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About our cover: From an oil painting by I. Mc Clymont c.1900 - Old Tom Morris, perhaps the first Keeper of The Green - sold recently at Sotheby's for over £20,000.
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- In The Picture
  The informed greenkeeper keeps ahead, with news and world comment.

- Education
  A preview of the nine nominees for the Toro Young Greenkeeper of the Year Award.

- Around The Green
  Though busier than ever on the course, our regional scribes still find time to play golf and bring local activities to your notice.

- Product Focus
  A galaxy of new innovative products revealed.

- From Behind Closed Doors
  Up to the minute issues, brought to you by our privileged 'insider'.
**We live in a crowded island, cramped in leisure terms by the limitations of space made available per capita by the recent course of golf courses in urban areas, and by a deep seated misunderstanding in the eyes of very many local authorities that golf is a rich man's pastime.**

A classic example came to light recently when Watford Borough Council, a left wing controlled body in a heavily populated area, reluctantly conceding the need to give golf to the ratepaying populace at large chose a cheapskate way out, that of attempting to claw back into public ownership a private golf course and club that had operated successfully and profitably for approaching one hundred years.

Their failure is seen, certainly in my eyes, as a victory over bureaucratic bungling, but it does pose the problem of just where nowadays overspill players and future generations of young tyros are going to find suitable sites for their teeth cutting.

The plea of limitations on finances, ground space or population often prevents development of a full 18 hole layout, and where this occurs authorities look to nine holes as the only alternative. This has not always been the case and records of olden days demonstrate just how varied golf courses were in their hole numbers.

**Odd Numbers**

The old links at Musselburgh, where I recently witnessed the grasping vandalism perpetrated by the racecourse authorities and where play is now limited to a mockery of former times, were originally played over just five holes, later extended to eight; until 1870 Wimbledon had only seven, until Tom Dunn extended it to 19! (one for luck?) Gullane began with 13, adding two later. The very first Open Championship, won by the innovative Willie Park at Prestwick in 1860, was played over a 36 hole total of three times twelve holes. North Berwick were content with seven while Montrose for some inexplicable reason had 25! Bruntsfield, where a shortened variety of the game is still played, began with only six. Blackheath, as influential in setting standards then as the R. & A. is now, played their earliest matches over three times seven.

Of equal importance historically is the length of holes. Our forefathers had no need for monsters, for the old feather ball, and later the guttie, didn’t travel nearly as far as it’s modern counterpart. Perhaps there is a case now for further restricting the length attainment of the modern ball, or in certain circumstances imposing the use of the innovative Cayman ball, which travels approximately half the distance of it’s big brother. I’ve played the Cayman and can vouch for it’s entertainment value.

**Accidental Eighteen**

With the move of authority from Prestwick to St. Andrews came an acceptance of their own particular and peculiar course layout of eighteen holes, albeit played over nine double greens, home and back. The seal was set and eighteen became a standard with the R. & A. is now, played their earliest matches over three times seven.

Golf over six holes, even six short holes, need not be dull, indeed with sensible use of multiple tees, large enough to withstand the extra usage, a layout could be devised with variable hole lengths that would bring in every possible combination of the game. Nor should we lose sight that perfection in the short game, the skill of holing six-foot putts and placing chip shots to within one-putt distance every time, would make remarkable players of us all. Banging the ball a mile with wood is not the way to perfection.

Let us examine the benefits. First the land needed, often unsuited to any other sporting application, will be about 25% less than for a nine holer. The course construction costs will be substantially lower and maintenance could, in most cases, be handled easily by one or two greenkeepers. No longer would it be necessary to write off the better part of a day for a round and its trimmings. Six holes may easily be slotted in, say ninety minutes at most. Above all six hole courses would serve as a relief canal from overcrowded courses whilst providing those without access to such full facilities to experience the joys of this most glorious game — that surely would be no bad thing?

