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THE BRITISH GOLF

# GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



FOUNDED 1912

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BENEFIT OF GREENKEEPERS,  
GREENKEEPING AND THE GAME  
OF GOLF BY THE BRITISH GOLF  
GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

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# Greetings



## **From the President**

Best wishes to all members of the Association and I hope that 1971 will be a good year for the B.G.G.A.

Carl Bretherton.



## **From the Chairman**

I wish all our members and their families a most enjoyable Christmas, with the best of luck and good fortune in the New Year.

A. Robertshaw.



## **From the Hon. Secretary**

To every member of the Association I would like to extend my very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

C. H. Dix.

# TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

Work has begun on a new 18-hole course in Suffolk at Stoke-by-Nayland. It is being built by Mr Bill Peeke and his wife, Devorah, who own the 130-acre Hill Farm at Boxford. . . . At Chelmsford, not far away, the Town Council's plans for 18 holes in Hylands Park produced strong reactions. The following are samples: "I suggest anyone who does not want this lovely place cut in half should write in the strongest possible terms to - - -, also print their own car stickers "Hands off Hylands": "I would suggest that Hylands Park, which appears to be a white elephant, should be sold and the money used to repair the footpaths in the town before many more people are injured by falls caused by uneven paving stones and potholes": "When I think of all the restful hours I—and yes, hundreds of others—have enjoyed in this enchanting park, my stomach turns at the prospect of this tranquility being broken": "Surely, in a world increasingly built up and noisy, there should remain a few places where quiet prevails": "A golf course would be the thin end of the wedge and I know scores of people who want Hylands left as it is": "I would not be at all surprised if protesters dig large holes in the greens once the golf course has been created": "My blood boils at the way the ratepayers' money is being used by people who behave like millionaires with our cash." Eventually, the Finance Department turned it down. . . . Coventry City Council's Recreation Committee is considering developing land at Allesley for an 18-hole municipal golf course but work would not start before 1975/7976. . . . Bedford Town Council welcomed an £86,000 scheme for a municipal golf course at Mowsbury Park. Estimated cost is £52,510 for the course plus £4,000 for pop-up sprinklers. . . . Brian Collins writing in the West Lancashire Evening Gazette quotes a letter from the professional at the Ikoyi Golf Club, Nigeria, where the Nigerian Open is to be played: "This week I have to counter an incorrect statement that players were put in prison in Nigeria last year. This happened in Lusaka not Nigeria." . . . Grimsby Rural District Council approved in principle a scheme to purchase 130 acres of land for a golf course at Immingham and then lease it to the North Lincolnshire Golf Development Association at a rental which would cover the total cost of the land. . . . A delegation from Minchinhampton Golf Club met Mr Eldon Griffiths of the Ministry of Environment in London last month to urge grant aid for establishing a new course away from the common. They reported "a very good hearing." . . . Maltby Urban Council, near Rotherham, plans to ban golf on open spaces in the town in order to safeguard children playing nearby. The Councillor who raised the problem, himself a golfer, said: "We do not wish to deny anyone the pleasure of this sport, but when they take an almighty swipe, anything can happen." . . . Leeds Golf Club has had to sack its 30 caddies on Government orders. Those under 14 are too young to work legally. . . .

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# NOW THINGS ARE SMOOTH

By PATRICK SMARTT

In an article under the title of "When the Going was Rough" I closed with some remarks hinting at a reactionary outlook.

In the care of courses there used to be two schools of thought: put nature back to nature, or the chemically minded. The first school, the diehards (of which I am one), are now but voices crying in the wilderness. One should never be didactic about anything in golf, whether it be the swing, course design or the nurturing thereof. It can however be educational to discuss the conflicting ideas.

In these days there is a tendency to over-emphasise the idea of making grass grow upwards. That remark is not so strange as it looks. As with trees, plants, vegetables, so with grass, it has to grow *downwards* first: roots. Let me give an example.

There was a heath and heather course set high on a hill, and so exposed to all the bedevilmments of our climate. It had been the custom to mow the greens very close. Dry spells in summer (there was no water laid on) resulted in brown, almost grassless surfaces—putting over which could produce a nervous breakdown.

A new broom has to proceed warily with established customs. After a while when the head greenkeeper had been struck down by illness and succeeded by his No. 2, grudging permission was extracted from the green committee to raise the mower blades. Then came a suggestion that shocked them deeply. It was that the grass roots did not go deep enough, and so the greens had not the bed from which to withstand any prolonged drought or heat. This was disbelieved. The precaution had been taken to remove a plug of turf with the hole-cutter. This was placed on the table for all to see. The roots were negligible.

