

OCTOBER 1987

the Golf Course

& The International Greenkeeper

BULLETIN NO. 53



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL
GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

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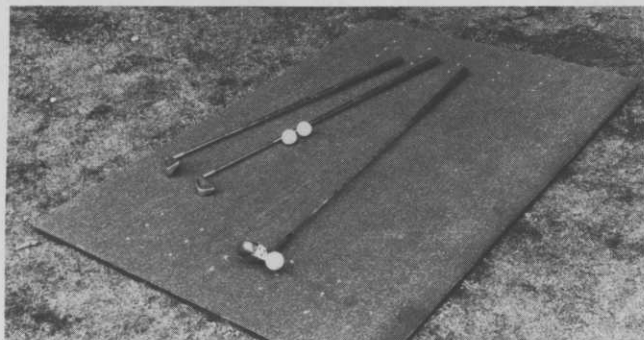
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Front Cover: October - hurricane force winds and floods bring devastation to many UK courses.

the Golf Course

OCTOBER 1987

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BY the time you read these notes, all paid-up members should be in possession of both membership card and legal advisory service card - any member who is not please contact me as soon as possible. The establishment of the membership list has been a major exercise, with many changes of address to be documented and cheques arriving without application forms and vice versa, apart from cheques for incorrect amounts! I will now be seeking the assistance of Section Secretaries to break down the membership list on a sectional basis. Membership applications have nearly reached the 2000 mark. Of this figure approximately 35% are new members not connected with the previous Associations, which means that approximately half the members of the previous Associations have yet to join BIGGA. Whilst the initial response is, therefore, most encouraging, it is clear that a major membership drive is necessary in line with the new subscription year commencing in January.

UPDATE

The General Purposes sub-committee has now considered entries for the logo competition, which were of a high standard. These were considered alongside commercial artist submissions to ensure that in deciding on a logo, the best possible choice was made for the new Association. The final choice was extremely difficult but, in deciding to choose a logo submitted by a commercial artist, the sub-committee agreed that an award should be made to the best entry from an Association Member. This award goes to Mr. Jim Russell, Assistant Course Manager, Hankley Common Golf Club. Well done Jim! - A blazer badge for the Association will be on its way to you in due course.

Now that we have an official logo, details are being finalised with regard to the Association's uniform. Members can, therefore, give early consideration to their requirements as it is hoped to make an official announcement on colours, costs etc. in the next edition of 'the Golf Course'.

Members may well be aware through their sections that Regional Meetings are being held

Continued on page 6

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

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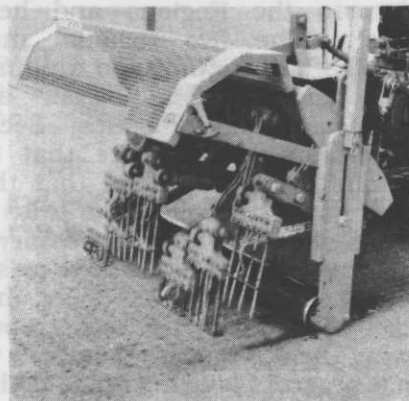
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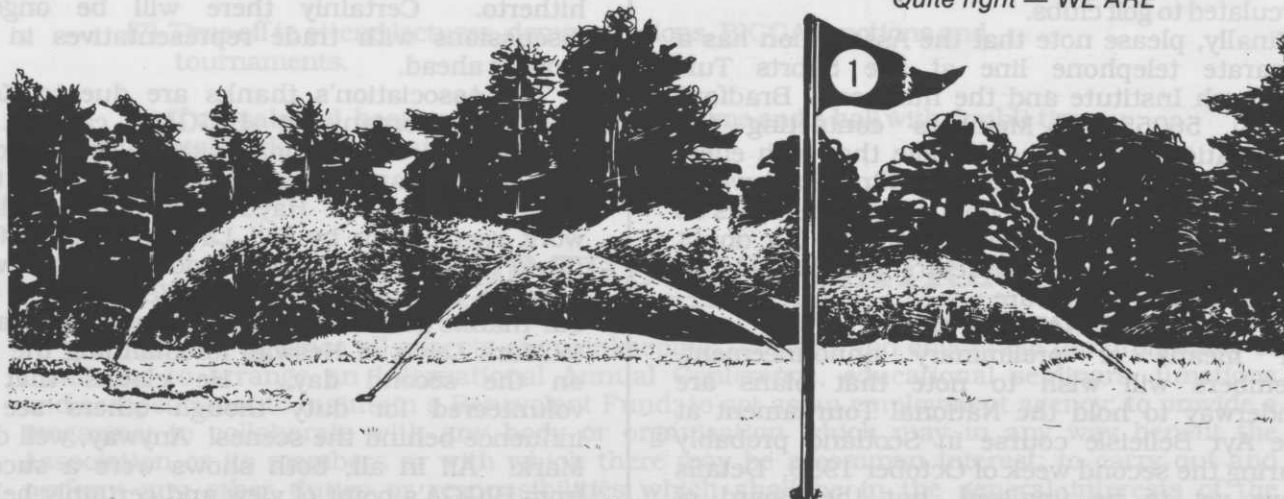
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continued from page 3

during November. These are essential in establishing the lines of communication through the Board of Management/Headquarters to the Regions and hence to the Sections. The five regional meetings will consider both structural and funding matters at regional and sectional level, as well as geographical boundary issues. Secretaries and Administrators should note that the Regions sub-committee has decided that the structure will henceforth have only two titles i.e. Regions and Sections. Where necessary, therefore, amendments should be made to existing titles. I look forward to attending these meetings and getting to know section representatives. Following them, I'm sure members will begin to feel that progress is being made both at the local and regional level.

You will find the latest Newsletter enclosed with this edition of 'the Golf Course' as promised in my update for the September issue. I would wish to acknowledge criticism from some members with regard to the Association's intent in respect of the Newsletter. The aim will be to produce a Newsletter with every edition of 'the Golf Course'. Again, I would ask that sectional secretaries submit material to me (and not 'the Golf Course') regularly and in good time for each issue. If this happens there will be no problem in producing a regular Newsletter.

Included in this month's issue is a recommended minimum salary/wages structure in response to many requests from both greenkeepers and golf clubs. The scale is applicable from 1 January 1988 and it is intended to update it on an annual basis. It is difficult to produce a scale appropriate for implementation across the United Kingdom as a whole, but the Board of Management is confident that the recommended scale is a fair and reasonable basis for negotiation between greenkeeper and club. The structure will be circulated to golf clubs.

Finally, please note that the Association has a separate telephone line at the Sports Turf Research Institute and the number is Bradford (0274) 560556. Members contacting the Association's office should note that with effect from 2nd November Miss Caroline Holdsworth will be taking up duties on a permanent basis as my secretary/personal assistant and no doubt she will often represent the first point of contact for members in the future.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT 1988

BY means of preliminary announcement, members will wish to note that plans are underway to hold the National Tournament at the Ayr Belleisle course in Scotland probably during the second week of October 1988. Details have yet to be finalised, but the Board of Management is considering combining the Tournament with an International Conference and running the event over five days. Facilities are excellent and the course of international

standard. Consideration is being given to appointing a sub-committee to plan and arrange this major event with Ayrshire members playing a leading role and liaising with Board of Management and myself. Further details will be included in 'the Golf Course' as they become available, but it would be helpful if sectional secretaries could give me an early indication of members expressing an interest in attending.

INSTITUTE OF GROUNDSMANSHIP SHOWS - WINDSOR AND HAYDOCK PARK

I WAS in attendance for two days at both Windsor and Haydock Park and thoroughly enjoyed my first experience of these exhibitions. They can be viewed from different angles - Windsor is now a vast affair and more than one greenkeeper was seen to collapse in the BIGGA caravan as he made a tired exit! Certainly three full days are needed to do justice to the event. Haydock Park on the other hand is set to expand and, with the success of this year's event, will rapidly develop in terms of size and scope. Criticisms would be minor in that it is easy to lose oneself at Windsor and better signposting would be in order. At Haydock Park there was the pitiful sight of Bill Lawson, David Golding and myself begging for a roll at the SISIS stand at 3.45pm having failed to obtain lunch - they had run out of food! No doubt these matters can be put right next year!

As a meeting ground for BIGGA members, both occasions are ideal and I exchanged views with many members over the four days. Good ideas emerged and will receive further consideration as the Association moves forward. I met many representatives of the trade whose reception for the new Association is a warm one. It gave me the opportunity to outline what I see as a mutually beneficial working relationship between the Association and the trade, but a relationship which I see developing along different lines to those which have applied hitherto. Certainly there will be ongoing discussions with trade representatives in the months ahead.

The Association's thanks are due to Kevin Munt for organising BIGGA's caravan at Windsor in conjunction with Michael Coffey and to the various Board members who took turns of duty. At Haydock Park much hard work was put in by Bill Lawson, Brian Moss, David Golding, Howard McAddey, John Lowery and the committee of North West Section and our thanks go to them. A special word of thanks to Mark Lewis of Heswall for manning the tent on the second day. He claims that he volunteered for duty though others see an influence behind the scenes! Anyway, well done Mark! All in all, both shows were a success from BIGGA's point of view and certainly helped to spread the word!

On a personal note, I was very pleased to meet so many members. Names and faces are beginning to register.

NEIL THOMAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM SALARY/WAGES SCALE

In response to many requests, the Association has formulated a recommended minimum salary/wages scale for 1988, although actual figures remain the subject of negotiation between the golf club and greenkeeping staff. The quoted rates apply to 18 hole golf courses.

Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper	£12,650 per annum*
Deputy Course Manager/Head Greenkeeper	£ 9,100 per annum*
First Assistant	£150.96 per week *
Assistant Greenkeeper	£141.54 per week *
Apprentice 50% of Assistant Greenkeeper rate i.e. and to increase annually by 12.5%	£ 70.77 per week *

The First Assistant is a post designed to recognise a third-in-charge where appropriate to the size of the club. In cases where the First Assistant is the recognised Deputy the appropriate salary scale of £9,100 per annum should apply.

N.B. Staff in possession of recognised qualifications should have this reflected in an addition to basic salary.

