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# THE BRITISH GOLF

# REENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE

#### FOUNDED 1912

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# **Tee Shots**

Honesty

Apart from his other qualities, an endearing frankness seems to be characteristic

of our reigning open champion.

After playing two practice rounds on the Cherry Hill Course in Canada, Trevino sent for David Bennett, his partner in golf course design. Bennett came all the way from El Paso in California and took some photographs.

'It's the first time I've done that' Trevino said 'but this is a great golf course' (Robert Robinson the Canadian designer had supervised the improvements for the Canadian Open) 'the property is very similar to what we have to work with on a

residential development in El Paso.'

Somebody asked Trevino how he became a golf designer.

'It's easy' was the reply, 'Find a guy whose business needs a shop. Give him your name and take 51%. Then you go around calling yourself a consultant while he does all the work.' (From *The Toronto Star*)

Energy

The Reader's Digest has published a time and motion analysis of the exercise which golf provides. The average foursome spends 36.6% of their time walking, 8.5% swinging, 20.4% fiddling on the putting greens and 34.5% waiting round. Thus 55% of their time is spent in idleness and they only burn up 223 calories an hour. Running burns up 679 and walking 334... I'll still stick to golf.

**Economy** 

The figure for U.S. consumer purchases in 1971 place golf No. 5 in the list. Value of purchases in millions of dollars were as follows:

|                                 | 1971    | 1970  | % Increase |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------|------------|
| Pleasure Boats<br>and Equipment | 1 031.2 | 939.9 | +9.7       |
| Firearms and                    |         | 502.0 |            |
| Supplies                        | 553.8   | 583.9 | -5.1       |
| Photographic<br>Equipment       | 667.3   | 610.0 | +9.4       |
| Bicycles                        | 384.3   | 318.3 | +20.7      |
| Golf Equipment                  | 367.6   | 348.0 | +5.6       |
| Fishing Supplies                | 314.9   | 287.7 | +9.5       |

Table tennis and hockey are at the bottom of the list. The sale of tents, like bikes, increased by over 20 %

# Attendance

Nearly 25 000 visitors went to the N.I.G. Motspur Park Exhibition this year: 160 exhibitors shared 150 000 sq. ft. of space.



November 1972

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# Minutes of the 55th Annual General Meeting

held at St. Annes Old Links, Lytham St. Annes, on Monday, 14th August, 1972, at 3.0 pm

Before opening the meeting, the Chairman rose and read a telegram of congratulation on the 60th Anniversary of the Association from Mrs. B. M. Hawtree which was warmly greeted by those present.

The Chairman opened the meeting, at which there were approximately 70 members present and, in the absence of the President, asked Mr. F. W. Hawtree to occupy the Chair. Mr. Hawtree thanked the Chairman and expressed his willingness to conduct the meeting.

#### 1 Minutes of the last A.G.M.

The Chairman suggested that as the Minutes of the last A.G.M. were printed in the Journal they should be taken as read but one member expressed the desire that they should be read at this meeting; thereupon the Hon. Secretary read the Minutes of the last A.G.M. as requested.

# 2 Annual Report

The Hon. Secretary read the Annual Report and its adoption was proposed by Mr. Goodwin, seconded by Mr. Moore.

After its adoption the Chairman asked the Meeting to stand in silence in memory of the deceased members whose names had been submitted in the Report.

#### 3 Financial Statement

The Hon. Treasurer then presented the Accounts to the meeting and stated that in his view they were reasonably satisfactory, the only item which might cause discussion was the reduction in the Journal revenue. This he explained was accounted for by the fact that, since the change in publication, the advertising revenue did not now go into the Association figures as it was handled entirely by the new publishers; but, as had previously been stated, there would be a monetary return from the publishers and, of course, the publishing expenses, which hitherto had been shown against the Journal, would decrease.

It was then proposed by Mr. Kingston, seconded by Mr. Fretter, that the Accounts be accepted.

# 4 Executive Committee Report

The Tournament Sub-Committee elected at the Executive Meeting included Messrs. Carrick, Scoones, Walsh, Folkes and Smith.

The Executive Committee agreed that middle tees (red) should be used for the whole of the competition and they had also agreed to accept three late entires for the Tournament on the recommendation of the Hon. Secretary.

