

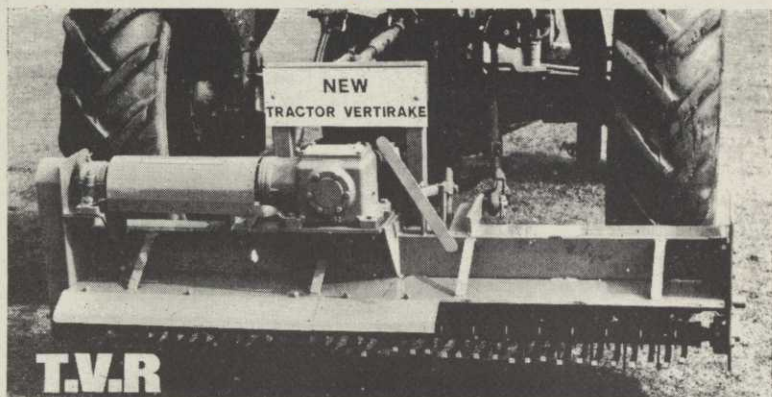
The British Golf Greenkeeper



No. 378

November 1976 15p

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The British Golf Greenkeeper

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Front Cover Photograph:

The successful American team who recently played outstandingly on the Walton Heath course to win the Ransomes Silver Salver and Tankards, presented to them by the Captain of Walton Heath.

Left to Right: George Prieskorn, T. C. Hamilton, Palmer Maples Junior, the Captain of Walton Heath, Mr. M. K. Holloway and Chuck Fatum.

A report on the tournament and also the second British Turfgrass Symposium will appear in the next issue.

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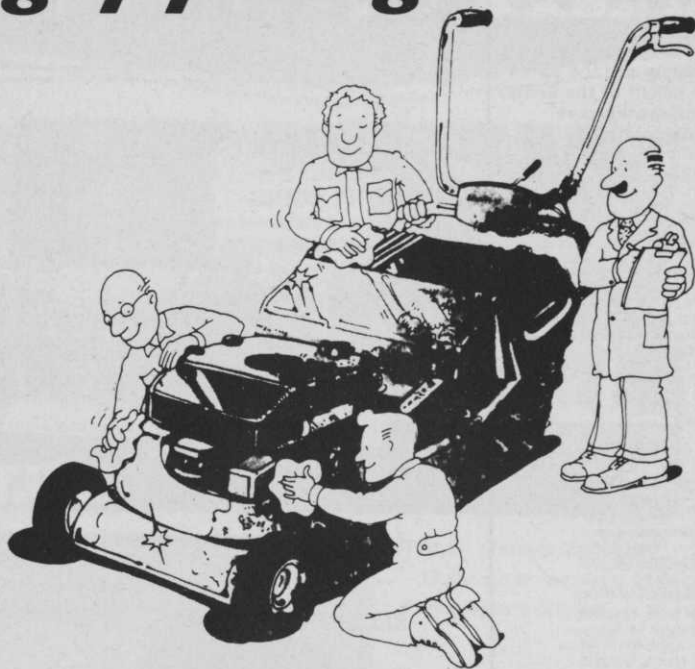
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PIN PLACING

Patrick Smartt.

I WONDER how many people ever view a hole in reverse - from green to teeing ground. I have found that this, inexplicably, makes the second shot appear to be shorter than when playing the hole.

This thought arose from a practice of which the average member has little or no experience - the placing of the pins for the club's annual amateur open meeting, or a county match. The position of the holes in the green under everyday circumstances seldom has their interest, except when the siting has been left too long and the surroundings have become worn.

In what follows is set down the personal view of a one-time secretary, when engaged in the task of selecting hole positions for the meetings mentioned above. We are not concerned with the Open, or the important sponsored tournaments though they will doubtless creep in. As in the manner of the amateur golfer attempting to emulate the world class golfer, committees are liable to place the hole in a portion of the green that calls for the highest class of stroke. That is patently stupid even if it be a county championship.

The Rules of Golf require that. "On a day on which a stroke competition begins (thank heaven not 'commences', my interpolation), and at such other times as the committee considers necessary, provided all competitors in a single round play with each in the same position." There was a story that during the Open of 1937 at Carnoustie, when Henry Cotton was leading the field which included the might of the entire U.S.A. Ryder Cup team, the father and mother of a rain storm broke.

the course discovered Bernard Darwin, who was on the Championship Committee, taking shelter in a hut. The story had it that flooded cups were moved to higher ground. I have never believed that Darwin of all people would sanction such an action. Research led to his book "Golf Between Two Wars." Therein he states that green staff was marshalled, and armed with brooms and squeegees dispersed the water.

Siting the holes for an open club meeting is not just a matter of plunking them in the middle of the green. We are dealing with low handicap players, and we are not going to cosset them. Tease them, yes, but as has already been said to plan the intimidation indulged in by championship committees on both sides of the Atlantic would be ridiculous.

Our competitors will hit the ball well, and furthermore can manoeuvre it. Thus a nice balance has to be observed. In support of this idea let me lead you to a short hole. It is but 135 yards long. The teeing ground is becalmed by trees, and the sensible take notice of the direction of the wind while playing the previous hole. At one time a spacious green, to the right of the entrance was a shallow grassed bunker, to the left was a large deep sand bunker, banked high and reminiscent of the type you find on links. Two new thin bunkers, geranium beds as the great John Ball would have called them, are now in the right hand quarter of the putting surface. Their purpose? In the vernacular "Search me."