* Basic conditions of employment should include:-

- (1) where accommodation is provided by the Club it should be rent and rates free with heating/lighting costs borne by the club.
- (2) where accommodation is not provided by the club a suitable remuneration should be paid.
- (3) 40 hour week
- (4) Retirement Pension Scheme
- (5) Telephone costs on club business
- (6) Mileage allowance
- (7) Time off to attend lectures, demonstrations, BIGGA functions and tournaments.
- (8) If not salaried, basic overtime to be paid at time and a half with double time on Sundays and Statutory Holidays.

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

To promote and advance all aspects of greenkeeping; to assist and encourage the proficiency of members; to arrange an International Annual Conference, educational seminars, functions and competitions; to maintain a Benevolent Fund; to act as an employment agency; to provide a magazine; to collaborate with any body or organisation which may in any way benefit the Association or its members or with which there may be a common interest; to carry out and perform any other duties or responsibilities which shall be in the general interests of the Association or its members.



I THINK the most important thing about golf I have noticed is that little things mean a lot. If a club pays attention to the small things on a course then it will have a good future.

Many people think Carnoustie was taken off the championship circuit because of the lack of accommodation and facilities, but this was not the case. It was because the course was not good enough in terms of its general condition. The Scottish Amateur Championship was held there four years ago and the course was desperate because no-one seemed to care. It had been a wonderful links course, but everything had gone to rack and ruin. It was not tidy and the greens were not as they should have been.

As a result the person responsible was removed and the number two greenkeeper from St. Andrews took over three years ago. The Youth Championship was held at Carnoustie in August last year and Michael Bonallack, who has played all over the world, said it was the best condition course he had ever seen.

This was due to the greenkeeper being able to generate enthusiasm in his staff and the people he worked for. In two years all the little things had been sorted out.

At Pinehurst in North Carolina there are six courses and hundreds of people working there. No expense is spared and the courses are in tremendous condition. In August the grass dies every year and is re-seeded and the greens are out of this world.

At Bradford Golf Club many years ago, Gilbert Kendall, the greenkeeper, had only a little old tank which he used to hitch up to the back of a tractor in order to water the greens. In July and August the members expected the greens to be hard, fast and true. It was a sterner test of golf and there was a greater differential between the better and poorer players.

I believe this is the way it should be and that there is no harm in it. I do not think the

arguments for automatic water sprinklers are valid. British golf should not be compared to American golf because the climate, terrain and sub-soil are all different.

When Tom Watson came to play in the Open at Sandwich in 1981, where they have water on all the fairways, he was not very pleased with the course and was overheard saying, "There is no point in me coming to Britain to play on a links course if it is going to be like this. I can play every day in America where the ball goes from A to B, and that is not what I want out of the game".

Championship links courses are made so that in the summer the ball is expected to run for ever and ever. That is the way I think golf courses should be. I am certainly against watering and feel our courses should be natural. Inland courses are different: The bounce is much more severe and more frustrating.

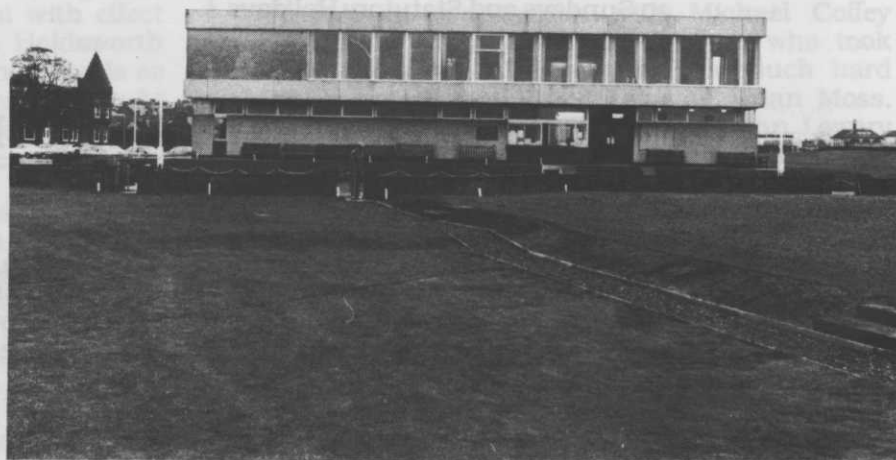
I like to see trees on inland courses, but trees that are kept under control. There is no use having a nice little copse which is so thick that it cannot be played out of. You have to have trees on an inland course from an aesthetic point of view as well as a test of skill, but they must be kept in trim so a golfer has a sporting chance to play

FACE TO FACE

An extract from a talk given by Rodney Foster to members of the BGA in 1986

out of them.

Golf overseas is a totally different game, mainly due to the climate. Some people say golf is a climate game and certainly the players from warmer countries seem to perform better than we do. You can only play sensible golf here for a maximum of six months of the year. If you get a bad start to the golfing year in terms of weather, it ruins the amateur golfer's season because he cannot put the work in. I am sure the same thing is true of greenkeeping.



A modern clubhouse overlooks the 1st tee on Carnoustie's championship course.

There is something else missing in this country which seems to be present abroad, and that is money, in the form of machinery and men. I think everything should be done to give greenkeepers a chance to attend to the little things to get the general standard of housekeeping up to scratch. Abroad, this seems to be done with out financial restraints.

If you go to Ganton, which I think gets as many golfers as other clubs and a tremendous number of visitors, you will see that they do tend to be lucky because when they sand and seed tees, they do seem to germinate quickly. On inland courses this takes more time. One article I read asked why tees could not be just like greens but a little longer. On a short hole, of course, it is not possible, but on a driving hole I cannot see why the tee cannot be presentable and attractive.

On links courses the formation of bunkers is easy: you dig a hole and it is there, but you then have the construction to look at. It is turved down the face or open? I prefer to see them open, but I appreciate that on a links course turved faces are very attractive, but I would have thought that the maintenance was a little harder.

With inland courses the trap that is often fallen into is to try to make the bunkers like those on seaside courses and you cannot do it. You cannot have a seaside bunker on an inland course. It does not work.

This lovely white sand is so attractive until you get in it!

Your foot goes in, you have maybe a couple of shots and then you look behind you at the mess and then have to spend five minutes with a rake tidying it up to make it presentable again. On inland course bunkers are in a worse condition, not through the fault of the greenkeeper, but, in most cases through frustrated golfers.

I would rather see the gritty, darker, firmer sand. Let's not make pretensions that our inland courses are like the ones at the seaside. They may be bowls of dirt to some people, but they are eminently more playable and they are easier to keep in good condition.

I think one could be more daring in the terms of the shape of bunkers. At my own club they have tended to be oval with a straight line at the front. I think this is a bit unimaginative and I think it is the same with fairways. I think it is nice to see a bit of shape to a fairway, whether on a championship course or an exciting local course. This is something which can be done with very little effort and the beauty of it is that it is not irreversible. If you decide it does not look right you just let the grass grow.

These are the sort of steps I would much rather see greens committees take with the connivance of the greens staff before they start altering the basic design of the course. I think moving greens and tees is an awfully big step to take.

You may have to lift the green because it has thatch but that is

a different problem.

To make a 440 yard hole into a 480 yard hole just to make a par 5 is a very limp and silly thing for a golf committee to embark upon. It is very easy to ruin a good hole for the sake of length. I have played a course in Estoril where there is a marvelous little 320 yard dog-leg right and it is one of the trickiest holes I have ever played. Not unfair but an awfully good hole.

I would like to see, as in Scotland, a greens convener appointed for a minimum of five years and I would have thought this was much more sensible than the system in England where you have a member who is on the greens committee for the two years he is on the board and the third year he is appointed chairman because he has had experience of two years on the board. That is neither use nor ornament. If this was changed I am sure courses would be in the sort of condition I would like to see them in.

Continued on page 30

FACE TO FACE

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RUDDINGTON GRANGE

THE idea for a golf course at Ruddington Grange, near Nottingham was first thought of some thirty years ago.

The original Grange dating from the 1700s was bought by a local brewing magnate, together with some 110 acres of land. The new owner tore down the existing mansion and set about building a modern replacement. Costing a staggering £63,000 in the 1950s, this dream home boasted aluminium double glazed windows, under floor ducted heating, air conditioning and an indoor swimming pool. There was a separate building to accommodate twelve staff.

All this was just for a private house, but the owner, being a farsighted businessman, evolved the plans in such a way that the whole property could be easily converted into a country club.

Working on the building at the time was engineer Jack Johnson who, knowing the owner well, made a promise that he would be the next owner of Ruddington Grange. Jack's wish eventually became reality fifteen years ago when he acquired the estate. The brewery chief and his wife had died, leaving the property to their 14 year old daughter. Jack had to wait a further seven years until the daughter came of age before completion of the sale could take place and he could take up residence. During those years the Grange was looked after by a caretaker and gardener.

Now, after a further 15 years, Jack Johnson has commenced development of the Grange and estate. Alterations to the house and other accommodation have already begun and he has awarded a substantial contract for the construction of an 18 hole golf course to CDC Landscapes of Waldringfield near Ipswich. CDC are a diverse group who have previously built courses near their base, including Waldringfield Heath which they have recently

extended to 18 holes. John Small, a recent past President of the Nottinghamshire County Golf Union has been appointed manager. A fine golfer himself, he has been able to advise on various aspects of course design.

CDC's site manager is John Glasgow, who is working with one of the group's directors, Phil Pilgrem. They have been fortunate in that the estate had considerable areas of high quality turf and several fairways have been mown out with little need for reparation and only minimal need for spraying against weeds. Construction of the greens, which are sand and peat over a stone drainage carpet, is already complete with all of them being sown this year with a mixture of bent and fescue. Tee construction is also well advanced. Particular attention is being paid to the construction of the greens areas. While the original layout did not offer detailed greens drawings, CDC's architect Phil Pilgrem made comprehensive drawings for each site, which now embrace all the natural undulations, grassy hollows and tight bunkering - all the hazards appreciated by the skilled golfer and dreaded by the novice!

Great care has been taken to preserve all the mature trees, which contain some fine species and unusual varieties, including Cedar Lebanon and Spanish Chestnut. There will need to be some very careful tree surgery this winter and some additional trees planted to ensure that the course has maximum definition.

There are two man-made lakes, both of which come into play and which will not only serve to supply water to the course, but are large enough to be stocked with game fish. The design for the lakes and drainage was of particular interest to Jack Johnson, whose specialty in civil engineering is hydrodynamics.

