our thanks go to Stewart and Co for their continued sponsorship and to Kingsknowe for the courtesy of the course.

Our annual general meeting was held on November 22 at Gogarburn. A lecture and slide show prior to the A.G.M. was presented by T. Sherrill of Dunbar and 35 members sat through an enjoyable talk on the John Deer Company. This lecture was of the highest quality. The A.G.M. started at 11 am and we were delighted to see so many members in attendance. Chairman J. Easton retired after his two years service and was replaced by his Vice-Chairman S. Dixon. Jim’s two years has helped put this section back on its feet. Chris Yeaman is is the new Vice-Chairman.

The annual dance was held at Turnhouse G.C. We were very proud to have as guests the Scottish President Elliot Small and his wife Edna. The I.O.G. exhibition at Ingleston was another great success. There are two centenary celebrations next year in the East. Both Glencorse G.C. and Goswick G.C. are 100 years old. An article on both of these well known clubs will appear in one of the issues of the magazine in 1990.

W. BLAIR

SURREY SECTION

THE “Huxley Bowl” has long been a section event. The tournament begins early in the year, as members pick their partners for a competition which will hopefully carry them through to the final in November.

The 1989 “Huxley Bowl” received a total of forty entrants, comprising twenty pairs who form the first round draw. The home drawn pair then hold the responsibility for arranging the fixture, to be played by a set date. Following the match all results are then forwarded to the secretary, and this procedure continues through the year.

This year’s final was contested over 36 holes, between Michael Lower (Chipstead GC) and his partner Andy Davey (RAC Country Club), and Jeff Chambers and Colin Sopp, both of Leatherhead GC.

The first leg was played on Saturday, November 4, at Chipstead GC. Although on home territory, Head Greenkeeper Michael Lower found himself and partner Andy Davey two down after the 18 holes.

On Saturday, November 11, the finalists renewed their duel on the concluding 18 holes at Leatherhead GC. On a glorious sun soaked afternoon, it was Andy and Michael, appearing in their third consecutive final, who drew first blood, winning the opening hole. But it was to be a steady performance by Colin and Jeff, along with some local knowledge that saw them finally pull clear to win 5 and 4, and become the holders of the 1989 “Huxley Bowl”.

As the entries start to come in for the 1990 “Huxley Bowl”, I would like to thank all those who took part in ’89, for their quick reports of matches and results, which enabled me to run a smoother tournament with their help. It is good to see many of Surrey’s members taking part in a year-long competition, which sees them playing as many different courses throughout the County, and I look forward to the 1990 “Huxley Bowl”. Once again congratulations to the 1989 winners, Colin Sopp and Jeff Chambers.

MIK WELLS

AYRSHIRE SECTION

THE highlight of this month has been the Inglis visit. ‘Scotsstuff’ just gets better and better, being as much a social occasion as a working day.

Our section has a run to two buses this year, taking 74 passengers. I just wish some of these would attend our section AGM, which always has the same old faces, with just an odd new man to help on committee.

Ian McNab drove from Dumfries which meant he was on the road longer than the duration of the meeting. A bit more of this type of enthusiasm would be very welcome!

The AGM went off very well, with chairman George Brown giving a very entertaining chairman’s report in his usual modest manner, and the members as a whole seeming to be a lot happier with the progress of our Association.

We had an interesting visit from Phil Walker of Multisol Ltd a short time ago, marketing a new environmentally friendly hydraulic oil.

Finally, the section would like to congratulate Harry Diamond on being elected as Scottish Region Chairman, and wish him the best of luck for his term of office.

DUNCAN GRAY

MIDLANDS SECTION

OUR winter meetings start on February 12th at Walsall G.C. at 7.30. Mr. John Hinton from BASF will give a talk on grass nutrition, please support the section by attending.

Congratulations to Peter Woodward on his appointment as Course Manager at Moor Hall GC. Also to Arnold Phipps-Jones on his appointment as Course Manager at a Belgium Golf Club. Roger Williams has taken over from Arnold as the new Regional Administrator and I am sure will do an excellent job.

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A quote from Professional Golfer Brian Barnes.

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**GREENKEEPING MANAGEMENT**

January '90
PESTICIDES are an important management tool for greenkeepers, their use is now taken for granted and is an integral part of the management of the modern golf course. However, two recent pieces of legislation aim to introduce new responsibilities and will continue to have a significant effect on the use of pesticides on the golf course. An understanding of the requirements of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985, especially the Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986 and The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) is an essential requirement for any professional greenkeeper. For those still unfamiliar with the requirements of the Control of Pesticide Regulations 1986, a very useful guide is "The Plain Mans Guide to the Pesticide Regulations" which is available free from the British Agrochemicals Association at 4 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP. The same organisation have recently published a similar guide entitled "The COSHH Assessment - A Plain Mans Guide for the Amenity User".