**Six(th) Sense**

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**David White, Editor**
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Welcome to our New Members

GREENKEEPING MANAGEMENT is always happy to tell the world of success stories throughout our profession. And when the need arises we'll not be above a little trumpet-blowing on our own behalf. One such success story is the remarkable growth in our membership over the past few months. With the figure zooming well over the three thousand level and with new members responding positively to the reply card form at the rate of twenty five new members each week, BIGGA is very proud indeed to welcome those members listed here. To them all we extend the hand of friendship and professionalism - built on a solid foundation of growth and understanding of all that is so good within this fine industry.

Welcome to our New Members

Maurice Groves
John Plummer
B. Geddes
Colin Linther
J. O'Donnell
Giuseppe Oribona
Gordon S. Irving
T.H. Codling
Roy C. Gough
Graham R. David
S. Diplock
D.G. Hatter
R. Minton
D. Macdonald
R.M. Moskop
D.G. Siddon
Nick M. Storey
J. Anguile
James C. Birkett
Martin J. Dignam
Robert J. Gemell
Andrew Hanson
Paul F. Wright
Michael Harris
Colin Robinson
Simon J. Beniams
Gordon P. Beniams
Adam Dunsmore
C.G. Hindle
Colin G. Kenyon
Robert Lees
Frederick McMath
William J. Walsh
Gary M. Ogilvie
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John Harris
Jeremy M. Kershaw
Tony King
John H.W. Partridge
Alasdair Pope
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Anthony H. Smith
John Whitney
Martin Barrett
Gary Mills
John Mills
Paul A. Walker
Gary Wilson
Nigel J. Baxter
John R. Lea
Andrew Pullen
Gareth J. Rees
John R.D. Boughey
Neil Brown
Colin J. McMaster
John B. Monk
Brendan Row
Alan J. Southby
P. Tones
Robert L. Bond
Gary Bridesman
Graeme Crowell
Alex Irie
Carl J. Llewellyn
Yoshinouke Maki
Colin Scott
Anthony Smyth
William Tomlinson
Richard J. Agg
Graeme Holland
Bart A. Wilson
Milltown G.C.
Grange G.C.
Darenth Valley G.C.
O.M. Scott & Sons (T)
Radix
Royal Burgess G.C.
(A)
Wiseley G.C.
Bigbury G.C.
ICI Professional Products (T)
ICI Professional Products (T)
ICI Professional Products (T)
ICI Professional Products (T)
ICI Professional Products (T)
Yorkshire Mowers Ltd. (T)
Yorkshire Mowers Ltd. (T)
Wrestwick St Nicholas
Worcs
Aeration & Drainage (T)
Todmorden G.C.
Sedgley G.C.
Logic ATV Equipment (T)
Wrexham G.C.
Colwall Park G.C.
Sachi Dolmar Uk Ltd (T)
Shephillam Park G.C.
Colwall Park G.C.
Colwall Park G.C.
Brighton and Hove G.C.
Ashburton G.C.
Aldenham G.C.C.
Royal Troon G.C.
Tarland G.C.
Bloxwich G.C.
Bloxwich G.C.
Temple G.C.
Bloxwich G.C.
Bloxwich G.C.
Bala G.C.
Seaham G.C.
Durham Park Golf Club
Hartburn Golf Group plc (A)
Ashston G.C.
Castell G.H.C.
Wimborne Golf Club
Wentworth G.C.
Blackwell G.C.
Castell G.H.C.
Barholmowen (Chic.) Ltd. (T)
Chesfield G.C.
(T)
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Weehow G.C.
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Durham Park G.C.
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P. Tones Ltd. (T)
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Cardiff G.C.
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Neil A. Robinson
David Marshall
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Simon Green
Adrian J. Simm
L.E. Nelson
Teroen A. Hoskins
David Mottram
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Richard B. Hall
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Shrewsbury G.C.
Hoversday Ltd. (T)
Cerwell D.C.
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(Welwyn & Hatfield D.C.
Leominster G.C.
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Weston Turville G.C.
Ministry of Defence
Birchwood G.C.
Welwyn & Hatfield D.C.
Scrappfoot G.A.
Chesedester G.C.
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Kibworth G.C.
East Berkshire G.C.
Pleasington G.C.
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Wirral Ladies G.C.
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Kilmarnock G.A.
Eeyemouth G.C.
Cardiff Golf Hotel
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Ulverston G.C.
Barnard Castle G.C.
Barnard Castle G.C.
Filton G.C.
Royal Troon G.C.
Calverley G.C.
(A)
Down G.C.
Down G.C.
Down G.C.
Blingham Golf Club
Malton & Norton G.C.
Louth Golf Club G.C.
St. Michaels G.C.
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Meon Valley G.C.
Meon Valley G.C.
Meon Valley G.C.
Leckford Estate
North Downs G.C.
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South Beds G.C.
Skiholme G.C.
Skiholme G.C.
Wimpole Golf House G.C.
Three Rivers G.C.
St. Median G.C.
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The National Association of Public Golf Courses threatened