The construction of the Ruddington Grange course, a par 71 of 6,500 yards, has certainly not lacked detailed supervision. The result will be a pleasing parkland course which is certain to be a good test of golf, with an especially demanding finish in front of the imposing clubhouse. The club has already opened its doors for membership and the alterations to the clubhouse are expected to be completed in time for a Christmas opening. The golf course will not be in play before the autumn of 1988, although foregreens have been cut well away from the proper putting surfaces to ensure that members can get the feel of the course next spring.

Future plans for Ruddington Grange include the rehabilitation of the 60 stall stables as an equestrian centre, the construction of tennis and squash courts as well as other sporting facilities.

No doubt the club will become quickly established with over 800 applications for membership already received. Ruddington Grange Golf Club will be a fitting testament to farsightedness of the owner and the care which has gone into its construction.





BIGGA

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Board of Management has now given further consideration to the membership categories within BIGGA. There will be two other membership categories in addition to the Full Greenkeeping member category. Details are as follows:-

(1) **TRADE MEMBERSHIP.** Initially, membership will run for a 15 month period from 1st October 1987 - 31st December 1988. Membership will be on an individual and not a group basis. The cost of membership for the period indicated will be £50 per member plus VAT = £57.50. This fee will include the cost of subscription to the Association's official magazine, 'the Golf Course' throughout the period.

(2) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.** This membership is available to those whose circumstances are such that they do not qualify for membership in either the Full or Trade categories. Membership will be on an individual and not a group basis and the initial membership period will be the 15 months from 1st October - 31st December 1988. The cost of membership for this period will be £35 per member plus VAT = £40.25. The fee will include the cost of subscription to the Association's official magazine, 'the Golf Course' throughout the period.

N.B. A number of prospective applicants for Trade and Associate membership have already, in registering their interest, submitted payment in the sum of £17.25 inclusive of VAT. In such cases, Trade and Associate members should now submit the appropriate balance of payment, i.e. £40.25 for Trade Membership or £23 for Associate Membership, and confirm their previous registration and payment.

NEIL THOMAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

BRITISH AND INTERNATIONAL GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

TRADE MEMBER

Name in full _____ Company _____
Position _____ Tel. No _____
Preferred mailing address _____
_____ Post Code _____
Region you wish to join _____

I attach my cheque for £50 (plus VAT) = £57.50 SIGNED: _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Name in full _____ Position _____ Tel.No. _____
Preferred mailing address _____
_____ Post Code _____
Region you wish to join _____

I attach my cheque for £35 (plus VAT) = £40.25 SIGNED: _____

Return to: The Executive Director, BIGGA, Sports Turf Research Institute, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 1AU

Exciting new plans announced by the National Turfgrass Council

AT a cocktail reception held during the IOG Windsor show, at which almost 200 invited guests were in attendance, Howard Swan, Chairman of the National Turfgrass Council, made public a substantial three year strategic plan for the Council.

In his welcoming address he said he was the first to admit that in the past the Council had been seen to be nothing more than talking shop and this weakened its attempts to represent the industry effectively. However he said that this was a time for change in formulating its plan to become much more active in its representation as the umbrella body. He stressed the importance of the growing industry in which all at Windsor were involved and this was underlined by a highly supportive statement from the Minister of Sport Colin Moynihan. It was certain that a continued growth in the participation in outdoor and indoor sports would be seen and that facilities, either new or upgraded, both public and private, would be funded in time. The government initiative on the diversification of farmland into recreation and amenity use would mean more golf courses, and more sports pitches in the next ten years.

Swan looked back at the original formation of the NTC in 1980, and discussed briefly its aims and objectives, namely the dissemination of information, education and training, and on the subject of encouraging research, he said that he felt that the NTC had only been partially successful to date, but by the establishment of national conferences and regional workshops and the development of the B. Tech. Diploma in Turf Management, that a limited amount had been accomplished. However the NTC needed to do more so that it represented the industry much more effectively and efficiently.

The establishment of a permanent secretary in June of 1988 was the first important step and detailed plans for this post had already been formulated. This would allow the NTC to develop away from its voluntary base as at present when more could be done and be seen to be done. This function would be supported by secretarial assistance and there would be a professional marketing and PR consultant retained to



Howard Swan and Keith Cleverly

develop the image of the Council. Besides running its annual conference, the 1987 version of which is being held in late October on the subject of Water Management for Turfgrasses, the NTC has already planned an intensive series of regional workshops on wild flora, fertiliser uses in fine turf, diversification of farmland to recreation and workshops on pesticides legislation which will be held in November. To coincide with this the NTC is publishing a code of practice for pesticide usage for the industry in association with the NAAC and the Ministry of Agriculture.

This increased activity which will

be made possible by the establishment of the permanent secretariat, obviously requires funding and Swan detailed at the reception the launch of the Premier Patrons Scheme, which unites support on an annual basis from the industry. Three levels of patronage are envisaged; Gold, Silver and Bronze, to commence in 1988 at £800, £400 and £200 respectively. The founding Golf Patron was ICI Professional Products. The Toro Company, Supaturf Products Ltd., Vitax Ltd., Rolawn Ltd., and Ransomes Simms and Jefferies plc joined them in pledging their support as Gold Patrons. Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) Ltd., the specialist golf course constructor became the founding Silver Patron, and *the Golf Course*, the Official Publication of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association, became the founding Bronze Patron, Hawtree & Son Golf Course Architects and British Seed Houses Ltd., Maxicrop International Ltd., and Walkover Sprayers were the other Bronze Patrons.

The outstandingly successful response to the National Turfgrass Council's future plans and the Premier Patron Scheme prompted Chairman Swan to conclude.

"I am absolutely delighted with the way that we have begun this campaign and can see that in future months shall build upon this excellent base and be able to meet the projected budgetary requirements for the secretariat so that all our plans can be implemented.

"At last the NTC seems to be getting off the ground and with the continued support of all sides in the industry, associations, companies and individuals, I can see the Council truly representing, as it should, all facets of the business to the outside world and government".

**NATIONAL TURFGRASS COUNCIL AND
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL CONTRACTORS
WORKSHOP ON "AMENITY PESTICIDES '87"
STONELEIGH, THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 1987**

Since the last amenity pesticides workshop a year ago, the National Turfgrass Council and the National Association of Agricultural Contractors have been working, with the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to prepare a code of practice specifically for the amenity sector.

This workshop at Stoneleigh on Thursday 12 November 1987 is mainly to introduce the new code. Speakers will explain how it would be applied in various situations, what is included, and what is not.

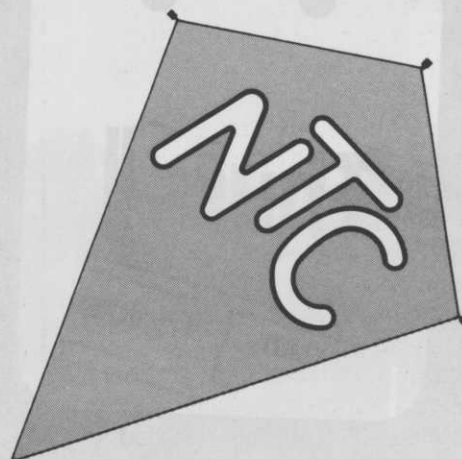
There will also be a chance to get up-to-date on operator training and certificates of competence, with a speaker from the ATB, and Phillip Sheppy of the NPTC to review and explain the pesticides application tests.

The price is £37.00 per person, including a copy of the code available at the workshop, lunch and other refreshments, and the workshop report afterwards.

Enquires to:-

Mr. J. P. Shildrick,
Secretary, NTC,
3, Ferrands Park Way,
Harden,
Bingley,
W. Yorkshire,
BD16 1HZ

Tel: (Daytime): 0274 565131
(Evening): 0535 273188



OUTLINE PROGRAMME

- 9.00 onwards Registration
- 9.45 - 10.15 Coffee available

SESSION 1. CODE OF PRACTICE FOR PESTICIDES IN AMENITY AREAS

- 10.15 - 10.30 Chairman's welcome and introduction
- 10.30 - 10.50 The Local Authority's view - Jon Bauer, City of Sheffield
- 10.50 - 11.10 The Contractor's view - Speaker from the National Association of Agricultural Contractors
- 11.10 - 11.30 The HSE view - Jim McIntyre, Health & Safety Executive
- 11.30 - 11.50 The Water Authority's view - Mrs Katherine Bryan, Severn-Trent Water
- 11.50 - 12.45 Group discussions on the Code of Practice
- 12.45 Buffet lunch
- 1.45 - 2.15 Comments and queries from groups

SESSION 2. UPDATE ON OPERATOR TRAINING AND PROFICIENCY TESTING

- 2.15 - 2.20 Chairman's introduction
- 2.20 - 2.40 Training courses - Speaker from the Agricultural Training Board
- 2.40 - 3.00 Proficiency testing - Phillip Sheppy, National Proficiency Tests Council
- 3.00 - 4.00 Final discussion
- 4.00 approx Tea and disperse.

Mon 

Tues 

Wednes 

Thurs 

Fri 

Satur 

Sun 

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BIGGA ANNUAL TOURNEY A GREAT SUCCESS



Some of the competitors and their wives enjoying the sunshine in front of Verulam's clubhouse.

THIS year's BIGGA annual tournament was held at Verulam Golf Club, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, and was a resounding success.

More than seventy greenkeepers turned out over three days to take part over a course kept in fine mettle by head greenkeeper Geoff Smith and his staff.

The prize table was laden with a host of trophies, which were presented by the chairman of the greens committee, Mr. Cooper, who showed a keen interest in the day's events.

Prizes were donated by Maxwell Hart Ltd, Toro UK, Ransomes, Universal Materials Patissons, May & Baker, Chipman Ltd, Hamilton Strutt, Supaturn, VITAX, Fisons, SISI,

Sports Turf Institute, SAI Long Life, T F Parker of Worcester Park, the Golf Course, Golf Landscapes Ltd, Huxleys, Brian D Pierson (Contractors), Rigby Taylor, Farmura Ltd, BASF UK, Lloyds of Letchworth, Synchemicals, CMW Equipment, Kingston House (Mowers) Ltd and A T Oliver & Sons.