FEPA AND THE GREENKEEPER

Within the law there is a general obligation for all pesticide users to "take all reasonable precautions to protect the health of human beings, creatures and plants, to safeguard the environment...". Pesticide users should be aware that the manufacturer's label has legal status and there is an obligation on all users to follow the label recommendations. The single most important piece of advice that a manufacturer can give to a user is READ, UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW THE LABEL RECOMMENDATIONS. If there is any doubt about the label recommendations discuss this with your supplier or the manufacturer.

A large number of users require a Certificate of Competence: contractors (a term which also applies to operators of a "free" service or doing a favour), all users born after 31st December 1964 (NB any trainee or apprentice greenkeepers), and anyone supervising uncertified users in these preceding categories.

A user requiring "certification" does not have to attend any training course before attending an examination. However, to be confident of success the user should attend a recognised training course. These courses can be arranged with the Agricultural Training Board, local agricultural colleges, other independent organisations or by experienced 'in-house' staff (who will ideally have attended an ABT approved course). The NPTC syllabus, which now encompasses the new COSHH regulations, is divided up into a modular format. Each candidate has to sit the Foundation Module before he can proceed to the pesticide application modules. The Foundation Module encompasses the safety aspects of pesticide legislation, mixing of concentrated protective clothing, and most importantly the reading and understanding of the manufacturer's label.

Other areas covered in the foundation module are as follows: keeping records, disposal of unwanted pesticides and washings, dealing with contamination, environmental factors, storage of pesticides.

Having passed the Foundation module the candidate can then proceed to the application modules which qualify the user for a range of different methods of application. The application modules range from Ground Crop Sprayer to seed treating equipment to Hand Held Applicators and Granules. There are up to 21 different application modules. Some of the modules will cover the user for other modules simultaneously, similar in principle to the driver categories covered by a driving licence.

The normal training format will be:
1. Training for Foundation Modules, 1 day, cost £25-£35/head.
2. Test on Foundation Modules, up to 2 hours, cost £25-£30/head.
3. Training on Application Module 1/2 day, cost £35-£50/head.
4. Test on Application Module, 2 hours-1/2 day, cost £25-£35/head.

Cost and timings are approximate. NPTC charges vary from county to county.

Obviously training a spray operative is expensive. A fully certified operator who has attended training courses will cost his employer from £105 to £180 in tuition and examination fees, not including lost work time.

COSHH AND THE GREENKEEPER

The responsibility of the greenkeeper under COSHH is somewhat less clear as the overall responsibility for compliance will lie with the management of the golf club. However, there are a number of actions which the greenkeeper can take to help:

1. Inform the management of any hazardous products which are used, e.g. any products which carry the orange hazard signs signifying "TOXIC", "HARMFUL", "CORROSIVE" or "IRRI-TANT". Where possible provide labels for these products and acquire Product Safety Data Sheets from the supplier or manufacturer.

2. Assess whether it is essential to use these products or whether 'safer' formulations and packaging can be obtained.

3. Review the situation in which these products are used. Can better safety equipment be provided, e.g. a mixing bowl for a mounted sprayer.

4. Where safe pesticide application practices have been identified staff should be informed and trained in their correct use and maintenance.

If further help and assistance is required then the local branch of the Health & Safety Executive should be consulted. The HSE would rather advise than prosecute.

Training for FEPA may seem a large investment that was not necessary in the past. However, the law allows for fines of up to £2000 for failure to comply with the legislation and this will be one incentive to get trained. The real benefit however of a training course is that it will pay dividends in terms of both safety and the efficiency of pesticide use. Greater accuracy in application, better calibration, and more care in the choice of pesticide will all result in improved pesticide efficacy and thus justify the extra costs in the long term. Understanding and enforcing the requirements of COSHH will ensure that the golf course remains a healthy and safe working environment for the greenkeeper. Thus, in many ways, the changes to the legislation will in fact be of benefit to the greenkeeper rather than an nuisance.

EVERYONE involved with pesticides should make every effort to ensure that they are "competent for the duties for which they are called upon to perform". It is the duty of both employer and employee to ensure that adequate training and instruction is available and is used, even if a certificate of competence is not required. Pesticides are an important management tool for greenkeepers, skill and safety in using them must be an important feature for the successful care and maintenance of turf, together with healthy environments.

PATRICK GOLDSWORTHY
Technical Services Manager
ICI Agrochemicals, Professional

January '90
CHEMVAULT UNITS

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The ICI range of turf care products has been developed for professionals. Whether your target is turf weeds, insect pests or turf diseases – whether the location is fine turf or outfield, look to the driving range.

SUPER VERDONE: The effective selective herbicide which controls major broad-leaved weeds in any established turf. Three powerful weedkillers give broad spectrum cover, even to speedwell and yellow sucking clover.

