

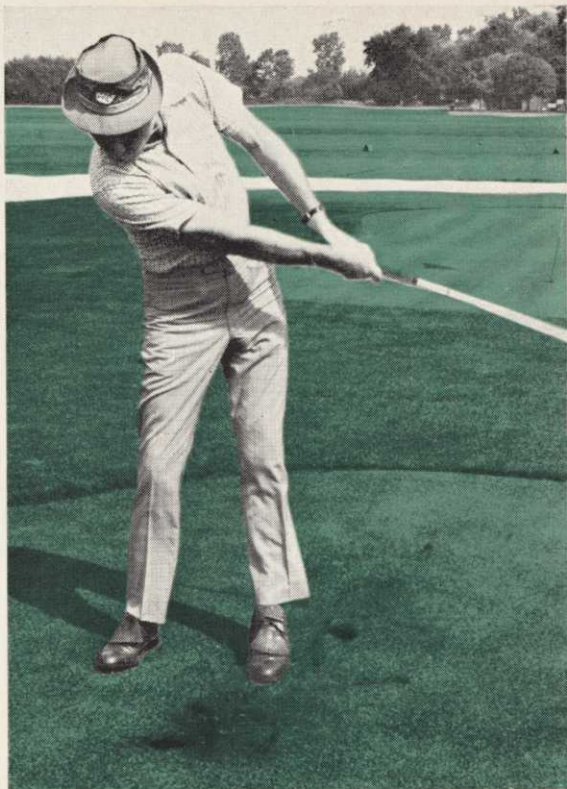
The British Golf Greenkeeper



JUNE 1972

5p

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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE

FOUNDED 1912

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JUNE 1972

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Tee Shots

The Spanish Open Championship was played at Pals, province of Gerona, this year. The course is mostly in pine trees, just back from the beach. Some of the early fairways are narrow and occasioned the comment – 'No question of whether to play the big ball or the small ball here. The big one wouldn't fit'.

The new Portsmouth municipal course on Portsdown Hill was opened on the 13th May. The site provides magnificent views over the harbour as well as inland to the north. Municipal courses continue to take the lead in new construction – Swindon, Worsley, Nelson, Cheshunt, Bedford, Sheffield, Bebington, all have plans afoot or work going on.

Work on Wellingborough Golf Club's new 18 hole course has just begun. Messrs. Spearman Construction Limited of Epping are the contractors. The present 9 hole course will disappear under houses in three years time.

Portmarnock's new 9 holes are looking about ready for play, now under the able care of John Temple, who has also been in charge of the construction over the past five years. Play is expected to start in June. There is also a new 9 holes at Howth Castle not far away. The castle is famous in May and June for its rhododendrons.

The Editor.



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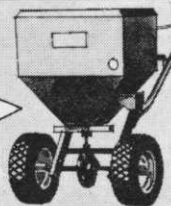
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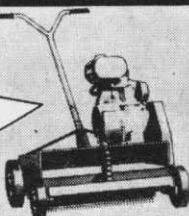
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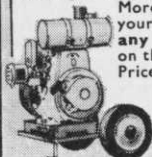
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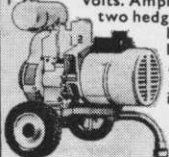
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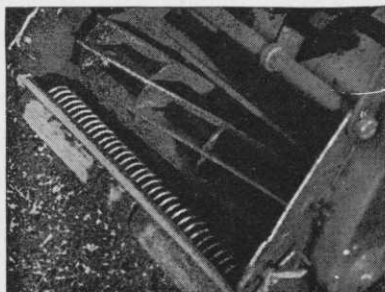
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Pop up Watering Systems

by

G. Barnes, *Cameron Irrigation Company Ltd.*

The ultimate in golf course watering is obviously a fully automatic pop-up sprinkler system, where a watering programme is set up upon a controller, and watering of the greens and/or tees is carried out automatically throughout the night, but unless the system has been properly designed, and the right output sprinklers have been installed around the greens to ensure adequate coverage, much of the advantages of the system are lost.

In designing pop-up systems, Cameron's always ensure that adequate overlap is obtained from the sprinklers to ensure that the centre of the green is always sufficiently watered. This may seem an obvious comment to make, but nevertheless systems are installed, particularly if the golf club tries to install one 'on the cheap' where this point has not been fully appreciated, the result of which is brown patches appearing in the centre of the green during prolonged dry weather.

Wind will also affect the distribution from the sprinklers, and therefore it is an advantage to have a fairly heavy precipitation from the sprinkler which can help to overcome the force of the wind. The type of sprinkler installed by this company meets all these requirements, and in addition is extremely robust and virtually vandal proof.

The body is made of galvanised steel, as well as the lid, which in addition has a thick rubber top. The top rises under water pressure, against a very strong return spring so that when the water is turned off the spring retracts the sprinkler making it very difficult to prise open when not under pressure.

Quite often when clubs have an automatic system installed, they overlook the fact that they are going to need water around the course for purposes other than automatic sprinkling, therefore when an automatic system is installed it is essential to include some hand watering points on the system to allow water to be drawn off for any other purpose. Cameron designed systems always include a hand watering point at the rear of each green, in addition to the electric control valve.

Automatic control

Automatic operation of a system is achieved by having a solenoid valve at each green with wires leading back to a control panel, situated at some convenient position on the course, usually in the pumphouse. A watering programme is then set up on the controller, and the solenoid valves open in sequence according to the length of time set up on the control panel.