#### 5 Election of Officers

In the absence of Mr. Bretherton, the President, it was proposed that he should again be approached and asked to continue office for the ensuing year. This was unanimously agreed.

## Vice-Presidents

It was agreed that the names as listed in the Association Journal should be re-elected and this proposition was also carried unanimously.

## Chairman

The Chairman proposed that Mr. H. M. Walsh, Vice-Chairman, should be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year. This suggestion was carried unanimously.

November 1972 5

Mr. Carrick, the retiring Chairman, then rose and handed the badge of office to Mr. Walsh and expressed his pleasure at the choice of Mr. Walsh as his successor. He also spoke to the meeting and said how much he had enjoyed his year of office and expressed the sincere hope that he had given satisfaction to the members. It was a year he would always remember and he was most appreciative of the help and assistance which had been extended to him by his officers.

Mr. Walsh then thanked the members for their support of his nomination as Chairman and said that he sincerely hoped he would be able to fulfil the office as satisfactorily as his

He then asked Mr. Carrick to accept a tankard in recognition of his services, which had been presented by the members. Mr. Carrick expressed his thanks for the kind gift which he again said would remind him of this year.

#### Vice-Chairman

On the proposition of the South-West Section it was unanimously carried that Mr. I. Scoones should take over the office of Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

#### Secretary and Treasurer

There was a general request that Mr. C. H. Dix should carry on as Secretary and Treasurer for the ensuing year, which he said he would do and thanked the meeting for their support. He also stated that he would like them to look ahead with a view to finding a successor for this office as he was not prepared to carry on after 1973 and, if at any time prior to then a successor was available, he would be quite happy to hand over the reins at the end of the current year.

#### **Executive Committee**

It was unanimously agreed that the Executive Committee should be as nominated by Sections.

#### Hon. Auditors

The Hon. Treasurer reported that the services of Messrs. Smallfield, Rawlins & Co. had again been most efficient and at his proposal it was unanimously agreed that the Hon. Auditors should be re-elected.

## Hon. Solicitor

It was unanimously agreed that Mr. H. Dowding, who had kindly taken over the duties for the Association, should be re-elected for the ensuing year.

## 6 Any Other Business

The Hon. Secretary was pleased to report that there had been very good support for the Celebration Dinner which had been arranged for Wednesday evening, 16th August, and including guests who had been invited, there should be at least 100 people present.

Sincere thanks were expressed to Mr. G. K. Smyth, representative of Messrs. May & Baker, who had done so much to assist the Chairman in making the arrangements.

#### Proposed Trip to Boston, U.S.A. to the American Greenkeepers' Convention

The Hon. Secretary reported there had been good response to the proposed trip to Boston in January, 1973, and he felt quite sure that the required number of applications would be received to ensure the trip taking place.

Aer Lingus have prepared an itinerary which will be published in the September issue of the Journal and in addition there will be a brochure issued with the October Journal which will give full details of the proposed trip.

(Continued on page 9).

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

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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.

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Wage Scale Recommendations

Mr. Goodwin, speaking for the Midland Section, expressed the keen disappointment of his own Committee at the latest figures issued by the Association. In their view they were not sufficiently high to prove satisfactory to the members. After some discussion it was felt that nothing higher should be quoted at the moment; it was appreciated that the Midland Section was in a highly industrial area, but it was felt their suggestions would not meet with approval in the wider area of the country.

Greenkeepers' Title

There was a suggestion made by Mr. Sargent concerning the title of Greenkeeper and he was strongly in favour of changing the title to Superintendent as he felt this would give the job improved status. This question was discussed at considerable length, with various reasons for and against being put forward, and finally the Chairman asked that there should be a show of hands as to the general opinion of the Meeting regarding this proposal. A count was then taken and there were 23 for a change and 24 against, the balance of the meeting abstaining.

There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chair by Mr. C. A. Moore.

# THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEPEERS' ASSOCIATION

#### ANNUAL DRAW RESULTS

DUNLOP MASTERS TOURNAMENT 4th-7th OCTOBER 1972

\*If winner of starred entry is already in list, substitute player will be taken from P.G.A. Merit List.

| Player                      | Ticket No. |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Baiocchi H.                 | 04781      |
| Llewellyn D.                | 08007      |
| Gregson M.                  | 21476      |
| Balding A.                  | 05338      |
| Gartenmaier O.              | 02834      |
| Humphreys W.                | 23951      |
| Kinsella J.                 | 06510      |
| Hood V.                     | 19651      |
| Gallacher B.                | 10703      |
| Elder L.                    | 05323      |
| Torrance S.                 | 10309      |
| Horton T.                   | 18934      |
| Graham D.                   | 01017      |
| Hunt G.                     | 20380      |
| Newton J.                   | 08576      |
| *Winner John Player Classic | 14066      |
| Bannerman H.                | 02206      |
| Jacklin T.                  | 09862      |
| Platts L.                   | 14628      |
| *Winner Wills Open          | 00292      |
| O'Connor C. (Jnr.)          | 16965      |
| Huggett B.                  | 18348      |
| Oosterhuis P.               | 10993      |
| Ballesteros M.              | 02164      |
| Bembridge M.                | 09294      |
| Garrido A.                  | 07041      |
| Polland E.                  | 02765      |
| Wilcock P.                  | 23628      |
| Charles B.                  | 13136      |

| Player        | Ticket No. |
|---------------|------------|
| Hunt B.       | 12869      |
| O'Leary J.    | 10096      |
| Barnes B.     | 07391      |
| Whitehead R.  | 21018      |
| McClelland D. | 21086      |
| Clark C.      | 19747      |
| Jackson H.    | 04606      |
| Butler P.     | 05363      |
| Cunningham G. | 24359      |
| Coles N.      | 11435      |
| Defoy C.      | 11806      |
| Townsend P.   | 07002      |
| Job N.        | 09748      |
| Rees D.       | 09464      |
| Bousfield K.  | 10930      |
| Mitchell B.   | 18691      |
| Vaughan D.    | 10897      |
| Garner J.     | 24393      |
| Brown E.      | 06446      |
| De Vicenzo R. | 07658      |
| O'Connor C.   | 19350      |



# Seaweed – Facts and Experience

by

#### **Ernest Booth**

The Annual Reports of the Institute of Seaweed Research and the scientific literature contain a wealth of scientific evidence and practical experience on the manurial value of seaweed which deserves serious attention.

The superficial view is that seaweed contains some potash and little nitrogen or phosphate and, like all organic manures, it is often dismissed on this score. Yet despite its low phosphate content, seaweed has been shown to give a very substantial increase in the available phosphate in the soil. This effect is due to ketogluconic acid, a compound which is present in seaweed and is also excreted by common soil bacteria. In fact, current research suggests that this compound is probably the main factor controlling the supply of phosphate available to the plant.

The other components of seaweed are alginic acid, some unusual carbohydrates such as mannitol, fucoidan and laminaran, along with large quantities of trace elements. It also contains plant growth hormones and gibberellins, mere traces of which cause a dramatic increase in yield when sprayed on pasture. All these unusual compounds have been shown to affect soil fertility or to have other valuable properties such as the suppression of fungal disease (laminaran) or to chelate with metals to make them available to the plant (mannitol and fucoidan).

Alginic acid accounts for about 25% of seaweed and until recently it was believed to be found only in seaweed. Work at Rothamsted in the 1940's proved the soil-conditioning effect of alginic acid; subsequently it was shown that it also had the unusual effect of increasing seed germination. The beneficial effect of the acid on grass was known a decade ago and patents were taken out in Germany and the U.S.A. which claimed that seaweed preparations effectively established the growth of grass in the unfavourable conditions on the verges of motorways. These facts were well established but seemed inexplicable until 1965 when it was shown that alginic acid is a natural product in the soil where it is excreted by the common bacteria, Azotobacter. Soil fertility and the nitrifying bacteria had always been linked together. The alginic acid excreted by these bacteria adds to their importance as soil conditioners and aids seed germination; it also gives a sound explanation for some of the properties of seaweed.