The greenkeeper's team for the 1987 Kubota Challenge, being held at The Belfry this month, was announced at the end of the tournament, the qualifiers being the first eight over 54 holes.

The team consists of - P. Wentworth (Handicap 14), I. Toon (9), E. West (9), M. Guy (6), R. Barker (5), N. Whittaker (15), G. Payne (7) and M. Sheehan (7).



Transport was laid on!

MAJOR PRIZEWINNERS

18 HOLES NET (FIRST DAY)

1st I Toon, 65
2nd P Fitzjohn, 67
3rd G Payne, 68
4th D Roberts, 69

Over 60's

1st R Platn, 73
2nd E Thompson, 78
3rd R Gates, 80

36 HOLES SCRATCH

R Barker, 149

36 HOLES NET (0-11)

1st I Toon, 130
2nd M Guy, 140
3rd M Sheehan, 141
4th M Smith, 142

36 HOLES NET (12-18)

1st D Roberts, 138
2nd P Wentworth, 140
3rd N Whittaker, 145
4th I Holoran, 146

JUBILEE CUP (3-A-SIDE TEAM)

Northern, 422
- M Guy, D Roberts, J Hannan

CHIPMAN UNDER "25" CUP

S Goode, 146

18 HOLES NET

1st M Smith, 65
2nd R Barker, 65
3rd I Toon, 65
4th M Guy, 67

PAST CHAIRMAN'S CUP

J Richardson

36 HOLES PUTTING COMPETITION

P Nason

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DEVASTATION



EVERYONE will appreciate the tragedy of the hurricane force winds that swept the south east corner of England on that fateful night. Considering the conditions, the loss of life was remarkably low, but the devastation to property and wildlife is incalculable.

The statistics make appalling reading - the damage to buildings running into millions of pounds but somehow no matter how serious one has the feeling that buildings are replaceable. What is clearly not, are the thousands of mature trees that have been lost. The landscape will not be the same for decades and it is said that more trees were lost in twelve hours than in a decade of Dutch Elm disease. All species were affected - not only the bending, snapping poplars, but 100 year

old oaks crashed to the ground. Many trees were literally uprooted as the ground, sodden by the dreadfully wet summer, failed to hold the roots under the stress of winds constantly over a 100mph.

No course in the path of the hurricane could have escaped without some damage, but a special thought went to Kevin Munt at Wentworth in charge of his first World Matchplay Championship and Cameron McMillan one of the youngest head men in the country, in charge at Liphook for the Daily Telegraph South Eastern County finals. Chain-saws not triplexes were the order of the day.

Winter renovation programmes will be thrown out by all the additional work and long hours

"thousands of mature trees were lost..."

FRIDAY 16TH



will have to be put in by already hard pressed greenstaff to ensure courses are back in play as soon as possible.

Tony Gentil's series on trees could not have been published at a more relevant time and it is certain that this series of articles, which has already been well received, will be a useful guide when it comes to repairing and replacing the damage. Tony will be contributing an article on the after-effects of the hurricane in the New Year.

No doubt there are many horrific tales to tell and pictures to publish - we would like to hear from any of our readers of their experiences on that fateful night. Experiences shared often help to overcome the feeling that "this could only happen to me", as well as offering possible solutions to common problems.



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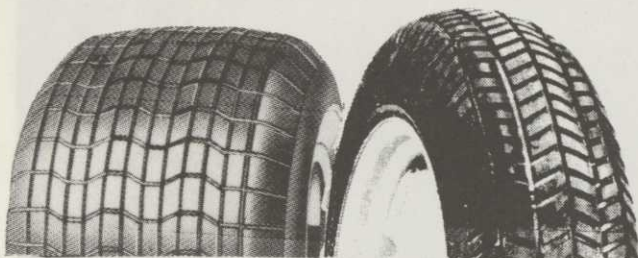
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TREES

on the golf course



IF you want to get the best out of something you have to look after it. Whether the object in question is a piece of machinery, a golf green or a tree, neglect maintenance and problems will be stored up for the future.

Don't think, however, that tree maintenance is horrendously complicated and difficult. Trees in the wild grow from seed to maturity perfectly adequately without man. As little interference as possible is more a measure of good maintenance than of uncaring neglect.

By Tony Gentil



A small conifer trying to compete with surrounding vegetation.



"Mindless" vandalism...



...and the "official" variety, where the tree is being strangled by a tie.

THE maintenance of trees on golf courses divides neatly into two elements. Firstly there is the period immediately after planting until the tree becomes established. The second element is the remainder of the tree's life, during which it will develop, mature and decline. Both periods pose their own problems and so I want to consider each separately.

Maintenance up to establishment is in many ways, the most important and critical part of a tree's life. Problems which occur during this stage will grow with the tree and become increasingly expensive and difficult to rectify later.

If you can help a tree get off to a flying start, subsequent maintenance will be minimal. This is the easiest time to carry out maintenance because the trees are relatively small.

Forest transplants and whips should require the least attention and you can include under this heading trees which naturally regenerate from seed.

To trees of these smaller sizes, the main difficulty in becoming established is the competition from surrounding vegetation.

Keep an area of about a square yard clean round the base of each one. You'll find a herbicide is the best method to use, but be careful of spray drift, particularly when working with the smallest trees. If there is any chance of spray drift, fit a hood over the end of the lance.

You might decide to clear excess vegetation prior to spraying by using a strimmer. If you do, make sure that the spinning, nylon

cutting cords don't touch the bark of the trees, or they'll kill them.

An alternative method of suppressing vegetation round the base of trees is to use a mulch. Forest bark or wood chips are becoming increasingly popular as mulches, but a word of caution about forest bark. Make sure that it is partly decomposed before you apply it. Used fresh, forest bark from conifers can give off vapours as it starts to decompose, and these are harmful to some plants.

There is quite a handy idea for a mulch called a "tree-spat". This is a three foot square of roofing felt with a hole of about three inches diameter in the centre. Leading from the hole to one edge of the spat there is a slit, which enables you to position the tree-spat over the root area by sliding it in from ground level. You can buy tree-spats or make them yourself, depending on the resources available.

Self-sown seedlings may grow up in large numbers, perhaps only a few inches apart. As they develop you will need to remove some to avoid over-crowding. Aim initially for one per square yard. When they reach the size of whips they can be thinned again, to perhaps ten feet apart.

Don't worry about pruning forest transplants and whips; basically they don't need any. Occasionally you might have to remove a branch which has become broken, but other than that leave them alone.

I feel sorry for standard trees. Generally they have a very raw deal. Not only do they have to

overcome the trauma of transplanting, but they also have to survive the vandalism which follows.

I'm not talking now about the "mindless" vandalism of the anti-social lout who snaps their heads off, but the "official" vandalism of incompetent neglect by those who are paid to look after trees.

Standard trees are staked after planting and they are tied to the stake by one or more tree ties, depending on the length of stake. I reckon that something like 10% of all standards planted suffer from strangulation by tree ties that are never loosened.

This isn't an error of omission that occurs only on golf courses. You can see the strangled tree in botanic gardens, local authority parks and private gardens everywhere. It is as if once a person has planted, staked, and tied a tree, that's the end of the tree's need for care. The lesson is clear, check all tree ties three or four times during each growing season and loosen them before strangulation lets in.

Other points to watch in the maintenance of standards are:

- 1) To keep the area round the base clear of vegetation until the tree is established.
- 2) To avoid damage to the bark of the lower trunk by use of strimmers and mowers.
- 3) To remove the ties and stake as soon as the tree is windfirm.

The thought of having to look after a tree for the rest of its life can be a bit daunting. It's not a responsibility you can avoid though. Anyone who owns a tree is legally responsible for any problems it causes. If you are a golf course manager, whether you actually own the trees on your course or not, you are by definition responsible for their management.

How do you resolve this dilemma then, of having to look after trees without having an in-depth knowledge and trained staff? The law requires that you be sensible and adopt a responsible attitude.

You need to strike a balance between using your own common sense and calling in experts when something drastic needs to be done.

Maintenance involves keeping a watching brief. Get to know the trees on your course by looking at them every time you walk the course to look at the grass. You'll find a pair of binoculars are a great help for this job. Look for changes in their growth patterns.

For instance are any of them looking a bit thin on top, or are their leaves smaller than usual? These are often signs of problems in the root systems.

Can you see any signs of bracket fungi growing out of trunks or branches? Don't worry about trying to name the fungi, if it is there, you've got problems.

Are there any broken branches hanging in the top of a tree, or dead branches, obvious in the summer from their leaf-lessness.

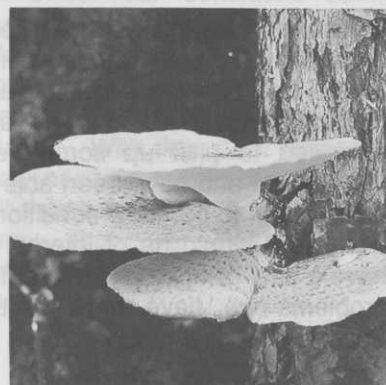
All these are things which anyone with common sense can spot. Where, then, do you go from here? You have two choices, either call in an expert for a second opinion or to carry out the necessary maintenance yourself.

Unless you have highly skilled and well-equipped staff, leave hair-raising work to specialist contractors. Small jobs such as removing low branches might well be within the capabilities of your staff. A pole-saw is a cheap and highly effective way of removing branches without the operator having to leave terra firma.

If you feel that you need a second opinion about your trees or you want to call in a specialist contractor, it makes sense to use someone who knows what they are doing. The Arboricultural Association has a directory of consultants and contractors, all of whom have been rigorously vetted. You can obtain a copy of the directory from the secretary, Arboricultural Association, Ampfield House, Ampfield, Nr. Romsey, Hants. SO5 9PA.



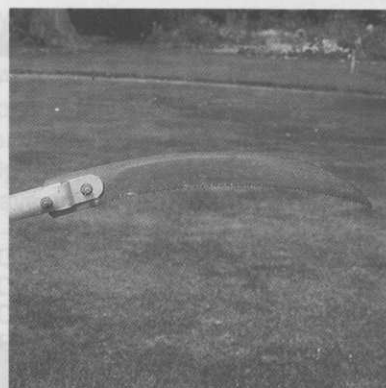
Damage by a mower



Bracket fungi



A pole saw in action...



