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THE BRITISH GOLF

GREENKEEPER

HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



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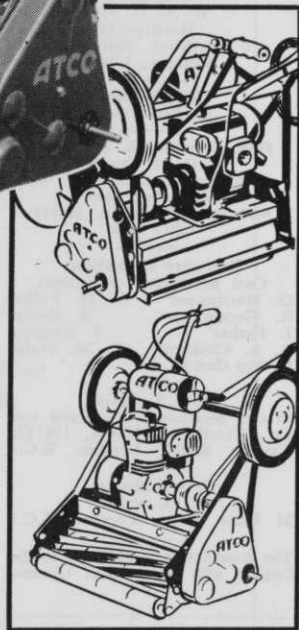
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Greetings



From the President

I send Christmas Greetings to all members of the B.G.G.A. and hope that the importance of their work will be appreciated by the Golfing Public more than ever in 1970.



From the Chairman

I would like to take this opportunity of sending my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all Members and supporters of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association.



From the Hon. Secretary

*To every member of the Association
I would like to extend my very best
wishes for a Happy Christmas and a
Bright and Prosperous New Year.*

C. H. Dix.



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18 HOLES WITH HAWTREE

No. 9 — THE TEE

by FRED HAWTREE

At Hole No. 1 we noticed how important was the player's first impression and how a large tee made it possible to present the course favourably.

Ideally, the same principle should be extended to all eighteen holes especially the Par 3's. If club damage can be spread lightly over a big enough area, the grass will recover by itself and there need be no patching or reurfing. Two hundred and fifty square yards with 350 at short holes, is probably the minimum that can be envisaged at lightly used courses, but 350 and 450 square yards will not be enough if wear is intense and winter play continuous.

Like breweries, the need for economy has led to amalgamation. Surprisingly enough, if a 2 ft. strip round the edge of two tees each 10 yards x 10 yards is not used, nearly 25% of their area is wasted. Connected, they lose only 19%—still pretty considerable. Long narrow tees lose a higher percentage still, though other factors—traffic, location, hole length—may take precedence.

Maintenance is obviously reduced where tees are united but no connection should be made without detailed planning. If the tee-shot is to a fairway or green at a lower level, a long single formation may completely spoil the view of the hole from the back of the tee. At a short hole on one well-known links, the player now looks at a long flat length of tee with the green, as it were, lying at the end of it. All the intermediate land is obscured. It can be argued that the previous wasteful multiplicity of tees was preferable both from the landscape and playing view points.

Certainly where one large tee involves destroying valuable feature, as can often happen on sea-side links, the benefits of reduced maintenance must be very carefully weighed before a decision is made.

The overwhelming desire to join tees has even led to combinations of the tees of two different holes. There is one in

Hampshire resembling the top two-thirds of a Maltese Cross. The idea goes beyond reasonable limits when interference and delays are likely to be introduced.

Visibility problems can often be overcome by "stepping" the tee surface. If the slopes intervening between each level are gradual, say 1 in 4, mowing will not be interrupted, though space is again wasted.

Aesthetically, tees are the least attractive feature of a golf course. Efforts have been made in the past to introduce random shapes instead of rectangles but they have not been generally popular and a flat top on a random shape can often look curious. At the same time, an irregular shape can often be co-ordinated with the direction of the tee shot and surrounding contour to provide something both interesting and acceptable.

Players seem to prefer a tee built up to inspire confidence and some elevation will often be desirable for better drainage. If the surrounding slopes are graded out very gently the flat area will almost disappear and hand work with it.

The teeing ground itself is probably best left dead level. There have been suggestions for a back to front fall at downhill holes and front to back at uphill holes but it is doubtful whether the feasible gradients are significant. A tee can in fact appear level and have a measurable fall.

Complaints will however soon follow if a new tee is wrongly orientated—and the effects of wrong orientation on the tee shot can be noticeable. Players will often allow the trajectory of their club to follow the line given by the tee while aiming in the desired direction. The irregular shape at least avoids this problem.

On most inland soils the dry tee is always going to be more resistant to wear than the wet one. Therefore good drainage is nearly as vital as it is in greens. Modern specifications for clay soils even

continued on page 12



SPECIAL

OCCASIONS

25th



DEC.	9th	Midland Section Lecture—Old Crown Hotel
	10th	Northern Section Lecture
	11th	South West Section Annual Dinner—Shirehampton
	16th	Northern Section Christmas Social
1970		
JAN.	7th	Southern Section Lecture

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SITUATION VACANT

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED due to retirement of present Greenkeeper after nearly 50 years' service. 9 hole course due to be extended to 18 holes next year. Opportunity for keen ambitious man, Salary by negotiation. Accommodation available or allowance in lieu. Write in first instance, giving details of past career and experience to Chairman, Worcestershire Golf Club, Malvern Wells, Worcs.