GAMMA-COL turf: Underground pest like leatherjackets and chafer grubs will cause ugly bare patches as they eat grass roots and stems. Gamma-Col turf will kill these pests and remains in the soil to give effective and long term control. The easy to use liquid formulation has contact and fumigant action.
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Have added security cabinets to their range of products. In addition to their gun cabinet range they manufacture chemical and pesticide storage and handling cabinets which meet the requirements of guidance issued by the Health & Safety Executive.

The standard cabinet of 200 litres capacity is strongly made using 2mm (14 gauge) steel and fitted with a Chubb 5 lever security lock, drain plug and louvred vents.

For easy access to the storage space a large side-hinged door has been fitted and a hinged lower shelf is now a standard feature making the containment area available for larger cartons or drums.

Two other chemical cabinets for transporting 50 litres or 25 litres are made of 1.2mm (18 gauge) with safe edges. The top opening lid is fitted with a continuous butt hinge and sealed with a fixed Neoprene gasket, a lockable catch retains the lid when closed.

Within both cabinets is a sump to contain spillage and a drain plug to release any spilled liquids.

Fold down lift handles make carrying easy by either one or two persons.

All cabinets have bolting down holes in the base and are finished in stoved canary yellow paint, an official hazard warning logo is also fitted.

Fisons Turfcare

Fisons Tritox is a weedkiller tailor made for fine turf use and comprising three powerful herbicides, MCPA, Mecoprop and Dicamba. Tritox is a versatile product controlling a wide range of turf weeds from White Clover Plantains and Daisy to more stubborn species like Yarrow, Parsley Pier, Trefoil, Dandelion, Pearlwort and Knotgrass.

ICI 'DACONIL'

Good turf management in the early spring is crucial to obtain hardwearing and healthy greens and fairways which can survive the rigours of a long playing season. As well as applying the appropriate 'Longlife' Fertilizer, ICI Professional Products advise the use of 'Daconil' turf contact fungicide at the first sign of disease or as a follow-up to winter fungicide treatments.

Turf pests also become active in early spring, in particular leatherjackets which are expected to be a serious problem following the large number of craneflies seen last autumn. At the first sign of damage 'Gamma-coil' turf should be applied. Where worm casts are a problem 'Tornado' applied in the spring will give control over the critical period. Weed control should wait until the weather gets warmer, when Super 'Verdone' can be used to control most common broad-leaved weeds in turf.

A & R Fairways PEST CONTROL

A & R Fairways Pest Control specialise in the exclusion, eradication or management of mammals and birds which harm turf or cause a nuisance to those who care for it.

Based in North Wales they already provide a variety of services to Golf Courses, Estates, Farms and The National Trust. They currently operate in England, Scotland, Wales and the Channel Islands.

Much of their work involves the control of moles and rabbits and the provision of suitable fencing for the control of animals that are injurious but protected.

There are few turf pest control problems that cannot be dealt with through a combination of consultancy, service and staff training. For a little free advice or a complete pest management package, contact the specialists A & R Fairways Pest Control advertise in our "Classified Section".

NG RANGE.

Tornado

Based on carbaryl, Tornado gives economical, effective and long-lasting control of casting worms. Because it works by contact and ingestion it gives quick results and good residual activity. The special liquid formulation is easy to mix and simple to apply. After application it leaves no unpleasant odour — so as soon as the grass is dry, play can continue.

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SOME ESSAYS ON GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTURE 1920

W e can finally ease out of the rut I had got you into and leap boldly forward into the Twenties. I shall throw in the Thirties for good measure but we are unlikely to get that for this month. I therefore hasten to remind you that we had just won the First World War with the aid of Dr Mackenzie and the greenkeepers. The time is now 1920; the place, East Hendred; the characters, Colt, Alison and Mackenzie. They have reassembled after a war spent sewing up food parcels, ciphers and the wounded respectively.

After comparing their gruelling war-time experiences, the talk turned to business and how to publicise the new partnership. Colt told them of his plan. He had already written to all his old customers to tell them that if they would like to repeat the experience, C.A. & M. would be happy to deal with the order. A postcard would do. If he selected the best replies, especially those from abroad, and added a few chapters of his own on the fundamentals of golf course architecture he had the makings of a nice little book. However, being of a generous nature, he was prepared to give the two youngsters a chapter each and suggested Alison should start (as the A’s always did) and Mackenzie should finish. A.C. & M. would be easier to index in an orderly manner.

Mackenzie, his old friend, Bernard Dar- win, was knocking out an article for County Life every week and would be able to persuade that outfit to publish the slim volume and would doubtless give it a boost in a future review. Alison and Mackenzie looked at each other and winked. The old man had lost none of his cunning because of the rationing. It had certainly been a good day’s work when they hitched their stars to his De Dion Bouton.

