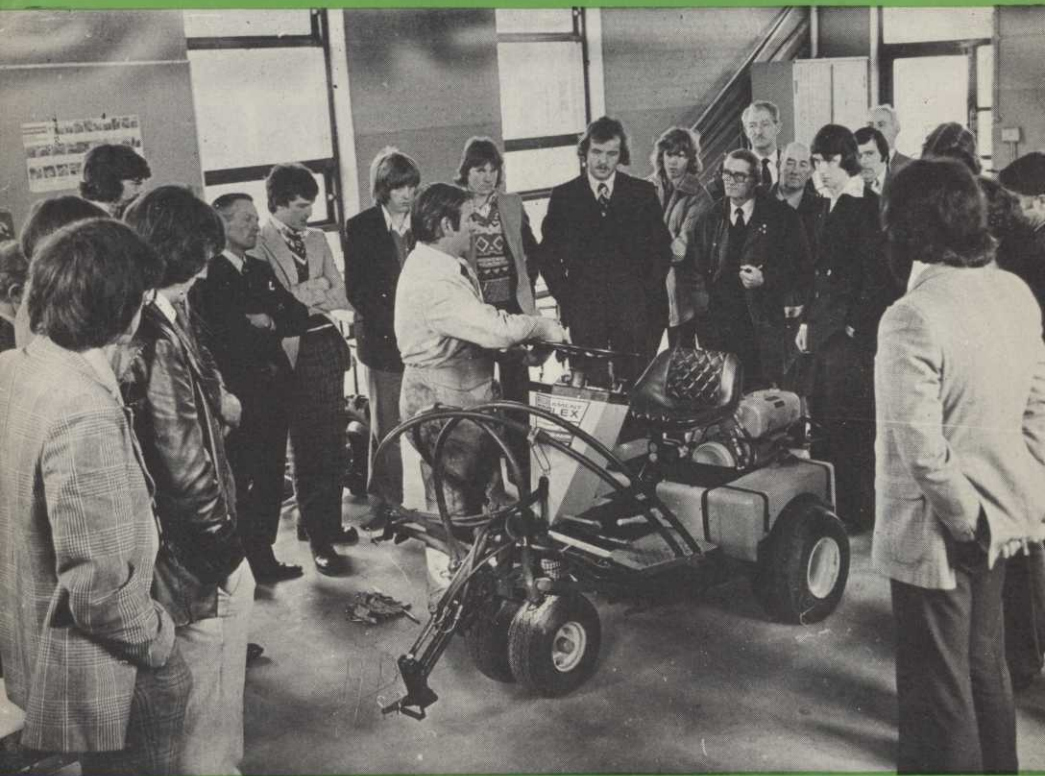


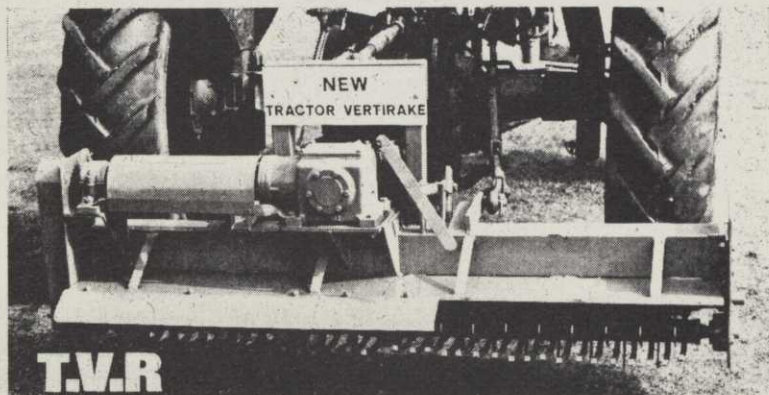
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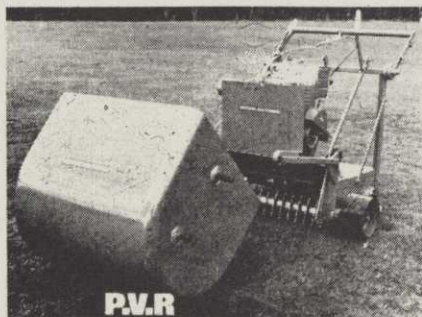
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The British Golf Greenkeeper

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Front Cover Picture:

Participants at the Ransomes Golf Clinic in Glasgow watching George Brown demonstrate maintenance work on the Ransomes-Hahn Tournament Triplex.