Experience in many coastal areas e.g. Ayrshire and East Lothian, showed that seaweed was an unusually good manure for pasture and, in particular, it promotes early growth. This caused the Institute of Seaweed Research to approach the Sports Turf Research Institute at Bingley, where trials took place in the wet summer of 1954 and again in 1956. It was concluded that for top dressings, particularly on sandy soils, the addition of up to 10 per cent of seaweed in a prepared compost would improve drought resistance of the treated turf. The results were sufficiently promising to merit a large-scale trial which started at Muirfield in 1960 through the courtesy of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers. This trial was successful in every way and one of the more important results was the rapid regrowth on the approach to the greens where so much damage is caused by pitching and chipping.

Seaweed has been used in 'sports turf' mixtures for nearly 20 years and the liquid extracts have also been used throughout this period. As foliar spraying became established the liquid seaweed extracts have gradually replaced seaweed meal and they may be applied alone or mixed with other sprays. Prepared composts can also be materially improved by watering with a liquid seaweed extract.

# **Aeration on the Golf Course**

by

G. P. Simpson, General Sales Manager, T. Parker and Sons (Turf Management) Ltd.

The general need for aeration of one type or another is now accepted as a necessary part of the efficient management of all turf used for sport. The problems may vary from a deep state of severe compaction to a hidebound skin over the top surface. A somewhat similar undesirable effect is often brought about by a mass of mat, fibre and trailing grasses on the top surface of the ground: this condition effectively restricts the free entry of air, moisture and dressings and thus produces a state where, at best, the roots of the turf are largely in the very top of the soil, or, at worst, do not reach the soil to any worthwhile degree and are, to a large extent, existing in this thick nap. The result is a weak and shallow rooted turf, subject to rapid deterioration in a dry spell and prone to suffer from the many diseases to which particularly the finer and more valuable grasses may be subjected.

It will be appreciated, then, that the solution of the problem of aeration falls into two categories. Firstly, providing a clean surface, free to absorb air and moisture, and allow the free entry of nourishment fed to the grasses to reach the roots where it is needed. Work in this category will produce other benefits, such as standing up trailing weeds or grasses so that the mower can make a much cleaner cut; this operation may thus be regarded as complementary to mowing and regular attention to scarifying, in one form or another, will materially assist in producing an upright clean sward of healthy turf.

Secondly, breaking down compaction below the surface, in which the need may vary from a light spiking in the top inch to deep penetration. Each step has its right place in a programme of good management and regular application is the key to successful results.

On a golf course, we have the fine turf of the greens and the coarser turf of the fairways and these different areas obviously need different tools and machines although the treatment needed is basically the same. On the greens composed of fine grasses we often find an excess of the nap or mat referred to; since it is in the nature of these grasses to create such a mat of fibre it follows that regular and efficient scarifying of the greens is of special importance.

#### **Surface Aeration**

Surface aeration consists of scarifying and shallow spiking. Scarifying can be carried out in various ways. On the greens by means of an ordinary Springbok rake—a long, laborious and backaching job, wasteful in man hours and therefore not too practical nowadays. The second and much less laborious method is to use one of the mechanical types of rake scarifier; these implements, developed from the basic principle of the Springbok, use specially developed Spring Tines which are designed to give maximum efficiency on fine turf. There is a range of mechanised hand-operated scarifiers which, by means of the wheeled frames on which they operate, offer immense improvement on the old Springbok, removing much of the backache and greatly speeding up the operation and, at the same time, enabling the work to be done much more effectively.

During the last few years, however, we have seen the introduction of machines which give an entirely new approach to this problem of scarifying. I refer in particular to the 'SISIS' Auto-Rotorake which has been described by experienced and knowledgeable users as the greatest single development in turf management since the war. The greatest advantage of these machines is the removal of all hard work from the hitherto laborious task. The Auto-Rotorake is merely driven across the turf and not only is the backache removed but scarifying can be done in a mere fraction of the time formerly needed; one man can do the work of a great number using earlier methods.

The principle of the Auto-Rotorake is to use vertical tines or cutting blades which

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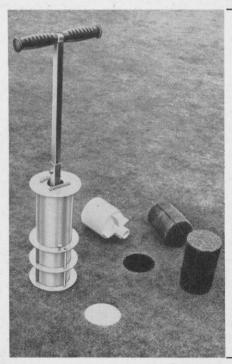
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revolve at tremendous speed in the opposite direction to that of the traverse of the machine. These tines may be set in a chosen positive position so that the operator has the choice of whether he wishes merely to flick the surface of the soil or to penetrate half-aninch into the ground and thus it is possible to achieve only the cutting of horizontal growth above the surface or to carry out a considerable measure of root pruning and surface aeration.