The proposal was put forward that it was necessary to reverse the old saying to "What goes down must come up." To bring this about it was mooted that all forcing chemicals treatment ceased, except where a green was "sick," and old, seasoned beech leaf mould would be mixed with grass cuttings to form a compost heap. The committee reluctantly agreed to a year's trial, and headed for the bar to seek solace from having a maniac on their hands.

The beech leaf mould, heaven knows how many years old, was obtained from the great woods of a nearby estate. After a year of "nature back to nature," a plug was again exhibited and it was conceded there was a remarkable root growth with consequently healthy, weather-resistant greens. The proof of the pudding.

That was 15 years ago. The regime changed and back came the chemical dressings—they were necessary for the course had suffered from insufficient attention for some years. So let us look at that method in general, and not in particular to the course we have been discussing, which is in excellent condition.

My personal inclination against chemicals, except where a tonic is obviously needed, stems from several reasons. I have seen several instances of misapplication. Greens burned or disfigured by insufficiently diluted dressings. There are printed instructions supplied with the fertilisers, but this is putting the secretary or greenkeeper much in the same position as a qualified chemist making up a doctor's prescription. I have experienced the equivalent in the garden. My hobby is roses. Unable to get good manure any longer, I have to use packaged fertiliser—so

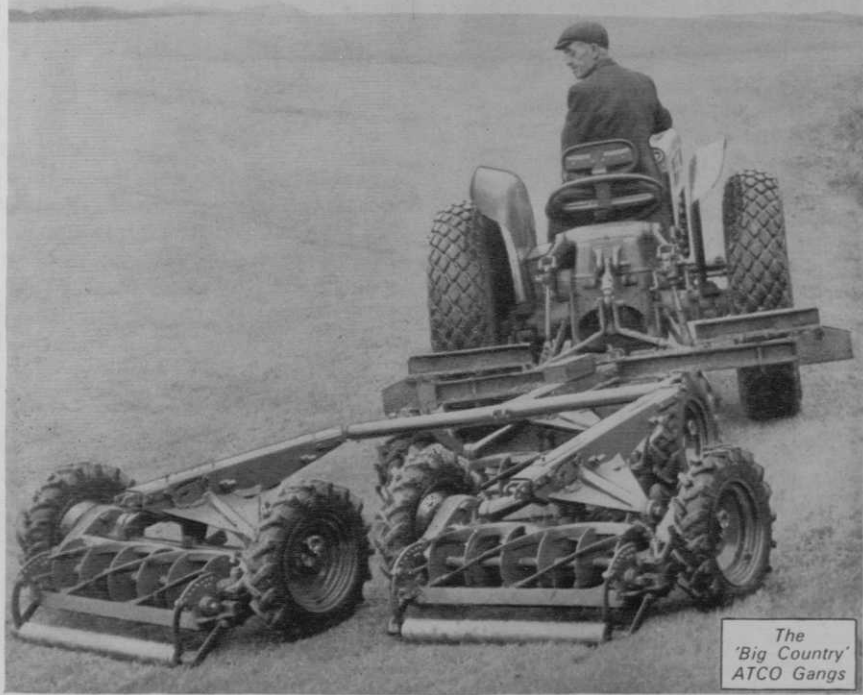
*(Continued on page 6.)*



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(Continued from page 4.)

many ounces to so much water to be applied to the square yard. This calls for care in preparation and then, even with the powder forms, a loose estimate of a square yard. I must say the roses have been co-operative.

Undulating greens present a special problem. A rainstorm will wash a powder dressing into the hollows, leaving the ridges (shaved anyway by the mowers) unfed. I think watering comes in here. No matter how light the spraying the hollows must benefit to the detriment of the rises. Further, it is unlikely that it is soft rain water. It will be argued that the ingredients of fertilisers are concocted, and this is acceptable, to feed the roots. Is it not easier for them to sink through the broken earth of a flower bed than the firm terrain on a golf course?

Another personal regret. The change wrought in the nature of courses. I belong to a generation which believed in tackling different conditions on different types of courses. Now we have fairways on heathland, and some links, that used to be found on park courses. Fairways that hold water are wormcast.

It has to be acknowledged, again in general terms, that with heavy machinery and the increased foot traffic (the explosion of golf) a good carpet of grass is desirable. The Old Course at St. Andrews for instance. And yet, there are times when one wonders if this reasoning is not as specious as

Winter Rules—allegedly invoked to save the course from being ravaged by divots—when everyone knows it is to give players better lies. How often is a crowded course to be seen from Mondays to Fridays, even when a visiting society is playing?