The National Association of Public Golf Courses, for sixty one years the accepted and recognised administration body for the public course club golfer, are indignant at the recent news — out of the blue — that the E.G.U. are to discuss a privately published paper. 'The English Golf Union and the Non-Status Golfer' without consultation with NAPGC, even though their Association represents over 100 of the present public course clubs and over 50,000 public course players! Insulted and indignant as they are over the seeming insensitivity of the E.G.U. on such an important issue, they made the point to Greenkeeping Management that to make attempts to support and recognise the non-status golfer without involving the ONLY organisation with real experience is tantamount to their being dismissed!

Some of the questions posed in the paper, with NAPGC comments, are given here:

Poseur's Pose!

A chance for fame and glory awaits those competing in the BIGGA National Golf Tournament, to be held at Lyme Regis on August 14th, 15th and 16th. Quite apart from the awards and trophies, your intrepid editor will be in attendance, complete with zoom lens, to record posterity (and a two page colour spread in the September issue) the daily swings and the après swings! So... as you gaze at that icosahedral dimples, soaring majestically towards the blue — that the E.G.U. are to enter the 'real' world of golf by competitive and social play. Answer - By joining a public course club he gets his 'passport' through a handicap certificate.

The National Association with real experience is tantamount to the only organisation — that the E.G.U. are to discuss a privately published paper. 'The English Golf Union and the Non-Status Golfer' without consultation with NAPGC, even though their Association, are indignant at the recent news — out of the blue — that the E.G.U. are to discuss a privately published paper. 'The English Golf Union and the Non-Status Golfer' without consultation with NAPGC, even though their Association represents over 100 of the present public course clubs and over 50,000 public course players! Insulted and indignant as they are over the seeming insensitivity of the E.G.U. on such an important issue, they made the point to Greenkeeping Management that to make attempts to support and recognise the non-status golfer without involving the ONLY organisation with real experience is tantamount to their being dismissed!

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Poseur — a person who strikes an attitude or assumes a pose in order to impress!

1. The Non-status golfer (NSG) wants some official recognition of his golfing ability. Answer - Let him join the club at the public course he plays upon.
2. The NSG wants to become a better player and enter the 'real' world of golf by competitive and social play. Answer - By joining a public course club he gets his 'passport' through a handicap certificate.
3. The NSG wants ultimately to join a club or society. Answer - Public course clubs would welcome him into their ranks.
4. The NSG wants to improve his knowledge of rules and etiquette. Answer - The first priority of NAPGC is to teach new players the rules and etiquette of golf - with committee members of the Association always on hand to guide and counsel.
5. The NSG wants an opportunity to play in an organised competitive arena. Answer - NAPGC organise many competitive events at both local and national level.
6. The NSG wants a passport to extend his play beyond the municipal course. Answer - All public course clubs are affiliated to their County Union, and each member receives a recognised CONGU handicap, enabling recognition at other courses.

Before passing judgement, Greenkeeping Management will want to learn the views of both local and national level. Answer - NAPGC organise many competitive events at both local and national level.