...and in close-up



ROYAL HARARE GOLF CLUB

IT IS with great interest that I read my copy of *the Golf Course* when it arrives and see the problems and solutions outlined. I have managed to pick up some very handy hints and have been able to adapt much to our local conditions. Perhaps it would be of interest to have a brief glimpse of some of the problems we have here in the Southern Hemisphere.

PREMIER CLUB

The Royal Harare Golf Club is the premier golf club in the country and is situated very close to the city centre. It is an 18 hole (6,434 metres, S.S. 72) course on flat, deep red clay soil (c.55% clay).

The course is sculpted through a testing mix of indigenous and imported trees to ensure that every

hole requires a separate strategy and it is mature enough to have high trees to ensure that for the pros and other gorillas a driver is not the club to use off every tee.

Being in the sub-tropics Zimbabwe has a seasonal rainfall from November to March and the average received by the course is approximately 900mm per year. Irrigation is therefore a very important part of management as daily temperatures vary from 12-15 C in winter (July) to 25-35 C in summer (January).

Fortunately the course is adjacent to a Government Meteorological station and all the irrigation is scheduled on a Class 'A' evaporation pan. Converted E/E ratios can soar as high as 7,0 during our 'suicide' month (October).

Prior to Independence the greens

were watered with a Flawn-Thomas automatic irrigation system, but with Independence and a lack of foreign exchange, the obtaining of spares and the lack of a servicing facility began to cause problems. The greens are now watered with a 5 cm perforated aluminium pipe system which is manufactured locally, but which has to be arranged manually across the green. Precipitation is measured with individual rain gauges. Fairways are watered with standard Rain-bird 6.5mm sprinkler nozzles. The water is obtained from four boreholes and during the dry season pumping continues day and night, except at weekends.

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ROYAL HARARE GOLF CLUB

traffic of any club in the country, with an average of 110 rounds per day every day of the year bar one. In the last five years only two competitions have been stopped because of very heavy rain and lightning. This puts some quite heavy demands on the greenkeeping staff as there is no 'quiet' period, except Christmas day when the club is closed. Renovation and major structural maintenance has therefore to be done under the feet of the golfers.

The greens are all hand mowed with petrol driven Briggs & Stratton drum mowers. Four machines mow each green twice a day during summer and once a day during winter - when the grass grows it grows with or without fertiliser!

The greens are covered by a large number of grasses, as many as there have been greens committees, but in the main they are either Tiff or a bastardised local cynodon which has crept in over the years.

RESISTANT

At present we are replacing all the greens with Florida which has proved in our climate to be one of the easiest to manage and most resistant to drought, disease and traffic. Grasses such as Tiff and the Bents do not react well under our high temperature conditions and are particularly susceptible to *Drechslera_poa*. Under more temperate conditions this may cause! melting out!. Under our conditions we can lose a whole green in ten days if untreated.

All the fairways are nearly pure Kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) which grows extremely well if fertilised and well watered, and these are mown with gang mowers twice a week. Ecologically, Kikuyu grass is the best for fairways in this part of the world and eventually takes over the whole course.

CONSTANT PROBLEM

For this reason each grass is

surrounded by a 'cordon sanitaire' of local couch grass which is used as a battle ground to keep the Kikuyu at bay. This is a constant problem and requires a great deal of labour. The rough consists of natural 'veld' grasses which die off in winter and which have to be bush mown in summer to prevent them getting shoulder high.

As mentioned, the main disease is *Drechslera* for which we apply a Sumiscler/Bravo mix fortnightly during the rains and monthly during winter. This mix has been shown to be the best against Dollar spot (*Sclerotinia sp.*) as well and the fortnightly spray application keeps the course free of most fungus diseases.

When using the old watering system we did get a great deal of slime mould, but with the perforated pipe system, this has been eliminated. Ferrous sulphate was found to restrict this and any moss growth in these patches.

On the pest side, we get lawn caterpillar, army worm, red and white mite and, particularly on the fairways, crickets. A rotated spraying of carbaryl and diazinon keeps these under control.

On the weed side, we have little problem in the fairways as a healthy Kikuyu sward keeps out most things. However, on the greens we do get *Poa annua* in winter and under our conditions this can ruin a green in a couple of months. Once established, when our winter is over it can devastate a green. Fortunately, with Florida and the various grasses we have we can spray Kerb herbicide (propyzamide) and this is usually done as a pre-emergent in late March, early April once we start getting cold nights (c. 12-15 C). Other weeds, particularly *Euphorbia prostrata*, oxalis and *Cyperus esculentis*, we control with spot sprayings of MSMA, Ronstar, 2,4-D and MCPA-K salt.

TOP DRESSING

Our greens receive a six weekly

light top dressing of alternately double washed and screened river sand and fumigated screened tobacco scrap or well rotted cow manure compost. Under our conditions and the high temperatures, thatch is not a significant problem. The greens are also verticut just prior to top dressing.

Throughout all our soils we have a very low organic matter content and our problem is keeping some sort of structure to the soil and we rely on the compost to do this.

Under our conditions during summer, dry maize stover ploughed in and left for 60 days to rot down is almost undetectable as organic matter let alone as maize stover. With fine stem grasses it only needs a couple of weeks and all thatch is gone. It is with great envy that we look at your advertisements for slow release fertilisers.

'NON-ESSENTIAL'

On the equipment side we have sufficient, but we can only drool over some of the advertisements in your magazine. At present, equipment is very difficult to obtain as we are a 'non-essential' industry and we take what we can scrounge and borrow. Normally new equipment can be wangled, but spares are almost non-existent. For small things like bearings for motors and mowers we can wait for up to seven months, nozzles for sprayers up to a year, and so on. As an example we have some mowers whose Briggs & Stratton 5HP motors have been working every day for over eight years - so much for planned obsolescence.

At present our course is in peak condition and we are looking forward to hosting the Zimbabwe Open. After a dry start our rains have arrived, so it's all systems go!

**DR. DOUGLAS McClymont IS
CHAIRMAN OF THE GREENS
COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL
HARARE CLUB IN ZIMBABWE.**

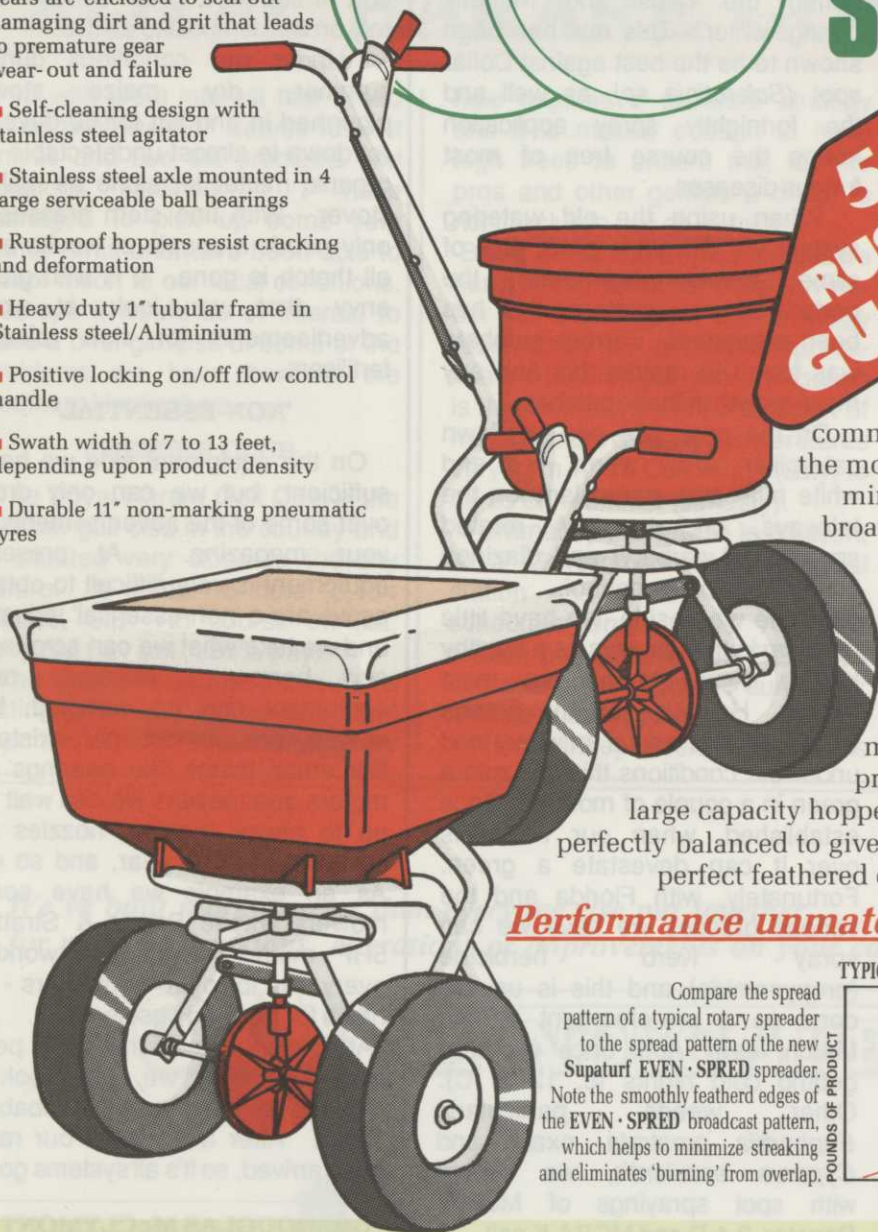
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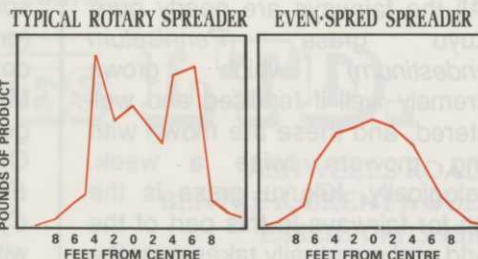
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For any further information contact one of the following branches.

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 Tel: (0924) 891000

South
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 Seven Hills Road
 Iver Heath
 Buckinghamshire
 Tel: (0895) 832626/834198

South West
 D.O. Hunt Limited
 14 Fairfax Road
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 Tel: (0626) 834499

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At St Andrews they've found that it also does a great job on the fairways too, where its floating head cutting units make a superb finish.