Members pay ever-increasing subscriptions, and are entitled to the conditions they wish. We have and shall continue to have lush fairways. When you consider the cost of machinery, the fuel for them, and the price of fertilisers, no wonder subscriptions go up.

It is no good sighing over days gone by, it is also as useless to fix the mind rigidly on the present. A glimpse forward leads to the conclusion that this desire for a strong growth of grass is going to settle the vexed question of the small or large ball. It will have to be the latter, for the same reason that the Americans use it. It sits up, instead of burying itself in a luxurious carpet.

Note: Shortly after completing this piece, I was much entertained by a discussion on T.V. arguing that fertilisers on farmland were slowly creating an arid desert. The farmers were all for putting muck on the land.

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#### ASSOCIATION VICE-CHAIRMAN

The East Midland Section have elected J. Carrick, Esq., as Vice-Chairman of the Association for the ensuing year.

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DECEMBER 17th Sheffield Section Lecture.

25th



JANUARY 5th North-West Section Lecture.  
6th Southern Section Lecture.

FEBRUARY 3rd Southern Section Lecture.  
16th East Midland Dinner Dance.

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## SITUATIONS VACANT

**HEAD GREENKEEPER WANTED** for a Suffolk Golf Course. Salary according to experience. Apply the Hon. Secretary, Rushmere Golf Club, Rushmere Heath, Ipswich, IP4 5QQ.

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**GREENKEEPER REQUIRED** to take charge of 18-hole course. Modern machinery available. Excellent opportunity for someone looking for an improvement. No accommodation, but remuneration by negotiation. Apply in confidence to the Greens Chairman, Holdsworth Golf Club Limited, Higher Levenshulme, Manchester 19,

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**UPMINSTER GOLF CLUB** require Head Greenkeeper. Experience and ability will be recognised by appropriate wages. Accommodation available.

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## **EXPERIENCED HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED**

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The Secretary,  
Reading Golf Club,  
Emmer Green,  
Reading,  
Berks.

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# **Bedlingtonshire Urban District Council**

## **APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER**

Applications are invited for the post of First Assistant Greenkeeper at the Golf Course under construction at Bedlington.

The salary will be in accordance with the Miscellaneous Grade V scale of the National Scheme of Conditions of Service, namely £1,089, rising by annual increments to £1,188, the commencing salary to be decided according to experience and qualifications.

Applications stating age, qualifications and experience together with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Clerk of the Council, Council Offices, Bedlington, not later than the 12th December, 1970.

**J. W. FIRTH,**  
*Clerk to the District Council.*

Council Offices,  
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TRACTOR OPERATIONS, LEYLAND SCOTLAND, LTD., BATHGATE, SCOTLAND.



## FIRST YEAR OF RETIREMENT

Stan Morton has now enjoyed his first year of retirement after fifty-five years of greenkeeping. He started as a boy at Camberley Heath in 1915, but the urge to join the forces took him into the Royal Marine Artillery, known as the Blue Marines. Between duties on convoys from Scapa Flow the skipper from H.M.S. Collingwood used to get him to go ashore to look for their nine-hole course. Back at Camberley Heath in 1919 women were still mowing greens. His first chance came in 1925, when his greenkeeper introduced him to A. G. Barry, Amateur Champion in 1905. He wanted the last nine holes constructed at Tidworth, a tall order for a young man of 26 years, but he made a very good course and then moved to the Biddenham course at Bedford, with his wife as stewardess. At Bedford he met Henry Longhurst, at that time only a schoolboy. They became great friends—Stan had got down to a handicap of 1—and they played a lot together. The Golf Greenkeepers Association had a very good team in those days, fielding a side of twelve at 5 handicap and below. Henry Longhurst arranged a fixture for the Greenkeepers' side against Cambridge and got Oxford to do the same. These were always very close matches, Stan's partner in all foursomes was the late Bert Berry, the best golfer the Greenkeepers' Association ever had. The match which stands out in his mind, apart from beating Henry Longhurst and his partner, was against Robert and Charles Sweeney of Oxford at Beaconsfield, never more than one hole in it and finished a halved match. One well remembered experience with Henry Longhurst was on an outing to Letch-

worth—not a very hard course for a scratch and a 1 handicap. Henry started with two threes, holed a full brassie at the long sixth for a 2, goes to the seventh tee and holed his tee shot at the short seventh—out in 29. Not surprisingly Stan was six down at the turn.

