

"Most golfers will opt for the natural tee every time, even though the grass might be rather sparse. You just don't get the right 'feel' hitting off plastic grass."

And architect Mal Purdy, Livingston, NJ, reports still another problem with the artificial turf.

"Some people get their kicks by slashing the stuff up with knives," he claims.

Who would do such a thing? Vandals, perhaps! Or, may be it's ecology nuts who prefer that golf course forever remain the way Mother Nature—or, the golf course architect—intended them.

Grateful Acknowledgements to:
Southern Golf Course Operations
U.S.A.

Situations Vacant

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DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

HEAD GREENKEEPER £1,641 to £1,773 p.a.

The Council are currently constructing a 9-hole Golf Course at Fulwell Park, Hampton Hill, and it is anticipated that it will be ready for play in October 1974, but an appointment is to be made as soon as possible. Preference will be given to suitably qualified persons. Duties include responsibility for maintenance of the course and control of staff.

Form from The Manager of Recreation, Langholm Lodge, 146 Petersham Road, Richmond, Surrey (01-940 8351), returnable by 26th April 1974.

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Situations Vacant

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Construction will start later this year of an 18-hole Championship golf course at Bedwell Park, Essendon. Applications are invited for the post of Head Greenkeeper. He will assist in supervising work on the course during the first two years. Salary will be above average. Accommodation is **not available** at present.

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Chipping Sodbury,
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THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPER

TOWARDS A BETTER MAGAZINE

SUBSCRIBERS' COMMENTS WITH A VIEW TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF "THE BRITISH GOLF GREENKEEPER"

1. "How about a series of articles about various golf courses, asking the Head Greenkeeper in each case his work problems, his views and aspects of the day to day running of his course?"
2. "Would like it to contain more of Greenkeeper's problems and cures, not taught enough to young members".
3. "I would like more articles from practical men, such as the one in September on "Top Dressings" by J. Bradbury.
4. "May I say that personally I enjoy reading technical features dealing with seasonal problems as they are likely to come along at the appropriate time of the year. Especially if it was possible to have more than one view, say, under different climatic conditions as would be the case in different parts of the country".
5. "More photographs—Secretaries and Chairmen of Sections, retiring members, etc.".
6. "I think members should be encouraged to contribute articles themselves, even if they are only letters to a lively correspondence column".
7. "I would like you to accept only those adverts which carry the recommended BGGGA scale, with reference to Situations Vacant. Also on your front covers let us see more pictures of Greenkeepers and not Golf Pros".

8. "Vacant situations should not be advertised in the BGGGA journal under a box number".

Footnote

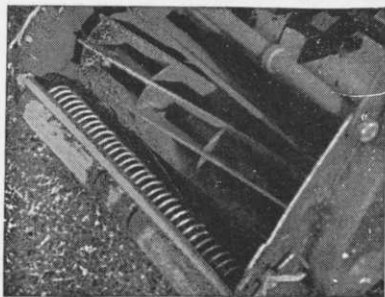
These are some of the suggestions received in a recent survey. They assume that we have a large trained staff writing articles and reviews, interviewing members, taking photographs, soliciting (and paying for?) technical articles.

Section Secretaries are about the only people who themselves provide any regular material.

F.W.H.

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Special Occasions

and Golf Fixtures

1974

- April 3 Southern Lecture.
 18 North-East Spring Competition — Berwick (Goswick) G.C.
 23 Welsh Section—Cardiff Cup—Pontypridd G.C.
- May 1 South Coast Section Spring Meeting, Basingstoke G.C.
 2 Midland — Annual Spring Tournament — Robin Hood G.C.
 15 East Midland—Spring Tournament — Longcliffe G.C.
 15 Southern — Spring Tournament — Home Park G.C.
 16 North-West — Spring Tournament, Dean Wood G.C.
 17-19 B R A B A Z O N TROPHY — Moortown.
- June 5 Southern Annual General Meeting.
 3-8 AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP—Muirfield.

- 25 Welsh Section Annual General Meeting — John Duncan Cup—Southerndown G.C.
- July 3 Southern V Midland Match, Crews Hill G.C.
 10-14 OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP—Royal Lytham and St. Annes.
 15 Midland Summer Tournament & A.G.M.—Habberley G.C.
 22-27 ENGLISH AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP—Woodhall Spa.
- Sept. 1 CARL BRETHERTON BOWL—Handsworth.
 6 Southern Buffet/Dance — West Essex G.C.
 11 Welsh Section—President's Shield—Pennard G.C.
 11 Southern Autumn Tournament — Burnham Beeches.
 18 East Midland Autumn Golf Tournament — Chilwell Manor G.C.
 18 Midland Section — Autumn Tournament — Handsworth G.C. B.G.G.A.
 30 1974 ANNUAL TOURNAMENT and A.G.M.—Isle of Purbeck G.C. Studland, Swanage, Dorset.