Rosemount record shattered

From Gordon Moir, a man justifiably proud of Scotland and its wonderful golf courses, came a report of the annihilation of Rosemount by two Frenchmen... in the Scottish Open Amateur Stroke Play Championship. Tournament winner Francois Illouez knocked one stroke from Greg Norman's previous record, scoring 65 in the first round, only to see his compatriot J. Giscard lower the number to 64 in the final round. As Gordon so rightly points out, this reflects well on the marvellous condition of courses in his part of the country.

Player on Architecture

In talking about courses, Gary Player, another of the growing band of golfers-cum-architects making a lasting impression around the world — especially the USA — expressed an opinion recently. In discussing the trend of the wealthy American set wanting to build 'monuments' to themselves, and requesting architects to build to tough specifications, he said "they're creating monsters!"

He can envisage, when the novelty wears off and members tire of having to make freak putts all day or of taking five hours for a round, that some major surgical re-modelling of these white elephants will be necessary. "At a lot of golf courses, people just want to get the heck out." And his answer? . . . "I want to start a new trend — building golf courses that people will enjoy."
After 18 years of development you'd expect our new greens turf to have one or two advantages. For 18 years, scientists at Queen's University, Belfast worked to solve the perennial problem of annual meadow grass. The result is a unique seed mixture of Chewings fescue and browntop bent for our exclusive new greens turf, Rolawn Advantage. It's a significant breakthrough and represents another important milestone for Rolawn, Europe's finest turf grower.

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For 18 years, scientists at Queen's University, Belfast worked to solve the perennial problem of annual meadow grass. The result is a unique seed mixture of Chewings fescue and browntop bent for our exclusive new greens turf, Rolawn Advantage. It's a significant breakthrough and represents another important milestone for Rolawn, Europe's finest turf grower.

So what are the advantages?
- First, no annual meadow grass means the smoothest textured, "greenest" green for your members (and your committee).
- And Rolawn Advantage is actually guaranteed supplied free of annual meadow grass.
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August 1989
From Sussex we delight in announcing to the greenkeeping fraternity the engagement of Nick Beadle to Karen Johnson. We join with the Sussex Section in wishing them good luck.

Also in Sussex, we hear that section Chairman, Alan Butromovicz, has changed locations, moving from Ifield to Tunbridge Wells as Head Greenkeeper. Greenkeeping Management joins with the section in wishing him every success.

From Bob Lupton we learn that his committee man Dennis Cockburn has moved his job, from Colne (in Lancashire!) back to what Bob describes as 'the right side of the Pennines'. Dennis is now head greenkeeper at the Silsden Golf Club and good luck goes with him from all the Yorkshire Terriers.

La Manga's Course Manager Steve McMahon is one of the better known greensmen who have joined BIGGA... one of over 200 new members who are joining at the rate of 25 per week. European based greenkeepers are joining at the rate of 2 per week from Sweden, Germany, Holland and France.

New at ICI

Richard Minton is the most recent recruit to join ICI's Professional Products UK sales team.

Richard has been appointed to cover the Midlands, South Wales and South West England as Technical Representative supporting the activities of ICI's network of specialist distributors.

Lineage and photographs should be sent to

David White
13 Firle Close, Seaford
East Sussex BN25 2HL
Tel. 0323 891291

Lindum's strong network

Joining Ransomes as Group Financial Director from London International Group, where he was Group Treasurer, Geoffrey S. Comer, a Chartered Accountant.

Lindum Seeded Turf have rolled out their new appointments: Geoff Hodson, their new appointed Sales & Marketing Manager; and SODNET, The USA made netting product, for which Lindum have been appointed the UK's sole distributor.

Geoff has wide experience, for the past 5 years having held a position of seed specialist with one of Europe's largest breeders and his appointment is seen as adding yet more strength to an experienced management team.

SODNET - the name under which this product is marketed - is designed to prevent soil erosion of newly sown beds, acting as a mulch and reducing moisture loss.

Geoff Hodson (on right of picture), newly appointed Sales and Marketing Manager for Lindum Seeded Turf, seen here with Stephen Fell, Director of H.R. Fell & Sons, who is responsible for the Lindum operation.