

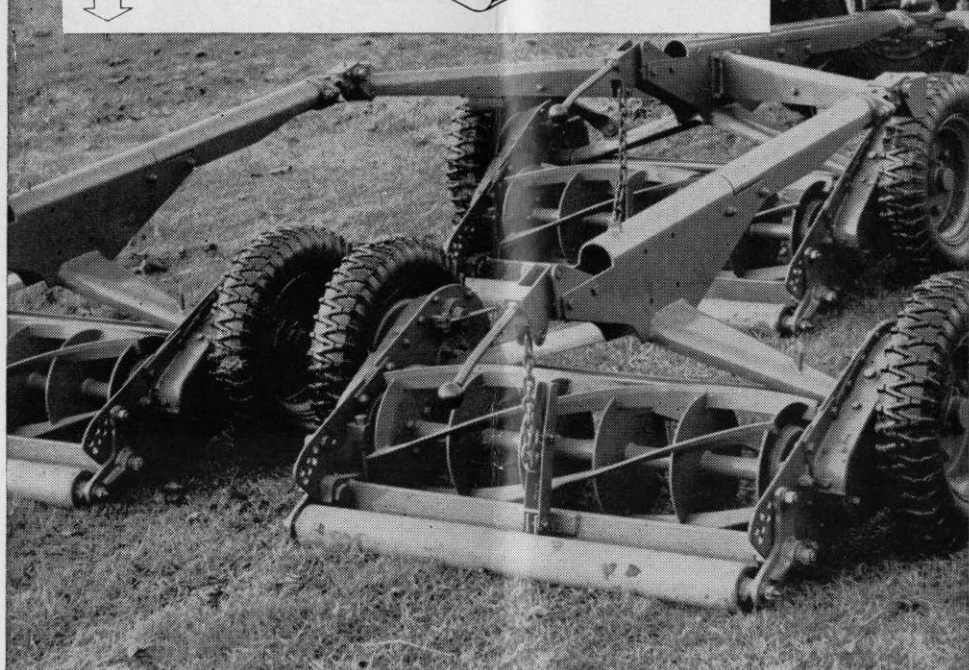
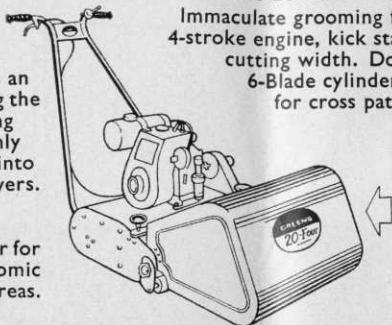
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GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



FOUNDED 1912

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF GREENKEEPERS, GREENKEEPING AND THE GAME OF GOLF BY THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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The Association is affiliated to the English and Welsh Golf Unions.

No. 257 New Series

AUGUST 1966

GRASS I PASS

*There's no green as mean
As the fast green that wasn't
Unless it's the green
With the break that doesn't*

—CLIFF MACKAY

AUGUST

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EDITORIAL AND ADVERTISEMENT OFFICES: Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane Addington, Croydon, Surrey. Telephone: SANDerstead 0281. SUBSCRIPTION RATE: 14/- for 12 issues post paid. Published during the first week of each month. LATEST COPY DATE: 8th of month prior to insertion. All rights reserved. Reproduction of original articles and photographs in whole or in part is prohibited. This Magazine shall not, without the written consent of the Publishers first given, be re-sold, lent, hired out, or otherwise disposed of. Contributions and photographs of interest are invited.

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DEMONSTRATIONS OF ANY ATCO CAN BE ARRANGED TO SUIT YOU OR YOUR GREENS COMMITTEE

TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

W. J. GARDNER, M.B.E.

Billy Gardner died on the 7th July 1966. He had been ill since January

He was the genius at the heart of artisan golf for more than 30 years and his connections with the movement were older still. That example will inspire his Association for many years to come.

He was a true friend of greenkeepers, understood their problems, encouraged them in their golf and their work. Those who met him year by year at the Artisan Tournament will not forget his special welcome.