In addition, an interchangeable reel of spring wire tines gives lighter surface scarification in dry conditions and raises the grasses before mowing for a better cut. The operator can be as gentle or as drastic as he wishes by setting the machine in an appropriate position.

A point of great importance is that, with the Auto-Rotorake, the unwanted material is cut out cleanly and only the rubbish is removed; whereas, with raking, some good growth is inevitably dragged out. A natural result of the regular use of the Auto-Rotorake will be to produce firm, fast and true greens as opposed to the spongy slow surfaces often seen on greens where an excess of nap or mat is present.

When cost of equipment is of paramount importance, a less expensive version of the 'SISIS' Auto-Rotorake Mk. 2 is available known as the 'SISIS' Duo-Rotorake. This machine has enjoyed tremendous popularity since its inception some years ago. Surface piercing of greens can be effectively performed by means of the spiker slitters which put tremendous numbers of slits into the surface of the turf to a depth of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in., aiding air/moisture absorption and assisting in the ready entry of fertiliser and dressings. The spiker slitter is valuable especially for summer use; in dry conditions this surface aeration can be carried out when it would not be possible, or perhaps even desirable, to do deeper spiking. The spiker slitters are designed for attachment and operation by mechanical hand frames and implement controls referred to under scarifiers.

Scarifiers for the fairways of a much more robust construction are designed to be operated by various tractor units. The most attractive to the greenkeeper will undoubtedly be the mounted variety, 8ft. wide, for use on the hydraulic lift of the tractor. With this width and ease of operation many acres can be treated in a very short time.



Sisis Auto-Rotorake Mk. II



Sisis Heavy Duty Aerator

# SITUATIONS VACANT

LITTLESTONE GOLF CLUB NEW ROMNEY KENT

require

# Head Greenkeeper

Links Course 18 holes and 9 holes. This post might suit fully trained Assistant Greenkeeper now able to manage own course and control five assistants.

Complete Modern Equipment

No Club Accommodation but this point is negotiable together with salary based on B.G.G.A. rates.

Please write with full particulars to

The Secretary Littlestone Golf Club Littlestone New Romney Kent

BRICKENDON GRANGE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BRICKENDON HERTFORDSHIRE

# Head Greenkeeper

Applications are invited from fully qualified persons for the above position at this Club. B.G.G.A. rates of pay recognised. Accommodation (cottage) available at once. Could possibly employ a working son, interview expenses paid.

Apply The Secretary, above address

# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARTFORD

# HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited from experienced persons to be responsible to the Engineer and Surveyor for the maintenance of a public Golf Course and a Public Park, in one combined area totalling approximately 535 acres.

Salary by negotiation.

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Application forms and information obtainable from the Engineer and Surveyor, White Oak, Swanley, Kent, BR8 7AL, to whom applications must be sent by not later than Monday, 23rd October, 1972.

# **GREENKEEPER**

required at

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The Club House
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Morecambe and Heysham

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# **Deep Piercing**

For the greens, the oldest method is to use a piercing fork but it is extremely difficult in these days to envisage sufficient manpower available to tackle the enormous task of treating 18 greens in this way. The answer is to use a machine and to carry out the operation as a frequent maintenance step; this phasing of piercing in as a part of a regular maintenance programme is the key to the problem. It is necessary to avoid any undue surface disturbance on the green and with the range of tines available, plus choice of favourable ground conditions, this can easily be done. Some tearing of the surface may occur as a result of shallow rooted turf. This must be faced up to and accepted, if the condition is to be cured. In any case, the position can be quickly reinstated by brushing, scarifying or running the mower over the turf.

Modern equipment offers a choice of tines to meet all needs and judicious use will enable dressings to get where they are required, and bring air and moisture to the lower regions of the root areas, as well as promoting rigorous root development. As the nourishment sought by roots and the cultivated conditions they require are deeper, the roots will themselves go deeper to find the conditions they prefer and the plant food they seek.