It was only in the train going back to Leeds to see his father, that Mackenzie remembered those lectures, which he gave in 1912 to the Northern section of the Golf Greenkeepers Association. They wouldn’t make a bad little book, he mus ed. He would call it ‘Golf Architecture’. To give the text a little more body, he would get Colt to write a preface. He had better do that in any case, otherwise the old man might get shirty over Mackenzie having a chapter in “The Essays” and then, dammit! producing another book of his own. He returned to the Lancet and lit up the seventeenth Gold Flake of the day. He was a great health fanatic.

And so it came about that these two books were published in the same year and their authors set about making some of the finest golf courses that could be imagined, always respecting the theories which they had set out in their writings.

Architects today tend to do the job first and write about them afterwards to explain why it is so good even if nobody likes it. These three wrote first and practised what they preached. They had of course, operated earlier but never on the scale which now developed.

Alison went off to North America and produced 20 new layouts in U.S.A. and Canada, finishing off the last four holes at Pine Valley which Colt had planned previously. Mackenzie followed a year or two later, did 20 new ones in California alone, some being everlasting memorials. Indeed they still are. Colt was doing Wentworth, Sunningdale “New”, Brancenough Castle, Brockenhurst Manor, Calcut Park, Camberley Heath, Churston, Moor Park, Prestbury, Effingham, Tandridge, Teignmouth, Trevose. I could go on but already feel hot breath down my neck.

There has been growing interest in Alison recently. He seems to have been perfectly happy to play second fiddle to Colt (whom he greatly admired) in spite of having total responsibility for layout of his own thousands of miles from base in America and later Japan. His deep, greenside bunkers are legendary. They were heartily recommended by Horace G. Hutchinson in his long letter for “The Essays” and Alison, always a tradi tionalist, never deviated from this.

Last month the Burning Tree Club in Maryland wrote to ask for any personal notes about Alison which I might have, and when replying I asked if they had any of these essays or articles. I had thought one in particular had disappeared “to the regret” as the writer nicely put it, “of many, but to the relief of some”.

On the day of the Emperor Hirohito’s funeral, a Japanese journalist came to see me. Woodstock with two young women, a photographer and an entrancing interpreter, whose slave I immediately became. I had debated whether to wear a black tie in view of the solemnity of the day but finally settled for a more casual style with a snazzy little red cravat and a - there’s that hot breath again, so no matter:

Relaxed over lunch and wishing to establish a firm rapport with the interpreter, I mentioned my dilemma that morning when sorting out the correct rig for meeting Japanese citizens on the day their Emperor is laid to rest. Would it, I asked, have been better to wear black? They rocked with laughter as only Japanese can.

Come to think of it, the question was pretty silly in view of the moderately slinky suits, en crusting the writer, and the bomber jacket and jeans adopted by the camera woman. Nakoro, as I was pleased to be calling the interpreter by this time, was stylish, restrained yet colourful and quite adorable.

Expanded by my success with the black-tie story, I let slip the news that I had actually been a sort of guest of Hirohito for 3½ years during the war. They thought this was even funnier, I suppose, in a way, it was.

They got all the information I could give them about Alison and then departed for a week-end at Westward Ho! which I had recommended, as the nearest thing to traditional golf they would find in the south. On Sunday they rang up again.

They would call on Monday and take me out to lunch. This is one lunch I cannot, alas! repay to Alison who really earned it for me but it reduced the lunches which Hirohito owes me from 1,280 to 1,279.

Nakoro lives in London but I shall not say where. In the letter she wrote, she revealed that she was not an interpreter at all but an actress. If you saw a play called “The Ginger Tree” on BBC 1 during November, you will, understand why. I was glued to the box, taping it, looking it up in the safe and wondering if there will be a walk-on part for an old Japanese hand in the sequel.

FRED HAWTREE
Whatever your automatic watering plans or needs might be, a word with the professionals at Turf Irrigation will help you achieve your objectives. Telephone or write now for a professional opinion...
HEAVY play on a golf course may be seen as a sign of success but can lead to problems for the greenkeeper responsible for keeping it playable all year. Fitting in tee maintenance on a busy course can be a headache and it is this particular issue that I recently discussed with the course managers of three packed courses.

The Hatfield London Country Club at Essendon, Hertfordshire comprises an 18 hole golf course and a 9 hole pitch and putt on 156 acres. The owners are investing in major improvements including construction of sub-greens and secondary tees on all holes. There are no members. The course is open to the public on green fees.

We have seven minute teeing times. The course is packed everyday. There's someone on the tee all the time from 7.30 a.m.' said Peter Creary, Head Greenkeeper and course manager. He estimated that two hundred rounds are played each day in summer. Winter use is heavy as numbers are swelled by players from private courses which close for winter.

The tees suffer exceptionally heavy wear, particularly at short holes. Being a public course we get a great variation in standards of play.