However, in the days before their intrusion, for the big occasion we set the hole behind the big bunker.

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BUT, leaving room to pitch over it and sufficient space to pull up before or a little past the pin. There was no watering then and at 600. feet up the ground was usually fast. Another feature is that being a pre-century course there was, and is, severe trouble at the back if the ball runs through the greens. This has always struck me as being wrong. It dictates defensive play. And so our pins must not be too far back.

Anticipating grumbles from the expert Greenkeepers: "What is all this waffle about?", the salient point must be made. My old and revered friend, who has been mentioned before, the Head Greenkeeper, did not play. There are self-opinionated people who will not seek aid from others who may have equal acquaintanceship with the subject. Which is why I enlisted the help of a member, who had won the India Amateur, and in our Amateur had taken George Dunlap winner of the American equivalent in 1933 to the 20th hole where the American holed a No. 6 iron to win.

There is the team. Our problems were increased because the greens undulated. There was a legend in the club that you could spend ten years studying the line and still be wrong. And so we three chose that time in the evening when the sun was casting shadows, and to use an Irishism, high-lighting the dips. One is ever finding a new experience. Practically every green was built up. Lying prone on the bank, eyes at ground level there was a very different picture from that gathered when ranging like a dog sniffing for a scent, or dangling a putter in front of the eyes . . . which gave me a squint the only time it was tried.

Before reaching that stage, the layout of the hole has to be considered and the topography of the ground. Yes, I know we have played it many times, which is why we take things for granted. The first because the archi-

tect, or even before their time, has either set the green at an angle to the fairway or introduced bunkers guarding the entrance. This to make the player place his drive tactically and make his second the simpler. We know then in general from which point of the compass the ball will come. The topography i.e. any slopes will cause the ball to run from them. Once again it is to be remembered that there are no 'pudding' greens to play to. That, one might hope, was the last of our problems, that is if you can ever expect it in golf.

It is not inopportune to recall Bobby Locke's dictum that every putt is a straight one. In judging a borrow a spot is chosen over which the ball should answer the slope. It is a straight putt to that spot.

The time has arrived for our little party to return to the green. The Greenkeeper with his hole cutter (an act that requires more skill than supposed), my friend with his putter and myself. A custom was to pick an area offering level putting ground for three feet round the hole. That was out of the question on our greens, and probably many others. There is some comfort to be drawn from television in the Open and other important occasions. Many a time a ball is seen to curve off line a foot from the hole. Only a borrow or nap can make it do that. An ill-struck putt is on the wrong trail from the start.

Well, there we were. Myself in the lying-load position (does the army use that today?), our good golfer putting or hand-rolling the ball. Eighteen holes is a full day's task.

The percipient will have remembered that the pin never rested in a certain part of the green. It would be at a club that held an important meeting, and a seasoned Greenkeeper was nursing that piece until the time came when he wanted to do his Pin-Placing.



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IN EARLIER ISSUES we announced a scheme, sponsored by Ransomes, inviting articles from members of the Association on certain subjects pertinent to the good running of a golf course.

The six subjects selected were:

1. Advantages or Disadvantages of the use of winter greens.
2. The need and advantages of auri-fying 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 triple 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 first winning entry, which will earn the author £10 was submitted by Mr. A. Price of Carmarthen G.C. and deals with subject number six. We publish Mr. Price's article below.

EFFECT OF TRIPLE GREENS MOWERS

THIS IS MY 4th year of Ransome Hahn Greens Maintenance and contrary to the forecasts of doom by alleged experts that the weight of the machine, the treaded steering wheels, the wide bald driving wheels, and the 67" cut would be detrimental to the upkeep of fine putting surfaces.

My greens have never been in better condition, as regards grass content, grass coverage, freedom from thatch, rapid drainage and true putting surfaces.

This can be verified by Dr. Stewart of Aberystwyth University who paid the course a visit a fortnight ago to test random spots on selected greens for root depth, thatch and top dressing penetration.

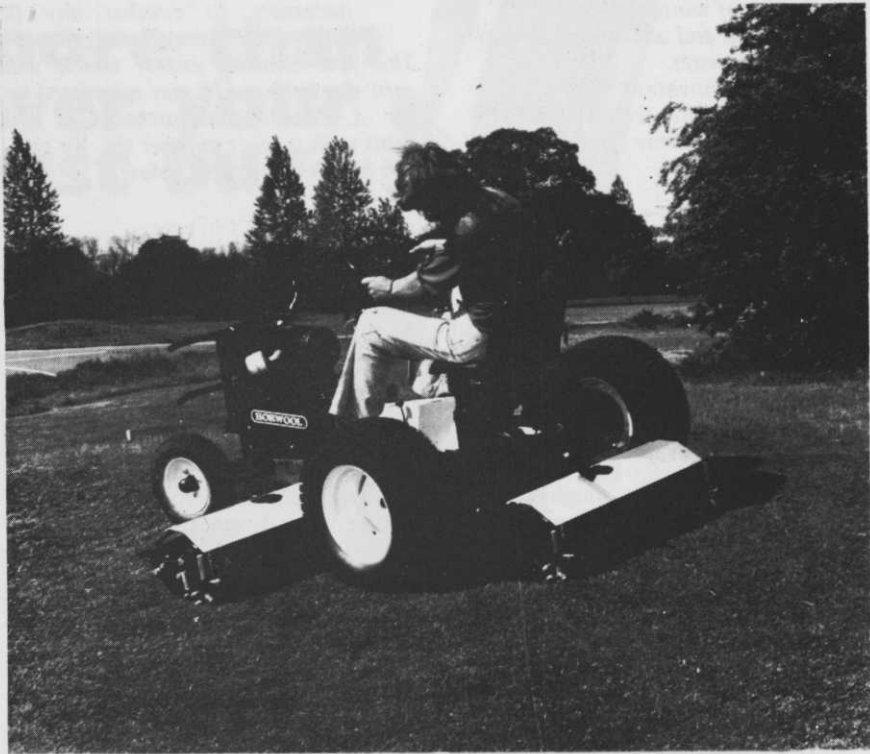
The Ransome Hahn Triplex as all Greenkeepers know can be used for scarifying (Verticut Reels), aerating (Vibro Spiker Reels). And if the reels are used judiciously and intelligently by experienced Greenkeepers who understand their particular greens requirements taking into consideration