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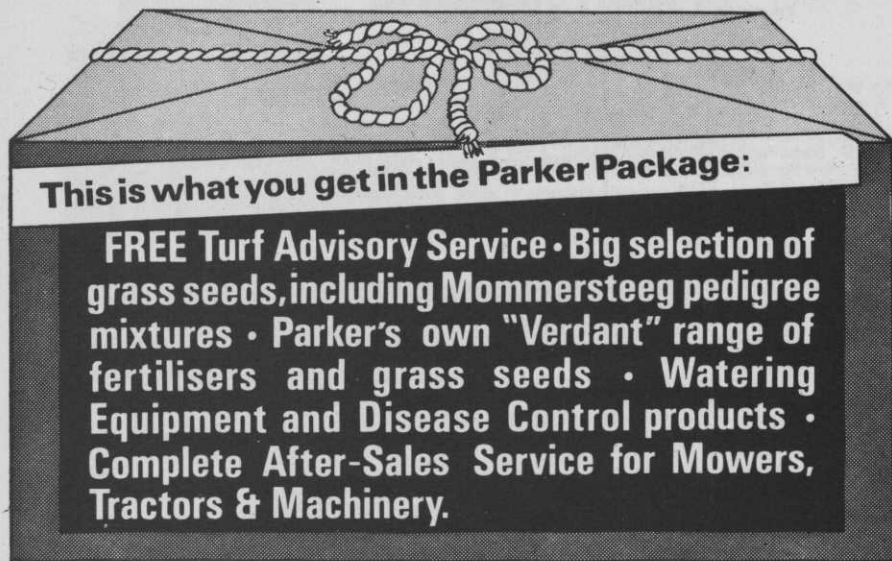


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“THE GREAT ALONE”

WE are as a race sometimes over critical, influenced by the criticisms to be read of the performance of our players when engaged in international events. Thereby increasing the pressure on them.

Criticism, my dictionary tells me is: “Judging of merit”. Any reader will know that at times, reporting and criticism are married. Inevitably, selection committees are the target for those who deem their acumen to be superior to that of experienced players, some still active, some in retirement.

It happens in golf. I write from the experience of knowing well the opinions expressed by club golfers, and a fairly good guess can be made which papers they read, or for that matter the magazine they peruse.

Tony Jacklin is an example. Because at an early age he achieved the double of the Open and the American Open, he was hailed as one of the greats. That was deserved. Ever since, reports or references about him concentrate on his failures. Failures there have been. Is it desirable to make these the target? For the time being is it not sufficient to say he was not among the leaders? The list of scores will tell us all we want to know.

It can be said that he altered his mode of living rather widely and quickly. A large house and a highly expensive car were seized upon as good copy. His

BY PATRICK SMARTT

recent departure for the island of Jersey made the headlines. I do not remember Guy Wolstenholme being the subject of reproach when he took up residence in Australia.

Henry Cotton, once established, had a fascinating car, with large, ringed snakes crawling out of the bonnet. I suspect that car still has a corner in his heart. He too, was now and again the dartboard of disapproval, not because of his play. That was beyond question. There were several others (Walter Hagen) to whom the game has meant riches. The salient point is that it called for many years of unrelenting toil before they reached the top.

Therein may lie the secret of Jacklin. The road was a short one, but it is a long lane that has no turning.

The student of the historical ‘greats’, contending against a lesser number of international players as is the case today, knows that they did not always win when they competed. Bobby Jones did not. Palmer, Nicklaus, Player and Trevino do not always supprime. But for the intervention of the war, Cotton would have numbered among them. they were not subjected to derogatory remarks on these lapses. If, indeed they were lapses.