'To strengthen tee swarms we have used dwarf ryegrass instead of trying to encourage the finer grasses. It gives a coarser finish but it's necessary on a course that gets as much wear as this one,' he said.

'It was incorporated into the turf last year. The results haven't been as good as I expected, due to the drought and very heavy wear' he explained.

Last March Mr Creary applied Osmocote N (39:0:0) controlled release fertiliser, supplied by Sierra UK Limited, at 1 oz/sq yd on all tees and aprons. It was applied with a cyclone type spreader. 'I knew it has been used with good results at Chadwell Spring Golf Course. I'd used other Osmocote products in tree planting work so I decided to try it,' explained Mr Creary.

The fertiliser granules are coated in organic resin which determines daily release of nitrogen depending solely on temperature. With an average soil temperature of 21°C this application should last 5 months.

Because nitrogen release is not affected by soil type, irrigation water, soil pH, activity of soil microbes or external salt concentration, a steady, season long release results in regular turf growth. This requires some renovation work the grass is better in the finer grasses. Nutrient release closely mirrors turf growth so leaching into the surrounding soil does not occur.

Mr Creary is pleased with the results. 'It's fairly expensive, but it's economical because you only apply it once. The quality of the grass is better than normal and would be even better with more rain' he commented.

The tees and aprons are cut to ½ inch. The Osmocote N granules are small and are not picked up by mowers.

'This year the grass on the tees is holding up very well. We didn't see a flush of spring growth, as you do with a soluble fertiliser' said Mr Creary. There were no green patches at tee edges from fertiliser runoff. The grass re-established quickly after rain. 'An even growth rate must be better for the turf' he said.

The steady grass growth on tees allowed mowing to be reduced to once or twice a week last summer. 'Regulating mowing frees time for jobs elsewhere, for example on construction with which we're busy' he added.

This year he plans to use Osmocote N on selected approach fairways. 'These are heavy wear areas with tractors turning where a lot of wedge and chip shots are played. I'm selecting the worst ones to try and get these surfaces to recover quicker.' He is considering it for greens, working it into the surface when hollow tineing to prevent it being mowed out.

REDUCING POA ANNUA

At Hadley Wood Golf Club, Barnet, amid green and wealthy suburbs, Andrew Phillips, Head Greenkeeper heads a team of five staff.

The 18 hole course covers 130 acres. There are 600 private members and public can play for green fees providing they have a handicap certificate. A five year drainage scheme commenced in January 89 to drain winter wet areas. Organic removal of invasive scrub oak is taking the course back to its original shape.

The greens contain 70-80% Poa annua grass. 'All our maintenance is geared to reducing the amount of meadow grass in the greens and encouraging bents and fescues' said Mr Phillips. Fescues are difficult to establish on heavy clay soil. To achieve this he uses non-phosphate fertilisers and summer watering is minimal. 'This keeps the grass alive and helps parch out the bad grass' he said. He verticuts weekly in winter. In winter he uses tractor drawn aerators and vermiculising with 12:14 inch cold solid teeth.

This has reduced the poa annua by 10% in the last three years. 'It'll take between 3-10 years to reduce it to 50%,' he said. 'I'll be very happy with that' he said.

The heaviest wear is on tees. Top dressing divots is a continuous activity. 'It is etiquette to fill in your own divot if there's a soil box provided. We provide these on par 3 tees, but players just don't do it!' remarked Mr Phillips.

Tees contain coarse meadow grass, perennial ryegrass and small amounts of bents and fescues. Automatic watering is available on most tees but is used once every three weeks. He uses an irrigation system in early spring and regular applications of liquid organic nitrogen through the summer, depending on turf condition.

In 1988, out of curiosity, he used Osmocote N at ¾ oz/sq yd on medal tees. Last year he used 2 to 3 oz per sq yd of tees.

It was applied in early April using a cyclone type spreader. The tees dressed with Osmocote N stayed very green. There was no flush of spring growth, just a steady growth all summer. 'When it rains the grass greens up very quickly, even the dry areas that burn off in the drought' he said. 'I'll use it again next year, possibly on all tees.'

Golfers Like Sheep

Trevor Oxtoby, Head Greenkeeper and Malcolm Reding, General Manager of the North Middlesex Golf Club, Barnet, estimate that 40,000 rounds are played there per year. 'We have 500 members and we've seen an increase in green fees this year,' said Mr Oxtoby. He attributed this to the fine weather and other local courses being out of condition.

The course, leased from the council, cover over 50 acres. All boundaries are urban. Dotted with specimen trees, the course sweeps down from the elegant white club house, formerly the manor house, to a small lake.

The size of the course means that play is congested, particularly on entries and exits to greens and tees and between nearest bunkers and the next tees. 'Golfers are like sheep - you can put signs but none of them read them. They just follow each other!' commented Mr Oxtoby.