grass species and severity of thatch good results can be anticipated.

My methods are these, in March or April according to when growth commences, I set the Verticuts at "zero" (level with bottom of front and rear rollers) and cut all greens transversely. This may seem drastic treatment judging by the amount of material removed and bare appearance of the greens, but opens up the surface preparatory to Fertiliser treatment (Chipmans S.T.F.M.C.A. No. 1) and immediate top dressing of Top soil, sand and peat passed through an 1/8" screen at a rate of 2lbs. per sq. yd. applied by the old 36" Sisis with brush attachment. Monthly for April, May and June I reset the Verticuts to 1/8" (1/16" lower than the greens reels) and verticut in two directions. This July my greens reels are up to 5/16" and my verticuts are set at 1/4" (due to drought conditions).

I also "Vibro Spike" monthly, but personally would like to see them penetrate a little deeper. To compen-

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sate for this I use the Patisson Aerator fitted with the "Root Pruning" tines prior to the 5 weekly cycle of Top Dressing and "Fertiliser" treatment. All greens are hollow tined in October, Top Dressed 4 lbs. sq. yd. Carmarthen G.C. has no water laid on for the greens, and after one of the hottest and driest periods for decades, the greens are excellent apart from the old hole sites of the past 3 weeks.

In my opinion the deterioration of top class greens over the past 10 years is not due to the Multicut mower as Gary Player calls them and which Brian Barnes blames. It is caused by the much abused Pop Up sprinkler and water systems, in other words greens are being over watered and grass species are being adversely affected as regards quality and texture.

To put it bluntly the deterioration of the Greens on the top courses can be "blamed" directly on the "Tournament Professionals" and the "Green Committees" who have pampered and pandered to the "Professionals" (Gary Player, Brian Barnes) to name only two of thousands of Pros. and given them greens resembling puddings so that they measure the distance of ball to flag, select the

correct iron and drop and stop the ball dead on the spot and mark their little white cards.

Golf was intended to include the skill of estimating distance, the art of running the ball up to the green, and above all man to man match play.

Perhaps I should add that I've no experience of the "Toro", "Jacobsen" or any of the other Triplex Mowers which would probably be capable of maintaining the greens almost as well as the "Ransome Hahn Triplex".

Subject No. 5

Raising Tee Standards to that of Approaches

This seems to me to be begging a question. My Tees and Approaches are cut at 5/16" with the Ransome Hahn Utility Reels. Tees fertilized at half the rate of the Greens. Top Dressed at twice the rate with a sandier compost. Slit tined with the Greens and Verticut. Surrounds and Approaches of Greens the same treatment as Greens.

A. Price
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Trade News

New Developments from Mommersteeg

MOMMERSTEEG INTERNATIONAL have introduced two new grass varieties.

MAJESTIC — a new breed of perennial ryegrass which should meet the demands of both groundsmen and landscape architects alike. As well as displaying the essential qualities of a top class variety such as rapid germination and establishment and outstanding resistance to hard wear, Majestic also enjoys other features such as low mowing requirement, fineness of leaf, retention of its dark colour throughout the year, drought tolerance and ease of mowing.

MONCORDE — is claimed to be Britain's greatest advance in fine leafed turfgrass. This versatile, fine-leafed creeping red fescue has many outstanding features including fast establishment, dense compact growth, a rich and deep colour throughout the

year, resistance to wear and versatility and adaptability.

Mommersteeg have published five new leaflets: a new mixture list detailing Mommersteeg blends for bowling greens, cricket, football and rugby pitches, golf courses, playing fields, race courses, stadiums and ornamental and open space areas as well as special mixtures for problem areas and mixtures containing wild flower and herb seeds;

“perennial ryegrass blends for sports turf and amenity use” which traces the development of perennial ryegrasses up to the latest introduction of special blends of certified varieties to meet specific turfgrass needs; and these three exclusive Mommersteeg varieties - “STADION” Britain's most widely used perennial ryegrass, “MONCORDE” a new creeping red fescue claimed to be the greatest advance in fine leafed turfgrass and “MAJESTIC”, Mommersteeg's latest perennial ryegrass which will meet the demands of both groundsmen and landscape architects alike.