Before the days of television, golf was



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well covered in print, but the press concentrated on successes. The reading then was in the main, leisurely accounts of the leading players (including several famous amateurs) with little comment on their mishaps. As Burton Stevenson wrote: "The only things worth remembering about a great man are his greatnesses; his littlenesses are of no importance."

That is not to suggest that defeats should be ignored, news is news. There are times when it is difficult to escape the impression of a vendetta against a player. The senior, experienced writers on the 'circuit' do not transgress in this manner.

Cameras are the main bugbear of the competing professional. Hogan held a strong dislike of them. In appearance, the epitome of the phlegmatic was Bobby Locke. Yet, I recall him taking exception to the 1949 Open at Royal St. George's. Nobody made any comment about these two. Tony Jacklin during a European championship, was the target of

opprobrium for his attitude to persistent photographers.

The tournament professional is working, playing, in strictest sense, is an euphemism. A fact too often disregarded by the spectators. At such times the golfer is the loneliest person in the world. There he is, alone with his God, who may or may not be in a testy mood, on a tightly mown sward. The centre of a circle of people, the silence electric, while he concentrates on directing the ball into a cup 4½ inches in diameter. Thousands of pounds may be involved.

It is then that a tiny noise, blowing a nose, the click of a camera, the scratch of a cigarette lighter or match, impinge on taut nerves like a sudden clap of thunder. None can fully know the pressure he is under. There is, though, a temptation to ask the more acid critics, the verbal as well the writers, in the words of Robert Service:

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WRITER'S CRAMP?

IN our April issue we published details of a scheme, sponsored by Ransomes, whereby they would offer cash prizes for the best articles, written by members of the B. G. G. A. on certain specified subjects.

To date the response has been disappointing to say the least. Having listened to Greenkeepers discoursing their knowledge on all subjects, including Greenkeeping at length at social functions it would appear that readers either did not see the item in the April issue for which reason it is repeated below, or they have mislaid their pens, in which case the Editor will send a pen to any aspiring author F. O. C., or they are too nervous in which case I recommend two large whiskies, quickly followed by a burst of writing.

As it is now those few of you who do not fall into these categories and have submitted articles will win by default and a great fund of real knowledge will be wasted, as Tennyson put it, "like fragrance wasted on the desert air"

WOULD ALL WRITERS STAND UP AND BE COUNTED?

IN an effort to improve the spread of knowledge and information amongst all engaged in greenkeeping Ransomes

have very generously offered cash prizes for editorial contributions to the British Golf Greenkeeper.

After consultation, an initial six subjects have been selected and for the best contribution on each subject a prize of £10 will be awarded with £5 for the runner-up. No limit on the number of words is stipulated and the prizes are not for journalism but for practical advice which could be of value to other greenkeepers.

The suggested subjects are:

1. Advantages or Disadvantages of the use of winter greens.
2. The need and advantages of aerifying fairways.
3. Bunker renovation.
4. Reducing the fertiliser bill by extending some roughs and carries.
5. Raising the standard of the tee areas to that of the approaches.
6. Are triples greens mowers bringing signs of extra wear on greens as forecast when they were introduced to the world golf market. Have you found any additional programme has been necessary to combat any ill effects they may have created?

The winning entries will be published in the B.G.G. Closing date for entries which should be addressed to the Editor is June 5th.

GOLF AT WALTON HEATH

MANY members will be visiting the Walton Heath Area for the Annual Tournament and AGM in August and also for the International Greenkeepers Tournament and the 2nd British Turfgrass Symposium in October. For their benefit Don Major of the Southern Section has kindly contributed the following list of hotels within 10-15 minutes driving time from Walton Heath.