The next issue of the *Artisan Golfer*, the magazine which he edited until last year, will be devoted to his memory. The tributes of his countless friends will be a measure of his achievements.

Punctilious in discharging his official duties, he used them equally to fashion bonds drawing 10,000 golfers together into a unity which reflects his virtues, above all his desire to serve his fellow men.

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ABOUT TURF DISEASE

By J. G. HALCROW, B.Sc., M.I.Biol.

DISEASE has been associated with grass for a great space of measurable time but has become more noticeable during the last 50 years because of the intensive cultivation and maintenance given to fine and coarse turf. New grasses and different variations of grasses may (as they are introduced into sports turf and so become exposed to the intensive measure of turf culture) bring new or different forms of disease. There can be no complacency about disease or its control.

Disease which, rightly so, is thought of so often as being caused by fungi, can be brought about by non-fungal agencies such as mechanical damage due to the smokes and dusts of industry, by severe frost, or scorch by excessive and injudicious use of fertilisers, fungicides and weedkillers, or by plant food deficiencies. All these and many more must be considered when a patch of dead, bleached or discoloured grass has to be examined.

Undesirables

The unsightly discolorations and scars on turf frequently indicate the presence of fungal disease, as also do the fine "cob-web like" strands of fungal hyphae which, in the dew of early morning, can be seen joining grassblade to grassblade. The discolorations and scars left on turf by fungal disease are unsightly and unwanted but it should be remembered also that disease, by weakening and "opening-out" the sward, will permit weed invasion and the entry of undesirable grasses such as annual meadow-grass. A radical change for the worse can be seen in the composition of a sward exposed to repeated attacks of fungal disease.

Diseases that concern us in the British Isles are *Fusarium* patch disease, *Corticium* or Red Thread disease, *Ophiobolus* patch disease, Dollar spot disease, and to a lesser extent *Helminthosporium* infections and those due to the presence of fairy rings. In other

countries these and many more diseases may be present, e.g. Brown Patch (*Rhizoctonia* sp.) and Copper spot (*Gloeocercospora* sp.)

Under British conditions, Dollar spot disease attacks turf of sea-marsh origin. The small bleached "dollar-sized" areas on the fescues join to form larger masses of bleached turf. The appearance of bleached areas on fescues could be mistaken for *Corticium* disease. However in the later stages of *Corticium* the hyphae become fused to form coral-red needles. Dollar spot disease has its own very characteristic horizontal yellow banding on the fescues.

Rings

Ophiobolus patch disease may flare upon areas of bent-grasses growing under conditions of excess surface moisture and alkaline pH. The active fungus shows itself in June as a red-orange ring, vigorously growing outwards and destroying the bent-grasses in its path. Inside the ring will be found the resistant plants such as annual meadow-grass, ryegrasses and pearlwort cushions.

Perhaps the commonest and most disfiguring disease of sports turf is *Fusarium* patch disease—the so-called "Fuzz". The faint brown patches of the disease quickly become orange-brown and wet in appearance. The infected grass dies leaving bare unsightly scars. In warm "muggy" weather this disease becomes active from its banana-shaped "resting spores"

Breeding

The control of disease so as to achieve a healthy sward need not depend always on fungicides, but will usually do so. It may be possible in future years for the plant breeders and geneticists to produce grasses resistant in varying degrees to diseases. However, cultural activities can do much to reduce the incidence of disease, i.e. switching will decrease *Fusarium* patch disease by removing moisture which is

(Continued on page 11)

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THE GRASS**

with that heavy tractor

The BMC Mini Tractor treads lightly on turf, providing traction without ruts. The BMC Mini is low-built and stable on undulating land, it is highly manoeuvrable in confined areas, fully versatile and economical to run. Powered by a BMC diesel engine and available with hydraulics and power take-off, the BMC Mini can be applied to gang mowing, hedge cutting, loading, levelling, grading and a whole variety of P.T.O. tasks. Ask your BMC/Nuffield dealer to arrange a working demonstration with the BMC Mini Tractor For better maintenance of parks, sports grounds and golf courses—

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF
THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
LITTLE ASTON GOLF CLUB

Monday, 8th August at 2.30 p.m.