Cameron control panels can be set to water each green for a different period of time, if required, from a minimum of 3 minutes, to a maximum of 30 minutes. It is also possible to have an alternative time setting, if this does not suit the clubs requirements. In addition to opening and closing the solenoid valves, the control panel automatically starts the pump at the commencement of the irrigation cycle, and then automatically turns the pump off at the end of the cycle.

If a fairly heavy precipitation sprinkler has been installed around the greens, it is also possible to remove dew from the greens in the morning, by giving say 30 seconds sprinkling per green. Provision for this to be done entirely automatically, can also be made as an optional extra on all Cameron control panels.

Portable sprinklers

If a club cannot afford to install an automatic watering system, and still has to rely on portable sprinkling of greens and tees, it is well to bear in mind that there are now available larger output sprinklers, which will require less moves to complete the watering programme. The LKA30/2F sprinkler is one of these, and can water an average size golf green from one central position, and yet requires no more than 400g.p.h. flow rate. This sprinkler is now used on many golf courses, and is a big improvement on the smaller output garden type sprinkler.

It is also possible to have a semi-automatic watering system utilising these sprinklers, at a fraction of the cost of a fully automatic pop-up system.

The course has to have electric control cable laid around it and a control panel and solenoid valve installed. After this however, all that is necessary is for 18 such sprinklers to be placed in the centre of each green last thing at night, and the control panel set to commence watering operations. Each sprinkler will then come on automatically in turn and water the greens. In the morning the ground staff remove the sprinklers from the green and store them at some convenient point,

ready to put out the next night. A system like this can be installed for around £1500, as against an average cost of around £8000 for a fully automatic pop-up system.

Fairways watering

Watering of selected areas of the fairways is now becoming more popular in this country and although on overseas courses pop-up sprinklers are installed to do this job, in this country it is more usual to use an above ground sprinkler.

Again a large output sprinkler is very useful for this purpose, and the most suitable one from the Cameron range is the ZK30WS. This has a cast distance of 75ft. and requires a flow rate of approximately 1000 g.p.h.

Water when you want it

by

Watermation Limited of Godalming

Watermation was founded 2 years ago to provide a complete design and installation service for automatic 'pop-up' water systems for all turf areas with the main concentration being the designs for golf green watering. This Company deals with all matters concerning the project from the surveying of the Golf Course, negotiations with electricity and water boards right through to the complete installation. Their technical advice is freely available to all with watering problems. It is very important if your Club is considering improvements to its water system or even the installation of water to the greens for the first time, that such a firm is consulted even if it is only intended to install a manual watering system at this stage. Eventually most clubs will have automatic systems and therefore the pipework network should be installed to meet this future requirement.

Watermation systems for greens watering utilise commercial type 'Pop-up' sprinklers of very robust construction being manufactured from bronze and cast-iron. These sprinklers are mounted flush in the turf around the periphery of the green and spray water on to the green at night time under automatic control from a centrally mounted programmer. This programmer can be erected in any convenient position for the greenkeeper's use and will enable him to set up a watering cycle to completely suit the characteristics of the golf course, it having independent timing from 0-60 minutes for each green. In addition to the automatic control which is operated by a time clock incorporating both a time and calendar wheel, there is a patented rainstat which automatically turns off the sprinkler system when it rains and then permits the controller to commence normal operation when the turf needs water without any resetting.

SPORTS TURF RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The 21st A.G.M. of The Sports Turf Research Institute was held at Bingley on Monday, 24th April under the Chairmanship of Mr. Alan Sowden.

In its reference to research during the past year, the annual report (which was adopted) points out that the Institute is the acknowledged merit testing centre for amenity grass varieties in the U.K., and that currently over 200 varieties are in trials. The flow of new material is all the while increasing. In spite of this, however, and the fact that amenity grasses account for 33% of the value of grass seed used in the U.K., there is still no official recognition of, or support for, this work. Equally, there is increasing awareness on all sides of the need to develop mixtures for hard wear under sports conditions and for low maintenance in general amenity areas. The Institute has plans for extending its work on these aspects and developing extension trials on other areas, but lack of staff and financial resources prevent much of this widely needed research from being undertaken.

The Director also reported that, at the suggestion of seedsmen representing some of the main turfgrass breeders, the Institute is forming a Turfgrass Trials Committee, with strong represen-

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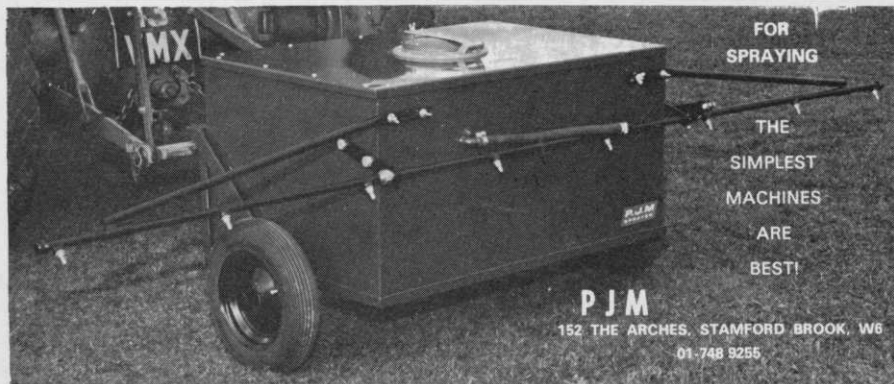


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tation from users of amenity grasses, as well as from the seed trade. It is hoped that the new Committee, for which invitations have already been sent out, will help the Institute in making its research policy as effective and valuable as possible.