2nd BRITISH TURFGRASS SYMPOSIUM

On behalf of The British Golf Greenkeepers Association, I would like to thank the Chairman, Speakers, Co-Sponsors, Symposium Committee, Delegates and Management of the Burford Bridge Hotel for making the 2nd British Turfgrass Symposium on October 5th such a Happy and Successful Event.

WALTER HEELES
Hon. Secretary B.G.G.A.

EDITORS NOTE: A report on the symposium will be published in the next issue.

Toro Machines start on £3m Belfry Courses

A WIDE RANGE of Toro grasscutting and golf course maintenance equipment has now been delivered to help prepare the £3m Belfry Golf and Hotel Complex, at Sutton Coldfield, for its opening next Spring.

The Belfry complex, which includes two championship courses, covers 340 acres. It will be the new headquarters of the Professional Golfers' Association.

Two Toro Greensmaster 3 triple-cylinder ride-on greensmowers spearhead the range of equipment. Equipment supplied to the Belfry also includes a complete set of Greensmaster 3 greens' care and maintenance attachments for de-thatching, spiking and slitting, as well as a trailer unit.

Three pedestrian-operated 21in. Toro Greensmasters with brush attachments are also included in the greens' cutting fleet to provide additional support at tournament periods.

Maintenance of the extensive fairways and semi-rough grass areas will be undertaken by two purpose-built Toro Parkmaster tractor units with combinations of 30in. gang mower units which can be raised or lowered hydraulically from the driving seat. A diesel tractor with a cab for operator comfort is fitted with seven Spartan 5 gang units for fairways, while a petrol engined tractor has been fitted with five 30in. Roughmaster cutters for use in semi-rough areas.

The cutting of tees, aprons and bunker surrounds will be the task of triple cylinder ride-on machines - an 81in. Super Pro supported by a Toro 70in. Teemaster with grass collection.

United Kingdom distributor for Toro equipment is Autoturfcare Limited, of Faverdale West, near Darlington.

New Specialist Turf Care Firm

AUTOTURFCARE LIMITED, based at the Faverdale West Industrial Estate, near Darlington, has been formed (September 1) to provide a specialised service to professional and private users of turf maintenance equipment.

A national network of dealers will handle a range of turf and grass maintenance equipment backed by first-class after-sales service. Further dealers are being appointed.

Equipment immediately available from the United States includes institutional and domestic machines manufactured by the Toro Company, and tractors and implements from the Gravelly Corporation.

Both firms' products are already well established in the United Kingdom market.

Introduction of complementary products is planned.

Autoturfcare Managing Director Mr Bert Jennings has been in charge of the Toro Division of Flymo Limited, which marketed Toro equipment in the United Kingdom, since 1966. In collaboration with The Toro Company it was agreed that the Toro franchise in the United Kingdom be taken over by Autoturfcare Limited.

Mr. Jennings reports that the new company will meet the urgent need for efficient and reliable quality products to contain increasing costs of grass maintenance.

Hub of the Autoturfcare operation is the 25,000 sq. ft. office, workshop, parts and warehouse facilities at the Faverdale West Industrial Estate.

Autoturfcare introduced two new models at the 1976 IOG exhibition at Motspur Park.

Both models, the Toro 84in. Hydraulic Triplex and the Toro

Groundsmaster 52, will be available for the 1977 season.

The mid-sized Groundsmaster 52 triple rotary is designed to provide high work-rate cutting of areas up to 18 acres a day, but extreme manoeuvrability makes it eminently suitable to mow and trim areas of an acre or less.

The new machine features hydrostatic drive with single pedal control for both forward and reverse. This was a major aspect for widespread acceptance in the United Kingdom of the larger Toro Groundsmaster 72 by large institutional users and contractors.

The versatile 84in. Hydraulic Triplex has a height of cut adjustment between 3/8 in and 2 1/2 in. enabling it to be used in a wide variety of situations.

Substantial Grass Seed Price Increase expected

TWYFORD SEEDS LIMITED, are warning sports and amenity grass seed users that they can expect a substantial increase in many grass seed prices in 1977.

Mr Barry Gill, Head of Herbage at Twyford Seeds said that the surplus grass seed both in the U.K., and on the Continent has been rapidly eroded. Denmark had a major problem with grass seed surpluses which have been sold at very low prices. However, due to increased domestic and foreign usage, the surplus has been very much reduced and prices are rising daily. The current U.S. market is also very buoyant.

The growers prices of last year did not meet the expectations of grass seed producers and there has been a substantial decrease in the acreage of seed for 1976 harvesting. This is particularly true of the perennial ryegrasses.

The drought has hit the grass seed producer as much as the grass user. Yields of grass seed have generally been well below average.

Mr. Gill pointed out that grass seed for sale 1976 must all be E.E.C. Certified (or the equivalent). "This", said Mr. Gill, "will also lead to some price increase as certification is costly and the low grade uncertified seed, which is comparatively inexpensive, will not be available".

Mr. Jonathan Franks, Head of the Sports Turf Division of Twyford Seeds said that the demand for grass seed had been very high following the recent rain. "Most grassland has been affected by the drought. Newly sown spring seeds never took in many cases and even established grassland has become very patchy. Many people are direct seeding to improve their grassland and demand for seed has been tremendous, especially for purpose bred amenity varieties such as Manhattan".

"Already grass prices have had to be increased as replacement costs soar" said Mr. Franks, "and the high demand, coupled with a shortage of supply, is bound to push prices up even more".