A G E N D A

- 1 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. Annual Report.
- 3 Financial Statement.
4. Executive Committee Report.
- 5 Election of Officers.
6. Any other business.

GRUNDFOSS HIGH EFFICIENCY PUMPS USED IN AUTOMATIC IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

THE Grundfoss range of multistage centrifugal pumps have been selected for use in conjunction with the automatic irrigation equipment marketed and installed by British Overhead Irrigation Limited. The pumps have been chosen by the company because of their extremely high mechanical efficiency coupled with maximum reliability and competitive price.

British Overhead Irrigation Limited supply and install their automatic irrigation systems in golf courses and sports grounds throughout the world.

Automatic installations of this type, giving "push-botton" control over the irrigation of golf course greens and tees, rely completely on the reliability of the pump installation for trouble-free operation and long working life.

Grundfoss pumps, produced by the International Grundfoss Organisation, with factories in Denmark and Germany as well as the U.K. plant at Bletchley in Bucks., incorporate several revolutionary features in their design and construction. Stainless steel impellers and diamond polished mechanical shaft seals are but two new developments in pump construction which have resulted from extensive research programmes, specifically aimed at high efficiency and reliability, continuously carried out by the company

Mr T R. Hilton, Managing Director of British Overhead Irrigation Limited, said at a recent demonstration of auto-

matic equipment, "Grundfoss pumps have been selected by this company because of their absolute reliability and high efficiency combined with a realistic price, a combination which the company has not previously been able to find"

The most recent installation carried out by British Overhead Irrigation Limited is at Sunningdale Golf Course near Ascot. The system, giving completely automatic irrigation of all 36 greens and tees, was officially handed over to the Club Officials on Saturday, 30th April 1966.

The installation involved the laying by mole plough of eight miles of underground PVC water mains, together with the siting of 250 underground "pop-up" sprinkler heads situated around greens and tees. The two Grundfoss CP8/100 pumps, sited together with the electrical automatic control system, maintain sufficient pressure to serve two complete sprinkler stations operating at the same time. There are a total of 36 "sprinkler stations" on the course, comprising one green and one tee per "station"

This type of automatic installation is now being used for sports grounds and golf courses throughout the world. The sytem saves labour, maintains turf in good condition in the driest weather and provides economies in the use of water as well as avoiding inconvenience to players.

SISIS DEMONSTRATION TOUR IN WEST GERMANY

Sisis demonstrator Mr Roger Barnes has recently returned from a demonstration tour of West Germany, his second visit there this year

Leaving with Austin Gipsy and trailer on 3rd June, Mr Barnes, who speaks German, spent the following month giving demonstrations of Sisis sports ground management equipment before German groundsmen and municipal authorities. He covered 4,000 miles and gave over twenty demonstrations during the tour which was arranged by the company's distributors, Landre & Glinderman GMBH., of Munster

Keen interest was shown in Sisis equipment. Most of the large and medium sized towns in West Germany have a modern sports stadium but still rely on manual labour for maintenance. Permission was give for Mr Barnes to demonstrate before a group at a Munich stadium on the understanding that the stadium themselves were not interested in buying. After the demonstration they purchased a complete range of tractor-operated equipment.

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN Aerator for hire, £25 per week — Do it yourself. J. B. Burnell, 2 Clarence Road, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees.

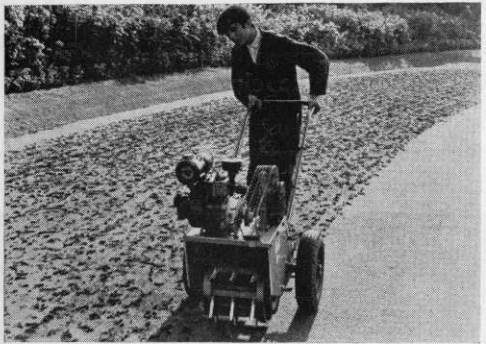
40 times faster than hand forking

The SISIS AUTO-TURFMAN motorised aerator handles superbly and is used all day by the operator

A 16-year-old youth illustrated can operate the machine after only two weeks' training.