Other research work included trials with fungicides and herbicides, the development of techniques for testing fungicides under controlled conditions, investigations into some aspects of disease resistance, the control of annual meadow grass and studies of soil permeability.

The advisory service continued to operate for the benefit of subscribing sports clubs, golf clubs, schools and parks departments, etc. and there was an increase of 5% in the number of advisory visits made during 1971.

A total of 128 greenkeepers and groundsmen, etc. attended instructional courses held in spring and autumn.

Financially, the Institute, which is a non-profit organisation, usually manages to break even, more or less – during 1971 there was a deficit of £348.

Automatic Golf Course Watering

by

Wright Rain

What are Pop-up sprinklers?

Pop-up sprinklers provide the most sophisticated labour saving and precise means available for the planned irrigation of grass playing surfaces.

Irrigation systems can be designed to apply appropriate amounts of water for varying soil conditions to any size or shape of area by using the right sprinklers at the right intervals.

Precision watering is carried out at night when playing surfaces are not in use, transpiration losses are low and wind-drift is reduced.

Most Toro pop-up sprinklers are gear driven rotary models. Some may be adjusted to water virtually any part of a circle, whilst others are pre-set to cover a full, three-quarter, half or quarter circle.

The Toro range embraces sprinklers to cover radii from 8ft. to 155ft., operating at pressures from 25 to 100lbs./sq. in. and applying from 0.25in. to 0.57in. of water per hour.

New additions to the already comprehensive range are the 620 and 640 series.

Automatic control

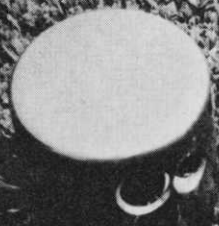
The 'brain' of this type of system is an automatic sequence controller. A programme of automatic watering is set on this unit and can be varied at any time in a matter of seconds.

The time the watering sequence is to commence is set up on the controller for the late evening – after the last player has reached the 19th! Whilst it is usual for the programme to be set for nightly watering, days can be omitted from the watering sequence to provide watering every other night if required, every third or fourth night, once a week or even once a fortnight.

The sequence controller starts and stops the electric pump automatically, as well as opening and closing the solenoid control valves. Each green has its own solenoid valve installed in an underground hydrant box which is usually situated at the rear of the green. After some experience with the system the head greenkeeper soon learns the length of watering time required for each individual green and sets the controller accordingly.

When the installation is completed and brought into operation, the soil is brought to 'field capacity' as soon as possible, i.e. moist from the surface down to the sub-soil. Thereafter the system is used to apply only sufficient water to make up for the moisture loss daily. This 'topping up' process therefore requires only a short application of water at a slow rate every night. Moisture loss due to evaporation is negligible as watering is carried out during the hours of darkness.

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Wright Rain

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*Mole ploughing supply pipe around a green. Note the negligible disturbance of the turf.
Photograph: Wright Rain Limited*

Installation

The days of opening and backfilling trenches have passed and instead the underground water main together with the electric control cable are now installed by a specially developed mole-ploughing technique. This includes the piping around each green as well as the general water supply mains over the course.

Rigid P.V.C. pipe is used for the water mains. It is non-corrosive and is resistant to attack by all soil acids. It has an indefinite life and the efficiency of the system will not be impaired by reduced water pressure due to closing up of the bore in the pipes by a rust deposit which eventually occurs in ferrous pipelines. On average, installations are completed in about four weeks in good weather conditions.

Whilst most golf courses in the U.K. have been installed with a system for watering the greens only, certain variations have been carried out. Apart from the addition of tee watering, possibly the most notable is a permanently installed 'pop-up' sprinkler on the approach apron to the green. The sprinkler is of the full-circle spray coverage type and is installed about 40 feet in front of the green.

On some courses, fairways are also watered. Automatically controlled sprinklers can be used for watering the fairways and a number of overseas golf courses have been so equipped.

With more and more golf clubs availing themselves of permanently installed automatically-controlled watering systems, the trend has been set. Beyond doubt the initial capital cost of this type of installation on a golf course is justified by the subsequent overall improvement to the course.

The new Atco Groundsman. A cut above other mowers.

Atco introduce two new models to their range of professional mowers. The 28" and 34" Groundsman.

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Both have a 12 volt electric self-starter, battery and automatic charging system as a standard fitment. They can be power driven with the cutters stationary by operating a cutter release clutch.

What's more, either machine may be used with or without the optional standard Atco trailer seat.

Another feature is the continuous chrome tubular handle specially designed for added manoeuvrability when turning.

It can be adjusted quickly to suit individual operator heights by means of an instant clamping lever.

There's a new 'swing over' type glass fibre grass box. It is mounted on tubular steel support arms and its lower section is recessed so it can be used with swivel front rollers.

Then there's a large capacity fuel tank which holds one gallon of petrol.

It takes one professional to recognise another. Is it any wonder then that Atco mowers are used on some of the most famous stretches of turf in this country.

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Secretary's Notes

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1973

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Every year the G.C.S.A.A. holds a Conference with four days of lectures, discussions and meetings, plus an exhibition of machinery and materials.

Next year the G.C.S.A.A. meeting will be in Boston in early January. There is a scheme afoot to get a minimum of 30 British Greenkeepers over to Boston to see how things tick on that side of the Atlantic. The idea was hatched by Aer Lingus who will take you there, sleep you at a standard hotel and bring you back for approximately £89. There will be some meals and your local travel to add to the bill, but it looks a good bargain.

