

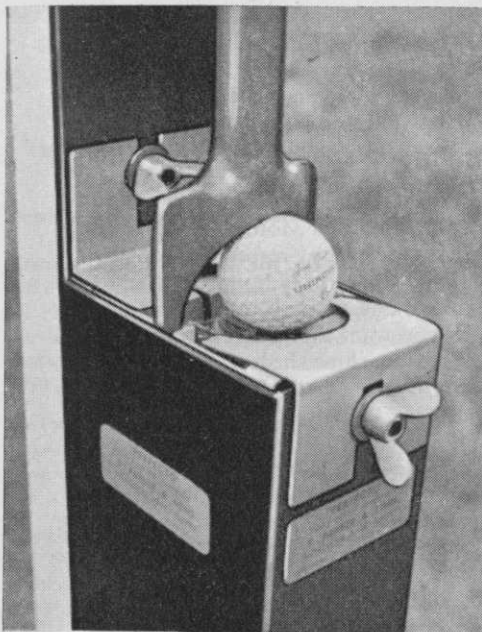
# PARKER



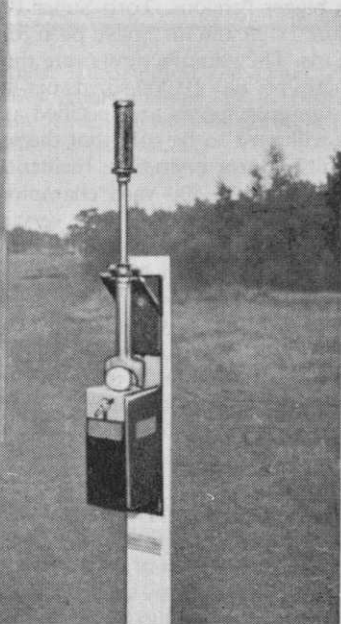
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# Mowing in 1972

by The Editor

The mowing pattern has greatly changed over the past few years. 'Ride-on', 'hydraulic', 'air cushion' are now part of the vocabulary and 1972 will see them still more firmly established. Small staffs can cope with more grass in less time though some machines produce problems which only more machines will cure.

The smaller forward mounted triple units like Ransomes 73-inch Junior Motor Triple, the Horwool Triplex, Greens Triple-master, or the Toro 70-inch Professional are taking over from walk-behind mowers round greens and tee-banks and even on tees themselves. Engine power for climbing slopes with a heavy cut is fundamental in these designs. Top speed is of less consequence. Accidents arise more from speed than slide or tipping because all have low centre of gravity. Many greenkeepers report something better than a 50 per cent time-saving since switching to this type of operation. Towed mini-gangs have won less popularity on golf courses though Atco and Ransomes still produce versions cutting 56 inches width.

The bigger versions, Toro Super Pro (84½ ins.) and Ransomes Standard Motor Triple (86 ins.) have been joined by the Allen Motostandard 1200, 78½ ins. The manufacturers rate their cutting capacity respectively at: 28 acres per day 10,000 sq yds per hour and 4½ acres per hour (in 4th gear) but top gear speeds are specified as 8.80, 4 and 6¼ mph respectively and you will need to be sure that the work you want the machine to do will permit top-gear operation. Incidentally, the machine sheds at the monster Dar-es-Salam 7,500 yard championship course, made by an American Golf Course Architect, look very much like an Ipswich production line with five Motor Triples dominating the scene.

It was only a matter of time before the ride-on principle was adapted to mowing greens, though so far British manufacturers seem to have been reluctant to follow. Greens with a top-soil mix made to a modern specification, likely to retain drainage characteristics even under regular compaction, stand up to this usage best of all. Automatic watering, leaving the green permanently moist, also plays a part in estimation of benefits. The ability to lift mowers individually is an important feature to look for. The final cut round the edge will otherwise put the wheels on exactly the same route each time. The Toro Greenmaster 3 is the best known in this country. Starting at 7.00 am, all 18 greens should be cut by 10.30 am, including the time needed to empty the boxes. Golfers may still prefer narrow stripes of cut at weekends but during the week a tremendous number of man hours can be saved for extra finesse elsewhere.

For those still walking, the choice of green mowers in the 18 inch to 20 inch range gets no smaller. Autocertes, Atco Special, Greenmaster, all have their adherents. Greens, Lloyds, Dennis, Suffolk, Hayter also build machines for super-fine cutting. Easy attachment of combs should be a

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*Minigangs, minitractor and mini*

feature nowadays and, of course, the more you specialise in your favourite mark throughout the range, the simpler becomes routine maintenance and arrangements for repairs, though many firms like Parkers, R. C. Craig, Relf & Kendall, Mountains, Parker & Ballinger, Huxleys and Gibbs can cope with most situations.

The same wide choice applies to standard trailed gang-mowers, though the more recent application of hydraulic drive to reels as well as lifting is confined to the Ransomes Hydraulic Power 5/7 Gang Mower. The 7 unit model will set your club back about £2,000 but will cut seven acres an hour at seven mph. For rough work the Hayter mounted triple rotary is a reversible supporter to cylinder machines.