Short tees are furnished with bins for divot filling. 'We don't get as much cooperation from players as we would like!' he said.

Average tee area is about 2½ normal size. To save wear, grass tees are not used in winter. 'We play off mats and are experimenting with different types at the moment. For competitions you need to get as near the yardage markers as possible, so some mats are placed on the tees. This requires some renovation work the following spring,' said Mr Oxtoby.

He used 1 oz/sq yd of Osmocote N fertiliser last spring on all tees. The outdated irrigation system and summer drought prevented achievement of the full benefits of tee greening. 'It is economical because you apply it once. I'll use it next spring to give it a fair trial. I'm after the aesthetic effect I believe it can produce' he said.

ANNE BARLETTA
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1989 will go down in history as the month and year that the Berlin Wall was dismantled, but a greater barrier was broken down during this month within the Greenkeeping Profession. For many years people have travelled the length and breadth of Britain banging the same drum for better resources for Greenkeeping Training. BIGGA finally launched their first inhouse Management Courses through the support of the Greenkeepers Training Committee and Kobotu.

One hundred Course Managers/Head Greenkeepers attended the courses at our Headquarters, Aldwark Manor, near York.

The generous support of both our sponsors allowed us to keep the cost of the residential courses down to £100 plus VAT. Sadly, with three weeks to go before the first course, twelve places were vacant. This was disappointing especially as I know that many of our members are keen to learn but will not ask their employers for time off. Therefore a letter was sent to golf clubs within the Northern Region, addressed to the Secretaries/Chairman of Greens explaining the course content and the use of the golfers’ 2p levy to the Home Unions which provides funding for the Greenkeepers Training Committee. The response was quite amazing. It was as if the release of the R & A Greenkeeping Panel’s document

Speaker
Roy Brighton, Time Management

Fred Robinson and Elaine Carroll, Computer Tutors

John Middleton, Askham Bryan College, Personnel Management

Dr. Andy Newell, Sports Turf Research Institute, Grasses for the Golf Course

Bruce Cox, Askham Bryan College, Budgeting/Accounting

David Stubbs and Anne Marie Brennan, Golf Course Wildlife Trust Conservation

Nick Bisset, Askham Bryan College, Communication Workshop

Sports Turf Research Institute, Problems Associated With The Management of Tees, Greens, Fairways and Bunkers

Health and Safety Inspectorate, Health and Safety At Work Act

Neil Baldwin, Sports Turf Research Institute, Management of Pesticides, Turf Diseases

DAVlD GOLDING

‘The Way Forward’ had pricked consciences of a few people so much so that the places were booked up overnight, a reserve list started and sufficient calls received to put on another course.

So perhaps employers are at last keen to support our efforts to provide competent, professional Greenkeepers. Members of the Association who attended the courses were asked to complete a questionnaire, which will be helpful to me when programming future courses at Headquarters. I have not had one questionnaire returned with anything less than the highest praise for the speakers, the accommodation, their fellow delegates and thankfully, the organisation of the courses. Below, I list some quotes from delegates whom I know will be pleased to hear that I have already booked four weeks later in 1990 for follow-up courses in their training programme.

The real plus from the four weeks was the interest shown by the delegates in each others’ problems back at work, and I believe many delegates learned just as much outside the lecture room as inside it.

Our International members were in evidence and their hunger for knowledge was a pleasure for all to see.

One thing is for certain, that whilst several delegates will now go on to an Approved College based course, many will be looking forward to the next inhouse courses.

SEMINARS

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H
E role of organics in turf management will be one of three one-day seminars for Greenkeepers, Groundsmen and playing fields staff during January and February, 1990. Organised by Rigby Taylor, they will take place on: Wednesday, 17th January, Leatherhead Golf Club Surrey; Wednesday, 31st January, Villa Park Football Club, Birmingham: Tuesday, 13th February, Headingley, Leeds.

A panel of speakers will deal comprehensively with various facets of the theme such as organic nutrients, soil management, liquid feeds and their application, and seed selection. Admission will be free and interested persons can obtain further information and invitations by contacting Rigby Taylor on Freefone 0800 424 919.

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DAVlD GOLDING

Quotation

“The Subject has certainly made me realise that good organisation will complete tasks with better efficiency.”

ANTHONY DUNSTAN - MILL HILL GOLF CLUB

“Before the course started I was very apprehensive about computers. After attending this course I feel I can now use a computer with confidence. In fact, I now have permission to use the club’s computer, which will help me with my management duties.”

PATRICK MURPHY - SHIPLEY GOLF CLUB

“Informative and made us think of how we work with our staff and committees.”

BOB LUPTON - CLECKHEATON GOLF CLUB

“Very enlightening. Dislodged a few old cobwebs from my college days. The Ident was very good revision.”