I have some names down already, and would like to add some more. Please write quickly to reserve a place. There is no reason why you should not bring your wife. You will be away from Wednesday morning to Sunday morning.

C. H. DIX

1972 Annual Tournament

ST. ANNES OLD LINKS ST. ANNES-ON-SEA LANCS.

14th, 15th, 16th August

Programme

14th	am	18 Hole Stapleford Competition
	2.30 pm	Annual General Meeting
15th		36 Hole Scratch Cup and Prize
		36 Hole Senior Division Handicap
		36 Hole Junior Division Handicap
		18 Hole Coming of Age Cup
16th	am	18 Hole Medal Competition
	3.00 pm	Prize Presentation
	7.30 pm	Diamond Jubilee Dinner (<i>see over page</i>)

ENTRY FORM

(Block letters Please)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Club..... S.S.S.....

Section.....

Handicap.....

Tick Box if eligible for **Coming of Age Cup** (*Age 60 and over*)

Tick Box if requiring Caddy Car

Entries close 30th June 1971

Please send me..... Tickets for Dinner. Remittance enclosed £.....
(*see over page*)

DIAMOND JUBILEE DINNER

The Association will celebrate its sixtieth anniversary at the Annual Tournament in August.

The Executive Committee has decided to mark the occasion by a dinner to be held in the Baronial Hall of the Blackpool Tower on Wednesday, 16th August, at 7.30 p.m., for guests, members and their ladies.

Early application is advised to ensure reservations.

The cost for the dinner will be £1.75 per head.

Please apply early for tickets and enclose your remittance.

This is a unique occasion in the history of the Association, and indeed of golf. Don't miss it.

Hon. Secretary,
C. H. DIX.

Preparing an Annual Budget

Budget preparation and presentation time is a critical period during the golf course superintendent's year. It sets the stage for the golf course maintenance programme for the year to come.

In planning the spending to be done to maintain and improve the course for which he is responsible, the superintendent should be realistic, tailor the budget to fit the needs of his course, and foresee as many expenses as possible. He should take into account the rising costs of labour, equipment and supplies. He must have adequate figures and they must be correct. He cannot estimate so cheaply that he is forced to do poor work.

The superintendent can learn from colleagues who have dealt successfully with budgets. For this reason, *THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT* presents the following articles, which are based on the experiences of two superintendents, one of a private course and the other of a public course. In the final analysis, however, each superintendent needs to tailor his budget according (1) to his course's topography, climatic location and other local conditions, and (2) to the wishes of those who pay the bills.

I. For a Private Golf Course

by

Richard W. Malpass, Superintendent Riverside Golf and Country Club Portland, Oregon

The preparation of an annual operating budget can be approached with confidence, particularly if records of past years' operations are systematically available for reference.

Expenditure records

I have made it a practice to keep a record of monthly or quarterly expenditures, which are compiled into reports for the green committee. Purchase orders become records of the items purchased, date acquired, from whom purchased and the price. The purchases are then categorised as to whether they are administrative, course operations, supplies, etc.

The report given the green committee lists both the amount budgeted for each category for the year and the actual amounts spent to date for the budgeted items. If desired, percentage figures can also be given on the amounts spent or remaining for the year.

Labour cost records

Labour costs are derived from time cards kept in my office. A time clock is utilised to record days and hours worked by each employee. These cards are submitted twice monthly to the accounting office for determination of wages due.

For my own information, I request a further breakdown of labour by having each employee fill out a daily breakdown of hours spent at various jobs performed during the day. This sheet has enough space to list an entire month's labour record for each employee, thus eliminating the task of my having to transfer daily time records to a summary sheet. Totals on the monthly sheets can then be summarised in a report that lists the number of hours spent on all work performed on the golf course.

In an additional step, a cost analysis can be made on each task. Such an analysis can be particularly useful when involved in new construction. Costs of such construction can not only be made a matter of record for future reference, but it can also be separated from the cost of normal operation of the golf course. I do not feel that such new construction should be charged against a normal operating budget.

Foreseeing costs

With a good record of past operations on hand, drawing up a budget for the coming year becomes a relatively easy task. In preparing the budget, the superintendent proceeds on the premise that the degree of maintenance desired by the membership will be continued or improved. The budget will then reflect expected costs of operating the course for the new year.

The wise superintendent will also take into account the insidious effects of the inflation that has been taking place for a number of years. It is virtually certain that labour and materials costs will continue to rise. This is a trend of the times, and nothing that I can see would make it appear that there will be any change. Your green committee and board of directors should be made aware of this when examining the new budget.

My practice has been to submit a final report of previous years' expenditures along with a pro-

posed budget for the new fiscal year. Once it has familiarised itself with past operational costs, the green committee is in a position to make an intelligent appraisal of the proposed budget for the new year. A separate capital expenditures budget is submitted with costs of proposed acquisitions of equipment and justification for such purchases. After the budget has been adopted, with any changes, by the green committee, it goes to the board of directors for final action.

A final projection of expenditures with expected outlays for each coming month of the fiscal year is then prepared for the accountant and the board. Expenses are summarised in several general categories: labour, repairs, supplies, electricity (for irrigation and for removal of excess water from our course), gas, oil and sundry expenses. Thus the accountant may anticipate the amount of funds required each month for golf course maintenance. (See example below).

I once had a neighbour who repeatedly said, 'Good fences make good neighbours'. To paraphrase that old maxim: Good records make for a confident superintendent, a satisfied green committee and board of directors, and happy accountants and managers.