Stan was appointed to Formby Golf Club in 1934, just two years before the death of his old head greenkeeper at Camberley. After fourteen happy years at Formby, on to Royal Portrush in 1948. Portrush was looking for an English greenkeeper as there was some talk about the "Open" going to Ireland for the first time. This came about in 1951 and until 1969 was the last time an Englishman won it. The Ladies' "Open" followed in 1955. He finished his fifty-five years on golf courses and links at Old Ford Manor, near London. Since joining the Association in 1915, he has been chairman of the North-West Section, which he helped to form, also chairman of the Northern Irish Section, which he helped to get started.

He thinks it has been a grand life, rough winters at times but good summers make you forget them. He thinks the game of golf is about the best in the world to play, meeting, as he has, all sorts of people, professionals and amateurs from all over the world.

A presentation was made to him at the Old Ford Golf Club on Thursday, 5th February before the largest gathering of members seen at the Club.

"Stan is sitting one from the right in the front row of our picture, on opposite page, of the Professionals versus Greenkeepers team at Bedford in 1932.



## War Time Rules

Mr Dennis M. Craig has sent us some war-time rules of a golf club near London on which readers may like to reflect over Christmas :—

- “ 1. Players are asked to collect bomb and shrapnel splinters to save these causing damage to the mowing machines.
2. In competitions, during gunfire or while bombs are falling, players may take cover without penalty for ceasing play.
3. The positions of known delayed action bombs are marked by red flags at a reasonably, but not guaranteed, safe distance therefrom.
4. Shrapnel and/or bomb splinters on the fairways, or in bunkers within a club's length of a ball may be moved without penalty and no penalty shall be incurred if a ball is thereby caused to move accidentally.
5. A ball moved by enemy action may be replaced, or if lost or destroyed,

a ball may be dropped not nearer the hole without penalty.

6. A ball lying in a crater may be lifted and dropped not nearer the hole, preserving the line to the hole, without penalty.
7. A player whose stroke is affected by the simultaneous explosion of a bomb may play another ball from the same place. Penalty one stroke.”

Incidentally, Mr Craig's firm, R. C. Craig & Co. Ltd., at Hammersmith, have, for the past few years, been taking apprenticeship greenkeepers into their works for a two-week period during which time they are taught maintenance, service and general workshop practice.

Any club interested should contact Messrs R. C. Craig & Co. Ltd., 153 The Arches, Stamford Brook, Hammersmith, London, W.6. A small charge is made to cover expenses and accommodation, which the firm itself will arrange.

## SELF-PROPELLED MOWER FOR BANK AND FLAT WORK HAS PUBLIC WORKS DEBUT

### Full Range of Grass-Cutting Equipment Exhibited by Hayters

Hayters Ltd. of Spellbrook, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, have developed a new intermediate-sized rotary mower designed for cutting all types of grass-land areas, both flat and sloping. It was displayed on the company's stand Q32 at the Public Works Exhibition, Olympia, London (16-21 November).

The new machine, called the Hayter Osprey, is powered by a two-stroke JLO engine developing 6 b.h.p. at 3000 r.p.m.

The main frame of the mower is made of pressed steel folded for strength and rigidity. All working parts are guarded and the adjustable handlebars are made from mild steel tubing.

Drive to the rear wheels is via a worm reduction box and by final chain and sprocket set-up through a clutch mounted on the axle. There is a choice of forward speeds of 2.1 m.p.h. (3.36 k.p.h.) or 2.7 m.p.h. (4.32 k.p.h.).

When the clutch is disengaged, the mower is free to be hand-propelled.

Drive to the cutterhead is by vee belt direct from the engine.

The cutting mechanism comprises a heavy-duty bottom plate on to which are mounted four balanced cutter blades hinged to swing full circle away from obstructions. Cutting width is  $23\frac{5}{8}$  (600 mm.).

Height of cut from 1 in. (25.4 mm.) to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  (88.9 mm.) is controlled by altering two independent adjusters on the front wheels and by moving a single screw adjuster which controls the rear wheels.

The front wheels are 7 in. (177.8 mm.) by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  (37.9 mm.) rubber-tyred units and the rear wheels are 12 in. (304.8 mm.) by 3 in. (75.8 mm.) units fitted with pneumatic tyres.

Dimensions of the mower are:

Height (with handlebars fully raised) 3 ft. 3 in. (990.6 mm.); width 2 ft. 2 in. (660 mm.); length 5 ft. 5 in. (166.6 mm.); and weight 154 lb. (57.4 k.).

Recommended selling price is £147.