There is a range of equipment of various types available for mechanical piercing of the greens. With the acute shortage of skilled greenkeepers in this country at the moment, a fully powered machine is a must. The piercing drums of these ranges can be fitted with a varied choice of tines which will enable the greenkeeper to select a tine suitable for any circumstances.

In general, the hollow tine is for occasional use when it is desired to effect a soil exchange operation or for relief of very severe compaction. The time for using hollow tines has to be chosen very carefully, having regard to soil condition if the plugs are to leave the tine freely. A most useful tine is the chisel tine which is extremely effective, gains penetration well and is very clean in action. There are still a number of users who have a preference for a round pointed tine for the greens and, of course, on these fine areas they can be very useful and so they are still available.

A machine which incorporates all the points listed above, coupled with power traverse, is the 'SISIS' Auto-Turfman. This tool will penetrate up to a maximum of 4 in. even when fitted with hollow tines, which of course demand more driving into the turf than any other type of tine. It is possible for the greenkeeper to travel quickly and efficiently, the machine moving between the greens under its own power.

#### Deep Piercing on the Fairway

Here the need will be for tractor-operated machines with a capacity to deal with large acreages and able to provide the more drastic treatment one must adopt on these tougher areas. Machines are available for towing by tractors which are not equipped with hydraulic lift but for tractors such as the Leyland 154 or Leyland 253 which are equipped with hydraulic lifts, machines will be chosen to be operated on the lift, thus taking advantage of lower initial capital expenditure and deriving the benefit of time saving, ease of operation and increased efficiency.

Care should be exercised when choosing a machine to ensure that the type selected is one which is designed in a flexible manner to allow the piercing heads to follow closely the contours of the ground in order that high and low spots receive equal treatment.

Modern equipment can be obtained to accommodate flat section tines of sufficient thickness to leave an open top to the hole and of a design to ensure a thorough shattering coupled with movement of the soil underground. This is most important as the objective is not merely to make a hole but to create as much underground movement as possible with the minimum of surface disturbance.

Flat times expose greater areas of soil surface to air and moisture and the walls of the slit made by a flat time appear to be less compacted than walls of holes made with round times. Flat section times meeting this requirement are available in two basic types; a

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pointed tine which achieves maximum penetration in hard conditions, pierces to the greatest depth and produces a maximum shattering effect, and a root pruning or taper slitting tine which achieves rather less penetration but produces a wide uncompacted slit and leaves a completely clean surface.

On areas of poor root growth and where there is a sparse growth of grass, some surface disturbance must be expected when effective deep piercing is commenced but this disturbance can quickly be reinstated by harrowing, scarifying or even thorough brushing with the Whalebone Brushes which are available to be interchanged with the Scarifier Heads on the tractor-mounted, 8 ft. implement referred to above and after these operations little disturbance will remain.

Assuming it is acknowledged that spiking is necessary, it follows that greenkeepers and green committees will accept that it should be drastic enough to cure the condition existing and therefore some initial surface disturbance is inevitable, but it must be emphasised that if this is faced up to at the onset, and the treatment pursued and performed regularly, then in an amazingly short time the turf will develop the necessary root action to permit the operation to be carried out without disturbance.

When the ground is in a suitable moist condition less disturbance will occur to the surface as the moisture in the soil will act as a lubricant for the tines. It should be remembered that, to be successful, piercing must not be regarded as a treatment for once or twice a year but a maintenance operation to be carried out as frequently as possible. It is fair to say that it cannot be overdone; one has only to think that a progressive farmer ploughs his grassland every four or five years as a recognised system of good husbandry.

We cannot plough up our fairways but we can do a maximum of effective spiking. While piercing should be kept going throughout the year *whenever ground conditions permit*, it should be intensified during autumn, early winter and spring.

Spiking on the fairways will serve to assist greatly in producing drier surface conditions by permitting surface water to drain to the lower regions and thus find its way to the drainage system, where drainage is installed, or, as applies in a number of cases, permit the water to get down to lower soil strata where we often find natural drainage through a gravel or chalk subsoil structure. Thus thorough attention to efficient aeration will do much to cure wet and muddy surface conditions both by producing a dense sward of healthy turf and getting the water off the turf surface.