1970-71 Budget Projections and Actual Expenditures

OCTOBER	Projected	Actual	JANUARY	Projected	Actual
Labour	\$5000.00	\$4828.23	Labour	\$3800.00	\$3429.00
Gas, oil	150.00	294.00	Gas, oil	100.00	38.00
Heat	25.00	4.00	Heat	70.00	56.00
Elec.	200.00	199.00	Elec.	90.00	118.00
Supplies	500.00	457.00	Supplies	120.00	119.00
Tel.	25.00	30.00	Tel.	20.00	21.00
Repairs	220.00	458.00	Repairs	200.00	185.00
Sundry	200.00	164.00	Sundry	100.00	359.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	6320.00	6434.00		4500.00	4325.00

NOVEMBER	Projected	Actual
Labour	\$4500.00	\$4115.31
Gas, oil	150.00	211.00
Heat	35.00	32.00
Elec.	100.00	168.00
Supplies	300.00	260.00
Tel.	25.00	21.00
Repairs	200.00	255.00
Sundry	100.00	43.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5410.00	5105.00

5-Month Period

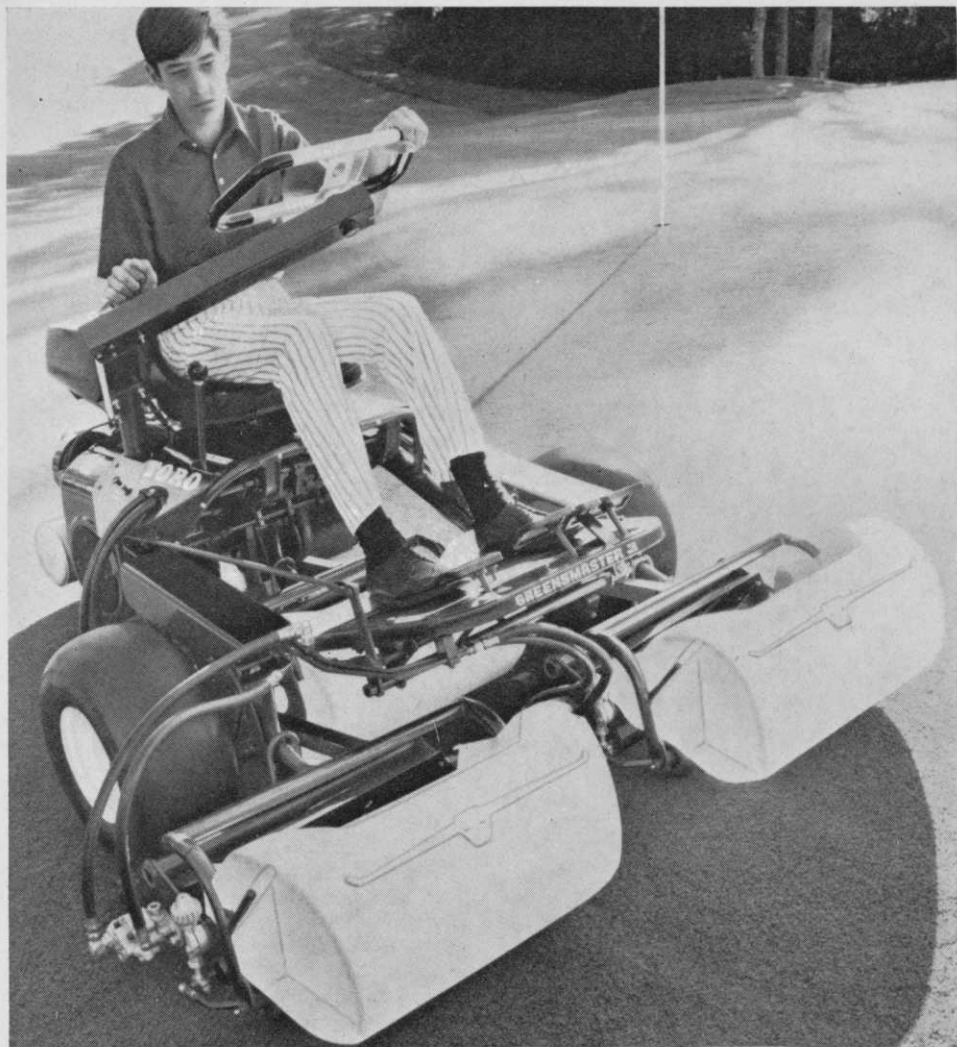
Projected	Actual
\$28,880.00	\$27,523.00

DECEMBER	Projected	Actual	SEPTEMBER	Projected	Actual
Labour	\$4400.00	\$4018.00	Labour	\$5400.00	\$5182.00
Gas, oil	0.00	0.00	Gas, oil	100.00	215.00
Heat	35.00	49.00	Heat	15.00	4.00
Elec.	100.00	57.00	Elec.	350.00	302.00
Supplies	250.00	124.00	Supplies	1200.00	630.00
Tel.	25.00	21.00	Tel.	25.00	26.00
Repairs	200.00	299.00	Repairs	200.00	486.00
Sundry	100.00	172.00	Sundry	250.00	74.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	5110.00	4740.00		7540.00	6919.00

*Al's labour not included in these total figures.

Was not sure when this was prepared whether September was in this fiscal year, so I have included it for comparison. During the months of September through January, a total of \$3154.31 labour of my crew was performed on new construction and should not properly be charged to a maintenance budget.