Also on the stand was the recently announced Condor mower. This is a 30 in. self-propelled machine for rotary

or cylinder cutting with inter-changeable rotary and cylinder verge cutting attachments, developed to meet the demand from public authorities for a versatile machine to deal with rough grass as well as overgrown verges and lawns.

One of the main features is the rear drive, which is well inset within the 30 in. cut to keep the load-carrying wheels off the uncut grass.

The mower is powered by a MAG 258 c.c. four-stroke petrol engine developing 6.2 h.p. at the governed speed of 3000 r.p.m. Fuel consumption is approximately  $2\frac{1}{3}$  pints (4.1 litres) an hour, and tank capacity is seven pints (12.3 litres).

Drive is by twin vee-belts from the engine to a bevel gear transfer box with two output shafts. One is fitted with a cone clutch and pulley providing drive to the cutting unit; the other providing vee-belt drive to a three speed and reverse gear box. Final drive is via roller chain from the gear box output-shaft to land wheels via an automotive type differential.

Maximum forward speeds are 2.15 m.p.h. (3.4 k.p.h.) in 1st gear; 3.23 m.p.h. (5.15 k.p.h.) in 2nd gear; 4.8 m.p.h. (7.7 k.p.h.) in 3rd gear; and the reverse maximum speed is 3.23 m.p.h. (5.16 k.p.h.).

The two 30 in. front end attachments are simple to fit and can be inter-changed in a matter of minutes.

The rotary attachment enables the mower to cope with a wide variety of conditions, especially when the grass areas have been seriously neglected.

The cylinder verge mower attachment, also specially designed for the Condor, incorporates a swivelling trunnion to enable it to follow ground contours to give a close cut.

The Condor's recommended selling price complete with rotary attachment is £280—or complete with cylinder verge attachment £313. The rotary attachment by itself is £60, and the cylinder verge attachment by itself is £93.



# News



from the Sections

## EAST MIDLAND

By S. Fretter

Hon. Secretary:

4 Queens Drive,  
Leicester Forest East,  
Leicester.

Chairman:  
J. CARRICK

### New Members

I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming to this Section the following greenkeepers:—

R. Spurr, 24 Lower Park Street, Ilkeston, Derby, greenkeeper of Erewash Valley Golf Club; K. Elliott, 48 Meadow Vale Crescent, Clifton Estate, Bullwell, Nottingham, greenkeeper at Wolatton Park Golf Club; A. A. Durrands, Lanscot, Willoughby Road, South Raucsesby, Sleaford, Lincs, greenkeeper at Sleaford Golf Club.

### General Meeting

At our General Meeting held at The Anchor Inn, Hathern, on Wednesday, 11th November 1970, Mr J. Carrick of Northampton Golf Club was voted as Vice-Chairman of The British Golf Greenkeepers' Association.

### Dinner-Dance

By now you will have received your form for the dinner-dance to be held at The Saracen's Head, Leicester, on Saturday, 16th February 1971. Would you please return the form to me stating whether you will be attending or not, together with your remittance for the tickets, by the 31st December 1970. If there are any tickets over after all the members have answered, these will be offered to guests. So please notify me if you would like any tickets for guests.

### Christmas Greetings

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all our members a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

## SOUTHERN

By F. W. Ford

Chairman:  
C. A. MOORE  
(Stanmore)

Hon. Secretary:  
68 Salcombe Gardens  
Mill Hill, N.W.7  
Tel: 01-959 2847

A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR TO MEMBERS OF THE  
B.G.G.A. EVERYWHERE.

### November Lecture

Over 50 members assembled at the Stirling Castle on Wednesday, 4th November, to listen to a talk by the Senior Advisory Officer of Bingley, Mr Clayton. The talk started with general hints on renovation of fairways which had suffered during drought. P.H. should be checked and if too low an application of lime may be necessary plus as much spiking and slitting as possible during the winter and a dressing of fertiliser in the spring. He noted that there had been a good deal of over-watering by clubs who had pop-ups and this had resulted in a big build up of thatch. He suggested that Rotaraking would take care of that but this was hotly disputed by some members. They claimed it was impossible to get rid of thatch whilst greens were in daily use and even if

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greens were rested while this was carried out it would be far from satisfactory.

Re tees, Mr Clayton suggested that owing to the greater amount of play these days they should be enlarged to spread the load. At the moment many courses had large areas of teeing ground to be returfed, larger tees could be rested earlier and seeded before the bad weather.

Trolley damage was also mentioned, but as the speaker said, other than putting tank traps round the approaches it seems impossible to stop some golfers from pulling trolleys along the edge of the green and ruining the approaches. Greens to be slit tined as often as possible he considered to be a must during winter.