Rotary mowers have multiplied in the last 20 years, though it is now only seven years since Flymo introduced the original 19 inch air-cushion rotary. In 1972 a 15 inch version will be added to the range and the 21 inch Contractor 52 has been re-designed with a new retractable undercarriage amongst other new features. The price is £78.75. One advantage of this machine is its great versatility on slopes, under bushes, and on newly sown areas allowed to get too long. Always remember to follow the operating instructions when working on banks and wear sensible footwear, not sandals.

Whatever your choice, remember that each design is a compromise. No one machine can incorporate every advantage. Weight, balance, controls, power, speed, ease of adjustment are only some of the variables. Keep it oiled, keep it greased, keep it adjusted and, as they used to say in the music halls, keep it clean.

*For details of these machines and any others in which you may be interested, send a postcard giving your address and the names of those which interest you to: B.G.G.A. (Mowers), Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, CRO 9AA.*

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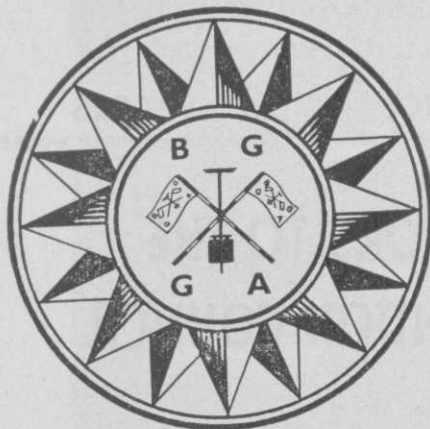
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## News



### from the Sections

#### Special occasions 1972

- Feb 1st East Midland Section Lecture and Film Show
- 2nd Southern Section Lecture
- 7th North West Section Lecture
- 22nd Midlands Section Lecture—  
2 pm Kidderminster G.C.
- Mar 1st Southern Section Lecture
- 10th Midlands Section Dinner and Dance—Park Restaurant, Sutton Coldfield 7 pm
- 24th Southern Section Annual Dinner—South Herts G.C., N20.

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### NORTH-WEST

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*Chairman:*  
J. GILLET,  
(St Anne's  
Old Links)

**By H. M. Walsh**  
*Hon. Secretary:*  
Horrobin Cottage,  
Old Links Golf Club,  
Montserrat, Bolton,  
Lancs.

#### Annual trip

The trip this year, which was to the International Sports Company, Horbury, Wakefield, was a highly successful one. Thirty-one members made up the party and from what most of them told me they were highly delighted with what they had

seen and been told in their tour of the works. I would like, on behalf of the members who made this trip, to offer our sincere thanks to the Directors and staff of the International Sports Co. for their courtesy and kindness both when showing us round and their willingness to answer the diverse questions put to them. Also for the excellent refreshments provided. At this point I wish to extend a vote of thanks to Swinton Golf Club for allowing us the courtesy of their clubhouse in the evening and also the use of their car park during the day. Thank you once again, everyone.

#### Lectures

The February talk will be given by Mr. P. Wyatt of Patisson & Co., Venue Brunswick Hotel, Piccadilly, Manchester. Time 7.30 pm—date Monday, 7th February.

#### New members

We welcome to the section the following new members and hope their association with us will be long and happy: J. Crawford (Chorltoncum-Hardy G.C.), M. J. Houghton (Southport Corporation G.C.), D. Harrison (Dean Wood G.C.), Chairman of the Green (Swinton Park G.C.).

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### MIDLAND

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#### By R. Goodwin

*Chairman:*  
G. HART  
(Gay Hill)

*Hon. Secretary:*  
4 Burton Old Road,  
Streech, Lichfield,  
Staffs.

#### February Lecture

A Lecture will be held at Kidderminster Golf Club on Tuesday afternoon, 22nd February, at 2 pm. The speaker will be Mr. John Hartstone, of Messrs. Yates Ltd., and his talk will be on Irrigation of Golf Courses. Again we would be very pleased to have along with members their Club Committee Members.

#### Annual Dinner and Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance will take place at the Park Restaurant,

The British Golf Greenkeeper

Sutton Coldfield, on Friday, 10th March at 7 pm.

Tickets are now available from myself, Mr. G. Smith of Walmley Golf Club, or Mr. Frank Cashmore, Treasurer, Price £1.50.

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## EAST MIDLAND

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**By S. Fretter**

*Hon. Secretary:*  
4 Queens Drive,  
Leicester Forest East,  
Leicester.

*Chairman:*  
J. CARRICK

### New member

We wish to welcome to this section J. A. Hughes, Esq., 33 Babelake Street, Packington, Ashby-de-la-Zouch (Willesley Park Golf Club). Also R. H. Ingram, Larchfield, Swithlans, Leicester, a new Vice President.

### Forthcoming attractions

**ANNUAL SPRING TOURNAMENT.** Charnwood Forest Golf Club. Date to be notified later.

**QUIZ.** Details will be sent to you in the near future.

**KNOCK-OUT CUP.** Details will be sent to you in the near future.

**LECTURE.** A Lecture will be held at The Cricket Ground Hotel, Grace Road, Leicester, by Fisons Ltd., also a Film Show on Tuesday, 1st February, 1972.