Twyford say that grass seed purchasers should be very careful in their selection of seeds as many mixtures could contain a high proportion of less suited varieties in order to keep the cost of mixtures down. This, they say, could lead to a real dissaving where maintenance costs are drastically increased.

Canadian G.S.A. meet Ransomes

DURING A TOUR OF North America which included visits to distributors in Miami, San Francisco, Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal, Guy Catch-

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pole, general marketing manager of Ransomes grass machinery division, took the opportunity to have discussions with members of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association.

A C.G.S.A. team will be in the U.K. in October to compete in the second International Golf Tournament for golf greenkeepers and Superintendents which is being organised by the



RANSOMES, who have marketed the Hahn Tournament Triplex at home and overseas since 1972 have decided to manufacture this highly successful machine and its accessories at their Ipswich factory.

This will be the first Triple Greens Mower manufactured in Europe, and it will incorporate the high standards of engineering associated with Ransomes products.

This addition to Ransomes range means the Ipswich company has taken a further step, consolidating its position as the largest manufacturer of professional grass machinery in Europe.

Spare parts for the American built Hahn machine will continue to be available from Ipswich through Ransomes distributor network.

British Golf Greenkeepers Association at Walton Heath.

The C.G.S.A. delegation will also attend the second British Turfgrass Symposium at Burford Bridge Hotel on October 5th.

The picture shows (left to right) Guy Catchpole with Keith Nisbett, Jim Wyllie, Bob Heron, Dave Gourlay, who is co-editor of the Greenmaster and Dave Bassett.

PENNINE COMPOST CO. LTD. of Gauxhole Warehouse, Bacup Road, Todmorden, Lancs. was formed in 1968 to cope with increased demand for John Innes Compost. Each year improvements have been made to the product and Pennine now regard themselves as one of the leading manufacturers in the field. Sales of standard J.I.C. No. 1 and 2 to Golf Clubs have shown the different specification required by Greenkeepers to many other users. The somewhat primitive methods of soil screening still being used decided Pennine to cater for the needs of golf courses with a soil based dressing which can include an organic or chemical fertilizer and to reduce their screen size to $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

MAY & BAKER have produced a four colour brochure illustrating turf weeds and diseases and suggesting means of controlling them. It also contains useful Imperial to Metric conversion charts for distances, area, mass and liquid. It can be obtained free of charge by writing to Horticulture Sales Department, May & Baker Ltd., Dagenham, Essex RM10 7XS.

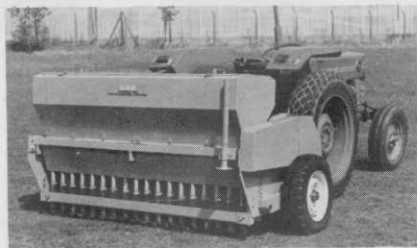
New Products

Revitalise Scorched Turf

RECOGNISING that there will be an urgent need to re-establish many areas of sports and amenity turf, after the extreme drought conditions of this 1976 summer, in many areas of the UK., SISIS EQUIPMENT (Macclesfield) LIMITED, have chosen this time to extend and improve their range of machinery for minimal cultivation and direct re-seeding.

Whether re-seeding completely worn areas, or overseeding drought affected areas where many fine grasses have been lost completely, a SISIS machine may be available.

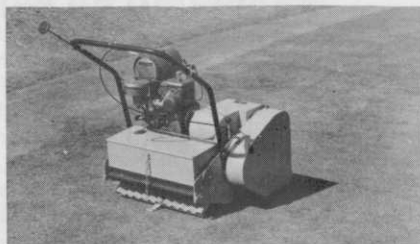
The introduction of the SISIS AUTO-SEEDER will now bring two well-proven principles to the aid of those responsible for the up-keep of areas of very fine turf on golf courses, with the minimum surface disturbance or interruption of play. The design of this machine combines two well proven principles. A driven reel of contra-rotating blades, set at 2" intervals on the shaft, produces shallow, open grooves to receive grass seed. This is metered by conveyor belt principle and dispensed by means of a corrugated chute, directly into the grooves. The chute is mounted in close



SISIS INTEGRATED CONTRAVATOR/LOSPRED linear minimal cultivator and seed drill.

proximity to the turf surface, and a skid is positioned beneath for support and to prevent damage to the turf when turning.

A further new development, is the introduction of an integrated version of the SISIS CONTRAVATOR AND LOSPRED, combining the two functions of minimal cultivation and direct seeder into one compact, tractor mounted machine, with 6ft. (183cm) effective width. By this means the rigidity and stability are improved and more positive alignment of seed tubes, in relation to the lines of tillage produced by the reel of contra-rotating knives. Closer coupling to the tractor provides great ease of handling and transportation. Greater precision of seed placement will ensure improved germination rate and establishment of the sward, whilst further reducing wastage of expensive seed.



SISIS AUTO-SEEDER for rapid reseed-ing and over seeding small areas of worn turf.

New Mower on Show

A NEW CRANKED FLAIL BLADE was one of the features of the Wessex Farm Machinery exhibit at this year's Motspur Park. The blade which is optional on all Fieldmaster professional range of mowers, has the advantage

The British Golf Greenkeeper

of reducing wear on the blade mounting plate and securing bolts; it also minimizes the possibility of more serious damage to the spindles.