The speaker was thanked by the chairman for a most interesting lecture and this brought the meeting to a close.

My most grateful thanks to Charles Moore, our chairman, for recording the above notes during my absence.

#### January Lecture

This will be held at the Stirling Castle at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 6th January, 1971, and the speaker will be Mr Gooding, representing Sychemical Ltd. Mr Gooding is no stranger to the Southern Section and on his last visit to us he handed out very useful leaflets on "The Use, Selection and Application of Chemicals in Turf Maintenance."

#### New Members

A warm welcome to the following new members:—

A. E. Calvert (Shooters Hill), R. Boniface, E. Chappel and R. Marchant (Royal Eastbourne), S. A. Kilby (Old Ford Manor), D. Bessey (Greenford) and J. E. Liddington (New Zealand).

#### Bereavement

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of one of our old members, Bill McKean. He collapsed and died on the eighteenth green at the South Beds on Wednesday, 4th November, and in the words of Jack Glass, a very old friend of his, "This is how he would have wished to go—not to be a burden to anyone."

His first assistant for over 25 years at South Beds, R. Booth, writes to say how much he will miss him as a head greenkeeper and a good friend and I know this is how we all feel in the Southern Section, as indeed all who knew him in the B.G.G.A.

One memory of Bill McKean which will stay with me and a lot of members for a long time was seeing him in full Highland dress complete with bagpipes piping us all in to the annual dinner at Dulwich and Sydenham in 1968.

The club was well represented at the crematorium and the Southern Section representative was Bob Plain, who also made the necessary wreath arrangements. Our grateful thanks to you, Bob. Parker & Sons were represented by Dick Elliot.

#### Supers

On Sunday, 8th November, a party of 15 American and Canadian members of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of New England flew into London en route for Scotland and Ireland and were welcomed by your chairman and myself at the Charing Cross Hotel.

A very pleasant hour followed in which we exchanged journals and news letters, etc., and talked American, Canadian and English greenkeeping shop.

Apart from visiting the beauty spots of the British Isles, the main object of their tour was to inspect and possibly play English, Scottish and Irish golf courses.

When I asked Leon St. Pierre, their business manager, how the tour had originated, he said it all began two years ago when John Campbell visited the States and invited them over. Who knows a party of British golf greenkeepers may be touring the American golf courses one day!

After sightseeing in London the following day and visiting a neighbouring golf course, their intention was to travel by coach to Scotland, stopping at Coventry Cathedral and York.

At St. Andrews they were to be guests of John Campbell for three days and then a tour of Ireland to complete the trip.

## SOUTH COAST

By Tom Graham

Chairman :  
P. MALIA  
(Lee-on-Solent)

Hon. Secretary:  
"Waverley,"  
West Lane,  
Hayling Island,  
Hants.

Christmas Greetings to all members of the Association from the South Coast Section.

## WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:  
M. GEDDES,  
23 Fenton Place,  
Porthcawl, Glamorgan.

Hon. Secretary:  
36 Clase Road,  
Morriston,  
Swansea, Glam.

#### Meetings

The meetings which were suggested at the Annual General Meeting, i.e. the winter meeting and the friendly meeting with the South-West Section, were discussed at our Committee Meeting and it was decided that it would be impracticable to hold them. Instead it was agreed to try and arrange a trip to the Motpur Park Exhibition in the autumn.

#### Information

One thing I would like members to do if they want news of what is going on in the Association is to write to me direct. It seems there is a lot of gossip going on about what is not being done and what ought to

be done and to save you any trouble in the future just drop me a line and I will do my best to give you the answer. Thank you.

#### Greetings

Now that the festive season is near and my last chance to express the members' feelings to the Association members — we wish you all a very Happy Xmas and Prosperous New Year. Good Luck to you all.

#### Subscriptions

ALL members who have not paid up their subs before the 1st January will have their journals stopped as it is costing us money, so please pay up immediately.

## SHEFFIELD

By H. Gillespie

Chairman:  
G. HERRINGTON  
(Lindrick)

Hon. Secretary:  
63 Langsett Avenue,  
Sheffield, S6 4AA.

#### Lecture

The attendance at our first lecture of the winter, given by Mr D. P. Horner of Hayter Ltd. and Fernco Ltd., on 15th October at the Hare and Hounds, Nursery Street, Sheffield, was not as well attended as had been the trend during the 1969 winter series. Please make the effort and support the lecturers who give up their evenings for our benefit.

The lecturer on Thursday, 15th January, 1971, is Mr D. N. H. Hicken of David Miln (Seedsman), Chester, and the subject is "Top Dressing."