**ANNUAL DINNER/DANCE** will be held at the Empire Hotel, Leicester, on Saturday, 14th October, 1972.

### Congratulations

We wish W. Woods all the best and success as Head Greenkeeper of Hollinwell Golf Course.

I would like to wish all our members a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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## NORTHERN

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**By Walter Heeles**

*Hon. Secretary:*  
7 Terntergate Close,  
Knaresborough,  
York. HG5 9BJ  
Tel: Knaresborough 3851

*President:*  
W. MOUNTAIN

### Discussion

To start the Winter Lectures and

talks going, an Open Discussion was held at the Horsforth Golf Club on Thursday, the 28th October. Thirty-four members turned up for this event and a very good evening was enjoyed by all.

### Outing

Twenty members of the section were entertained to a visit at the Slazengers factory at Wakefield on the 4th November. Our thanks are due to the Sales Manager, Mr. Jobson, and his staff for the kindness and courtesy shown to us. It is hoped to arrange another visit in the near future.

### Lecture

On Thursday, the 11th November, we were entertained to refreshments and a talk on fertilisers and their uses. Once again many thanks to Peter Bryant and his colleague from Albright and Wilson Ltd.

### New Members

The following new members are welcomed to the section:

D. Metcalf, West Bowling; G. B. Evans, Alwoodly G.C.; J. R. Buckworth, Cleveland G.C.; D. Hardcastle, Sandmoor G.C., M. Kinghorn, Scarcroft G.C.; B. Barber, Scarcroft G.C.; J. R. Johnson, Ganton G.C.; R. Marsden, Wakefield G.C.; H. Shaw, Huddersfield.

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## SOUTHERN

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**By F. W. Ford**

*Chairman:*  
C. A. MOORE 68 Salcombe Gardens,  
(Stanmore) Mill Hill, N.W.7.  
Tel: 01-959 2847.

*Hon. Secretary:*

### December Lecture

As requested, a full house turned up to listen to Mr. F. W. Hawtree's talk on Wednesday, 1st December. Thank you, gentlemen.

He began by giving some facts about the making of a golf green, covering siting and drainage, etc. He said the top soil should be at least 12 inches and recommended as a good mixture two parts soil, two sand and one peat.

The sand to be equal graded approximately .0-.2 millimetres. He also stressed the necessity compaction caused by the contractor's machinery by using a sub-soil cultivator.

A plan of a new course which is to be opened in the spring at Bedford gave us a glimpse of the delights and some of the problems a Golf Architect encounters when making a new course from scratch.

Devoting a little time to questions, Mr. Hawtree then proceeded to show some most interesting projector slides of courses he had made in different parts of the world. France, Belgium, Spain, Luxembourg and Monte Carlo, to mention a few.

Concluding, he introduced Mr. Higgins, who had recently joined him at Addington Court. Mr. Higgins, a new face to the Southern Section, told us about his recent visit to Morocco and related some of his experiences there.

## A new addition to your groundstaff

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Lower Dee Mills, Llangollen, North Wales.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hawtree and asked him to bring the meeting to a close by making the monthly Benevolent Fund draw. 1st prize—1 dozen golf balls and 2nd cigarettes—were donated and proceeds amounted to £7.50.

### Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner will be held on Friday, 24th March 1972 at the South Herts Golf Club, Links Drive, Totteridge, N.20. Nearest station: TOTTERIDGE & WHETSTONE. Tickets are available from me either by writing or on Lecture evenings at the Ship Tavern and are £2.00 each. Again we can assure members of a meal suitable to the occasion.

As in the past there will be an 18-hole four-ball better ball stableford in the afternoon and members wishing to play must arrange their own partners (guests may be invited to play) and *record their best Net scores*. There will be a sweepstake of 25 new pence each competitor. Those requiring lunch or sandwiches to notify the steward on arrival.

### New Members

Whilst extending a warm welcome to the Section to New Members, I would like to include an invitation to our monthly meetings at the Ship Tavern where they can talk greenkeeping and meet new friends. W. A. Baldock (Hawkhurst G.C.), S. Dean (Stanmore G.C.) S. Anderson (St. George's Hill G.C.) and C. A. Price (West Kent G.C.).

### March Lecture

A Quiz will conclude the winter programme of meetings at the Ship Tavern on Wednesday, 1st March. For the benefit of new members our Chairman, Mr. C. A. Moore, will preside as Quiz Master and will endeavour to answer any questions appertaining to greenkeeping—even in the loosest sense! For members who prefer it, questions on paper will be accepted and yours truly promises to read them out.

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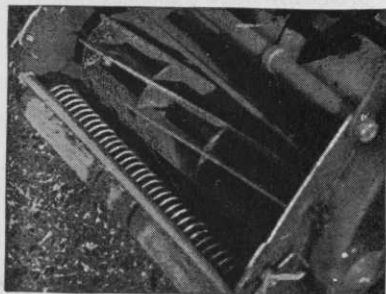
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