Wessex successfully launched their range of Fieldmaster professional mowers earlier this year. At the same time they restructured the U.K. dealer network between the professional and local authority market and the agricultural market. This split is designed to give the professional user the service and back up he needs. There are six machines in the range, all built to high standards, cutting widths range from 6'0 to 12'6", and there is an option of tractor mounted or trailed types on most models.

Also on show for the first time is the Scrubmaster 66, a high performance, heavy duty rotary cutter capable of dealing efficiently with the toughest growth. Generating an impact of over one ton at the blade tips the Scrubmaster can easily deal with the heaviest scrub and makes light work of saplings up to 3in. dia.



THE FIELDMASTER 150T Professional rotary mower, manufactured by Wessex Farm Machinery, Alton, Hants.

Robustly built for long life and low maintenance this machine has amongst its features, height adjustable skids with replaceable liners in hardened steel, hinged rear safety shields, chain top link for contour holding and a 40 Kw gearbox with tapered splined shaft.

There is a choice of chain cutters or four heavy duty reversible flail blades hanging from a 24" square hardened steel plate. A torque limiting clutch is available as an optional extra.

Like its predecessor the Scrubmaster 66 will prove itself an ideal machine for professional users involved in the clearance or maintenance of scrub areas.

New Mounted Rotary from Ransomes



RANSOMES new Mounted Two Metre Rotary, was seen in public for the first time at Motspur Park.

This fully mounted rotary is a low cost, high work-rate mower, designed to tackle overgrown grass areas where a cylinder mower finish is not required. The Mounted Two Metre Rotary was designed in close consultation with contractors who had been unable to obtain satisfactory performance from existing tractor mounted rotaries.

It has a wide application where cutting cycles have been extended, on verges and open grass areas, and it has

the advantage that it can easily be detached from the tractor, releasing it for other work.

Cutting capacity is provided by three cutters each fitted with two heavy duty, reversible steel knives,

with 'swing back' action to protect the machine when encountering obstructions. The machine can be raised in the mounted position for topping in difficult conditions. Height of cut ranges from 50mm. to 175 mm.



New Self Propelled Triple from Ransomes

A NEW SELF PROPELLED three unit machine, the Ransomes Motor 3, has been introduced by Ransomes.

The existing range of Ransomes self propelled triple cutters comprises the fully hydraulic 3 unit version of the Motor 5/3 and the widely accepted Motor Triple both of which have the two unit forward, one unit back configuration.

The Motor 3 fulfills the need for the one unit forward design. This makes it a 'go anywhere' machine suitable for the high class finish of restricted or open areas.

Greenkeepers will appreciate the versatility of this new machine with its manoeuvrability and its ability to cut

with any one unit or combination of units giving different widths of cut.

The Motor 3 combines a good standard of finish with superior mechanical reliability. There is a full cutting width of 1.94 metres, and grass up to 100 mm. can be cut. Height of cut ranges from 12 to 45 mm.

The machine is powered by a Kohler petrol engine with recoil starting which provides acceptable levels of power and fuel economy and noise, conforming to the most stringent international regulations. Speed control is by variator, giving cutting speeds from 3 to 5.9 kph, and a brisk transport speed of 10 kph. Cutting performance is in the region of 0.8 ha/hour (2 acres/hour). The new Motor 3 will be available for the 1977 cutting season.

PATTISON IN THE NORTH

PETER MARSHALL

The Son of a well known Head Green-keeper, with five years of practical experience in the field, to coin a phrase, Peter has a good idea what his customers are looking for from our new van sale and delivery service.

Working from Leeds, as his stock holding centre, he is able to offer immediate delivery from the wide range of our equipment carried by his van to Golf Clubs in Northumberland, Cumbria, Humberside and Merseyside. Golf Clubs in Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Lancashire, share with Durham, Tyne and Wear and Cleveland the facility of Peter's service, his smiling face and reputation are fast becoming recognised as being worthy of our Company motto, Give them the best—they deserve it.

His personal interests include playing golf and bird watching.

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Letters

Dear Members,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help at the International Tournament and Symposium.

A tremendous amount of work went into arranging the Symposium. However the overall success was mainly due to our members, for coming along and supporting, and bringing Club Members, Secretaries etc., to swell the numbers. Thanks also to the Trade for their support, without which, these functions would be impossible.

A special thanks to Ransomes Ltd. for arranging the International Tournament. This gave us all a wonderful chance to meet our visitors from other countries. I am sure that some lasting friendships were formed.

D. S. GOULD National Chairman
B.G.G.A.

FIBRE

We have heard a lot talked about Fibre. This is my way of helping to reduce it and, at the same time you can improve your drainage, and get some air to the roots.

First, when you cut a new hole, remove the Turf cap. Keep the top layer of soil, and discard the lower layer. Remove the hole cup and first of all, put some Grit in the bottom of the hole. Cover this with the top section of the new hole, and fill to required depth with a decent Soil/Sand misc. Leave just enough room for the Turf plug. Firm everything and water. If this is done every time you change the holes you will soon see an improvement.

Archie Cruse.
Bognor Regis. AGE 71.