With acknowledgements to the Golf Superintendent



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Faster from green to green because the operator rides at 7 mph.

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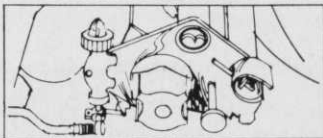
Faster because operator controls are well marked and conveniently placed. A single foot-control can raise and lower cutting units simultaneously.

Faster because it has 3 free-floating cutting units with 3 oversize grass baskets.

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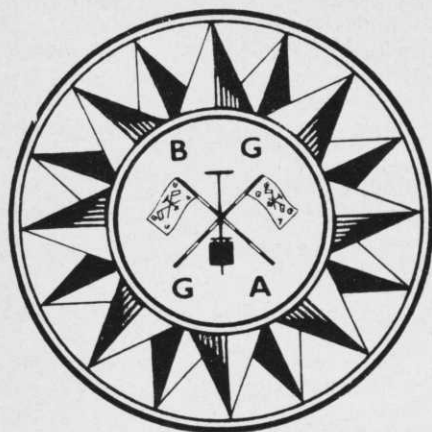
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For further information, please contact
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News



from the Sections

Special occasions

- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| May | 2 | Sheffield Section President's Trophy and AGM |
| | 3 | Southern Section Spring Tournament |
| | 18 | North West Section Spring Tournament |
| | 24 | Midland Section Spring Tournament |
| June | 7 | East Midland Spring Tournament |
| | 12 | Northern Section President's Prize Tournament |
| | 21 | Southern Section AGM |
| | 27 | Welsh Section Summer Tournament |
| July | 27 | East Midland Presidents v. Captains Match |
| Aug. | 14 | } Annual Tournament |
| | 15 | |
| | 16 | |
| Sept. | 12 | } Institute of Groundsmanship |
| | 13 | |
| | 14 | |
| | 19 | Midland Section Autumn Tournament |

NORTHERN

President:
W. MOUNTAIN

By Walter Heels
Hon. Secretary:
7 Teintergate Close,
Knaresborough,
Yorkshire, HG5 9BJ

Subscriptions

Would members please note that Subscriptions are now due.

President's prize

The President's Prize Tournament will take place at Cleveland Golf Club Redcar, Yorks., on the 12th June 1972. All members will be notified.

EAST MIDLAND

Chairman:
J. CARRICK

By S. Fretter
Hon. Secretary:
4 Queens Drive,
Leicester Forest East,
Leicester

Quiz on greenkeeping

A successful general knowledge and greenkeeping quiz was held at the Cricket Ground Hotel, Leicester on Monday 27th March 1972. The quiz master was our President Mr. Roy Bailey. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Subscriptions

Would you please note that your subscriptions for the year 1972-73 are now due, and it would be appreciated if you would forward these as soon as possible.

Presidents versus Captains Golf Match

The above match will be held at Rothley Park Golf Club on Wednesday 26th July 1972 at 4.0pm. Details of this will be forwarded to you.

New Vice President

I would like to welcome to this section a new Vice President Mr. G. Bean, of 55 Westcotes Drive, Leicester.

WELSH

Chairman:
M. GEDDES

By J. Rees
Hon. Secretary:
Neath Golf Club,
Cadoxten, Neath, Glamorgan

Summer Tournament

Our Summer Tournament will be held at Southerdown Golf Club on 27th June 1972. This will be a joint venture between Greenkeepers and Secretaries, eighteen holes being played in the morning and our Annual General Meeting held in the afternoon. The prizes will be presented in the evening at a dinner given by the Glamorgan Golf Union.

Autumn Tournament

The Autumn Tournament will be held at Neath Golf Club, by kind permission of Captain and Committee.

Please give me seven day's notice of your availability to play so that catering may be arranged.

SOUTHERN

Chairman:
C. A. MOORE
(Stanmore)

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

Annual Dinner

The 1972 Annual Dinner was held at the South Herts Golf Club on Friday 24th March. In the afternoon, warm sunny weather encouraged over 60 to take part in the 4 ball stableford competition and the following scores resulted:-

- Winner 44 points R. Lance and B. Richardson
(Effingham)
2nd 43 points G. Payne and J. Walker
(Maidenhead)
3rd 41 points C. A. Moore and M. Lee
(Stanmore)

Our thanks to the South Herts Golf Club Committee for the courtesy of the course and for overcoming catering difficulties to provide such an excellent meal.

Following the meal, Jack Wallis-Arthur presented the Golf and Benevolent Fund Draw Prizes.

Toasts *The Queen* by Jack Wallis-Arthur, *The British Golf Greenkeepers' Association* by P. Heyno, Captain S.H.G.C., *Response* by J. Carrick, Chairman, B.G.G.A., *Guests* by D. Craig, Vice President, Southern Section, *Response* by J. Fisher, Captain London Golf Captains' Association.

Everyone was delighted to see among our invited guests the following Life Members, Bert Dixon, Jimmy Ness, Stan Morton, Bert Dash, and Chick Davidson. Introducing them to the assembly, the President referred to their combined age of 530 years and the fact that Bert Dash had been a greenkeeper at the South Herts Golf Club 50 years ago.

I would like to record a vote of thanks to the following for their part in the proceedings, Dai Rees and Steve Thomas for donating a prize and for free trolleys. Flymo Ltd. for donating a prize, Derek Gould and John Field for organising Benevolent Fund Draw, Joe Varney for menu cards, Tony Hemmingway for score cards etc. and the Association Chairman, Joe Carrick, for making the journey from Northampton to be with us.