#### Congratulations

Congratulations to John Waddoups, who has left Abbeylea G.C. to take charge at Holme Hall G.C., Scunthorpe. Best of luck in your new venture, John.

#### New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Section and hope their association will be a long and happy one:—R. Carr (Scunthorpe G.C.), A. C. Pearson and R. Cummins (Phoenix G.C.).

#### Greetings

On behalf of the Sheffield Section members may I wish the Association officials and all our greenkeeping friends the compliments of the season.

## NORTH-EAST

By G. Jeffries

Chairman:  
J. SIMPSON

Hon. Secretary:  
55 Brackenfield Road,  
Framwell Gate Moor, Durham.

#### In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that I inform members of the death of Mr D. Earsman, for many years secretary and treasurer of our Section until July 1969. Dave, who died suddenly on Wednesday, 28th October, was a very well known and respected member of the Section.

He had been a member of the Association for a great number of years and always had the welfare of his fellow members at heart. We will miss Dave very much indeed at our future meetings, particularly as he attended these in all weathers,

I have no doubt in my mind that greenkeeping has lost greatly by his passing.

On behalf of all members of the North-East Section, I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs Earsman and his daughter Elizabeth in their great loss.

#### Greetings

On behalf of the members of the North-East Section, may I take this opportunity to wish all members of the Association, and the golf clubs and firms who kindly support us throughout the year, a happy Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

## NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:  
T. BRENNAN  
(Royal Birkdale)

Hon. Secretary:  
Horrobin Cottage,  
Old Links Golf Club,  
Montserrat, Bolton, Lancs.

#### Annual Trip

Our sincere thanks are due to the directors and staff of Charles H. Pugh Ltd. for the very warm welcome they extended to us on

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the occasion of our visit to their Birmingham factory on 10th November, for their very generous hospitality and their friendly and patient approach in answering all the questions put to them during a very pleasant and instructive day. Thank you, gentlemen, and I hope that we may visit your works again in the future. Thirty of our members made the trip and each one of them assured me that he had had a really good day, and that, gentlemen, made it all worthwhile for me.

#### Lectures

The December talk will be given by Mr Wyatt of H. Pattison Ltd. on 7th December. Venue as for all this winter series will be the Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester, at 7.30 p.m. The January talk will be by a member of Chipman Chemical Co. Ltd. on Tuesday, 5th January.

The first of this season's talks was a joint affair on 26th October and given by Mr H. Ratcliff of Rigby Taylors Ltd. and Mr G. Smythe of May & Baker Ltd. This was given to a really full house, thirty-six of our members being present. Slides were shown and a very interesting talk given by both gentlemen was greatly appreciated by the members present.

#### New Members

We extend a very warm welcome to the following new members and hope their association with the section will be long and happy.

J. Stewart (Woolton G.C.), M. C. Owen (Lee Park G.C.), R. Parry (Werneth G.C.), and Honorary Member W. Burrows.

## NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:  
A. ROBERTSHAW

Hon. Secretary:  
8 Goit Stock Terr., Harden,  
Bingley, Yorks.

#### Autumn Tournament

Through the courtesy of the club committee we paid our first visit to the Wetherby Golf Club on Thursday, 15th October, on the occasion of our annual autumn tournament. Fifty members took part in the event, and as on most occasions we were favoured by ideal weather conditions.

Our thanks are due to all the officials and members of the staff for their co-operation in making a most enjoyable outing. Following tea the prizes were presented by the club captain and a vote of thanks by Mr A. Robertshaw was heartily endorsed by members. We also thank all local golf clubs who kindly donated to our prize fund.

#### Results

Scratch Prize—C. Martin (Fulford), 79.  
First Division—1st, K. Gallagher (Sandmoor), 79-12-67; 2nd, C. Geddes (Moor Allerton), 86-15-71; 3rd, A. Robertshaw (Ilkley), 81-9-72.

Second Division—1st, D. Todd (Wetherby), 88-24-64; 2nd, R. Lambert (Wetherby), 90-24-66; 3rd, C. Garnett (West Bradford), 87-18-79.

Veteran Prize—S. Smith, 71.

#### Seasonal Greetings

As these will be the last notes for 1970, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all members of the Association the happiest of Christmases and all the best for the coming year.

#### New Members

We welcome to the Section the following new members:—

E. Dillon (Garforth G.C.), P. T. Murphy (ShIPLEY G.C.), J. Woodward (Castletown Links, Isle of Man).

#### November Meeting

The first meeting of the winter session was held at Horsforth Golf Club on Wednesday, 4th November. This took the form of an "Open Discussion" and the good number of members present were able to air their views on a whole range of subjects under the chairmanship of Mr A. Robertshaw.