Southern Section

Chairman:
 F. W. FORD
 (South Herts)

Hon. Secretary:
 F. W. FORD
 68 Salcombe Gardens,
 Mill Hill,
 London, NW7.

January Lecture

We had a talk on trees by Mr. Cassell of London Transport. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a list of trees recommended for your golf course planting.

February Lecture

Mr. Head opened his talk by outlining broadly the areas of turf management where the greatest interest was being focussed at the present time. He emphasized that companies which supply products and services to greenkeepers should consider the problem of fine turf culture objectively, and provide recommendations which they could justify on a scientific basis. Particular reference was made to the immensely valuable contribution to turf grass science made by Dr. V. I. Stewart and Dr. W. A. Adams of University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, which had done so much to remove mystique from the subject and provide a basic framework of fact on which a turf manager could build his turf care programme. To get the maximum benefit from this new science it was important that the necessary technology should follow swiftly on its heels and Chipman Limited were introducing products, advisory and contract services to meet the new technical demands.

One area high-lighted was that of turf nutrition where the luxury use of general purpose fertiliser recipes at standard rates of application without regard to existing soil nutrient levels, mowing practices and sward composition would be hard to justify on either technical or economic grounds. With the advance of knowledge and with the availability of new slow-release materials, it was now possible to be accurate and specific in designing a fertiliser programme to produce optimum results in a cost-efficient manner.

Interest was also shown in the idea of using soil temperature at 1 foot depth to determine when growth would occur, and hence when fertiliser application should be made to antici-

pate it. This could overcome the uncertainty of seasonal variation with latitude, aspect, altitude and coastal or inland location in selecting the correct time for treatment.

Some consideration was given to advances in selective weed control where new herbicides were discussed which provided reliable control of two problem species, Creeping speedwell *Veronica filiformis* and Yellow Suckling Clover *Trifolium dubium*.

Consideration of modern contracting facilities for turf maintenance led to a topic which stimulated comment. Questions and discussion by members present, that of improving sports turf prone to waterlogging by drainage schemes, centred around the technique of constructing vertical sand channels to intercept surface water and convey it directly to the drains. Mr. Head described the way in which design of drain spacing, sand type and dimensions of sand slit determined the drainage capacity of any scheme.

From a knowledge of these relationships, and an awareness of daily rainfall figures it was possible to propose a system with a target drainage design consistent with the requirements of individual sites. Chipman Limited provided a technical consultancy service and would prepare schemes for the greenkeeper wherever required. Their construction teams could carry out all the work involved, including the installation of sand slits by the Sand Injection technique. In the past so many drainage "plumbing" systems had failed because surface water could not reach the pipes through soil where structure had collapsed. With the new techniques, schemes could be tailored to individual drainage rate requirement and their performance reliably quantified.

The Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Colin Head who had made the journey from Horsham to be with us on this occasion.

New Members

A warm welcome to the following new members:—

C. BURKE (Roehampton) A.
LITTLE (West Essex) E.
REILLY (Ransomes) and C. L.
WALLIS and M. W. LOWER
(Chipstead).

Buffet & Dance

Arrangements have been made by your Dinner & Dance Committee for the above Buffet/Dance to take place at the West Essex G.C. Chingford, E4 at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 6th September 1974. Dress informal and admission £2.50 for Tickets. Please write to—Ray Tempest **not to me**—his address:—45, Telston Lane, Otford, Kent. Tickets will be also be obtainable from him on Lecture evenings.

North West Section

Chairman:

O. P. JONES

Bramhall Golf Club

Hon. Secretary:

H. M. WALSH

Horrobin Cottage,
Old Links Golf Club,
Montserrat, Bolton,
Lancs.

Obituary

It is with the deepest regret I have to inform Members that the Section President for a great many years, Bill Kinsey to all his friends, died in hospital on February 15th. I am sure all members will join me in offering our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kinsey and family in their great loss.

Lecture

Our thanks to Peter Wyatt of Pattissons Ltd., for the interesting talk he gave us, also for the equipment shown to us. Our thanks too for the refreshments both liquid and solid.

Spring Tournament

As stated in previous issues of the Journal our Spring Tournament will

be played over the Dean Wood Golf Club Course, Lafford Lane, Up Holland, Nr. Skelmersdale on Thursday May 15th 1974 over 27 holes—18 in the morning, 9 in the afternoon. The A.G.M. will take place after the Prize giving.

Please get there early, Tee off 9 a.m., also let me have your entries and meal requirements.

Welsh Section

Chairman:

J. MARTIN

PENNARD GC.