For the treatment of fairways a choice will have to be made whether a general purpose machine designed to give penetration of, say,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in. will be sufficient to achieve the desired results, or whether to instal a heavy duty machine with the added advantage that it can carry out ordinary maintenance work but offer the facility of being able to pierce to a depth of 9 in. when conditions are suitable and the extra penetration is desirable.

This is a matter for considerable thought as it is being shown, to an ever increasing extent, that more often than not the wise choice will be the heavy duty machine with its capacity to shatter really deep compaction and get the water as far away from the surface of the ground as possible.

There are a few fortunate people with courses where they have a soil which, by its nature, drains freely and in addition has a good deep rooted turf formation on the fairways. On these courses the greenkeeper will only need to consider the appropriate attention to greens. Such natural blessings are few and far between and the conditions I have referred to will be found on widely different soils. It is not only the heavy soils which suffer, indeed some of the worst conditions can be found on sandy soils with a heavy content of silt. This silty type of soil seems to pack down in such a manner as to completely exclude air and the need for attention can become extremely urgent.

The conclusion to be drawn from these observations is that efficient aeration in all its phases can, on the one hand, prevent bad conditions developing and, on the other hand, offer a positive policy of relief when such conditions exist.

# News



# from the Sections

Special occasions

Nov 1 Southern Section Lecture

- Northern Section Autumn Outing
- 14 North West Section Outing
- 27 Northern Section Buffet Dance

Southern Section Lecture Dec 6

> 11 North West Section Lecture

# MIDLAND

Chairman . G. HART (Gay Hill)

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

#### Greenkeepers v. Secretaries

The Annual Match against the Midland Secretaries took place at the Trentham Golf Club on Thursday 7th September.

Forty days and forty nights had passed without rain, but on the forty-first day the heavens did open and the Secretaries and Greenkeepers were well and truly saturated.

Some play continued in the Snooker room, others got as far as 'Thrombosis Hill', Number 8, while a couple of matches went to the Eighteenth. Despite the weather, everyone agreed that the Course was in excellent condition and tribute was paid to Andrew Ireland and the Green Staff of Trentham.

Our gratitude also goes to the Secretaries who provided us with an excellent supper and a special thanks to Mr. Norman Russell and Mr. George Dring for making the arrangements for this excellent fixture. Our thanks also to the Captain and Members for their courtesies.

The Result - well, maybe a positive result will be achieved in 1973 but for this year, many pleasant memories.

#### New Members

We welcome to the Section Mr R. Daniel, who joins our Vice President membership.

# SOUTHERN

Chairman: A. MOORE (Stanmore)

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

#### Autumn Tournament

Eighty-four members and guests had a memorable day on Wednesday, 6th September, at the Maidenhead Golf Club, Golf-wise, food-wise and weather-wise, who could ask for more! Well we did get more: the friendly atmosphere in the clubhouse which greeted us in the morning as we walked in told me that we were in for a good day - and a good day it was.

So thank you Mr. Vice-Captain, Mr. Secretary and Mr. Steward and staff for looking after us so well and to Gordon Payne for having the course in such excellent condition for us to play on. The greens, tees and bunkers were in first class order. Well done Gordon!

The results of the competition and the prizes as presented by the Vice-Captain, Mr. P. Kingston, are as follows:

Four ball better ball a.m.

H. Brown and J. Keeley (Home Park) - 45 pts. -Bath Towels

Greensome p.m. F. W. Corner and S. Jackson (East Barnet) – 38 pts. Travel Clocks

Aggregate

1st W. Machin and A. Webb (Add. Court) – 79 pts. –
Kiln-Ware Dinner Sets

2nd T. Foster and P. Kingston (Maidenhead) - 77 pts. -Wine Glass Sets
3rd A. Collis and D. Langley (Sonning) – 76 pts. –

S.S. Canteens Cutlery
4th R. Claydon and A. Wallis (Haywards Heath) –
75 pts. – Holdalls
5th A. J. Covey and J. Jacketeer (Harefield) – 75 pts. –

S. S. Salad Bowls C. Ryan and V. L. Waeland (Boyce Hill) - 75 pts. -

Sundae Glass Sets T. E. Price and S. Watkins (Whitewebbs) - 74 pts. -

Following the prize-giving, the ball sweep organised by John Field and Derek Gould raised £27.00 for the Section benevolent fund. Our grateful thanks also to the following members of the trade who helped with the running of the tournament: John Field, again, for issuing score cards and collecting cash, etc., Barry Huxley, R. Rose, B. Tomlin for sorting out the cards at the end of the day and R. Jobson and Don Ticehurst for keeping them moving so well on the tees.