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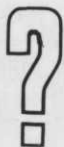
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- RECOVERS QUICKLY FROM INJURY
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Section News

A nationwide round-up of news from the branches



South Coast Section

Chairman:
E.R. JAMES

Hon Secretary:
MRS. J. STIMSON
Caretaker's Cottage,
Breamore House,
Breamore, Fordingbridge,
Hampshire.
Tel: Breamore 277

OUR SECOND Winter lecture will be held on Tuesday, 7th December 1976 at Alrestford Golf Club at 7 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Mr. D.R.B. Hopkins, the Editor of The British Golf Greenkeeper, and therefore there is no need for me to mention the subject matter which will be under discussion! During the past three years, I have received only one written contribution to your Section News and that concerned the 1975 golfing successes of the Greenkeepers of Puttenham G.C. Dare I hope that Mr. Hopkins' talk will encourage other members to put pen to paper?

Mrs. J. Stimson
Hon. Sec.

Northern Section Notes

Chairman:
COLIN GEDDES
Moor Allerton
Golf Club

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

Back-endish

'If there's ice in November that will bear a duck
There'll be nothing after but sludge and muck'

People

DOES ANYONE REMEMBER Tony Burge, the rugged featured gentleman who at one time was Head Greenkeeper at Lightcliffe G.C.?

Tony moved from Yorkshire to the First Assistant's position at the picturesque Ellesborough Golf Club in Buckinghamshire. Since then, following the retirement of his former Senior, he is now Head Greenkeeper.

Tony and his wife Jean report contentment and appear to be well settled into the Bucks. way of life.

Mr. Gordon Bennison, Head Greenkeeper at Pannal G.C., had an unpleasant surprise recently.

Following a routine fungicide application the skin on Gordon's right hand began to itch and blister, the nett result being large areas of tender, exposed skin.

The element of surprise arose out of the fact that for 17 years Gordon had been applying mercurial fungicide in exactly the same manner without any hint of itch or blemish.

Being wise after the event, Gordon now proposes using gloves.

This instance highlights the point that handling or dealing with

poisonous substances without due care to one's well being, even though "it didn't happen last time" is not rational.

In an age when growers and turfmen are becoming increasingly dependent on toxic chemicals to ease their working burden, articles like gloves, face masks, and ear defenders should be standard equipment, *and* used.

Obituary

The death has recently occurred of Mr. Horace Hirst. Mr. Hirst was Head Greenkeeper at Ilkley Golf Club. He was forced into an early retirement in 1969 owing to ill health.

An Honorary Vice-President, Mr. Abe Nott of Bingley, died last August. Mr. Nott will be remembered particularly by members of longer standing for his kind assistance in making space available for Section Meetings in The Old Queens Head, Bingley, in earlier years.

New Members

A hearty welcome to the following people who have lately joined the Northern Section;

- Mr. G. Storr,
Assistant Greenkeeper,
Ilkley Golf Club,
31 Collier View.
Ilkley.
- Mr. M. Mennell,
Apprentice Greenkeeper,
Fulford Golf Club,
26 Elmfield Avenue,
Malton Road,
York.
- Mr. J. Lindsay,
Assistant Greenkeeper,
Doon Valley Golf Club,
14 New Cottages,
Dunaskin,
Ayr.

Lecture

The November meeting will be held at Moor Allerton Golf Club on the 25th. An evening with Victa (UK) Ltd.

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 AUTUMN TOURNAMENT was held at the Berkshire Golf Club on Wednesday 22nd September with sincere thanks to the Secretary and Members for allowing us the use of your course. A special thank you to the President of the Berkshire for kindly presenting the prizes, and his invitation to return at a later date.

Although played in a down-pour a good day was had by all the results being as follows:-

1st	B. Streeter)	75 points
	Mr. Cuthbert)	
2nd	T. Huntley)	72 points
	P. Golding)	
3rd	F. Robins)	70 points
	L. Oikle)	
4th	A.E. Watson)	70 points
	J. McClune)	
5th	G. Piggott)	66 points
	D. Woods)	

Thank you to all inside and outside staff of the Berkshire for making our day such a success, and once again thank you trade members for all your help on these occasions.

The Chairman & Committee of this Section wish to apologise to competitors who travelled to the Berkshire only to find no one to partner them.

Diary Dates:

Secretaries v Greenkeepers - West Byfleet - 12th October 1976
Lectures at Whitbread's Social and Sports Club, Chiswell Street, London, E.C.!. begin as follows:-

3rd November Lecture: Huxleys Film & discussion on Cushman Turf Care System.

1st December Lecture: Mr. Jim Bradbury from Mommersteeg Seed Co. Northants.

5th January Lecture: Ransomes of Ipswich.

We certainly are looking forward to some interesting evenings and hope as many members as possible will attend.

Could we please bring to the notice of the members of this Section that at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the B.G.G.A., the subscriptions were increased as follows:-

Head Greenkeeper	£7.00
First Assistant	£5.00
Assistant	£4.00

As a number of you have paid at the old rate i.e., £5.00, £4.00 and £2.50 respectively, would you please forward direct to the Secretary the amount owing, to enable her to bring your records up to date.

.....

The annual Match between the Association of Golf Club Secretaries and the Greenkeepers took place at West Byfleet Golf Club on the 12th October, 1976. It was a most enjoyable day, with perfect weather conditions, the result of the match being, once again, another victory for the Greenkeepers by 10½ to 7½.

We wish to thank Mr. Russell, the Secretary of West Byfleet, and his staff for making it so successful. R.W. Lance.