Secretary:

T. M. JONES

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death of Tom Lloyd, who died suddenly on Friday February 1st at the age of 63. Tom was head greenkeeper at Whitchurch Golf Club, Cardiff for 48 years, and was one of the longest serving greenkeepers of the Welsh Section. Tom was also a very good committee man who served on the committee for many years and always had the welfare of his fellow members at heart. We will miss him greatly in our future meetings.

On behalf of all members of the Welsh Section I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Lloyd in her great loss.

1974 Fixtures

Tuesday April 23rd. The Cardiff Cup at Pontypridd Golf Club.

Tuesday June 25th A.G.M., and Secretaries meeting, John Duncan Cup and Birdie Cup at Southerndown Golf Club.

Wednesday September 11th, Presidents' Shield at Pennard Golf Club.

Will all members going to the above meetings please try and contact me not later than a week before the meeting, in order that I may make the arrangements for catering. Also could

you try and be there at 9.30 a.m., for us to have an early start. Thank you.

T. M. Jones, Secretary.

Midlands Section

Chairman:

G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:

R. GOODWIN
2 Greenkeepers Cottage,
Ashridge Golf Club,
Ashridge Park,
Berkhampstead, Herts.

Lecture

The last lecture of the winter season was held at Blackwell Golf Club on Wednesday 20th February.

The subject of the lecture being drainage, it was given by Mr. Joss of the Research Institute who is very conversant on the subject and gave a very interesting lecture on all aspects of this, for which we would like to convey our thanks.

Our thanks also go to the Committee and members of Blackwell Golf Club for granting us the use of their Clubhouse for the event.

May I also take this opportunity on behalf of our Chairman and Committee to thank all members who have supported our lectures so well this winter and hope this trend continues in the future, when I am sure a further series of lectures will be arranged.

East-Midland Section

Chairman:

G. DARBY

Hon. Secretary:

S. FRETTER
4 Queens Drive,
Leicester Forest East,
Leicester.

Congratulations

I would like to wish Mr. B. Mott a long and happy time as Head Greenkeeper of Rothley Park Golf Club.

Autumn Golf Tournament

As most of you know, this was to be held at Burton on Trent Golf Club, but this is now cancelled owing to Burton requiring us to pay green fees.

This Tournament is now being held at Chilwell Manor Golf Club on September 18th 1974.

South Coast Section

Chairman:

I. GREENFIELD

Acting Secretary:

MRS. J. STIMSON

A Section Committee meeting was held at Ampfield Par Three Golf Club on Thursday, 7th February, 1974 at 6 p.m.

It was reported that this Section had been asked to ascertain whether there was a possibility that the 1974 Annual Tournament could be held at Parkstone Golf Club in August as the proposed trip to France had not been supported. Parkstone were unable to entertain the Association on three consecutive days at such short notice, but the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club had offered the Association the courtesy of their course and full clubhouse facilities. It was resolved that the kind offer of the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club be accepted and the dates provisionally arranged i.e. 30th September, 1st and 2nd October, duly confirmed.

A full discussion on matters relating to the organisation of the Tournament then took place. It was not anticipated that any difficulties would arise in obtaining the necessary accommodation required for participating members as the Tournament will be held during the start of the off-season holiday period, and there were plenty of hotels in the Swanage/Studland/Corfe Castle area.

The Committee were informed that they had been requested to nominate the Vice-Chairman for the current year and it was unanimously resolved that Mr. E. James be nominated to fill this position.

The Acting Secretary reported upon her meeting with Mr. Dix and Mr. Ford on 29th January, 1974.

The venue and date of the Spring Meeting were also discussed and it

was decided to accept Basingstoke Golf Club's kind offer of the courtesy of the course on Wednesday, 1st May, 1974. It has since been arranged that only "paid-up" members who send their entries (complete with entry money (£3.50p) and current golf handicap) to Mr. E. Fox c/o Huxleys, The Dean, New Alresford, Hampshire, by Thursday, 18th April 1974, will be eligible to play at the Spring Meeting.

It has been arranged that the Annual General Meeting will be held at Ampfield Par Three Golf Club on Thursday, 16th May, 1974 at 6 p.m.

The Acting Secretary submitted a report on the Section's finances. Suggestions relating to the Winter Lecture Programme and golf fixtures for 1975 were also considered.

The Chairman displayed three splendid pewter tankards which had been presented to the Section by Mr. Bill Denyer and it was agreed that the trophies should be suitably inscribed and played for annually. The Committee expressed their grateful thanks to Mr. Denyer for his delightful and generous gift.

Reminder : Dates to be recorded:

April 18th — Latest date for Spring Meeting entries.

May 1st — Spring Meeting to be held at Basingstoke G.C.

Sept. 30th — B.G.G.A. 1974 Annual Tournament to be held at Isle of Purbeck G.C.
1st and 2nd Oct.

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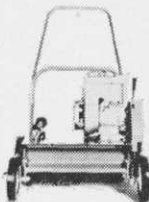
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