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NOTEBOOK...

Startling! Unbelievable! Dramatic!

WHEN part of a sports ground is virtually restored to life it is hard not to use superlatives. Especially when a problem has existed for years without proper solution and the answer is achieved in three or four weeks.

But it happened at Purley Heath Cricket Club, whose outfield - like many others - is used for hockey during the winter with the inevitable after-effects. The ground lies on original soil of doubtful quality and, as a negative 'bonus', also suffers from the effects of large overhanging trees around the ground which make the groundsman's job almost a nightmare. Colin Claydon saw it both as a problem and challenge and was determined to find a cure.

The result will interest his many colleagues with similar problems.

In April 1987 his ground showed the usual ravages of winter. The outfield, including an area of two hockey pitches, seemed in worse state than usual. Missing divots, excess wear, bare and muddy patches were the order of the day.

Despite reseeding and dressing with a sound all-round fertiliser (Rigby Taylor 9-7-7) there was little sign of good grass growth by early June. Where the turf was overshadowed by large overhanging trees picturesque and photogenic but

friendly to the outfield grass - were large bare, poorly grassed patches defying all attempts to promote vigorous growth.

All this on a ground generally noted for its all-round excellence following four or five years of hard work from the time when Colin inherited pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens in a sorry state with the turf everywhere in poor condition, vulnerable to disease and thatch-ridden.

At the outset Colin took the advice of Frank Brittin, a popular and knowledgeable friend to many groundsman and greenkeepers, and began using seaweed-based products to restore his grass: using Maxidrop as a foliar feed and Alginure Soil Improver with his top dressings. The results on bowling greens and tennis courts (used regularly for prestige county events) have been to restore the turf to a healthy condition with underlying improvement in the soil structure which ensures optimum benefit is derived from irrigation and dressings.

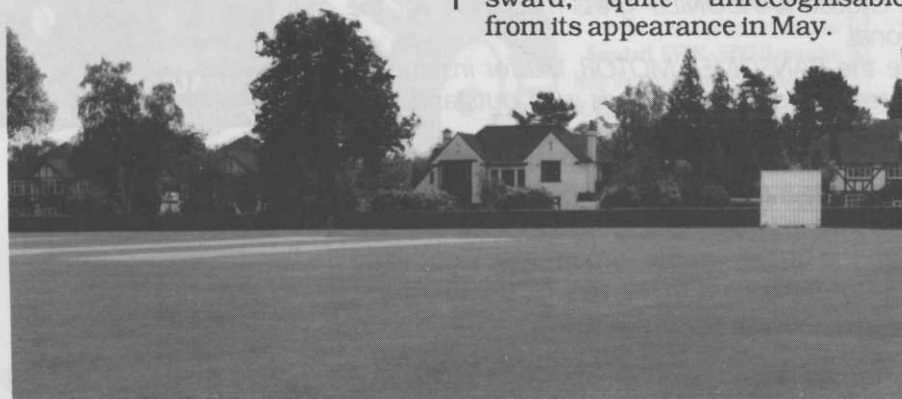
Colin therefore opted for seaweed to tackle his problem outfield areas, but using a new product - Alginure Turf Supplement, a new liquid added to Alginure's range, and the speedy result was better than he had hoped because by the end of June the area was transformed into a rich green sward, quite unrecognisable from its appearance in May.

The result was spectacular but the reason was simple. Alginure Turf Supplement is not a liquid feed, but rather, is rich in essential foods necessary for the initiation and maintenance of vital bacterial and microbial life whose activities create healthy soil conditions.

The concentration of these highly desirable 'goodies' (properly known as polysaccharides) in Alginure Turf Supplement is around 37% - an amount far in excess of that available in other purely organic liquids and it was the introduction into the soil of the natural food for those essential organisms which had the expected result.

Such organisms, encouraged to flourish, carry on the work of improving the organic structure of the soil while aeration is improved, available nutrients are released more easily and conditions are created which benefit growing vegetation.

Colin Claydon has since commenced work in his new post at Shell Sports Ground at Lensbury.



Purley Cricket Club - a view of the ground.

..NOTEBOOK

Turf Care Workshops

THESE very professionally presented days were in the main poorly attended. The original six venues were reduced to four with between 100-200 delegates expected, however the estimate was only reached at Stirling in Scotland. Whether there are now too many of these seminars during the early Autumn or whether it is just apathy, is difficult to judge. There were a sizeable number of delegates who paid but failed to turn up, most of these were apparently from local authorities. They missed several excellent presentations given by representatives of prominent companies in the industry.

The topics covered included research and development of chemicals, slow release fertilisers, organic feeds, irrigation and some aspects of the STRI's research. All the speakers got across their



message, one or two points struck home with the audience which brought forth some searching questions.

The demonstrations by TORO and SISIS were most instructive and Jimmy Kidd as guest speaker gave a beautifully illustrated talk on his time at Gleneagles.

Although the Turf Care Workshops were highly commercial, they were equally

informative and it is to be hoped that they will be staged again next year, when they may attract better support.

A complete and fully illustrated publication featuring the Workshop presentations given by all the participating companies is available at £2.50 inc. p&p, from: TURF CARE WORKSHOPS, FREEPOST, BASILDON, ESSEX. SS16 6BR

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Contact: Fen Turf Dressings Ltd., Suite 3, Angel Court, Dairy Yard, High Street, Market Harborough, Leics LE16 7NL. Tel: Market Harborough (0858) 64346.

HA 1383

M&B May & Baker
ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS

When the small points are being attended to it indicates to members and people like myself that the place is being cared for.

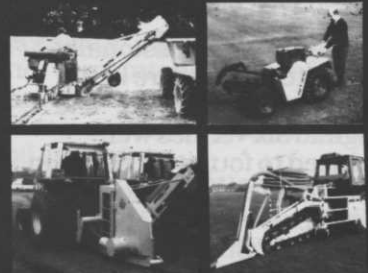
Greenkeeping standards and methods are all about the clubs, the committees of clubs and their responsibilities. They are the paymasters and it is up to the club committees to serve the greenkeeping side so that all the effort is being channelled along the right road and that the money being spent is spent in the right way and not wasted.

It is more difficult to keep a course in good condition now because so much more golf is played. Some 30 years ago I could toddle around every evening of the week, chipping and putting around the greens. Nobody saw me because there was no-one playing the course. It must be a difficult job keeping the place spick and span, and perhaps the secret lies in the number of men and the utilisation of resources.

This is the way I would like to see my ideal course, and I am not talking about a championship course, but a little nine hole course down the road, which would give me great pleasure to play if it were in decent order and all the little points were being taken care of.

ED'S NOTE: No doubt the above will stimulate much discussion and even correspondence. For example Tom Watson perhaps did not know that it had rained for six weeks prior to the Open Championship in 1981!!

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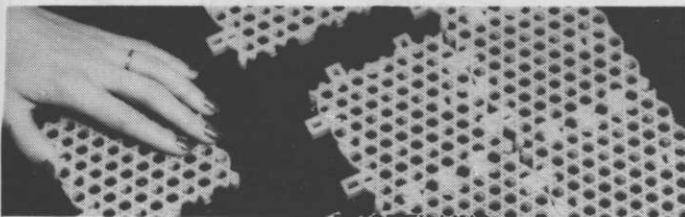


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A. F. Trenchers Ltd.
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 Telephone 0206 44411

GOLFERS...

*You change the holes you cut the grass, You work your butt to save your ass,
 But all they do is moan and groan, Shout at you on the telephone.
 You spike and scarify as time goes past, To get the greens all firm and fast,
 The better greens are bent/fescue, But are given praise by golfers few.
 So the greens for colour are far to pale, When they judge by that your sure to fail.
 Then the greens wont hold a ball hit thin, But they never try to get backspin.
 So you're told do this they think they know, And politely you tell them where to go!
 But they shout for water, they shout for feeding, they say that's what our greens are needing,
 Aye! That's the view of the golfing mass, And that's why they play on meadowgrass!*

P. MCMORRAN



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THE COLLEGE IS NOW OFFERING A ONE YEAR FULL-TIME SANDWICH COURSE COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF TURFCULTURE. COMMENCING JANUARY 1988
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 OATRIDGE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
 BROXBURN, WEST LOTHIAN EH52 6NH
 TEL: BROXBURN (0506) 854387

...NOTEBOOK

Slow Release Fertilisers

THE Sports Turf Research Institute is aware of increasing concern among the turf managers that a number of slow release fertiliser products on the market do not indicate the proportion (percentage) of nitrogen which is in the slow release form. In IBDU containing products the IBDU-nitrogen may make anything from about 20 to 90 per cent of the total. It is evident that the low content IBDU products will have relatively poor slow release characteristics. These low percentages of slow release compounds in fertilisers create problems with bodies such as Local Authorities and Golf Clubs who invite tenders for their annual fertiliser needs. Obviously, fertilisers with low percentages of IBDU present will be sold at lower prices and therefore competitive tenders go to the lowest bid price, and this could mean that the



Ayr College presentation to Best Greenkeeping Students - joint winners L to R: Harry Diamond (Education Convener), Colin Gemmill (Prestwick St Cuthbert), Jim Paton (Area Secretary), Andrew Kerr (Kilmarnock Barassie), Brian Finlayson (Area Chairman)

product has very little slow release compound present in the fertiliser. Dr. Peter Hayes, Director of STRI, states that, "In order to both inform turf managers, groundsmen and greenkeepers and to ensure

their confidence in the products, manufacturers should clearly show percentage of total nitrogen which is of the slow release type".

the Golf Course

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elmwood agricultural and technical college

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Fife Regional Council - Education Committee

ELMWOOD COLLEGE, CUPAR, FIFE, SCOTLAND.

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At Scotec Part III level (Modular Provision)

One week only will be spent in College

Details and Application forms from the Registrar

Telephone (0334) 52781

Greenkeepers Dream Time!

IF a greenkeeper has nightmares it is probably about a horde of furious members with wedges waving angrily in the air or perhaps he has more pleasant dreams - dreams of greens free of water, with no compaction and the grass growing evenly. But this time the members are angrily waving their putters in the air after a missing putt. But the greenkeeper stands, watches and smiles because he can't be blamed. The secretary invites him into the club for a drink because he too won't get any moans and groans over the bar.