Burford Bridge Hotel, Dorking.—Dorking 4561; The Bell Inn, West Street, Dorking.—Dorking 2801; Bridge House Hotel, Reigate.—Reigate 46801; Cranleigh Hotel, 41 West Street, Reigate.—Reigate 40600, 43468; Drift Bridge Hotel, Epsom.—Burgh Heath 52163; Dukes Head, Brockham Green.—Betchworth 2023; Punch Bowl Motel, Reigate Road, Dorking.—Dorking 81935, 2041; Star and Garter Hotel, London Road, Dorking.—Dorking 2820, 5503; Tadworth Hotel & Country Club, Tadworth.—Tadworth 3503; White Horse Hotel, Dorking.—Dorking 81138; Warren Lodge Hotel, Brighton Road, Kingswood.—Mogador 2863; Epsom Downs Hotel, Longdown Road, Epsom.—Epsom 21639; White House Hotel, Downs Hill Road, Epsom.—Epsom 22472; Angleside Guest House, 27 Ashley Road, Epsom.—Epsom 24303; Linden House Hotel, College Road, Epsom.

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AGM AT WALTON HEATH

Notice is hereby given that the Fifty Ninth Annual General Meeting of the British Golf Greenkeeper's Association will be held at the Walton Heath Golf Club on Monday the 16th August 1976, at 2.30 p.m. Notice of resolutions must be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary Twenty-one days before the date of the Meeting. Under Rule 29 proxies may be voted at all general meetings. A form of Proxy may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and returned not later than the 9th August.

ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

The Fifty Ninth Annual Tournament will be held at the Walsall Golf Club, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 16th, 17th, 28th, August 1976, Entry Forms appeared in the March Journal.

Monday, 16th August. Morning, 18 Holes. Afternoon, Annual General Meeting 2.30 p.m. Tuesday, 17th August. 36 Hole Medal; Toro Cup

(Scratch), Senior Division (Plus to II), Junior Division (12 to 18): The Jubilee Cup (Team Prize off Handicap): The Coming of Age Cup.

Wednesday, 18th August. Morning, 18 Hole Medal; Afternoon, Prize Distribution 3 p.m.

Section Secretaries will be asked to verify the Handicaps of all competitors from their records before the Tournament. All Handicaps must be based on the National Golf Union's Handicapping System.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A Meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Walton Heath Golf Club on Sunday the 15th August 1976, at approximately 5.30 p.m.

May I remind all holders of trophies from last year's Tournament who are not taking part this year, to ensure that these are returned to the Walsall Golf Club, Broadway, Walsall, Staffs, by Saturday 14th August 1976.

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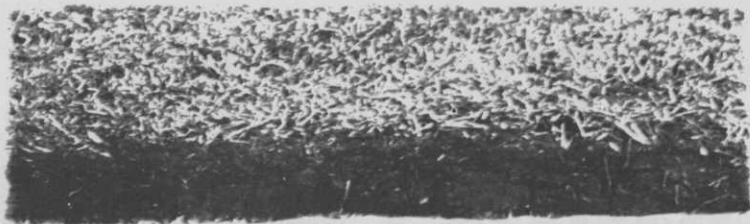
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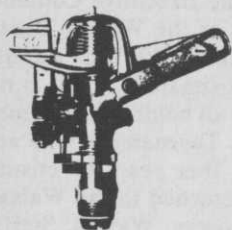


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NEWS

RANSOMES GOLF CLINIC SUCCESS

A series of two training courses run by Bill Beveridge, sales manager of Ransomes Grass Machinery (Scotland) Ltd., and technical representative George Brown for greenkeepers and golf course operators proved most successful with over 60 people taking part.

The clinics were held at Oatridge College of Agriculture, Edinburgh, and at the F. E. Centre of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Glasgow.

Topics covered were use and maintenance of Ransomes specialised golf course equipment, including the Tournament Triplex and Auto Certes greens mowers and gang mowers. Those attending were also shown Ransomes well-known film "The Royal and Ancient Game".

The Front Cover shows participants at the Glasgow Clinic watching George Brown demonstrate maintenance work on the Ransomes-Hahn Tournament Triplex.

NON-MERCURIAL MOSSKILLER R FROM CIBA-GEIGY

Extensive research by Ciba-Geigy has led to the introduction of a non-mercurial moss killer which sets new standards for moss control in sports and amenity turf.