New Members

The following new members are welcomed to the Section: A. L. Harrison, (Mitcham), B. Tomlin (Robert, K. Andrews Ltd.), M. Wright (Coombe Wood), S. Dymond and G. P. Sutton (Bude and North Cornwall G. C.) and A. Morton of West Byfleet Golf Club.

Promotion to Head Greenkeeper

Congratulations are in order to C. M. Woodward who is leaving the 'R. Plain College' to take the Head man's job at the Apsley Guise and Woburn Sands Golf Club.

SOUTH WEST

President:
F. V. SOUTHGATE

By A. A. Cockfield
Hon. Secretary:
10 Clarence Terrace,
Claverton Down, Bath,
Somerset

Spring Competition and A.G.M.

Once again Saltford Golf Club very generously provided the venue for our Sping competition and A.G.M. Eighteen members took part in the medal competition which was won by B. Summers of Knowle with a nett score of 68. The runners up being W. Light of Knowle and M. Gray of Long Ashton with a nett 70. Third place and best gross went to the Section Secretary with a gross 80. 8. 72.

Twenty-two members attended the meeting. The minutes read and approved. The balance sheet, despite being down on previous years, was considered perfectly adequate. Last year's committee was reappointed, and it was agreed that the past year had been very much more active. Two new competitions had come into being, the John Ireland Foursomes, and the match at St. Pierre against the South Wales Greenkeepers. Both very successful. Two greenkeepers came first and second in the County Championship. Also with many more young greenkeepers taking more active interest the signs were most encouraging and gratifying.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Saltford Golf Club and our President, Mr. John Ireland, for their continued support.

I would add there were one or two notable absentees, which I trust was unavoidable. Also some members do repeatedly insist on turning up late on competition days. This, apart from being bad manners, has a delaying effect on the whole day's time-table.

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FLAIL KNIFE MOWERS – are robust and do not require sharpening. Mulching action swiftly rots material – avoiding after collection problems and grass lumps affecting ball play.

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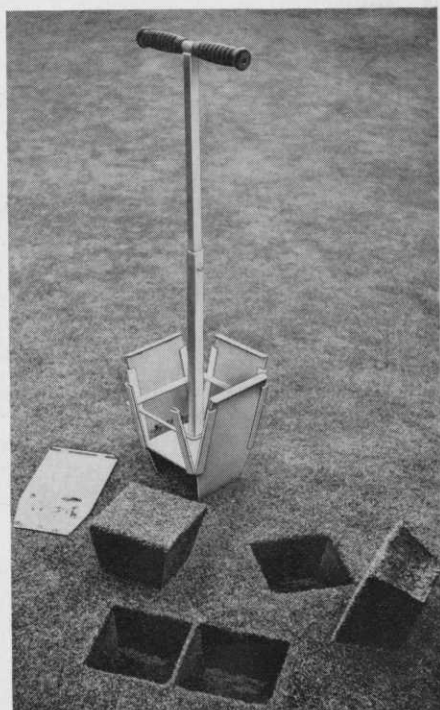
FAST, ACCURATE HOLE CUTTING AND RENOVATION

The 'Supercut' Hole Cutter and the 'Squarecut' Turf Repairer are precision implements. Every plug or sod fits *exactly* into the hole made for it with the same implement.

Clean cut ensures minimum disturbance of root-soil structure.



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Square shape means unlimited adjacent cuts for any size of patch. No 'in-between' spaces as with round cutter.

Greens can be back in use immediately after renovation.

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Trade News

Sisis Equipment (Macclesfield) Limited are pleased to announce the introduction of a Mk. 2 model to replace their well known Auto-Rotorake Mk. 1 heavy duty scarifier.

The Auto-Rotorake will alleviate problems caused by the accumulation of 'thatch' and creeping grasses. The contra-rotating blades of the Auto-Rotorake sever weeds and grasses below the green leaf, where a rake cannot reach, and lifts unwanted fibre above the surface for collection.

The Mk. 2 model is a carefully balanced machine with pneumatic tyred wheels designed for easy turning. Depth adjustment is on the side of the machine and there is a fine reel cut-out clutch for transport. An additional feature of this new model is an interchangeable reel of spring wire tines which can be fitted when surface scarifying only is required and this gives year round use for the machine.

The price of the Mk. 2 Auto-Rotorake, fitted with the blade reel is £245.00 ex works.

FLYMO INTRODUCE THATCHING REELS FOR IMPROVED GOLF GREEN CARE

Thatching reels which can be fitted quickly to the Greensmaster III triplex ride-on greens mower to control grain, stringers and thatch are being introduced to the United Kingdom by the Institutional Division of Flymo Limited of Watford.

The move is the latest in line with policy to provide comprehensive high work-rate equipment to enable golf clubs, faced with problems of increasing maintenance costs and shortages of skilled labour, to undertake total golf course management.

The new attachment provides the opportunity to put to direct advantage the time saved by the Greensmaster III which effectively reduces the estimated 80% of man hours involved in summer golf course grass-cutting operations. Use of the same machine on thatch control also ensures maximum utilisation of capital investment and, in addition, efficiency in operation enables a regular de-thatching programme to be undertaken to avoid cumulative problems which demand drastic remedy.

Each thatching reel is 5in. diameter with 11-pointed star-shaped blades mounted on a 1½in. shaft supported by self-aligning bearers.

Refuse material is thrown direct into the collection boxes which are standard equipment.