PHILIP STIRK - FULFORD GOLF CLUB

“Everybody learned how to set out their budget sheet accurately. This was a valuable exercise for which everyone should have been grateful.”

ROBERT GOODWIN - ASHRIDGE GOLF CLUB

“This subject was very interesting and one that I believe all delegates will follow up. The presentation was very good, illustrated by first class slides.”

HENRY GILLESPIE - HILLSBOROUGH GOLF CLUB

“This subject I feel is very important to a Manager, and as usual, Nick put it across in a light hearted but forceful way.”

PETER BLACKER - HEADLINGLEY GOLF CLUB

“These lectures were excellent, especially when all developed into general debates. Both the speakers and the delegates learned during that period.”

DAVlD GOLDING - BIGGA

“They have been to my course three times in eighteen months, but this presentation of Health and Safety was absolutely brilliant. In think every person involved in our profession should be made to attend a course of this nature just to make them aware as to the many dangers that surrounds them.”

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“Comprehensive coverage of both subjects by the best in the field.”

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Dear Sir,
HAVING recently attended the first of, I hope many, course managers courses arranged by BIGGA. I would like to express my appreciation for what turned out to be a very rewarding and enlightening week back at school. The intensive course covered all aspects of modern management including computers, personnel and budgeting, as well as health and safety, and environmental problems, associated with golf course management. Also ‘state of the art’ information on such things as pesticides and turf diseases from the STRI.
All this in the luxurious and comfortable surroundings of the Aldwark Manor Hotel for just £100, helped in no small way by a generous donation from Kubota. A splendid week even if it did show up a few of my many limitations.

Yours sincerely,
CLIVE OSGOOD
Head Greenkeeper, Walton Health GC

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Sparsholt College Hampshire, Sparsholt, Winchester, Hants. SO21 2NF. Tel: 0962 72441

Left to right: David Illingworth, Time Manager International; John Millen, Head Greenkeeper, Canterbury G.C. and Fred Robinson, Computer Consultant, Hoskins Group, whose lectures were highly acclaimed.
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All appointments to commence as soon as possible
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ALTERNATIVE ENGINES

BY HUGH TILLEY

INTERNAL combustion engines power a wide range of machines on the golf course of which the most obvious are mowers. Some manufacturers offer alternative power units as original equipment, usually if they are selling into different markets, such as professional and domestic. However there are also many other situations when a change of engine is required. The most obvious is when an engine has become 'clapped out' and while it is usual to replace with an identical unit, this is not always possible. Other advantages of changing engines include to improve economy, power output, service back-up or reliability.

Economically the most clear cut situation is changing from a petrol engine to a diesel. As a rough guide the greater cost of a diesel will be recovered within two years if it operates five hundred or more hours a year, because of greater fuel economy, lower maintenance requirement, better resale value and not least the fact that diesel fuel does not evaporate. Economy is less important for smaller engines, and there is minimum difference between modern engines of similar power. Where both two and four stroke options are available the former can be expected to provide more power from a given capacity and weight, however lightness may be at the expense of longevity and economy.

Another important reason to change engines may be to increase available power, and this may be true where the club has been sold a semi-domestic model to give a lower price. The competent dealer and importer will ensure that he sells suitable machines or tells of his reservations, however there are a number of less experienced dealers, and some clubs to whom the price on the bottom line is all important.

The competence of the service back-up is yet another reason for re-engineing, and service back-up should always be very high on the list of selecting original equipment. Each engine manufacturer has a network of dealers across the country, and selecting a competent dealer is as important as selecting make, of some of these dealers may be engine specialists rather than grass machinery specialists so be prepared to look outside your normal suppliers.

This might make it sound as if re-engineing is just a matter of lifting out the old engine and dropping in a new one - and in many cases it is, certainly in the lower power ranges where engines are built to American standards with common dimensions and mountings and a range of shaft ends, in other cases the engine manufacturer will have a fitting kit, usually simply a number of shims (or washers).

For most people technical data is just a load of meaningless-jargon, space does not permit explanation here. Varying the fuel injection or induction settings allows one engine block to provide a range of outputs and the use of turbocharging not only gives more power but will also provide better fuel efficiency. Typically the engine for a rider mower needs high torque back-up, or slogging power, whereas industrial engines operate at more constant speed and power - these variations can also be met by fuel injection settings.

More understandable will be characteristics such as noise levels, and exhaust emission, by public demand manufacturers are devoting considerable amounts of money to reduce both. Noise level also needs to be equated to tone, as a deep tone is less tiring for the operator than a 'sharp banking' engine. In general liquid (water) cooled engines are quieter than air cooled engine, but liquid cooling systems provide more components to fail.