Ciba-Geigy Mosskiller is claimed to meet the two main requirements for moss control in fine grasses—selectivity, and safety to the user, the public and the environment. The product is cleared through the Government's Pesticide Safety Precaution Scheme.

Trials with the new product have shown that moss is effectively controlled from either spring or autumn

application—without any temporary or residual damage to the grass, while grass growth is encouraged by tonic properties contained in the product.

Moss killer is sold as a wettable powder for application by power or knapsack sprayer, or watering can fitted with a fine rose or dribble bar. Because it is applied as a spray, a more even treatment than is sometimes possible with dry applications can be achieved.

Ciba-Geigy Mosskiller is packed in 1kg cartons sufficient for 556 sq. m. (672 sq. yd.) at a retail price of £9.75 per kg.

Rates for application:

Power Spray: 18.0 kg per hectare (16lb per acre) in 500 litres of water per hectare (50 gal per acre).

Knapsack Sprayer: 180 g per 100 sq. m. (11lb 5 oz per 400 sq. yd.) in 6 litres per 100 sq. m. (4 gal. per 400 sq. yd.)

Watering can fitted with fine rose: 9 g per 5 sq. m. (1/2oz per 15 sq. yd.) in 4 litres of water per 5 sq. m. (2 gal. per 15 sq. yd.)

Patches of uncontrolled moss show up clearly alongside an area treated with Ciba-Geigy Mosskiller. The product contains tonic properties which encourage growth of grass



NEW RYEGRASS FROM J. PICARD & CO.

J. Picard & Co. (Seed Merchants) Ltd., and Zwaan & De Wiljes Limited have much pleasure in announcing that Scottish Agricultural Industries Ltd., have been appointed their exclusive wholesale and retail Agent in Scotland for their new Fine Leaved Dwarf Perennial Ryegrass named **SPRINTER**:

This new variety specially bred for amenity purposes, where hard-wearing, good appearance and low maintenance are required is the result of many years of work by the breeders in Holland.

NEW MACHINERY FROM P. J. ENGINEERING

P. J. Engineering of Market Harborough, manufacturers of lawnmower and garden shear grinding machines, is moving to larger premises in Leicester.

The company is vacating its factory on the Riverside Industrial Estate to occupy new headquarters at Cannock Street on the Industrial Estate at Barkby Lane, Leicester.

P. J. Engineering consolidated its position in the highly specialised lawnmower grinding machinery business a year ago by taking over Action Grinders Limited of Leicester. The acquisition has been so successful that in the last twelve months the company's turnover has been almost doubled, and P. J. therefore needed extra space. At Cannock Street, in addition to the necessary manufacturing capacity, it will also enjoy extra office accommodation and a fully-equipped machine demonstration showroom.

During the year the labour force has been steadily increased and a limited amount of addition recruitment is going on.

At the N. A. G. Exhibition at Motspur Park in September, P. J. introduced its two latest models to the

trade. One, the 24" Junomatic, is for grinding cylinders and bottom blades. It has all the facilities with which the larger well-known 42" Jupiter machine is equipped and these include automatic traverse and grinding wheel feed and, of course, water coolant equipment. The Junomatic offers a new concept in machinery for grinding the cutting units of domestic and the smaller range of professional lawnmowers. It is the first machine of this smaller capacity to provide such comprehensive features.

The other new machine, the 24" Juno, emerges from the same basic design and is hand-operated and intended for bench mounting. Both new models can be supplied with or without the bottom blade grinding facility and prices range from about £400 to £850 ex-works.