Thickness of the thatching blades is .045in. and is adjustable in one-quarter inch increments, from half an inch to 1½ in. Fine manual adjustment controls depth of penetration down to ⅜in. below the guide wheels.

NEW FLYMO SUPER PROFESSIONAL SOLVES PROBLEMS, CUTS COSTS

The elegantly-styled Flymo 19in. Super Professional hover mower which made its debut at the Chelsea Flower Show in May is claimed to have achieved a breakthrough in solving major problems in grass-cutting operations.

Developed from the 19in. Professional air-cushion mower introduced by Flymo Limited of Watford six years ago, the Super Professional has the virtues of a new fuel system which overcomes clogging from dirt, and reduces fuel consumption. Any small particles passing through the filter can be flushed from the bottom of the bowl-type carburettor, simply by depressing the drain plunger.

These features on the Super Professional are associated with the easy, pull-up start of the long-life engine. Developments in the fuel and carburation system are estimated to result in 10% reductions in fuel consumption compared with the earlier model. A 24:1 low octane petrol/Flymo Oil mixture also reduces exhaust pollution.

Reduction in engine noise has been achieved by development of a streamlined cowling.

The Super Professional is priced at £62.75.

The fixed carburation system – believed to be the first fitted to a two-stroke V4 engine – means there are no jets to adjust and carburation is calibrated automatically for maximum efficiency. The new system has proved very effective in bank-cutting operations.

Other features of the Super Professional include an easy-to-read visual fuel gauge, a re-designed spring-loaded handle located at the point of balance for easier carrying, and a positive upstop for the mowing position.

NEW HOSE FROM GOODYEAR

A new general purpose long length water hose, which is ideal for use around the golf course, has recently been added to the Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company's range.

Known as Spiraflex 100/7, it is a no-nonsense hose which is light in weight and therefore easier to handle, and it is available in continuous lengths up to 500ft. so the number of connections needed are reduced.

At the same time it will take a lot of hard wear. Its high grade covers are made of tough rubber compounds and are reinforced with high tensile strength yarn, spirally laid and rubber impregnated for maximum adhesions and flexibility.

Available in three bore sizes, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. $\frac{3}{4}$ in. and $\frac{7}{8}$ in. (13, 16 and 19mm), the hose is produced at the company's Craigavon, Northern Ireland factory and is obtainable from distributors and stockists throughout the United Kingdom.

AQUA-DIAL PRODUCT LEAFLET

AQUA-DIAL produce a useful leaflet giving performance, data and illustrations of their turf sprinklers, couplings, valves and automatic equipment. We can arrange for any interested reader to receive one of these.

A cheap answer to fairway watering

Available in various sizes. Watering from 6,700 sq. ft. to 20,000 sq. ft. at one setting. Travels along the hose as laid out to suit the shape of the areas and will shut off automatically.

FLYMO OIL NOW IN 1-GALLON CANS

The popular one-pint packs of Flymo two-stroke mower oil will continue to be available for domestic users in the 1972 grass-cutting season and new one-gallon cans will be introduced for commercial customers.

The move by Flymo Limited of Watford acknowledges the increasing demand for larger amounts of Flymo Oil by workshops and large institutional and commercial undertakings.

The measure is equal to 4.55 litres and will retail at £1.25.

The container is the traditional one-gallon can with screw top for ease of use.

One-pint packs will retail at 17p.

Buying in the larger quantity will cost £1.25 per gallon against the equivalent of £1.36 for eight one-pint packs and provide a more suitable container for site-to-site work.

The gallon cans will be packed four to a pallet and shrink-wrapped for transit.

One-pint packs will continue to be supplied in cartons holding 30 pints.

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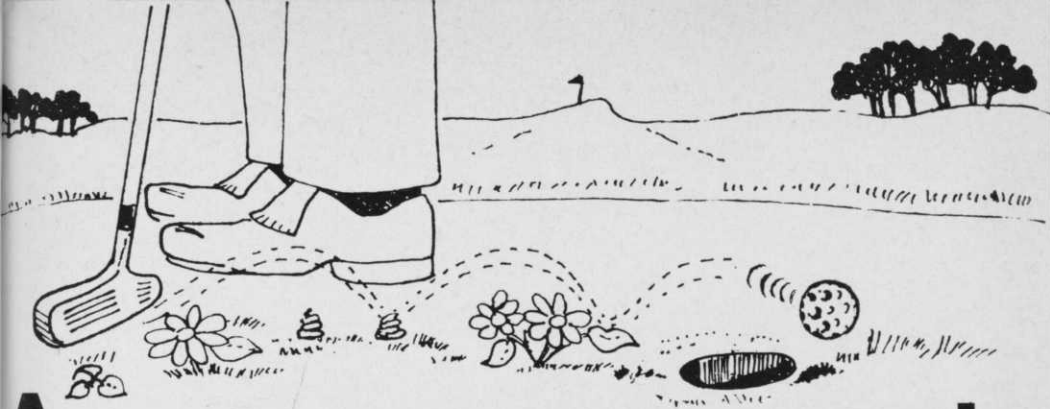
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Verti-cut Units Patented twin offset blades remove 'thatch', keep greens in play even in difficult conditions.

Vibra-Spiker Now spiking takes even less time than greensmowing. High-frequency vibration penetrates to a depth of 1½" with a minimum of compaction. The combination of this unique quick-change unit feature, full 67" swath for every operation, variable-speed units and individual unit lifts make the Tournament Triplex an investment which no club can ignore. Your local Distributor is keen to impress you with a demonstration. Give him a call.

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