Designed to give maximum penetration of 4" on fine turf with vertical entry and withdrawa without lift or tear leaving clean hole.

There is no loan on the wheels when aerating only when turning or transporting Safe to use on soft ground.



Solid and Slitting tines are interchangeable with hollow

The operator has previously run the SISIS AUTO-ROTORAKE over the green giving it that beautiful carpet pile finish through disposing of the horizontal growth and unwanted fibre.

As "seeing is believing" why not ask for a demonstration?



" SISIS " EQUIPMENT (Macclesfield) LTD.
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CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sir,

I am the Head Greenkeeper of The
..... Golf Club.

I have just been looking over your old May edition and noticed the wages survey. The Head Greenkeeper should get £20 to £24 per week PLUS accommodation. First Assistant — £15 to £17 10s. per week, Assistant — £13 to £14 per week.

On the course I work on these are the wages —

Head Greenkeeper	£15 per week age 26 years
First Assistant	£12 per week age 22 years
Assistant	£5 per week age 17 years
Assistant	£5 per week age 16 years

In my opinion this is a disgrace. Two weeks ago I had a £1,000 competition here. We had to work every night almost for 12 days, sometimes starting at 6 a.m. till 8.30 p.m. We got the course in first class condition. All the club members said this was the best the course has been for about 20 years so why can't the club pay the wages

your Executive Committee mentions. The three assistants never worked on a course before two months ago, so I had to teach them how to cut greens, fairways, approaches, tees, spread dressings, water and so on.

The lads who work for me get on well with me, but the wages are shocking, so the lads are finding other trades with more money. Who can blame them when their hard work is not rewarded? Thanks are not enough.

I am getting married and at present there is no accommodation for me. I have told the Secretary about this situation. He says there might be a place built in about a year's time, but what am I to do in the meantime? I have got a flat near the course, but the rent is high. Paying the rent, getting food in, painting and decorating out of £15 per week is going to be a struggle at first.

I hope you don't mind me airing my views about this but it's the way I feel, and the wages in my district are very poor. They have good courses up here and the clubs should *Pay*.

Yours faithfully,

(Name and Address supplied)



AUGUST	8th } 9th } 10th }	Annual Tournament Little Aston Golf Club.
SEPTEMBER	7th	Southern Autumn Tournament Thorndon Park Golf Club.
	21st	East Midland Autumn Tournament Erewash Valley Golf Club.
	22nd	North-West Annual Tournament Hazel Grove Golf Club.
	27th	S.G.G.A. West Annual Meeting, Lanark.
OCTOBER	6th	S.G.G.A. East A.G.M. Liberton Golf Club.
	12th	Midland Autumn Tournament Blackwell Golf Club.

The Cottage,
Thorpe Hall Golf Club,
Thorpe Bay, Essex.

24th July 1966.

Dear Mr Editor,

On Thursday, 14th July, the annual invitation match between the Society of Essex Golf Captains and the Essex Greenkeepers took place at the Romford Golf Club. Although this match is mainly intended for Essex Greenkeepers, a few guests are invited, and this year we had the pleasure of the company of Tom Mason. Although retired after 55½ years at Hendon Golf Club, he is still very active and capable of playing a good game of golf.

We assembled at 12 o'clock and after a few pints and a very excellent lunch, we proceeded to do battle. A Stableford four-ball was played, the Captains winning by 16 points.

After the match more beer was drunk, before another very good meal. Mr Harry Shearcroft, the Captains' captain, said how delighted his society were to entertain us for the match. He also thanked the Greenkeepers for the very hard work they put in to give pleasure to all persons playing golf. He also thanked the Romford Golf Club for allowing the match to take place, and the staff both outside and inside for their excellent service.

I had the pleasure of thanking the Captains for the very excellent day they had provided, and one which we looked forward to annually. I also stated that as most of the Greenkeepers present were getting on in years, great efforts should be made by clubs to encourage new blood into the profession.

Yours sincerely,

JOCK GLASS.