*The new 24"
Junomatic
Lawnmower
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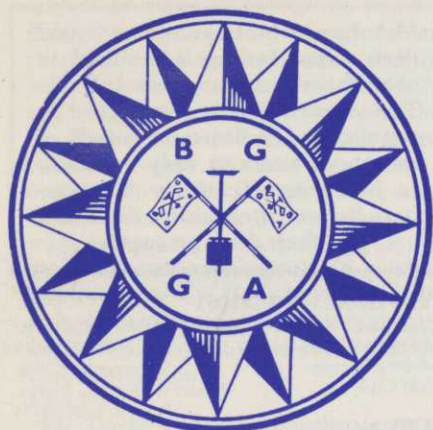


RANSOMES INTERNATIONAL GREENKEEPERS TOURNAMENT

The Ransomes International Greenkeepers Tournament will take place at Walton Heath Golf Club on October 6th 1976. There will be teams representing England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, Canada, U.S.A. and a team from Europe, all competing for the title won by Scotland at the last tournament at Ipswich. The English team will consist of Walter Heeles, Don Major and Vic Smith with Eric James as reserve. The tournament follows the 2nd British Turf Symposium organised by the BPGA on October 5th. Further details will be published in a subsequent issue.

SECTION NEWS

A nationwide round-up of news from the branches



South Coast Section

Chairman:

E. R. JAMES

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. J. STIMSON

Caretaker's Cottage, Braemore House
Braemore, Fordingbridge,
Hampshire.

Tel: Braemore 277

The 1976 Spring Meeting was held on Thursday, 13th May, at Bramshott Hill Golf Course, and we were lucky to have all the necessary ingredients for a successful day. The weather was fine, the course was in excellent playing condition, the atmosphere in the clubhouse was relaxed and friendly, and, most important, we had good support from our members.

The prize winners were:—

Best Gross score over 36 — 154 T. Watt (Puttenham) Tregunna Trophy and wall clock given by Rowe's of Chichester;

Best Nett score over 36 — 139 T. Smith (Parkstone) Roffey Cup and golf watch given by Ransomes;

Second Best Nett score over 36 — 144 J. Stimson (North Wilts) Denyer Cup and set of Papermate pens given by Roffey Bros;

Best Gross score morning — 78 E. West (Broadstone) Pullover given by Jim Fry;

Best Nett score morning — 71 I. Rickman (Bramshott Hill) Garden chair

given by Huxleys;

Best Gross score afternoon — 80 M. Webb (Alton) Pullover given by Jim Fry;

Best Nett score afternoon — 72 M. Kirkham (West Surrey) Tankard given by Lowe's of Longham;

Best 18 Nett score for 24 handicap — 79 D. Hall (Goodwood) Set of Headcovers given by Mr. E. Boone.

In his address, Eric James expressed our thanks to the New Forest District Council for granting us the courtesy of their new course and clubhouse facilities and complimented Ernie Brown and his staff on the fine conditions of the course, which has only been open two years. Eric also thanked Brian Toogood and his staff for the marvellous meals and their courteous service. Eric expressed our special thanks to Eddie Fox and Allan Jeffrey for their hard work organising the meeting and our appreciation to the trade members present, all of whom had contributed most generously to our prize list.

The Captain of Bramshott Hill Golf Club, Mr. Dennis Quick, made a suitable reply and presented the prizes.

The fifth Annual General Meeting of the South Coast Section was held at 6.30, just prior to our evening meal. A report on the proceedings will be submitted in a later issue.

Members are reminded that all subscriptions should be paid forthwith.

We welcome to the Section Mr. C. Reeve of Bramley Golf Club and hope his association with us will be a long and happy one.

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Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions are asked to send these not later than July 31. The Association is committed to regular expenditure on behalf of members and can only continue to function effectively if members honour their obligations and pay their dues promptly.

Northern Section

Chairman:
COLIN GEDDES
Moor Allerton
Golf Club

Hon. Secretary:
W. HEELES
7 Tentergate Close,
Knaresborough, Yorks.
Tel: K'boro 3851

JULY NOTE

'If the cock moult before the hen

We shall weather thick and thin,
But if the hen moult before the cock,
We shall have weather hard as a block'

anon

Compared with, say, carpentry or farming, greenkeeping is a relative newcomer to the industrial scene. Nevertheless since golf began to catch on and the need for greenkeepers arose—which must be two hundred years or more ago—the first concerted effort is being made to draw new recruits into the trade.