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We are indebted to Robert H. Andrews for presenting the second prize.

#### **New Members**

A warm welcome to Charles Lassiter of the Cowdray Golf Club.

#### **Blazer Badges**

I have 10 Association Blazer Badges now in stock at £2.50 each. Cash with orders please.

#### Joe Martin

Joe Martin writes to say he has been in hospital and is still feeling a bit groggy following two heart attacks. He wishes to be remembered to his friends in the Southern Section. Hope you will soon be fit again Joe and that the journal situation is O.K. now.

#### Frank Brittain

You had us all worried at Maidenhead, Frank. Hope you are now fully recovered and we shall look forward to seeing you again at one of our meetings.

# **NORTH-WEST**

Chairman: R. VICKERS, Leigh Golf Club By H. M. Walsh

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

#### **Annual Trip**

As stated in the previous issue of the journal our trip this year is to the International Sports Company, Speke, Nr. Liverpool, on Tuesday 14th November. We shall be going by car and time of arrival is approx. 10.15 am. Members who are going must let me know in good time so that I can inform the management of the numbers.

#### Lectures

Please note the venue for this winter's series of lectures is Swinton Park Golf Club, East Lancs Road, Swinton, Nr. Manchester.

The February talk will be by another old friend, G. Vaughan, of Ransomes, Monday 12th February 1973, 7.30 pm at Swinton Golf Club. Our thanks are warmly given to the Captain and Council of Swinton Golf Club for allowing us the use of their clubhouse for these meetings. Will members please make a note of these dates and make them as successful as the series last winter.

# Subscriptions

Our Treasurer, Mr. Janovskis, 303 Moorside Road, Swinton, informs me there are still some subscriptions outstanding. Will members please note that these were due on the 1st May and he will be glad to receive them.

#### New Members

We welcome to the Section G. A. Taylor,

Morecambe Golf Club, Lancs, and hope his association with the section will be happy.

5th E. M. Palmer, Abbeydale 6th D. Thompson, Lees Hall

Foundation Cup for best 27 hole gross.

The visitors prize was won by Mr Shardlow with 73 nett.

# SHEFFIELD SECTION

Chairman: G. HERRINGTON (Lindrick)

By H. Gillespie Hon, Secretary/Treasurer: 63 Langsett Avenue, Sheffield S6 4AA

#### **Annual Tournament**

The section Annual Tournament was played at Worksop Golf Club on 12th July with kind permission of the Captain and Directors. The weather was perfect with sunshine all the day and Barry Lax and his staff had the course in the most perfect condition.

The entry was lower than in previous years with 24 members taking part in the 27 hole medal competition; these were joined by 4 Vice-Presidents and the Worksop Vice-Captain and Greens Chairman in the afternoon.

The leading scorers, who received their prizes from Mr. A. Shardlow, were:

1st R. N. Maltby, 108 nett Sutton Sherwood Forest 1091

2nd A. Spencer, Lindrick 3rd T. Baxby, Knaresborough 4th C. Colton, Lindrick 110 110

Allan Taylor 18 hole nett Cup with a 66

Trophy

The highlight of the day was a hole in one by Peter Quartermaine playing over his own course at the 184 yard 5th hole in the morning round, a special presentation was made to Peter.

We were pleased to see so many of our trade friends there enjoying the day. We were all delighted also to see Mr. Shardlow looking so fit and well, he had travelled up from London especially to be with us.

We thank the donators to the Prize List and what an impressive sight they made when set out prior to presentation! Also thanks to Mr. Snell for the use of caddy cars.

#### Winter Lectures

The lectures will again be held at Abbeydale Golf Club on the first Thursday in each month at 2 pm in the afternoon, the first of these will be on 5th October and Mr O. E. Jones of Cannock Fertiliser Company will be the speaker.

A letter has been sent to all Golf Clubs informing them of these meetings so you should have no trouble getting away.

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Greenkeeper 1

# The broad view

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