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Other operator concerns relate to ease of starting, indirect injection engines tend to be more difficult to start than a direct injection engine because a glow plug is required to heat the air in the pre-combustion chamber. Cost of spares may also be an important consideration, many of the Japanese engines have relatively expensive parts and maintenance, so it may be worth costing common parts such as fan belts and filters, and even piston and crankcase parts with a petrol engine - which is more likely to require these, perhaps at around 2,000 hours. Diesel engines can be expected to run to 5,000 hours before requiring the head off.

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BOOK REVIEW

THOSE so called “fortunates” who witnessed live the final stages of the 1989 Ryder Cup match between GB/Europe and the USA, at the much hyped and horrifically overcrowded Belfry, or indeed the countless millions who, in the greater comfort of their own homes, watched the excellent cameracoverage on television, will recall again and again ‘The Tie of ’89’.

As a series the matches were quite spectacular and Ryder Cup fever certainly held the British public as never before. It therefore came as no great surprise to this reviewer that an “official” version of the match history, bearing the approval of such a revered body as the P.G.A., was available on the bookstalls a mere eight weeks after the event had finished.

Entitled The Official History of the Ryder Cup 1927-1989 by Michael Williams, (200 pages, Stanley Paul £14.95) this particular work is both definitive and immediately respectable, though it is by no means the first history written about seed merchant Sam Ryder’s dream, a dream which took years to mature, which at one time looked in danger of dying, and which is now transformed into a twentieth century promotional dream ticket.

I’ve often wondered about these “official” book tags, and confess to a sneaking admiration for many “unofficial” tomes - especially those purporting to tell the “real truth”, the expurgated and sanitised version as in the “unofficial” Frank Sinatra story which spelled out things Sinatra would have preferred kept secret.

But this journal is about golf and I must address the subject at hand. So... let us examine the text which might leave one of those numerous and now commonplace in such an approach to an important subject which mars an otherwise fine publication.


In the past two decades the European golf tour has changed dramatically - for the better. Prize money is higher, competition keener, crowds are bigger, interest more intense, playing facilities and standards greatly improved.

This development has been traced in a number of excellent books and the literature of the game has charted the progress that has been made.

But the story of the journeyman professional, the middle-of-the-table golfer, so to speak, has never been told before. Now Ian Mosey, one of that happy band of pilgrims who have toured Europe in the seventies and is still on the circuit as a full time pro, has done it with immense delight for more than twenty years.

On The Golf Tour - A Journeyman Professional’s Story - by Ian and Don Mosey is published by Methuen at £12.99.

That Ian Woosnam is popular with the Press and with his fellow professionals can almost go without saying. His lively character, his sheer recognisable style. His early struggles, his almost genius and the respect wherever he might be. In Ian Woosnam’s Golf Masterpieces, he reveals a declared source of his inspiration.

In this anthology a book I have tried to express some of my love for the game and just how much I love it. The more you play and play about golf, the more you marvel at the demands it makes, not just on your physical skill but also on your temperament. The moment you think you have golf licked it comes behind you and bites you in the rear... the game can be agony and ecstasy. I hope it is as true for the professional as it is for the 28 handicap.

Apart from selecting some of the immortal writings from the likes of Bernard Darwin, Pat Ward-Thomas, Herbert Warren Wind, Peter Dohreiner, Henry Longhurst, Henry Cotton, Bobby Jones and many others, Ian or perhaps more correctly his co-writer/editor Peter Grosvenor intersperses each chosen piece with a short essay, a personal observation, and although this approach is commonplace in such an anthology it is done here with a thoughtfulness which is admirable.

In addition, and it is here that the book really scores, Ian unveils his own story, his playing “secrets”, his early struggles and the days spent flogging round the minor circuits with a dodgy caravette and a diet of baked beans and dreams... all good stuff, it is a fine introduction to a worthwhile airing of some of the excellent literature of golf.

Ian Woosnam’s Golf Masterpiece Classic Tales From the Clubhouse - is published by Sidgwick Softbacks at £9.99.

‘Golf - The Golden Years’ compiled by Sarah Baddiel, is a pictorial anthology celebrating the golden age, an age of amateurism and near innocence, one that lovers of the game thinks of with affection and a touch of nostalgia. Although offered as an anthology, I would be happier describing it as a picture book, illustrating as it does those one hundred and one things which go to make up a golfing collection, from the treasured, enormously expensive, and well-scratched golf scorecards to the ephemeral and somewhat dottier items (one collector we know hoards golfing scorecard pencils, each of the many thousands held identical-save for the title of the club imprinted thereupon!) which might leave a question mark on the sanity of the collector.

The abundant coloured pictures are excellent, the chosen writers above criticism and the whole well presented. At £7.95 it is without doubt a bargain. The only pity is that much of the text is peppered with spelling and grammatical errors which appear either to have escaped or been ignored by the compiler, the proof reader and the publishers. An untypical approach to an important subject which merits an otherwise fine publication.


DAVID WHITE
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