As everyone is aware the Standing Conference for Golf Greenkeeping was inaugurated in 1975 to investigate and recommend suitable avenues for greenkeeper training. Now, in early May 1976 the recruitment campaign has taken to the media. At this time an advertisement was seen in the northern press publicising greenkeeping as a trade and at the same time promoting a thirty six week course at Askham Bryan College, starting September 1976.

Launched and financed by the Government's Manpower Services Commission this scheme is aimed more at attracting people from other walks, and who are at present redundant.

It is hoped that very soon formal education will be available to those already in the job. These people are bound to benefit greatly from courses of tuition simply by virtue of their existing knowledge; this making it easier to adapt and relate.

Possibly the idea of 'going back to

school' to many of you is too much to face, or even consider. Though for any chap with a feeling for the trade, together with a desire to advance his knowledge and progress to higher responsibilities, the chance to attend and benefit from a full-time course is really too much to dismiss; the time is ripe young man. Whilst away, obviously, there is no paid wage to combat this incredible grants are available, either through DHSS or education authority.

If you are attracted to this it is suggested that you contact the secretary for further information.

GOLF

Mr. David Spurden, better known to his contemporaries as Spud, is again pitting his skill against 'the rest' in the annual Daily Mirror knock-out golfing competition. Dave, whose handicap is eight, plays a cool game and is a match to be reckoned with.

INDUSTRIAL TOUR

Lloyds of Letchworth was the target of visit made recently by Mr. Adrian Robertshaw and Mr. David Hannam. Whilst there, they were given the courtesy of the works to inspect the manufacture of the famous Leda and Paladin mowers.

Combined with this the pair next day looked in on the Farmers Weekly, International Drainage Event, held near Market Harborough. This venue attracted leading soil water management contractors from Britain and Europe, who impressively demonstrated their skills before and estimated seven thousand on-lookers. Leicestershire G. C. and Leicestershire Horticultural Engineering Co. were also visited.

SPRING DO

Keighley Golf Club provided the setting for our Spring Tournament this year. Over 40 members and invited guests played the 27 holes. The results were as follows:

SCRATCH CUP

D. Spurden with a best gross score 126

1st DIVISION CUP

C. Geddes with a best nett score 114

2nd Prize

H. Marshall with a best nett score 118

3rd Prize

E. Paley with a best nett score 119

4th Prize

G. Mason with a best nett score 119½

2nd DIVISION

1st Prize

P. Marshall with a best nett score 111½

2nd Prize

G. Hardcastle with a best nett score 117

3rd Prize

R. Emsley with a best nett score 117½

4th Prize

D. Carter with a best nett score 118

VICE PRESIDENTS PRIZE

1st Prize

T. G. Wood with a best nett score 109

2nd Prize

D. Todd with a best nett score 109½

Mr. Bryant achieved acclaim with the highest nett score of 147. The visiting guest prize went to Mr. V. Smith, with a score of 124. Prizes were presented by Keighley Golf Club's President, Mr. G. Kitchen.

Notable people present at this function included our guests, Mr. G. Kitchen, President, Keighley G.C.; Dr. Forsyth, Green Chairman, Keighley G.C.; Mr. R. Lane, and special guest Mr. Vic Smith, Chairman, B.G.G.A.

Vic, who for his day's golfing efforts won six golf balls, collected his prize from the front to applause and exclamatory observations of balls!

Present also were three of our Life Members, Mr. W. H. Bartle, Mr. F. Kenny and Mr. F.G. Smith

The Section A.G.M. took place later in the evening on this same date: no business of any radical consequence was discussed. Election of officers for the year ahead took place and are:

President

Mr. W. Mountain
Chairman

Mr. C. Geddes, Moor Allerton G.C.
Vice-Chairman

Mr. E. Paley, Stand G.C.

Committee

Mr. S. Bailes, Keighley G.C.

Mr. G. Bennison, Pannal G.C.

Mr. D. Hannam, S.T.R.I.

Mr. D. Marshall, Alwoodley G.C.

Mr. C. Ramsden, Cleckheaton G.C.