Essex Captains		Greenkeepers	
	<i>Pts.</i>		<i>Pts.</i>
J K. Herve and Dr McCarthy	41	J Glass (Capt.) and E. Foulkes	42
Mr Clarke and G Smart	35	F Read and E. James	37
A. Young and W Player	41	J Rennie and F Smith	34
W Bridge and H. Seymour	40	P Moore and R. Hollington	35
J Wignall and E. Brown	45	J Noakes and D. Craig	39
R. Wyeth and W Wacland	40	C. Moore and T Mason	40
G H. Parke and Mr Bird	47	P Staines and Mr Gould	46
Mr Goss and Mr Francis	40	F Ford and Mr Bennett	40
<i>Total</i>	<hr/> 329	<i>Total</i>	<hr/> 313

News



from the Sections

SHEFFIELD

By J. J. Dearlove

Hon. Secretary:
63 Langsett Avenue
Sheffield, 6

Chairman:
G. HERRINGTON
(Lindrick)

THE FIRST OF TWO EVENTS TO report is the S.U.G.C. competition when 30 greenkeepers were the guests of the Sheffield Union of Golf Clubs at Lindrick Golf Club on Monday, 20th June. Each greenkeeper was partnered by a member of the Sheffield Union in a better ball competition. It was a most interesting meeting in more ways than one and rather a wet one to start off with. Brollies and waterproofs were much in evidence on the first tee but the skies cleared for the latter half of the round. The most encouraging thing was the attendance which could probably be a record for the Section. It was rather a pity that there were not enough people to partner the greenkeepers but I am certain that Mr Wilkinson, Secretary of the S.U.G.C. did his utmost to meet the demand.

Deciding the winners proved a bit of a headache for the officials with three returns of 70 having to be decided on the last nine holes with the final result in the following order S. Inman and Mr Hulley, C. Chappell and Mr Swift, G. Herrington and Mr Butcher

Mr Jack Hulley, President of the Yorkshire Union, presented the prizes and thanked the Club for allowing the use of the course. He also remarked on the attendance as the best he had known for this event.

Mr Wilkinson added his thanks to the Club and Mr Roberts, of Lindrick G.C., replied. Mr G. Herrington, representing the

greenkeepers, thanked Mr Wilkinson and Mr Lomas for their work in running the competition and Mr Hulley for presenting the prizes.

President's Prize

Twenty-one players teed off to do battle for our President's Prize at the Phoenix G.C., Rotherham, on Tuesday, 27th June.

Mr Shardlow, our President, was unable to be with us owing to the date of the fixture being rearranged. I hope he will accept my apologies for choosing a date that clashed with an outstanding commitment. We do, however, thank him very much for sponsoring this competition and providing the much sought after silver salver. We also thank the committee of the Phoenix Golf Club for the courtesy of the course which was in very good shape. Thanks also to Mr Elliott for contributing to the prizes and honouring us with his presence. Thank you, Mr Len Boyd (Professional) for the prize and the use of the trolleys. Our final thanks to Mr F. Croft for acting as recorder and supporting the event financially.

Making it a double victory for the season, Sam Inman coasted home a clear winner with a good score of 37 points, he carded 20 points for the first nine holes and kept a tight grip on his game to take home this lovely trophy and a voucher for £5. Close on his heels came Cyril Chappell, playing on his own course, with 25 points. Other prize-winner and leading scorers were A. Goldthorpe 32, W. Williamson and R. Whitehead 30, H. Herrington, J. Dearlove and A. Spencer 29, and J. Walker and G. Herrington 28.

New Members

We welcome to the Section Eric Palmer who recently took over at the Abbeydale Club and his assistant P. Smith. We hope you enjoyed your first competition with us and that you will join us on many more occasions.

NORTH-WEST

By H. M. Walsh

Chairman:
D. PATE
(Royal Birkdale G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
78 Hadfield Street,
Oldham, Lancs.

In Memoriam

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET I HAVE to inform members of the passing away of Mr J. Marshall who was Head Greenkeeper at Royal Lytham. Jim, who died suddenly about the end of June, was a very well known and respected member of the Association not only to his friends of the North-West, but to fellow members of the other sections, particularly the Southern, who will probably remember him best for his keenness for the game of golf and the success of our National Tournaments. He