There is no perfect answer but the old adage if you look after the turf then grass will look after itself is still true. Compaction is inevitable with constant mowing and the tread of hundreds of pairs of feet.

Drainage will vary but is always a problem particularly on heavy clay soils.

Mechanical means are the accepted way of alleviating the problem and they do just that. But now modern technology can help the mechanical means do an even better job.

Imagine a product which you can spray on the course which will activate and increase all the millions of micro organisms. Imagine them working away in the soil intent on restoring the soil to its natural level of fertility. To reach that point they have to breakdown the soil to overcome the compaction and the drainage so that the grass roots get a chance to dig down and rather up the benefits in the soil.

Imagination or dreams? No it's an easily applied product of modern technology readily

available at a reasonable price, SOILIFE.

For further information contact Michael Farrant of Farrant Chemicals on Winchester (0962) 51226

"Scotsturf '87" Exhibition and Seminar

The annual exhibition organised by the Scotland and Northern Ireland Zone of the Institute, will be held on Wednesday, 11 November 1987, in The Exhibition Hall, Royal Highland Showgrounds, Ingliston, near Edinburgh, from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

The BIGGA will have its own stand situated in the West balcony area of the main hall and which will be manned by members and it is hoped that the Executive Director, Neil Thomas will be in attendance.

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£6,000

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SISIS HYDROMAIN FOURTEEN MK.11 TRACTOR UNIT FITTED WITH KUBOTA DIESEL ENGINE AND POWER STEERING-ALMOST AS NEW

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RANSOMES TRIPLEX 171
with greens and verti cutting units
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KUBOTA B7100 excellent condition on agricultural tyres £3200.
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ALLEN National 68 Briggs Engine £1100.

Good stocks of used SISIS and CUSHMAN
equipment always available.

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...NOTEBOOK

Pattissons expand their business

FEW companies have served the sports and leisure industry longer and more faithfully than H. Pattisson & Co. Ltd., Luton, whose reputation as one of the leading suppliers of golf course requisites is well established among greenkeepers and golf club officials in this country and overseas.

Interesting news from the Pattisson world was made public recently by Tony Hemingway, Managing Director, when he announced that they had acquired the business known as Bridges Pennants. Taking over this specialised company now gives Pattisson much wider scope in relation to golf course and clubhouse needs, from handicap boards, menu cards, bar price display boards, golf bag tags and discs, score cards, green fee labels to special event armbands and rosettes.

Pattisson quality custom flag service is popular and has expanded immensely with the advent of faster and more efficient printing methods and with the right consultation the cost is not as great as is imagined, now that the bonus of another quality flag manufacturing process from Bridges comes under the Pattisson banner.

Tony Hemingway added, "Our growth is necessary to meet the growing challenge and ever increasing demands of sport and leisure. We recognise our first priority to the golf club market

which we have supplied with our extensive range of products since 1896". To meet this expansion programme another Pattisson Salesman has been appointed in the South of England, David Hawkins, who is a well known golfer in the Bedford area and he will be introducing the new and growing range of company products to golf clubs from another of the well known Pattisson Vans.

David has responsibility from Essex, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, taking over from David Craig, a 'hard pushed man' who will be able to concentrate his efforts for the next year or two in Berkshire, Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Middlesex.

In the north of England, the success story continues for Pattisson and their salesman Peter Marshall has been compelled to go around with a much bigger van - he is equipped now with a model Transit fully stocked with company products and a greater stock holding facility has been established in Leeds to cope with increased amount of business.

A New Liquid Iron

IN response to demands from groundsmen and greenkeepers Supaturf have introduced a water soluble Liquid Iron to the U.K. turf grass market.

Named 'Greenstar', the product is a patented Liquid Iron complex that stimulates a rapid plant green-up without excess growth by supplying a high concentration of iron in soluble form for plant intake through both the leaves and roots. 'Greenstar' stimulates in the plant the production of chlorophyll and promotes a dark healthy green colour in turf and shrubs. Available in convenient one litre plastic packs each treating an area of 600 sq. yds (500 sq.m.) "Greenstar" can be used anywhere to correct iron deficiencies or to promote a quick green-up in turf and ornamentals.

For further information contact Supaturf Products Ltd., Oxney Road, Peterborough, PE1 5YZ telephone number (0733) 68384

Rufford Top Dress Supplies

In a piece in NOTEBOOK in the September issue of 'the Golf Course' we stated that this product was made by various distributors. This was an error, it is only MARKETED by the distributors, the product is

entirely based at Rufford's own quarry and all materials used, are from their own reserves, this enables Rufford to offer guaranteed consistency of quality which very few, if any, competitors can match.

For further information contact Frank Garvey 061 747 4333

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APPOINTMENTS

SELBY GOLF CLUB

require a

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Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of modern greenkeeping, use and maintenance of machinery and staff supervision. Salary negotiable. Accommodation available.

Please apply in writing giving age and experience to:-



1907

The Secretary,
Selby Golf Club Ltd.,
Mill Lane,
Brayton Barff,
Selby, North Yorkshire.
YO8 9LD

WEST BERKSHIRE GOLF CLUB

require a

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Experience of greenkeeping and machinery maintenance is required. This position would suit someone who is keen to work and advance to Head Greenkeeper. Salary negotiable.

No accommodation available. Please apply in writing with details of present employment and experience to:-

Mr. F.S. Boobyer,
West Berkshire Golf Club,
Chaddleworth,
NEWBURY, Berkshire.
RG16 OHS

Application is invited for the post of

ASSISTANT

to the HEAD GREENKEEPER of Seaford Golf Club. Preference will be given to applicants with qualifications from a recognised college.

No accommodation available.

Salary to be negotiated.

Please apply with C.V. to:-

The Secretary,
Seaford Golf Club,
East Blatchington,
Seaford,
East Sussex. BN25 2JD

KIBWORTH GOLF CLUB LIMITED

require a

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Due to our present Superintendent leaving to take up the position of

First Assistant at the Belfry we require a person with experience in turf culture and course management with a preferred age 30-40 to fill this important position at a private members club.

Salary commensurate with experience. No accommodation.

Please reply in writing including full C.V. to:-

The Secretary,
Kibworth Golf Club,
Kibworth Beauchamp,
Leicester. LE8 OLP



MORECAMBE GOLF CLUB LTD.

(18 hole course)

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

From persons of proven ability with suitable qualifications and experience in all aspects of course maintenance, who have a thorough knowledge of machinery maintenance and also the ability to direct and motivate staff. Salary negotiable - no accommodation.

Applicants should apply in writing with full C.V. to:-

The Secretary,
Morecambe Golf Club Ltd.,
Bare,
Morecambe,
Lancashire. LA4 6AJ

DOUGLAS GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Douglas Golf Club, an 18 hole parkland course in Cork City, Ireland, has a vacancy for a Head Greenkeeper. The person required will have achieved a high degree of expertise in maintaining a golf course. Professional training an advantage. An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated at the top end of the scale, with accommodation provided if required.

Send full C.V. to:-

The Manager,
Douglas Golf Club,
Cork,
Ireland.

APPOINTMENTS

WHITSAND BAY HOTEL

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Required for 18-hole hotel golf course in Cornwall. Might suit ambitious young 2nd looking to further his career. Write with full C.V. to:-



**Whitsand Bay Hotel
Golf & Country Club,
Portwrinkle,
Crafthole,
by Torpoint,
Cornwall. PL11 3BU**

SONNING GOLF CLUB LTD

Applications are invited for the post of: 1st ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

required for busy 18 hole parkland course. Preference will be given to BIGGA members of proven ability. References will be required.

Please apply with C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
Sonning Golf Club,
Duffield Road,
Sonning-on-Thames,
Berks. RG5 4RJ**

ST. AUGUSTINES GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applications are invited from experienced greenkeepers with a sound knowledge of modern greenkeeping methods and course machinery. The successful applicant will lead an enthusiastic team who maintain this busy course in the South East.

Salary negotiable, no accommodation available. Applications in writing giving details of experience and equipments used to:-

**The Secretary,
St. Augustine's Golf Club,
Cottingham Road,
CLIFFSEND, Ramsgate,
Kent. CT12 5JN**

MARKET HARBOUROUGH GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of course management and maintenance, have a thorough knowledge of modern course machinery and be able to supervise and control staff.

No accommodation supplied. Salary negotiable.

Applications in writing to:-

**Mr. J. Lord, Secretary,
Market Harborough Golf Club,
Northampton Road,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire.**

LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

As all aspects of leisure assume a greater significance in people's lives, the provision of facilities and activities to meet the growing demand becomes increasingly important. Recognising this Chelmsford Borough Council is expanding its leisure services and is determined to provide first class facilities for the People of Chelmsford. We are looking for lively, intelligent people for the following posts:-

HEAD GREENKEEPER

**Hylands Park Golf Course
£7,659 - £9,654**

A very special opportunity has arisen at Chelmsford for the right person. If you have ability, technical knowledge, enthusiasm and set yourself high work standards, then your specialist knowledge of golf courses and fine turf will be ideal for this new post. Chelmsford Borough Council is building a high quality 18 hole public golf course at Hylands Park, on the outskirts of Writtle, near Chelmsford. The course is to be developed on a 400 acre mature parkland setting and work on site will commence shortly.

We are looking for a person fully experienced in all aspects of golf course management and greenkeeping experience. Initially you will be assisting with the supervision of the golf course construction under the direction of the golf course architect. You will have the opportunity to be involved from an early stage, in all aspects of the production of the course, including choice of machinery and staff. Once complete you will be responsible for maintaining the Hylands Golf Course in a first class condition.

Housing may be available and a casual car user allowance is payable in approved circumstances.

For full employment details, an application form and full job description, please write or telephone the Personal Manager, Chelmsford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 1JB, telephone Chelmsford (0245) 490490 extn. 3143

Closing date for receipt of applications 16th November 1987



**CHELMSFORD
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LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

GREENKEEPER

**Up to £140.p.w. inclusive of bonus and allowances
(pay award of approximately 6% pending)**

Required at Little Hay Golf Course, Bovington, Hemel Hempstead.

The successful applicant will be leading a team of four Greenkeepers responsible to the Head Greenkeeper. Previous experience in turf management and golf course maintenance is an advantage.

A 2 bedroomed (tied) bungalow is available at the Golf Course, for which a reduced rent and full rates are payable.