Mr D. Roberts, West Bowling G.C.
Mr: A. Robertshaw, Ilkley G.C.
Mr. J. Scott, Wetherby G.C.
Mr. R. Smith, Bradford, G.C.
Mr. D. Spurden, Ilkley G.C.

Co-opted Member

Mr. G. Mawson, Scarcroft G.C.

Hon. Secretary

Mr. W. Heeles, Oakdale G.C.

Hon. Auditors

Mr. W. H. Bartle, Mr. F. G. Smith

To conclude this summary, thanks must be offered to all who helped to make the day a success.

Prize Fund contributors:

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Thanks too to Sammy Bailes and his staff for laying on the golf: to the Committee of Keighley G.C. for the courtesy of the course: to the steward and staff for the fine fare; and lastly to all you gentlemen who graced the event with your presence.

SUB CULTURE

Seen recently in the underground publication Easy Riders was a book, listed in the literature section entitled "Super Grass Growers Guide". A mouth watering resume followed: The modern method of growing supergrass; with information on hydroponics, lighting, special nutrients, how to produce more females and other info.

No wonder our society's going to pot!
New Member

Welcome from the Northern Section to Mr. G. J. Box, Flat one, Westfield House, 24 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 7. Mr. Box is an assistant at Alwoodley G.C.

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Southern Section

Chairman:

D. S. GOULD
Langley Park G.C.
Beckenham, Kent.

Hon. Secretary:

MRS. D. MAJOR
36 Tynedale Road,
Strood Green,
Betchworth, Surrey.

OUR Spring Tournament was held at Romford G. C. on 11th May with perfect weather conditions. The Course was in first class shape, thankyou Peter and your staff, also thankyou to the 'indoor' staff for providing us with good food and service. Our Sincere thanks go to Mr. Williamson the Secretary for so kindly presenting the prizes.

We are always indebted to Trade firms who so generously contribute to our prizes. Thanks to Messrs Huxleys, Parkers, Ransomes, Toro Turf Machinery, Pattissons and Maxwell Hart. and their representatives who give up their time to look after score cards and numerous other jobs.

Results were as follows:

1st year competitors:

W. McMillan 164 on last 18

P. Elsley 164

Scratch Prize: J. Kirkpatrick 73, 77-150

Coming of Age Cup:

P. Whitehead 73 on last 9

G. Piggott 73

WELCOME!

We welcome to the Association the newly formed East Anglian Section.

President: Mr. R. Fuller, 19 Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk.

Chairman: Mr. P. Lathrope, 95 Furze Road, Thorpe St. Andrew, Norwich, NR7 0AU.

V. Chairman: Mr. S. Goddard, c/o Bury St. Edmunds Golf Club.

Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. T. Ship, 61 St. Mary's Road, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

Executive Committee Representative: Mr. D. G. W. Neville, Links Cottage, Shelford Bottom, Cambs.

36 hole aggregate:

1st E. Green 124

2nd R. Kates 134

3rd B. Newcombe 137

4th L. Coyte 141

5th P. Taylor 144

Change of address:

Mr. M. Lathrope now at

157 Plumstead Road East,

Thorpe St. Andrew,

Norwich, Norfolk.

(old address 95 Furze Road,

Thorpe St. Andrew.

LETTERS

Dear Sir,

There is a report in the press as follows:-

"Player was critical of British putting surfaces after his final practice round yesterday.

'The British are ruining their greens,' said Player. 'They are nowhere as good as they were ten years ago.'

Player, who echoed an opinion expressed by New Zealand's Bob Charles at Coventry two weeks ago, said the problem was caused by the multi-cut machines."

Could you please enlighten us on exactly Mr. Player means by 'multi-cut machines'. We feel he means that these are ride-on mowers, with either triple or quintuple mowers fitted to the ride-on mower, as is standard for cutting golf greens.

Any information you can give would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully
for GREEN'S POWER MOWERS

J. M. REEKIE

GREEN'S POWER MOWERS, Fergus Square, Arbroath, DD11 3DR, Scotland.
"Editor's Note—Would any readers like to comment on this interesting letter from Mr. Reekie?"



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