Sheffield Section

Hon. Secretary/Treasurer:
B.V. LAX
34 Thievesdale Lane,
Workshop, Notts. S81 0N1
Telephone: 3799

Autumn Tournament

NOTTS GOLF CLUB, Hollinwell, was the venue for this year's Autumn Tournament. About 20 members played for the Machin & Hartwell Trophy, on a very nice day. Unfortunately I was unable to be at Hollin-

well, but I understand everything went very well and all who played enjoyed their day. Mr. Graham Machin was present and very kindly presented the prizes.

The Trophy went back again to Silkston Golf Club, the winner this year being John McNicholas, in the Bogey competition, he had a score of 2 up. It seems as though the staff at Silkston are keen to hang on to this Trophy. Runners up were: S.Scothern, P. Quartermaine and E. Palmer. Thanks to Hollinwell Golf Club for the use of their course, which was in fine condition.

Northern Section Match.

Our annual fixture against the Northern Section was this year held at Hillsborough Golf Club, Sheffield. Six 4 ball matches were played and as in the previous two years the Sheffield Section were again the winners. The score being 4 matches to 2. Results as follows, Sheffield name first.

T. Mulcahy	Lost to	D. Spurden
S.K. Arnold		D. Roberts
N. Whitaker	Lost to	H. Marshall
M. Coultas		C. Garnett
F. Frost	Beat	R. Lambert
J. McNicholas		R. Smith
A. Spencer	Beat	C. Geddes
N. Maltby		E. Paley
R. Brailsford	Beat	H. Lacey
P. Quartermaine		P. Blacker
C. Colton	Beat	N. Faran
A. Goldthorpe		C. Ramsden

In the morning Sheffield Section members played nine holes for the coach cup, the winner being T. Mulcahy, runners up H. Herrington and J. Mc Nicholas. A nice end to our competition season came when in the morning our previous section secretary and Head Greenkeeper for Hillsborough, Henry Gillespie, playing golf for the first time in two years had a "hole in one" at the short second. "Well done Henry".

Thanks to Hillsborough Golf Club for the use of their course and

clubhouse, both were very much appreciated.

Winter Meetings

Our winter meetings will be held at Abbeydale Golf Club on the first Thursday of the month at 2.30 p.m.

November 4th will see a speaker from S.T.R.I., Mr. Woolhouse, who will talk on weed identification and control.

December 2nd. Mr. Lees of S.A.I. will come along to give us a talk on Turf Nutrition.

Midlands Section

Chairman:
V.W. SMITH

Hon. Secretary:
A. KITE

5, Lillington Close,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands.

THE AUTUMN TOURNAMENT was held at Ladbroke Park Golf Club on Wednesday 29th September, 1976. Listed below are the scores and prize winners:-

- G. Woodward - 1st Gross 120
Toro U.K. Cup, Table Lighter
- R. Pullen - 1st Net 106
Clayton Cup, Travelling Clock
- D. Haynes - 2nd Net 108½
Salver
- A. Cutler - 3rd Net 109½
Model Traction Engine
- V. Smith - 4th Net 110½
Bottle Scotch
- T. Morris - 5th Net 112½ - Shirt
- H. Lewis - 6th 113
Wedgewood Pottery
- C. Frost - 7th Net 114½ - Road Atlas
- R. Pugh - 8th Net 116 - Bottle Sherry
- E. Thomas - 9th Net 117
Golf Bag Stand
- B. Ashby - 10th Net 117½ - Pruners
- W. Boyce - 11th Net 118
Gigaret Lighter
- A. Boraston - 12th Net 119
Wall Ornament
- J. Bevan - 13th Net 120 - Wallet
- R. Chandler - 14th Net 122
Measuring Tape

D. Shortley - 15th Net 123
Golf Glove

A. Kite - 16th Net 123½ - Books

M. Bladen - 17th Net 126½
6 Golf Balls

E. Leeson - 18th Net 128½
6 Golf Balls

(PLAYED OVER 27 HOLES MEDAL PLAY)

We would like to thank the committee and members of Ladbroke Park Golf Club for allowing our members the courtesy of their fine course and club house, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, the Steward and Stewardess who together with their staff provided excellent service and meals throughout the day, the ground staff for their obvious efforts in getting the course into such good order, the Trade people and Vice Presidents who kindly gave us so much of their time, marking cards, collecting money, making up score sheets etc., to Gordon Hiams who filled the breach at short notice and presented prizes and finally a very big thank you to the people and companies listed below who were most generous in donating the fine collection of prizes.

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It's the really quick answer for cutting most grass areas - especially where they are separated.

The 3 hydraulically power driven cutting units are put into or out of work - by a single lever operated from the tractor seat. When mowing is completed the units are raised for transport, as a continuous action, therefore time spent between each grass area is minimal.

The finish is exactly as required - a wide range of cuts per metre see to that. If the tractor is needed for other tasks, disconnecting the Mounted Hydraulic 3 takes only a few minutes.

The new Mounted Hydraulic 3 has a definite place in your mowing programme. Find out the full story now.

Outstanding features

Compact, light but robust, all-welded construction.

Quick attachment-detachment from tractor, just a few minutes

Fixed head, six knife cutting units as standard or alternative floating head, eight knife cutting units for golf course fairways

Cutting width of 2.14 metres (7ft)

Transport width of 2.39 metres (7ft 10ins)

Height of cut range: 13mm to 90mm (½in to 3½ins)

Quick fix mounting for Ford, Massey-Ferguson and other tractors

See your Ransomes distributor or write direct to:-
Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd., Ipswich.

Mounted Hydraulic 3

Buy or ask for Leasing details