Application forms are available from and should be returned to Mrs. Ruth Bull, Leisure Services Department, Civic Centre, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. HP1 1HH
Telephone: Hemel Hempstead 60161, Ext. 2500
Closing date: 9th November 1987

We are an equal opportunities employers and welcome applications from registered disabled persons.



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BOROUGH COUNCIL**

APPOINTMENTS

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require a

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for this old established 18 hole course situated four miles from Maidstone, Kent, close to the North Downs.

Applicants must be fully experienced and have a thorough knowledge of modern course machinery and its maintenance. Administrative ability is also being sought.

Salary negotiable.

Apply in writing with full details of career to date, to:-

**Admin, Secretary,
Bearsted Golf Club,
Ware Street,
BEARSTED,
Nr. Maidstone,
Kent. ME14 4PQ**

NORTHAMPTON GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of course management, machinery maintenance and staff control.

An attractive salary will be offered together with assistance towards removal expenses.

Rented housing accommodation could be made available to the successful applicant on moving to the area.

Applications in writing giving full details of career and qualifications should be sent to:-

**The Secretary,
Northampton Golf Club,
Kettering Road,
Northampton.
NN3 1AA**

WOLSTANTON GOLF CLUB LTD

invite applications for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of turf culture and turf management including the use and

maintenance of greenkeeping machinery.

Salary negotiable. Applications with full C.V. to:-

**The Secretary,
Wolstanton Golf Club Ltd.,
Dimsdale Old Hall,
Hassam Parade,
Newcastle,
Staffs.
ST5 9DR**

MITCHAM GOLF CLUB

A busy progressive Golf Club in Surrey is looking for a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

to take over the management of their 18 hole course.

He will require a knowledge of man management, machinery maintenance, turf management, and associated course problems.

Accommodation will be available to the successful applicant .

If you feel you have the necessary experience please write to:-

**The Secretary ,
Mitcham Golf Club,
Charshalton Road,
Mitcham Junction,
Surrey.
CR4 4HN**



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APPOINTMENTS

YORK GOLF CLUB

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

to start work early in 1988. Applicants should have suitable qualifications and experience in all aspects of course management.

A thorough knowledge of modern machinery and turf management is essential, as is the ability to motivate and manage staff.

Salary negotiable. No accommodation.

A new 4500 sq ft on course building has recently been brought into use.

Applications in writing stating age, experience and enclosing C.V. to:-

**Chairman Green Committee,
York Golf Club,
Lords Moor Lane,
Strensall,
York.**

ROYAL PORTRUSH GOLF CLUB



require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

for Championship Links, 36 holes
with 9 Hole Pitch & Putt

Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping and have a thorough knowledge of course machinery and its maintenance. The ability to control and motivate staff is essential.

Salary negotiable.

Accommodation may be provided.

Applications should be received in writing, on or before 10th November 1987

and include a full C.V. stating present salary to:-

**The Secretary/Manager,
Royal Portrush Golf Club,
Dunluce Road,
Portrush,
BT56 6AG Co. Antrim**

TADMARTON HEATH GOLF CLUB

COURSE MANAGER

required

for this established 18 Hole Heathland Course. Applicants must be fully experienced in all aspects of greenkeeping and automatic irrigation.

A certified Head Greenkeeper and member of BIGGA or IOG

Salary negotiable and will reflect previous experience. No accommodation is available but assistance will be given if required.

Applications should be in writing and include a full C.V. in confidence to:-

**The Secretary,
Tadmarton Heath Golf Club,
Wigginton,
Banbury,
Oxon.
OX15 5HL**

BLOXWICH GOLF CLUB LTD.

BLOXWICH, WEST MIDLANDS.

require a

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants should have extensive experience in the theory and practice of golf course management, be conversant with the use and maintenance of all modern golf course machinery, and able, with initiative, to direct and lead by example, the excellent supporting staff.

There is no accommodation but the salary which is negotiable will be commensurate with a club of this standing.

Written application with full details of age, experience and qualifications etc. to:-

**The Secretary,
Bloxwich Golf Club Ltd.,
Stafford Road,
Bloxwich,
Walsall,
West Midlands.
WS3 3PQ**

Buyers' Guide

BARK AND BARK BASED PRODUCTS

Camland Products Ltd.,
Fordham House, Fordham,
Cambs CB7 5LN
Tel: 0638 721100 Telex: 81254

Melcourt Industries Limited,
Three Cups House, 5 Church Street,
Tetbury, Glos GL8 8JG
Tel: 0666 52711 or 53919
Telex: 43144

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

Full Members

J. Hamilton Stutt –
Hamilton Stutt & Co.,
Bergen, 12, Bingham Ave, Poole,
Dorset BH14 8NE
Tel: 0202 708406
Donald Harradine,
CH 6987, Caslano, Switzerland
Tel: 091 711561

Fred Hawtree. Martin Hawtree –
Hawtree & Son,
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock, Oxford
OX7 1TQ
Tel: 0993 811976

Donald Steel – **Cotton, Pennink,
Steel & Partners**
Abbey Park, Bagnell End Rd,
Redditch, Worcs
Tel: 0527 63918

Tom McAuley,
38 Moira Drive, Bangor, Co. Down,
N. Ireland BT20 4RW
Tel: 0247 465953
Peter Harradine,
P.O. Box 1165, Sharjah, United
Arab Emirates
Tel: 009716 356446

Provisional

Alistair Rae,
26 Tannoch Road, Uplawmoor,
Glasgow G78 4AD
Tel: 050 585 371

Cameron Sinclair – **Cotton, Pennink,
Steel & Partners**
Abbey Park, Bagnell End Rd,
Redditch, Worcs
Tel: 0527 63918

Simon Gidman – **Hawtree & Son**,
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock, Oxford
OX7 1TQ
Tel: 0993 811976

Overseas (Full)

Eddie Hackett,
28 Aillesbury Drive, Dublin 4, Eire
Tel: Dublin 691592

Joan Dudok Van Heel,
Beukenlaan 4, B-1640, St Genesius-
Rode, Nr Brussels, Belgium
Tel: 02/358 3387

Pier Mancinelli

21 Via Achille Papa
00195 Rome, Italy
Tel: 06 36036 35

Jan Sederholm,
S 252 34 Helsingborg.
K. Kristoffersg 3A, Sweden
Tel: 042 371 84

Overseas (Provisional)

Kurt Rossknecht,
Dennenmoos 5a, 8990 Lindau-Bad,
Schachen, Germany
Tel: 08382 230 05

R. Berthet,
57-59 Rue Lhomond, 75005, Paris,
France
Tel: (1) 336 77 50

Senior Member

Fraser Middleton
15 Kilmaron Crescent, Cupar, Fife
KY15 4DS, Scotland

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTORS

Chipman Limited,
Horsham, Sussex RH12 2NR
Tel: 0403 60341

Golf Landscapes Ltd.,
Ashwells Road, Bentley, Brentwood,
Essex CM15 9SR
Tel: 0277 73720

Land Unit Construction Ltd.,
Folly Farm, Hanslope, Milton
Keynes, Bucks MK19 7BX
Tel: 0908 510414

Brian D. Pierson (Contractors) Ltd.,
Homestead Farm, Ringwood Road,
Three Legged Cross, Wimbourne,
Dorset BH21 6QY
Tel: 0202 822372
Southern Golf & Landscapes Ltd.,
9 Old Square, Warwick,
Warwickshire. Tel: 0926 492898

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Bentley, Joseph Ltd.,
Barrow-on-Humber, South
Humberside. Tel: 0469 30501

**FERTILISER & TOP DRESSING
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14 Fairfax Road, Heathfield, Newton
Abbot, Devon TQ12 6UD
Tel: 0626 834499

GOLF COURSE ACCESSORIES

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on-Sea, Essex SS1 2RR
Tel: 0702 612344 & 67393
Contact: Mr. A. Elvin

H. Pattison & Co. Ltd.,
342 Selbourne Road, Luton, Beds
LU4 8NU
Tel: 0582 597262 Telex: 887916
Contact: Peter Dell

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Ransomes Sims & Jefferies PLC,
Nacton Works, Nacton Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9QG
Tel. 0473 270000 Fax: 0473
270030 Telex: 98174
Cables: Ransome Ipswich
Contact: J.F.R. Wilson/R. Bishop

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Friar Street, Hereford
Tel: Hereford (0432) 274361
Telex: 35302 W. Naylor or contact
your dealer

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Bewsey Ind. Est., Pitt Street,
Warrington, Cheshire
Tel: 0925 54411
Contact: Roger Saunders
Portview Road, Avonmouth, Bristol
BS11 9JH
Tel: 0272 823691

Contact: Michael Warne
Camp Road, Swindon, Lincoln
Tel: 0522 86714
Contact: Philip Adams

Eastfield Ind. Est., Penicuik,
Mid-Lothian
Tel: 0968 78480
Contact: Michael Shannon

Mommersteeg International
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Wellingborough, Northamptonshire
NN9 5NT. Tel: 0933 680891

Contact: Michael Perkins
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Cameron – a division of Wright Rain
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Est., Littlehampton, West Sussex
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Evesham, Worcs.
Tel: Evesham (0386) 49348
Ringwood, Hants
Tel: Ringwood (04254) 2251
Spalding, Lincs
Tel: Spalding (0775) 3764
Norwich, Norfolk.
Tel: 031 453 4789
Bridgnorth, Shropshire
Tel: Bridgnorth (07462) 61762
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Contact: Michael Perkins
IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT
Watkins Naylor & Co. Ltd.
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Barlow Tyrie Ltd.,
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SEAWEED FERTILISERS
Seamac,
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Tel: 0249 652811

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Suffolk NR34 8AX
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Contact: Graham Hall

Toro Irrigation Ltd.,
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Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3SD
Tel: Ringwood (04254) 6261
British Overhead Irrigation Ltd.,
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Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8RY
Tel: 09327 88301 Telex: 928767
Contact: Sales Department

Sports Ground Irrigation Co.
Hereward Lodge, Paget Road,
Lubham, Market Harborough,
Leics.
Tel: 0858 63153
Telex: 347102 irrigo G

Watermation Ltd.,
Monument Way, E. Woking, Surrey
GU21 5LY
Tel: Woking 70303 Telex: 859224

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