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED. Salary according to qualifications. Accommodation available. Apply, stating experience and qualifications to The Secretary, Ham Manor Golf Club, Angmering, Sussex.

GREENKEEPER WANTED. Tunbridge Golf Club requires an experienced Greenkeeper. Applicants to submit personal details to Hon. Secretary, Tunbridge Wells Golf Club, Layton Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, as soon as possible.

GREENKEEPER REQUIRED and wife to act as Stewardess for small South Midlands 9 hole golf course. Free accommodation. Profits from catering etc. Please write stating experience and wages required to the Secretary, Rusheden & District Golf Club, 71 Park Avenue, Rusheden, Northants.

EXPERIENCED ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER. Clevedon Golf Club, Clevedon, Somerset. Write stating previous experience.

HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED. Apply in writing to the Secretary, Shipley Golf Club, Beckfoot Lane, Bingley, Yorks. Good Salary. House available.

HEAD GREENKEEPER for large club in the Glasgow area. 36 holes. Top salary for fully qualified man. Write with full details to the secretary, Hilton Park Golf Club, 402 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow C2.

SHANNON GOLF CLUB REQUIRES HEAD GREENKEEPER. This new course is designed by John Harris to International Championship specifications and construction is now completed. An Automatic Sprinkler system will be installed in the Spring of 1970.

The Club requires the services of an experienced Greenkeeper who must be capable of developing the course to its full potential.

The salary will be not less than £20 per week and a house will be provided free.

Replies, with full particulars to: The Secretary, Shannon Golf Club, Shannon Airport, Co. Clare, Ireland.

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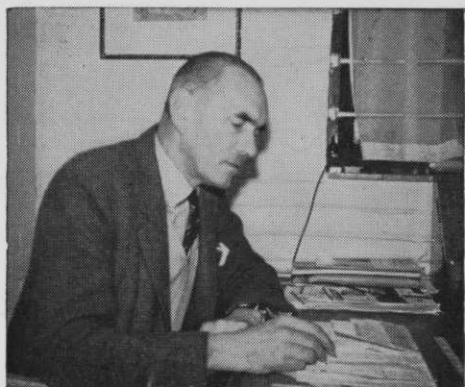
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HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

Messrs. H. Pattison & Co., Limited have very kindly taken in their Annual Trophy for modernisation and have advised me that five winners names are missing from the Trophy.

I have been able to trace three of these but we are still looking for the winners in 1951 and 1955.

Can anybody help with this information? If so, please let me know as soon as possible.

C. H. DIX

TOP FRENCH JOB FOR GREENKEEPER DAVID SINGLETON

David Singleton, greenkeeper at Orsett Golf Club for more than six years, leaves this month for his new job in France.

He is becoming head greenkeeper at the Villarceaux Country Club, Chaussy, Nr. Paris, where he will have a staff of sixteen working under him and three golf courses to maintain.

David was short listed for another job in Paris but was just beaten at the finish. He must have made a good impression on the French, however, for he was the first man they approached when the job at Villarceaux became vacant.

His wife, Valerie, their three children, and the dog, will be going with him.

AN INTERESTING APPLICATION FOR ATCO 20" GARDEN SWEEPER

It is well known that the Garden Sweeper plays an ever important role in and around the garden the whole year through, but here is an application, perhaps not considered before, sweeping up the cores after hollow tining on a bowling green. This application was tried out with great success at the Lillington Bowling Club, sited near Leamington Spa, where they brought into use an Atco 20" Garden Sweeper which would normally be used for leaf



collection and tarmac sweeping around the Club House and car-park.

As can be seen from the photograph the collection is most effective and the great advantage of the Atco high tipping collection basket, suitably lined for this application, enabled the collected material to be tipped straight into a barrow or similar container without double handling.

This application could also be used on Golf Greens or indeed anywhere where a tining operation is being undertaken.

The recommended retail price is £13 5s. 0d.



One of the three courses of instruction held at the STRI in the three weeks beginning 13th October. Our picture shows those who attended the first course with the experimental grounds in the background.

Front Row

Mr W. Robertson, Downfield Golf Club; Mr T. Graham, Hayling Golf Club; Mr P. McKenna, Christian Bros. Grammar School; Mr J. A. Davis, Maylands Golf Club; Mr J. Birkett, Turnhouse Golf Club; Mr S. Holden, Mid-Herts Golf Club; Mr D Waller, Pinner Hill Golf Club; Mr J. P. Randell, Robin Hood Golf Club.