## MIDLAND

By R. Goodwin

Chairman:  
G. HART  
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:  
4 Burton Old Road,  
Streethay, Lichfield,  
Staffs.

#### Cecil Jones

Members will be sorry to hear that Cecil Jones passed away on Wednesday, 14th October, aged 68. Cecil had worked for the Little Aston Golf Club for over 50 years. Much of his spare time was spent writing articles about Little Aston, and in particular, the wild life to be found on the course. He was highly thought of by all fellow greenkeepers who knew him for his friendly outlook and love of greenkeeping.

The funeral service on 19th October was attended by the President, Mr Bretherton, and seven members from the Midland Section.

#### Autumn Lecture

An excellent talk was given by Mr Bob Morris, Senior Turf Horticulturist of Fisons Levington Research Station, at the Handsworth Golf Club on Monday, 19th October.

It was good to see a fine turnout on this occasion—approximately 50 members from all parts of the Midlands—some coming from as far away as Oswestry and Llanymynech, a round trip of 140 miles.

Mr Morris's subject for the afternoon was "Turf Management on Golf Courses," with details on the use of fertilisers, top dressings and spray chemicals. He also emphasised the importance of the top soils structure and methods of improving soils for the benefit of fine turf. He also showed the film "Keep on the Grass," and finally a great number of slides showing weeds found in turf and

explained the methods of eradication of these species.

After a non-stop marathon lasting some three hours, Mr Morris answered a number of questions put to him by greenkeepers.

It was good to see so many young members at the lecture and I am sure they benefited from the excellent way in which Mr Morris put forward so many points of turf maintenance.

Our thanks to Mr Morris for his excellent talk, also to the captain and committee of Handsworth Golf Club for allowing us the use of the clubhouse, and also to Vic Smith, who worked so hard throughout to ensure the success of the lecture.

#### Seasonal Greetings

I would like to extend my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to our President, Vice-President, members of the trade and fellow greenkeepers everywhere.

## SOUTH-WEST

By **A. Cockfield**

*Hon. Secretary:*  
10 Clarence Terrace,  
Claverton Down, Bath.

*Chairman:*  
L. MILLAR

#### Greetings

The South-West Section send best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to our President, Vice-Presidents, to all members of the Association, not forgetting the numerous golf clubs and various trades that so generously support us throughout the year.

#### George Gilbert

Many old greenkeepers will, I am sure, be interested to hear that G. Gilbert of Warminster G.C. has gone into semi-retirement. George has spent a lifetime at Warminster and has for many years been a respected member of the golfing public and the Association. I believe he is the only member from the South-West to win the Greenkeepers' Challenge Cup (1937). We all wish him many happy years and good health in his retirement.

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## TRADE NEWS

### PROMOTION FOR FLYMO REGIONAL MANAGER

Mr Jack Cogan, who has been a Regional Manager for Flymo Limited of Watford for the past six years, has been promoted to the new appointment of Trade Representative within the company's Institutional Division, which promotes the wide range of high work-rate grass-cutting equipment.

Mainly responsible for consumer division activities in North Wales, Cheshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, Mr Cogan will now maintain close contact with his firm's Institutional distributors and end-users throughout the United Kingdom.

Joining Flymo Limited after 14 years with the J.A.P. and Villiers Engine Companies, Mr Cogan's new appointment is seen as an endorsement of the increasing importance of the Institutional Division with the company's continuing expansion.

Mr Cogan is already well introduced to greenkeepers as a member of the Northern Section of the British Greenkeepers' Association for the past six years. He has been involved in lectures to horticultural classes at a number of technical colleges.

Mr L. R. Dowsett, managing director of the Steetley Co. Ltd., has joined the board of BERK Ltd. in place of Mr P. R. Grossey, who has resigned.

Mr Cyril Thomson has been appointed by BIRMID QUALCAST (HOME & GARDEN EQUIPMENT) LTD. to undertake all the Public Relations work involved in respect of the products manufactured by the constituent companies of Home & Garden Equipment Division. He will be actively concerned with activities for Qualcast, Suffolk, ATCO together with Qualcast (Fleetway) and Lloyds Ladders.

#### COURSE COINCIDENCE

On a London Golf course in 1957, Edward Chapman, attorney, scored a hole-in-one on the sixth. The same day on the same course, another Edward Chapman — this one an actor — shot a hole-in-one on the eighth. They had never met.



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