Middle Row

Mr R. Fitzpatrick, East Renfrewshire Golf Club; Mr G. Bunting, Coventry Golf Club; Mr M. Livingston, Nairn Golf Club; Mr D. MacKintosh, Dunbar Golf Club; Mr H. F. Masterton, Royal Burgess Golfing Society; Mr J. D. Gallacher, Old Course Ranfurly Golf Club; Mr A. A. Collis, Maidenhead Golf Club.

Back Row

Mr J. T. Hague, Stocksbridge Works Social Serv. Club; Mr D. George, North Cliff Golf Club; Mr S. Flanagan, Rossendale Golf Club; Mr A. W. Murison, Corby U.D.C.; Mr P. Grindley, Ifield Golf Club & Country Club; Mr D. Morrisson, Halifax Bradley Hall Golf Club; Mr P. J. Drummond, Alloa Golf Club; Mr S. Baker, Tiverton Golf Club; Mr B. J. Richmond, Dumfries & County Golf Club; Mr K. Neal, Co. Borough of Burton-on-Trent; Mr E. J. Docherty, Cardross Golf Club.

Next year there will be two courses in the Spring, one in the Summer and either two or three as required in the Autumn. The Spring courses are fully booked but there are still some vacancies for later courses.

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Morrison 20" Golfmaster – Gives first class finish – 144 cuts per yard. Really clean grass collection – no need to swish after use. Unique adjustable one-piece comb lifts lateral growth for even cutting.

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HIGH WORK-RATE EQUIPMENT IMPROVES STANDARDS

by D. B. Harrison

Introduction of high work-rate grass cutting equipment at Tyrrells Wood Golf Club this year has already resulted in a significant saving in man hours.

Head Greenkeeper, Mr Bert Watson, who has been with the club for 10 years has two assistant greenkeepers on the 120 acre golf course.

Mr Watson says that they only introduced high work-rate machinery in March this year. Improvement of fairways and greens has been such that members have made a special point of expressing appreciation. "We have never had so many compliments before," Mr Watson commented.

He added: "Although we are still hard at it every day of the week with a staff of only three we are producing better results more easily than would otherwise have been possible."

Describing the factors which contributed, Mr Watson explains that manoeuvrability of their Toro ride-on equipment makes it possible to cut steep slopes and banks that previously had to be cut by hand.

The biggest time saving using high work-rate equipment has been on the greens. The 18 greens can all be cut now by two men in a total of about 7 man-hours a task which once took three men up to 12 man-hours.

It used to take five men to maintain the course properly but with the new equipment the present staff of three can now complete the work more easily with better results.

After a detailed assessment of the grass cutting needs the Club agreed to go ahead and invest in a comprehensive range of new equipment for all grass cutting needs.

They purchased two high work-rate machines, the Toro 11ft. Super Pro and the Toro 70 in. Professional, both power driven gang mowers.

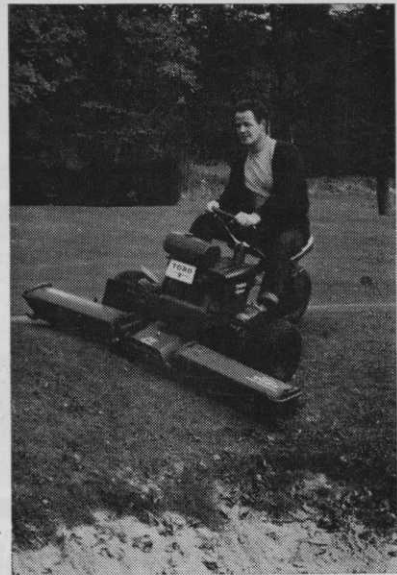
The Super Pro cuts 46 acres a day and handles all the fairways in less than two days and with 50 cuts a yard appears to have produced a denser turf.

The Toro 70 in. cuts aprons and approaches, sloping banks up to 1 in 4, and handles grass up to three inches high. The height of cut control allows for quick adjustment for fine cutting of approaches.

A Flymo 21 in. Contractor air-cushion mower cuts the more difficult banks and grass areas beyond the scope of the 70 in. Toro.

For greens the club uses two Toro high work-rate 21 in. "Greensmaster" models which have resulted in a 50 per cent saving in time and, with 147 cuts per yard, a better sward.

The Club was able to acquire all the machines under a leasing agreement through Flymo Limited of Watford, without a large capital expenditure.



Many Golf Clubs are now having to cope with far less staff than they had a few years ago putting a greater work load on existing staff who still have to get through the same amount of work.

Recent experience at Tyrrells Wood Golf Club shows that the proper utilisation of high work-rate equipment is not only economical but results in improved working conditions for greenkeepers and makes a high standard of professional turf care more easily attainable. Moreover, this type of equipment could help in attracting a high standard of trainee groundsmen, one of today's biggest problems.